

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
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Binding memorial lecturer to focus on aggression in sport

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WATERLOO – A noted sports psychologist and researcher will discuss violence in sports during the second annual Dr. Fred Binding Memorial Lecture. Neil Widmeyer will deliver this year’s lecture, entitled Aggression in Sport: Causes, Consequences and Cures, in Laurier’s senate and board chamber at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1.

Widmeyer is professor emeritus with the department of kinesiology at the University of Waterloo. He has studied team cohesion as well as aggression and violence in sports with both professional and amateur athletes. He brings to the topic more than 30 years’ experience teaching sports psychology and continues to work with athletic groups.

“A quick glance at the sports page shows how closely aggression and athletics are linked in our society – whether its the hockey rage shown by parents at rinks everywhere or acts of violence at the professional level,” said Jill Tracey, professor of kinesiology and physical education at Laurier and organizer of the lecture. “Dr. Widmeyer brings valuable insights into how aggression in sports is propagated, its impact on both the aggressor and the target, and ways in which it can be alleviated.”

The Dr. Fred Binding Memorial Lecture series is an endowed annual event held in memory of Fred Binding, a long-time faculty member with the department of psychology at Laurier who specialized in sport psychology. The series is administered and organized by the department of kinesiology and physical education and each year features an internationally known professor and researcher who lectures on topics related to sport psychology.