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IW Exclusive: What Dean Sedra Will Do For You

Kiran Dhaliwal

2B Electrical



Quality of education, entrance scholarships and graduate studies are the top items on Dean Sedra's agenda for improving the already respectable Faculty of Engineering at the University of Waterloo. When recently asked about his goals and expected accomplishments during his term, Dean Adel Sedra was happy to answer all my questions with honesty and great thought. One can tell right off the bat that he loves to teach since he proudly displays the new edition of his co-written textbook, "Microelectronic Circuits", and because he will be back in the classroom this winter teaching ECE 331. Dean Sedra has an impressive background in research and teaching, including most recently the role of Provost at the University of Toronto. When discussing the future of his work in the position of Dean, this is what he had to say:

KD: What will you hope to improve on from the last Dean?

AS: First of all, the last Dean left the faculty in very good shape, so the challenge is to take a good faculty and make it excellent. Currently we're offering an excellent graduate program, but we still have plans for major improvements.

In terms of co-op, very soon a number of new courses will be offered in short modules and delivered via the Internet so students can do them during their work terms at no cost. They will be intended to help with professional development (e.g. leadership, management, teamwork, communication skills etc.). Each student would have to take one per co-op term, but it would not be a Credit/ No Credit type of course so no marks would be assigned. We feel this would be a very attractive element of the engineering program at UW for both students and employers. In fact, some employers have been commenting that their students have great technical skills, but lack some of the important soft skills we hope to develop. I think this idea will make Waterloo move a step up in the quality of the engineering co-op program.

There are also plans to offer a new freestanding Nanotechnology Engineering program that will be a joint project between Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering and the Chemistry department in the Faculty of Science. It will have an innovative, exciting curriculum dealing with nanotechnology applications from electronics to life sciences. It will be offered to new students, hopefully the next fall, but there may be some opportunity for current students to take some of the courses being developed as we speak. In order to set this program up we will hire 20 new profs and take in some more grad students so there will be a lot of research happening in the nanotechnology field at Waterloo. Some of the professors who are



Adel Sedra, current Dean of Engineering will be making improvements to the school to attract more grad students and heighten the undergrad program..

highly involved with this venture are Professor Nathan, Professor Vanelli and Professor Duever.

There certainly needs to be more work done in the area of graduate studies in the Engineering Faculty. I would like to see an improvement in funding for graduate students and hopefully be able to announce soon that every graduate student will be fully funded for the full cost of her tuition. This should be at a level that a living allowance ensures that the student may

live reasonably and devote their full effort to research without worrying about finances. I helped bring about such a system at the University of Toronto and hope to do this here as well.

KD: Great! Could you tell me what you hope to have accomplished by the end of your term?

AS: I hope to hire more good faculty
Continued on page 11. See "Sedra Announces Plans"

Broadening Your Horizons In Five or Fewer Courses

Christine McCullough
2N Chemical

Choosing our own classes seems like such a foreign idea to us, all we really have to do is pass our current classes and we get automatically enrolled in next term's classes. Ah, but there are those precious few chances to have input into your education, those things called Complimentary Study Electives. It can be a daunting task trying to choose a course to put in your already very packed schedule, especially when everyone around you is in the same situation and can't offer much in the way of feed back about courses you might want to take. This is where I step in. Recently I appealed to all upper-year students to tell me about the courses that they have taken for their CSE's; did they like them, hate them and why. I received a good number of responses and I have list-

ed them all below. The courses are listed alphabetically by course number. Each bullet represents a response from one person. Please keep in mind a couple of very important facts while reviewing this survey:

1. This is very subjective. One of the respondents gave a good review of a course about Shakespeare. I know that if I had taken that same course I would have given it a horrible review due to the simple fact that I hate Shakespeare. It really depends on what you like, so take that into account

2. Courses vary with the professor who teaches them. I once took a course in which the prof was teaching for the very first time. Needless to say he wasn't very good. However, in previous terms, the class was taught by the professor who wrote the textbook and is internationally recognized for his work in that specific field. So I know the course would have been very different if that prof had been

teaching when I took it.

3. Regardless of how badly you may want to take all music courses for your CSE's, you do have some requirements you need to fulfill and music course don't always cut it. Briefly you need to have one 'List A' Impact Course, one 'List B' Engineering Economics Course (for most programs this is already scheduled for you) and two 'List C' Humanities and Social Sciences Courses. The 'List A' courses are very specific and can be found on page 8:7 of the 2003/2004 Undergraduate Calendar. There is a little more room for exploration in your 'List C' courses. I would recommend you have a look at that section of the calendar before deciding on any CSE.

I want to make one last observation; the classes that got the best reviews seemed to be the ones that were farthest from the norm. What I mean is, when someone took a course simply for the fact that the course content interested him or

her, they liked the course, regardless of workload. A lot of people take PSYCH 101, but the reviews are mixed. It's an easy decision, it's pre-scheduled to not conflict with your engineering courses and it goes towards your 'List C' requirements. What I would encourage you to do is go through the calendar to find courses that interest you, see if they would also work in you schedule and fulfill the 'List C' requirement, because there are a lot of courses that do. Don't restrict yourself to the classes that all your classmates are taking, take a chance and take a course that may interest only a few people. As you will see below, engineers are very well rounded people and there are plenty of opportunities at this university to pursue individual interests, be they Shakespeare, science fiction or genetics.

Continued on page 12. See Forty-Four Complimentary Studies Electives

Jack, please, I'm only an elected official here, I can't make decisions by myself! - The Mayor in Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas

Letter from the Editor

An Unfathomable Wealth of Wisdom

Joseph Fung

3N Computer

Editor-in-Chief



In preparing for this article, I spent some time searching online for inspirational quotations and passages to use as either an introduction or a conclusion. However, I was dismayed to find nothing appropriate. I found a great deal of quotations mocking the influence parents can have on their children, and I found a great deal of quotations insulting certain parental practices. I found "Irish wisdom for parents", "Yiddish wisdom for parents" and "Portland wisdom for parents" sites. And yet, not a single quotation, article or page lauding the wisdom and merits of parents could be found.

I believe all of us would agree that we've learned a lot from our parents – that many of our life skills come from lessons learned while in their presence. Unfortunately, I also believe that not enough of us appreciate that this learning is not yet complete – that there is still much left to be learned. Over the past few months I've been fortunate enough not only to spend more personal time with my parents, but also to work with them as peers, and to help them build their dreams. I wish everyone reading this could have the same opportunity, and so I'm writing this to not just to describe what I experienced, but to recommend that everyone pause to consider how much effort they put into learning from their parents right now, and how much effort they will put into it in the future.

I'd be the first to admit that almost everything I've learned about business, about money and about the work place has been learned from my mother. About a year and a half ago she quit her job as a divisional manager with a financial planning firm in order to develop her own consulting business. As I'm sure you can appreciate, it was a big risk and there was a great deal of apprehension both on her side and on the side of my sisters and me. Although the business hasn't been wildly successful, it is growing and is giving her the opportunity to pursue a career she enjoys. While "do what you enjoy for a living" is a lesson that I most definitely learned from her – it's one I learned long ago, and as such would be out-of-place in

this piece – the lessons I'm learning from her right now are much less grand but still very, very useful. In helping her with her business development (in a website design capacity) I'm being exposed to a personality of one with impeccable business acumen. I've been given the opportunity to watch the development of everything from business plans to sales material. Additionally I've been given the opportunity to poke and prod said material, to ask questions and to be taught why these "best practices" really are "best". Business practices, strategic planning, and marketing techniques are not usually on the curriculum for what parents teach their children – but by continuing to work with my mother, they are for me.

When was the last time that you spent time with your parents on the matter of their chosen profession? They've most likely gone through extensive training and wide-ranging experiences in order to be effective in their role – perhaps you could gain from that understanding.

While my mother is very much a keen, business-minded individual, my father is more of a hands-on laid back character. As a child I learned from him how to swing a hammer, how to ride a bike and how to fish. He's amazed me time and time again with his ability to translate envisioned projects into wood-worked or machine-tooled results. This past week I had the chance to fly out to Nova Scotia to help him with his work on the house he's building for when he and my mother retire. Although during the week I was impressed by his physical adroitness and dexterity, it wasn't construction principles that was the most important lesson; rather it was a lesson on how to make a marriage work that I found most valuable.

I'm sure most of us have found our parents' interactions with each other to be invaluable when considering how our own marriages and family lives will be run – and until this past week, I felt pretty sure that I'd learned all I could from them on that front. However, I was surprised. What I learned from my father during the time I spent with him is that not only is it necessary to constantly be considerate of the other person, but to also be considerate of how the other person will change. While we were working my father and I had a lot of time to chat – and I found that he's been expending a lot of energy looking for things that may interest my mother in the future. He's trying to plan for the time when they have been

retired for several years and she becomes restless with a reserved lifestyle. I was absolutely astounded that he was concerned about this before they have even finalized when they'll actually retire. He's looking into the possibilities of part-time lecturer positions at the nearby university. He's looking into the local charitable and volunteer organizations. He's even going to the effort of looking up continuing education opportunities in the area in case my mother decides she wants to go back to school. What's even more astounding is the quiet assuredness with which he's doing this.

So no, "be considerate of your loved one" may not be an epiphany, and no, this is not something new to me. What is new to me is the extent to which my father takes this statement to heart. It's not something I had realized before.

When did you last scrutinize your parents' relationship? Better yet, when did one of your parents last help you understand their relationship? Is it possible that you've assumed you've gotten all there is to get from it already?

I mentioned that I had the chance to help my parents build their dreams – and I should explain that. The dreams I'm referring to are the dreams my parents have of success. To my father it's being able to spend his time at a leisurely pace in a comfortable locale. To my mother it's being able to look back on her life's accomplishments and feel pride. In helping to build their retirement home and in helping my mother's business succeed, I'm helping them achieve those dreams. More importantly though, I'm learning from them that it's possible and feasible to accomplish my dreams early on in life.

As I said earlier on, I've been lucky enough to spend significant amounts of time in the company of my parents recently – I don't imagine everyone here at UW has been so fortunate. If you aren't spending time with your parents on a regular basis, I urge you to do so; if you are, I urge you to do so more. My recent experiences are leading me to believe that there's an unfathomable wealth of wisdom there that shouldn't be left untapped.

Questions? Comments?

We welcome letters and feedback from all our readers. Please email us at:

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Response To: "Are same-sex marriages acceptable?"

I'm sitting here watching my build go by at work, so decided to take a peek at the ol' IW, and was interested (if not a little ashamed) to read the views expressed in the aforementioned article. So I decided to write a response, which maybe you could publish.

One thing to make clear off the bat: Religious beliefs, specifically Christian beliefs, are what support the "moral" compass of our nation (as it was founded upon... obviously this is no longer limited to the viewpoint of Christianity). The executive, parliamentary, and judiciary branches of our government create and support the "ethical" compass. While the inception of our nation may have had the ethical tenets written based on the current moral ones, they aren't the same thing, and aren't tied to one another.

Having said that, Chum Lam makes a slight err in stating that "... the ethical debate rages on with the slinging of religious, moral, democratic, human rights rhetoric and dogma between the pro and anti same sex marriage groups". There is

no "ethical" debate to be had; it is clear that the definition of marriage as it stands violates the human rights of homosexuals, ergo it is unethical and should be changed. However, there is certainly many people trying to argue the moral implications of this change (such as the other, anonymous author), and the impact that it will have on society. Personally I think the impact will be at best minimal, what with the low percentages of homosexual couples who even want to get married, and with the retention of the church's rights to refuse to perform a marriage service (which they can do for anyone they don't think is ready to be married in "God's" eyes).

Now then, as for the hand-wringing, scare-mongering, bible-thumping viewpoint expressed by the anonymous author, I have to say reading that piece of drivel made me (however briefly) ashamed to be associated with UW Engineers. I suppose yes, everyone is entitled to an opinion, even if the opinions they are expressing are stupid and ill-founded, but we are supposed to be critical thinkers here, not peo-

ple prone to regurgitate the rantings of the local religious media without thinking twice. First off, you will take note that even with the current wording of the definition of marriage, there is no safeguard imposed against the will of "a father to marry his daughter", rather, based on your corollary, and the fact that they are not the same gender, this would be perfectly acceptable under today's definition of marriage. Now if a father wanted to marry his son, that'd be a different story... Second, the author rightly noted that there isn't much sanctity left in the term "marriage" anyhow, but to assume that "By expanding the meaning of marriage further, it lowers the supposed sanctity of the institution by another level" is a bit ludicrous. If anything the only outcome of introducing gay marriage will be gay divorce. You won't have people marrying their dogs, or their kids, or any of those other things that scare-mongering bible-thumpers seem to be promoting as the slippery-slope to anarchy that this bill presents.

Now, as for the "closing arguments"

the author presents, I have my own questions to ask: What about the people like myself, who are religiously agnostic, and would like to perhaps one day "get married"? As far as I'm concerned you can take your "Good Book" and shove it, but right now in order for me to be "wed" in this nation I have to have some sort of representative of a religion there to read some passages and unite myself and my potential bride "in the eyes of God". So where is the uproar against us unbelievers defiling your sanctity and so on? Is it that much easier to be heterocentric and unite behind a sexual preference in defending your dogmas than it is to merely obey them? Remember all that "love thy neighbour" crap, and teachings about "forgiveness" and "acceptance"? or were you too preoccupied with those chapters on "smiting the wicked" to notice those?

Mike Goldsmith
4B Comp Eng (116 days!!!)

Impact Bias: For Sickness or for Health and Happiness

Cindy Bao

2B Electrical



A week before Thanksgiving I had made the perfect plans: in between studying for midterms, I would go for a potluck dinner at a friend's house and treat myself to a movie at Princess Cinema. The plans, however, were interrupted by an unforeseen illness, which lasted over two weeks. Since I can't remember the last time I was sick for this long, I decided that it is most definitely article-worthy. (Actually, when you have an editor constantly nagging you about submissions, anything can be article-worthy.)

