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THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENT WEEKLY



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COVER IMAGE

Cover Photo: Wade Andrew

UWSA Health Plan: Are You Covered?

WHITNEY LIGHT
BEAT REPORTER

When Christine McIntyre went to see her dentist over the Christmas break, she thought an impacted wisdom tooth was the worst of her problems. But when her dentist attempted to make a claim on McIntyre's UWSA Health Plan insurance, it appeared she had no coverage. A visit to the Health Plan desk at the University of Winnipeg shed some light on the situation. McIntyre believed, as a full-time student who had not opted out of the program, that she had paid for and been enrolled in the Health Plan, which includes dental coverage. A closer look at her financial statements from fall registration indicated differently: no charges for the Health Plan appeared and hence, no coverage.

"It's a common problem," said UWSA Health Plan Coordinator Kory Abrams. A "glitch", although its exact nature is unknown, has caused errors in the administration of a small percentage of students' Health Plans, Abrams explained.

"This is gambling with students' finances and health," said McIntyre. She is concerned what this might mean for students who assume they have paid for insurance coverage and might encounter health issues while traveling outside of the country. Abrams assures students, however, that any problem can be easily remedied. As in McIntyre's case, Health Plan payments made now for the term will be retroactive to January 1. Part-time students who assume they were not

charged for the Health Plan should also check for any unwanted charges that may have been applied to their registration.

// This has been an ongoing problem. Before the end of term I hope we can fix it."

- ANDRIY MICHALCHYSHYN
VP Student Services

"It's frustrating," said Andriy Michalchyshyn, UWSA VP Student Services. "This has been an ongoing problem. Before the end of term, I hope we can fix it." The UWSA did not see any reason to publicize the problem since it appears to affect only a small number of students and warning-type posters may have only confused and upset students.

It is speculated that the cause of the administration errors is either within complex software programming or within the contract between the UWSA and University of Winnipeg Administration regarding the Health

Plan as it has been defined. Regardless, an overhaul of the Student Information System (SIS) currently being undertaken by the Technology Services Centre will provide an opportunity for the problem to be resolved.

"We're working very hard on the new system to help make things better for students," said Alan Steffensen, Director of the TSC Administration and Management Systems Services. "We're looking at and overhauling the way the Health Plan is administered."

The Health Plan is only a small component of the SIS that will be updated. The new SIS will improve the way all aspects of administration, from registration to course changes, are handled and will also include online features.

The bottom line: all students should read their financial statements. "You can't rely on computers," said Abrams. "If the rate you're being billed doesn't match (the coverage) you are eligible for there may be a problem." All students need do is come forward to the Health Plan desk to have any discrepancies corrected. **U**

Charges to an individual student for the Health Plan should appear as follows:

Term	Period of coverage	Health Plan fee total *
T1 Full Year Coverage	Sept. 01/05 – Aug. 31/06	\$219.66
T2 2/3 Year Coverage	Jan. 01/06 – Aug. 31/06	\$148.58
T3 1/3 Year Coverage	May 01/06 – Aug. 31/06	\$77.50

*Totals include "UWSA Admin"/"UWSA Dental"/"UWSA Drg/Vis"

Have you ever thought of becoming a RADIATION THERAPIST?

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: CancerCare Manitoba, invites qualified individuals to apply to its 28 month Certificate program in Radiation Therapy beginning August, 2006. This program includes both clinical and academic components, with portions of the program offered in cooperation with Red River College. Successful graduates obtain national certification through the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists.

THE FIELD OF RADIATION THERAPY: Radiation Therapy involves treatment of cancer patients by use of radiation. Typically, Radiation Therapists work in cancer centers in planning and delivery of treatment. The Radiation Therapist is an important member of a skilled team whose goal is to provide the best possible care to people with cancer. In addition to strong scientific and technical skills, Radiation Therapists must demonstrate skills in interacting with people. This includes compassion, sensitivity, understanding, and problem solving skills.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Minimum prerequisites are 24 credits of post secondary education including: 6 credits of Anatomy and Physiology, 6 credits of Sociology, 6 credits of Physics, 3 credits each of English/Communications and Statistics. Preference will be given to applicants with high academic achievements and/or additional study at post-secondary level. The Selection Committee will interview short-listed candidates.

