

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Community joins past and present students in celebrating Laurier's Homecoming

Record number of guests expected to join celebrations

For Immediate Release

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WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University is preparing to welcome alumni, students, community members, faculty and staff to its 78th annual homecoming celebrations. More than 10,000 visitors are expected to attend one or more events that run from September 22 to September 24.

“Laurier’s homecoming allows friends to reunite and celebrate our pride and tradition,” said Steve Campbell, associate director, programs and events. “The weekend’s events highlight long-standing traditions and introduce new events like the Manulife Evening of Comedy.”

Homecoming officially kicks-off on Friday, September 22 with the 9th annual Dean’s Alumni Golf Classic. Hosted by the Laurier School of Business & Economics, this scramble-format tournament takes place at Waterloo’s Grey Silo golf course at 1:00 p.m. On Friday evening, the Athletic Hall of Fame dinner will recognize and honour individuals, athletes and

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teams who have made outstanding contributions to Laurier’s varsity athletic program.

Inductees include the 1978 Golden Hawk football team; athletic supporter and alumnus Carl Totzke, 1947; as well as athletes Lisa Backman, 2001 (hockey); Tom Fuke, 2000 (swimming); Pieter Meuleman (soccer); Donnie Ruiz, 2000 (football); Andre Talbot, 2001 (football); and Emily Watson, 2001 (field lacrosse).

The gates to University Stadium open at noon on Saturday, September 23 for a pre-game tailgate party featuring Laurier’s own Blackwater Trio and an interactive zone for the entire family. This homecoming favourite offers fun for the whole family and includes live music, a children’s area, barbeque, games and beer tent. Laurier is also proud to support the Kidney Foundation of Canada’s *A Brush of Hope*, by featuring original art by famous Canadians in support of kidney research. Admission to all stadium events is open to the public and free with the purchase of a football game ticket.

The homecoming football game between the 2006 Vanier Cup Champion Laurier Golden Hawks and Western Mustangs is certain to be an exciting match-up. Kick-off is set for 2:00 p.m.

The Laurier Alumni Association is proud to introduce the Manulife Evening of Comedy on Saturday, September 23 as a new addition to this year’s schedule of events. “The Manulife Evening of Comedy is a great event for Laurier alumni and community members alike,” said Brian Breckles, director of alumni relations. “We’re always looking for ways to include the greater community in homecoming activities and show our appreciation of their support over the years.” Matte Babel, MuchMusic VJ and Laurier alumnus will emcee the event that features the comedy of Shaun Majumder of *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* and Jessica Holmes of *Royal Canadian Air Farce*. Tickets are priced between \$15-\$25, and can be ordered online at <http://www.wlu.ca/comedy>.

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Milestone reunions are planned for the classes of 1981, 1996 and 2001. Laurier will also host a special reunion for all alumni from 1956 and earlier featuring a performance by the Laurier alumni choir.

A complete schedule of homecoming events and other information is available at <http://www.wlu.ca/homecoming>.