While lying in bed, my willpower was reduced to non-existent and all wishes were boiled down to the most basic and practical: "I'd give anything to get rid of this fever/cough/headache." I realized the vital importance of being healthy and swore I didn't ever want to be sick again. Yet, as I made my way back to class and found myself having to make up all the missed lectures, labs and notes, I almost wished I was in my sickbed again. I knew perfectly well that delaying the pain could only make it worse, but wasn't procrastination part of evolutionary human nature?

Suddenly it struck me that my dilemma

was not about being sick or healthy, but the age-old one of how human beings are never satisfied with their condition.

An example I think many of you can relate to is the preference between work term and school term. While pulling an all-nighter before a project due day or cramming for exams, one just can't help but hope for the work term to begin as soon as possible. Imagining having all the hours after five at your disposal, hanging out with friends guilt-free, no assignments and exams...

The truth is that once it's really work term, I rarely see my friends, who are scattered all over the place for the four months. After work I feel as though my brain has totally been fried and all I am able to do is sit in front of the TV - the only activity that requires no thinking. I keep telling myself that's not how I want to spend the rest of my life and just look forward to school again when I can really hang out with my friends (minus the school

work, of course).

From the case above, it seems that we are constantly looking for happiness beyond our current circumstances. Unfortunately, according to the research done by Daniel Gilbert, a psychology professor at Harvard, such pursuits of happiness are futile. Gilbert and his colleagues study a relatively uncharted territory in psychology: how well people can predict their emotional reaction to certain things.

Based on the team's finding, we almost always overestimate the emotional impact that future events have on us, both in terms of intensity and duration. For instance, we might believe that a new BMW will make life perfect. But it will almost certainly be less exciting than we anticipated; nor will it excite us for as long as predicted.

Gilbert and his collaborator, psychologist Tim Wilson of the University of Virginia, call the gap between what we pre-

dict and what we ultimately experience the "impact bias". Such phenomenon is the result of our inability to recognize that we adapt to new circumstances. It is almost depressing to think that when we find the pleasure derived from a thing diminishing, we move on to the next thing or event and almost certainly make another error of prediction, and then another, ad infinitum.

"Impact bias", however, works for misfortune as well. In response to negative events like losing a job or the death of a loved one, we project a permanently inconsolable future. Again, we fail to recognize the existence of psychological defenses and their efficiency.

As midterms come to an end, "impact bias" perhaps has already presented itself as a real life example. If you are thinking that the final exams in 5 weeks time will be the end of the world, think again.

Disclaimer: The introduction to Daniel Gilbert and "impact bias" is based on "The Futile Pursuit of Happiness" by Jon Gertner, originally published in New York Times Magazine on September 7th, 2003.

"...it seems that we are constantly looking for happiness..."

Roommate From Hell Part II

Edward Tan
2A Computer

Finally being able to experience the joy and enthusiasm of living away from home, the plans for a new life style and crazy parties by made possible by the lack of parents. These are the wonders of living on campus. However, these gifts from heaven often come with the price tag of a roommate from hell.

The different residences across campus create different levels of "intimacy" with your roommate. The single rooms at UW Place are excellent for isolating people.

Each person has their own bedroom, washroom, and kitchen to themselves. These rooms offer so much privacy that they can even be used to harbour killers and stalkers. On the opposite end of the spectrum there are the double rooms in Ron Eydt Village. Not only does the entire floor share a washroom and laundry room, but your roommate sleeps four feet to your side. In between these two extremes are places like the single rooms in Village One. Although almost everyone gets their own room, they still have to deal with their floor mates when they're fighting for the washroom stall after a meal at the cafeteria.

Regardless of where you live, you must still make an effort to understand the peo-

ple you are living with. Is your roommate someone you can study with, or will you be getting high of the second-hand smoke from whatever it is they're smoking? Although myself, I found it extremely difficult to study from those 60-watt night lights that they give us.

Even when you become familiar with your roommate, you should not take things for granted. Ask for permission if it's not something you two have already agreed on, like "Do you mind if I sleep nude?" Always be polite if you're asking your roommate for a favour, like "I want to have sex with my significant other. Could you step outside for two minutes?" Remember, you are the one asking them for a favour.

Response To "Software Engineering"

I wanted to write in and say that Jay Liu's article titled "Is Software Engineering Actually Engineering?" was a beautiful presentation of how an engineer is defined, and how software engineering fits in. I was a long time unbeliever of software engineering, but his article has convinced me that the idea has merit. I only hope that UW implements it correctly.

Adrian Ennis
Mech. Eng. '02



Features

POINT VS. COUNTERPOINT

Do Girls Like Gadgets More Than Boys?

Maria Simoes

4N Computer



About a month ago I was sitting in the Iron Warrior office as the rest of the staff attempted to hash out possible point versus counterpoint topics for this term. At the time, I had been playing around with my RIM BlackBerry - checking my e-mail and what not. At the same time, I began a discussion with some of those around me about my newest gadget. The topic suddenly turned to how I was weird - a GIRL who like gadgets. Some tried to explain away my weirdness - I was an anomaly. After all, I'm a female Computer Engineer. According to them, I don't exactly fall into the "normal female" category.

These excuses rather shocked me. I don't feel like an anomaly or weirdo - rather, I see myself as residing within the norm of today's female society (with respect to gadgets and other electro-mechanical toys). One of the only other females in the room agreed with me - girls and gadgets are standards in this modern world. Hence, I am now writing this article.

I intend to prove to you that not only is it normal for girls to like gadgets more so than boys, but also that it's been bread into them for a very long time. Yes - girls and gadgets isn't some newfangled 21st century phenomenon. Rather, girls and gadgets have gone hand in hand for the past century.

Don't believe me? Well then, let's start with the dictionary definition of a gadget. According to "dictionary.com" (what?! you expect me to own a physical dictionary when all I really need is my laptop, my wireless router and my wireless pcmcia card?) a "Gadget" is "A small specialized mechanical or electronic device" or "a device that [is] very useful for a particular job". Wow - really specific eh?

Thus your typical BlackBerry/Palm Pilot/Digital Camera /iPod/Cell Phone/Laptop can be categorized under gadget. Hmmmm.... this seems kind of limited. Lets rewind a bit to the 1950's. Bread Maker, Rice Cooker, Potato Peeler, Juicer, Waffle Iron. What are these? I'd probably call them gadgets - tiny devices that are very useful for a *particular* job. Kitchen gadgets geared towards women. I hope you're following me here, 'cause if you are you'll notice that this "girls and gadgets" concept ain't all that new! If you're not following, the advertising and sales agencies of the day definitely were. Ads and print media primarily targeted the "stay at home" housewife for leading gadgets of the day (similar to how current marketing is pretty primarily targeted towards teens and pre-teens).

Speaking of teen marketing, let's fast forward to the early nineties - when most of us were hopefully about to burgeon into the wonderful phase of "teenager-ism". Do you remember this age - sitting in elementary or high school with your peers. The boys would come in with a wooden pencil and a pen. Maybe a pink eraser. Likely, they packed all of these things in their pockets. On the other hand, the girls would arrive with cute little pencil cases crammed full of mechanical pencils, glow

in the dark pens, purple erasers, sticky notes, etc. etc. All their things would be nicely organized in different, well, gadgets. Guys would have nothing to do with the cute little pencil cases - they weren't "manly" enough. Girls on the other hand, if it could be used for a special purpose or "particular job", we'd be all over it. Hmmmm.... looks to me like even at an early age, girls have a better love of gadgets than men.

Alright, let's return to the modern era with the knowledge that girls have been using gadgets for a pretty long time. Moreover, young girls tend to use more gadgets than young boys (think cute little cell phone holders). But, what happens today, in the modern age when the girls have grown up? Well, as far as I can tell, pretty much of the same. Boys will only touch the gadgets that will add to their personal coolness factor. For some boys, these are car gadgets, or gadgets that aid in the imbibement of alcohol. For other boys, the concept of cool is centred upon the concept of geekdom - "I have more toys than you! My toys are smaller, faster and more powerful than yours! Mine has a blinking LED!" Either way, hand them a compartmentalized "purse" to hold their gadgets (similar to the one I carry around) and they run away in fear. Sorry, but I haven't yet found a man who will willingly carry a "purse" of their own to hold the contents of their overflowing pockets. It's just not *manly* enough!

Ha - here is where I (and my fellow womenkind) win. I like all gadgets. I'm rather a gadget whore - tiny vibrating gadgets... (my BlackBerry, get your minds out of the gutter!), purse shaped holding gadgets, car widgets, the extendable arm for a pressure sensitive shower head, game gizmo's, even kitchen gadgets. You name it, I find it's "specified purpose" of the utter usefulness and often well worth any cost incurred by myself. You men however - you do not like gadgets as much as we girls do. You will outright refuse to use a gadget if it does not have a certain "coolness factor". We're willing to take 'em all, you pick and choose. Ergo, we like 'em more than you - since usually nothing will stop in our way.

So, stop looking at me like I'm an alien as I'm walking around with my headphones in my ears and my BlackBerry on my belt. I'm freaking normal damnit (at least, that's what the voices in my head keep telling me....)



A laptop, digital camera, minidisk player, cell phone, miniature mouse and wireless card - who's gadgets are they most likely to be?

John Olaveson

2A Civil



Who says that women like gadgets more than men do? Certainly not me. I love my gadgets and I'll do almost anything to keep them.

See, men not only like gadgets more than women, we need them to feel secure about ourselves. What man can be happy with his life without prizes to show off? "I got this bejeweled watch because I think it looks really good. Oh yeah, it's for my wife... [suspicious eye movement]" is one such example of a man showing off his wonderful, fancy gadgets.

That watch probably never left the man's wrist in ten years. Men like to make big competition out of gadgets. Who has the best gizmo? Who can make something better? This is part of the reason there are so many men

in engineering. We have something to prove to other men of the world. We can make the tallest tower, or the fastest computer, or the strongest killer cyborg. Or maybe we men just want to make the best newspaper this side of the New York Times.

Women do not feel the need to compete with other women or with men. They have other sources to gain the security in their lives that we men derive through the acquisition of gadgetry. How many women feel the need to go home as soon as lectures are over, or while lectures are still in progress, and play for hours and hours on their super-expensive gaming platform gadgets? I'm sure there are some women out there who know what I'm talking about, but as a man I can say that I crave the comfort of my gadgets and I'd fail a semester just to be with them. I've spent enough money on all those fancy electronics; I might as well make the most of them.

Men like gadgets more than women do because we acquire things only so we can claim we own one. Women usually restrict their spending to practicalities or cosmetics. Now I'm not saying that

women do not experience any pleasure from their gadgetry. I'm saying that men collect more things just so they can claim they have them. What woman goes out and buys every power tool they see? What woman goes out and buys thousands of hockey or baseball cards on a whim? Dear readers, these are the things that men are known to do. What woman owns the entire collection of Battlestar Galactica memorabilia? Not as many as men, I can say that for sure.

One gadget that keeps coming up time and again as I think on this subject is the remote control. Men seem to crave holding one as often as possible. And there are remotes for more things all the time. After the television remote there was the VCR remote. Men now had two devices to hold, one in each hand! Who needs a woman any more? The TV and VCR can

provide all the women an average man would want.

Then came the car remote. Men could now lock and unlock vehicles from a distance. The effort of sealing a car from burglars was reduced to a

click. Stereos have had remotes for many years. For those men who don't like or can't afford television it's a replacement in musical form. CD players and amplifiers are now accessible at the touch of a button. Cassette decks were too old to have remotes. Those poor men of the past.

Computers have remote activation and control; there are even wireless keyboards and mice. Next will be the wireless monitor, wireless speakers, wireless PC towers! Imagine a tower with a near-infinite battery life, or better yet, a tower with a power source built in. Micro-fusion power plants. That would be cool, eh?

Computers are the apex of gadgetry at this stage in history. Bigger, faster, smarter computers are all the rage. The more computers a man has, the better off he must be. These things are expensive, are they not? Portable computers, portable mp3 players, portable lives! The lives of everyone are being minimized, reduced to pocket packs. Gadgets are helping to get there. And the men are the ones who are driving the industry to do so. More power, more gadgets: more more more!

As my last point, men like cars. Big cars, sporty cars, fast cars, expensive cars! Whoever has the coolest car on the block gets first choice of girls, right? Isn't that how most men think? Isn't that why there are more male mechanics than women?

So to conclude this rather disjointed article, men like gadgets better than women because men need the comfort and security of lots of toys to help them get out of bed in the morning. For what's a day without a little bit of portable technology to show off to all your friends? Who wants to see my new microscopic pacemaker?

"Women usually restrict their spending to practicalities or cosmetics."

Editor's Note: Point vs. Counterpoint is intended as a forum for objective and thought provoking debate on various issues. The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the author(s), the Iron Warrior, or the Engineering Society.

A New Kind of Epidemic

Iron Warrior Health Series: Part 2 of 3

Christine McCullough
2N Chemical

Fear is defined as the short-term physiological response produced by both the brain and the body in response to stress. Anxiety is a sense of apprehension that shares many of the same symptoms as fear but builds more slowly and lingers longer. However, I am sure even without this formal definition, you know what anxiety is. It seems that it is just a part of life in the 21st Century. You turn on the news and you are destined to hear about a tragic accident that claimed lives or an act of terror or a natural disaster, if not all of them. There seems to be some new disease every year that poses a potential threat to us; from SARS to West Nile to Mad Cow. And then we have to deal with our own lives; interviews and lab reports and crappy roommates and exams. It can all be very overwhelming. I am sure that you have at some point thought it is all too much, that you can't handle the stress anymore. But chances are that a talk with a friend or a good night's sleep put everything back in perspective and you were able to deal with whatever was going on. Now imagine that the feeling of being overwhelmed didn't leave. That no matter what you did, you couldn't stop the worry; you couldn't sleep, going out with friends didn't calm you down, you just can't stop the anxiety. It would be very difficult to get through your day. Sadly enough, there are people that live their lives in that state, constantly anxious. These people are said to have Anxiety Disorders.