Deadline for application is March 15, 2006 – More information can be found on www.rrc.mb.ca under day programs and application forms can be obtained from:

Admissions Office, Building C, Room 306, Red River College
2055 Notre Dame Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3H 0J9

UNITER AUTONOMY TOWN HALL

March 1st @ 12:30
Bulman Centre MPR

This is your chance to ask any questions you have about the Uniter becoming autonomous

With representatives from the Uniter & the UWSA:

James Patterson – The Uniter
Kate Sjoberg – The UWSA
Jo Snyder – The Uniter
Andriy Michalchyshyn – The UWSA

Presentations from 12:30-12:50 with questions afterwards

FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR NEWSPAPER!





U-Pass in Jeopardy

Local Post-Secondary Institutions Turned off by Price

LEIGHTON KLASSEN
SENIOR EDITOR

University of Winnipeg students looking to save a buck on bus fare through the UWSA's proposed U-Pass plans – a mandatory program with a fixed fee that allows eight months of paid transit riding – will have to wait at least another academic year.

The UWSA board of directors voted against the motion at last Thursday's board of directors meeting, consequently making it the responsibility of next year's executive.

The U-Pass project was originally planned to be integrated into a referendum during this year's upcoming election, but UWSA president Kate Sjoberg said the board of directors felt there are still issues that need to be ironed out.

"We voted not to do it," she said last Friday, one day after the meeting. "There are a lot of reasons why, but we recommended (the U-Pass project) to the board in the fall."

Sjoberg said many people feel the price of the pass, ringing in at \$271 dollars per-stu-

dent – a price proposed by Winnipeg Transit – is too high.

Bill Menzies, manager of planning and scheduling for Winnipeg Transit, said the price of \$271 per-student was determined by a telephone survey conducted last November by local market research company, Kiskquared. The survey sampled 1500 students in determining what Transit's existing revenue is from students – from September to April – and furthermore dividing it by the populace of the university. The result – \$271.

However, the U of W is not the only post secondary institute interested in the plan – the University of Manitoba and the Red River College downtown campus also want their foot in the door, which could potentially bring the price down.

Last year, the same type of surveys were conducted on the other two city campuses as well to determine both a price for Transit and to assess demand for the service. Those results were handed to the student association presidents of

the three respective institutions to decide whether the interest was enough to join the program.

Menzies says if all three institutes sign on the dotted line, the cost will be standard amongst the three institutes at a price tag of \$250.

But Red River College Students Association vice president of student services Helena Herrera says, according to the survey, Red River students' interest in the program is dismal and says they won't be jumping on the bandwagon.

"We decided that the interest just isn't in it and there's just not enough (student) support," Herrera says.

She says Menzies stamped a \$292 price tag on it – a price that didn't fly well with her or the students.

"Basically, the price was just too high," she said. "(When) we looked at it informally we thought maybe \$200 (would be reasonable), but even \$250 is too high. If it went to referendum, students would vote 'no'."

Kathy Van De Kerckhove, VP of the University of Manitoba Students Union (UMSU) says the UofM is backing out as well.

"We thought that \$250 wouldn't fly with students," Van De Kerckhove said, adding they be recommending it to next years council as well.

Menzies says if all three don't sign on, the price of the program will be individualized to each university – the U of W checks in at \$271 – but he said a counter offer of a lower price isn't out of the question.

"We've given the price for each university on their own so they can all go together or if they want go separate," he says. "Now we just wait to see if they say 'yes' or offer a counter."

And as of last Thursday, his phone rang only once.

"So far, the only one I've heard back from is from the U of W," he said.

As it stands, Sjoberg says the U of W – under next year's newly appointed executive – could potentially implement the program in January, but timing and red-tape bureaucracy could put grit between the gears.

