

Second chance with food, pg. 13



Third World struggles in watercolour, pg. 16



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Erin Lewis

Humber paramedic student David Wilson (inset) came to the rescue after Renee Thorpe (right) gave birth to her daughter Rihanna in the Highway 427 and Dundas area Tuesday morning. Four-year old Redaina (left) accompanies her mom and new sister. Wilson was training with Toronto EMS at the time. See Erin Lewis' story on pg. 5

College gets \$5.6 million boost

Funds part of \$200-million pie for campus safety, green initiatives, building upgrades

Alex Cooper, Justin Robertson
and Erin Lewis
NEWS REPORTERS

Humber will receive \$5.6 million in funds to invest in campus security, energy efficiency and building upgrades.

"We're striving to maintain excellence in this field to make sure we do produce one of the most highly educated and highly skilled workforces," said John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities at a press conference at George Brown College on Tuesday. "Investments like these are true investments in the future of Ontario's economy."

The funding is part of \$200-million plan announced a day after *The Toronto Star* reported Ontario's universities are in dire need of infrastructure repairs.

Humber College President John Davies was pleased by the news.

"This is quite a reasonable share of the money which I'm very satisfied with. I'm not surprised with what we were given by the government," said Davies.

Humber's cut of the funding is based on the percentage of college students who attend the college. Currently, 9.1 per cent of Ontario's college students are enrolled here.

"This money is no way factored into our current budget, so for us

it's additional funds," said Davies, explaining Humber is not in a deficit. "So we now have \$5.6 million to put into projects that we didn't have before today.

"This is quite a reasonable share of the money which I'm very satisfied with. I'm not surprised with what we were given by the government."

—John Davies
Humber President

"From a safety point of view, we will build new fire systems accompanied with PA systems," said

Davies.

The college is looking at whether or not to install a wireless PA system or to integrate it with a new fire system. Davies said because of the college's size, a PA system would be beneficial in an emergency situation.

Davies said he would like to spend the money on new weight room facilities, changes in the labs, a new crime scene lab for the Justice Studies program at Lakeshore Campus, a new moot court for the para-legal program and a new bio science lab.

"It doesn't end the list. In a college this big you can always put money into all of those facilities, so

having another \$5.6 million to do that is great," said Davies.

Davies' thoughts on new facilities and campus safety were echoed by Milloy at the press conference.

"For faculty and students to have an excellent learning experience they need to work in facilities that are up to date, that are energy efficient, and that are safe and secure," said Milloy.

- Guelph-Humber's fall applications surge: Pg 2

- College unveils balanced books: Pg 4



新年好 pg. 10-12

Campus Fire Safety pg. 2

Samson Downey, pg. 20



Kenyan opposition MP Mugabe Were was killed outside of his home in an attack apparently linked to last month's disputed elections. — BBCnews.com



Jon Sufrin

Residence, province lag in fire codes

North America demands sprinkler systems in highrises, but not Ontario

Jon Sufrin
NEWS REPORTER

According to a report by Toronto Fire Services, Ontario is the only province in Canada that does not require sprinkler systems in newly constructed residential highrises.

Despite rising concerns over the necessity of fire-sprinkler systems in Ontario, many students living on campus are not protected by sprinklers.

While the dormitory at Lakeshore Campus is fully equipped with sprinklers in halls and rooms, two of three dorms at North Campus have none, said Lynn Newhouse, manager of Humber Residences.

"Sprinklers are in the suite-style building here, but the other two are older and they weren't in there at the beginning," she said.

Richard Boyes, president of the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, recently stepped up efforts to raise awareness about the benefits of sprinkler systems.

"Residential sprinkler systems have been proven to save lives," he said.

Dormitories have been required to be constructed with sprinklers since 1990, but there is nothing in the fire code requiring older build-

ings to be retrofitted, said David Griffin, maintenance manager at North Campus.

Griffin said due to Humber's high standard of fire safety, the lack of sprinklers is not a big issue.

"The risk of fire hazard should be very low," he said. "There are fire extinguishers on each floor, and there's a complete fire evacuation system in place for those buildings."

The cost of installing sprinklers in older dormitories would be "huge, massive, astronomical," he added.

Boyes said that smoking, cooking and candles are the three biggest causes of residential fires, including dormitories.

Michael Kopinak, manager of Residence Life, said the meal plan helps keep cooking in residence to a minimum and that there is a zero-tolerance policy on smoking and candles in rooms.

"We're pretty strict. Probably some would argue we are too strict," he said. "If you're found burning candles you'll be asked to leave the residence."

Even with strict escape plans in place, sprinkler systems are useful. "We have to catch up with the rest of the country," Boyes said.

Ontario fire codes are different from the rest of the continent.

Guelph-Humber's fall applications climb

Dave Lipson
NEWS REPORTER

Applications to the University of Guelph-Humber skyrocketed 24.7 per cent for the fall 2008 term, according to preliminary numbers released by Ontario Universities' Application Centre.

Statistics indicate an increase in applicants to most Ontario colleges and universities, with Humber seeing a five-and-a-half per cent rise compared to last year, said John Mason, vice-president of student and corporate services.

"The programs at Humber have developed a good reputation," said Mason. "I think there is a good reputation among employers, therefore the word of mouth has a large impact."

The addition of four programs

for the fall 2008 term — fashion management, human resource management, international business and tourism — have boosted Humber's appeal, said Mason.

North Campus can take on 400 to 500 more students in the fall with space created in Building B, said Mason.

Most colleges will be able to accommodate an influx of students because of previous expansions made for the double cohort year, said Darrell Neufeld, Colleges Ontario senior communications officer.

"The statistics point to the fact that 70 per cent of all new jobs require a post-secondary credential," said Neufeld. "More people are getting the message that if they want to succeed and have a good

job that pays well and leads to a better quality of life, they're going to need a college or university education."

Ontario Universities have received more than 83,000 applicants this year. Colleges in the province have received nearly 55,000 — with more expected.

"There are more people reaching the end of Grade 12," said Dave Ferguson, principal of the School of Liberal Arts in Toronto. "And that's probably because the public systems move to keep more people in school. Part of what that means is that the curriculum continues to be watered down, which keeps more people in school. It means more people with higher grades are now being encouraged to apply."

Black focused schools okayed

Rosanna Araujo
SPECIAL TO ET CETERA

After a year long debate, Toronto District School Board (TDSB) voted 11-9 to open the city's first Afrocentric school Tuesday night.

Nigel Barriffe, a Grade 4 teacher in the west-end was in favour of the proposal.

"I know how important this subject is for a lot of our students in this system. Forty per cent of the African Canadian students are currently not graduating from high school," he said.

But not all approved.

"It's going to dilute our students educational experience," said Usha Kelley-Maharaj, a teacher at Burnhamthorpe Collegiate. "The proposed school is not in keeping with the equity and principles that the board espouses."

Donna Harrow and Angela Wilson, program initiators, will have recommendations for TDSB by May and aim for a fall start date.

The skinny

• Ted Kennedy, long-time supporter of Bill Clinton, announces his support for Democratic candidate Barack Obama.
— CNN

• Fifty-three sea lions, including 13 pups, were slaughtered at the Galapagos Island nature reserve. Officials are investigating the murders and said each seal was killed with an individual blow to the head. The island is where Charles Darwin realized his theory of evolution.
— BBC.com

• Indonesia mourns the death of former dictator Suharto, who ruled the country for 32 years. He died earlier this week.
— nytimes.com

• Tuesday's HSF Q&A session informed possible candidates and students about the role of HSF executives and how to get involved with the federation. HSF programming director Aaron Miller hopes this year's election will draw at least a 10 per cent voter turn-out.
— Jeremy Eaton
Caroline Gdyczynski

• Former North Carolina Democratic Senator John Edwards pulls out of race for presidency. He has yet to endorse either Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama.
— CNN.com

• Fierce winter winds and blowing snow knocked out power to 50,000 Toronto residences and forced police to close several roads and highways.
— thestar.com

Corrections

On page 12 of the Jan. 24 issue Angela Englander's name was misspelled.

On page 17 of the Jan. 24 issue John Davies' name was misspelled.

On page 18 of the Jan. 24 issue Christen Mucciato's name was misspelled.

On page 24 of the Jan. 24 issue Sebastian Hunziker's name was misspelled.

We regret the errors.

Republican Senator John McCain wins Florida primary, causing former NYC Mayor Rudolph Giuliani to reconsider his run for presidency. — www.cnn.com

Gun violence triggers debate

GTA shootings renew controversy

Christina Comisso

NEWS REPORTER

A ban on handguns may not be the best way to combat the recent wave of gun violence in Toronto, said Henri Berube, co-ordinator of the Police Foundations program.

"The stats I am aware of show that most crimes committed with handguns are executed with illegal handguns," he said.

Federal New Democratic Party leader Jack Layton, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty and Toronto Mayor David Miller voiced support for the ban after two innocent bystanders were shot and killed in Toronto within one week.

"Handguns kill people. They kill people who are not involved, they are used to kill family members and I don't think it is acceptable to have these loopholes in the law that allow these things to happen," said Miller in a Jan. 18 press conference.

While the Conservative government refused to ban handguns, the party passed legislation for more severe sentences in gun crimes.

Under the Criminal Code, hand-

guns are classified as restricted firearms. Legally they must be registered with the Canadian Firearms Centre.

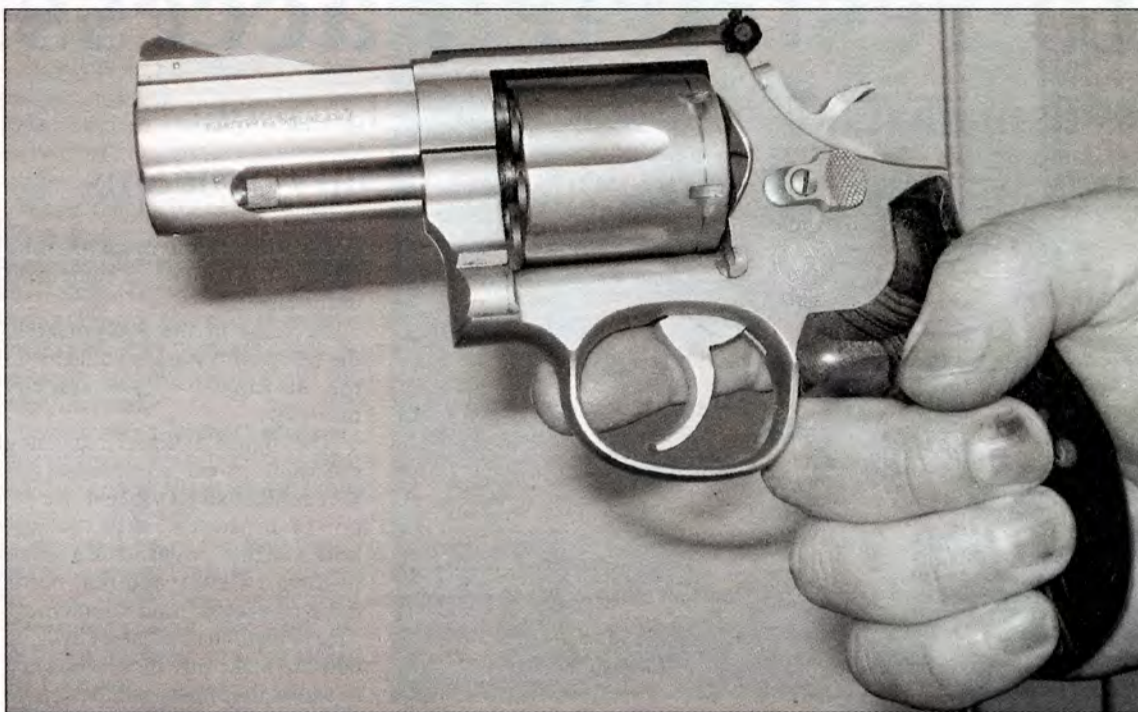
A 2007 report by Statistics Canada showed that in crimes where firearms were recovered, 63 per cent were not registered.

"When you're banning handguns, at face value it sounds really good," said Berube. "But if you are just going to make them more illegal than they already are, I don't think you're going to see much change."

Berube said if the government put more infrastructure support and money into investigating how illegal guns are getting into the country, it would be a step in the right direction.

He pointed to successful programs underway aimed to curb gun violence, such as the gun buy-back program and the Toronto Police Gun and Gangs Task Force.

Orangeville Police Chief Joe Tomei has two years experience with this force, which targets "predatory criminals and gang affiliates who carry and use handguns."



Christina Comisso

Firearms, like the one above, must be legally registered in the Canadian gun registry.

They work in high-risk areas that are more susceptible to violence, said Tomei. He said the force has worked on three major projects and has seized "hundreds of guns and confiscated a lot of drugs."

Berube said any steps taken to reduce gun violence must be based on sound studies. "We owe it to the community to make sure that any new efforts are going to get us, no pun intended, the most bang for

the buck."

