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## UW Hosts 2009 ESSCO Annual General Meeting

**YOUSIF AL-KHDER &  
STUART PEARSON**  
2B MANAGEMENT & 2B CIVIL

Last weekend, the Engineering Students Societies' Council of Ontario (ESSCO) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) here at the University of Waterloo.

ESSCO is designed to represent engineering students from Ontario and improve student life, as well as acting as a communication link between students and professional engineering organizations. They host several conferences every year and work hard to improve the quality of engineering education in Ontario.

Delegates from all across Ontario arrived Thursday night, and were welcomed by the members of the organizing committee at the Village 1 residences where they were staying.

The AGM events started Friday morning, which was unfortunate for some of the Waterloo delegates as these events conflicted with their midterms. Sessions in the morning included presentations by Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) and the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE), as well as an introduction to ESSCO for first-time conference delegates.

After lunch, delegates had the chance to discuss EngSoc-related issues and share their experiences through a series of roundtable discussions and informative presentations. There was a very interesting session about project management by VP Services Stephen Lake, one of the two ESSCO executives from UW. Other session topics included Engineering Society Policy Manuals, Women in Engineering, Engineering Businesses. Ever-popular discussions on Frosh Week and Engineering Traditions gave delegates the chance to



Incoming ESSCO executives receive their pink hardhats

Micheal Seliske

share their favourite memories and ideas for new initiatives. After the sessions had finished, Chief Returning Officer, Michael Seliske opened the nominations period for new ESSCO.

Once official business concluded for the day, delegates walked to the Huether Hotel for dinner, which gave everyone the opportunity to sit down and mingle with students from other schools. Many of the delegates wore coveralls decorated with their school's patches and paraphernalia, which was useful in identifying where everyone was from. With the social portion of the conference now well underway, delegates boarded busses and headed to Kitchener for a round of laser tag. In typical engineering fashion, the bus rides

were filled with rowdy songs and chants, including some new hymns unfamiliar to some of the Waterloo delegates. After a few exciting rounds of laser tag, students reboarded the busses to return to Waterloo. Upon returning to campus, AGM delegates from other schools had the opportunity to meet some locals and experience some Waterloo culture first hand.

The next morning, delegates returned to the Davis Centre (DC) to listen to captivating guest speaker, Tom Lee from Maplesoft Inc, an adjunct faculty member of Systems Design Engineering, and graduate Systems Design Engineering '88. Mr. Lee's presentation was exciting and kept the attention of groggy delegates at 8:30am, introducing "10 Random Things That You Can Do

With an Engineering Degree". According to Lee, benefits ranged from money to even marrying an arts student.

After the guest speaker, sessions resumed for the second day. Accountability presentations were made by the executive members to the council, explaining which of their mandated goals and personal initiatives they have achieved, how they achieved them and what problems they faced in achieving these goals. The member closed session followed, where the executives were discussed and evaluated in great detail.

Elections for the

2009-2010 ESSCO executive were held after lunch. The elections started with the President position, which was acclaimed by Spencer McEwan (Waterloo, B-Soc). Two other positions were acclaimed; Vice-President Finance and Administration was acclaimed by Charlise Searle (University of Toronto), and VP Development went to Mary Vilorio (University of Ontario Institute of Technology). The other two positions ended in a three-way race with Alessia Danelon (Waterloo, B-Soc) winning the VP Services race, and Mark Walker (University of Guelph) becoming the VP Communications.

After sitting in a DC lecture hall all day long, the

ESSCO members suited up and went to a banquet dinner in South Campus Hall. The organizers and co-chairs of the AGM, Dave Halford and Jessica Friesen presented the members with the sponsor of the event, Mr. John Gamble of Consulting Engineers of Ontario (CEO). Mr. Gamble made a re-

### ESSCO IS BESSCO!

markable speech about the importance of engineering in society. The new executive were presented for the first time with their pink ESSCO hardhats.

On the final day of the AGM, the council met one last time for plenary, where all formal decisions are made, such as voting on motions and bidding for upcoming conferences. Lakehead University won the bid for the upcoming First Year Integration Conference (FYIC), but the host for AGM 2010 is still undecided.

Congratulations goes to the outgoing ESSCO executive for their hard work during the past year, and best of luck to the incoming executive, who are sure to do a stellar job. Spencer McEwan and Alessia Danelon will represent Waterloo in their capacity as executives and will definitely make us proud. Thanks also to Dave Halford, Jessica Friesen, and the rest of their team for organizing this conference and the incredible job they did. It's no small feat to find the sponsorship necessary to host a large conference like AGM during the middle of a recession, and the team pulled it off tremendously. Hope to see everyone again next year at AGM 2010! For more information about how to get involved with ESSCO, talk to your VP-External Mike McCauley ([asoc\\_vpext@engmail.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:asoc_vpext@engmail.uwaterloo.ca)) or visit [www.essco.ca](http://www.essco.ca)



Micheal Seliske

Delegates from engineering schools across Ontario at ESSCO AGM 2009



# Letter from the Editor



**MICHELLE  
CROAL**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Wow. Three weeks is altogether too long to be away from the helm of the IW! Wait, I mean, much too short a time to actually get caught up on schoolwork! Anyway, hope everyone's midterms went by reasonably well, and if not there are always events to look forward to in July (Canada Day!)

This issue my editorial topic of choice is women in engineering, an important issue I have noticed both during academic and work terms. As many of you know, women in engineering are a visible minority in a largely male dominated industry. Looking more closely, statistics from the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE) show that as recently as 2007, the total percentage of female undergraduates enrolled in engineering programs in Canada was 17.2%. If we compare this to 1975, where the total percentage was only 3.6%, this is a significant improvement, but I believe the industry has a long way to go. In fact, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers states that only 7% of all licensed engineers in Ontario are female. It's one thing to be in a classroom environment where gender numbers may be more balanced, but the workforce is an entirely different story. Consider also that in addition to female engineers being rare, supporting staff such as technicians and operators, especially in manufacturing, construction and oil industries are predominantly male. Thus, we should consider the overall industries where engineers and female engineers work, and how these environments affect our success in careers and personal lives.

An interesting question posed by a friend of mine asked "Why are there so many more women in engineering fields like chemical, whereas disciplines such as mechanical and civil have so few?" This is not just a casually observed phenomenon for the purpose of making jokes like "Femme Eng", but a recognized occurrence. Canada wide, Chemical Engineering undergraduates consist of 36.2% of the total, while Mechanical comes in at 10.3%, and Computer/Software engineering at the lowest with 9.7% each (as of 2007). If we compare these figures to those provided by the UW Women in Engineering group, we see that for 2008, Mechanical, Mechatronics and Electrical have the smallest percentages of females in first year (8% each). Environmental at UW has the highest of all disciplines, with a full 50% in 2008! Anyway, that's enough numbers; I'm sure you get the idea. But as to the actual reason between the differences in female percentages, I wouldn't be able to say. Personally, science or engineering was always the main option when I was thinking about life after high school. For some reason, it was always just "Chemical", and excluding a very brief and unrealistic application to software engineering, I didn't even consider other engineering disciplines. They just didn't appeal to me. Perhaps looking at it closer now, I can see that other options such as Electrical lacked something critical: marketing. I think any person looking for a career can follow this thought proc-

ess: "Who is in this industry that I can look up to? How can I make a success of my job? What, exactly, does this job even do?" This is certainly true for young women considering engineering. The low numbers of women in engineering most probably perpetuates the system, because girls might see an industry or discipline very low in females as intimidating and something that is "just not for me". Many of the engineering industries, when you get right down to it, are dirty. And no, I don't just mean the humour, I'm referring to the day to day work requirements. Working in chemical plants means PPE, hazardous materials, or smelling like enzymes all day, while Civil, Geological and Mining engineering may land you mired in mud to your elbows. Not to mention the oh-so-flattering hardhat hair style sported by many women in engineering over the years. Of course, these aspects are not universal to engineering, but they can be negative components to a career that are over-emphasized by those who misunderstand the industry. It takes a certain sense of adventure to become an engineer, and I think perhaps many young women miss out on an excellent career choice because of this.

A related topic is women in engineering in leadership positions. Since 1996, The Iron Warrior has had a total of 9 female Editors-in-Chief, myself included. (Prior to this, IW records are rather fuzzy. If IW 1980 was the professional and responsible response to *Enginews*, goodness knows what they would think of us now.... "Drier" comes to mind at the very least.) In any case that puts the number at 17% female EICs over the years, which all things considered isn't that bad. EngSoc B currently has half female exec, and both Councils and MathSoc have female presidents. From what I can tell from our archives, female leadership in the engineering societies has not been a concern at least for the past five years. Yay! I think that's an important source of inspiration for women in engineering and girls considering engineering as a career choice. One thing that I personally would like to see more of is female professors in engineering. UW currently has 11.8%, which if you think about it, is less than 1% per discipline!

Many engineering societies run specific programs targeted at increasing the number of females in the industry. One such program is *GoEngGirl!*, created by OSPE, takes place annually at 15 universities across Ontario. Girls in grades 7-10 are invited to university campuses for a day-long event that showcases engineering, applications and women in engineering. This very successful program has chosen girls at precisely the right age - young enough to be enthusiastic and interested by hands-on activities and old enough to start needing information for high school course requirements. Other networks such as OSPE's Women in Engineering Advisory Committee and UW's own Women in Engineering group provide support for females through networking, mentorship, and the advocacy of national and international issues.

Without the active programs that demonstrate the different engineering fields and choices, female enrolment will remain low. Something else that is interesting and unfortunate is an actual decrease in the to-

tal number of female engineering students, since hitting a peak at 20.7% in 2001. The statistics I looked at did not offer reasons for this decline, but hopefully university administrations and industry leaders can recognize this issue and do more to combat it.

I feel obliged to note here that while I am a feminist, I am by no means an extremist. The whole purpose of this editorial was to raise some awareness about issues women in engineering face and discuss some of the reasons behind the numbers. These issues are by far more about respect and equal opportunity. Understanding gender differences can help both men and women work together more successfully and effectively in engineering and their personal lives. Please feel free to comment on my discussion by writing me an email or submitting an article yourself!

In other news, we have mail! In response to the article on Coca-Cola's PlantBottle in the last issue we received this:

## Letter to the Editor

*Re: CocaCola Introduces the Plant-Bottle*

While it's great that someone's finally managed to come up with a plant-based plastic that avoids all the environmental damage of the oxy-degradable plastics, by being recyclable instead of breaking down into methane, one of the primary problems of plant-based plastics still exists: it is taking arable land that could be used to grow food and turning it into consumer waste instead. Sure, it's recyclable, but remember when they taught us the three R's in nursery school? Recycling isn't actually a good option. Reduce and Reuse come first.

Would you be able to provide a link to the study that says there's less hydrocarbon usage for this plastic? Normally it's the other way around (about 20% MORE hydrocarbon going into plant-based plastics than if it was made directly from crude).

*Christine Steele*

I did not manage to find the specific study quoted from Imperial College, London and couldn't find any more details on the carbon emissions of the production process itself. I did however find an article on the biodegradability of packaging waste, which can be found here: <http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/pls/portallive/docs/1/33773706.PDF>, and is useful for some further reading on the technical aspects of producing biodegradable waste. Thank you for your thoughts Christine, as it is important to consider not only the benefits of a particular product, but any negative aspects hidden in the manufacture and disposal processes, especially in engineering.

That's it! That's all I've got! Go forth and read the rest of the paper!

(This issue was brought to you by ESSCO's pineapple and a whole lot of Tylenol...)

## THE IRON WARRIOR

The Newspaper of the University of Waterloo Engineering Society

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The Iron Warrior encourages submissions from students, faculty and members of the university community. Submissions should reflect the concerns and intellectual standards of the university in general. The author's name and phone number should be included.

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# Midnight Sun IX Goes to Texas!

## The Play-by-Play



**AMANDA LEDUC**  
2B MANAGEMENT

Over the period of 11 days from Friday May 29 to Monday June 8, the Midnight Sun 9 (MS9) team drove to Texas, competed in an international Formula Sun Grand Prix race and returned all the way back to Waterloo!

My sister, Quise, is a driver for MS9 and

went on this trip to be one of three drivers for the race. She and Cat (the other main driver) sent regular updates via text message to keep those of us back in Canada informed of the team's shenanigans and happenings. Below is a timeline of the messages I received from Cat and Quise (and a couple I sent back to complete the story) during their 11 day excursion to and from Texas which paints a vivid picture of what it's like to travel across multiple states with the UW Solar Car Team!



MS9:  
Fri May 29 7:32pm  
Hello All, and welcome to the play by play of Cat and Quise's trip to Texas! Stay tuned for updates on the journey and the race! Wish us luck!

MS9:  
Sat May 30 5:33pm  
Taking a rest stop in Effingham  
MS9:  
Sat May 30 7:34pm  
Dinner at Arby's 'n back on the road



MS9:  
Sat May 30 12:43pm  
Lunch Time:  
Cat and Quise go to White Castle. Team consensus: it was disgusting, never eat there again ... we were all in White Castly pain after eating.

MS9:  
Sat May 30 8:37am  
Good Morning All! We have made it through our first day of travel, survived the border check, and spent the night in Ann Arbor. The team is up and ready to hit the road...

MS9:  
Sun May 31 3:21am  
Sorry if this wakes anyone up. We are settling in for the night, and will hopefully have time to shower in the morning, because we all need one badly

three! Survived the sketchy motel and heading to waffle house!  
Amanda:  
Sun May 31 10:05am  
I'm loving the updates! Have fun, I miss you ladies ... And stay safe!

MS9:  
Sun May 31 10:13am  
Ohhh Mandy, we miss you too!! I have no idea what state were in ... But it's ok. And the boys won't let us drive the van so we've been sleeping for like three days because what else would you do in a van if you're not driving??

MS9:  
Sun May 31 12:58pm  
Pitstop in Arkansas  
MS9:  
Sun May 31 3:32pm  
We've officially made it to Texas! The weather is beautiful and the American flag is everywhere

MS9:  
Sun May 31 9:45am  
Good Morning and welcome to day



MS9:  
Sun May 31 5:46pm  
We've finally made it to the track!!!  
MS9:  
Sun May 31 11:20pm  
Registered today, chugged multiple bottles of water and weighed in, now working on the car



MS9:  
Tue June 2 10:30pm  
We are now heading back to the hotel for dinner 'n a good night's rest. The race starts bright 'n early tomorrow  
MS9:  
Wed June 3 7:50am  
Rise and shine! Heading to the track for final touch-ups and prerace procedures. We hit the track at 8

MS9:  
Tue June 2 10:26pm  
Passed all scrutineering today!!! Car is approved to race! :D Rear view camera is operational, Quise 'n I added our personal touches to the car, including decorating the seat with a team shirt, recoating the helmet with aesthetically pleasing appearance, and mounting a Canadian flag on a 3 foot long pole on top of the trailer

MS9:  
Mon June 1 2:09pm  
Disclaimer: This message is 6 hours late ... Good Morning! Heading out to the track after a long night working on the car. I must say I could to without the junebugs...