"Anxiety disorders are the most commonly reported mental health problem. In the Ontario Mental Health Supplement (1991) 16% of all women and 9% of all men reported anxiety-related symptoms in the past twelve months – symptoms severe enough to interfere with many aspects of their daily lives" states The Last Taboo by Scott Simmie and Julia Nunes. Anxiety disorders are estimated to affect 5% of the general population, the same number estimated to be affected by clinical depression. These people experience anxiety in different forms, and there are different specific disorders to describe their specific experience, but all of those who have this illness are debilitated to the point that it interferes with their everyday functioning.

Anxiety disorders basically cover all the different kinds of excessive worry and fear, but as I mentioned earlier, there are different types. Below are five of the most common disorders.

1. Generalized Anxiety Disorder is a persistent sense of worry. Did I turn off the

stove? Are my friends mad at me? If I drive to school will I get in a car accident? The worry rarely lets up. There are physical symptoms that also mark this as more than just everyday stress; symptoms such as restlessness, difficulty concentrating and/or sleeping, irritability fatigue and muscle tension. Sufferers of this illness experience these symptoms consistently for six months or longer.

2. People who suffer from Obsessive Compulsive Disorder deal with preoccupation with specific thoughts, images and impulses and often have rituals to deal with their anxiety; washing their hands 3 times, stacking their books in a certain order, turning a door knob 5 times to check that it's locked. These preoccupations and rituals appear bizarre to most people, but are very difficult if not impossible for the affected person to stop without help. As a matter of fact, many of suffers of OCD are generally aware that their thoughts are irrational, but are still unable to control them.

3. Many Vietnam War veterans suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder that causes them to repeatedly experience the emotional trauma caused by the horrific things they had to endure while they were over seas. This also happens with people who have experienced a traumatic event, witnessed or even heard about something horrifying. People who have PTSD may have repeated dreams about the event, feel emotionally or even physically as though the event is happening all over again, as well as experience symptoms of anxiety, such as irritability, jumpiness, diminished interest in things and difficulty sleeping. Symptoms of PTSD may not be present until six months after the event.

4. Specific Phobias are exactly what they sound like. A specific thing, place or situation that causes a consuming fear, often accompanied by extreme anxiety symptoms. Suffers of Specific Phobias will go to extreme measures to avoid the thing they fear and if they encounter this thing, despite their best efforts, their anxiety may become disabling. For example, most people have an aversion to public speaking; those with a phobia of public speaking may become physically ill or otherwise incapacitated if they are required to give a presentation to colleagues. Likewise, not many people like spiders, but most of us can muster up enough strength to kill one if we have to. Those with arachnophobia (a phobia of spiders)

may not be able to open windows, venture in a basement or go camping for fear they may encounter a spider. And if they do they may freeze, feel they cannot breathe, become dizzy or lightheaded and more generally lose the ability to cope with the situation until someone comes and removes the stressor.

5. Panic Disorder is like Generalized Anxiety Disorder in that it isn't caused by one specific thing. Panic Disorder causes the sufferer to go through episodes of unexpected attacks of acute anxiety, peaking within ten minutes, but sometimes lasting longer. The symptoms of this disorder are more specifically physical. When a sufferer experiences one of these "episodes" or panic attacks, they may experience difficulty breathing, tightness in the chest and throat, heart palpitations or chest pains. Because of this some people who go through their first panic attack end up the emergency room fearing they are having a heart attack.

Other symptoms of a panic attack include sweating, chills, trembling, nausea, lightheadedness, the feeling that they are dying or that they are losing control. These attacks come with little or no warning and aren't caused by specific situations.

Our bodies are hardwired to respond quickly and efficiently to perceived danger. A gun pointed at anyone's head would elicit an anxiety response, which is what may keep you alive. The anxiety response causes your senses to become hyper-alert allowing you to better assess the situation and surroundings. It also causes adrenaline to flood the muscles, preparing the body to either fight or flee. Many of you would know this as the "fight or flight" response. It may enable you to quickly steer your car out of the path of an on-coming vehicle that is out of control or fight off an attacker attempting to take your backpack. Basically, the anxiety response is an invaluable series of brain impulses that is there to save our lives when we are most in danger. The disorders I listed earlier are thought to be caused by a malfunction in the body's mechanism that prevents the anxiety response from becoming out of control. Essentially, the system that controls the anxiety response doesn't shut down when it is supposed to.

There are many ways to treat Anxiety Disorders and the best method varies from person to person. Some people are able to handle their disorder through lifestyle changes, incorporating relaxation exercis-

es, getting enough sleep and cutting back or eliminating sugar, caffeine, nicotine and/or alcohol. Many people find breathing exercises work well to quell anxiety episodes and even panic attacks. Others benefit from therapy with a psychiatrist, psychologist or counselor. Medications such as antidepressants and tranquilizers are often used to treat people that aren't helped by therapy and lifestyle changes alone. While courses of treatment aren't universal to all who suffer from Anxiety Disorders, all who seek treatment do improve to some degree, often to the point that the anxiety no longer interferes with their daily life. So, it is important for those affected to seek help.

If you are feeling that you may be experiencing one of the disorders that I listed or something similar, there are a number of places where you can find more information and receive treatment. Both Counseling Services and Health Services on campus offer pamphlets free of charge and both have professionals available to help you find the right treatment. If you aren't ready to speak to someone in person, you can find more information on Mental Help Net at <http://mentalhelp.net/> which is a general Mental Health website. You can contact a Registered Nurse with your questions or concerns at Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000) 24 hours a day, seven days a week. However, if you feel you are in a situation that requires immediate attention by a Mental Health professional, you should call the Grand River Hospital Crisis Clinic at 749-3611, where someone is also available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The most important thing to keep in mind is that the sooner you seek treatment, the sooner you will be able to cope with your illness and get on with your life.

I encourage anyone who is reading this article, whether you feel that you may have a mental illness or not, to educate yourself. The fact remains that 20% of the Canadian population will meet the medical criteria for a mental illness in any given year. That is a staggering number and means that you or someone close to you will most likely battle with a mental illness at some point. And despite the high number of those affected, there is still a huge stigma surrounding mental illnesses and treatments. It is a matter too big to ignore and as intelligent young people, we should take it upon ourselves to help better this situation; the more we educate ourselves and those around us, the more the stigma will subside. And the less stigma that surrounds this issue, the easier it will be for those affected to seek help from professionals and support from those close to them.

"And then we have to deal with our own lives; interviews and lab reports and crappy roommates and exams. It can all be very overwhelming."

Why do Men Like Gadgets Anyway?

Alyssa Clarkson
2A Arts

Why do men like gadgets? Why must men have the newest electronics, cars and toys? It all comes back to a little bit of patriarchal societal oppression. Ever wonder why there are few girls in your engineering class and so many in your arts CSE's? Until a few years ago that's where society expected them to be.

Ever see a sitcom from the 50's? Women in those shows stayed at home, wore aprons, cooked dinner for their husbands, bore children and relied on their husband's approval to justify their existence. Up until the women's rights move-

ment women were expected to act like that. Women were never encouraged to find their own employment, and if they did have a source of income it was always something non-technical like secretarial work. Even when women went to university in the late 50's and early 60's they were not in technical fields. Universities had departments of home economics! Women who were brave enough to get advanced degrees were often left doing secretarial or junior work. My grandmother got a university degree and worked at the same firm for years. She trained the younger men coming in how to do her job and one by one they would get promoted, but she never did.

Advances in women's rights have made it so that women can choose to work

in technical fields and not be looked down upon like they used to be. Still fewer women chose to work in the engineering and skilled trades fields. This is not because of a lack of interest in them, or in gadgetry.

It's because as children, boys and girls are treated much differently while they are growing up. Girls are generally encouraged to play with dolls, tea sets and *shudder* Barbies. Boys are given army tanks, tool sets, and building blocks to play with. Girls are encouraged to play musical instruments, or participate in figure skating. Guys are expected to play football and hockey. In grade school guys are encouraged to study mathematics, sciences, and technology. Girls are encouraged to take

cooking classes, arts, and languages.

So it's no wonder there are more guys in technical fields. Girls are conditioned from a young age to stay away from such "man's work." Luckily as times progress, children are being treated differently. I know I was encouraged to play with Lego. I played hockey. I also had the biggest hockey card collection on my street! I took more tech courses in high school than any other subject. I suspect as gender conditioning is slowly reduced each generation, you will start to see more girls in your engineering classes. Girls are interested in technical fields and gadgetry; they just have to be introduced to it at a young age. They have to be taught that it's okay to play with the boys.

Engineering Society Executive Reports

Slow Weeks CECS Online AHS Run Around The Ring



Josh Levitz

President

Hey Engineers, I hope the midterms are going well for you and congrats to those who are done. We're already into the last month and a bit of school, and I'm looking forward to the second half of the term. We have some great events planned so stay posted and you'll hear all about them.

It's been a slow couple of weeks with respect to EngSoc because of midterms, so I don't have too much to report in this issue. I just want to bring to everyone's attention that we will be having a joint council meeting on Sunday, November 9th and we'll be voting on an important issue with respect to EngSoc fees, so keep that day open. We'll let you know times and locations very soon.

This weekend is the U of W Homecoming and Alumni Reunion so log onto the University of Waterloo website and go to the alumni page to see the schedule of events. The festivities are going all weekend, night and day, so check it out.

That's all I got for you this issue so you can put the paper down now and get back to studying! See you at MOT in POETS tonight. And as always, if you have any questions, concerns or feedback, feel free to email me at bsoc_prez@engmail. Take care.



Emma Bardon

Vice President, Education

If you are interested in attending a session on creating HTML resumes (as will be required for CECS in the Spring term), email your class rep. Class reps: please get back to me regarding rough numbers of interested participants for the sessions, and whether evenings or lunch times would be best (and which days). Hurray for the end of midterms.



Jeff Alfonsi

Vice President, External

Hey all. I really love midterms. Seriously, I love them so much that it makes me want to transfer into AHS. Speaking of AHS, they are hosting a 5km run which consists of two laps around ring road. (Don't worry. There will be plenty of marshals to ensure you don't get lost). The race takes place on Saturday November 1st during our homecoming, which is a great way to burn off all those calories you drank during MOT the night before. Volunteers are also needed to marshal, setup, give out prizes, direct drunk participants, etc. Check out www.ahs.uwaterloo.ca/alumni for full details. If running isn't your jam, then you can attend one of the movie nights with AHS. We'll have more details on these later.

Shadow Day is taking place this week, so as good ambassadors of the university

you should haze and bully all the young and confused students you see. Special thanks to those involved, especially our director Paul Paquet. Golf Clap.

The NAESC conference took place a few weeks ago in Kansas. This is the annual congress for the American body of engineering students, much like the Canadian Federation of Engineering Students (CFES), however the two countries, like so many other things, operate quite differently. Jeff Henry and Joseph Fung attended for Waterloo and expressed excitement about the congress. A full report will appear on www.essco.ca for those interested.

Also on the conference front, the applications process is closed for both the National Conference on Women in Engineering (NCWIE) and CFES. The delegates for NCWIE are Alexis Reid, Maureen Cooper, Leya Beara, and Kristin McClement; for CFES, Josh Levitz, Daylen Syhlonyk, and myself will be attending on behalf of B-Soc. Trés thanks to all of you who applied.

In conclusion, no matter how much you dance and wiggle, a few drops will always fall in your pants.

WEEF Director Report: 76% Participation



Erin Young

WEEF Director

Last B-soc term we had an overall participation of 62%. This term we have a whopping 76% participation rate. Now I'd like to think that it was all my hard work and determination that made the difference, but I think I'm going to attribute it to the vast number of frosh who simply didn't know they could get their money back. This proves that ignorance is bliss;

well at least the ignorance of the frosh is my bliss.

Congratulations to the 1A Geo class who had the only 100% participation rate. However, we can see that your enthusiasm is most likely going to dwindle given that the 4A Geo class had a 20% participation rate, the lowest of all. (Thanks guys, I was afraid it was going to be my class again, which at least saves me the embarrassment.) This time I chose to include the overall statistics by department. And it appears that the Computer department has the overall lowest participation rate. Maybe this is also a good time to remind you that WEEF funded \$12,500 for lab equipment and computer

upgrades to the E&CE Department in the Winter 2003 term, which constitutes 18% of the total amount spent that term. Also in the Spring 2003 term \$6000 was given for more lab equipment and computer upgrades, that was 17% of the total WEEF money allocated. Now the E&CE overall participation rate is 69%, which is just above the overall Enviro participation rate of 68%. Remember, the Enviro-Chems are feeling a little shafted because their program is being phased out.

Overall I suppose that I should be satisfied with the participation rate. However, my experience with the students getting their refunds has soured me a bit.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY

Did you know you can earn valuable P**5 points for volunteering time at the C&D? Email Mary Bland at mbland@engmail.uwaterloo.ca to schedule your shift.



Upcoming Events from EngSoc

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
2	3 EngWeek	4 EngWeek	5 EngWeek	6 EngWeek	7 EngWeek	8	<i>Brunny Tickets available in the Orifice (\$7) See the EngSoc whiteboard (outside Orifice) for further event info</i>
		BTG #3 Etiquette		Brunny	WEEF Proposal Deadline	Athletic Event	
9 Joint Council B**5	10	11 Remembrance Day (CPH Foyer)	12 EngSoc Meeting #5	13	14	15	

What Has WEEF Done For Me Lately?