"There's a possibility to implement the program in January, but that's tricky be-

cause tuition is paid in the fall and then you'd have to be running after people to pay," she said, adding that they will also work with the Administration and other groups to try and lower the price.

And Red River is taking a back seat to watch the wheels in motion before signing in.

"We did say at one point we'd see when the U of W and U of M do it and then if it's a great success it will be easier to sell to the students and administration," Herrera said. "Maybe in a year or two." **U**

With Files from Derek Leschasin

Photo: Wade Andrew

U-PASS RATES AT OTHER UNIVERSITIES:

University of British Columbia: \$22/month

Simon Fraser: \$24.50/month (\$98 per term)

University of Calgary: \$62 per semester

St. Mary's University \$115 per academic year

McMaster University \$65 for 8 month pass

University of Ottawa



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Students Organise to Fight AIDS in Africa

ADAM SCHWARTZ
NEWS STAFF

An individual can make a difference. Just ask Ilan Schwartz, a first-year med school student and U of W alumnus, who, along with some classmates, has created the Simunye Initiative, a charity to raise money and awareness to support individuals battling AIDS in South Africa.

After Schwartz graduated, he spent five months in South Africa to observe how people look after the ill in other countries. Schwartz says he chose South Africa because it was his place of birth. Once in South Africa, he got into contact with Hillcrest AIDS Centre in KwaZuluNatal, where he volunteered his time and got to know the staff at Hillcrest as well as people with AIDS. Part of what differentiates Hillcrest is that they have self-sustaining projects for the families affected by AIDS, so that they can help themselves.

One of the projects is to make small Traveler Doll pins, which Schwartz has brought over to Winnipeg and sells for

\$5 a pin. Two dollars go to the women who make the dolls, and three dollars go to support the Hillcrest workers, to provide them with gas, supplies and a small income to look after people who are too sick with AIDS to leave their homes or care for themselves.

Hillcrest was in need of money, and Schwartz says he could not just turn his back on them and walk away when he came back to Winnipeg to study medicine. He came across the idea of selling the dolls by pure chance: he brought the dolls back to give to friends but found that the interest level was so great that he was able to see a market for the pins. However, bringing the dolls over was going to take a large financial effort, and Schwartz needed help, so he turned to his medical school classmates for assistance. Schwartz says he was absolutely amazed by his classmates' generosity: in one week, his classmates contributed \$1600, enough to get the project off the ground. With that, the Simunye Initiative was born; a committee was established, the dolls arrived, and Ilan's class-

mates bought dolls, sold to their friends and families, and even went out and gave presentations to different groups such as churches.

Kristine Christoph, another member of the Simunye team, said that her church was filled with generosity, and gave money but told me to keep the dolls so that I could sell them to someone else and make even more money for Hillcrest. The group has been able to generate more than \$10 thousand since starting their campaign three months ago.

Christoph says that the most amazing part of Simunye is meeting new people who are wearing a pin, and seeing how the project has grown from a small group and their friends to complete strangers taking an interest.

Simunye means We Are United, showing that Canadians stand united with South Africans and more importantly, it shows people with AIDS that others stand with them, an important element because often in their own communities they are ostracized. Incredibly, both the

group here in Winnipeg and the nurses in Hillcrest simultaneously decided on the name Simunye without knowing that the other group had also chosen the name.

The group's biggest difficulties have been finding enough time, since they are all busy medical students who have to fit in school work, families and other commitments in addition to finding time to give presentations or to sell dolls. Another problem is that the women making the dolls have been unable to meet the demand fast enough. Fortunately, the group's passion, and the strong leadership provided by Ilan Schwartz, has allowed them to make Simunye a very successful organization.

Ilan might even be a little too obsessed with helping the women back in Africa, jokes Christoph.