MS9:  
Mon June 1 5:55pm  
Its ridiculously hot, been practicing escapes, and Quise jumped the car ... The team hasn't killed her yet ... So far so good on scrutineering

MS9:  
Wed June 3 4:56pm  
The race is going well. We had a bit of a hold-up, driver error, no major damage to the car. Pitted for an hour 'n a half, sped through dynamics, back on the track 16 laps behind, one hour later caught up to 5 laps behind currently in 3rd place.

Amanda:  
Wed June 3 4:59pm  
Who was in the car during the hold-up? Is Quise okay?  
MS9:  
Wed June 3 5:07pm  
No worries, Quise and I were in the stands when it happened. The other

MS9:  
Tue June 2 6:10pm  
Quise and I beat the 10sec minimum time for emergency escapes today! Yay! :D We are now officially allowed to drive on the track! And just in time because a massive storm just rolled in ... Packing up the car cuz we're pretty sure it's a tornado. Jks, maybe not but let's just say we're hiding in the back-seat 'n not getting out.

MS9:  
Tue June 2 10:22am  
Bit of a late start today. Heading to the track for more scrutineering, dynamics testing and track practice

pit stops! We're both exhausted but still kickin'  
MS9:  
Sun June 7 7:56pm  
Hey Mandy, we're going to be getting in at two or three or later in the morning. I'll call you when I get closer to Canada.  
MS9:  
Mon Jun 8 5:27am  
Hey woman. You awake? Answer your phone!

sitting here sending this msg as the rest of the team is packing up our car and its many accessories! We finished the race in style today as our car was towed across the finish line behind a pickup truck!! Even though our battery died twenty minutes before the race ended, we still got fourth and it was a close ass fourth! Once the race was done our team placed first in the pit crew contest which was really no shock because we took so damn many

driver's just shaken up, everyone is fine, Quise is driving now 'n doing awesome! Passing cars left right 'n center ... But mostly left :P

MS9:  
Thu June 4 8:03am  
Good Morning! It's the 2nd day of the race, I'm awake, ready to go 'n eating breakfast. 'n besides the few who went to charge the battery, everyone else is still asleep! Hmm...  
MS9:  
Fri June 5 9:22am  
Good morning people! Today is the last day of racing and we started the race in third place because we had some battery power problems and we

pulled our car off the track one hour early to charge. We were at the track at something like 6am this morning and everyone else is really tired!  
MS9:  
Fri June 5 1:50pm  
We are currently neck and neck for 2nd place, we're keeping up a decent pace while trying to conserve power, at the end of the day the plan is to run several hot laps to blow past and snag 2nd place  
MS9:  
Fri June 5 10:16pm  
Good evening people ... we're just





## 11th Annual Quebec-Ontario CSCHE Biotech Conference

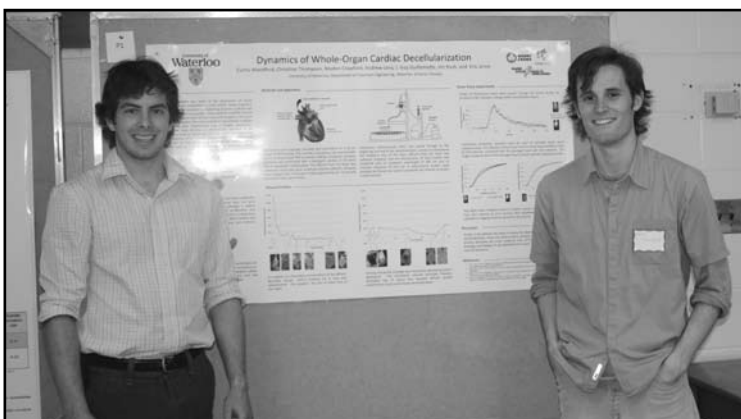
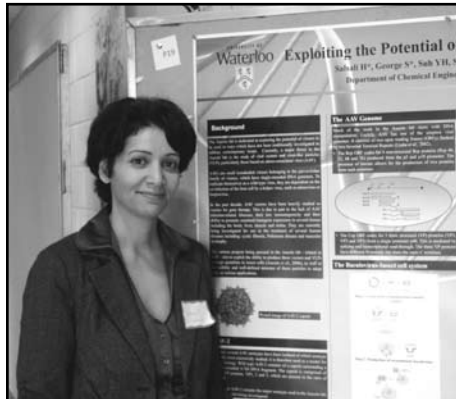


**MICHELLE CROAL**  
3A CHEMICAL

cancer medications from plants. This event was an interesting showcase of the developments in the biotech industry, and what's going on in the Chemical Department here at Waterloo.

On June 18 and 19, the University of Waterloo's Chemical Engineering Department hosted the 11th Annual CSCHE Biotechnology Conference at St. Jerome's. The schedule included oral and poster presentations by professors and graduate students from the Universities of McMaster, Waterloo, and Sherbrooke, among others. In addition, John Rydell, Vice President of Operations of Natrix Separations attended on the Thursday as a keynote speaker. He discussed the development of his company, and their innovative designs for separation products in the biopharmaceutical industry.

At the poster session, grad students displayed the results of extensive research projects, with topics ranging from decellularization of heart tissue to the development of new



Graduate students Hanan Salsali (top), Curtis Woodford (left) and Bredon Crawford (right) present their research projects.

## New DC Doors- Finally!



### THE IRON WARRIOR NEWS BUREAU

The new DC doors are nearing completion, and aside from chain link fence they should be ready soon. The outer doors on the west side of the building seem to detect the inner ones moving and open again, so if IW could print in Flash, this photo would be animated...

## The Long Road to Convocation

### ERICA WAUGH CIVIL ENGINEERING 2009

In the past several months, I have read a few articles written by graduating students describing their likes/dislikes of their time here at UW. It is only now, after convocation weekend, that I feel I can truly express how I feel about the time I spent within the walls of UW.

The weekend of June 13th played host to the annual convocation of UW Engineering graduates. I had the very fortunate privilege of giving the valedictory address to the morning group of students. It was about 3 months ago, when I was first writing my speech, that I found myself reviewing my time at UW. I hummed and hawed over what to write about and eventually settled on a rather sentimental message. Two weeks before I was to present I found myself once again reviewing my time at UW. I had received a lovely package in the mail with an invitation to the Chancellor's lunch and special-guest seats for my parents during the Convocation. At this point I was pretty impressed. Let me go back a few years...

I started university in 2003. I graduated university in 2009. I failed 1B. I got 25% in Cive 118. It sucked; it felt like

the end of the world. It wasn't, it was the best thing that could have happened. Yes, it took a lot of hard work to just muster up the courage to admit that I had failed; it took even more courage to tell people I didn't even know. I wrote a petition, I saw a counsellor, I saw a psychologist, I spoke to profs, I spoke to admin, I spoke to everyone. My ultimate goal was to be readmitted into engineering but in the Civil program (I was originally in Environmental), but still repeating 1B. Eventually, after sending what felt like thousands of emails, I got an email three months after failing welcoming me into the Civil Engineering program: lucky strike #1. Things started to look up. After all of the tears and struggles, the university seemingly forgave me for messing up. It wasn't easy but the people I dealt with genuinely wanted what they felt was best for me. In the event that I did not appear deserving of re-admittance I'm sure that would have been made clear. In my experience, the staff that deals with failures really does care about your well-being. It may not seem like it as you keep writing emails and pestering them, but they do care.

So, I started in Civil, repeating 1B. I was fortunate enough to drop into the

## Canada's Medical Isotope Crisis



**ALEX GIROUX**  
4A MECHANICAL

### What are medical isotopes?

Medical isotopes are radioactive compounds that are used in nuclear medicine. They can either be used for diagnostic procedures such as PET scans, or in the treatment of diseases.

### Why are they so important?

Medical isotopes are used in nuclear medicine. Two well known components of nuclear medicine are medical imaging and cancer treatments. Isotopes in medical imaging allow doctors to get much better images of soft tissues and to detect disease in earlier stages. It is also relatively non-invasive. Early discovery means early treatment, which usually means a better prognosis. Isotopes are also used to treat cancers, as radioactive materials have been used to treat cancer since the 1950s.

### So where do we get them?

The majority of the world's medical isotopes come from the National Research Universal (NRU) Reactor at the Chalk River Laboratories in Chalk River, Ontario.

But why is not being able to get medical isotopes from Chalk River such a crisis?

The issue here is not just the lack of medical isotopes that are used for some fairly major diagnostic tests; it's also that there have been warning signs that such a crisis was imminent. The Chalk River reactor that actually produces the isotopes was first started in 1957. The Chalk River facility was originally shut down in 2007 for routine maintenance, but this shut-down was later extended. In 2008, other safety concerns were raised. On May 14th of 2009, the reactor was shut down due to a power failure and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) decided to keep the reactor shut down until the

necessary repairs could be completed. It's also an issue because Chalk River produces a significant portion of the world's medical isotopes, so a shortage in Canada could eventually effect other countries as well.

### What's the Canadian government doing about this?

The Minister for Natural Resources and the Minister of Health have announced the formation of a committee to examine options for alternate sources of medical isotopes. In addition, the Minister for Natural Resources has asked other countries that produce isotopes to assist. Obviously, neither of these is an ideal solution, as the committee will be releasing their results in the fall of this year and there are of course issues with transporting and importing/exporting radioactive materials.

In addition, McMaster University has started producing isotopes at their reactor.

### What do you think?

As I see it, there are two separate priorities: the first is to ensure that this crisis does not create a backlog of patients waiting for tests and treatments, which will only put more strain on a health care system where wait times are already an issue, and the second issue is to ensure that the Chalk River plant comes back in line safely. While the timeliness of repairs is certainly a key priority, it's still a nuclear reactor, and precautions must be taken. I'm sure there are other aspects that I haven't considered, but to me those are the two big ones.

### Am I going to glow green?

Not likely.

### Where can I get more information?

I recommend going straight to the source – the CNSC has a webpage with a list of events at the Chalk River facility. Check it out at <http://www.cnsccsn.gc.ca/eng/mycommunity/facilities/chalkriver/events/index.cfm>

The AECL has a similar site: [http://www.aecl.ca/NewsRoom/Community\\_Bulletins.htm](http://www.aecl.ca/NewsRoom/Community_Bulletins.htm)

most incredible class to pass through the CPH doors: lucky strike #2. I repeated my term and passed with a 67% average. That sucked, but it didn't matter. I had taken the first step towards recovery. 2A came and I finished it with a 61% average. That sucked even more. Eventually I got a bit better at being in school. The work never got easier; I just got better at managing it. Though even in 4B, those feelings of failing hadn't gone away. There was never a point at the end of a term where I felt confident in my ability to pass. I'm pretty sure that was intentional- I worked much harder as a result. You fail once and 'they' will forgive you and help you along. I have a feeling to fail a second time may not have been so easy. To those that made it through with more than one failed term, congratulations, you are heroes of this program.

So where does this all bring me? Last weekend, after being in school for 12 extra months, 2 extra work terms, 6 extra exams, and no PDEng (lucky strike #3) I graduated. I did not graduate with distinction, or on the Dean's honour list. I did however have the most wonderful opportunity to address all of my peers as their valedictorian. I went from a 52% failing term average to being the recipi-

ent of one of the most prestigious honours a graduate can receive. Now that I have fully graduated, I can look back and say that I am proud to say I went to the University of Waterloo. I was treated with such respect last weekend and met so many wonderful members of our school's administration. I experienced everything these other fourth years wrote about back in March but at the end of the day, none of that mattered. None of the mis-marked assignments or convenient disappearances of Profs had any effect on my opinion. I was given opportunities and second chances and may not have been considered at any other institution, for this I am grateful and these are the lessons that helped to build me into a successful graduate.

To every student who read those reviews and agreed, maybe you judged too quickly. In my opinion, I think judgment should be made once you have completed your time. You may not have feelings of gratitude and admiration but I hope you can still feel proud to have attended this school that I am so fond of. And to every student who may find themselves taking a second stab at first year, or any year, hang in there; it has the potential to get much better.



# Growing Enrolment Puts Strain on Student Services



**CAILIN HILLIER**  
2N GEOLOGICAL

Our campus is growing- we can see it going on everywhere. The number of high school applicants that the University of Waterloo receives is increasing annually. Since there are so many more high calibre students to choose from, the admissions averages for programs are also increasing. There are 6082 confirmed incoming students for the Fall 2009 term. Great, so the school is prestigious and expanding to new level of excellence. But what does that mean for the quality of life for the current and incoming students on campus? The services offered by the university are already overflowing and constantly busy, so with the influx of even more students more strain will inevitably be felt.

Some major services that specifically come to mind include Co-op Services, Counselling and Health Services, and Housing and Residences. All of the co-op students have faced the crunch to find a job. More and more students are applying for jobs and the competition for a single interview is steep. Many students have had to take volunteer positions in the absence of paid employment, the majority of them being first year students. With more first years than ever before coming onto campus, the unemployment rate will only intensify until the economy rebounds.

Counselling services on campus are no-

torious for having long wait times, with an average wait of approximately two weeks. In many cases, after two weeks the issue has either been resolved with the help of exterior assistance or worsened and caused damage to the student's school or work performance. This issue has been brought up many a time and I have yet to

hear of any progress. Health Services, although not as infamous for their business, is still under pressure. Waiting seems to be the name of the game here as well. Waiting on hold

to book an appointment, arriving early or on time to an appointment and waiting for an hour, waiting for emergency attention, always waiting.

Housing and residences on campus will certainly notice the increase in numbers. I am sure that those who lived in a triple room in REV will not forget their experience. Many upper year students are interested in living on campus each term and more and more are being turned away because of the large number of first year

students occupying rooms. How much longer is the university going to be able to guarantee residence for all of its incoming students? I know that my time in residence last year was unbelievably memorable. Meeting new people and being on campus was the perfect way to adjust to the university lifestyle for me. And I hope that all

first year students will be able to have that chance as well.

These are only a few main services that I considered, but there are a few more that I think would also noticeably be affected.

These include parking space, the libraries, the Office of Persons with Disabilities, the Registrar's Office and services in Needles Hall, and the increase in work for Plant Operations (and don't even get me started about the Engineering Computer Help Desk). I don't know when UW is planning on beefing up these services; all I do know is that the storm is approaching and fast.

Due to an increase in enrolment, it only makes sense that there would also be an increase in those deserving of scholar-

ships or in need of financial assistance. Will the percentage of students on campus that receive these funds decrease as a result? Is the money that we pay to the university for our tuition going to really benefit us before we graduate? Speculations are continually being raised at the University of Waterloo. It is admirable that the university is looking to advance and better future students. However, with all of the changes and new infrastructure currently in progress or planned, is the university still ensuring that its current students are happy? Many students feel that a few years back they chose a medium sized university that had the best interests of the students at heart. Now, with the campus torn apart and more and more animosity growing between the students and administration with each passing term, some have begun to rethink their opinion of the school.

