University mourns loss of well-known student mentor

BY JASON WINDERS

The words of a grieving family resonated across campus this week as the university joined them in mourning the loss of a mother and her son.

“As a mother and son, they had a strong and undeniable bond. They were at the core of a very loving family. Together we shared many milestones and happy memories. Our family was, and still is, grounded in respect, love and compassion for one another,” wrote Sam Costa, husband and father of the two family members involved in the homicide.

On April 7, shortly before 11 a.m., York Regional Police were called to a Dunvegan Drive, Richmond Hill, residence where two people were found dead with “obvious signs of trauma.” The homicide unit later identified Jeffrey Costa, 22, and his mother Karen Costa, 52, as victims in an apparent domestic-related homicide. Jeffrey Costa served as a Soph in both Medway-Sydenham Hall and Social Science and was well-known by many on campus.

A post-mortem was scheduled for late last week. No additional findings had been released as of Wednesday morning.

In his statement, released by York Regional Police, Sam Costa explained how Jeffrey had struggled with mental health issues. The father said the “unspeakable tragedy” last week was the “result of a loving and protective mother trying to save her son from harming himself.”

Sam Costa wrote, “Over the last 20 years with all the mental-health fundraising efforts my family has been involved with, I never thought our lives would be so directly affected and altered by this illness. The void of their sudden loss is unexplainable.”

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Western brought buses of mourners to both the visitation and funeral in Richmond Hill. On Wednesday, the flag on University College was lowered in Costa’s honour.

Western is a campus, once again this academic year, mourning a Medway-Sydenham Hall student who died suddenly. On Oct. 11, Andrea Christidis, 18, a first-year Health Sciences student, was struck and killed by an impaired driver on campus. On Nov. 15, Daniel Craig Sandre, 21, a fourth-year Social Science student, died at his London residence.

The trauma caused by these sudden deaths will resonate well beyond the walls of just one residence, a Western expert said.

“When you read about all the residence has had to deal with in the past year, it is a reminder to all of us that there is a vicarious impact to trauma,” said Peter Jaffe, Academic Director for Western’s Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women and Children. “It is not just the individuals who suffer the tragedy directly; it is all those around the victim who are impacted deeply, as well. Some people will be more affected than others; some young people are going to be more vulnerable because they are already struggling.

“What it really speaks to is the importance of having supports in place and lots of opportunities for those young people to have a chance to debrief.”

While Jaffe has not been involved in this case, his internationally regarded expertise as an academic and a psychologist reaches across a broad spectrum of domestic violence issues, including domestic homicides.

Western has been reaching out constantly since...
University seeking community input into draft Indigenous Strategic Plan

By PAUL MAVIE

Western’s first ever Indigenous Strategic Plan seeks to remedy the underrep- resentation of Indigenous youth and students in Canada’s postsecondary education system, according to university officials. “Universities play an important role in supporting Indigenous communities because what happens in our communities is shaped by our universities,” said Dr. Tania Groves, professor and chair of the National Indigenous Student Support Program (NISSP) at the University of British Columbia. “We believe that by working together, we can create a culture of learning and scholarship that will benefit all Indigenous students.”

Groves emphasized the importance of community engagement and collaboration in the development of the strategic plan. “We need to work with Indigenous communities to understand their needs and priorities, and then develop strategies that address those needs,” she said.

Western has been working to increase the representation of Indigenous students on campus, and has established several initiatives to support Indigenous student success. These include the Indigenous Student Support Program, which provides academic and personal support services to Indigenous students, and the Indigenous Student Centre, which offers a space for Indigenous students to gather and connect with one another.

However, Groves acknowledged that there is still work to be done to ensure that Indigenous students have equal opportunities to succeed in postsecondary education. “We need to continue to listen to Indigenous students and communities, and work with them to develop strategies that will make postsecondary education more accessible and inclusive,” she said.