Erin Young

WEEF Director



and THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO in general. These teams/clubs include:

- Midnight Sun
- Waterloo Aerial Robotics Group
- UW Formula SAE
- Free Flight Glider Team
- UWAFT
- Minibaja Team (Wombat)
- R/C Aero Design Team
- GNCTR (various years)
- Concrete Canoe Team
- SAE Clean snowmobile team
- Iron Warrior
- Solar Technology Education Project
- WERC Design Competition Team
- The Silmarillion Project
- Engineers without Borders

If you're like many of the students who came to get their Waterloo Engineering Endowment Foundation refund this semester you probably can't answer this question, or at least not in great detail. So, I thought I would spend a little time this semester telling you what WEEF has done for you lately.

When I asked students who were getting their refunds "Do you know where that WEEF money goes?" many of them replied with answers like "maybe...like...umm...labs...and stuff?" Or "I don't know!" Personally my favourite answer was "why should I care, it's a rip-off anyway, you guys shouldn't take the money in the first place." Well then, let me fill you in on where your \$75 has gone in the past 5 school terms, since Winter 2002. Or if you're one of those 610 people who took their WEEF contribution back this term (contributing to a loss of \$45,750) I urge you to read this article and notice everything which you did not pay for but are continuously getting the benefit of.

In addition to all of these department purchases WEEF also helps many of the student teams that bring a great sense of pride to WATERLOO ENGINEERING

In the past 5 terms WEEF has funded \$284,409 worth of enhancements to Waterloo Engineering. And now that I have all of this in 718 words I just might make any smart mouthed engineering student who asks "What has WEEF done for me lately?" read the whole thing before he/she signs the refund form, next term of course; because refunds are OVER OVER OVER!



Recent WEEF Spending

Chemical and Environmental Chemical

New Undergrad experiment (ChE 101/EnvE 101/ChE 40)	\$13300
Fuel Cell Experiment for Undergrad Lab	\$17510
Nexus Computing Upgrades	\$6500
Microscope with digital camera for labs	\$2646
Computer and Spectrophotometer	\$6250
Conductivity Meter and Digital Electronic Burette	\$3370
TOTAL	\$46276

Civil and Environmental Civil

Water resources/Enviro Eng Lab equipment	\$7000
TransCAD - Transport Planning/Optimization Software	\$1000
Undergrad Tool Cabinet for Structures Lab	\$1631
Digital Balance	\$1143
Flowmeter	\$2830
Top Loading Balance	\$3000
4 th year study room upgrades	\$1500
Automatic gas changeover panel	\$1156
Data Acquisition system	\$2446
Toolkit	\$833
Digital Transits	\$1150
Portable Turbidimeter	\$1540
Signal Optimization Software	\$3283
Data Acquisition system	\$6000
TOTAL	\$34512

E&CE

E&CE room hard-drive upgrade	\$3134
E&CE room software	\$800
E&CE room lab computer upgrade (W02)	\$1800
2 digital oscilloscopes	\$6000
E&CE room Microsoft XP software	\$1050
E&CE room lab computer upgrade (S02)	\$9600
E&CE room lab computer upgrade (F02)	\$2000
E&CE room upgrades	\$1000
Control lab laser printing of graphs	\$1750
E&CE repair, test and calibration equipment (W03)	\$2000
SunEE Ultra 10 RAM upgrade to 512 MB	\$4781
E&CE NEXUS upgrades	\$4000
E&CE Lab Oscilloscopes and DeskJet printers	\$8500
E&CE NEXUS upgrades (S02)	\$3050
E&CE repair, test and calibration equipment (S03)	\$2950
TOTAL	\$52415

MECHANICAL

Numerically controlled milling machine (W02)	\$6000
Lab equipment	\$3500
Data acquisition system	\$5246
Numerically controlled milling machine (F02)	\$8500
Numerically controlled milling machine (W03)	\$4000
TOTAL	\$27246

SYSTEMS DESIGN

DASL lab computer monitors	\$1740
Projection screen	\$150
IAR development software	\$360
Adobe Photoshop in SyDe multimedia lab	\$445
AIM 104-386EX development kit	\$735
M68EV912B32-A student learning kit	\$600
Basic Micro development kit	\$600
CFG280 11 MHz function generator with counter	\$2618
Back-UPS for undergrad teaching lab stations	\$650
Video editing software package	\$629
Windows based development suite for Motorola's 68HC12	\$1552
SUN Solaris Hard disk upgrade	\$250
Wireless access platform for workshop and teaching lab	\$1485
Oscilloscope probes for workshop lab	\$1380
Low frequency RFID evaluation kit	\$1083
Measurement computer data acquisition card	\$1440
Digital oscilloscope	\$3500
Multimedia projector security boxes	\$800
Micro-controller boards and accessories for workshop lab	\$2160
Desktop PC +DAQ for teaching	\$1592
Hard Disk and Video computer solution for multimedia lab	\$690
TOTAL	\$24459

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS FACULTY EXPENDATURES

Student equipment shop (W02)	\$3000
Student equipment shop (S02)	\$3524
Student equipment shop (F02)	\$5348
WEEF Lab upgrades	\$2000
NEXUS upgrades	\$600
Student equipment shop (S03)	\$2975
Student equipment shop (W03)	\$9100
TOTAL	\$26547

Fall 2003 WEEF Participation Statistics

CLASS	Enrolled	Refunds	Participation
1A Chemical	117	8	93.16%
2A Chemical	45	22	51.11%
2B Chemical	68	18	73.53%
4A Chemical	64	22	65.63%
CHEM OVERALL	294	70	76.19%
1A Civil	92	4	95.65%
2A Civil	76	16	78.95%
3B Civil	67	31	53.73%
CIV OVERALL	235	51	78.30%
1A Computer	212	6	97.17%
2A Computer	184	86	53.26%
3B Computer	175	98	44.00%
COMP. OVERALL	571	190	66.73%
1A Electrical	99	7	92.93%
2B Electrical	120	47	60.83%
ELEC. OVERALL	219	54	75.34%
E&CE OVERALL	790	244	69.11%
1A Environmental	34	2	94.12%
2B Env-Civ	19	10	47.37%
4A Env-Civ	26	11	57.69%
2A Env-Chem	8	2	75.00%
3B Env-Chem	19	9	52.63%
ENVIRO OVERALL	106	34	67.92%
1A Geological	13	0	100.00%
2B Geological	13	1	92.31%
4A Geological	10	8	20.00%
GEO. OVERALL	36	9	75.00%
1A Mechanical	173	8	95.38%
2A Mechanical	96	14	85.42%
2B Mechanical	78	28	64.10%
3B Mechanical	79	37	53.16%
4A Mechanical	71	20	71.83%
MECH. OVERALL	497	107	78.47%
1A Mechatronics	110	1	99.09%
1A Software	107	0	100.00%
2A Software	93	5	94.62%
SOFT. OVERALL	200	5	97.50%
1A Systems	89	4	95.51%
2B Systems	83	21	74.70%
4A Systems	82	28	65.85%
SYST. OVERALL	254	53	79.13%
ENG. OVERALL	2523	605	76.02%

Municipal Election Special

Waterloo Municipal Election 2003

Who Is Running, What Are They Running For, Where Do They Stand?

Jeff Henry

4N Computer



Voting in a municipal election is about the only time that Canadians get a chance to feel the pain of the American voter. With fifty-seven candidates running for eight different offices appearing on various ballots a voter may or may not receive when they arrive at their polling station, which is a specific one of thirty-six across the city, the choice can be overwhelming.

As one candidate remarked at the forum held Tuesday by the Federation of Students, it is hard to differentiate oneself from ones opponents in a municipal election. Generally, every candidate repeats with uncanny uniformity what their vocal constituents or audience has told them they want to hear.

Perhaps that is the reason that voter turnout in municipal elections is the lowest of all election turnouts. Regardless of the reason, the traditionally low number of votes cast for these positions, along with the large number of candidates running for each position, affords students a great opportunity to have their voices heard.

In recognition of that opportunity, the Federation of Students has put significant effort into providing students with an opportunity to become informed and able voters. So that research effort isn't duplicated, their work on identifying key issues from a student perspective and on how to go about voting appears on the adjacent page. Further, information specifically on where you can vote can be found at <http://www.feds.ca/vote>.

Also in an article on the adjacent page is a table containing the listing of all candidates standing for election this November 10th, what they are running for, and where you can find out more information from their campaigns. In addition to the websites listed in that table, <http://mywaterlooregion.com> is home to a significant amount of information, including responses by the mayoral and ward councillor candidates to an extensive list of questions.

Mayoral Candidates Assessment

The position of Mayor is perhaps the most important race in a municipal election as they act as the voice for the city and generally set the direction and tone for how Council will operate; of course, the latter requires the general support of Council, but strong leadership from the Mayor can often bring a Council on board on key issues.

Of the four candidates, Herb Epp boasts the most experience having served as Councillor and Mayor in this city for a combined ten years as well as having served as the M.P.P. for the Waterloo North riding for thirteen years. Including community activities and organizations involvement, Herb has been a fixture in Waterloo for the last forty-five years. Claiming to personally know the new Ontario Premier and a dozen of the newly appointed Cabinet ministers, Herb claims to have the connections to ensure the University of



Herb Epp - former Mayor of Waterloo and M.P.P. of Waterloo North



Morty Taylor is an outgoing Waterloo Councillor

Waterloo gets the money needed to build the new residence spaces on its north campus lands to help alleviate the student housing situation. Allocating enough resources to actually enforce the current set of by-laws on the safety of current lodging houses is something he has been calling for over the last several months and will ensure happen if he is elected mayor. Herb also sees addressing the financial crunch of the RIM park fiasco to be the top priority in the coming three years and supports in principal a recommendation for a one-time assessment of \$175 on each property, instead phased in over three years, to tackle the current debt load.

Lynne Woolstencroft has been Mayor of this city since the election in 2000. Between the school board, library board, City and Regional Council, and Mayor, her political involvement stretches back to 1970. Lynne boasts the new Research and Technology Park as one of her initiatives



Lynne Woolstencroft has been Mayor of Waterloo since 2000.



Ben Brown is running for Mayor to make Waterloo more youth and student friendly

and emphasizes the need to stabilize the current financial situation to ensure Waterloo remains attractive to families and businesses. Lynne believes that the "Town and Gown" committee (a group designed to develop and enhance relationships, communications, and policies between the universities, the city, and the community) works well and is a proponent of a university-community roundtable in 2004 to talk about the future. Lynne, in response to a question after the FEDS forum on Tuesday, indicated that in her term as mayor she has met with FEDS Student Council "many, many times," though the record indicates otherwise.

Ben Brown says he's running for mayor to ensure student issues are voiced in the campaign and in City Hall. He supports the lodging house moratorium along with an easing of restrictions on lodging house applications. He wants to make Waterloo more youth and student friendly. Though lacking in political experience, he claims he "can get along with anyone (if I absolutely have to)."

Morty Taylor decided not to appear at the FEDS-arranged municipal candidates' forum this past Tuesday. He supports the lodging house moratorium as well as by-law enforcement. He also supports increasing the Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) by-law on lodging houses from the current 75 meter minimum distance.

Other Candidates of Note

For the first time in recent memory, recent graduates or current students have thrown their hat into the ring.

In Ward 2, Mike Kerrigan, former FEDS VP Internal and architect of the \$11-million lawsuit in reprisal for the UW bar shutdown, is running on a platform of improved housing standards and responsible fiscal management.

In Ward 4, Stephen "Snuggles" Skrzydlo, former UW student Senator, FEDS councillor and MathSoc councillor, is running on a platform of uniting the community, enforcing by-laws that make sense, and bringing transparency to council in the wake of the RIM park fiasco.

In Ward 5, David Wellhauser is running on a platform that includes by-law enforcement and a universal bus pass.



Why You Should Vote In The Municipal Election

Federation of Students
<http://www.feds.ca/vote>

The City of Waterloo regulates the student housing market. In the past four years rents have gone up by an average 30 per cent in Waterloo. Quality of student housing is a major concern, and there are a long-standing problems regarding illegal lodging houses and negligent landlords. The City also writes and enforces the by-laws that govern how rental accommodations are maintained and governed.

The City of Waterloo sets local property tax rates, which part of our rent goes to pay. Recently, the City has incurred a large amount of debt, which likely means that property taxes (and rents) will rise to pay down this debt. The alternatives to higher taxes would likely be service cuts or increased user fees for City services. Any of these options would have an impact on student residents in Waterloo.

Traditionally, politicians respond to those groups that consistently vote in elec-

tions. Students, unfortunately, have not voted in large numbers in Waterloo elections in the past. Correspondingly, despite accounting for almost one-quarter of Waterloo's population, student issues have not been on the high priority list, unless the interests of other, voting, groups were involved.

How Do I Vote?

If you live on-campus at Waterloo in the Villages, Columbia Lake Townhouses or the Affiliated Colleges, you will be voting in the Great Hall of Village 1. Students who live in UW Place will vote in the Community Centre of Beck Hall.

- Canadian Citizenship
- 18 years of age on or before November 10, 2003 (Election Day)
- Current residency or tenancy in the City of Waterloo

If you have received a Voter Notification Card in the mail, you are on the City of Waterloo's Voters list. You should take your Voter Notification Card

when you go to your Voting Place. Once inside the Voting Place hand the deputy returning officer your Voter Notification Card and they will provide you with the proper ballot and secrecy folder. Take the ballot to an available voting booth to cast your vote. Also be sure to bring government identification to authenticate your person.

If you have not received a Voter Notification Card you may not be on the City of Waterloo's Voters List. However, you can still vote in this year's election. On November 10, go to your Voting Place be sure to bring government identification to authenticate your person.

If you are a qualified elector (see Required Voting Qualifications) you will be required to complete an application to have your name added to Voters List. Be sure to bring proper government identification to authenticate your person. Also, you must bring a document with your local address. A lease, bills in your name, official mail or a Quest printout with your local address on it are all acceptable.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. I voted here in the Provincial election, am I already on the City's Voters List?