"Handguns are not the issue, it's the individual who chooses to use them that are the problem," said Andrew Martin, a third-year business student.

HSF extends voting period two days

Jeremy Eaton

NEWS REPORTER

Humber Students' Federation has added two extra days of voting to give students opportunity to cast a ballot starting on March 4.

"Some of the things that people said last year was that they didn't have enough time to vote," said Nick Farnell, HSF president. "Last year there was three days of voting. This year we have five days including a day for advanced voting. The first day of voting is going to be from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m."

Farnell said only 6.7 per cent

voted last year, approximately 1,200 of Humber's 18,000 full-time students.

HSF hopes to get target students on all three campuses through planned on-campus events, posters and information sessions.

"It's a problem that youth seem to face in general when it comes to the idea of politics and government," said Ercole Perrone, HSF's executive director. "At all levels of government students just aren't showing up. I don't necessarily think it is a problem for commuter colleges."

HSF is trying to get students to take notice of what is going to be happening in the next couple of weeks and is pulling out all stops.

"Currently the allocation is \$8,000," said Perrone. "We intend to boost that for next year." Election administration is one method. "The banners, the posters, the T-shirts that we buy and to pay for the new website," he said.

Some students realize the importance of voter turn-out.

"I'm not sure what they spend the money on," said Matther Grieves, regulatory affairs student.

"If it's to get more people to vote than it is needed."

But not all students agree.

When asked if she thought that was a lot of money to spend on an election, first-year University of Guelph-Humber business student Manjot Gill said, "I think it is a waste."

Monday is the deadline to submit nominations forms.

"We encourage students who are running to make the most noise. To make the most impact," Farnell said. "That is what the bulk of students come out for."

Racism appears at York

Amy Leitner

NEWS REPORTER

Racist graffiti found on the doors of York University's Black Students' Alliance office was an act meant to offend and hurt people, said Roger Lewis, Humber's human rights and diversity co-ordinator.

"The graffiti has created a poisoned environment for York University," he said. "At Humber, we put forth considerable energy promoting racial diversity on all of our campuses."

Students at York are taking part in rallies and writing letters to administration to ensure this does not happen again.

"There is so much ignorance out there," said the president of the East African Student Association

at York University, Khadijah Rawji. "We will keep on holding activities and workshops to prove to these empty-headed people that we are strong, and they are wrong."

"The best way to address tough issues like racism and diversity is to discuss it out in the open,"

—Roger Lewis
human rights and diversity co-ordinator

Nicholas Farnell, HSF president, said the best way to avoid racism is to give everyone an equal opportunity to speak and be heard.

"We encourage everyone to get involved with our programs," he

said. "For example, Black History Month has lots of specific events that will appeal to all of Humber's student population."

In February, Humber Theater is introducing a one-hour theatre production entitled *Stop/Look*, which is a play about diversity and how people are perceived in our urban culture.

"The best way to address tough issues like racism and diversity is to discuss it out in the open," said Lewis. "Education is the key here," he said.

"The staff at Humber go through rigorous human rights training so that they will be prepared if something like the racist graffiti that happened at York University were to happen here at Humber."

Toronto residents may pay to drive

Anastasiya Jugal

NEWS REPORTER

The college is in favour of a recent study recommending road tolls on major highways in the GTA if it helps the environment, said Karen Tavener, transportation training centre director.

"If it were to go towards helping the environment in some way then I support it," said Tavener.

Andy Manahan, executive director of residential and civil construction alliance of Ontario, which commissioned the study, said the GTA gridlock costs the economy \$2.2 billion annually.

That is why economist Harry Kitchen, specializing in municipal finance issues in greater Toronto and Hamilton, was commissioned to perform the study.

It suggests major highways in the GTA should have tolls with a few cents per litre added to gas prices.

"There should be something that

controls behaviour because our roads are getting clogged up right now," said Manahan.

"If I compare the 400 series to the 407 it is extremely well maintained, solid traffic flow and I believe it has eased congestion," said Tavener.

By 2031 there will be another three to five million people residing in the GTA, said Manahan. "We will have to do something more radical, we just can't continue on with the status quo."

Despite possibly paying more to get to school, some students think tolls are a good idea.

Devin Harricharan, court and tribunal agent student, said the tolls will help with traffic congestion and reduce gas emissions.

"I don't think I would be in favour of that at all, it's kind of like the States every couple of kilometres there is a toll," said marketing program student Jessann Reece.

NEWS

A new Canadian-led study has found a link between larger breast sizes and an increased risk of Type 2 diabetes among women. — www.thestar.com

Newsroom moves to restricted access

Multimillion-dollar media studies classroom increases security in response to faculty concerns

Jason Sahlani
NEWS REPORTER

Humber's state-of-the-art newsroom will now only be accessible to those with a faculty issued swipe card; a decision that is being welcomed by both students and faculty who work in the centre.

"Even with security walking around I don't feel safe at night," said second-year radio broadcasting student Kattryna Partnoy. "Just last week I got a weird phone call here, and it was kind of creepy. I was told by faculty that sometimes you'll get threatening phone calls, so sometimes it can be uncomfortable, even with security."

The implementation of a system that restricts the access to the newsroom was scheduled for the 2008 fall start-up but was moved up to last Monday (Jan. 28) to address concerns by faculty.

"Some of the faculty in the centre have expressed concern about not recognizing some people in the newsroom," said Jerry Chomyn, director of broadcast

media. "When I confronted one young man in the centre he didn't want to tell me what program he was associated with and I had to ask him to leave, so that concerned me."

The security increase for the newsroom follows in the steps of the Culinary School labs, which have always had restricted access.

"We are now a media outlet with a state-of-the-art facility, and that needs to be respected."

—Jerry Chomyn
broadcast media director

"We switched to a computerized card system two years ago but prior to that we had a key system in place; access to the labs has always been restricted," said Alister Mathieson, dean of the school of hospitality, recreation and tourism. "There are essentially two reasons for keeping the labs locked up; the first is that there is valuable equipment in the labs, the second

is the safety of our students since there is also dangerous equipment in the labs."

The value of the equipment in the newsroom was also a factor in the decision for new security measures.

"The figure I heard regarding the value of the equipment was \$2.1 million so let's face it, we are now a broadcast entity, we are now a media outlet with a state-of-the-art facility and that needs to be respected," said Chomyn.

He added that all steps will be taken to make sure those who need to access the facility will be able to do so and those who need to be in the centre late at night will feel secure knowing no unauthorized people will get in.

"I've had to be here late one night and I don't feel secure when that happens," said Partnoy. "I get people stopping by the window at night, usually guys, and I'm a little person, so I worry if they are random guys. A locked door with pass card entry will take care of that."



Jason Sahlani


Costly equipment was one reason for improving security.

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College unveils balanced books

\$202-million budget recently approved by board of governors

Alex Cooper
NEWS REPORTER

A balanced budget for 2008-09 has been approved by the college's board of governors.

The college can avoid this, despite the fact that funding to Ontario's colleges is increasing less than the rise in operating costs, said John Davies, college president.

The college is meeting costs by dipping into last year's surplus, he said.

"We're having to use some of the money that we put away in previous years to get through this year. We hope that next year will be better because there are not many

years where you can use reserves that you have been building up before you get significantly behind."

The college has a budget of \$202 million for next year.

Nick Farnell, president of Humber Students' Federation, said the balanced budget is a great show of financial responsibility and will benefit students.

"It's a great show of corporate responsibility," he said. "There's definitely a lot of big and exciting projects coming up that will definitely benefit all students — current students as well as future students."

Comments or questions? Send your letters to the Et Cetera

Police in India have broken up a global organ-trafficking ring. Police are looking for Dr. Amit Kumar, the alleged mastermind of the scheme. —www.cnn.com

Paramedic student aids in emergency roadside delivery

Erin Lewis
NEWS REPORTER

Humber paramedic student David Wilson was praised for his efforts when he helped a woman who gave birth on the side of Highway 427 on Tuesday.

"It was early in the morning and we got the call and the call details came in that the mom had already given birth to the baby. So we hurried over, it was pretty close, so we got there and the baby was resting on mom's tummy and she was lying down in the back of the car," Wilson said.

"We clamped and cut the cord, got dad to cut the umbilical cord and we took the baby, cleaned her off and put her in the back of the ambulance. We did a quick assessment to make sure everything was okay and took them to the hospital."

Rihanna Alexis Scully was born just after 4 a.m. Tuesday, 20 minutes after her mother, Renee Thorpe, said she was turned away from Humber River Regional Hospital.

"Before I even left the hospital I was practically on the floor in pain because by that time I started to feel the contractions more," Thorpe said from a hospital bed at Trillium Health Centre in Mississauga. "Then we got onto the highway and I just felt that the baby was coming. And I felt her head, I felt the pressure, I felt everything and I just pushed and...she flew out."

"The good news stories really make the job. The bad news, they're tough."

—David Wilson
Paramedic student

Renaldo Scully, Thorpe's fiancée, was on the phone with emergency services as their Lexus steered down the highway.

"I was screaming at first, I didn't know if she was still breathing or you know, if something was wrong so I was really freaking out at first," Scully said. "Because my daughter was in the car I didn't want to

overreact too much. But I had to calm down."

Shortly after the vehicle stopped on the highway, Wilson and his EMS partner Jasmine Jasaval arrived on the scene to the grateful family.

"I give them a lot of credit and I thank them. I really, really thank them for coming to our aid when they did," Thorpe said. "They responded on time and as soon as they came they just got right to work so I really thank them for what they did."

Jasaval, also a Humber graduate, shared smiles with Wilson as they waited outside the hospital room to greet the family.

"He just assisted me with cleaning the baby and talking to the little one," Jasaval said of Wilson. "He was excellent. And then he just held the baby until we got to the hospital."

Wilson explained the emotions of the job.

"The good news stories really make the job. The bad news, they're tough."



Tyler Kekewich

A student hit by a Jeep at Humber College Blvd and Highway 27 on Tuesday night is tended to by emergency personnel and witnesses. She was taken to the William Osler Health Centre and treated for non-life threatening injuries.

Worker shortage in IT industry means good news for grads

Alex Cooper
NEWS REPORTER

Graduates in the information technology sector have more job opportunities available today than five years ago, said Karen Fast, manager of the career centre.

"We really saw a flattening of that industry for a good five years," she said. "It was really discouraging for a lot of people, so a lot of students didn't go into the programs because they were afraid that the jobs weren't there at the end. We're certainly seeing a huge number of jobs coming through now."

A report issued by the

Conference Board of Canada last week said as many as 58,000 new jobs will open in the next year, while new graduates are down about 50 per cent from 2002.

"We're certainly seeing a huge number of jobs coming through now."

—Karen Fast
Career Centre manager

Canada's IT sector is facing a shortage of workers that will cost the economy \$120,000 per year for each vacant position, says the report.

Nancy Rodrigues, associate dean

of school of media studies and information technology, said the number of new students in IT programs has increased over the past two years.

"The publicity is changing from jobs going off-shore to there being jobs available," she said. "As parents and students are seeing more jobs available, more people are interested."

Joe Tomona, associate dean of the school of applied technology, said the burst of the tech bubble and the fall of Nortel scared people away from IT fields.

"Coupled with that we have a booming economy where skilled trades and the government's

efforts to increase the skilled work force kind of gave people an idea and the government was great at marketing it," he said. "So I've seen a decline in high tech and an increase in skilled trades in terms of enrolment."

Despite the shortage of graduates, Tomona said they have not been pushing the school's technology programs more.

"We have not been aggressively marketing. It hasn't traditionally

been in our style. But maybe a little bit wouldn't hurt."

Patrick O'Gorman, a spokesperson for the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities, said the government has not focused on one area at the expense of any others.

"The ministry has had increased funding over the last year," he said. "We are not taking away from one area to give to another."

College adds to degree opportunities

Chelsea Saldanha
NEWS REPORTER

Humber has announced the launch of five new four-year bachelor degrees in business, starting this fall at Lakeshore Campus.

These new specialized degrees will cover international business, tourism management, fashion management, human resources management and e-business marketing.

"Courses in the first two years are built on the platform of a concrete business education: marketing, accounting, economics and law," said Pat Meek, associate dean of Lakeshore's business school.

Describing them as a blend of theory and application, she said, "With opportunities growing in Toronto, students can go out with a bachelor of applied business, in

any one of the five specializations along with four months of paid work experience."

The course is structured over eight semesters, with paid work term completed before the sixth semester, after which students return to school for one more year.

Lakeshore's business school can accommodate 180 students in all five programs and is accepting applications from qualified domestic and international students.

"An international student can look at gaining a solid business education, North American work experience and specializing in a particular field linked with industry," said Diane Simpson, director of the International Centre, who has sent recruiters to India to market these new programs.

The international centre is also focusing on China and South Korea.

Students doing a business diploma at Humber have been asking for an opportunity to complete a degree in the college itself, instead of moving to another university, said Meek.

* Those who have completed two or three years in their diploma can apply for these degrees.