Simunye will have a booth to sell dolls at the University of Winnipeg which help to support those struggling against HIV/AIDS in South Africa. **U**

FACT: An estimated 5.6 million people in South Africa are HIV positive (the most of any country in the world). (UNAIDS)

FACT: HIV prevalence has increased from 1% in 1990 to 25% 10 years later in South Africa. (WHO)

FACT: An estimated 600 men, women and children die from AIDS every day in South Africa. (WHO)

FACT: Much needed anti-retroviral drugs are beyond the means of most people; they cost an average of \$700 US / year, while the average South African lives on \$7 US / day. Theoretically, ARV therapy is free; however, in practice, there is a 9-month waiting list before people with full blown AIDS are able to access the treatment. (WHO)

World News Report

COMPILED BY DEREK LESCHASIN



Germany - A team of scientists at the University of Bonn have determined the size of the object known as 2003 UB 313 orbiting in our solar system beyond Pluto, the New York Times reports. 2003 UB 313 is a large ball of ice and dust, discovered last year in the outskirts of the solar system. Like Pluto, it is part of the Kuiper Belt, which is a ring of ice and debris orbiting beyond Neptune. The German scientists have determined that 2003

UB 313 has a diameter of about 1860 miles, which is about 30 per cent wider than Pluto's. Currently, scientists are debating whether or not 2003 UB 313 should be considered a planet. As it stands, the definition is relatively arbitrary and contestable. Until the debate is resolved, the temporary name for the object will remain.

Colombia - Over 2500 right-wing paramilitaries surrendered their arms and accepted a government amnesty last month, bringing the total number of demilitarised fighters to over 20,000 since the government

announced its disarmament plan, the BBC reported. The latest group to disarm was the Central Bolivar Bloc, part of the United Self Defence Forces of Colombia. The various paramilitary organisations were formed by landowners and drug dealers to combat the Marxist guerilla movement which has been battling the Colombian government for decades. While both the government and the Marxists have been accused of human rights abuses against civilians, the paramilitaries are judged by most to be the worst by far. Provided they abide by the terms of the disarmament, paramilitaries are unlikely to be prosecuted for past crimes.

United States - One inmate was killed and at least 50 others injured last month in a prison riot involving more than 2000 inmates at the North County Correctional Facility in California. The L.A Times reported that the riot appeared to be racially-motivated, as black and Latino inmates engaged each other using whatever makeshift weapons were at hand. The riot lasted over four hours, and required over 200 deputies to quell. Prison officials say Latino inmates attacked a group of black prisoners, apparently in retaliation for a stabbing attack. They say the riot reflects tensions between rival gangs in the Los

Angeles area. While the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed such practises in the state, Sheriff Lee Baca has ordered black and Latino prisoners segregated within the prison. "Human life is more important than appearance," Baca said. **U**

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U of T student unions owe CFS \$500, 000:

Debt makes leaving CFS impossible for U of T students

ALLISON MARTELL
THE VARSITY (UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)

TORONTO (CUP) – Student unions at U of T owe the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) more than half a million dollars in fees, according to a recent report. The debt, which is part of almost \$1.4 million owed to the CFS by member unions in Ontario, has brought up several issues, including students' ability to de-federate from the CFS, conflict within the CFS, and U of T's role in the student movement.

The CFS is a national organization that administers the health plan and lobbies federal and provincial governments on

behalf of students. Students would collect a levy to cover those fees.

Eventually, the administration began collecting the levy. But U of T's student unions are still behind in their payments. The Students' Administrative Council (SAC) owes \$433,270; the Scarborough Campus Student Union (SCSU) owes \$75,729; and the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS) is \$15,750 in debt.

SCSU claims that the CFS agreed to write off the debt several years ago, but Jesse Greener, Ontario Chairperson for the CFS, says that never happened. "We all need to be playing a part," he said. "And that means...not starving the orga-

nization financially." But getting that money means either cutting into student union budgets or fighting the administration. SAC is in favour of the latter option.

"It's on my priority list still for the end of the year," said Paul Bretscher, SAC President. SCSU sees things differently. "The CFS can either just forgive in good faith debt or we can continue on and go to the administration, invest plenty of time, [and] possibly need to pay legal fees again," said Rob Wulkan, VP External at SCSU. "Then we find ourselves spending a lot of money in order to gain back a smaller amount of money."