A. Not necessarily. Due to the proximity of the two elections, there has not been enough time to ensure that both lists are consistent. Be prepared to fill out an application on Voting Day.

Q. I filled in an enumeration form, am I on the City's Voters List?

A. You should be; however, some forms have been refused for incomplete information and other problems. You may have to fill out a new application on Election Day. You can still vote!

Q. My Driver's License says (My Hometown). Can I still vote in Waterloo's City election?

A. Yes. Your ID authenticates who you are. You also need a lease, bills in your name, official mail or a Quest printout with your local address to confirm that you currently live in Waterloo.

Major Election Issues

Federation of Students
<http://www.feds.ca/vote>

Student Housing

Over the past five years, students living off-campus have seen rents increase by more than 30 per cent across Waterloo. At the same time, quality is not improving and serious concerns remain about the amount of unregulated and illegal housing that exists in the City. Furthermore, existing City By-Laws prevent the establishment of new lodging houses (generally student housing) within 75 meters of existing lodging houses. This By-Law has led to increase prices and longer commutes from home to school. In Winter 2003, a motion to put a one-year moratorium on new lodging houses was defeated by one vote at City Council.

By-Laws and Enforcement

The By-Laws, which are controlled and administered by the City of Waterloo, affect a great many parts of everyday life, from where one can park a car, to how much noise is tolerable to what condition a property must be maintained. A second part of this issue is: where is the emphasis? Which by-laws are enforced more rigorously than others? Whose complaints get responded to and whose don't? In the case of student housing, the City By-Laws enforce safety standards for inside the house and property maintenance standards for outside the home. Who is going to be made responsible for the maintenance of these standards, landlords or renters? Are they going to be enforced?

Community Relations

Post-Secondary students account for almost 25 per cent of the population of Waterloo and historically have made great contributions to the economic well-being and civic life of the City of Waterloo. However, relations between students, permanent residents, landlord and the City have not always been smooth. All of the various groups have been stereotyped and

blamed at one time or another for the various problems that have occurred in the City. Are candidates going to favour one group over another or are they going to look for genuine solutions to mutual problems and issues?

Taxation, Services and Municipal Debt

While students typically don't own property in Waterloo, and thus don't directly pay property taxes, these taxes are a definite factor in how much rent students pay to their landlords. The City of Waterloo, as a result of fiscal mismanagement (The RIM Park fiasco), currently faces a debt load far greater than other similarly sized cities. The City may be forced into a situation where it must cut services, raise taxes or find savings and/or new revenues in some other areas. As indirect tax payers and users of city services, how well (or poorly) the City's finances are run has a definite impact on students.

Planning and Environmental Issues

In what direction is the City of Waterloo moving? Will it continue to expand outwards into farmland and sensitive environmental areas? Or, will it focus its energies and resources on redeveloping the core of the City and other underused areas as recommended by the Height and Density Study? The pattern of urban development is crucial to the operation of public transit, and the density of the development also affects how many resources the development consumes and how much it costs to maintain. The Region of Waterloo is currently investigating the possibility of constructing a Light Rail Transit system that would link Waterloo, Kitchener and Cambridge. The current proposal includes running trains along the rail corridor along the Eastern edge of UW. The City of Waterloo is almost completely dependant on Groundwater for its drinking water supply. The relationship between groundwater recharge areas, urban development, water use and environmental protection is very important to local water quality and quantity.

"(Property taxes) are a definite factor in how much rent students pay to their landlords...how well the City's finances are run has a definite impact on students.

Who Are The Candidates?

Jeff Henry
 4N Computer

There are a staggering fifty-seven persons collectively running for the positions of Mayor, Ward Councillor, Regional Chair, and Regional Councillor as well as

Public School Board, Separate School Board, French Public School Board, and French Separate School Board Trustee.

The table below identifies the candidates by position in the order they declared their candidacy. It also provides their campaign website or email address where available.

Position	Candidate Name	Website/Email
Mayor	Herb Epp	www.HerbEpp.ca
	Lynne Woolstencroft	www.LynneWoolstencroft.com
	Ben Brown	www.BenForMayor.com
	Morty Taylor	www.MortyForMayor.ca
Councillor - Ward 1	Craig Hoddle	members.rogers.com/craighoddle
	Adam McCarthy	www.3.sympatico.ca/adam.mccarthy
	Jan d'Ailly	www.kana.ca/election
	Kathryn Craig	www.ElectKathrynCraig.com
	Vince McQuabbie	VinceMcQuabbie@rogers.com
	Sal Pace	SalPace@yahoo.com
Councillor - Ward 2	Scott Jones	Scott.Jones@rogers.com
	Angela Vioth	www.3.sympatico.ca/ja.vioth
	Judy Greenwood-Speers	www.ElectJudy.ca
	Jim Bolger	CBolger@sympatico.ca
Councillor - Ward 3	Mike Kerrigan	Mike@VoteKerrigan.com
	Vince Moroney	www.Moroney.info
	John Hendry	
	Michael Archibald	www.Ward3Democracy.ca
Councillor - Ward 4	Gary Kicswetter	www.GaryKicswetter.ca
	Clive Smith	www.CliveSmith.ca
	Bob Byron	BobByron@sympatico.ca
	Edwin Laryca	members.rogers.com/edwin.ward4
Councillor - Ward 5	Ernie Dyck	
	Stephen S. Skrzydlo	www.ElectSSS.com
	Mark Whaley	www.MarkWhaley.com
	John Turvey	www.StrategyNow.ca
Regional Chair	Ian McLean	www.VoteIanMcLean.ca
	Susan Motkahn	
	David Wellhauser	www.Wellhauser.com
Regional Councillor	Ken Seiling	http://www.kenseiling.com/
	Ron Koenderink	
	Uwe Kretschmann	
	Bob Verdun	www.BobVerdun.com
Public School Board	Don Pinnell	
	Jane Mitchell	www.JaneMitchell.ca
	Mike Connolly	
	Ajmer Mandur	
	Stephen Markan	www.StephenMarkan.ca
	Duncan McLean	
	Chris Hubberstey	www.3.sympatico.ca/fambuh
	Barbara Pawliszyn	
	Glenn Cooke	www.Glenn.ca
	Barbara Henson	
Separate School Board	John Monteith	
	Stephen Archer	Elect_Archer@hotmail.com
	Charles Borras	
	Robert Bowey	
	Catherine Fife	www.CatherineFife.com
	Tina Phipers	
	Stephanie Walker	AtRandom@Golden.net
	Richard Wolf	
	Dianne Moser	Moser@BasTire.com
	Louise Lrvin	Louise.Lrvin@sympatico.ca
French Public School Board	Greg Reitzel	GregReitzel@hotmail.com
	Don DeMarco	DeMarco@catholic.org
French Separate School Board	Gilles Arpin	
	Dorothee Petit-Pas	

Columns

You Say You Want A Revolution... Canada's Shift Towards New Liberal Policies

Chun Lam
2B Chemical

Let's say you're walking down the street in Uptown Waterloo, when you walk past an office building and see people smoking. O.K., being in co-op for eons, you've become accustomed to the tobacco toking jockeys at work, so you walk by without a second glance...except.... That smell, that smell isn't tobacco, its groovier, its, its... marijuana! That's right, those paper pushers are smoking weed. Being indoctrinated by the myths, you walk by quickly holding your breath, because you know that marijuana is the devil's drug, makes you go crazy, and grow hair in bad places... You've stopped holding your breath now and are continuing your walk down the street as you look into a boutique selling wedding dresses. You see someone in a wedding dress. However, it's not as you imagine, as the person in the dress is a guy. He then clutches his fiancée and they engage in an embrace. Pretty weird eh? Well if several bills are ratified by our Parliament, this journey could be common in this wonderful frigid land called Canada. Currently there are two pieces of legislation that could have a profound influence on the sociological culture of

this country – the decriminalization of marijuana and the recognition of same-sex marriages. Now you've heard all about decriminalization in an earlier article titled "Praying to Mary Jane", and about the proposal of the government to recognize same sex marriages. These topics have caused quite a stir; heck, our Prime Minister joked two weeks ago in an interview to the Winnipeg Free Press about the prospects if marijuana were decriminalized. "Perhaps I will try it when it will no longer be criminal. I will have my money for my fine and a joint in the other hand." Way to go PM, maybe we can have a toke for world peace.

I'm here wondering, scratching my head along with many other people, as to why the current government proposed these very liberal policies; very few countries have legalized what Canada is proposing. In my search I have found many different aspects to discuss. Some idealistic reasons why these proposals are being suggested are due to the political culture of Canada – the views and values of Canadians. Canadians are for the most

part moderate with libertarian views. We Canadians believe in tolerance of people who are 'different' from us, we believe in human rights for all people, freedom of people to do whatever they want (within the confines of the law). We believe in the use of books of reason instead of the bayonet for solving problems, and a mosaic instead of a melting pot. These views have made Canada an open country that accepts and permits people of different backgrounds to continue to practice and maintain their heritage without fear of being harmed.

Thus, these proposals are a natural progression of Canadian sociological change, the next stage of evolution.

However, I have found other reasons for these proposals, more practical ones. The major reason for these proposals is due to one document – The Charter of Rights and Freedoms. That's right, the document formed by the late Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. This document upholds the rights of the individual citizen over the rights of the masses. The power of this document lies in its ability for the unelected judiciary of Canada to make

decisions on the validity of government policies and laws. In simpler terms, normal citizens can appeal to the courts of Canada to have government policies changed on the basis of violation of basic rights. This was done by average citizens regarding both the issue of marijuana use and the issue of same sex marriages. In the case of marijuana, people argued in the courts that the government didn't provide medication (marijuana) safely to them, which violated their right to medical attention. In the case of same-sex marriages, people argued the government's exclusion of their right to marriage a violation of their basic rights. Thus, the courts agreed with the people on both these issues, and went to the Government of Canada to make the necessary adjustments to meet these people's needs. Thus, the courts made the decision for the ruling Liberal government on whether to propose these new laws or retain the status quo. However, that said, the Liberal government is boasting much credit on how they proposed these laws themselves, when in fact they were too indecisive and 'wishy-washy' on these issues. Something to remember for the spring 2004 election.

So the question remains...what are the motives behind these new liberal policies? I would have to say 40% from column A and 60% from column B.

"The major reason for these [libertarian] proposals is due to one document - The Charter of Rights and Freedoms."

How to Use a Dishwasher

Archimedes McGuire

4N Nanotech



How is it that people who can be considered the brightest of the bright can be so stupid when dealing with real life? How is it that people who can integrate in their heads, design state-of-the-art machines, and know pi to 100 plus digits

not know how to properly use a dishwasher?

A dishwasher is like a control system (for those of you who don't know what that is, wait a few years), with dirty dishes as inputs and clean and shiny dishes as outputs. The dishwasher is NOT a storage vessel for clean dishes, as the sink is not a permanent storage receptacle for dirty dishes.

Now, I speak from years of hellish roommate experience here. Dishes with slowly rotting food piling up in a sink are *definitely* not appetizing. Likewise is a

thick gelatinous layer of fat lining dishes coming out of the dishwasher just because someone didn't know how to rinse their dishes before sticking them in the wash.

Household etiquette is a very valuable tool for life. Actually, considering the number of Engineering students lacking this oh so important skill, I think it would be worthwhile for the Faculty of Engineering to introduce a new first year course - "Intro to living with others" or "How to use a Dishwasher". I'd image it would go something like this:

Lesson 1 - My Dishes are Dirty, What

do I do?

Okay, you have some dirty dishes. Say, you made a big ol' eggs and bacon breakfast and all your dishes are covered in a shiny layer of greasy fat. Do you start to pile them up in the sink and hope one of your roommates will come by and the dishes will magically be cleaned? NO! First, you *can* leave your dishes in the

Continued on page 16. See This Dishwasher is For Temporary Storage Only



Sandford Fleming Foundation
E2 3322, ext 4008, sff@engmail
www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~sff

FALL 2003 TECHNICAL SPEAKER COMPETITION RESULTS

FIRST PRIZE Jay Detsky, Systems Design Engineering

OTHER COMPETITORS Reyna Paisley, Chemical Engineering
Jeremy Daniels, Mechanical Engineering

Our thanks to Professor Legge, Chemical Engineering, for managing the Technical Speaker Competition.

SANDFORD FLEMING DEBATES

The Sandford Fleming Debates will be held from 11:30 – 1:00 on **November 3, 4, 5** in DWE 2534 with **finals** on **November 7** at noon in DWE 2534.

Funding for these awards comes from engineering student contributions and depends on them for continuation

Review of Bridging The Gap Lecture Series Lecture #2 Concerning Intellectual Property Rights

John Olaveson

2A Civil



The Bridging the Gap lecture of October 7 presented information concerning intellectual property rights as part of the series on entrepreneurship and business management. Peter Kappel was invited to conduct the lecture. He is a member of Kappel Ludlow LLP, Barristers and Solicitors and Patent and Trade-mark Agents. That means he's a lawyer who specializes in Intellectual Property Law. He also graduated from Waterloo's chemical engineering program.

The lecture detailed four major segments of intellectual property rights: patents, industrial design, and copyrights. Talk of patent laws dominated the lecture. For those interested in any of these things but were unable to attend the lecture, here's a summary of what you missed. Unfortunately, there are no complimentary timbits and juice in my version.

Patents; the thing you want to get when you make a wonderful new device that will improve the quality of life for all humanity. The dream of any inventor is to get the patent as soon as possible and start hauling in the big bucks. Well, to shatter those precious illusions, the process takes more time and money than you might hope. If you send in your patent application right now, you might hear back from the Canadian patent office within a few years. That's the minimum. Either many people want to hold patents in Canada or the Canadian patent office is understaffed and under-funded. However it happened, the Canadian office is very of backlogged. So, your killer invention will not be on the market (in your name, at least) for a few years.