According to Avril Carnovale, the acting associate dean of the business school at North Campus, the fashion degree would provide a unique opportunity for students who are interested in fashion management.

"The degree will appeal to those who want to work for big companies and get in the business line through the corporate route," she said.

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EDITORIAL

A NYC entrepreneur is challenging the trophy wife double standard by setting up single wealthy, older women with young, good looking men. — Reuters.com

PM won't discuss mission

The same day Prime Minister Stephen Harper said his Conservative government would improve communication between the military, press and public regarding Afghanistan, he refused to answer questions about Afghans detained by our military.

Harper made his first official statements on Jan. 28 about where his government stands on recommendations put forward Jan. 22 by the Manley commission report.

The *Globe and Mail* reported Jan. 28 that the Harper government accepted this recommendation along with others that would have the minority government take steps to be more open with the press and public about the mission in Afghanistan.

But according to the *Globe* and the *Toronto Star*, Harper remained tight-lipped when pressed by the opposition about why Canadian troops stopped transferring detainees to Afghan prisons in Kandahar on Nov. 6, just a day after a credible torture allegation was revealed.

Last week court documents revealing this became public, suggesting a major policy change was covered up.

Human rights advocates, who have already sued the government to stop the transfers of prisoners to abusive captors, are also entering the debate again, according to The Canadian Press.

Last week in Federal Court, government lawyers argued that because prisoner transfers had halted, human rights groups could no longer point their fingers at the Canadian military.

But, according to The Canadian Press,

Harper made contradictory remarks saying there had been no policy change at all.

The only thing Harper did say about prisoner transfers is that they are a matter of national security; thereby excusing him from elaborating on the details of detainees or prisoner deaths.

The Canadian Press quoted Harper saying, "These are military operational details and we are never going to answer those questions."

The Canadian Press also reported that the NDP provided a press release from the American government that stated how nine insurgents were captured in Afghanistan last week. It detailed where the prisoners were being held and "that several were killed in a gunfight."

Although the opposition makes a good point that withholding information isn't a good look for the U.S. after the Abu Ghraib scandal, what are the Canadian government's reasons for staying mum?

Some political analysts, such as Don Martin of the *National Post*, said Harper deserves credit for accepting some of the criticism brought forward by the Manley report and that he acted appropriately by consulting the Liberals and the military before making Monday's announcement.

But saying, "We accept the judgment that there are several things that could be done better," i.e. communication, then immediately turning into the Harper of old by not addressing the detainee contradictions shows his government has a long way to go if it hopes to obtain a majority.



Anupa Mistry

Post-secondary cash boost

Investing in education is arguably the safest place for tax dollars. Sure Canadian cities are falling apart from the underground up and health-care demands have outgrown the system, but for other aspects of a country to improve, it begins with a well-funded education system.

The announcement of a \$40 million cash funding injection last week for expansions at Ryerson University was just the beginning.

It's safe to say that jealousy was in the air when on Monday, Jan. 28, Paul Genest, president of the Council of Ontario Universities said our college and university education system was on the verge of crumbling, with its dated infrastructure fighting to feed the growing number of high school applicants seeking high education.

A report last year released by Ontario Auditor General Jim McCarter highlighted some low points of our post-secondary education system. In an article published on Jan.

28, the *Toronto Star* quoted him saying: "We found no indication that any progress has been made in developing a comprehensive plan to bring the system to a state of good repair."

The provincial government fired back, announcing \$200 million in funding for Ontario's colleges and universities the next day. Of that, Humber will receive \$5.6 million which has been restricted to energy efficient projects, campus safety, and infrastructure repairs — all things that our college can benefit from.

But funding announcements at this time of year are usually the result of extra cash left over from the previous fiscal year. There are always ways to spend money at the college, says President John Davies, especially with a 24.7 per cent applicant increase for Guelph-Humber fall 2008 entry.

The government has cured the education itch, but for how long?

WORD ON THE STREET

What would you like to see in the Et Cetera?



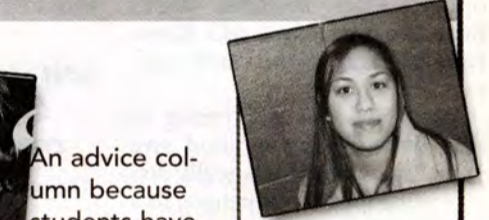
Christina Thal, 19, First-year horticultural apprentice

A car section to see the latest cars. Nowadays a lot of students are looking for new cars.

Deep Deol, 20, First-year multimedia design and production



Sudoku! Because I need an escape from math homework. Just something to calm me down a bit.



Astrid Cardenas 23, First-year film and television production

An advice column because students have questions and they're too embarrassed to ask. It's a way to make the paper more interactive.

Michelle Berry 20, First-year film and television production



A pretty thorough music section, especially because we're such a big media-based school. A lot of events come through the music scene in Toronto.

HUMBER ET CETERA

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Humber Et Cetera is a publication of the Humber College School of Media Studies. Letters to the Editor must be signed and contain the writer's program and telephone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit for length.

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"It is a common experience that a problem difficult at night is resolved in the morning after the committee of sleep has worked on it." — John Steinbeck

Presidential candidates take their gloves off

Anupa Mistry
Op-Ed Editor



As the U.S. primary elections heat up in anticipation of Super Tuesday on Feb. 5, Senator Barack Obama has gone from a noteworthy outsider to a serious contender for the Democratic presidential candidacy. On Jan. 26, Obama won 55 per cent of the votes in the South Carolina primary elections strengthening his legitimacy in a nomination process that — courtesy of Senator Hillary Clinton — has been plagued with petty in-fighting as of late.

And in a Lord of the Flies retreat to savagery kind of way, it's thrilling to witness polished, poised politicians in muckraking frenzy.

Most troubling is the fact that Team Hillary — because Bill is speaking on behalf of his missus

more than the candidate herself — have no qualms about letting their pettiness show. After Obama's South Carolina victory, Mr. Clinton patronizingly commented that the results weren't surprising because of Rev. Jesse Jackson's previous wins in that state. Right, as if it's that simple.

Unlike the polite proceedings of Canadian elections, the U.S. electoral process is a showy affair. Candidates compete to establish their differences among voters — even though they represent the same party — for the prize of the presidential nominee.

And in a *Lord of the Flies* retreat-to-savagery kind of way, it's thrilling to witness polished, poised politicians in muckraking frenzy. It's better than FOX TV's newest reality series *The Moment of Truth* where ordinary folk are polygraph-tested, and are humiliated. And almost as good as *American Gladiator* — but I'm going to pass on encouraging Mike Huckabee to don a pair of stars and stripes booty shorts (although, as his hilarious Colbert Show appearance attests, he may be game).

For the most part, Obama has

navigated the proceedings without managing to trade the same low blows (and imagine how epic the furor would be if he attacked Clinton's gender). It seems as if damage control has been his major recourse since the race heated up after his win in the Iowa primaries, and he's done this with remarkable composure.

Perhaps Hillary have stepped up their attack-campaign because they realize the political rookie — relatively speaking — is a real threat to their dynasty.

Obama started off with Oprah as his biggest backer and now, after Caroline Kennedy endorsed him in the *New York Times* and made an appearance at a rally with her uncle Senator Ted Kennedy, he has the Kennedy name behind him as well.

Super Tuesday, when the largest number of states hold primary elections, will be the main barometer of Democratic sentiment. The Kennedy endorsement, along with the habitual line-stepping by the Clinton camp, means that Obama has established himself as a prime candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination — without the name-calling.

Downtown big-box stores have people seeing orange

Queen West may suffer from latest developments

Lauren Den Hartog
Op-Ed Editor



With bright orange awnings, gigantic signs and parking lots, Home Depot isn't exactly what you'd call inconspicuous. And it's probably the last thing you'd expect to find (or want) in a trendy downtown neighbourhood.

That's why it was with a sarcastic chuckle that I read in the Jan. 26 *Globe and Mail*, that the Home Depot is slated to plop one of its not-so-small stores down at Queen and Portland.

Sure to be a big hit with the hipsters, yuppies and the motley crew at Queen and Bathurst, this Home Depot is geared specifically towards condo owners and will be part of a mixed-development complex that includes stores and surprise, condominiums.

RioCan Real Estate Investment Trust recently got the go-ahead to build this behemoth seven-storey tower. The monstrosity, according

to the *Globe*, is based on a design that supposedly fits the surrounding area, by having a relatively low building height and including multiple storefronts instead of just one. *Phew!*

Just a stone's throw east of Queen and Portland, another neighbourhood, Leslieville, will soon be sharing in the delight of downtown big-box shopping. Leslieville will soon be home to a Wal-Mart, part of a 700,000 square foot development plan that will include parking for 1,900 cars.

Traditionally big-box stores were only found in the suburbs, the reason being that there was a heck of a lot more room to build them. Out in suburbia, such stores were less likely to take away from small business, not that it's much of a concern for those building them.

The city of Toronto needs to stop destroying neighbourhoods with development plans that do nothing but subtract from the city's charm and originality, not to mention threaten small business to the point of extinction. Queen Street West is one of Toronto's few

historic commercial areas and the last thing it needs is a Home Depot.

Think, if you will, of the tourists. During those hot summer months, a trip down historic and trendy Queen West includes a stop-in at the local Home Depot? Something isn't right.

In a society where everything new is bigger and faster than what came before, it is more important than ever to revive an appreciation for history.

Toronto's historic districts remind us of who we are and where we've come from. Replacing them with modern monstrosities further severs our already tenuous ties with the past. Putting big-box stores in downtown neighbourhoods is a preposterous idea. Our children will one day look at what we've done and wonder what we were thinking. Hopefully we never reach a point where the beauty of our downtown is entirely replaced with huge modern structures that will combine every thinkable 'necessity' under one roof. Why can't we just keep things simple?



TO THE NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK WHO ARE RUMOURED TO BE PLANNING A REUNION TOUR.

TO SAM SCHECHTER, A NORTH VANCOUVER CITY COUNCILLOR WHO WANTS TO BAN DRIVE-THRU WINDOWS AT NEW RESTAURANTS CITING POLLUTION AND NOISE CONCERNS.

TO THE GROUP OF PROTESTERS WHO GATHERED OUTSIDE THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON JAN. 25 DEMANDING PROTECTION FOR U.S. SOLDIERS LIVING IN CANADA SO THEY WON'T BE SENT TO IRAQ.

TO FORMER NO DOUBT SINGER GWEN STEFANI AND HER EX-ROCKER HUBBY GAVIN ROSSDALE WHO ARE EXPECTING THEIR SECOND CHILD. HOLLA!

TO THE CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY AND MY ORGANIC BABY INC., WHO INFORMED THE PUBLIC OF FOUR RANCID BABY PRODUCTS ONLY AFTER A BABY BECAME ILL FROM INGESTING THE FOOD.

TO HILLARY CLINTON FOR LETTING HER HUSBAND, FORMER PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON DO SO MUCH TALKING ON HER BEHALF.

TO THE WELL-HEELED KATHY HILTON FOR COPYING HER DAUGHTER, PARIS, AND LAUNCHING HER OWN FRAGRANCE CALLED MY SECRET.

TO SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE, THE FRENCH BANK THAT LOST \$7 BILLION DUE TO UNAUTHORIZED TRADING BY ONE OF THEIR EMPLOYEES.

Red pen fails the test

Poor performance could be linked to ink colour



Tabitha Venasse
LIFE EDITOR

Ever notice that business supply stores such as Staples are beginning to stock up on more purple pens and fewer red ones?

Over the last few years, many teachers have been trading in their vibrant red pens for softer shades, the reason being that more evidence supports the claim that red pens have a negative effect on students.

This new craze extends its roots to an article published in *The Boston Globe* in August of 2004. In the article, colour psychologist Leatrice Eiseman, director of the Pantone Color Institute in Carlstadt, N.J. made the claim that red is aggressive while other colour psychologists suggested red could be linked to a student's poor performance.

This argument stems from the idea that red is often viewed as negative — some students may associate red pen with failing or doing poorly.

Students, the psychologists say, are more likely to be embarrassed by an 'F', or even a 'C', when it's written in red, rather than when it's written in a different colour.

No offence to the psychologists, but I say it's a load of hogwash. An 'F' will always be an 'F', no matter what colour ink it's written in.

Of course you're going to feel a

little down when you see something you worked on all marked up with critiques and errors, it's only natural. You'll get over it.

Personally, I love getting my work all marked up — you have the opportunity to look at where you went wrong and improve. Red or purple — does it really make a difference?

No offence to the psychologists, but I say it's a load of hogwash. An 'F' will always be an 'F' no matter what colour it's written in.

I've found that I take the teacher's comments less seriously when they're written in 'nicer' colours.

Several teachers who shared their opinions on this matter agreed with me and showed a reluctance to stop using red.

Red represents passion and love, among other things. It is one of the colours on both the American and Canadian flags.

Maybe the real issue isn't what colour is affecting the students, but the educational system.

