

# Coast to Coast

## Assault spooks Waterloo students

by Cori Ferguson  
**WATERLOO (ISIS)** — Rumours of sexual assaults have been running rampant across the Wilfrid Laurier University campus over the last few weeks.

At least one assault was confirmed. Third year psychology major Sarah Asmussen was attacked near the campus on October 23, as she was walking home from a local pub at approximately 1:30 a.m. She was grabbed from behind by an unidentified man, dragged into a parking lot behind a mall, and assaulted. She managed to strike her attacker in the genital area and escaped.

The attack has been classified by the Waterloo Regional Police as an assault, although Asmussen believes that her attacker's intent was rape.

Rumors of other attacks have spread around campus, but they have not been confirmed.

The Students' Union has asked WLU security to increase patrols on campus, and a Safety Walk for students going home after night classes was reinstated. This increased security will be continued indefinitely, said Chief of Security John Beal, who pointed out that the campus has "proved itself consistently safer" than the city over the years.

Students, however, are still worried.

"It's really scary, the concept that you're not safe on your own university campus," said first year student Sarah Welstead.

Third year psychology student Charlotte McRae says her biggest

concern is "the lack of publicity... there seems to be a concentrated effort by someone to cover it up. It concerns me that the students haven't been told until now that they need to be careful by anyone in an official capacity."

Safety and Equality Commissioner Anna Toth advises students to "be really careful, try to stick together, and, if anything happens, to remember that it's not their fault. That's the most important thing."

Asmussen is still worried about the safety of other students walking home at night. "I've been talking to as many people as I can," using her own experience as a warning, she said.

The man who attacked her is "still out there somewhere."

## College competition in USSR

by Andrei Nevedeyev

*This article is from an exchange between the University of Waterloo Imprint and Bauman College in Moscow.*

When the final exams are over and students go back home for their vacation, the hostel becomes filled with applicants. Although entrance exams begin simultaneously at Moscow's 75 colleges and two universities, I get the impression that most of the young people prefer our college: there are so many candidates and, outside the college, so many parents, who are even more anxious than their children.

Applicants to most Soviet colleges have to compete for admission. The limited number of vacancies is filled by those who score the most points on the entrance exams. Because some colleges have from two to 100 candidates per vacancy, these examinations become quite a trial for many.

The applicants come from Moscow and elsewhere. Muscovites have some advantages. There are far fewer places in student hostels than can accommodate the vast field of candidates, therefore for non-Muscovites the race is even more difficult, as they have to compete for a place in the hostel. Of course, a candidate from another town can rent an apartment and lift this limitation, but not everyone can afford it.

The admission board has a service which informs the candidates about the entrance exams,

the choice of subjects, and even the schedule of municipal transit and the hours of the local stores.

Most of the applicants attend the pre-exam consultations where the examination program is specified and typical assignments discussed. Every candidate prepares himself for the exams as he sees fit.

"How did you prepare for the exams?", I asked one young man.

"At our school, teachers in the subjects I've chosen weren't up to scratch, so I studied with a tutor," he replied.

It costs a lot to hire a tutor and not all parents can afford it.

"We attended evening classes in physics and mathematics here at the college, and we think our chances are pretty good," two boys joined in.

Evening classes at Bauman College have been given for many years by senior students, for free. They include lectures, seminars, discussions of home assignments, and tests and exams — in short, everything a future student will need.

A group of applicants stood at the wall examining the list of those who had got poor grades in mathematics and dropped out of the race. It was a list of numbers not names, to exclude patronage, and the numbers were handled by computers.

An official on duty came out into the corridor and announced that numbers 389 and 615 were

invited to commission No. 1, and numbers 601 and 245 — to commission No. 2. Away they went, and I walked out into the crowd of anxious parents.

After the exams I interviewed the lucky ones. "How did your parents take your choice?", I asked a young man in jeans.

"It was okay with them. They say I'm clever enough and don't interfere."

"When you chose this particular college did you know that it pays the highest grants in the Soviet Union to almost all students?", I asked a very pretty girl. "No, I didn't. It was a pleasant surprise for me."

"Do you think you'll benefit from knowing what's happening in similar colleges abroad?", I asked a young man.

"Undoubtedly. I'd like to know about the work of our foreign colleagues."

When I took the same interview last year I asked many students that very question. All of them were for broadening contacts.

Now their dreams are coming true. A group of students has recently left for West Germany for practical training and an American professor gave lectures here at our college not long ago. I think the newly-established contacts between student newspapers will promote friendship with students from other countries. I'm sure we have very much in common.

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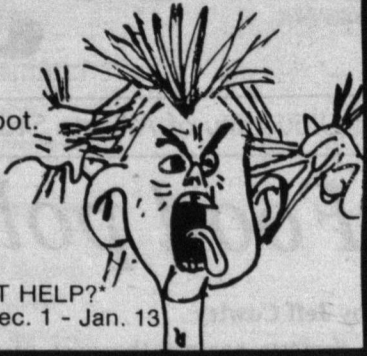
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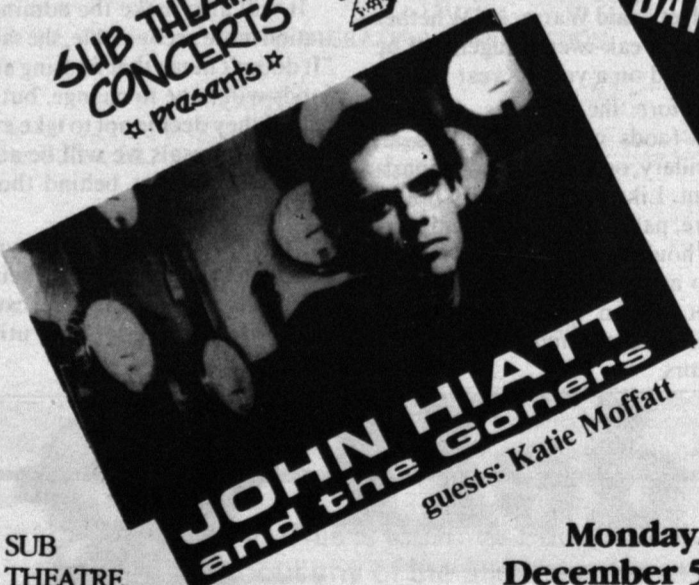
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