The Indigenous Strategic Plan will be developed over the next year, and will be informed by input from Indigenous communities, students, and faculty. Western is inviting everyone to provide feedback and suggestions for the plan, which will be finalized in 2021.
ITS remains diligent as illegal downloads increase

BY HEATHER HUGHES

The Internet has changed the way people consume media and intellectual property. Under the auspices of copyright law, universities have the right to use copyrighted materials for educational purposes, but the rise of online sharing and distribution of files has made it increasingly easier to access and distribute copyrighted content. Gardiner said. "Many researchers are finding it daunting to identify a copyright infringement, however it is sometimes possible to determine that a complaint is not valid before taking action.

The Copyright Modernization Act requires Internet service providers to take action upon receiving a notice of copyright infringement from a copyright owner. Under the Copyright Modernization Act, or left unfilled based on operational/enrolment requirements. All positions are open to permanent residents.

From Fall 2016 to Winter 2017, the University of Western Ontario will have a variety of part-time academic employment opportunities. These positions will be open to full-time, on-leave, and part-time employees. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply. Applicants should have full-time status and substantial experience in the field.

The position of Copyright Librarian is available at the University of Western Ontario. The librarian will be responsible for managing the university’s copyright resources and ensuring compliance with applicable legislation. The position is open to full-time employees. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply. Applicants should have a master’s degree in library science and substantial experience in the field.

The University of Western Ontario is seeking a Copyright Librarian to manage the university’s copyright resources and ensure compliance with applicable legislation. The position is open to full-time employees. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply. Applicants should have a master’s degree in library science and substantial experience in the field.

Creating a ‘good life’ not based on wanting more

BY BIPASHA BARRAT

They have argued market-based solutions are the key to addressing global economic and environmental problems. Governments are urged to create policies that encourage the use of renewable energy sources, reduce waste and pollution, and promote sustainable practices. The idea is to encourage individuals and businesses to make environmentally conscious choices, which will ultimately result in a better quality of life for everyone.
Avoiding the ‘slippery slope’ in crafting physician-assisted death legislation

By BY CORY GOLSTEIN

In 2015, the University of Toronto Joint Ethics of Medical Research Committee (JERCC) was asked to review the eligibility criteria for the Practice of Assisted Physician-Directed Death (PADDD) program, as per the recently enacted practice of physician-assisted death legislation in Canada. The task force, following the Supreme Court of Canada’s decision in Carter v. Canada (2015), decided that the eligibility criteria for physician-assisted death should be accessible to a non-expert. The task force further noted that an expert (such as a doctor) cannot undertake the role of medical decision-maker, as it is not within the purview of a doctor to ensure an expert decision.

The JERCC task force took note of the fact that the eligibility criteria for physician-assisted death should be understandable, accessible, and transparent. This task force was responsible for reviewing the eligibility criteria for physician-assisted death. The task force was able to identify the eligibility criteria, which were based on the concept of “medical judgments.” The eligibility criteria were based on the concept of “medical judgments” and were intended to be understandable, accessible, and transparent. The task force was able to identify the eligibility criteria, which were based on the concept of “medical judgments.” The eligibility criteria were based on the concept of “medical judgments” and were intended to be understandable, accessible, and transparent.

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By Emily Leighton

The many of her high school peers relaxed during March Break, 16-year-old Jessica Bennett was studying in a genetics lab.

The high school student in the Miller Science Centre at the Wolfville Academy, N.S. is one of about 500 students around the province who are genes researchers as part of the Gene Researchers for a Week program.

The program run by the Canadian Gene Cure Foundation, the genes researchers for a week program matches about 500 high school students across the province with 40 labs from across Canada, giving students an opportunity to work with researchers in a lab setting.

About 40 labs across Canada participate, giving students the opportunity to work with researchers in a lab setting.

While many of these students are interested in science, they are also passionate about being involved in research.

"I'm interested in finding out about the genetic causes for diseases, so the opportunity to learn in the lab environment was definitely worth the three-hour commute," Bennett explained.

The whole experience is also something her mother looks forward to.

"It's been such a positive experience for her and the family," Bennett's mother said.

The program also has helped the student improve her performance in the classroom.

"She's really enjoyed learning about human genetics," Bennett's teacher said.

"This whole experience is the perfect outreach activity for the students."}

EMILY LEIGHTON // SPECIAL TO WESTERN NEWS

Sarah Scott, 17, left, and Jessica Bennett, 16, recently worked as Gene Researchers for a Week in Dr. Robert Hegele's lab at Robarts Research Institute. A week-long program for students in Grades 11 and 12, Gene Researchers for a Week is organized by the Canadian Gene Cure Foundation.