Personally, I feel that the University of Waterloo is still the same great school that I chose two years ago. But I tend to look on the brighter side of things (even though it is interesting to note the amount of change that has taken place on campus over the past year or so). At this point, I am simply hoping that UW takes our concerns into consideration and improves their services to handle more students in an adequate fashion. And the sooner the better. For now though, I am looking forward to meeting even more excited and enthusiastic first years during the 2009 Frosh Week and to pass along some engineering spirit.



**Needles Hall and other services should brace for increased student numbers this coming fall.**

Michelle Croal

## A Story of an Engineering Student



**JOONHA SHIN**  
2B MANAGEMENT

In the early hours of January 26th, 2009, a young engineering student attending the University of McMaster promptly gets up from his bed and looks himself in the mirror while rubbing his heavy eyes. His reflection is of a tired young man, ready to take the midnight train going anywhere. He slowly gets dressed while thinking over this decision again and again. Is this the right thing to do? What of all the people he is leaving behind? What of all the friends he made in school? What of his family? Is he *really* ready to leave everything behind?

But he's running out of time, he doesn't have time to answer these questions. He puts on his backpack full of clothes and double check that he's

carrying his wallet. He picks up his cell phone and puts it in his pocket, a routine he's all too familiar with. He suddenly stops and takes the phone out. He gently lays it on the table next to his laptop and gradually walks away from it. Because wherever he's going, he won't need it.

Almost 5 months later, Jeff Renaud still hasn't returned. Evidence has shown that he withdrew cash from the ATM the day that he went missing. He was last seen buying a GO Train ticket going to Toronto. His worried friends and family have so far made incredible efforts to find Jeff, but with disappointing results.

When Jeff's friends realized that he was gone, police soon started investigating his whereabouts. During this process, they discovered that Jeff had been living a lie for roughly 8 months.

I first met Jeff in the summer of 2006. At the time, I was checking out universities in Ontario that were well known for their engineering programs. I had seriously considered going to McMaster instead of Waterloo because of their general first year engineering program, but in the end I decided to come to Waterloo for its renowned co-op program. To know more about McMaster Engineering, I decided to partake in their annual Engineering and Science Olympics. It was a program targeted for graduating high school students in order to introduce them to applications of engineering by having them participate in friendly competitions.

Being that it was 3 years ago, my memory is a bit hazy, but I am pretty sure that Jeff was not on my team. Therefore, I'm not sure exactly how we met each other,

but once we did, we talked for a while. As it turns out, Jeff and I had a common friend. Because we were on separate teams, we didn't have much opportunity

to talk but when we met during our free time, we spoke freely with each other and I felt comfortable talking with him. The program only lasted 3 days and 2 nights and soon it was over. I went back home and I never got to see Jeff again. Many months later, after we'd both gone our separate ways, he added me on Facebook. Sadly, we've never once messaged each other.

It must have been some time in last February or March; I was eating my toasted bagel with a medium double-double from Tim Horton's, reading the first few pages from Imprint (before I joined IW). It was then when I first heard of Jeff's story. It turns out that Jeff failed his second year of engineering. He did not apply to return to school the next year, and he hid this from everyone else.

Afterwards however, he picked up where he left off and continued his "studies" as if he was a third year engineering student. His act was almost perfect. He continued living with his roommates, he attended lectures, he studied and wrote tests for courses that he wasn't registered for. He had fooled everyone around him, including his best friends, classmates, roommates, families and teachers.

But Jeff must have known that eventually the curtains would have to fall, and his act would have to come to an end. Why he ran away, no one really knows. During the whole time, he didn't reach out to anyone about his situation. The night before he ran away, he had a nice dinner with his roommates. Jeff's friend said that they were worried he was spending more and more time in his room and less time socializing or interacting with others. They knew that something wasn't quite right with Jeff, but they just didn't know how wrong things were going for him.

I can't say that Jeff was a close friend of mine. At best, he was just someone I knew over a summer camp. I've went to quite a few summer camps when I was young; McMaster Engineering and Science Olympics was nothing exceptional. I did not have a life changing experience there, I wasn't impressed enough to go to McMaster and Jeff didn't end up being a good friend of mine. Nothing particularly special happened.

But what scares the hell out of me are the problems Jeff faced before he left. In my first two years at UW, I wasn't a good student, not even close. It's not that I was doing badly in school because I was unhappy, it's that I was unhappy because I was doing badly in school. I dreaded pretty much every lecture, assignment, lab

and exam. My standards dropped quickly. I went from averaging a high eighty to a high sixty and failing a couple assignments and quizzes was a weekly routine. In my second year, for the first time in my life, I was staring straight at the possibility of failing a term.

### **Just how many engineering students out there are happy with what they are doing and learning in university?**

Just how many engineering students out there are happy with what they are doing and learning in university? There are thousands of engineering students on our cam-

pus alone. There's bound to be at least one student that made the right choice of what they should be studying in post-secondary school based on their work ethics, personality, attitude and interests.

But just how many of those students make up the demographics of our engineering faculty?

I have great respect for all graduates of a post-secondary program. It's a proof of their endurance and determination to finish what they've started despite the obstacles they had to face, impossible walls they had to climb, and the barrage of psychological breakdowns they had to tough out.

But everyone has a limit, and as much as I respect those that made it to the finish line, I don't disrespect those that fell short. Some things just aren't right for you, and trying harder and harder would be same as beating the dead animal - only that dead animal is you.

Jeff, wherever you are, please call your mother; she's trying so hard to just contact you.

**UW Counselling Services**  
Needles Hall, Room 2080  
519-888-4567, ext. 32655



# ENGINEERING SOCIETY EXECUTIVE REPORTS

## Presidential Report



**SARAH SCHARF**  
PRESIDENT

Hi everyone. How are you? Wait, don't tell me. Tired, stressed, and going to do well on finals. Let me tell you, I know the feeling. The good news is that hell week is over (and the leftover midterms will be finished soon too). The bad news is there are still labs, assignments and projects left to take away from sleep time, but at least we will have a little more time for sleeping. I hope you all did well on your midterms, and are ready to get back into the swing of things. Tim and his tireless directors have a great line-up of events coming up, so we hope to see you out to some of those. I have attended a few meetings since last issue, so here is a bit about those and other updates.

**SFF:** The Sanford Fleming Foundation (SFF) is an organization dedicated to enriching engineering academics. As Engineering Society President I sit on their Board of Directors to bring students updates on SFF events and activities. This week is Waterloo's first ever Waterloo Engineering Competition, which is being run in collaboration with SFF and I strongly encourage everyone to attend to support our teams.

**CWG:** Co-op Working Group (CWG) is a committee consisting of representatives from Co-op, the Faculty and Engineering students. Vice President, Academics is one of our student reps, but unfortunately this meeting conflicted with his first midterm and I attended on his behalf. Two major discussions took place during this meeting. The first one was regarding consistency of work report marking, and investigating what students are struggling with the most in creating a quality technical report. This

group is aware that there are issues in both writing and marking of reports, and will be looking into the best way to improve them. The second topic is the existence of the "Complementary Work Term". This name is one being used to describe a job that is not technical in nature but still valuable to an engineering education. Whether or not this classification is used and what the criteria and regulations surrounding it would be are still under discussion. For further discussion please speak to David Liu, Vice President, Education.

**POETS:** The furniture is finally here, and it looks great. Thank you to Mary for bugging Central Stores about getting it to us. We are still unable to use the pool table, but a creative solution to the issue of safety is in the works. We will keep you posted on the details as they are finalized.



Micheal Seliske

**Mutant Ninja Exec Battle it out at EngSoc Meeting #3**

## VP Education Report



**DAVID LIU**  
VP-EDUCATION

Hey A-soc,

Hope everyone's midterms and job hunting is going well. If you are looking for co-op interviews, there will be 2 more resume critique sessions that you may want to attend. In terms of our education, there are few updates:

Larry Smith has given us an insightful talk yet again about private companies and how these companies offer competitive edge to the UW co-op students. On this note, Engsoc will host 3rd and final guest speaker this term on **July 2nd at 5:00pm** at RCH-301. Engsoc have invited Andy Thibodeau, Impact Presenter to give us a motivational talk about our

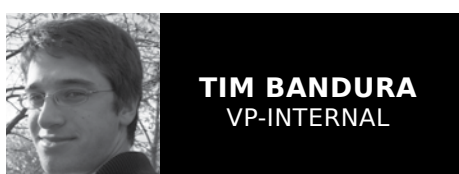
student life. He is professional inspiration speaker who travels around North America to speak at various occasions and venues. So be there!

A final note is Student Debt Load Survey. This survey is intended to collect data on the financial status of UW Engineering students for Dean of Engineering. This information is valuable for future planning of UW engineering programs and the Engineering Vision 2010 expansion plan. The survey will be conducted by your academic reps in next couple of weeks.

The PDEng program is making some changes. Three high profile external reviews - 2 deans and the head of PEO - will be visiting UW campus on July 7th and 8th to conduct a comprehensive review of PDEng program. They will be looking for students' feedbacks and it is expected that they will provide recommendations and suggestions to improve the current PDEng. On another note, PDEng 57, the PDEng 55 equivalent, in-class course will not be offered again. PDEng 55 was originally designed to target graduating students who need the credit to graduate on time. However, after lengthy discussion in the PDEng steering committee meeting, it was decided that PDEng 57 will not be offered again. Originally, PDEng 57 was only supposed to be one-time offering for the 2004 cohort and it will stay this way. Despite this decision, there will be opportunities made to help graduating students complete the PDEng requirement. Moreover, the decision was mutual agreement between the PDEng directors, student representatives and the Associate Dean.

That's it for now and good luck in second half of this summer term.

## VP Internal Report



**TIM BANDURA**  
VP-INTERNAL

Ah! It's been such a long time! Hope everyone's midterms went well! I think mine did...

Anyways, June 4th (such a long time ago it seems) was another exciting instalment of pick-up sports! Sport of the week: ULTIMATE FRISBEE! It was great fun and good exercise. Last week there was a short break due to the unfortunate reality of midterms. But! Athletics will resume on June 25th! YAY! I really hope to see you all out! We also had a great coffee house on June 4th! Unfortunately I arrived a little late and missed some acts, but the ones I saw were most incredible. Many thanks to the directors who ran coffee house and to those who performed in it! I do hope to see some of you perform again at TalEng on June 23rd!!!! Speaking of TalEng, this also just happened! It's our termly talent spectacle and showcases the terrific artistic, acrobatic, and assorted talents that many students are endowed with! Some pretty amazing acts and a visit by The TOOL made it

an enjoyable, epic, and exciting night at the Bomber!

A lot of amazing events are coming up! MOT is this FRIDAY, JUNE 26th! WAHOO! YAY! Drop by to celebrate the middle of term with everyone in engineering! Who knows who you might meet or see there?! SciSoc is running a trip to Grand Bend on the Saturday after MOT. Tickets are available in the SciSoc CnD under the link for \$7. Check out their event on Facebook by searching for "SciSoc goes to Grand Bend!"

JULY 1st is CANADA DAY!!!!

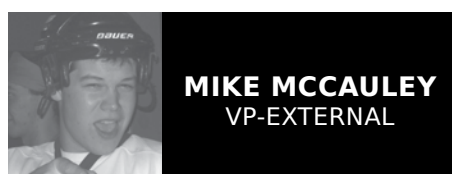
If you're in town, come out to Columbia Lake for full day of festivities! There will even be an amazing and awesome fireworks show! YAY! The Engineering Semi-Formal will be held on July 3rd! It will be AMAZING!

The theme is swing dancing, and there will be a guest performance by the Engineering Jazz Band, *With Respect to Time!* Swinging to the sound of a live band is something you simply can't miss! You don't need to have a date to come to semi either, just grab a group of friends for an amazing time! Tickets are on sale now! Go!!!!

Until next time, have fun, be awesome, and enjoy life!

-Tim

## VP External Report



**MIKE MCCAULEY**  
VP-EXTERNAL

Well I'm happy to say that another hell week has passed. I hope that midterms went well for you!! I have some exciting news this week so read on.

Registration for the WATERLOO ENGINEERING COMPETITION was outstanding and we have more teams registered to compete this term than ever before! The competition events are taking place throughout this week so stop by the website ([www.wec.uwaterloo.ca](http://www.wec.uwaterloo.ca)) for a complete schedule. Winners from this competition will qualify for the Ontario Engineering Competition (OEC) coming up this winter.

As some of you may have noticed this past weekend we had a number of fellow engineering students from across Ontario join us in Waterloo for the ESSCO AGM (Engineering Student Societies Council of Ontario Annual General

Meeting). The conference was a huge success and a big thank you goes out to the organizing committee for doing an amazing job throughout the weekend; Dave Halford, Jessica Friesen, Kristen Roberts, Stuart Pearson, Paul Fugere, as well as all of the other volunteers. Check out the article in this issue for full details on the weekend's events.

Lastly, the CFES (Canadian Federation of Engineering Students) is helping to host the Event of Education along with our European partners. The event is taking place at the end of this summer in the Czech Republic and is designed to bring together students and faculty from around the world to discuss the future of engineering education. Be sure to check the email that I sent out to the mailing list for more details on the event and how to register.

As always, keep it classy and feel free to come see me in the Orifice or email me ([asoc\\_vpext@engmail](mailto:asoc_vpext@engmail)) if you are interested in anything I've mentioned.

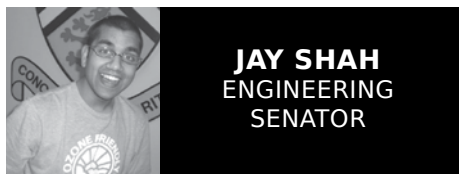
-Mike :)





# ENGINEERING SOCIETY EXECUTIVE REPORTS

## Senator's Report



**JAY SHAH**  
ENGINEERING  
SENATOR

The second Senate meeting of my term occurred on June 15th and the most important thing that happened was that your collective team of student senators demonstrated that we do indeed have a voice on campus.

There has been an angry buzz in the air regarding a new motion that was presented to open up Saturday as a regularly allowable time for scheduling midterms. (See the previous Imprint Issue for details) After receiving feedback from various parties, all the student senators reported back an essentially unanimous response against this change. While some in MME and now ECE may actually prefer opening Saturday (since it means 'hell' weeks of 6 days, therefore allowing for a one day break during the week) the overall reaction I got was against this motion.

I am proud to say that through a variety of channels of communication, we managed to garner the support of the rest of senate and the motion was defeated. (From where I was sitting I couldn't see anyone who voted for it – so it was defeated by a large margin) So congratulations to you for voicing your opinion (if you didn't, then now you know you should

next time). To me, the defeat of this motion is quite symbolic and should act as a wake-up call to many; it disproves the notion that we undergrads have no capacity to influence and work *with* the university administration.

Ok, so going back to this Saturday midterm motion – the need for such a motion came from the Registrar constant struggle to actually find *space* for us to write our midterms. This problem has been perpetuated by constantly high enrolment, a trend of professors giving more midterms (some courses now have 3 – 4), and the fact that new classroom space from all the new buildings has not quite been factored into the Registrar's equation yet.