But for the CFS, it's a matter of principle. "We do not want to allow the administrations to effectively decide whether or not they remit fees that students have legitimately requested," said Greener, "because that would allow the administration to decide whether or not they fund their opposition."

The distribution of the debt also calls into question U of T's role in the federation. "Look at this from [the perspective of] the Trents, Guelphs, Lakeheads of the world," said Greener. "They effectively have been subsidizing the largest student unions in the country." **U**

Black students still underrepresented at university:

St. F-X's black student advisor

MEGHANN JACK
THE XAVIERIAN WEEKLY
(ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY)

ANTIGONISH, N.S. (CUP) – February is African Heritage Month in Nova Scotia and St. F-X is celebrating the history and contributions, as well as the commemoration of the resilience and determination of people of African descent.

"African history is Canadian history, world history," said Dr. Agnes Calliste, St. F-X's black student advisor. "Students, in this global economy, multi-racial, multi-cultural society, need to know more [about African Canadians] because they're not going to work in a cocoon afterwards."

St.F-X has been celebrating African Heritage Month since 1988, however, Calliste feels that African Canadians are still underrepresented in the university.

"We have to make a greater effort," said Calliste. "We need to do more to recruit them, we need more students, and other than to play athletics. They [black students] tend to be stereotyped as athletes."

Calliste also emphasized the importance of retention.

"When they are here, we must provide the support system that they need to be successful."

Presently, Calliste works on a budget of \$1,000 a year for supplies, and receives no money for programming. She feels more support from faculty, campus and administration is necessary in promoting African Heritage Month.

"Faculty and Administration have to set the example," she said.

Rony Appolon, President of the Brothers and Sisters of the African Diaspora Society said African Heritage month is about awareness.

"Its goal is to not only educate, but also to make people aware of what black people stand for. It serves to show appreciation for all those who have paved the way for black people through the struggles from the upbringing of being the minority," he said.

"This is our time to pay tribute and appreciate. This also gives black people a time to remember where they have come from and what they have overcome, what they are capable of and who they are, no matter what the others may say or think," Appolon added.

Professor Michelle Williams, Director of the Indigenous Blacks and Mi'kmaq Initiative (IBM) at the Dalhousie University Law program was invited to speak as part of the month long events. Her lecture focused on "African Nova Scotian Resistance: Justice in Action."

As director of the IBM initiative, Williams helps "increase the representation of black and aboriginal lawyers in an effort to reduce systemic and structural discrimination."

"The existences, contributions, successes of African Nova Scotians have been minimized, sometimes even erased in our educational systems, media – any area you can think of," Williams explained.

"It's critical to take the time to specifically look at and celebrate them, even if it's only for a month," she added.

The program, which began in 1989, helps bring African Canadian

and Aboriginal perspectives into the law and encourages scholarship and research for those minority groups. Since its initiation, there have been 90 law graduates.

"Presumably, if you increase their [Aboriginal and African Canadian peoples] involvement across the judicial systems, you're more likely to end up with a system that has no racism as part of it," Williams said.

Williams discussed how the law has been both a tool to perpetuate racism and white privilege and a tool to resist it.

"African Nova Scotians have always faced racism and injustice, and have always resisted it. Thereby they have always been in the process of creating or accepting justice," Williams said.

Williams also stressed that everyone can be an advocate for

justice in their own life and own way.

"The fact of resistance is in fact itself creating justice. There is merit in the process, merit in the struggle – you never know how powerful your small action can be – the ripple effect it may have," she said.

"She left some words of wisdom that even though we are faced with obstacles, we should not let it stop us from becoming who we want to become and not who society thinks we are going to become," said Appolon.

"I'm pleased," continued Calliste who thought Williams would be a good role model. "She'll definitely be back."