The United States patent office is slightly faster than the Canadian office (by about a year) so your market-breaking idea may be able to hit stores that much sooner. In addition, a patent approval from the United States office is pretty much a guarantee that the Canadian office will give you a quick 'OK' on your application up here. There's also the possibility of applying for an international patent. This option provides the benefit of landing an application

in all the countries (including most of North America and Europe) that are part of the international system. Your application still needs to go through the approval process in each country, but you get all those applications out in one shot.

Here are a few tips to keep in mind before you apply for a patent. File early. This way you get to claim your invention before someone else sends the same patent idea through the system and beats you to approval. A patent will be approved (most of the time, anyway) if it meets these requirements: it's novel (this means new, it doesn't require a work-report length book); it required ingenuity to discover (this means its not obvious like Calculus proofs); it has to work (unlike student-attempted Calc proofs). So if your invention doesn't meet this description, save yourself the time and the money and use that invention to impress a potential date.

There comes difficulty when an invention is produced by an employee of a company. Who has the rights to that invention? The company, usually, unless there's something specific in the employee's contract that negates this. The company gains ownership rights even if the invention is not related to the employee's field of work. The employee may never have gained the needed insight to produce this invention if he/she had not been working with the company in question. He/she may not have had the time to refine the idea if he/she had not been at work. Consultants bring up a gray area to this rule. The two general guidelines are as such; if the contractor has a contract with the company discussing property rights, then the contract will be adhered to; if the consultant was hired for the purpose of producing the invention then the hiring company has the ownership rights. In all other cases, the consultant has the rights to ownership.

One final note on patents; the average life of a patent (from the time you apply to the time it expires) is 20 years. Three of those years are spent in stuck in the system.

Industrial Design applications are generally cheaper to obtain than patents. The average length of a Design grant is five years, with another five years of coverage available at extra cost. The ownership rules here are much simpler as well. Whoever produces the design is the owner, unless the designer was paid to produce that design. In this case, the employer gains the ownership rights. That's all there

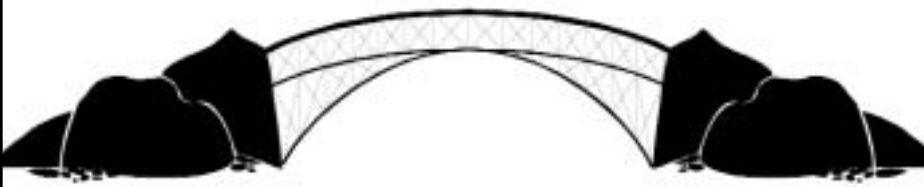
is to be said regarding industrial design.

Copyrights pertain to anything artistic in nature (my understanding is that this is everything not covered in patents and industrial designs). There is no formal application process to gain copyright protection; any work of expression is automatically covered by a copyright as soon as it comes into existence. Works can be formally registered (this is probably what a court of law will require as proof of copyright, but keep in mind this is my own guess) and there is no time limit on a copyright. Therefore, once something is created, the creator owns it forever. Copyright protection, by this definition, extends to a professor's lectures, a professor's course notes, and a professor's website. And we all know how the University of Waterloo feels about copyright infringement. So, what about those professors who include

photocopies of segments of textbooks in their course notes? Is that not an infringement of copyright laws? Nope. There is a rule that exempts certain uses of material from being infringements. Included in this exemption is use of material for research or learning purposes. Therefore, your professors who use bits of the textbook are within their legal rights. Keep that in mind, if you ever become a TA or a professor.

Unfortunately, the discussion was cut short as a class was awaiting use of the room. The lecture ended without any discussion of trademarks. However, that leaves you all with something to look forward to in the next Bridging The Gap lecture. I'm sure I speak for everyone who attended when I thank the Sanford Fleming Foundation, the Engineering Society, and Dean Sedra for sponsoring the Bridging the Gap series.

"If you send in your patent application right now, you might hear back...within a few years."



BRIDGING THE GAP LECTURE SERIES

**FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE AT
ALEXANDRIA TO THE MILLENIUM
DEVELOPMENT GOALS:**

***Engineers can help solve humanity's
most pressing problems***

Presented by:

George Roter
Co-Founder and Co-CEO of Engineers Without Borders

**Tuesday, November 4, 2003
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
CPH 3385**

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Presented by the Engineering Society and the Dean of Engineering, Sanford Fleming Foundation and Centre for Society, Technology and Values
The Bridging the Gap Lecture Series is open to all students, staff, faculty and friends.

Sedra Announces Plans to Return to the Classroom

...continued from Page 1.

members since the ones we currently have are doing a fantastic job but are all working extremely hard. I hope that we will continue to attract the outstanding undergraduate students we get every year, but to also attract excellent graduate students from all over the world. The ultimate goal is to have UW Engineering rank among the top half a dozen engineering schools in the world. This is a pretty hard goal since it requires excellence in all aspects (undergrad and grad). I don't know if this can happen in 5 years but I will try to do enough to get us on the right track.

KD: What do you believe are the most important concerns facing engineering students and what are you doing about them?

AS: I believe quality of teaching is something that some students are concerned about at Waterloo and I can do a lot to address that problem by talking to professors, hiring additional faculty members, creating this new nanotechnology program, etc.

There may be financial concerns faced by some students, especially at the time they are applying to Waterloo from high school. Students look at tuition, books etc. and see the large cost right away. In order not to lose some bright students we should

be publicizing the considerable amount of financial aid available. We are also working on increasing entrance scholarships to help reduce anxiety of first year students. We also try to remind applicants about the co-op system and the financial advantage of the program being more effective than scholarships.

In terms of tuition, the new Liberal government has committed to freezing tuition fees so we shouldn't be seeing any large increases in the next few years at least. There still are considerable opportunities for financial aid for present students and we are working on raising money for more scholarships and bursaries as well.

KD: What have you enjoyed so far about being the Dean of Engineering?

AS: I have enjoyed working here very much. I think this is a great school and there are lots of good people and I am very impressed with the undergraduate students especially. In fact that's why I will be teaching ECE 332 in the winter and will be using the new edition of my textbook in that course. I'm very excited about doing what I love most.

KD: Can you help me with my ECE 241 homework?

AS: (laughs) Sure, absolutely! In fact, students are welcome to see me anytime.

Columns

Forty-Four Complimentary Studies Electives...

...continued from Page 1.

This this is just a preliminary list and we are working on getting a larger more permanent database going that all engineering students can access term to term as you need to choose your CSE's. Please keep your eyes open for upcoming information about how you can contribute your thoughts about the CSE's that you have taken and read reviews that others have submitted. The more people that contribute, the better the information will be. Thanks to all of you who submitted for this article!

AFM 131: Management (Distance Education – Online)

Quite good; lots of group work, recommended

ANTH 102: Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology

Most likely the best 'List A' course
Very interesting as it discusses the cultures that we don't really know about; easiest 'List A' out there

Good course, with one essay and multiple choice exams

Another great one; very broad range of social/cultural issues that engineers aren't otherwise exposed to; very eye opening

Pretty interesting course, learning about new cultures and the difference between people in the world

It's pretty cool; I really like it; it's got to be the best way I can think of getting your 'List A' CSE

BIOL 130: Introductory Cell Biology

Professor Neil Bols was great; he was very enthusiastic about the course material and extremely helpful; a lot of memorization; tests were very fair

BIOL 139: Genetics (Distance Education – Online)

Very interesting; a lot of memorization, but not overly difficult material; some high school biology will help but it is absolutely doable without any

BIOL 140: Fundamentals of Microbiology (Distance Education – Audio Tapes)

The tapes are a big negative for this course, it is very difficult to take notes from them; the content is very interesting if you are into bacteria and what they do; lots of memorization

BIOL 273: Principles of Human Physiology I

Great; mandatory weekly labs, but very relevant to the lecture material; multiple choice midterm, lab exam, final

BIOL 302: Functional Histology

This course has no listed prerequisites and that is very misleading, you really need to have at least one human physiology and possibly anatomy to do well in this course; a lot, a lot of memorizing

CLAS 201: Ancient Greek Society

Good survey of Greek history, art, philosophy, religion and society; Prof. [Susan Downie] uses overheads with keywords, students must take their own notes; very good lecturing style; text helps fill in the details, but is not necessary if good notes are taken; tests involve mostly memorization; highly recommended

CO 220: Introduction to

Combinatorics (Distance Education – Audio Tapes)

A good course; not as mathematically thorough as the higher level 'CO' Introduction to combinatorics course, but more mathematical than regular engineering courses; the first half concentrates on enumeration and the second half concentrates on graph theory

ECON 101/102: Introduction to Microeconomics/Macroeconomics

Larry Smith or bust!

I left with the feeling that I now possess knowledge that will help me go farther in life than had I not taken his class

Best class ever (with Larry Smith)

After the last lecture you will be yearning for more Larry Smith

[Larry Smith] makes learning fun

Every class ends in applause

It lets you understand the financial world around you; there isn't much time needed for work, but

you need a SOLID understanding for the material to get his multiple choice questions [on exams]

Larry Smith is the only teacher you should take this course with

The most useful course I've ever taken

ENGL 208B: Science Fiction

Great class, but lots of reading; Professor Mark Warrin is fantastic...lots of fun, smart and can be really helpful and friendly

ENGL 362/363: Shakespeare I/II (Distance Education – Audio Tapes)

I enjoyed them a lot, but I don't know if they would be for everybody – I happen to like Shakespeare; there were lectures on audio cassettes, 3 essays and a final exam; the course materials were well organized and the teacher's feedback was good

ERS 241: Introduction to Environmental Assessment

The course seemed to be more about "what we can get away with" than sustainability

FINE 360: Film and Television I

It is possible to [count it as] a 'List C',

but you must get it [approved by] the undergrad office; you watch classic movies and discuss the significance of it as well and the [basic] parts of the movie (lights, sound, etc.); very easy

HIST 106: Military History of Canada

[Prof. G. Hayes is an] interesting and animated professor who clearly loves the topic he is teaching; light work load – a bit of reading (basically optional if you attend lectures) and one essay; exams were easy; enjoyable presentation of history

HIST 113: Canadian Business History

A good course if you are interested in Canadian history; [Prof. Cheryl Smith is a] good professor, isn't dry or boring; strong emphasis on the 19th Century fur and timber trades; a lot of reading, but manageable if you keep up

GEOG 459: Energy and Sustainability

A broad brush of environmental issues that aren't covered under the scope of engineering; topics were fossil fuels, consumption patterns, energy use by sectors, renewable energy, case studies; lots of work, but it was worth a double tech elective credit; very good environmental perspective

GERMAN 101: First Year German

Interesting, minimal work and not difficult to attain a good mark

MSCI 211: Organizational Behavior

Mediocre; when I took it there were close to 200 students, but over half the class skipped; tutorial attendance was mandatory; the material is mostly what one would describe as BS, nevertheless, some of it was interesting

MUSIC 140: Popular Music and Culture

Not your most stimulating academic experience; interesting to learn and understand the culture and technological advances that shaped popular music all the way back to the late 1800's

Should be a required course for anyone who has any interest in music

PACS 311: Doing Development: Issues in Justice and Peace

Pop quizzes, a bunch of course readings and two papers; no final and no midterm; most of the class was in discussion format; a must if you are thinking about doing any sort of development or aid relief

PACS 316: Violence, Non-violence and War

Entertaining professor and lots of good discussion; very topical material

PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy

Great course, very interesting; many topics covered, as well as the many answers to each of the philosophical questions

Mildly interesting; [Prof. Ashworth] did not provide any forum for interactivity between herself and the class or even between classmates; three in-class tests and three assignments; no midterm or final exam; not good for depth of knowledge, but good for someone who wants easy marks

PHIL 145: Critical Thinking

A good course, but not particularly noteworthy as one of the best [CSE's]; varies a lot with the prof who teaches it

PHIL 145: Critical Thinking (Distance Education – Audio Tapes)

Good; textbook and lecture notes were pretty good; material is useful if you plan to take electives in "subjective" fields like psychology

If you can think, you needn't bother with this course; it was bad by DE; a very introductory logic and critical thinking class; yes, you'll get a great mark, but will it be worth it putting in any effort at all into when really, you learn nothing? I exaggerate slightly, there is some intro logic you may not have seen

PHIL 200A: Great Works of Western Philosophy I

Small class, mostly unstructured discussion, so not good for people who love to take notes; Prof. [Brian Orend] encourages class participation; recommended for those who like to do the readings and participate in class

Pretty interesting, if you like reading philosophy essays; if you like philosophy type thinking and don't mind writing a few essays this course should be good for you

PHIL 208: Philosophy Through Science Fiction

This is a great bird course – write a couple essays, they are fairly easily, read some really cool literature and listen to someone who loves science fiction and philosophy, talk about both; if you can't listen to someone talk about the deeper meanings of Star Trek for three hours, obviously you shouldn't take the course

PHIL 220: Moral Issues

Awesome course; interesting topics; light work load – a bit of reading and one essay (Prof. Christine Freeman-Roth)

PHIL 221: Ethics

Lots of reading ancient (and not so ancient) philosophers; average arts workload; yes, you write papers, no, it wasn't terribly interesting; not highly recommended

*"I left with the feeling that I now possess knowledge that I will help me go farther in life than had I not taken his class"
ECON 101 with Larry Smith*



Larry Smith talking to students after his Econ 101 class about the role of mutual economic interest in the reduction of tensions between traditionally rival nations.