I bring this to your attention because although the motion was defeated at this past Senate meeting, the issue that the motion stemmed from has not gone away. An active push for fewer midterms, standardized midterms, more classroom space in the new capital projects (i.e. the new buildings) will be needed to alleviate the issue. The Registrar's office does a tremendous amount of scheduling work for all of us and I am thankful for that. I do sympathize with their current scheduling struggle due to circumstances out of their control – however as an academic

institution, we need to be more creative in addressing the problem: Saturday midterms just don't cut it.

Another important note, **E6** is being developed at a rapid pace. The normal design process is that the Faculty works with an architect (and ideally with students) to come up with a building design. This design gets sent out to contractors who bid on it, and the best bid is chosen to go forward. This is not the process being followed for E6 (six). A sizable portion of the government funding acquired for this project has an 'expiry' date on it – so if that money isn't spent soon it gets taken away. To accommodate this condition, a faster design approach is being used.

The Faculty (Dean's Office) creates a list of things they want the building to have/do. Then they send this comprehensive list to an architect/contractor combo. The pair comes back with a building design and the price/time period, from which we chose. This means that the design isn't coming from a highly collaborative effort between an architect and the Faculty. A fellow Senator raised the point that "It looks like we're spending 2 weeks to plan for a building that will be here for 30 years, is it going to be any good?" I suppose the blunt answer to this is one

building with some flaws is better than no building at all (especially in consideration of funding). It came as a surprise to me that the tender has already been sent out to solicit bids - I'm not sure if there was any student input on this, but I will find out. At this point, I do not know what the Faculty has decided they want in that building. Due to zoning restrictions, it is my understanding that E6 will be primarily lab space, and there will be no classroom space in it.

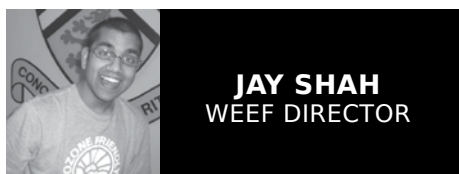
**FEDS Update:** Four of the five FEDS council seats for Engineering were acclaimed. Your freshly minted, brand new, shiny council members are Praveen Arichandran (parichan@engmail), Abhilash Jayakumar (a2jayaku@engmail), Anna Lafoyannis (amlafoyi@engmail), Mohamed Farid (mfarid@engmail). Your incumbent council rep is Anthony Iseyemi (aiseyemi@feds.ca). Feel free to contact them about FEDs related shenanigans. Coming down the FEDs pipe – there may be a referendum regarding Sound FM (CKMS) funding.

I'm going to save my usual fact bag from senate for the next IW issue, so check back for that =)! I welcome you to contact me about anything listed above or anything you think I should be pursuing on behalf of all engineering undergrads. I'd love to hear from you. (j4shah@engmail)

Let's keep being proactive!

**We need to be more creative in addressing the problem: Saturday midterms just don't cut it.**

## WEEF Report



**JAY SHAH**  
WEEF DIRECTOR

### Important Upcoming Dates:

First Round of Proposal Presentations: **June 30th, 5:30** (WEEF reps required to attend - dinner provided)

Second Round of Proposal Presentations: **July 2nd, 5:30** (WEEF reps required to attend - dinner provided)

Funding Council Meeting: **July 7th, 5:30** (WEEF Reps must attend – dinner provided)

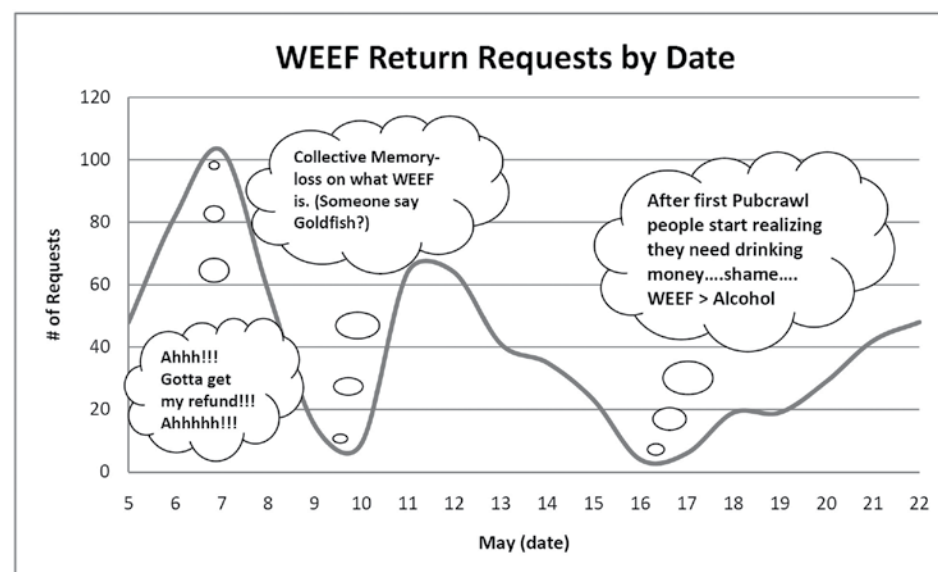
709 (seven-hundred-and-nine) students requested their WEEF Donation to be returned this term. This is compared to 685 in Fall 2008 (the last A-Soc term). I'm currently working on getting more in-depth statistics across years and pro-

grams which will be displayed in the next IW issue. A graph of the return requests over the request period can be seen at the right.

Visit the list of class reps at [www.weef.uwaterloo.ca/council.html](http://www.weef.uwaterloo.ca/council.html) to see if your class has a rep (to be updated very soon!). If your class does not have a rep, that means your class collectively gets zero input into where the ~\$85000 gets allocated this term, so it is in your best interest to get a rep. How can we know what your class/department needs/wants if you won't tell us or help us decide ;)?

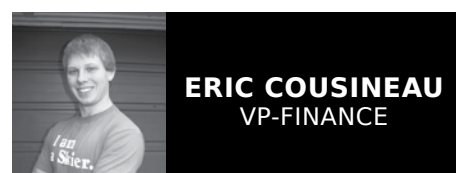
Don't forget, WEEF is designed to be for students by students – its 100% up to the council of students (Reps from each class) to decide where we put the money. WEEF is good =).

Questions, comments or suggestions are always welcome - email me at [weef@engmail](mailto:weef@engmail)



This graph is based on legitimate data

## VP Finance Report



**ERIC COUSINEAU**  
VP-FINANCE

Well it's been a busy two weeks, and I can finally relax after finishing hell week. I'll keep this short and sweet and just remind you guys of a couple things that are going on. First of all I want to remind you that Kickoff's is awesome! Okay now things to do with VPF.

So the biggest news of late has to do with the launch of the Novelties online store. It can be seen at <http://engsoc.uwaterloo.ca/novelties/catalog/>, and you can view any items, and place your orders from off campus :). Next thing is that I am running at design contest! Novelties needs a new sign, and I want YOU to design it. There is a \$50 gift certificate for the winner of the contest with the best design. The other thing is that

flask order forms are due **June 26th**, it's a Friday. Get them in NOW! For only \$35 you can get your own personalized engraved hip flask, with one line of 21 characters. Speaking of Novelties, we have a few new items in this week :). Dockers Leather Portfolios, hoodies, and hierarchy of life shot glasses.

Donations should have been submitted Monday, and today (Wednesday) we will be finalizing who gets which portion of \$2500. We've also decided on a colour printer for the Orifice, so we will now enable directors to have colour posters for events, YAY! Now that all of this is taken care of I can now begin to focus of pricing of new Event-A-Trons and hopefully see some progress on that front! Anywho, I just finished my fifth pint of milk during my celebration of the end of hell week, so I think I'll take this opportunity to tell you to **ORDER YOUR MILK FLASKS NOW!** Novelties at Lunch or Orifice 8:30 – 4:30. Talk to me anytime! Send me your comments, concerns or jokes.

## 2009 John Fisher Leadership Award

**DAVID LIU**  
VP EDUCATION

This year's John Fisher Leadership award is given to Erin Antcliffe, Mechatronics Engineering graduate, for her outstanding leadership contribution to Engineering faculty through the Engineering Society, Engineering Without Borders and Canadian Engineering Competition among others. She received her award at the Sanford Fleming Foundation's reception lunch at University Club on Saturday, June 13th after her convocation. The execu-



tive committee of the Foundation, both EngSoc presidents and Erin's parents were present.

The John Fisher Award for Leadership is presented to a student graduating from the undergraduate program who has shown outstanding leadership throughout his or her academic career in activities that relate to engineering education. Antcliffe's award citation describes her as "passionate, empathetic and committed to social justice." The Award was named in recognition of the contributions to the work of the Foundation by former Chair Dr. John Fisher.



# Iron Warrior Gets Around: Niagara Falls



**STUART PEARSON**  
2B CIVIL

With all this sunny summer weather, what's a poor engineering student to do? It's far too nice to stay inside, and if you're not from Southern Ontario, now is the best time of year to do some travelling and see what the region has to offer. Take a daytrip one weekend this summer and try something new! In our last issue we looked at Stratford, Ontario. This time it's time to head south to Niagara Falls.

Slightly less than two hours away from Waterloo, the Niagara region is full of things to do and see. There's a lot more going on than just 3000m<sup>3</sup> of water hurtling off a cliff every second.

Getting to Niagara Falls is pretty straightforward. If you're lucky enough to have a car, just drive down Highway 401 from Waterloo to Highway 6. Drive south along Highway 6 to the 403, and then take the

QEW until you get there. A good place to park is by the greenhouses just upstream from the Falls. It is cheaper than parking downtown and there are free public washrooms. If you don't have wheels, Coach Canada makes regular bus trips from Kitchener to Niagara Falls via Hamilton.

The first thing to see in Niagara Falls is obviously the Falls themselves. No matter how tacky its surroundings become, the sight of the river plunging into a gorge is still spectacular. Niagara Falls is also replete with engineering wonders. The location of the Falls makes them an ideal source for hydroelectric energy, and in fact much of the river's flow is diverted for that purpose. Numerous river control and geotechnical measures have been taken in recent years to slow the natural erosion processes that act on the Falls. Without these measures, the falls would eventually keep retreating further south – since the end of the last ice age, they have actually migrated over 11km.

Niagara Falls draws over 25 million tourists annually, and as a result, the city has

morphed into something of a tacky tourist oasis like Las Vegas. Clifton Hill is at the heart of the tourist area and is full of seedy museums and other attractions. I would however recommend the IMAX show (in a large pyramid-shaped building), as it gives an overview of the Falls' history, from early human settlements to the daredevils who plunged over the Falls in barrels.

It is even possible to get right up close to the Falls by taking the Maid of the Mist tour boat that goes right up to the falls. The change in perspective from seeing the Falls from beneath will really give you a new appreciation for their power.

Though the best time of year to visit Niagara Falls is during the summer, try planning a trip for the winter, too, as the area looks beautiful when it's covered in snow. Mist from the Falls condenses on trees and other surfaces nearby, forming a thick layer of ice on everything.

The best way to see Niagara Falls is to just explore by yourself. Struggling students beware as restaurants and stores right downtown often charge exorbitant prices

for their services. Now that midterms are over, take a weekend, grab a few friends, and head down to Niagara Falls for a great time!

See our next issue as we trek down to Niagara-on-the-Lake for wine, theatre, and a little history!



**Mist rising from Horseshoe Falls, Niagara.**

## Everybody Panic! LCBO on Possible Strike



**JON RADICE**  
3A CHEMICAL

The forecast today could be a lot drier than anticipated. That's because the LCBO could potentially have its doors closed starting June 24th, due to a strike motion brought up by the Ontario Provincial Services Employers Union (OPSEU). But if you find it odd that you haven't heard of this, it's not your own fault. There has been a media blackout on the ongoing negotiations for the past month, disallowing any news outlet to report on the progress of the talks until a decision is made. The blackout was declared on the 30th of May, when OPSEU voted overwhelmingly, 93% in favour, of striking if their demands are not met. Afterwards, with

all communications to the outside world formally cut, the union set week-long negotiation dates from the 1st to the 8th, and from the 15th until the planned strike day of the 24th, to try to work these things out. Interestingly enough, this seems to be the time that hurt us fine lovers of booze the most. LCBO makes most of their profits in the summer, especially around the long weekends, like the upcoming Canada Day holiday. By striking now, OPSEU is placing the LCBO in a more ready position to talk if they stand to lose more money.

OPSEU's main issue is that the union is unhappy with the rising number of part time employees being hired to work at the LCBO. Currently, approximately 60% of the LCBO workforce is working part time, with plans by the Ontario Government to convert as many positions to part time as possible. The union states that having people work part time would not constitute a living wage in Canada, only providing about \$20,800 in income for part time workers per year, an unlivable wage for any Canadian, and well below the poverty line of \$21,666 outlined by Statistics Canada in 2007. OPSEU wants to bring the LCBO back to a respectable job that can support the employee.

But to put on my editorial hat, I don't

really feel for OPSEU and the side of the union. Simply put, the LCBO is primarily composed of two different types of labourers; cashiers and restockers. These two jobs are no-skill, no-specialization jobs that anyone can technically perform if they have basic customer service skills and some work ethic. In any other state, be it the grocery store or a department store in the mall, these jobs are filled by first-job teenagers and often they receive much lower than the \$20,800 that the part time employees earn at the LCBO. Of course there are managers, and in bigger stores there are wine specialists and other more specialized jobs, but these jobs are not at a risk of becoming part time; they require a skill-set and some formal training that Little Johnny-Summer-Job can't offer. You can't expect a job that requires no real prerequisites to offer more than the absolute basic pay. If you

**Currently, approximately 60% of the LCBO workforce is working part time**

really have nothing to offer the company other than the fact that they need a body, then don't expect them to try their hardest to keep you. If a part-timer can easily replace the full-timer, then why would the employer pay more to keep the full-timer? It seems as though because the LCBO is run by the Government of Ontario, it is held to a higher regard at providing better wages for jobs that require less work. And it's unfortunate that the variety of low-skill jobs are moving to more and more part time work, but that is how we've tailored our system in the past few decades: make the business so efficient that it reduces the need for specialization as to not burden only a few people with the load. If anyone can run it, might as well have the person willing to work for the least amount of money to do it. That's just common business sense, and the public has to realize that paying an inflated amount for cashiers and stockboys would just lead to less of the LCBO's profits reaching the public in the form of tax revenue.

Hopefully we have avoided this strike, but if there's the case of a strike this week, I'll be clutching my 60 of whiskey, rocking it back and forth until we get the all clear to go back into our beloved liquor stores.

## Governor General Pushes for Arctic University



**AMRITA YASIN**  
3A CHEMICAL

The Governor-General of Canada, Michaëlle Jean's meal of raw seal heart at Rankin Inlet, Nunavut has made headlines across the country. Michaëlle Jean traveled to Nunavut in May 2009 to celebrate the province's 10-year anniversary.

The Governor General has stressed that Canada is at least 40 years behind other countries for delivering education to Northern Canada, being the only country that does not have a "University in the North" unlike Norway, Finland, Sweden and United States.