I believe the real problem here is that students are coddled. Whatever colour the 'F' is written in doesn't change the meaning.

If you fail an assignment, you fail. Get back up, and try harder.

A study released by Tuft University this month says good looks have a direct effect on a CEO's ability to run a profitable company. — www.macleans.ca

Hard drives relief from hard-knocks

Bianca Hall
BIZ/TECH REPORTER

A media centre offering free high-end computer access to the community near North Campus is encouraging at-risk young people to further their education. The program wants to offer accredited courses this fall so that the time students spend in the workshops will count toward their high school diploma.

"We're trying to look at different ways in which we're able to hook in and grab those youth," said Melodie Downey, director of the Rexdale Pro Tech Media Centre.

The centre opened at the Finch Avenue and Albion Road mall in July 2007 with the help of the city, the YMCA, Microsoft Canada, Toronto Community Housing, Humber College and the Humber Students Federation.

Since opening, it has signed up 407 members and received 2,193 repeat visits.

Members have access to a range of media options from basic computer access and homework help to workshops on 3D animation and website design.

The centre is looking into developing new programs and giving

members the option to use them as a way to get school credit.

"We're going to do some professional development around that so staff are able to teach at the level in which the ministry is requesting," said Downey.

Nick Chamberlain, who graduated from Humber's 3-D animation and multimedia design production programs, works at the centre and said it's a job with rewards.

"I really like it. I didn't expect to be teaching, but I really like it. It's a fulfilling job experience knowing you can make a difference."

The centre was originally developed as way of addressing issues such as violence and gang problems in one of the 13 neighbourhoods most affected by violence and crime in Toronto.

Humber's president is currently helping the program get established in the remaining twelve communities.

"To me it's about building capacity in the community, the capacity to reach their own goals," said John Davies. "And I think that pays off in terms of safety and security too. If people are doing well in school, if they're going on to post-secondary education, people are getting jobs, and that affects issues of safety and security."



Bianca Hall

Pro Tech Media Centre aims to attract youth like Shavar Cox.



Mike Nelson

Concerned residents discuss future streetcar plans with TTC.

Parkdale's poison is lakeshore's pleasure

Mike Nelson
BIZ/TECH REPORTER

The proposed waterfront streetcar expansion that would improve access to Lakeshore Campus has angered area residents.

The waterfront west line now runs to Dufferin Street. With the expansion, the streetcar will run past the Lakeshore campus to Browns Line and Lakeshore Blvd.

Residents of Parkdale and other communities affected by the expansion voiced their concerns at a community meeting last week.

"The concerns are noise and the safety of their community," said Chris Bishop, a senior project engineer with the TTC. "They also believe that they are cut off from the waterfront beach area and they don't want another piece of transportation structure that will further cut them off from the waterfront."

With the construction of the waterfront west line, students using the Lakeshore line should expect quicker and more reliable service, said Bishop.

"In order for students to use transit, it has to reach every part of the city so you can get from your home to the city or to your job as well," said Toronto city councillor and TTC chairman Adam Giambrone. "It's not just about one line; it's about how all the lines interconnect with each other."

The TTC is still conducting

research to find the best route that will satisfy concerns of the community, said Giambrone.

Part of a larger transit city plan, the waterfront west line should be completed by 2021.

"The Waterfront West line has been in the books for a number of years. There was an environmental assessment in 1992 that extended the line from Spadina Avenue through to Dufferin Street," said Bishop.

Residents of Parkdale who attended the town meeting voiced their unease with the expansion.

"I'm concerned about the destruction of the waterfront. We should be conserving it, why are we putting streetcar tracks where people could walk?" said Parkdale resident Yvan Mascarenas.

The provincial government has already verbally committed funds to the project, said Bishop.

"The plan is considered to be pre-approved, but you have to go through the process of involving the public and involving all the agencies that might be affected before coming up with a solution that minimizes the effect of the environment."

The transit city plan will eventually benefit all Humber students by improving access to North Campus.

"In the longer term it will help them commute between campuses," said Giambrone.

A Humber for All

Humber wants to remind you that

- ❖ All members of our community are entitled to participate fully in College life free from any barriers that contribute to a poisoned environment
- ❖ We strive to promote a culture of inclusiveness among our increasingly diverse community
- ❖ Our Human Rights/Complaint Process Policy is readily available in hard copy from the Human Resources Department or online at <http://humanresources.humber.ca/downloads/HumanRights.pdf>
- ❖ The prohibited grounds of Discrimination and Harassment are race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religious creed, sex, age, marital status, family status, disability, sexual orientation, receipt of public assistance or pardoned federal offences or record of provincial offences as defined by the Ontario Human Rights Code.



You may seek confidential advice on matters related to harassment and discrimination from the College's Human Rights Advisors at Extensions 4948/4425 or from a Union Steward, Counsellor, Nurse or the HSF

As the North American economy goes into a slump, the railway sector is looking poised for yet another year with strong profit. -www.globeandmail.com



Lisa Raffaele

President David Lanys believes his new private program is worth the \$17,000 tuition fee.

Pricey college sports celebs

Andrew Chin

Biz/TECH REPORTER

The first Canadian private college devoted to teaching sports broadcasting will open its Toronto doors to the first stream of 15 students, this Monday.

For president and Humber Radio Certificate graduate, David Lanys, the reaction to his school has been overwhelmingly positive.

"I constantly hear that it's long overdue," said Lanys. "The way that we're doing it is different than your traditional colleges and universities. It's really, really practical because all of the teachers are still actively working in the industry."

One thing that sets The College of Sports Media apart from Ontario colleges is its price-tag.

Tuition is \$17,000 a year.

"What we guarantee is that your money pays for equipment, instructors, facility, curriculum and all of that different stuff," said

Lanys. "You're also going to have us going above and beyond the general normal call of duty."

Humber College's Director of Broadcast Media Jerry Chomyn is skeptical.

"Why would you go there for \$17,000 when you can go to Humber for \$2,500?" he said.

However, The College of Sports Media's TV coordinator Jim Van Horne thinks now is the right time for a private college focusing on sports broadcasting.

"If you look at the advent and popularity of the Internet, the sports industry is expanding quiet rapidly," Van Horne said. "So I think this kind of training, specializing in sports journalism is long overdue."

As a sports reporter for The Score, Lanys had the idea while interviewing former Toronto Maple Leafs forward, Gary Roberts.

"One of the reporters was asking ridiculous questions and I just asked myself where this person went to school," said Lanys.

From that scrum, three and a half years ago, Lanys has refined his idea.

"The process in getting credited took about a year and the paper work was about five inches," he said.

Lanys has also been thorough hiring Elliotte Friedman from CBC Sports and Peter Gross from 680 News as instructors.

The College of Sports Media also boasts an advisory board that includes TSN president Phil King and director of production at CBC Sports, Joel Darling.

"The advisory board members have been extremely helpful in developing the curriculum," said Lanys. "They look at us as potential feeders for their lower level positions."

Entrepreneurs are not aloan

Andrew Tomkinson

Biz/TECH REPORTER

For graduates who dream of owning their own business one day, the Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF) offers a foot in the door.

"Over the years, a few of our business students have taken advantage of the CYBF," said Jim Skinner, a professor of marketing at Humber's business school. "It essentially gives micro-loans to young entrepreneurs who are starting up and it also gives them an opportunity to meet on a regular basis with a mentor."

The foundation offers people between the ages of 18 and 34 a loan of up to \$15,000 to help start a business, while providing mentoring from professionals to keep it going, said Irene Darra, media relations and communications coordinator for the CYBF.

"Anyone can participate in the CYBF as long as they meet our requirements," said Darra.

Requirements include a complete and viable business plan, eligibility to work in Canada and

not having been in business for more than 12 months, said Darra.

The best part of the foundation is the ongoing advice from professionals in the field, said Skinner.

"The key to it is the mentoring aspect," said Skinner. "They are retired bank vice-presidents, chartered accountants, a huge range of people with really great skills who are just devoting their time."

The foundation has been a success since it started in 1996, helping 2,300 young entrepreneurs with business revenues reaching \$255 million and has created 12,700 new jobs, said Darra.

The foundation puts a large emphasis on clear business plans, something that Humber helps students prepare for, said Skinner.

"We are interested in getting a business plan for our students," said Skinner. "We help them up to the point where the business plan is

complete."

Jonathan Davids, founder of Omni Platinum Enterprises said the foundation not only provided money and mentoring, but also put him in contact with the right people in the business world.



Andrew Tomkinson

Professor Jim Skinner

"The key to it is the mentoring aspect."

-Jim Skinner
marketing professor

DVDs strike it hot at television's expense

Natalie Jenkins
Biz/TECH REPORTER

The ongoing writers strike in Hollywood is forcing TV fans to find their fix elsewhere. And DVD rental stores and DVD distributors are profiting from the absence.

"The strike is going to affect television right now," said Erik Tait, a comedy writer and Humber graduate, who also works in the development department at 3V Films in Venice, Calif. Tait notes a huge resurgence in reality television and expects it to continue.

While others can see benefits from the writers strike. "There are definitely more people coming in and renting DVDs of their favourite TV shows," said Joey Picken

a Blockbuster employee. "There's nothing good on TV and it's great for business."

A survey released two weeks ago from new-media consultancy company Interpret has found that 27 per cent of respondents are spending less time watching network series and 12 per cent are watching less cable and satellite series. The decline in TV viewership is seen mainly in dramas and sitcoms.

Interpret's survey showed 43 per cent of respondents say they are spending more time watching DVD movies and 23 per cent say they're watching more TV-DVDs. Another 26 per cent say they are spending more time playing video games.

"The strike makes scripted programming more valuable than ever," Interpret CEO

Michael Dowling told Reuters. "As top shows disappear from primetime, viewers may go back and view critically lauded TV series they missed the first time around, play more video games or watch more movies on DVD."

The strike by 12,000 writers was called over the issue of residuals from new media - they want to be paid for material reproduced on websites, cellphones and podcasts.

Ryan Belleville graduated from Humber's comedy writing and performance program and sees the consequences from the writers' point of view. "Writers' just want their piece. Every day the strike goes on, people lose money and people lose jobs."

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The Chinese government has deployed almost half a million troops to help people affected by the worst winter there in decades.- *BBC News*

新年好

Happy Chinese New Year!

The year of the rat

Livia Fama
INFOCUS REPORTER

Next Thursday marks the start of the Chinese New Year and will usher in the Year of the Rat, which according to Chinese astrology, represents power and wealth as the governing traits of 2008.

"The year of the rat affects all of us," said Byron Barwick, a long-time astrologist based in Toronto. "There will be a major change in 2008. We will become much more giving and less selfish."

In the Chinese zodiac, each year is represented by a different animal, which define personalities and explain underlying connections to others born that year. The animals are akin to the signs in Western astrology, with the equivalent of the rat being a sagittarius.

Famous rats include Monet, Samuel L. Jackson and Shakespeare.

Introduced by Emperor Huang Ti sometime between 2700 and 2600 BC, the zodiac is based on the lunar calendar. It is made up of five cycles of 12 years each.

Legend has it that Buddha called

all the animals to him before he left the Earth. Only 12 graced his presence and, in return, he honoured them by naming a year after each animal in the order they appeared: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Boar. This is how the twelve-year cycle was born.

Barwick sees the Year of the Rat as prosperous, "we can generally expect an opportunity to pursue our dreams and begin new projects," he said.

Rats are full of nervous energy, which translates into resiliency and street smarts. "They have spontaneity and are willing to follow their hopes and dreams," said Barwick. "They are smart, quick and want mental and physical stimulation," he said.

Students feel optimistic about what the Year of the Rat may bring. "I hope I get a better job!" said business administration student Daniel Burke, 18. "I hope to get money and find a good job," said Ingrid Klitbo, a 20-year-old hospitality management student.



Trademark laws don't stop Chinese New Year celebrations from commencing.



IN FOCUS

Ten Japanese people fell ill after eating Chinese-made dumplings contaminated with insecticide health officials said.-New York Times



Clockwise from top right: Chinese lanterns are handmade by craftswomen year round in Hoi An, Vietnam. The shape and colour of oranges represent luck and happiness during the celebrations. Toronto's famous Dumpling King restaurant on Spadina. A typical Chinese new year ornament depicting the dragon dance seen at the annual parades. Children playing on a street lined with lantern shops in Hoi An, Vietnam.

Top two photos Jesse Kinos-Goodin, all others Val Maloney



IN FOCUS



If recent winter weather in China continues, there may be distress for nearly 18 million people due to travel around the country for the new year. — www.bbc.com



Lacy Atalick



Val Maloney



Val Maloney

Uncut noodles, dumplings and oranges are just some examples of traditional foods that hold special meaning when served during Chinese New Year festivities.

Served up with symbolism

Laura Cicchirillo

IN FOCUS REPORTER

Ring in the Chinese New Year calls for the preparation of traditional dishes that are emblematic of prosperity and good fortune.

What does a dumpling represent?

Or a spring roll?

Or a fish with its head and tail still on?