...Comprehensive Reviews by Engineering Students

PHIL 350: Epistemology

Heavy duty philosophy, quite good if you like that kind of thing

PLAN 100: The Evolution of Planning

Very interesting course; heavier workload for an elective, but all assignments are very relevant

PSCI 387: Globalization

This was a seminar, so there were only 9 people in the class; we talked about the readings each week as a group, read four books, wrote four papers (one per book) and gave a presentation at the end; it introduced a variety of perspectives on globalization, presented in a balanced way and was really interesting and engaging; I highly recommend the experience of an Arts seminar, it's a completely different way of learning

PSYCH 101: Introductory Psychology

Burris is an amazing prof; all the tests were fair

[Cris Burris] is an amazing prof.; course is easy if you keep up; four non-cumulative tests and no midterm or final

Prof. Cheyne was nice and covered the material well

Lectures are not the greatest [with Prof. Bulman-Flemming] – I've fallen asleep several times; the textbook is great reading material, it's not too hard to follow

A lot of reading if you choose to do it; [attending] psych studies can give [you] up to a 4% [extra] and then money for ones after

[Prof. Ennis] is absolutely fabu-



In the handy course calender you can find all of the wonderful, dreadful, and in-between courses available at the university.

lous...he definitely keeps your attention for the 3 hour evening class; easy multiple choice type exams

Recommended if you don't mind the reading

One word describes this course, EASY!; it is interesting to learn a bit of knowledge about how our mind works

Amazing course; [Prof. Richard Ennis is] quite possibly the Larry Smith of psychology; lectures were entertaining and well presented; a very good introduction into the "wide, wacky world" that is the human mind

PSYCH 101: Introductory Psychology (Distance Education – Audio Tapes)

Good; textbook was excellent, lecture notes weren't that useful; four or five assignments, one multiple choice final exam

PSYCH 207: Cognitive Processes

Textbook can be misleading, read critically; pay attention to lectures; four multiple choice "quizzes"

PSYCH 256/PHIL 256: Introduction to Cognitive Science

Professor Eliasmith is knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the subject; the material is interesting and has enough similarities to some engineering disciplines (mainly systems, computer and software) that it seems relevant, but the perspective is different enough that it's a refreshing change to most [engineering] courses

Really interesting subject material; VERY heavy work load and study load, as an engineer, I found it difficult to keep on top of it with my other work load due to the large number of exams and expansive subject material, even though it was all really interesting, very current and relevant and well taught

PSYCH 261: Physiological Psychology

Lots of memorization; great if you plan on doing studies in biomedical engineering

RS 100A: Religions of the East

Highly interesting; minimum work-

load, no essays, exams are a joke

RS 266: Film and the Quest for Meaning 1

Easiest 'List C' course you could have; 3 short quizzes and one essay; pretty much is just watching movies and then taking notes on them for a half hour [while] they are talked about by the prof

SCI 270: Nuclear Science (Distance Education – Online)

Professor Chieh was very accessible and understanding when one of my assignments was late because I was sick; there is more math than the course outline leads you to believe; regular quizzes and group work, not a course that you can let slide until finals

Very disappointing; advertised as an 'impact' of nuclear sci-

ence/technology course, but turned out to be a review of high school science; it was easy; not recommended

Not a very difficult course; 10 or so quizzes online, which are pretty simple and are obviously open book; can be a pretty interesting course for those who are interested in physics or, obviously, nuclear science

SCI 351: Human Physiology I (Distance Education – Audio Tapes)

Very well organized course; I don't generally like the audio tapes in distance ed, but the prof has the course so well organized it wasn't that bad; very interesting material, everyone has a body after all, so it is relevant to everyone

SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology

The material is very common sense, not hard to understand at all; there were two tests and an essay and the top two marks were taken, so if you did well on the tests, you didn't need to write the essay; the final was really easy

STV 100: Society, Technology and Values: Introduction

Very boring course; professor read lectures from notes and read too fast to write things down

Too abstract; lots of reading accompanied by assignments; not recommended

Sucked

STV 202: Design and Society

Didn't hate it, but it wasn't too interesting

A course chock-filled with potentially great concepts, completely ruined by the fact that [the professor's] conclusion to everything that is [wrong] in the world can be blamed on just engineers; nothing good can come of this course; not too hard to get a good mark

For heaven's sake, do not take this class; it should have been called 'Engineering Bashing 101'; our discussions and assignments had very little real-world application

It was a god-awful waste of my time; the course should have been entitled 'The Opinions of Dr. Norman R. Ball P.Eng.'; the lecture portion consisted of 1.5 to 2 hours of rambling by a sessional, followed by a bunch of painful group exercises; the rambling consisted of several 'facts' in the '1984' sense, and was really just an excuse to bash engineers; the group exercises seemed to make little sense on the whole and can be best described as 'filler'

Terrible course, really boring; presented in a narrow minded approach to engineering and engineers; the only upside is that it completes the 'List A' requirement

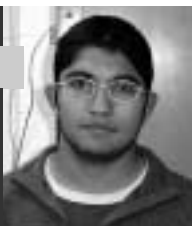
I did not enjoy it at all; long monotone lectures about common sense concepts; the assignments were silly and a waste of time; I would NOT recommend this class to anyone



Which of these books will you be using during your next CSE?

A Crackdown On Keggers In Waterloo

Michael Simoes



1A Chemical

With the beginning of a new school term, Waterloo comes alive. Students want to go out, get drunk, and have fun after a week of long, hard work. On University Street alone, there are many ways to fulfill these students' wants, and that is, to pay ten dollars a head and get limited beer from the tapped Kegs.

With all the keg parties going on, the Waterloo Police Department has been on party-goers' toes and have made arrests, and fined many people who have been run-

ning these illegal Keg parties. Fraternities and Sororities have to be very careful now with whom they let in, and whom they do not let in. There are two main concerns for the police, and that is underage drinking, with the use of fake IDs, and selling liquor without a license.

Underage drinking is always a concern, but even more so this year with the grade twelve graduates; seventeen and in university. These students want to be like a "regular" university student and be able to drink, and so they purchase fake IDs. These IDs can pass naked eye inspections, and that causes a big problem. With so many more underage students, security around campus pubs and bars has been very strict, sometimes using the latest technology of ID scanners showing whether the license is fake or not. Not only that, many clubs, such

as "Revolutions" and "Elements", are using the same technology to weed out the underage students with fake IDs. These students need somewhere to go and have fun, and be able to consume alcohol.

This is where the second problem arises, and that is selling liquor without a license. The underage student can go to a kegger, where hosts do not scan IDs and just glance over it, and then ask for the money and let the student in. Obviously, selling liquor without a license is an offense on its own, but selling liquor to a minor is even worse.

Police have shut down many parties and confiscated many kegs full of beer, and fined or arrested the hosts of the party for selling liquor without a license. Not only that, police have arrested people drinking on the streets, and people drunk on the

streets. The police have to enforce the law, the law which they have sworn to protect.

There is a solution to this and that is for the hosts to buy a liquor license. Once they have this, they will be allowed to sell alcohol with no fear of their party getting shut down and their beer confiscated. However, the hosts must be careful with whom they let into a party, being very careful to block underage students wanting to buy liquor.

The university can do even more by having more dry all-access nights at Fed Hall and the Bomber so that the underage students can be "regular" university students and go out and party after a long week of hard work.

Illegal keg parties are a problem, but with the proper documentation, ie. liquor licenses, they can be fun and they can be protected under the law.

Columns

Eric Idol's A Greedy Bastard

Ryan Stoughton
4B Philosophy

Do you know the kind of guy who knows every word to every Monty Python song, owns all the Monty Python movies, and even tracks down episodes of Fawty Towers just because John Cleese is in it? Well, that description doesn't do my brother justice. My brother owns every obscure Monty Python album, and every authorized book on the Pythons - and we went all the way to Doune, Scotland on a pilgrimage to the castle that was used for nearly every shot in The Holy Grail. Think of a person who lovingly stroked coconuts once held by Michael Palin, and you're starting to see the kind of fan that my brother has become.

Thus, it was with great satisfaction that I was able to take him to see Eric Idle perform on his Greedy Bastard tour. Idle played at Centre in the Square on Tuesday, October 7th, before moving on to a little mud-puddle town on Lake Ontario. As one Fung put it, "We got him first."

There was a strange hush that came over the crowd as Idle came on the stage; here was, in the flesh, one whose comedic genius carried with it untold powers of self-excommunication. Idle explained that this tour - unlike the last one - was being held on the cheap, with as few investments as he could manage so he could pump us all for money.

Then it began; Python songs were sung, tales were told, and sketches were performed for the billionth time. There was winking, and nudging, and we got to hear a little ditty he tossed off recently in the Caribbean. Some songs - a first detailing the history (and often the content) of many philosophers, and a second celebrating the trials and tribulations of oral sex - were meant as "sing-alongs", but three

quarters of the audience was singing along already.

The second half of the show was somewhat autobiographical, and - except for being briefly marred by a heckler - was the better half of the show. Idle began with "Always look on the bright side of life", and interspersed the tunes and sketches with anecdotes of his (remarkably difficult) childhood, his career as a Python, and his current hopes and dreams.

While very little distinguished the songs and sketches from what everyone has already seen and heard, it was these stories that gave the audience real satisfaction. From Idle's hilarious description of life in an orphanage, to his description of

"...it was these [classic] stories that gave the audience satisfaction."

the other Pythons (of which he is famously, the 6th nicest), to stories of his friendship with George Harrison, this was the real, human stuff that the obsessive Python fan craved.

The night was not perfect, however; despite a few cutting remarks about President Bush, Idle made a serious misstep with this audience. Towards the last quarter of the show, his stagemates came out from the back with coolie hats, while Idle sang his old Python song "I like Chinese". As the song progressed, an uncomfortable silence came over the audience - despite Idle's professed admiration of Buddhism, the song is simply inappropriate for the audience he was playing. We can only hope that he recognized this when later playing in Toronto itself.

The show quickly recovered and we returned to the anecdotes with a vengeance, with the audience recovering its previous engagement.

Best moment: George Harrison's deep, spiritual advice: "Shag a Sheila for me."

Worst moment: Tie between the heckler and "I like Chinese".

Overall: * * * * (out of a possible 5).

The Treehouse of Horrors

Michael Simoes

1A Chemical



Ever since I could remember, Halloween has always been about tricking, treating and sitting down to laugh at the comedy and stupidity of the Simpson's clan in the Treehouse of Horrors special every Halloween. From the first installment, to the upcoming episode on November 2nd, I have not missed one, and this article is a tribute to Matt "Rat" Groening's masterpiece.

Each Halloween special has a unique format that deviates from the normal show, which gives added atmosphere to make it special. From year to year, the writers change the opening set, and give the show new music, and they also put a "parental advisory" at the beginning, which helps with the spoof and parody that takes place later on.

All of the specials have one parody that stands out above the rest. In the first Treehouse, "Hungry are the Damned" is the one that rose above the other two. In it, we meet two characters that became trademarks in the Halloween specials, Kang and Kudos, the aliens from Rigel 4. Lisa screws up the plan the aliens had for the Simpson clan, which became a running theme thereafter in the following specials.

In the second one, I find "Clown Without Pity" to be the best. Bart's new Krusty the Clown doll tries to kill Homer, and Homer yells, "The clown is trying to kill me, and the toaster is laughing at me" which always makes me laugh.

Third season's "Dial Z for Zombies" is hilarious. The spells that Bart uses to make the zombies rise from the grave, and the spell he uses to cast them back into the grave are named after various condom brand names like Magnum and Sheik, and are always amusing. Another classic line from this spoof is when Homer is running

through the streets, and finds Barney eating brain, and Barney states, "I'm not a Zombie, but when in Rome..."

A parody from season four, "The Devil and Homer Simpson" is the one that I always remember. It has such a great plot and it is downright funny. From Homer selling his soul for the "Forbidden Donut" and Bart tempting the devil, this episode always brings a tear of laughter to my eye. In the fifth one, "The Shinning" is just so classic. The famous line of, "HOMER: No TV and No Beer Make Homer Something Something...MARGE: Go Crazy? HOMER: Don't mind if I do! (Homer goes crazy)" always has me wanting to see this special more and more.

Season six's "Homer Cubed" is the best out of all the episodes. Homer, trying to hide from Marge's sisters Patty and Selma, found himself in the third dimension. It is so cool how they animated him and made him 3D. It's just so excellent when he finally winds up in our dimension looking at erotic cakes.

In season seven "Citizen Kang" is a great spoof. Matt Groening did not hold back on who he made fun of - from Slick Willy to President Clinton to Bob Dole - I like how they made fun of the entire American election. When Homer says, "I voted for Kudos" it makes me laugh every time.

I'm sure that many of you have your all time favourite episodes from the Halloween specials, and the above are just a few of mine. After the seventh, they go a little downhill but still have some great comedy: from killer dolphins, to making fun of Harry Potter. Matt Groening astonishes me with his ability to spoof and parody many classic horror films and books. To end off each Halloween special, he holds nothing back and even changes the closing tune by making it a minor chord for the company who produces it.

This year, have a happy and funny Halloween, and don't forget about the next Treehouse of Horrors special on November 2nd!!

Music Review: Kill Bill Vol. 1 - Melodious Ear Candy

Maria Simoes

4N Computer



Six months ago I saw something absolutely amazing. It was the teaser trailer for Kill Bill (at that point, a single volume movie due for release full release in 2003). I was in awe, but it wasn't just from the amazing cinematography, the skillful editing or the plot tease.

It was the music. I heard this chilling, rocking (insert your adjective of choice here) type of music that I hadn't heard before. I was hooked. I knew I'd be seeing the movie sometime during its opening weekend - not for the plot, or for the fact that it was written, produced and directed by Quentin (Tarantino). Rather, I'd be going for the masterful selection of music that I knew I could expect (judging by the caliber of music from the teaser).

Fast forward to two weekends ago (three by the time this paper comes out). I'm eagerly standing in line waiting to hear what Quentin and The RZA (of Wu-Tang Clan Fame) had chosen to augment my viewing experience. I was definitely not

disappointed.