A university in the North will encourage the Inuit to pursue higher education close to home. This will help those who are discouraged to pursue professions such as medicine, law or engineering by the distance that separates them from southern universities. According to Jean, an Arctic university can help provide engineers needed for mining in the region. Moreover, industries such as mining can be called upon to fund for the building of a new school, which in the long-term will benefit them and encourage exploration in the North. "So all of Canada is now looking to the North and saying, 'It's important to defend our sovereignty in the North, it's important to deal with changes from climate change. The Northwest Passage will soon be a maritime highway, it's important to explore the abundant natural resources - gas, uranium, diamonds, gold'", says Jean. All in all, a northern university will contribute to development of northern communities and promote their participation in the development of the northern region.

The spark was ignited by the Jean's recent visit to Tromso, Norway. University of Tromso was established in 1969 and faced tremendous public resistance in the face of fear that it would not attract many students due to its remote location. Today the

town has become a key economical hub and a major supplier of skilled labour. The university, in addition to serving its region's educational needs, has 10% foreign enrolment.

The situation of Norway cannot however be mapped onto Nunavut. Tromso's surrounding region is 50% more populated than the entire Canadian Northern Territories. One of the major issues facing that region is the low high school graduation rate, a mere 25%, of which only some head south to attend university/college. Only 3% of the population aged between 15 and 64 holds a university degree, diploma or certificate.

Jean has offered some suggestions to counter the demographic obstacles. The university should be open to everyone, like the southern universities, opening up the possibility of foreign enrolment. Owing to the thin population density, the university should be set up as satellite campuses in different regions instead of one faculty campus. She also made reference to the University of Greenland in Nuuk offering bachelors and masters programs with only 120 students and 18 faculty members.

Jean has received a cold response from the government, which labelled a university in the Arctic as a 'non-priority'. She is expected to raise the issue with the Prime Minister soon, a rare break from the otherwise ceremonial role of Governor General. Although this idea is not new, Jean's efforts to establish an institution to attract non-aboriginal students and teachers to the North have brought it back on public agenda.



**Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean (far right), attended a hamlet council meeting in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut.**



## POINT VS. COUNTERPOINT

POINT

## Should Cell Phones be Allowed in Prisons?

COUNTERPOINT

AMRITA YASIN  
3A CHEMICAL

As all of you know cell phones are not allowed in prison by the current law. Controversial debates have started about the possibility of allowing cell phones in prisons. Most of you will think giving cell phones to prisoners is a horrendous crime in itself and should not be allowed at any cost. Prisoners are put in prison to be punished for breaking the laws of the society and they should not be allowed any means of remaining in contact with the society. I would like to present a slightly different opinion on this topic.

Prisoners are put in prison so that they can realize their mistakes and regret them. The ultimate goal of punishing criminals is to make them realize the crime that they have committed against the society and teach them the lesson that they should follow societal laws in order to remain a healthy part of this society. Isolating them completely from the outside world can cause psychological consequences, such as depression, which will need to be treated on the Crowns' expense. Prisoners may need to be sent to mental rehabilitation centres before they can be returned to the society. This again will be paid by the public taxes. We can avoid such scenarios by making sure the environment that we are providing to the prisoners does not make them forget the norms accepted by the society. Moreover, criminals should not be made to hate the legal institution. Providing them with cell phones may help to foster positive feelings in the criminals towards the society which takes care of their needs. Contact with family members may

ease feelings of isolation and separation on returning to normal society. In many cases, the costs associated with collect calls to family members from prisoners are significant, and cause a negative impact to those on the outside, waiting for the release of their family member. Cells phones can provide a more feasible alternative.

There is a wide variety of criminals in jails. People who have committed very serious to minor crimes, all are put together. Some of them do not deserve to be completely isolated from their society. It is completely fair not to allow criminals who have committed serious crimes such as murder, rape, or child molestation to have cell phones. On the other hand if cell phones are given to prisoners who have committed less serious crimes, they are more likely to regret their actions upon partial contact with the outside world. Listening to the happenings of the outside world is not the same as seeing them with your own eyes and being there. They will realize that they could have been a more integral part of their family matters had they not been in jail due to the crimes they committed.

I am not arguing for the loose use of cell phones in prison. Such use can be very well regulated by allowing only cell phones with basic features such as calling and texting and no multimedia features. Prisoners should only be allowed to talk on cell phones for a certain amount of time.

I personally do not see any problem with providing prisoners with cell phones. Allowing controlled use of cell phones can better address the purpose of punishing criminals for their criminal acts by letting them have limited contact with the world and encouraging them to be lead lawful lives to remain a healthy part of the society.

JOONHA SHIN  
2B MANAGEMENT

During the last Iron Warrior meeting, an interesting topic came up. According to our editor-in-chief, there's been some controversy over deciding whether or not inmates should be allowed to use cell phones for personal use in jail.

And I think that's just ridiculous.

There are quite a few characters you run into in prison: murderers, con artists, rapists, child molesters, robbers, thieves... the list goes on. The one thing that all these people have in common is that they broke a society's law, and are now in there to be punished. Let's first assume that all inmates have been fairly trialed and they are indeed guilty.

I admit that it's a naïve assumption. Our law system is not perfect. It's more than possible that an innocent person can be thrown in jail because their lawyer could not present their case effectively and competently. However, arguing about whether or not our trial system is good enough is beyond the scope of this topic and I won't discuss it further.

The whole point of being thrown in jail is that a member who broke the society's law is to be punished by being secluded away from the society. Much of their freedom is to be taken away in response to their crime, and because of this they are cut off from society. They are alone in this world.

If you give a cell phone to an inmate, it allows them to gain back a certain privilege that they lost when they committed the crime that landed them in jail: contact with the outside world.

Now, I don't know this for sure, but I've heard that inmates are allowed to read newspapers and watch TV to find out what's going on in the outside world. One possible argument one could come up with is this: "If they are allowed to read newspapers and watch TV, why shouldn't they be allowed to have a cell phone?"

The main difference between read newspaper and watching TV versus communicating with a human being over the

phone is that the connection is much more personal. In addition, there are certain things that you can do over the phone that cannot be done by reading newspaper and watching TVs. Talking on the phone is a two-way street; the inmate is able to take in information but also give out information. This becomes problematic since it gives inmates the power to plan out things such as escaping from jail or committing crimes outside while he/she is inside.

Let's say for example that a certain crime boss has been captured and he is sent to jail for life. If this person is given a cell phone, he would be able to communicate with the people that were working under him before he was sent to jail. Now the crime boss is able to give commands to his "goons" so that more criminal activities can occur outside of prison, while the puppet master is safely protected from society behind steel bars.

I know that this is an extreme case and that not all inmates in prison are "crime bosses". However, the possibility still exists, and like the one bad kid that ruins it for all rest of his class, because the scenario I mentioned above is more than just possible, it doesn't make sense to give all inmates access to cell phones.

There is another problem with allow inmates to have cell phones. Where will these cell phones come from? Will the prison provide cell phones for all inmates? Isn't that a big waste of our tax dollars? Currently, enough money is already spent towards inmates. How many people are willing to spending more of their tax money towards giving inmates cell phones?

What if we were to let inmates bring in cell phones they had before they were jailed? That doesn't work either. In jail, there are no status among inmates, no official status anyway. And it wouldn't be fair to allow inmates that had the privilege to own a cell phone in the past to enjoy the luxury of outside contact while others who weren't as fortunate to continue to suffer the punishment of seclusion from society.

Here's what I would propose however. If, in the future, studies have been found that giving cell phone access to inmates would actually benefit (if it does, I'm not saying that it will) our society, we must be prepared to face the consequences of it seriously going wrong. And in order to prevent these bad events from occurring, we should put strict constraints for cell phone use. For example, if there is reasonable suspicion that a certain inmate is planning some evil, recorded cell phone conversation should be allowed to be listened to by prison officers.

Currently though, I can't think of any good reasons to give inmates cell phones, but I'm open for thoughts.



## Do you text... do you iPod?

We are looking for volunteers to take part in a study on mobile hand held device use and any related health or comfort troubles experienced during their use. The study is being conducted by the Department of Kinesiology and the Institute for Work and Health.

As a participant in this study, you would be asked to fill out a 5-8 minute computer-administered confidential questionnaire.

If you would like to participate, please follow this link:

<http://ithumb.iwh.on.ca/>

If you wish more information about this study, please contact:

Sophia Berolo

Department of Kinesiology  
University of Waterloo

at

[sberolo@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:sberolo@uwaterloo.ca)

This study has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through, the Office of Research Ethics, University of Waterloo.

## The Iron Chef

## Mango Lassi

AMRITA YASIN  
3A CHEMICAL

## Ingredients:

- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup chopped mango (peeled and stone removed)
- 2 teaspoons sugar, to taste
- A dash of ground cardamom (optional)

## Directions:

Put mango, yogurt, milk, sugar and cardamom into a blender and blend for 2 minutes. This recipe makes about 2 cups and lassi can be kept refrigerated for up to 24 hours.

## Editor's Note:

*Point Vs. Counterpoint* is a feature meant to stimulate discussion on thought-provoking topics. The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the authors, *The Iron Warrior*, or the Engineering Society.



# Competing in the World

**PETER ROE**  
DIRECTOR OF EX-  
CHANGE PROGRAMS

The world welcomes Waterloo Engineers, so how can you make yourself even more competitive?

If you look at various university rankings, you will find that Waterloo is ranked among the top 50 Engineering universities in the world (QS, formerly known as the Times Higher rankings, 2008). We have exchange programs with eight of the top 14 Engineering schools in Asia (QS, 2009), ten of the top fifty world-wide Engineering schools (QS, 2008) and many of the world's top universities overall. Does this matter? It's nice for our pride to know that people from around the world are beginning to understand the quality of a University of Waterloo Engineering degree, but what does it say? How did we get there?

Everyone at Waterloo knows that our

university pioneered co-op education in Canada, and that UW is the largest and most extensive co-op university in the world. Few people remember that the early course of the Faculty of Engineering was set by Engineering administrators, leaders and professors with a common desire to excel in teaching and research. If you listen to Dean Sedra, and understand his planning process, the goal now is to be ranked at both the undergraduate (teaching) and graduate (research) levels as being in the top ten.

Co-op brought good students to Waterloo; the policy of hiring only the best to our Faculty ranks meant that we complement the quality of our students with programs that are challenging and generally well-taught. The overall result is a continuous enhancement of our international reputation.

Co-op is just one way to include "experiential education", or "learning through experience" in the programs for

creating new engineers. Another way is through enhancing the cultural and academic experience of a student through participation in more than one system. This is the purpose of our international exchange programs.

International exchange is a great addition to the curriculum in that it gives intensive exposure to other forms of teaching and learning in a variety of cultural and linguistic environments. Of course it is a voluntary enhancement. But all those engineering students who participate in exchange programs give themselves an advantage of experience and outlook that the others just don't get. The Faculty, the University, and the government of Ontario do their best to provide the opportunity, but it is the students themselves that must seize it. It is a privilege that is offered to all students who satisfy some very simple criteria, but far too few students avail themselves of the opportunity.

Those who participate in exchange learn and experience life in the global academic, engineering and cultural community in a way that simply can't be done otherwise. It can be life changing. It is invariably an experience to remember.

Students in first or second year should right now be selecting their destinations for exchange terms in 3A and/or 3B, and preparing for the coming experience. We have more than five dozen possible exchange universities in about two dozen countries. You can in many cases study in English at the same time as enhancing your linguistic skills in another language and experiencing the education system of some of the other first rate universities around the world. To get started, visit [www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~exchange](http://www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~exchange); there you will be able to find all the necessary information, and many reports and comments from returned exchange students.

## The Future Of Gaming Motion Invades Gaming



**JON MARTIN**  
OBI JON1138

*As an Xbox 360 owner and the sibling of a Wii owner, any perceived bias towards or against specific consoles is due to my lack of disposable income. If I could I would also buy a PS3, but as a student, that is not possible. Please forgive any disproportionate coverage; I do my best to cover issues that affect all consoles, without focusing on or neglecting individual systems.*

The close of the Electronics Entertainment Expo (E3) left many people disappointed with the number of confirmed rumours, (check out my article in the last IW for predictions) but it wasn't a complete write-off for new technology and surprises.

The major announcement from each of the major gaming manufacturers, Sony, Nintendo, and Microsoft, was some new form of motion control. Sony introduced a set of new controllers – kind of shaped like maracas that work with the PS3 to track the motion of the user. The tech demos Sony displayed at E3 showed that the system is capable of one-to-one tracking in real time, as well as the ability to map digital objects to the user's hand when displayed on the screen. The demonstrator was able to wave the controller around over his head, while on the screen it showed him waving around a cartoon sword, or a mace swinging around his head. The controllers were also used as both a gun and a bow and arrow to showcase their application to

first person shooter (FPS) games, not just mini-games.

Nintendo showed off their Wii MotionPlus peripheral, which is the only one of the three new motion systems to be available soon. The MotionPlus attaches to the bottom of the Wiimote, adding new sensors to enable more precise tracking of

add the peripheral to the Wiimotes they already own.

Microsoft showed that they are actually capable of keeping a secret for a while, at least partially. When the Xbox 360 Elite was announced, there had already been photo leaks on the internet and advertisements in store flyers. This time around



**Demonstrator shows the intuitive control of Project Natal**

motion. Instead of just flicking your wrist and having the on-screen character make an incredible lunge for the ball in tennis, you can actually control the swing through the angle of your swing and the speed that you move the controller. Wii MotionPlus will retail for about \$25, as a standalone purchase, or it comes bundled with Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2010. Nintendo will benefit from the fact that consumers don't have to buy a whole new set of controllers to use their system, instead they can just

they were able to keep Project Natal a relative secret, though now the response it has gotten is amazing. Project Natal uses new camera technology which enables it to determine the distance to a point, not just its colour, producing an image composed of "pixels with depth". The product demo videos showed a fighting game where the onscreen character recognized the player and challenged him to a fight, the player was then able to fight and dodge by just moving his body, no controller necessary.

Other demos showcased the systems facial and speech recognition system as well as its ability to precisely follow movement. For some interesting videos, search for Project Natal on Youtube.

As a quick aside from the motion detection topic, Sony announced a new version of the PSP called the PSPGo. The new portable does away with the UMD slot to use digital game downloads instead. It also features Bluetooth technology. Unfortunately Sony wasted an incredible opportunity by not making some crucial changes. The system is smaller than previous versions – meaning a decrease in screen size, the batter life is actually less than the last release (a return to previous battery longevity), and they still left out a second analog controller. As the system was not announced as the PSPGo, or marketed as the second generation in the Sony line, I am still holding out hope for Sony to actually listen to consumers and make a new PSP capable of competing with the Nintendo DSi.

This is by no means a synopsis of the events of E3, every one of the big three had brand new games to announce, tech to show off, and there were also a ton of top publishers as well as the independent crowd to show off new stuff. For up to date news about the world of gaming check out [www.n4g.com](http://www.n4g.com) (News4Gamers), a great site that aggregates gaming articles from across the internet with hourly updates (a bit obsessive in my opinion :). Have fun gaming, and always remember that the big three are continually developing new ways to change and add to the world of gaming.