"Everything we serve for Chinese New Year symbolizes something," said Chef Danny Chong, who teaches the Asian cuisine course to second year culinary students.

Chong is also the consultant for Mandarin Restaurant's head office and although the popular eatery serves "westernized Chinese food," he said that the annual dumpling

festival, from Jan. 14 to Feb. 24, commemorates the occasion.

"Dumplings symbolize money because of their shape," said Chong. "They are shaped like old traditional money and therefore mean good fortune."

Jenny Yang, a cashier who has

"Dumplings symbolize money because of their shape."

— Chef Danny Chong
culinary faculty

worked at Good View Chinese Restaurant in Chinatown for 15 years, said the restaurant alters its menu as well.

"Spring rolls mean good fortune.

We always serve them, but they are an important symbolic food for Chinese New Year because they resemble bars of gold," said Yang.

Supermarkets like T&T that cater to a Chinese community also offer large platters of crab and other traditional New Year's food.

"Chinese New Year is a time when families get together, so the dishes T&T have selected have big portions and much taste," said marketing executive Joyce Leung.

Chong said he will enlighten culinary students with knowledge of the celebration and its customs, while also teaching them to prepare a fish for the occasion.

"We will do a whole fish because it means something like good beginning and good ending for the

new year," said Chong when describing how the tail and head of the fish must remain intact.

Chong said "a whole chicken symbolizes togetherness with the family," and noodles should be served unbroken because they represent longevity and long life.

Chong also explained that since tangerines and oranges are bright, red and round, they represent luck and happiness as circles and the colour red represent luck.

"We also serve a certain tray of sweets on New Year's Day for dessert," he said.

Sweets such as lotus seed, melon-candy and coconut are presented on an octagon-shaped tray because the Chinese word for eight means good luck.

Chong said gaining such knowledge of the symbolism of food in Chinese New Year can be an asset.

"We want to educate students on Chinese custom and culture."

Holiday dos and don'ts

Clean house to ensure good fortune for year ahead

Cecily Van Horn

IN FOCUS REPORTER

Traditional Chinese New Year superstitions and taboos include not using scissors or knives, wearing red and receiving little red envelopes of money.

"Although the traditions seem a little over dramatic at times compared to western society, my family still follows the basic ones like cleaning the house, remembering those who passed away and lighting incense for the gods," said Jacy Huynh, 18, a first-year media studies student at Guelph-Humber.

"Everything is symbolic especially around New Year's when prosperity, luck and longer living are important," said Huynh.

One of the most important traditions is having a clean house in time for the new year.

"The new year means a clean, fresh start," says Kevin Truong, program co-ordinator for The Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto.

Sweeping or dusting, however, should not be done on New Year's Day for fear of sweeping away the good fortune.

"The symbolism of this is to keep all you have at home for the next year. Sweeping away the dust and throwing away the garbage means

you are throwing away your fortune in a sense," said Linda Chao, international recruiter at Humber, who learned the tradition from her mother.

All dirt and dust should be taken out the back door, because superstition says sweeping dirt over the threshold will also sweep a family member away from the home.

Other superstitions involving luck include not washing your hair, wearing red and gold, to hear songbirds, and to see a red-coloured bird or swallow.

"It is really bad to say the Chinese word for the number four because it sounds very close to death," Huynh said.

Mentioning death and

telling ghost stories are considered taboo as they remind the people of the negative things in life.

"You are not allowed to go home on New Year's Eve or the first day because those days you are supposed to spend it with your husband's family."

People do not use scissors or knives as they may cut good fortune from the new year.

The first person one meets and the first words heard are also significant indicators to what a person's fortunes will be for the year.

Children, family friends and unmarried couples are also given little red envelopes called *lai see* that contain money and are meant to bring prosperity to the recipient.



Cecily Van Horn

Red envelopes, *lai see*, hold money and deliver prosperity.

Getting out to ring in New Year

Roselyn Kelada-Sedra

IN FOCUS REPORTER

A few years ago, Taia Trinh had his fortune told for Chinese New Year and learned that the new year would bring him wealth.

"So I did some stupid stuff," said Trinh, 21, the founder and president of Humber's Canadian Asian Student Society.

He spent three days in a casino, but did manage to come out richer than when he went in.

"It's the best," said Trinh about the holiday that includes festive eating, drinking and fortune.

Every year, since he was 15 Trinh has performed the lion dance as part of a celebration that goes door-to-door through China-town, bringing luck.

After performing the dance when he was 17, he started to lead the lion out of the room headfirst.

"The guy at the door looked at me like 'what the hell are you doing?'" Trinh said.

He explained that the lion must never exit head-first but back out. "You're bringing good luck in; you can't bring it out with you."

The Chinatown parade is just one of a number of events that takes place in the city each year.

The Chinese Cultural Centre in Scarborough heads up the festivities for the GTA.

Last Saturday kicked off the sea-

son with a performance by National Ballet prima ballerina Chan Hon Goh. Celebrations, ranging from banquets to an exhibition at the Royal Ontario Museum, go on until Feb. 19.

Vincent Ng, marketing manager at the Chinese Cultural Centre, said they have a responsibility to provide a venue, "for Chinese, to let them have a sense of belonging here and for the general public, to promote Chinese culture."

This year, Ng expects to welcome 3,000 people to the festivities.

Esther Tsang, co-ordinator for the Chinese Art of Dance Academy, said that New

Year's traditions all have meaning. One example is the ribbon dance. Using a red ribbon, the dance brings good luck and scares away evil things.

It is based on the story of a girl who scared away a monster named Nie with her red apron.

Tsang heard the story as a child. "There are many stories from the old days," she said, "but you don't know which one's true."

While Trinh said Humber's chapter of the Asian Society is off to a slow start in its first year on campus, he is confident something will happen to kick the new year off with a bang.

"We're just getting started," he said.

Dr. Gilles Lavigne, president of the Canadian Sleep Society, estimates 30 per cent of Canadians suffer from intermittent bouts of insomnia. — www.thestar.com

Food dishes out a second chance

Imma Morcinelli
LIFE REPORTER

About a year ago, life for Carlton Mbavarira, 24, was not entirely promising. But thanks to the Cook Pre-Apprenticeship program for Youths at Risk, run at Humber, he has made a difference in his life.

"Before this program, I was broke, I didn't have a job and I was staying in a shelter," said Mbavarira. "But I'm working now, I'm staying in a nice place and I'm keeping in touch with my family."

Started in September 2006, the program was designed to give deserving youths in the community and the Greater Toronto Area a second chance at a post-secondary education.

It is in conjunction with Microskills, a community resource and help centre in the Etobicoke area, and the YMCA of Greater Toronto.

Twenty-four students were enrolled in the first year, and another 24 in the second.

Anthony Borgo, program coordinator and culinary instructor, described the program as more

than learning to cook. "The program is about finding a new life direction and getting onto a new career path," he said. "It's for the students to get rid of old habits and align themselves with new people and new friends. It's really life altering for them."

Borgo said the program has succeeded in recovering both the educational and personal lives of these students.

"They're realizing that Humber is helping them connect themselves to the community and to an education," said Borgo. "There's been a lot of disparity in their lives, and they've never gotten support like they're getting here."

Derrick Williams, the Youths at Risk counsellor, also works with the students in developing life skills they can apply outside the classroom. "Their mindset when they first come in to this program is a lot of self-hate and former self-sabotaging behaviour," said Williams. "My goal with the students is to bring about positive changes in their lives and to give them hope. To be involved in the community in a much safer way, without destructive behaviours like drugs and crime."

To make better of themselves." Many students in the class say it is working.

"My life was a lot different before this program," said Jaumaul Gittens, 21. "It's kept me out of trouble and helped me to focus on my life."

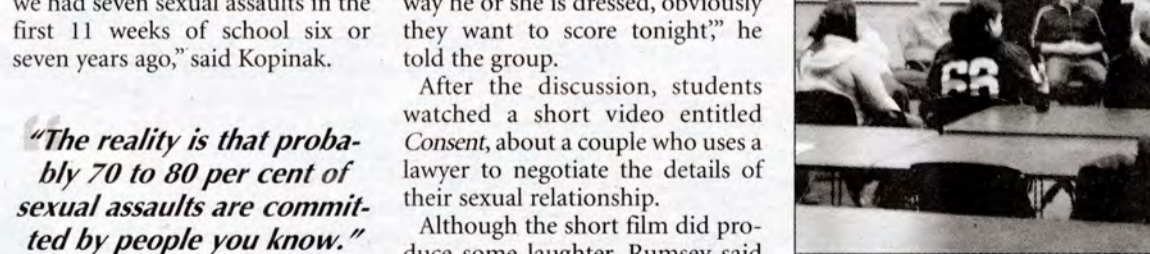
"It's changed me in a positive way," said Kwamie Ollivierre, 29. "It's made my life better because it's taking me in the path I want to go in."

The students of the Youths at Risk program have encouraging words for their peers.

"Go to school," said Gittens. "Try to do something positive in your life instead of doing something negative."

Mbavarira, who moved to Canada six years ago from Zimbabwe and now works at The Keg, has gained great insight since enrolling in the program.

"Don't try to figure everything out right away. If an opportunity like this comes along, I say seize it," said Mbavarira. "Things won't work out on their own. You have to make it work."



Anthony Borgo, centre, helps students find themselves and discover ways to alter their lives positively.

Taking a different approach to the Christian faith



Alina Olshenitsky
LIFE REPORTER

Humber's Christian club Lifeline is gearing up toward a new weekly event called NOOMA, starting Monday, Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m. in GH 202.

NOOMA, which means spirit in Greek, is a communication tool aimed to reach out to a young audience around the world through a Christian perspective.

Its creator Rob Bell explains on Nooma.com each NOOMA is a short online video which presents issues relevant to young people today, ranging from love, confusion and guilt, to making correct choices in the world.

Lifeline president Nishant Das, 20, a third-year industrial design student, said his club organized a similar event last year called Alpha and saw a large turnout. "The Alpha series dealt with the same content as NOOMA, but each video was 45 minutes long," said Das. "The NOOMA series are presented in a much shorter form, each video being only 15 minutes long and it's nice, concise and presented in a unique way," he said.

The best part of the event, Das added, will be the discussion after the screening of the videos. "You can break off into groups and talk about what you just saw in a casual and fun way," he said.

Paul Ooi, 22, a member of Lifeline and fourth-year industrial design student, said what struck him most about NOOMA was a video about breathing.

"There's one video on the topic of breathing, called *Breath*, where the way the host presented it was really cool. There are certain things you could apply to breathing in a spiritual sense," said Ooi.

Ooi added *Breath* will be one of the videos screened on Monday.

Although Humber Chaplain Len Thomas expressed overall support for NOOMA, he said some content in the videos may pose concerns to the traditional definition of Christianity.

"I have some concerns about the videos because of its connection with something called the *Emerging Church Movement* which is kind of like a self-help philosophy," said Thomas.

He explained this new philosophy leads people to focus on themselves rather than on God.

"I don't want to say it's like prosperity gospel but it can become like that, where the focus is on wealth, where God's going to bless you and make everybody rich," Thomas added.

In response, Das stressed that Bell does focus on humans' relationship with God, only through a modern Christian outlook.

Sexual assault seminar gives students tips on avoiding danger

Jordan Sandler
LIFE REPORTER

Residents on North Campus attended a sexual assault meeting this past Monday, where volunteer speaker Mike Rumsey cautioned them about the dangers of date rape.

"People want it to be the stranger in the bushes, the violent rapist. But the reality is that probably 70 to 80 per cent of sexual assaults are committed by people you know," said Rumsey.

The meetings are held each semester at North and Lakeshore residences. According to residence life manager Michael Kopinak, a need arose for these kinds of workshops.

"We started doing this because

we had seven sexual assaults in the first 11 weeks of school six or seven years ago," said Kopinak.

"The reality is that probably 70 to 80 per cent of sexual assaults are committed by people you know."

—Mike Rumsey
Volunteer Presenter

Rumsey, who has been volunteering his time to speak to students for over a decade, addressed the risk of relying on body language to assess a person's interest in sex.

"The danger is when we go onto autopilot and say 'oh look, at the

way he or she is dressed, obviously they want to score tonight," he told the group.

After the discussion, students watched a short video entitled *Consent*, about a couple who uses a lawyer to negotiate the details of their sexual relationship.

Although the short film did produce some laughter, Rumsey said it showed the importance of having communication between partners all the way through.

Nadir Chaudhry, 21, a first-year accounting student, enjoyed the format. "I liked it because it was more of a discussion, and he (Rumsey) was trying to get everyone involved," she said.

Rose Anthony, a counsellor at North Campus who also attended



Students participate in a discussion with Mike Rumsey.

the seminar, said she supports this kind of event.

"I think it's important for prevention purposes just to make students are aware that this is the age where there tends to be a lot sexual assaults," she said.

Anthony also said counselling services can be a valuable resource

in the event that someone is victimized on campus.

It's up to students to spread the word about the ongoing problem of sexual violence, Rumsey said.