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The 2016-17 Student Writer-in-Residence. Since the pro-
student will be helping other writers find their voice as
else’s shoes and I think part of having an academic
individual really requires you to get into someone
and mental-health conditions.

In her current novel, Wiebe has characters with physical
back to the artform. She now uses her academic studies
taking a minor in Creative Writing, has brought Wiebe
said. “I didn’t realize that when I didn’t have time for
didn’t realize how important creative writing was,” she
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really important for creativity and for being able to tell
interactions and how people behave. That is something
“With psychology, I study human nature and human
one brings something different to the table,” she said.

gram’s inception in 2013, Wiebe is the third non-Faculty
program’s inception in 2013, Wiebe is the third non-Faculty
of Arts & Humanities student to assume the role.

Looking to connect over creativity

BY HEATHER HUGHES

Victoria Wiebe is no stranger to putting pen to
paper to turn her creative thoughts into works
of poetry or young-adult fiction.

Adding to the resources at her disposal is the newly
announced Western Writer-in-Residence, Margaret
Christakos, an award-winning poet, fiction author, critic
and creative writing instructor. The accomplished author
has a collection of acclaimed poetry and one novel.
She is the recipient of the Pat Lowther Award twice and the
Ontario Trillium Book Award in 2012. Wiebe was the recipient of a major
Chalmers Arts Fellowship.

Wiebe hopes to partner with Western’s Writer-in-
Residence and Creative Writing faculty on events and workshops to support the creative writing community,

“Mostly, I dabble in novel writing and poetry. For

When Wiebe joined Western in first year, she was
enrolled in the Faculty of Science. Used to writing
freely at high school – she wrote the majority of her
current novel before attending university – she found
herself in a creative drought.

“Part of what makes creative writing unique is every-

When it comes to poetry, Wiebe is usually inspired
by a single line that flows to her organically, then she
is compelled to break from whatever she is things to
compose the rest.

Writing is a technical, easy-style format for her
courses has expanded her writing skills and has directly
affected her creative side.

Victoria Wiebe is no stranger to putting pen to
paper to turn her creative thoughts into works
of poetry or young-adult fiction.

Although Wiebe categorizes herself as a young-adult
fiction writer, she does not line her bookshelves with
only these titles.

“Read early, read widely; don’t subscribe yourself to
one particular genre,” she said. “I don’t need to read
only young-adult fiction in order to be a good young-
adult fiction writer.”

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appointed Western Writer-in-Residence, Margaret
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Ontario Trillium Book Award in 2012. Wiebe was the recipient of a major
Chalmers Arts Fellowship.

“We were all so busy with labs and getting work done. I
didn’t realize how important creative writing was,” she
said. “I didn’t realize how much I had become involved in
creating writing, until I really got into it, I really
realized how much I enjoyed it.”

Making the switch to her current program, including
taking a minor in Creative Writing, has brought Wiebe back to the artform. She now uses her academic studies as
a foundation for well-rounded characters in her current novel. Wiebe has characters with physical and
mental-health conditions.

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Company survives close shaves to thrive

BY PAUL MAINE

Gareth Everard came to Western with thoughts of running track and becoming a dentist. His career did not involve either of those careers.

He is, however, in the midst of fulfilling his startup company, Rockwell Razors, whose current Kickstarter campaign sits at more than $190,000 for its Model T razor. The crowdfunding campaign, which is almost month-long, has not been without its challenges.

To start, it is all because of a torn ligament.

“I was running track in first year and had a pretty significant injury and needed something to fill the void,” Everard said. “I found the entrepreneurship centre on campus, now Propel, and, ultimately, the discussion with entrepreneurs who shared their interest in innovation. I met the team, who graduated, who graduated the past year from Environmental Sciences. I don’t think I would have met the entrepreneurial web had it not been for the injury.”

Norden and those already behind the Razors agreed to combine their business with Everard to introduce their third razor, the Model T.