# POETS

## MOVIE SCHEDULE

SHOWINGS BEGIN AT NOON

<b>Wednesday</b> <b>June 24</b> Clerks Mallrats Dogma	<b>Thursday</b> <b>June 25</b> Flight of the Concorde	<b>Friday</b> <b>June 26</b> Bartender's Choice	<b>Monday</b> <b>June 29</b> Indiana Jones Day	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>June 30</b> Firefly
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>July 1</b> Canada Day! (No School!)	<b>Thursday</b> <b>July 2</b> Freaks and Geeks	<b>Friday</b> <b>July 3</b> Bartender's Choice	<b>Monday</b> <b>July 7</b> Ghostbusters 1 Ghostbusters 2 Caddyshack	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>July 7</b> Undeclared



# Yarr! We be Stealin' Your Copyrights!

## Sweden Elects Pirate Party

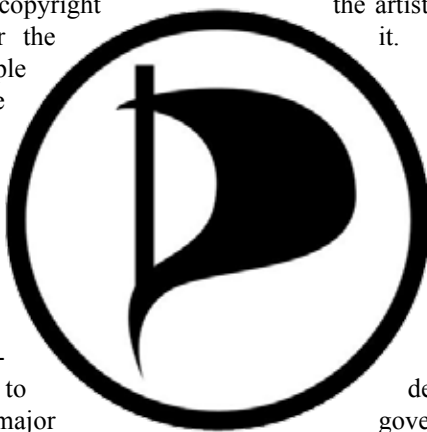


**MILENA  
BELOIA-CHERES**  
2B CIVIL

For many of you, downloading songs/music/movies is probably part of daily activities...although it's a crime. So in that sense, when you're watching your illegal copy of "Terminator Salvation", or listening to your new favourite album that's now on your computer for a grand total of \$0, you're criminals!

I tend to disagree, as it would be very intimidating going to school every day surrounded by repeat offenders, and this opinion is shared by one of Sweden's new top political parties: The Pirate Party. Founded in January 2006, the party has grown to be the third in Sweden by member count and has already found affiliations in a number of countries throughout the world. With more than 46000 members gained in less than 5 months, it is one of the fastest growing parties in the nation and has generated reactions on an international level.

The principles that the Pirate Party operates on are the following: reform of copyright law, an abolished patent system and respect of privacy. The reform of the copyright law is an expected reaction to the recent surge of copyright claims and accusations of copyright infringement all over the global media. A simple search on YouTube should convince you of that: most videos have either been removed, have altered the original content or have blatant advertisements to the iTunes page of the particular song, all due to copyright claims by major record labels. The Pirate Party thinks this is absurd. Quoting their original statement, "nobody needs to make money seventy years after he [or she] is dead. (...) If you haven't made your money back in the first one or two years, you never will". For this reason, they claim that copyright



monopoly of the creator for commercial use should be limited to five years after publication, while non-commercial copying and use should be free from the beginning. The party emphasizes that this would increase, rather than reduce, the value of the artistic creation by promoting it.

The abolishment of the patent system is another major concern which arose from the inaccessibility of modern inventions by the needing public due to patent pending. At the same time, the protection of privacy principle developed as a response to governments' trend towards increasing public surveillance. This would clearly jeopardize the right an individual's right to privacy, something which has become increasingly difficult to protect in today's digital society.

The Pirate Party's rising popularity throughout Europe made a strong state-

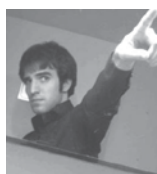
ment following the European Parliamentary elections held early this month, when the party gained 7.13% of the national votes, assuring its seat on the European Parliament. Due mostly to the support of the young voting population, the party will represent Europe's interests in protecting individuals from sharing culture and information.

In my personal opinion, this is a much-needed breakthrough for the world's online community. Agreeing with Christian Engstrom, the party's top candidate, "This is fantastic! This shows that there are a lot of people who think that personal integrity is important and that it matters that we deal with the Internet and the new information society in the right way".

If the amendments are made by ratifying the Lisbon Treaty, the Pirate Party could even gain two seats on the Parliament. Feel free to visit their website for updates or to join the Canadian Pirate Party, which can also be found on the site: <http://www.piratpartiet.se/international/english>. Until later, mates, keep yer fingers crossed an' yer torrents seeded!

# Smoke 'Em if You Got 'Em

## Bill C-15 passes The House



**JON RADICE**  
3A CHEMICAL

In a complete backwards step, the House of Commons, with both the Conservatives and the Liberals backing it, has passed Bill C-15 through the House earlier this month. This controversial bill states that among many tougher drug laws, mandatory jail sentences will be put into place for possession of illegal drugs, including marijuana. This is near identical to the bill that spawned the 'War on Drugs' in the United States, and brought about the problems associated with it.

Many of these stats have been said a hundred times before. The States has the largest prison population, and has about 1 in every 99 people jailed. But looking into the facts, you

start to see how their war on drugs has shot them in the foot, both financially and as a nation. Between the period 1990-2000, the number of drug possession prison offenses climbed up a staggering 59 percent. Compare that to the number of violent crimes incarcerations that fell by 7 percent in that period and you notice the system is just being clogged with harmless drug users. More alarmingly, drug offenders make up 54 percent of all federal prisoners in 2004, which is a rise of almost 30% since the War on Drugs began in the 80's. Think it's all big-money drug busts and dealers with kilos of coke? Nine out of ten arrests involving marijuana were possession charges only, no trafficking charge attached to it. Looking at some of these facts, it starts to get scary.

But does it actually help curb drug distribution at all? Well looking at the States as a good example, I'm pretty sure there still are a lot of drugs and dealers kicking around every city. Many

experts believe that the War on Drugs have made drug dealing more desirable. With tighter laws put on dealing, it makes it harder for the low-end dealer to sell drugs. So what happens? The added risk means the price goes up. But the cost to produce these drugs still remains the same. The drug producers, who usually get off scott-free are making more profit to the added risk. Tie that in with the fact that drug usage rates have not decreased, and in some cases increased, since the War on Drugs began, and that just means that the growers and wholesale sellers are clearing more and more money every year. And where are these criminals going? They are put in a place where drug running, corruption

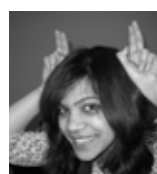
and hustling are even more prevalent. They could go in a small time criminal, and come out with more drug connections than when they went in, building a larger underground network that is harder to shut

down.

And even while these gangs are making more money, the country loses more and more money the farther they pursue it. The added cost to house these small-time crooks, to build more detention centers, to put more cops on the beat cracking down on them all add up. This cost is going to be offset by removing more money for other social programs, including rehabilitation and other agencies that are put in place to help people stop using drugs altogether. Right now possession of marijuana will most often get it taken away, and sometimes a fine will be attached to it. Looking at it farther away, our current system of fines instead of jailing is actually giving us money, where cracking down will just put the country deeper in the red. This can be seen in California, where the War on Drugs have caused the state to actually go broke, and now they are considering releasing a third of the prison population in California just to allevi-

# "I Smoke Because..."

## But That's Still Just an Excuse



**AMRITA YASIN**  
3A CHEMICAL

Have you ever been tired of studying inside a building and wished to take a walk outside for fresh air and enjoy the beauty of summer term? If yes, make sure the instinct of holding your breath whenever you encounter undesirable smells is handy. For as soon as you step out of DC, CPH or DWE your lungs will be flourished with nicotine, CO and ash - thanks to the smokers enjoying themselves. I was so impressed by their ability to casually create such a suffocating environment that I decided to ask a few of them the reason of this delightful habit and enlighten the rest of us who have deprived ourselves of such a treat.

Smoking apparently helps socialize more often. You know, you are smoking outside, so some other loner smoker will come and start smoking, that is, if they have their own pack or they might ask you for one - they are bound to ask you for a lighter though, no matter what, to form that intimate bond that exists between smokers. Do you want to know a better way to socialize? Join extracurricular activities and clubs (for example write for IW) and meet people who share your interests and ideas. You don't have to decrease your life expectancy to increase your circle of friends!

Another reason is peer-pressure and 'fitting in'. I often hear people say that they started smoking because their friends smoke and it's awkward to say no

every time a smoke is offered or that they don't buy cigarettes but will take one if it is offered. Let me see, I don't want to get rat poison for myself but if someone gets me one I'll take it - I refuse to buy that! If you can say no to meat if you are vegetarian or due to ethical or religious reasons you can say no to a cigarette, it's that easy! The stereotype exists among some people that smoking lets them fit in with the 'cool' and 'awesome' crowd. Come on people, what's so cool about inhaling cancer-sticks (which actually reach temperatures around 700 C). You might want to improvise on your definition of 'cool' to include healthier activities.

The most interesting one is that "I smoke because my life is so messed up, it's such a stress reliever". Or if you are really messed up, you will smoke to tell people that you are under a lot of tension and pressure. Have you ever thought smoking might give the impression that you are unable to deal with the problems in life and find the easy way out? Smoking will end your life....and your tensions consequently (hmmm maybe I shouldn't have put that one).

And then there are people who smoke to lose weight! Give me a break. Did you not know that PAC and CIF are free facilities? You can go there and work out as much as you want. And if you are saving time by just taking some puffs, is it worth the effort and time you will be spending later on to hide your wrinkled skin and yellowed teeth?

So next time you want to socialize or look cool find a humane activity that you have never tried before because remember you ain't got that long to live!

ate some of the huge cash sums being thrown at this problem. All of this just to try to stop marijuana.

The bill still has to pass the Senate before it can even be considered being put into law. There is a large opposition organization formation of professors, police officers, students and other citizens who see this as a wrong

step for Canada, and they have been letting the senators as well as the public know the apparent dangers of letting this law pass. Hopefully the government will show one of those brief flares of insight and shoot this law down before it has a chance to ruin a lot of innocent people's lives.



# Winology 102: Vineyard Touring and Wine Tasting



**AMANDA LEDUC**  
2B MANAGEMENT

In the previous Winology 102 article, I discussed how to select wines from the LCBO and restaurant menus. However, not all wine produced in Ontario can be found at the LCBO. In fact, many vineyards choose not to sell their wine in the LCBO.

So how does one go about sampling and purchasing wine not available in the LCBO? Easy - take a road trip to the nearby region of Niagara-On-The-Lake!

So what exactly is winery touring and how do you do it? You obtain a map showing the locations of the wineries and then you drive around (or alternatively take a tour bus) to the various wineries to sample and purchase wine if you desire!



Amanda LeDuc

**Reif Estates, one of many wineries in the Niagara region.**

I had never been to the Niagara region nor to a vineyard until 2 weekends ago when I travelled there with my boyfriend Steve for the purpose of winery touring and sampling.

Most of the wineries in the Niagara region are open to the public for sampling and touring. Many of the Ontario name brands you would recognize from the LCBO such as Jackson-Triggs and Inniskillin have huge facilities on their vineyards dedicated solely to the public for tasting and purchasing. There are also numerous other wineries I had never heard of that also have facilities for the public to sample and purchase their wine.

On our trip to Niagara, we avoided stopping at the wineries that were available in the LCBO. We could obtain and sample these wines anywhere in Ontario. Also, wineries that are available in the LCBO were by the far the largest and most commercial. They were too commercial and didn't have much character.

We stopped only at unique wineries that sold their product exclusively on the vineyard. We went to such wineries as Reif Estates, Joseph's Estates, Pilleteri and Frog Pond Farm to name a few. At each winery, there is a wine tasting bar that offers each visitor a few small (1 oz) free samples of their products. Some of the wineries charge for samples above a certain number; however, they waive this fee if you purchase something, so we didn't pay for a sample all day.

By the end of the day, I must have sampled about 15 different wines ranging from roses, whites, reds, late harvests and icewines.

I even managed to learn a few things about wine on my trip. I learned that late harvest does not necessarily mean a sweet wine. I had always associated late harvest wines to be from the second pressing of the grapes from icewine, and thereby a very sweet (although not as sweet as icewine) dessert type of wine. I also learned the process for making icewine and late harvest wine.

Furthermore, I learned that I enjoy sweet red wines. I had previously not believe there was a red wine available that I could truthfully say I enjoyed, but I found a fruity sweet red wine at Pilleteri that was a 5 on the sugar scale, and I must admit I quite enjoyed it. Perhaps I'll be able to drink a drier red wine someday...

Finally, I learned that organic wines aren't that great. The last winery we visited was called Frog Pond Farm Winery and was listed as an "organic winery". I insisted that we visit it because the name sounded so awesome and I had no idea what organic wine was. It was the smallest and most



Amanda LeDuc

**Amanda and Steve pose at Frog Pond Farm, an organic winery.**

humble winery we visited. It actually was a farm with chickens and roosters roaming outside of the wine tasting hut, which was no more than a 10' x 12' building with a long counter. I tried a Zinfandel (blush) and a Riesling (white). The

Zinfandel more closely resembled vinegar with a strong bitter after taste while the Riesling was refreshing but still with a bitter after taste. After asking the server why the wine was so bitter, he explained to us that when making organic wines, no sugar is added after fermentation. Recall that fermentation converts most of the sugars in the wine to alcohol; thus, their stronger wines (like the Zinfandel) tend to be bitter since little natural sugar is leftover. So my advice, avoid organic wines unless you don't mind the extreme bitterness and resemblance to vinegar.

I do recommend you try wine touring on your next trip this summer, considering the wineries are only a short 1.5 hour drive from Waterloo. If you need help planning, would like some pointers or are looking for someone to go with, don't hesitate to contact me!

Cheers, Amanda

## The Brew Man Group: Waterloo Wheat



**DAN ARMSTRONG**  
3A MECHANICAL  
**NEIL PARTRIDGE**  
3A CHEMICAL

In all realms of the world, there are trends to be found. Reality television, skinny jeans, comic book movies, emo music, Kanye sunglasses... you get the idea. In the realm of beer, the current trend is for every major brewery to release a wheat beer (or 'white' beer). There's Rickard's White, Keith's White, and there are reports that we're about to see Bud Light Wheat this fall. With Waterloo's own Brick Brewing having released their contribution this spring, it only seemed appropriate for us to take this opportunity to educate our fellow students on the world of wheat beers and provide some updates on our largest local brewery.

**Dan:** Located in Uptown Waterloo, Brick Brewing was started by Jim Brickman in 1984 and holds the title of Ontario's very first craft brewery. The first half of 2009 has been eventful for Brick and they seem to be making quite a few changes. Unfortunately, notable events include two lawsuits, and the new changes are quickly killing their integrity. It began over the winter term when I heard Jim Brickman had resigned. As long as I've been following them, Brick had not been a very unique or progressive brewery, but they had a few solid beers. My favourite was the J.R. Brickman Pilsner which won gold medals at the Ontario Brewing awards in 2006 and 2008. As soon as Jim was gone, they got rid of the Pilsner along with two other premium beers. Next I heard that they would be releasing Waterloo Wheat, a beer initially brewed in limited quantities in 2007 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the city of Waterloo. This

news kept my hopes up for Brick, but as you'll read below, these hopes were laid to rest after my first sip. It sadly seems as though Brick is abandoning its craft brewing roots and opting instead to promote their generic lager Red Baron and discount Laker line-up.