"You can be an active or passive person in life, and we're looking for active people to address this problem," he added.



In Canada, one in nine people will develop irreversible vision loss by age 65; by age 75, the number is increased to one in four. — www.worldsightday.ca

Students should think about investing

Catherine Mann
LIFE REPORTER

As the chaos of tax season approaches, students interested in investing in a registered retirement savings plan (RRSP) must file contributions by the March 1 deadline.

"The earlier you start investing, the better," said Shani Furtado, Freedom 55 financial security advisor. "When you're younger you have fewer responsibilities, and you have an even longer investment horizon. This means that when you retire you'll get a greater return."

By contributing to an RRSP, the Canadian government rewards those who save for retirement by giving them a tax benefit. All RRSP investments have a tax-deferred growth, which means that any profit incurred resulting from interest on an RRSP is not taxed as income. A second tax benefit is a tax credit. This means that your taxable income is reduced by the amount you contribute, bringing you into a lower tax bracket.

"By law, you are allowed to contribute a maximum of 18 per cent of your yearly income," said Furtado.

According to a 2004 poll conducted by the marketing firm of



Jesse Kinos-Goodin

Students on OSAP should wait before investing in a retirement plan, says Humber's Financial Services Manager Holsee Sahid.

Ipsos-Reid, nearly 53 per cent of Canadians between the ages of 18 and 34 have an RRSP.

Although retirement may seem decades away, it is not uncommon to have students thinking about their future and developing a financial plan.

"It was suggested to me by my bank that planning for my future would be a wise decision," said first-year public administration student Patty Devlin, 24. "Since I didn't have a lot of financial responsibility at the time, I took part of my summer savings and put it toward a tax-free RRSP. That was a strong enough incentive in itself."

Despite the urge that many RRSP investors have to achieve financial independence, the idea of investing

in a retirement plan is not feasible for everyone. According to Holsee Sahid, Humber's financial services manager, students who are on OSAP or have obtained a loan for assistance with their living expenses should not invest yet.

"If you're on OSAP, or obtained an education loan from another financial institution, you should not be using it toward an RRSP. Those loans were meant for your living expenses, and educational costs."

For students who are ready to invest in their future, Furtado suggests dealing with a trustworthy advisor.

"Have a relationship with your advisor. Feel comfortable with them because they're dealing with the intimacy of your finances."

White cane week recognizes blind

Jay Vallis
A & E REPORTER

Next week recognizes visually impaired Canadians, but the college works year round to help students with such disabilities.

Humber and Guelph-Humber has 16 visually impaired students who use the disability centre, said Maureen Carnegie, co-ordinator and consultant of the centre.

The centre allows students to use software like Zoomtext and Readback, software which increases text size, reads texts and allows students to make adjustments.

The school also puts students in contact with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, to help ease them with their new surroundings.

"Students can come to the college, have someone travel with them and walk them through the school," said

"Close your eyes. Have you got them closed? It's like that, forever."

—Mike Baillargeon
Canadian Council of the Blind

Carnegie.

She said the school is not formally involved with White Cane Week, but doesn't rule it out for the future.

White Cane Week, the first week in February, is an educational initiative that focuses attention on visually impaired awareness. It began in 1946.

Voiceprint is Canada's broadcast reading service for blind or vision impaired people.

Arlene Patterson, director of operations at Voiceprint said, "It's a time to celebrate the symbol of the white cane as a symbol of independence, and recognize the accomplishments of persons with no or low vision."

Mike Baillargeon, of the Canadian Council of the Blind, says that many people don't understand what it means to be blind.

"Close your eyes. Have you got them closed? It's like that, forever," he said

There are 600,000 vision impaired people in Canada, and 15 per cent are legally blind.

According to the American Medical Association, anyone with vision worse than 20/200 that cannot be improved with corrective lenses is considered legally blind.

From Feb. 3-9 the Canadian Council of the Blind and Voiceprint will hold events across Canada to raise awareness.

This year's events include featured programming on Voiceprint, a described film, blind bowling, a national blind curling event in Ottawa and the Feb. 8 episode of the *Rick Mercer Report*, which will be described for the vision impaired.

The described film will be at the Palmerstone Library Theatre in Toronto next Thursday at 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

"During White Cane Week, the Canadian Council of the Blind will also be working on a child registry program to detect and prevent blindness in children," Baillargeon said, "or at the very least prepare the child and family for the emotional and physical adjustments."

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Get with the Program

Meet Joseph Sciarrillo, first-year culinary management student.

What made you interested in this program?

I heard the program at Humber was a lot finer than the one at George Brown and the other schools.

What role does tasting play in your classes?

Tasting is a very big part, since you are dealing with food. Fifty per cent of everything is the taste. But the other 50 per cent is just as important — the eyes and the nose. You taste with your eyes first. You smell things before you taste. Taste is the third step.

What do you hope to achieve with your diploma?

Once I get out of here, I want to go travel. I want to go to Italy and cook there. Also, I want to paint. The tourism part of it I really like — the ability to be a chef, and then go anywhere in the world and cook.

Does your program offer any options for traveling and cooking?

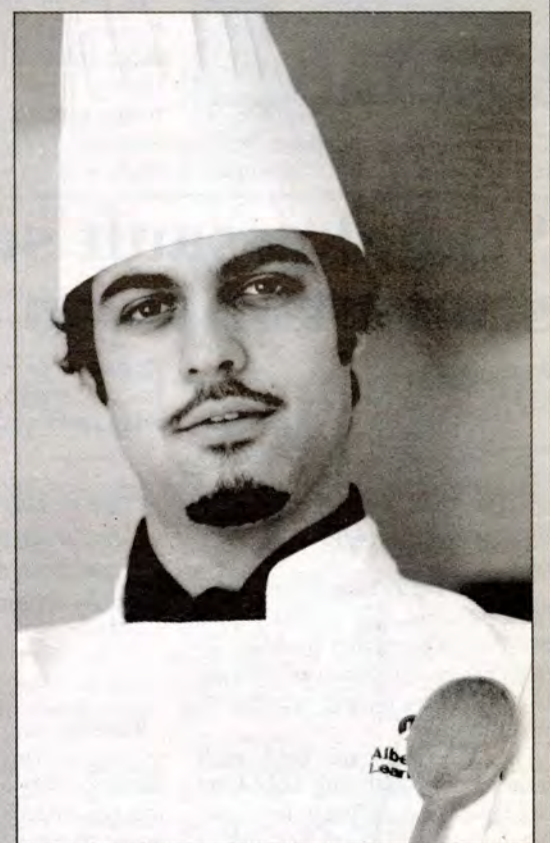
In fourth semester, you can choose to stay in the school, or you can choose to go to another school, that works with Humber. And they're like the top schools in the world.

Do you notice things from your classes when you go to restaurants?

Now, when I go out to restaurants, it's like a whole different world. I look at the carrots on the plate, and I'm like, I know how they cooked this. I can taste what they used. I can taste if the pan was clean or not. It's a different world now.

Have you ever used the knowledge gained from your classes to impress anyone?

For sure. I went to my girlfriend's house and said, "I'll cook the chicken." They all laughed at me, like, "let's see you cook." Then I put the chicken together and it was beautiful, and then they looked at me like, "wow."



Sean Fitzgerald

Joseph Sciarrillo plans to spend his fourth semester cooking and painting in Italy.

Non-prescription cough syrups generally contain drugs in too low a dose to be effective, a group of chest physicians say. - www.associatedpress.com



Jesse Kinosh-Goodin

Certain cough medicines may not work, a new report says.

Report questions cough medicine

Silvia Valino
LIFE REPORTER

Humber pharmacy technician Margaret Woodruff says the findings of a new report questioning the effectiveness of over-the-counter cough medicine is not news to her. "The news isn't telling us what we haven't known forever," says Woodruff.

The medical report by the Cochrane Collaboration says common cough medicine might not help relieve a cough at all.

"There is no good evidence for or against the effectiveness of over-the-counter cough medicines," says the report's conclusion.

The Cochrane Collaboration is an international, not-for-profit organization that prepares scientific reviews on the effects of healthcare interventions.

The report examined 25 studies, including 17 on adults involving 2,876 people from around the world, and the effects of various cough medicines, including some which are available in Canada.

Gerry Harrington, director of public affairs for the Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers Association of Canada, says the report is deceiving because it fails to include any positive results the studies may have found.

"What has me concerned is the broad conclusion reached in the adult study," says Harrington. "It is grotesquely oversimplifying."

Woodruff says people should not expect cough medicine to provide any long-term relief.

"There is no cure for the common cold," she says.

Spreading awareness about eating disorders

Natalie Escobar
LIFE REPORTER

Eating Disorder Awareness Week (EDAW) begins on Sunday with the goal to reduce binge eating, anorexia, bulimia, dieting and body image problems through a public education program.

The week is planned by the National Eating Disorder Information Centre, a non-profit organization established in 1985.

"This year we are focusing on doing a media blitz, hoping to create some buzz," said Suzanne Phillips, the centre's program coordinator.

Throughout the week, the centre will launch a national media campaign to heighten awareness,

encourage family acknowledgement to the problem, advocate for changes in attitudes toward gender stereotyping and to make governments aware of the need for additional funding for health promotion.

"The theme for the week never changes," said Phillips. "We celebrate our natural shapes and sizes."

The centre's website has a link to the Real Me Experience, an interactive site that deals with topics such as self-esteem, body image, individual strategies for change and other problems that relate to eating disorders. The site also teaches about the "power of one."

"I think in general any kind of

information that students can get can be helpful. I think it's (EDAW) good because it makes people feel like they aren't alone," said Catherine Wilson Cheverie, a counsellor from Student Services.

"It can serve to help you notice the signs of someone with an eating disorder," said Kary Furtado, 19, a first-year business marketing student.

"A close friend of mine was suffering from bulimia, Furtado continued. "She would eat and then go to the bathroom. I just noticed over time it was a pattern, then I made her go see someone."

Eating Disorder Awareness Week runs Feb. 3 to Feb. 9.

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Name: Kevin Avram
Program: Film and television
Year: Second
Age: 20

Describe your personal style:
 I would describe it as punk with an indie twist. Today it's actually more formal than I'm used to. I was doing a presentation in my class, and also I have casting calls later.

Where'd you get your outfit?
 The shirt, the vest, and the tie are all from Le Chateau. It helps me feel a little more professional, a little more ready for the workday.

Sean Fitzgerald

Each week, *Et Cetera's* Threads feature highlights personal style on campus

The boys may have grown up, but that hasn't stopped New Kids on the Block from announcing a reunion with four dates yet to be released. — www.people.com



Photos by Sonia Farquharson

Martin Luther King Jr., Marcus Garvey, Frederick Douglas, and Malcolm X in *Black History* by Sonia Farquharson. (right) Bob Marley in *Dreadlock Roots*, also by Farquharson.



The roots of a nation

Art exhibit COLOURblind includes powerful images of black history by alumni artist

Tracey Finklestein
A&E REPORTER

Art lovers will get a history lesson this month while viewing famous African-American figures in colourful paintings created by a Humber alumnus.

"With everything that is going on in the world, I want to show peace through my art," said Sonia Farquharson. "I want to bring people together through my paintings."

Farquharson graduated from the business administration program in 1989. An African-Canadian, Farquharson started painting people who fought for equality, such as

Martin Luther King Jr., Bob Marley, Marcus Garvey, Frederick Douglas and Malcolm X.

"I was inspired by the cultural diversity in Canada," she said. "That is why I started painting people who have fought for multi-culturalism and human rights."

For the past 12 years Farquharson has donated her paintings to COLOURblind, an annual travelling art exhibit put on by 20 African-Canadian artists. It features the work of Canadian artists presenting images of diversity and struggle for equality.

COLOURblind runs throughout February for Black History Month, making stops at Metro Hall, Scarborough Civic Centre, Mississauga Heritage Centre and Vaughan Public Library.

"The exhibit is letting people be aware of other cultures and how other cultures can embrace each other," said Farquharson. "We just do it though art."

Mervin Whitter, former director of the Toronto division of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, started the exhibit in 1995 to raise awareness about black history, said Mark Van Dusen,

spokesperson for the commission. "The commission usually does not start things like this," he said. "Mervin started the project because he was involved in the black community."

Whitter fell ill three years ago and had to step down from the project. In order to uphold his vision to expose black history to Canadians, the free exhibit travels throughout the GTA, said Joan Butterfield, art director and curator of COLOURblind.

"We wanted to make sure the exhibit is accessible to the public," she said. "The exhibit is in

public spaces throughout the community in order to reach a lot of people."

The most important thing about the exhibit is that the artwork sparks a discussion, said Tracy Moore, host of Breakfast Television and City News.

"Every year, people peruse the art and talk about it with whomever is standing beside them," she said. "The friendly and warm discussions that emerge are dynamic."

The exhibit runs from the beginning of February until mid March.