Quentin and The RZA pulled from their combined musical passions to create a collection of musical perfection. For those of you yet to see the film, here's a little background. The movie is separated into chapters, each drawing upon one of the genres that inspired and intrigued Quentin during his childhood. One of the main elements of continuity (other than the theme of revenge) is the music. The theme of each genre is further enhanced through the use of topical music. For example, during scenes in Kill Bill where Quentin draws from the "Blaxploitation" movies of the seventies, he chooses seventies funk.

In addition to "blaxploitation", Kill Bill is heavily influenced by Japanese culture, in particular, Samurai Movies. There is also a decidedly "cowboy" feel to certain scenes - especially the "showdown" from which the plot erupts. Oh, and let us not forget the few Star Trek references (another favourite of Quentin's). The music in the movie mirrored the themes, drawing not only from funk but from the music of Japanese pop-culture and from the music of "Middle-America".

The CD does not disappoint when compared to the movie. Many of the same songs featured in the movie are compiled

within the CD. The song that started it all - "Battle Without Honor or Humanity" (featured in the teaser trailer) - is included to my immense pleasure. Speaking of the teaser, this enhanced CD also contains all the film trailers (the teaser, the first full length, and a bootleg trailer from Quentin himself). But, I digress.

This CD, though a hodge-podge of different genres and styles, still manages to convey a sense of musicality often lacking in modern-day popular music. From the cowboy 70's "Green Hornet" to Japanese Pop in "Woo hoo", this embodies the main threads of the movie from which it was based. Of course, after sitting through the movie, I knew with absolute certainty to expect Nancy Sinatra's "Bang Bang". One unexpected surprise was Santa Esmerelda's 10 1/2 minute long anthem, "Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood". At first hearing, it's okay - but on successive hearings, definitely one for my "favourites" playlist. There was also a bit of a surprise in "Crane/White Lightning". Upon first hearing it, I thought I'd stumbled into a scene from Star Trek: TOS -

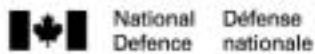
the second half of this song definitely draws from a Trek/Sci-fi music pool.

However, as with any CD, there are a few low points. One of the most hauntingly beautiful songs from the CD is overdubbed by The RZA and thereby loses some of its virtue. There are also a few dialog tracks (as is to be expected in any original soundtrack). Also included are sound effects tracks. Neither are my cup of tea, so I won't comment any further; however, they are there for those who do enjoy such things.

All in all, this CD is definitely a worthwhile addition to anyone's music collection. Hopefully, volume 2 will also not disappoint.

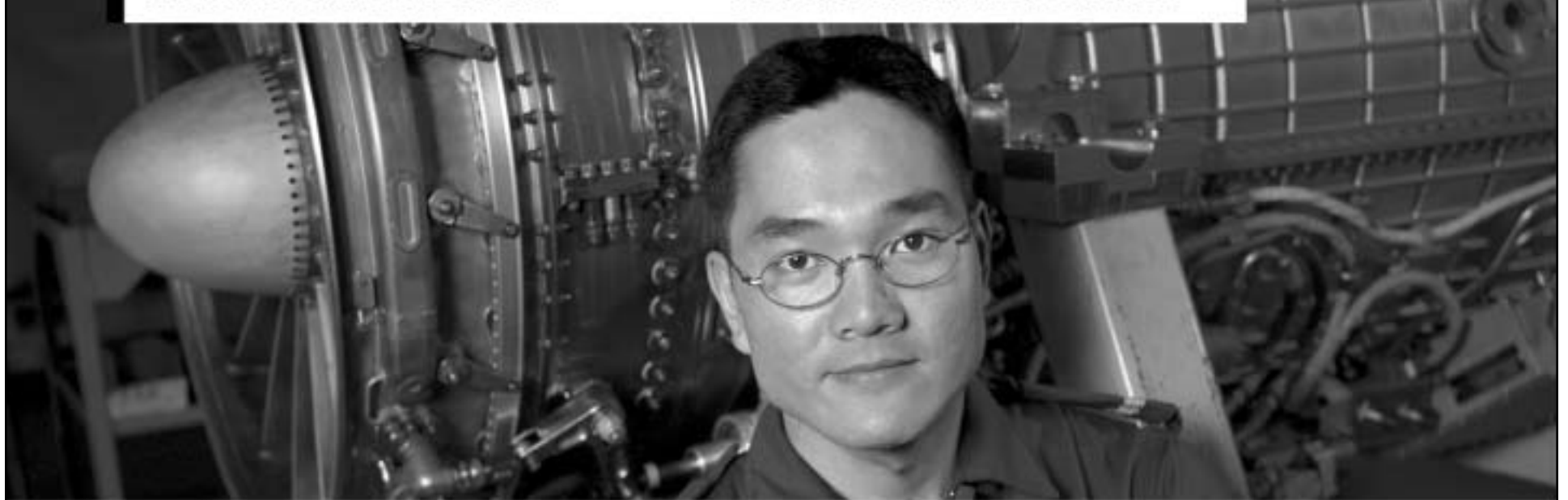


photo courtesy of <http://www.killermovies.com/k/killbill/articles/2330.html>



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Waterloo through My Eyes: Feeling Violated

Christine McCullough
2N Chemical

This past Friday I decided to go home to my parents for the weekend. My sister is getting married this December and there is always something to work on for the wedding. So, I got my things together and headed to my car. I was surprised to find that my passenger side door was unlocked. I know I didn't leave in unlocked the night before, I never do. I was even more surprised when I opened the door. The contents of my glove compartment and the space under the armrest were strewn all over the interior. Travel Kleenex packs, spare sunglasses, owners manual, pens, Velamints, everything all over the place. Well, almost everything. Noticeably absent was my little Tupperware container filled with Toonies for parking and some of my Dad's CDs. Thankfully, there wasn't much that interested the thieves.

My first reaction was to laugh. You see, I drive a 1989 bright white, 2-door, Pontiac Grand Prix. The windows have a dark tint that is starting to bubble in spots and there is a large spot on the hood that the paint has chipped off. My family and I have lovingly nicknamed this car "Big Pimpin'". When you look at it, you expect someone dressed in faux fur and a large brimmed white hat to slink out. It is the butt of many jokes. I guess I couldn't understand why anyone would break into this car. Obviously the exterior doesn't scream money, so why would there be anything exciting on the inside. But I

don't think that was the point. I think it was probably more of a thrill thing, maybe a dare between high school kids. Whatever the reason, there wasn't much lost and no damage was done, so it wasn't that big a deal.

So, I called the Waterloo Region Police and reported the incident, just in case it was one in a string of break-ins. I let them know that no one needed to investigate it; I just wanted to make sure they knew. Then I got my things packed into the car and headed home. That's when it started to bother me. There had been someone in

my car; someone I didn't know. What did he/she touch? How long did they spend tearing my car apart? Did he/she find my car as amusing as I do? I didn't care so much about the why at that point; I was more concerned with the who. Don't get me wrong; I am not on some mission to bring the thief to justice. It just creeped me out that someone could invade my personal space like that. No one was with my as I drove, but it felt like it. It felt like there was a presence of an unknown in my car. It bothered me. He/she didn't take anything important as far as material items

are concerned, but for that moment that person took away the feeling of comfort that I used to have while I drove. And I didn't realize how important that time by myself in my car was to me. It sounds silly, to have my car be like my "sanctuary", but I now know it is. I guess everyone has their own spot, maybe it's their bedroom, or a bathtub filled with bubble bath, but for me it's my car; by myself with a latte from Second Cup, the radio on (and loud) and the left window always cracked for fresh air. It's an escape for me. An escape that I didn't realize that I relied on. That was until someone violated my space.

By Saturday I was over it, and it was once again just something to laugh about. But I definitely took something away from the experience. Number one: maybe I should think about establishing a different place to retreat to, somewhere that outsiders can't invade. Number two: I appreciate that time by myself more. I realize now how important it is to my mental health to have that escape. I won't take it for granted anymore.

I'll leave you with this; find a spot, somewhere where you can be yourself and relax, where no one can interfere with your time. It is a great chance to wind down and let the stress of life roll off you. And more importantly, take time to visit that spot regularly. Don't let life prevent you from having the downtime you both need and deserve. Lastly, if you are the one with my Tupperware container full of Toonies, I want them back and I promise not to be angry if you return them, well I promise not to be violent, I may still be angry...



Big Pimpin' feels the sting after a recent break-in. Ain't she just the cutest?

Concert Review: Sloan Hits Fed Hall

Ryan Bayne
'02 Computer

Last Saturday at Fed Hall, Canadian Rock band Sloan came to play in support of their latest album "Action Pact". This was according to the band, their tenth appearance over the years since the release of their first album "Smear", back in 1992. It wasn't the first time I've seen them perform there, and it certainly wasn't the first time I've seen them live. This show enforced an important lesson: if you're seeing Sloan shortly after a new album, make sure you've listened to the new album first.

Sloan opened with three songs off their new album, including the current single "The Rest Of My Life" which became a sing-along during the chorus. Throughout the night they ended up playing three quarters of "Action Pact", which may have been disappointing for those who were more familiar with their earlier work.

Importantly, the performance was one of the strongest I've seen them give. Some of songs were stronger and sung with better harmonies than the album versions. Sloan also makes sure to keep the audience involved throughout the show with banter, encouraging clap-alongs, and actively encouraging sing-alongs through many of their numbers.

The set list included many popular singles throughout their career, including "Everything You've Done Wrong", "Money City Maniacs", "Losing California" and "People of the Sky". However, compared to their last Fed Hall show, they didn't play many songs off earlier albums that weren't popular singles.

Some of the songs played previously are personal favourites, but were skipped this time in favour of more rocking tunes. A standout performance for energy was drummer Andrew Scott's "Sensory Deprivation". Used in a Stanley Cup ad a few years ago, people seemed to recognize it, but didn't

realize it kept going full blast for over six minutes. Only two songs all night could be describe as slow, and one of those was the recent radio hit "The Other Man" which led to much more excitement in the crowd than the song would suggest.

Overall, I would say that it was probably the best performance I've

seen Sloan give since I first saw them back in 1996. However, the choice of setlist may have disappointed those who weren't as familiar with Action Pact" and missed out on a lot of my personal preferences. However, they continue to improve in their live abilities, and I will certainly try to see them the next time they come to Waterloo.



Photo courtesy of Sloanmusic.com

© SLOANM

This Dishwasher is For Temporary Storage Only

...continued from Page 10.

sink - but really, this is "temporary" storage for these grimy beasts. (By "temporary" I mean something less than 2 weeks - with something less than 1 week preferred.) The correct answer is take all the dirty dishes (rinsing those with extra grimy layers) and then load these nicely rinsed dishes into the dishwasher.

Lesson 2 - But the dishwasher is already full of clean dishes!

So, you've opened the dishwasher drawer, ready to plunk your dishes in and set 'em in spin cycle. But wait - the dishwasher is *not* empty... there are clean

dishes in there. Well, okay I guess we can just leave the dirty dishes in the sink until people have finished removing all the clean dishes from the dishwasher, one by one, as needed, right? WRONG! There exist these things called "cupboards". They are used to store clean dishes - *not* the dishwasher. You noticed the dishwasher is full of clean dishes - common courtesy dictates that you "unload" the dishwasher by removing *all* dishes (not just one dish) into their preordained place of residence. Now, wow - the dishwasher is empty. We can load in our dirty dishes.

Really, it's THAT SIMPLE. Two steps

- load and unload. Dirty dishes stored in the dishwasher waiting for it to become full so you can do a full load. Clean dishes stored in different cupboards, so they're easily accessible when required. Dishes are also "rinsed" and not left to rot in the sink. Really, it's not brain surgery. So go forth and be courteous to your roommates - they might just be courteous back to you in return (instead of leaving all your rotting dishes in front of the door in an attempt to remind you of their existence).

This concludes a lesson dishwashing. Comment, concerns, questions? Please direct all feedback to idontcare@dishwashing.com. Over and out.



A dishwasher being used as it should

the Iron Inquisition

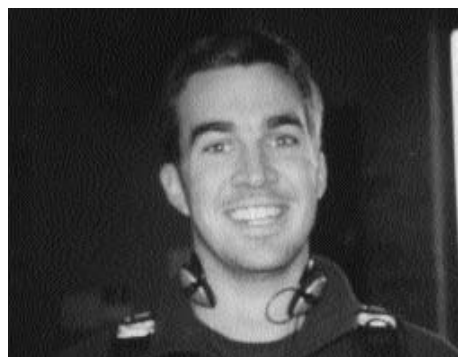
Christine McCullough, 2N Chemical

What's The Best Trick-or-Treat You've Ever Received?



"Money. When the house ran out of candy, they would give you money."

Dan Broten and Ankur Khurana - 2B Systems



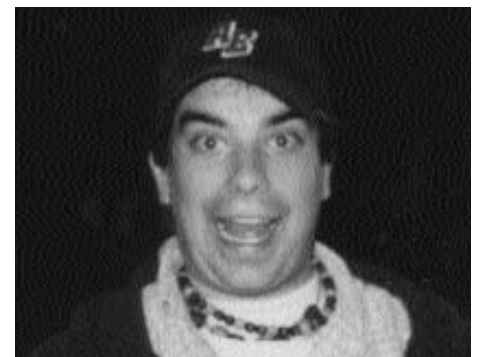
"I'm Australian. We don't celebrate Hallowe'en in Australia."

Damian Antonio - 3B Civil



"Half a Toblerone bar. I don't know who got the other half."

Varun Atre - 1A Mechanical



"2 years ago I took my little buddy out trick-or-treating. I left him with his Dad and did my neighbour. It was a cougar conquest."

Nick Cake - 3A Political Science



"A can of Pepsi."

Luke Gilarski - 1A Geological



"Some guy gave me a Bible."

Ryan McCurry - 1A Mechanical



"Pink popcorn. The one with the elephant on the bag. It came with some trinket."

Warren King - Electrical Grad



"Beer. Precious precious beer."

Tim the TA - 4N Computer