After the re-organization came the legal issues. In May, beer giant Labatt sued Brick Brewing, claiming that the label for Red Baron too closely resembled that of Labatt's Brava and that their (possibly illiterate) customers were becoming confused. A settlement has now been reached and Brick agreed to change its Red Baron label. Not long after this, Brick announced they were suing founder and former CEO Jim Brickman for doing what CEOs do: charging personal travel to the company and putting his wife on the payroll. Brick is reportedly seeking at least \$1 million in damages. Brick is indeed dealing with some tough times, but their poor decisions as of late are leaving me less sympathetic than I should be.

**Neil:** Waterloo Wheat models itself on a traditional *witbier*, a wheat ale originating in Belgium. "Witbieren", which literally translates to "white beer", presents itself in the glass as an unfiltered, cloudy liquid. As a big fan of *witbiers* (especially in summer), I appreciate their tendency to display rich yeast flavours with strong citrus and coriander notes. Good job Belgium, I can trust you to deliver good brew. Unfortunately, Waterloo Wheat does not live up to the *witbier* name. There exists a terrible adaptation of this classic style, called "American wheat ale". This term was coined by early North American craft brewers, and directly translates to "lame tasting experience". Seriously though, these beers are generally made with the same malt properties, although the end product is filtered and bland. The result is

a rather average looking yellow ale, and the citrus and spice notes that we know and love are simply gone. From what we tasted, I would sooner classify Waterloo Wheat under this inferior American style. This really isn't much of a surprise though, considering Brick has lost all their craft brewing spirit and settles on releasing generic brews only suitable for drinking games and moistening t-shirts (hopefully white).

**Dan's thoughts:** This beer pours with a nice little head, but it's sitting on top of a straw-yellow body that I might mistake for a pale lager if it weren't for the slight cloudiness. The smell is virtually non-existent, but there is a tiny bit of wheat and citrus there. The first sip is straight up disappointment. The flavour starts off with cheap malt, followed by a hint of wheat and orange peel, then an aftertaste consisting of nothing mixed with cheap malt. The distinctive spice and yeast flavours one expects from a good wheat beer simply are not there. This is pretty much sadness in a glass. I might still drink the occasional Waterloo Dark, but with the Pilsner gone and Waterloo Wheat coming up short, I think I'm done with Brick Brewing for a while. [1.5/5]

**Neil's thoughts:** Since Dan has already mentioned anything somewhat notable about the brew, all that's left to do is write insensitive slander (I like my job!). Evidently, there are almost no distinguishing traits to identify this as a *witbier*, or any variation of wheat beer. Upon first pour, this brew is about as appealing as midterms on a Saturday. As a means of comparison,

I'll use Keith's white. For those of you who have (thankfully) not wasted money on Keith's White, here's a quick synopsis: take Keith's India Pale Ale (which isn't even an India Pale Ale) and add a nasty and unrefined hint of something orange-like. Waterloo wheat is about the same, except they didn't even try to instill a hint of orange or coriander. I must ask myself, what's the point? Do yourself a favour and treat yourself to one of the beers below, but stay away from this brew for now. [1/5]

Not recommended for consumption. Instead, try: *Hoegaarden, Blanche de Chambly, Mill Street Belgian Wit*

*Props to hops // Dan and Neil*

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## The Fine Art of Napping

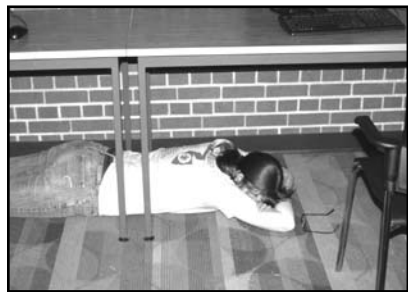


**ALEX GIROUX**  
4A MECHANICAL

Good friends, there comes a time in every school term where one's sleep schedule is disrupted by a relentless onslaught of exams, projects, assignments, and other bits and pieces of everyday life in engineering. Over the years I have spent a great deal of time napping, and it is time for me to pass my wisdom on to you. Here are three tips to optimize your naptime:

**1. Location, location, location** If you're going to nap on campus, there are good places to nap, bad places to nap, and places where you should not even consider napping. Yes, if you are desperate, you can indeed take a nap under the tables in the Wedge Lab. However, I do not recommend it. I also do not recommend trying to sleep sitting upright in the chairs in most computer labs right before your fluids midterm. It's just not going to end well. Instead, I suggest you

find a couch in a reasonably quiet room somewhere. My recommendations for good napping locations: POETS during non-busy hours, the Iron Warrior office (Michelle lets me sleep there because I write articles. It's a fair trade.), and any study rooms or offices you have access. I don't, however, recommend sleeping on the WEEF office couch, which used to belong to the IW. Its vinyl, so if it's warm you have to peel your face off it when you wake up, and when I napped in there on a regular basis, it was always busy. Also, while napping outside in the sun may seem like a good idea, unless you either don't ever sunburn or are slathered



Michelle Croal

**Incorrect napping procedure**

in SPF Infinity... Probably not so great an idea. Plus, squirrels.

**2. Get comfortable.** Ideally, you'll have a nice comfortable couch, and a sleeping bag and a pillow stashed in a locker somewhere.

But, as we all know, the world isn't fair, and you'll be lucky if you have a jacket for a pillow. Make the best of what you have, and if you're really desperate for a pillow, a soft-cover paperback will do in a pinch. Still, stay away from sleeping on the floor of the lab. It will not end well. I also do not endorse sleeping in class, for two reasons: first, you will be sitting up and unless you are careful you will smack your head on the desk or end up with a stiff neck, and secondly, it's class. You should be learning! Learning.

**3. Set limits!** Counselling Services actually recommends not taking naps at all, since you will sleep better at night then, but you and I both know that that's not always possible. If you absolutely have to nap, keep it short and either set an alarm clock or get one of your classmates who has also spent way too long in the lab to wake you up at a set time. In



Michelle Croal

**Be sure to bring a cuddly friend**

my experience, setting a shorter nap time also means that you are much more likely to wake up at the appointed time – while deciding to lie down for an hour before making supper could mean that you end up making supper at, well, 1 am.

Finally, if there's no way that you can spare 30 minutes for a quick nap, there's always the CnD or Turnkey for coffee (Tip of the issue: Turnkey is always 24 hours. The 24 Hour Tim's in the SLC isn't really 24 hours, and Turnkey coffee is a lot stronger anyways. This is key when it is 2am and you have a major assignment due). However, naps don't make you bounce off the walls when you've had three of them, so I'd go for the nap first.

## A Fight to Conquer



**LEAH SICZKAS**  
1B ENVIRONMENTAL

We're hoping our torment will come to a close,  
Heads so full of knowledge it drips to our toes.

Soon memories are fleeting. Information fades out.  
But all classes trudge on past the protesting pout.

If thinking was quicksand and our heads were our feet,  
Upon midterm season, we'd be trapped in neck deep.

So we beckon motivation to lend us a hand.  
And it gladly assists, brushing off all that sand.

And we'll find when we battle the jungle today  
We'll remember that finals aren't that far away.

We'll be tough and keep fighting those three months ahead,  
And pray that the mud will not render us dead.

If we keep up our wits, and prepare, and don't fret,  
We can conquer this term with no trace of regret.

## Seven Stacks of Cards

**JOAN ANG**  
3A SYSTEMS DESIGN

I spend an unhealthy number of hours playing Solitaire to procrastinate. Solitaire is the bane of my existence.

My vision blurs, the black and white pixels on the screen blend into an unhealthy puddle of gray. It's 4 a.m. and my work report is due in five hours. I haven't started. I've spent the last three hours thinking about what to write while my subconscious has been stacking cards: Red on black, black on red, sorting out suites starting with the aces and finishing with the kings. Sometimes watching the cards bounce and unstack, other times skipping the animation and just starting a new game. Just one more game. One more game and I'll have a positive score, then I'll quit. I can't see, I

can't think straight. I don't care. I can't quit while I'm in the hole. Screw the report; I'm going to fail it anyway.

It's 6:31 when I finally break even. I spend the next two hours doing a half-assed job on my report, print it off without reading it over, run to hand it in and head to bed.

As soon as I close my eyes I'm greeted by the familiar green playing field: deck face down in the upper left hand corner, seven stacks of cards, the left most with one card face up – the seven of clubs – and the right most with six cards face down and the eight of hearts on top. As I dream, the seven of clubs is placed on the eight of heart, the king of diamonds is moved to the free space, the top card of the third pile is revealed to be the six of diamonds, red six to black seven...



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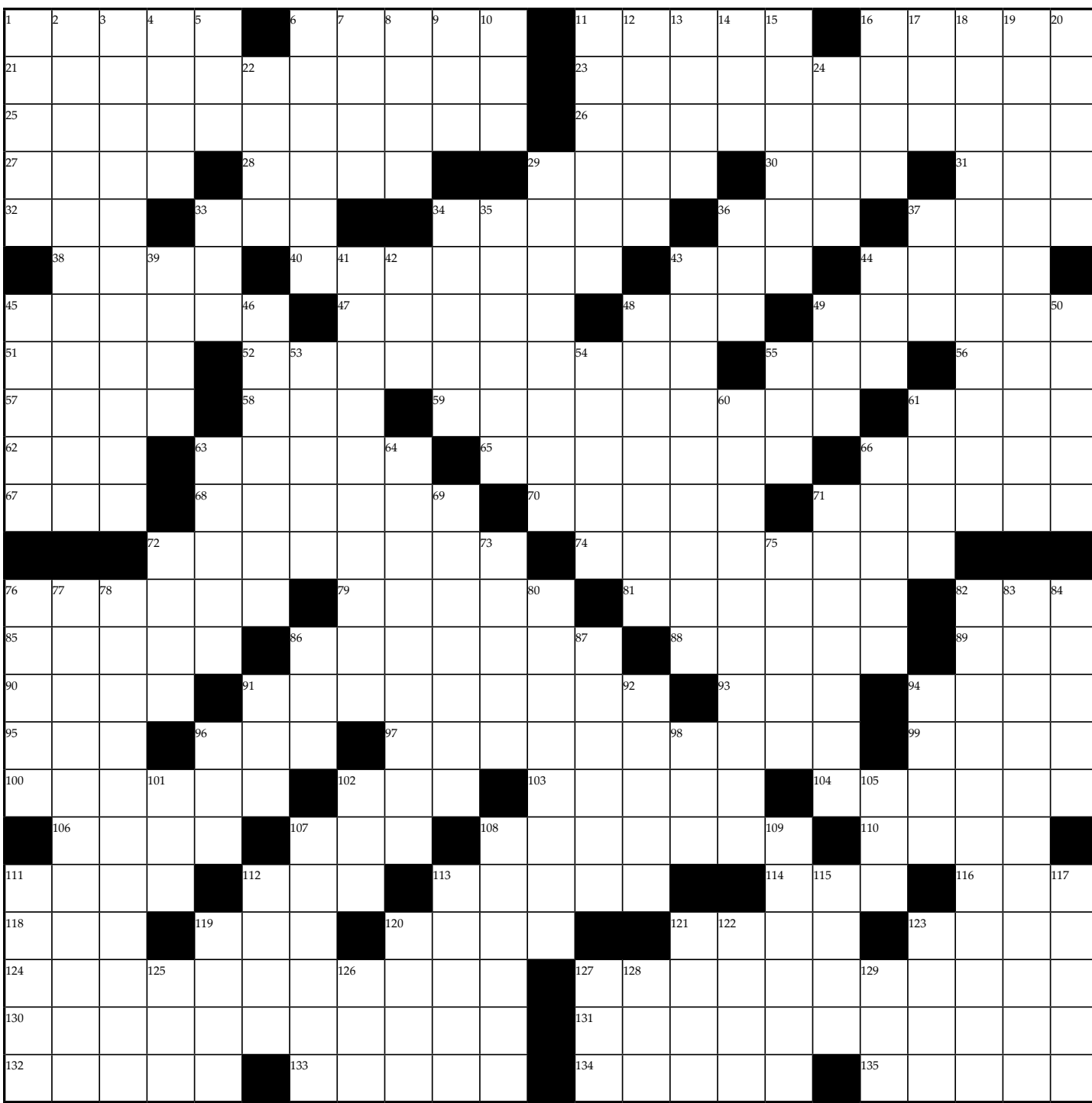
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# The Biggest Iron Crossword Ever

MATT CASSWELL  
2B CIVIL



## Down

1. A procedure promoting a desired result
2. To repeat something \_\_\_\_\_ again (3 words)
3. Something that does not exist
4. Head lice
5. Old English for 'to be mistaken'
6. Hair colour between brown and red
7. Preposition for 'up and on'
8. Street, boulevard, avenue, ...
9. 78% Nitrogen, 21% oxygen, 0.93% Argon, 0.038% Carbon Dioxide
10. Lysergic Acid Diethylamide
11. The world's only Jewish State
12. To have as an opinion (pl)
13. Other than something mentioned or implied
14. Towards the stern of a ship
15. Harmless prank (past tense)
16. Typical abbreviation for "arts and science"
17. Seeds of fruit
18. A round, flat, bright-coloured fish
19. To negotiate anew
20. A border or line where something begins or ends (pl)
22. Where you get your lunch meats from
24. City in Switzerland with a failed Winter Olympic bid for both the 2002 and 2006 Winter Olympics
29. The movement of a population of common ethnic identity, either by force or voluntarily
33. When two things aren't close
34. Consecutive items layered on top of one-another
35. Difficult or annoying (adjective)
36. Something fun to play with

## Across

1. 1000 kilograms
6. Oral is to mouth as \_\_\_\_ is to ear
11. Preferred
16. A cavern or cave
21. The proper term for the customary system in the US for measuring weights.
23. Having or showing confidence and poise
25. A retractable keel that pivots out of a slot in the hull of a sailboat.
26. Something that is confining someone can said to be this.
27. Institute for Resources, the Environment, and Sustainability (abbr)
28. Major boat and watersport equipment manufacturer. Also a city in southern Sweden
29. Female equivalent of "Sir" in knighthood
30. Japanese Carp
31. \_\_\_\_ wiz!
32. One of two things in life that are certain (single)
33. Type of evergreen tree
34. Something you get from a minor infection on your eye (pl)
36. X
37. Scrambled, Over Easy, and Poached are ways of cooking this.
38. One of three ships used by Christopher Columbus
40. Switzerland's stance in most international issues (esp. during WWI and WWII)
43. Rolls of grass to be laid down on lawns
44. The most popular cookie in the USA
45. To accumulate on a surface (rather than to be absorbed into a surface)
47. These were once thought to be the ultimate disease curer. They now take pictures of your bones (pl)
48. Lightly mischievous
49. Inadequate supply
51. Currency of Lesotho
52. Free from restraint, control, or power of another
55. Organ that detects sound
56. Fee, \_\_\_\_, Foe, Fum...
57. When something ends
58. Latin for something involving the number 10
59. To do something on purpose
61. Currency of Iran
62. Female chicken
63. Brazilian Aardvark
65. Car manufactured by Pontiac
66. A hereditary social class in Hinduism
67. The MET in New York City is one of the world's largest galleries of this.
68. An evaluation of a person, organization, system, process, project or product (pl)
70. An IKEA storage product, named after a town in Norway
71. Spa city founded by the Germans in western Germany
72. More than twisty, but not the twistiest
74. The art of blazoning arms and ruling on questions of rank or protocol.
76. What hangs above the door inside POETS
79. Toronto's main train station
81. A form of government, and the political and cultural norms it imposes on society
82. Swine (not the flu)
85. Opposite of behind
86. Scientific term for tonsils (single)
88. To lay aside
89. Rock that contains minerals
90. A small nail for putting posters on walls and for use in upholstery
91. Much loved
93. Official title of a knight
94. Non-SI unit for pressure, 1/760th of a standard atmosphere, equal to the fluid pressure exerted by 1 mm of Mercury
95. Uniform Resource Locator (abbr)
96. Women's undergarment
97. To give advance thought to something
99. Word (or sound) use to attract attention (in a presentation)
100. Causing irritation or annoyance
102. Unit of energy and mechanical work in the centimetre-gram-second system of units
103. In construction, parallel to the ground; perfectly flat
104. 2000 Film with Kirsten Dunst
106. The first biblical prophet to have his words recorded in a book.