Portraits of women's struggles in Third World



Dila Velazquez
A&E REPORTER

Trips to the developing world were the inspiration for the exotic watercolour portraits of women in markets painted by Lloyd Cooke, on display at the University of Guelph-Humber art gallery until tomorrow.

"I have had the opportunity to travel to Latin America, North Africa and other Gulf states," said Cooke. "The markets in these places are very colourful and have great appeal to a painter and women have central roles in markets. That's why I like to focus on them."

The exhibit is the first for Cooke who has been painting for over 30 years and concentrating on portraits for the past four.

"I hope they enjoy the paintings," he said. "I hope they get the inspiration to travel to the countries where

the paintings are from and they see and experience the people in the markets."

Organizing the art exhibit was part of the event management course at the university.

"We were required to create an event, opening night of an art exhibit," said Alexander Goncalves, a third year business administration student and the event's manager. "The theme was picked by the artist, but we set up the room, have food and beverages to last four hours and invited deans and other faculty."

The Jan. 21 opening night allowed visitors to view the paintings and donate to Save the Children fund by buying raffle tickets and purchasing paintings. Cooke, who chose the charity, said it received all of the profits from raffle tickets and 15 per cent of the painting sales. He sold six

on opening night, each ranging from \$295 to \$625.

"Save the Children has a connection to the theme and subject of the market paintings," said Cooke. "Most are mothers trying to raise children in difficult conditions and Save the Children gives aid and funds to those causes and advocates children's rights on the political side."

The exhibit is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and visitors can expect to see the haunting faces of women featured in these muted earth tones watercolours. The exhibit attracted Denise Devlin-Li, dean of Humber's applied technology.

"I wanted to see how the paintings were done, watercolours can be really tough to work in," said Devlin-Li. "The artist has done a wonderful job."

Fifteen per cent of Lloyd Cooke's painting sales go to Save the Children, a charity for children's rights.

Canada's oldest bookstore, the Book Room in Halifax (1839), is closing up shop after folding in the wake of big box bookstores and online ordering. - www.cbc.ca



Cyttalli Ruiz-Chapman

Contemporary music students shake things up Thursday nights at Concord Café.

Downtown café serves up sweet sounds every week

Cyttalli Ruiz-Chapman
A&E REPORTER

Humber's contemporary music students put together an impressive ensemble every Thursday for a jam session at Concord Café on Bloor Street.

"It gives us a chance to meet different people and have a creative space," said vocalist Ida Maidstone, a fourth-year music student. "Everyone does their own thing, we just give our concept and our basic cords. It's pretty improvised."

There were up to eight musicians on stage last Thursday, while the audience was mainly made up of Humber music students and alumni.

"It's all about having fun with a circle of like-minded people who can give you feedback and play

with you," said Ghislain Aucoin, a third-year pianist.

Students use the venue to express themselves and to play their own music, with little thought of reimbursement.

"The bands rarely get paid here. People come to play, not for any financial gain," said Jared Lucow, a graduate of the program.

The weekly event provides a creative environment for students to play with each other and an outlet to try different styles of music outside the classroom.

"It's always enjoyable to see who's playing, if they're getting any better or adding new songs. It's a pretty cheap way to have a good night," said Lucow.

Students also go to Concord, west of Ossington Street on Bloor,

to meet other musicians and to support each other.

"The students have been coming to Concord for over a year and a half," said Genoveva Silva, the owner of Concord Café. "I feel like they're my extended family. They're really well behaved and great."

Silva is so grateful for having the students play at her café she wants to organize a trip to Chile for them.

White Lies dispels myths

Robert Sassano
A&E REPORTER

Humber anthropology professor John Steckley's new book is a captivating venture into the world of false knowledge and the Inuit.

"I am really, really excited. This one has been a long time coming," said Steckley of his work.

The book, entitled *White Lies About the Inuit*, is a run-down of the incorrect information scholars have gathered regarding the Inuit.

"The main idea is don't believe what you read, don't believe what you hear," he said.

Steckley said scholars have presented false information about a number of different Inuit communities and the inaccurate findings have even been taught in school.

"I could have chosen any group, but I was interested in the Inuit after I finished my fourth book," he said.

Steckley said the purpose of his new text is to help students become critical thinkers.

"What I wanted to present was that all knowledge is constructed and it is only as good as the manufacturing process," said Steckley.

A book signing was held last week in the K202 conference room to celebrate the release. Steckley

read excerpts from the book and shared lunch with students and friends.

"It's been a dream come true for John," said his wife Angelika Steckley.

White Lies About the Inuit is the fifth book the professor wrote in 2007.

It had its official launch earlier this month and Steckley is confident the book will find its place in the community.

"I think this is the one book that will hopefully sell well and make an impact," he said.

Students taking Steckley's anthropology class will have to read the book, as it will soon be a required text.

"The book is written like a textbook so there are discussion questions at the end of every chapter which the students will have to answer," said Steckley.

Students marveled at the idea of the book, calling it a giant leap forward.

"I think it's great. It allows us to think about what we read and how we read it," said Sean Miller, a second-year sociology student.

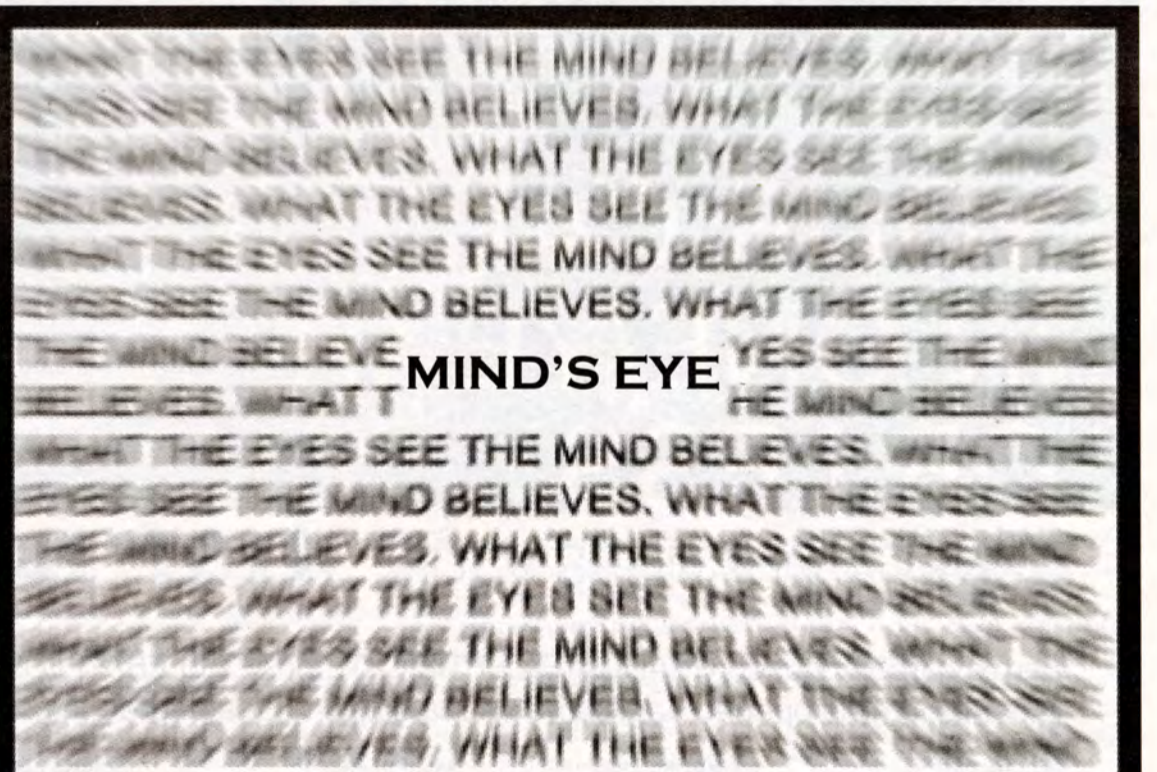
The book was published by the Broadview Press and is available at the bookstore.

PLAYLIST PICKS



News editor Michelle Singerman tells us what's in her headphones this week

-  Grateful Dead - Mission In the Rain
Live at Boston Music Hall '76-06-12
-  Led Zeppelin - Tangerine
Led Zeppelin III
-  Pearl Jam - Nothing As It Seems
Live in Seattle '00-11-06
-  Bob Dylan - Hazel
The Last Waltz
-  The Band - Stage Fright
Stage Fright
-  The Beatles - Yer Blues
The White Album
-  The Rolling Stones - Paint It Black
Hot Rocks 1964-1971
-  Janis Joplin - Cry Baby
Pearl
-  Muddy Waters - Mannish Boy
Electric Mud
-  Neil Young - Long May You Run
Decade



MIND'S EYE

Guelpth - Humber presents...

Mind's Eye

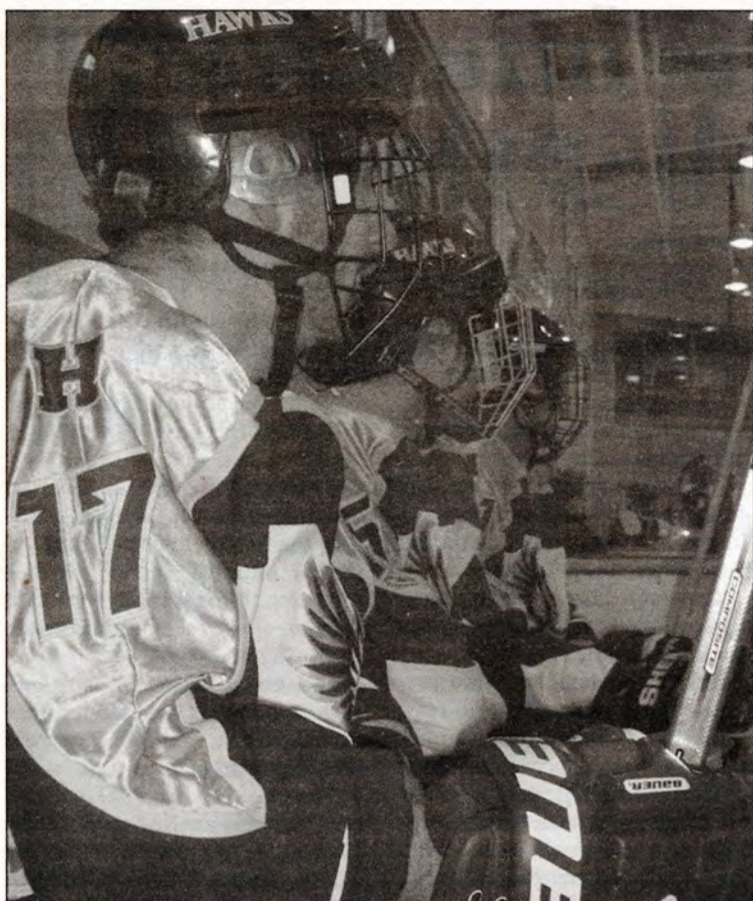
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The 2007 Australian Football League was won by the Geelong Cats 163 - 44 over the Port Adelaide Power. The 2008 season begins March 20. - www.afl.com.au



Humber athletic department

Hockey spelled with an \$

Colleges can't afford travel that a league schedule brings, says Humber athletic director Doug Fox

Maciej Chabelski
SPORTS REPORTER

The Ontario College Athletics Association is meeting in April to discuss the possibility of bringing varsity hockey back.

"We will need commitment from at least five colleges to bring hockey back as a varsity sport for the 2009-2010 season," said Blair Webster, the executive director of the OCAA.

Humber athletic director Doug Fox said the college would be interested in varsity hockey, but only if it was in a tournament format.

"A lot of colleges, us included, can't afford the travelling and game schedules that come with having a varsity season," he said. "Tournaments are more affordable."

Hawks' centre Brett McCully, 23, said he has high hopes..

"We're all hoping that (the OCAA) will return to varsity hockey," the second-year recreation and leisure student said. "Until then, we'll give it our all in this league."

The men's and women's teams participate under the OCAA's extramural recreational hockey league.

Colleges are offered tournament dates arranged by the OCAA and can decide which ones to attend.

The recreational label hasn't stopped the Hawks domination of the tournaments, including a first place finish at their latest tournament in Brockville on Jan. 11.

"We play well as a team," said Brett McCully, centre for the Hawks. "We always finish in the top three in all of our tournaments."

Humber ice hockey still retains a lot of the old varsity tradition, in

spite of its recreational label.

The teams have uniforms, coaches, and play home tournaments at the Westwood arena located at Highway 27 and Finch Avenue. The arena was home to the Hawks during their varsity seasons, which ended in 2004.

Like any varsity team, cuts are made by coaches and players who make the team aren't always guaranteed ice time.

"Generally, if you play poorly, you will be benched," he said. "This competition helps you maintain your skill level."

Jim Bialek, head coach of the women's hockey team, says the competitive atmosphere ensures Humber has its best players in tournaments.

"We send our champions, our all-stars to face other champions and all-stars," he said. "They would be playing varsity normally."

A benched OCAA league can't stop Canada's national sport.