“Everyone was on board for that and we hit the ground running. That was late February of 2016. Both were birthing that first year at Western.”

The Razors is looking to obtain $12,000. They made their goal in less than 24 hours and finished the month-long campaign with nearly $170,000 from more than 2,300 backers.

“I was right in the middle of mid-terms, so it quickly became clear to us that our little idea, for a bit of a side project, during a school project, had turned into something of a full-time business undertaking,” Everard said. “As soon as you see at the lunch day of your business that you do $170,000 in 24 hours, you’re sort of looking at things differently.”

However, it was not always an unspoken and unannounced venture. The Razors was not launched quietly. It took thousands of units that were refurbished, refurbished parts and other new parts to get back into shipping. That became a moot point after Labatt secured national television, where there were reservations that the brewing industry was too top of its number.

“We had sales numbers, by store, in every store in Canada,” Everard said. “Inexpensive marketing program with major payback. We had some conversations with the CBC then; we had some conversations in the American League Championship Series. We had some conversations with the Blue Jays on Canada Day.”

McDougall recently addressed students in the Sports & Entertainment Marketing course at Ivey Business School.

“We had sales numbers, by store, in every store in Canada,” Everard said. “When Labatt secured national television, where there were reservations that the brewing industry was too top of its number.”

Trenton traded in its ancient culture for a new blue bell last fall as baseball captured the city’s imagination when 25-year-old Trenton, The Toronto Blue Jays played off one miraculous comeback after another, until they met the Kansas City Royals in the American League Championship Series. While the Blue Jays may have missed their playoff run, this year’s team is expected to start strong, built on a marketing strategy that had a bigPart of the reason the Razors was Don McDougall, who was the President of the Labatt Brewing Company between 1974-79.

In the early 1970s, Labatt Breweries was one of three major breweries in Canada. When McDougall began his presidency in 1973, Labatt was considered the weak potato in Molson’s and Carling.

“By the end of the 1970s, the analysis, the brewing industry was top of its number.”

“We had sales numbers, by store, in every store in Ontario to be on by noon on Monday for the previous week, down to the second decimal place,” McDougall said. “For, Elitch Gardens was from 35.67 to 34.29 in 20 days. We had a hell of a drive.”

Everard’s latest razor will begin soon, followed by extensive testing, with the first round of production beginning by the end of summer. The new razors will begin funding by mid-February 2017.

“There were opportunities afforded to me, by the Canadian Football League, by the university, by the university, by the university,” Everard said. “I would not have received it all without being so thankful. I’m happy in the opportunity to develop my skills a bit more and a degree of drive and learning to carry over even though things aren’t coming up rose and the going is tough.”

Recent Western graduate Gareth Everard learned some tough — yet valuable — lessons early in his entrepreneurial career. However, he has not stopped him from forging ahead with his latest Kickstarter campaign.

For Exam Period hours of operation, please visit www.hospitalityservices.uwo.ca

www.hospitalityservices.uwo.ca
Indigenous Convocation celebrates students and their achievements

Indigenous Services hosted its third annual Graduation Ceremony at the Western University Alumni Building on April 7. Though many of the students will be leaving London, this was a final chance to say goodbye and celebrate their success.

Following the ceremony, Western President Amit Chakma, along with Mi’kmaw Elders, held a blessing ceremony. Afterwards, the students were recognized by their schools and faculty members for their achievements. A total of 11 students were also congratulated on being named Merit Scholars.

The event followed a tradition where the students are welcomed to the ceremonies with a song by the Six Nations of the Grand River Rappin’s crew.

The students were then acknowledged on stage for their achievements, and were able to pick up their diplomas. Many of the students were seen posing for pictures with their families and friends.

The event was a success, and the students were happy to have their hard work recognized. It was a heartwarming evening, and a great way to end the year.
Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, stopped by Western last week to launch the new Postsecondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, which will provide up to $2 billion, over the next three years, for infrastructure projects at postsecondary institutions “to enhance and modernize research and commercialization facilities.” Federal sources will cover up to half of a project’s eligible costs, leveraging the remaining amount from non-federal partners. Bains also toured the Fraunhofer Project Centre for Composites Research at Western’s Advanced Manufacturing Park.