- Also a road in the subdivision west of campus
107. Look up! What do you see? (go outside)
108. The proper term for the tall spiral domes on top of most mosques
110. Type of gel often put on sunburns
111. Opposite of leave
112. British/Irish/Scottish for "little"
113. In assessing a project, you need to look at all the \_\_\_\_ and benefits.
114. The time zone Waterloo is in
116. Original Video Animation (abbr)
118. A type of cereal grain in many cereals
119. Phase Alternating Line (abbr)
120. Having no slack (in a rope)
121. Your first thought after waking up, a bad test, or anything particularly depressing
123. Genghis \_\_\_\_, founder of the Mongol Empire
124. To express one's opinion without hesitation
127. Urban acrobatics
130. Aspects of any object or substance
131. Anything intended to save time, energy, or frustration
132. Irish playwright and poet
133. Final tally of points
134. Type of coniferous tree
135. German philosopher who was one of the creators of "German Idealism"



## Down Continued

37. Period of time
39. French for "black"
41. Measurement for a state of being exact
42. Small, usually ceramic container
43. Thinner, smaller, leaner, ...
44. Old English "slang" for 'over'
45. Hawaiian greeting
45. The band \_\_\_\_\_ Soundclash
48. Difficult or very unpleasant person or thing
49. Opposite of night
50. Daughter of Zeus
53. Medium Extended Air Defence System (abbr)
54. Overflowing with or as if with water
55. Type of deciduous tree
60. Alternative term for a Yard Sale
61. Risqué
63. The cry of a crow (past tense)
64. Plan for doing something
66. The name for "^^" in ASCII
69. Fishing technique named after fishermen who used to fish in the Seine in Paris
71. To regard with pleasure and approval (past tense)
72. Tropical hardwood tree, commonly used in wooden furniture
73. The building that chickens live in
75. Bounds or constraints
76. Past tense of "sit up"
77. Elaborate and fraudulent claims to skill
78. Process of reclaiming something
80. Someone who believes that values do not exist, and that they are falsely invented
82. The process of expressing disdain for
83. Something unrelated to a matter being considered
84. Full of germs
86. Exclamation of discovery
87. Not too shabby
91. What people do when they're extremely sad
92. The female version of a Hustla (pl.)
94. Ancient Chinese currency which was determined by the weight of silver
96. Public transportation vehicle
98. To, for, or by each; for every
101. Hebrew for "nation"
102. To supplement with great effort
105. To consume food
107. Pertaining to one's own (pl.)
108. Creamy dessert made with eggs and cream
109. Something that pulls things apart by force
111. Short form for Soap Operas
112. Shallow valley in a desert
113. To provide food or entertainment
115. To avoid deliberately
117. TV spin-off of Buffy the Vampire Slayer
119. To trim off an outside, excessive, or irregular part or something
120. A band of three
121. \_\_\_\_\_ it like Beckham
122. Latin-American slang term for a group member that has turned their back on the rest (in a gang)
123. Where your leg bends
125. American equivalent of measuring fuel economy in litres per 100 km.
126. Et cetera
127. Federal Communications Commission (abbr)
128. Return on Equity (abbr)
129. Nation Institute of Health (abbr)

## Review Based on the Trailer : Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen



**JON RADICE**  
3A CHEMICAL

Everyone, for some bizarre reason, seemed to love the first instalment of this 'Giant Robots Beat the Crap Outta Each Other' summer popcorn flick, and I can't seem to understand why. The first actual battle between the warring Autobots and Decepticons was not until an hour and fifteen minutes into the movie, and what were we watching before that? Why do I care about Shia Leouef as he tries to win the heart of the way-out of-his-league hotty that is Megan Fox? They aren't robots. They aren't beating the tar out of each other. It boils down to all the entertainment value of a lame made-for-TV romantic comedy, with the annoying chidings of an accompanying GM commercial interspersed between it. Needless to say, I wasn't really a huge fan of the first movie.

There are two official trailers out for this movie; one trailer has nothing but giant robots fighting each other- destroying buildings, climbing on top of pyramids and transforming in and out of their intended forms. Robots get

beaten up, humans run around feebly, and to be honest I was a little happy for it. This trailer has everything the Transformers trailer should have, and since it throws in a few scenes of Megan Fox looking scared, it seemed as though the second movie has remedied all the problems of the first, with simple formula of "more robots fighting each other".

And then there's the second trailer. Guess what they focus on for the first 50 seconds exclusively. Sam is going to college! Oh no, guess he can't have all his transformer buddies around when he's falling asleep in his physics lecture. Oh how will Megan Fox handle this long-distance relationship? I kid you not folks, for the first 50 seconds of this trailer it appears as though we have the long awaited mix between An Extremely Goofy Movie and Iron Giant, minus anything that made Iron Giant a great movie. This is the equivalent of watching Vin Diesel get his learner permit for a Fast and Furious prequel, entirely unnecessary and altogether boring when placed next to what you came to see.

In this trailer, it takes a minute and 44 seconds before we see a robot punch another robot. Besides the stupid college subplot it showed a lot of bad robots wrecking what seemed to be the most vulnerable parts of hu-

manity, the morning and evening commute. We see the baddies on highways, baddies on bridges (with a hilarious moment showing a Decepticon knocking over an American flag - making it glaringly obvious that Decepticons hate freedom) and baddies causing humans to scramble. Well, when you pit a giant sentient evil robot against a race of fleshy humans with non-sentient robots meant solely to get you home in time for dinner, the giant kill-bot will obviously come on top, ho hum. And how many times will it take until the human military will figure out that firing bullets at the bad guys really don't cut it against a 10-story tall robotic beast? I'd love to see the general in charge of that battalion. "What do you mean bullets didn't work? Are you sure you weren't using the BIG bullets? Did you try shooting them from the back? That sometimes works in videogames. We lost another few hundred men? Well salvage those guns, we need them for the next attack against that giant metal robot."

But in the end, it really doesn't matter what I say towards this movie. I have a suspicion that more people will see this movie than I can fathom, and almost everyone will say how amazing it is and how everyone needs to see it. I guess I just don't understand why.

## A Call for Old Traditions



**NEIL PARTRIDGE**  
3A CHEMICAL

Having recently crossed the (theoretical) halfway point of my undergraduate degree, I often catch myself looking back on my experiences to date. Call it nostalgia, but it seems like only a short while ago that I made that fateful decision on the choice of university. For myself, I believe it was truly a rational decision based on the professional reputation of the institution itself. However, a major consideration for potential students is the campus culture, which I personally feel Waterloo is disconnected from. Don't get me wrong, Waterloo is still a fun place to be in, but sometimes, the stu-

dent body is oblivious to its roots and past events which shape "campus culture".

You might ask, what makes a culture? Loosely defined, a culture is the collective of unique, historical traits adopted by a group. Therefore, consider the University of Waterloo as a culture, and then break it up into several subcultures. Within these subcultures, we can consider the summation of all our individual activities as the whole campus culture. Confused? Essentially, this means that we all have the capacity to improve the campus atmosphere, and consequently our reputation to high school students.

So, what do I suggest we can do? Generally, I believe that maintaining our historical traditions, and encouraging flux and spontaneity for new events is integral to the campus atmosphere. In engineer-

ing, we can draw upon a rich history full of many traditions. For example, the Tool is a symbol of the Faculty and Engineering Society, which by itself holds tradition, mystery and untold tales. There are many more examples, although the issue is that most popular traditions of the past were not maintained. Most of these scrapped events and traditions were often truly hilarious and inventive, if somewhat immature.

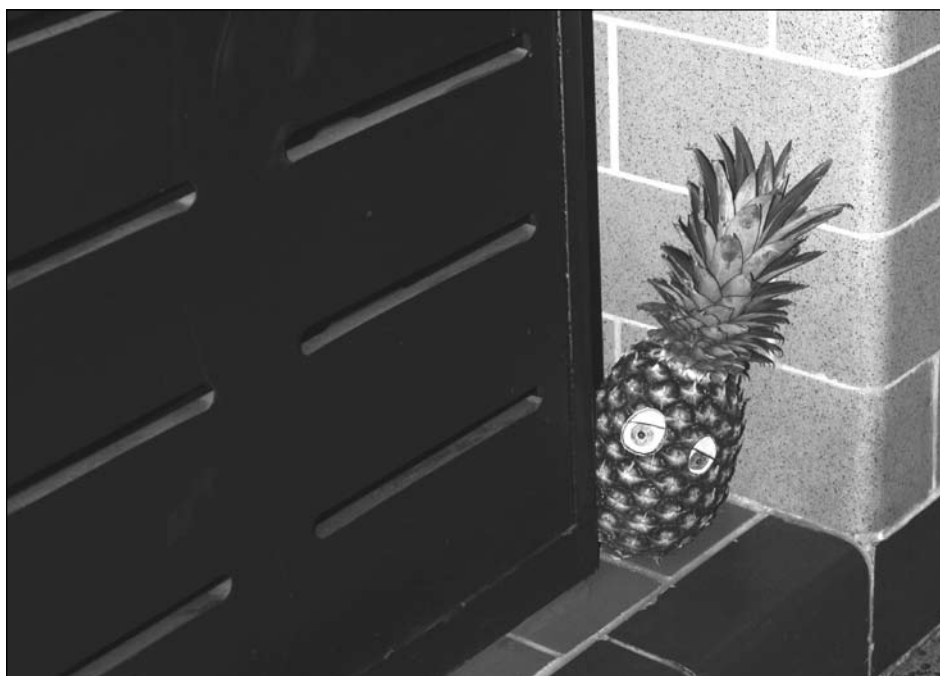
Some might argue that engineering is supposed to be a professional program, so should we endorse such activities? I believe that it's just a matter of opinion. The respectable traditions (e.g. co-op) can be considered just as important as the "immature" ones (e.g. Pubcrawl). After all, they all contribute to the campus culture, which serves as a basis of attracting new students. So, much like how retro can suddenly become fashionable, I believe that old traditions can be reintroduced and popularized. From reading old frosh week books from as early as the 80's, there were several events that stood out as being worthy of resurrection.

**Rafting:** Students since 1979 used their engineering skills and junk consisting of styrofoam to construct a nautical vessel. They would then race their sketchy boats across Columbia Lake, for the amusement of bystanders safely on shore.

**Ring Road Race:** Ring road was frequently used as a racetrack for bikers in the KW area. Volunteers typically participated for glory, and the subsequent party. There was even an event where beds were raced (with wheels) for extra laughs.

**Beer Brewing:** Students campus-wide apply bioprocess engineering to create delicious craft beers. This was an event fully endorsed by EngSoc, and run in tandem with the past EOT parties.

The aforementioned ideas are simply three I thought might succeed. In the past, they were certainly popular and supported by students. So, I believe that if other students feel the same way, we can organize a new installment to honor the past engineers of Waterloo. Keep open to new ideas and take a look at the traditions that paved the history of Waterloo University. You might find the next tradition which can contribute positively to the campus culture and shape the next generation of engineers.



You can win P\*\*5 points by winning the caption contest!

Submit your caption to [iwarrior@gmail.com](mailto:iwarrior@gmail.com)  
Be sure to put "Photo Caption Contest" as the subject,  
and include your name, program and term.

# COMMUNITY EDITORIAL

## Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down



Thumbs up to the free coffee in RCH basement before our midterm!



Thumbs Down to being in Wedge lab at 4am 3 days in a row.



Thumbs down to Huether for not letting us on their patio during pubcrawl...



Thumbs up to proper summer weather! FINALLY!



Thumbs down to Feds trip to Wonderland on a Friday. We have midterms!



Thumbs up to a wicked ES-SCO AGM!

## profQuotes

*"You can win a bet with this. Go bet someone in Arts your tuition that you can boil water with ice"*

-M. Collins, ME 250

*"Thanks to PDEng, students no longer complain about work reports."*  
(name withheld)

*"This is perhaps the world's simplest frame... good for hanging people, maybe?"*

-R. Gracie, CIVE 205

*"I had a Bourdon gauge, but our lab technician retired and locked all of his cabinets here"*

-M. Collins, ME 250

*"If it does blow up on you, it will implode. Which is slightly better than explode"*

-M. Collins ME 250

*"But this is a Mech Eng table so they probably didn't know the difference between a liquid and a gas."*

- B. Epling CHE 330

*"Any Greeks in the audience?"*

- M. Ioannidis CHE 322

*"I could go through the derivation, but you have to pay me extra"*

R. Pal, CHE 310

*"Soon we're going to put them [Netbooks] in Corn Flake boxes."*

- L. Smith, ECON 102

## Dating Rocks!

LEAH SICZKAR  
1B ENVIRONMENTAL



Leah Siczkar

DATING ROCKS.

## The Iron Sudoku

MATT CASSWELL  
2B CIVIL

9					5	7	4	
	5			8		6	2	
8			2					1
				3			9	7
		9				8		
1	3			6				
5					4			6
	6	2		5			1	
	1	4	3					5

# THE IRON INQUISITION

**"What would you do to prevent Saturday midterms in the future?"**

Michelle Croal, 3A Chemical



Forough Askari & Lisa Tong  
3A Chemical  
"Sleep in!"



Alex Giroux  
4A Mechanical  
"Graduate!"



Mark Dahmer, Alvin B & Leo Perez  
3A Mechanical  
"Go streaking!"



Andrea Murphy & Jessica Friesen  
4N Architecture  
3A Geological  
"Hide under a desk like in earthquakes"



Denis Pronin  
3A Mechanical  
"I'd rip out my own fingernails..."