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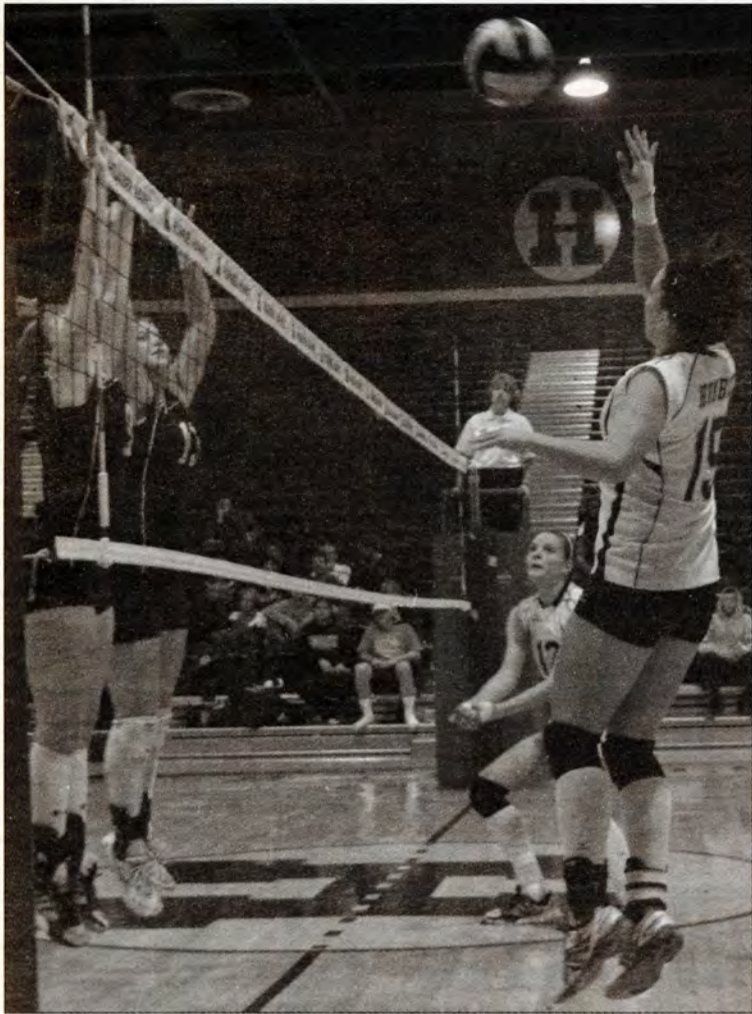
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In the 1984 NHL entry draft, the top three picks in order were: Mario Lemieux (Penguins), Kirk Muller (Devils) and Ed Olczyk (Blackhawks) – www.nhl.com



Humber athletic department

Julie Mota in action against Mohawk during the Humber Cup A dish best served cold

Brandon Fitzgibbon
SPORTS REPORTER

The number one provincial ranking in women's volleyball will be on the line today when the Hawks play the Mohawk Mountaineers.

The Mountaineers (26-2-4) are ranked first in Ontario while the Hawks (39-9) are second.

Coach Chris Wilkins said his team will have to make adjustments to beat the Mountaineers for the third time in four matches this season.

"We're going to have to serve tough to put them in bad positions and block well because they're a pretty good offensive team," he said. "It's probably for first place in the province."

After beating Mohawk twice in tournament play, the Hawks lost to the Mountaineers in five sets on Nov. 27.

Captain Rachel Dubbeldam said the team must stay focused.

"If we hype it up too much in our heads we might psyche ourselves out," she said "We lost to them once already and have made some changes since that game."

The biggest change has been the return of power Kirsty Goodearle, who re-joined in December.

Goodearle, an OCAA all-star, said she feels the team is beginning to come together.

"I think we are just starting to get it as a whole and putting each practice into our memory," said Goodearle. "We are actually starting to use the tools our coaches have given us versus just playing basic volleyball."

Hawks middle Landis Doyle said the team needs to make a statement.

"Hopefully we can send them a message," said Doyle. "When we do play them at provincials we want it to be in the back of their heads that they're a little bit scared."

Evangelos Tzaras
SPORTS REPORTER

It was a tale of two teams last Saturday with the women's indoor soccer team taking the spotlight with an impressive second place finish at the first tournament of the season.

For the men it was back to the drawing board as they failed to make it out of division play.

Teams from college and university level took part in Centennial College's invitational tournament.

Women's coach Vince Pileggi

said the finals loss to the Durham Lords did not overshadow the positive momentum gained going forward.

"We want to be able to build and eventually win a gold medal at provincials," he said.

Nilda Correia with three goals and Crystal Camillieri with two goals led the Hawks attack on offence.

The men's team tried to reflect positively on a disappointing start to the tournament season.

After starting with three straight

Check your head

Ryan Lavender
SPORTS REPORTER

The sports injuries clinic has seen an increase in the number of students suffering from concussions, says the clinic's athletic therapist.

"We've had quite a few concussions this year," Lydia Henry says.

"We've made an effort to really notice them and pull athletes out and follow a strict protocol with them. So maybe because we did that this year people are coming out more and saying we've had them. But this year I would say we've had a record number of concussions."

One difficulty when dealing with concussions is keeping students and coaches aware of when an ath-

lete is suffering from the symptoms, says Henry.

"Often a person looks normal, speaks normally, feels fairly normal and then you start asking the concussion questions and they are positive to that. So that is frustrating for the athlete, the coaches, and the therapist."

"We've always felt that you can't run a varsity athletics program properly without the proper therapy facilities," said college athletic director Doug Fox.

"We've had quite a few concussions this year. We've made an effort to really notice them and pull them out."

—Lydia Henry
Humber athletic therapist



Ryan Lavender

Office is equipped to help.

The clinic has four athletic therapy students assigned to assist varsity teams.

"Each one is assigned two teams over the year that they follow," said Henry. "They go to the practices, they do all the taping. They go away for the games and tournaments."

One team in particular is making use of the clinic.

"Rugby by far," said Henry. "They're not easy on themselves."

While a great deal of time is spent with the varsity teams, all full time students and staff can make an appointment to use the



Ryan Lavender

Head therapist Lydia Henry.

clinic's free services, which include patient education, assessment and rehabilitation.

"I thought it was only available for varsity athletes," said Bruno Matta, 23, a first-year paramedic student. "Having it on hand probably makes recovery for the athletes a lot quicker than if they were going out to get help from somewhere else."

The clinic is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Thursday and between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday and is located by the gym.

Students can also take advantage of the clinic's massage therapy service.

"We have a massage therapist. Now she is not a free service, where as everything else is," said Henry.

"But through HSF they have some coverage with the insurance company they provide students, so a lot of our varsity athletes have taken advantage of that."

Familiar foes at v-ball nationals

Rayna Taylor
SPORTS REPORTER

The men's volleyball team isn't afraid of the competition that the B.C. conference will bring to the national championships in March.

"If I base it on the experience that we just had with B.C. over the holidays, everybody is so close, it's going to come down to who shows up that day and is prepared to do whatever it takes to win," said coach Wayne Wilkins.

Greg Poitras is the men's volleyball convener for the British Columbia Colleges Athletic

Association and is responsible for tracking the provincial standings.

He said it could be anybody's game at provincials.

"Capilano College has a couple of powerhouses on their team," Poitras said.

"The team has a very solid seven players. That's why they are at the top of our league right now."

University College of the Fraser Valley and Malaspina University College are tied in second, University of British Columbia Okanagan come in third and College of the Rockies rank

fourth.

"We've got twelve new players and two returning players so it's a completely different team this year," said Capilano coach James Sneddon.

"When we play together as a group and we celebrate our victories and forget about our errors, we're a really tough team to stop."

Humber played matches against UBC Okanagan and College of the Rockies in a tournament over the holidays, and both matches were close games with Humber coming out on the losing end.

Mixed results at the beautiful game's indoor opener

Evangelos Tzaras
SPORTS REPORTER

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Nilda Correia with three goals and Crystal Camillieri with two goals led the Hawks attack on offence.

The men's team tried to reflect positively on a disappointing start to the tournament season.

After starting with three straight

losses, they ended with a victory over Seneca.

Coach Germain Sanchez pointed out the importance of this tournament as a stepping stone, rather than a measuring stick of what this team can do.

He's optimistic things can turn around.

"Hopefully we can get three or four more players who were not available to play this weekend. Getting in better shape is important, we have to take more shots and take more risks."



Evangelos Tzaras

Women's team in action en route to a silver medal showing.

"You play to win the game!" – Then, New York Jets head coach Herman Edwards addressing the media following a loss by his team in 2003.

Blowout in birds of prey court battle

Beat Fanshawe in straight sets

By Amy Kuzyk
SPORTS REPORTER

LONDON, Ont — The men's volleyball team made a statement heading into the Ontario championships with a convincing victory last week on the road against rivals Fanshawe Falcons last Wednesday.

"To beat them on home court a couple of weeks before provincials sends a huge message," said Head Coach Wayne Wilkins.

Until the game, the Falcons were ranked second in Ontario and eighth in Canada. Tension between the two teams runs deep as either could take provincials when they are held in London Feb. 21-23.

"I think we did really well, con-



Amy Kuzyk

Paul Kemboi (14) gets some hang time and smashes a point in a win against Fanshawe.

sidering we came into a hostile environment and considering the track record between our two schools," said middle Brendan

Wong.

All three sets started off close, but Humber controlled the pace throughout winning 25-21, 25-16,

25-22 and improving to 8-1.

"I'm a big preparation guy," said Wilkins. "I'm all about understanding our opponent. If there's

a weakness, we're going to exploit it. We were ready for these guys."

Several Humber players had strong outings, stunning the Falcons with kills. Clayton Johnston contributed 12, while Duane Mondesir had nine.

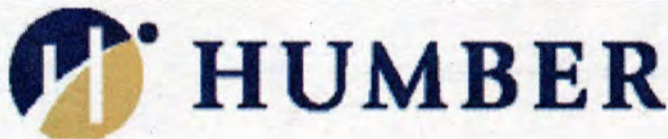
Wilkins was pleased with his team's performance.

"The guys played really well," he said. "It was a hard-fought battle, but everything fell into place."

"I've never won in Fanshawe in my five years that I've been here," said Michael Smith, defender.

"Now when we come back here at the end of February we can feel the confidence to know that we played here and won. To do that is a bigger step than just to beat Fanshawe. To get the experience of winning on that floor is the big step."

The Hawks play at home tonight against division rivals the Mohawk Mountaineers, who are unbeaten so far this season.



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Fifth year the charm

Controversial ruling allows player's return

Kelly Roche
SPORTS REPORTER

Samson Downey is once again leading the men's basketball team, on and off the court, thanks to a controversial five-year eligibility rule allowing mature college students an extra year of athletics.

"He has a great basketball IQ and that's what makes him such a great point guard," said assistant coach Chris Cheng.

In the four games he's played this season, Downey is averaging 5.25 points per game, along with 3.75 rebounds, and 2.25 assists.

"My role on the team, just being an older guy that's been to nationals and won a provincial gold medal, is to mentor the younger guys," said Downey.

Athletic director Doug Fox says he has two perspectives on the five-year rule.

As president of the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association, Fox said, "I was happy to see it passed."

As Humber's athletic director, Fox says the five-year rule raises the ethical issue of bringing back athletes who have no interest in getting an education, but want to win a championship.

"I've been very careful to make sure it's not being taken advantage of here," Fox said. Downey's situation is unique because, "He came in late at Christmas the very first year and always felt kind of ripped off that he didn't get a full year."

"This makes up for it."

A Toronto native, Downey, 27,

spent four years playing for the Hawks and graduated with diplomas in business management and business marketing in 2005.

The Humber hall of fame member went to Denmark and played semi-pro ball for two years.

Back in his hometown, Downey found the opportunity to suit up for the Hawks again this season after a few players failed to meet the minimum grade-point-average.

Downey approached the team once the five-year rule was passed last November.

"After assessing our situation, it was a pretty easy decision," head coach Darrell Glenn said.

"We need to have someone on the court who can almost finish the coach's sentence and he's always making suggestions"

—Darrell Glenn
head coach

"We need to have someone on the court who can almost finish the coach's sentence, and he's always making suggestions that I value."

Downey said it's an adjustment returning to school; he is studying general arts and sciences.

His previous business credits will earn him another diploma at the end of this semester.

The starting point guard said he is the second-oldest player in the OCAA.

"Some guys joke on the team, they'll call me an old man," he said.

Mark McNee leads the Hawks in scoring this semester with 13.75 points per game and welcomes the

addition of the veteran.

"He has excellent ball-handling skills and court awareness," McNee said, adding that Downey's strength is shooting from mid-range to the perimeter.

"Whenever I get a pass from him, it's where I want the ball."

Downey plans to head back to Europe and incorporate his love for hoops with his business sense, or make the transition to coaching.

But first, he wants to lead the pack to another gold medal.



Kelly Roche

Veteran Samson Downey