"The reality is we're here to stay. We're rooted here and won't be pulled up," she said. **U**

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The Just-Juiced League

SEPPER CADIZ

Wouldn't it be cool if we were all superheroes? Having the power to leap tall buildings, read minds or even joyride in the Bat-Mobile! Clearly in Winnipeg super-humans do not exist, but at eighteenth birthday parties across the city, you can get as close to the real thing as possible.

In the time I've spent experiencing Winnipeg nightlife first-hand, I've noticed some similarities between newbie eighteen-year-old Winnipeggers and mainstream superheroes. For instance, the transformation from normal "human" to mumbling beast is a process somewhat like that undergone by the Incredible Hulk. After getting extremely "pissed",

we cause absolute mayhem and wake up aching in a swampy ditch.

The pleasures of super-heroism aside, however, there is the mundane as well. Just as Superman gets tired of fighting off Lex Luther time and again, we young guns also get tired of drinking at the same Bat-Time, with the same Bat-People, in the same Bat-Place. After all the smoke has cleared, I wonder, why do we keep fighting the same battle?

A typical first engagement as our superhero selves takes place at one of the "Two-Face(d)" CanAd Inns bars. At the front door, Two-Face uses his power to remove your hat; revealing your true identity! After being stripped of your dignity, you then notice that others in the bar have been allowed to keep their caps on. What hypocrisy! What villainy! Then the finishing

move: Two-Face, uses his super-small dance floor to execute the "dance floor drop hold". Your best bet is to avoid the dance floor at all costs, but, if you are weak willed and need to shake your tail feather, there is absolutely no way back. This suffocating maneuver paralyzes your movement by cramming all the Just-Juiced Leaguers into the same space, creating an invisible box around your personal space and exhausting your whole body by means of raunchy B.O, sharp elbows, and teasing temptresses. To fight in such a lair every week is suicide!

If you get sick of fighting with Two-Face, you could tangle with the "Downtown Hassler". The Hassler wastes no time in pissing you off due to the fact that parking for the Bat-Mobile is harder to find than Invisible Woman's fun-bags. After wearing you

down with his web of traffic lights and one-way streets, the Hassler leaves you to die of either mosquito bites in the summer, or of hypothermia in the winter.

If the Hassler's too much for a novice superhero, you can try your luck dueling with the snobby "Corydon Crook". This is a highly self-absorbed enemy whose secret power is to criticize your every move with 'glare stares' that weaken you in the knees. The Crook is much less powerful during wintertime, as it loses its natural mystique of patios and street acts. On the flipside, during summer the Crook is nearly impossible to beat. Unless you're at full strength, you don't stand a chance. The fact that it's jazzed up with guitar players, juggling acts, and flame-blowers leaves opponents hypnotized. You have been warned!

Finally, the last option is the zany "Osborne Circus". It makes a good first impression, but the Circus is only the Corydon Crook's rebellious little brother. With their "I just don't give a shit" attitude, the clowns have only one thing in mind: to get disgracefully intoxicated. These villains are very unpredictable and come in all different shapes and sizes. With high class free-housers, to eccentric Die-Machiners, a number of different types can join the battle at any time. The Circus tries to intimidate the weak, so be strong!

After haunting the same old Winnipeg hideouts, the Just-Juiced League is ready to take on new kinds of villainy. The Winnipeg nightlife desperately needs CPR before it turns Winnipeg superheroes into washed-up hermits. Who will keep us coming for more kryptonite? Who will create a new worthy adversary?

What do I want from Winnipeg? An organized establishment where I can bring my own case of beer, walk in with music, and feel I'm at a retro house party. If someone could build that, I would be a very happy man. However, this is only one possibility among many. I propose that Winnipeg have a contest once every two years to improve its nightlife. People will be asked to submit ideas for a certain kind of bar or club, and then be asked to vote for the three best proposals.

Doubtless, in the meantime we have to carry on the good fight, duking it out at the existing evil lairs. But as we do this, we can recognize the need for other challenges ahead, challenges that will keep our powers sharp. Although, League members should also work to create their own fun. **U**

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Gambling on Gretzky

MIKE PYL

The nature of professional sports is conducive to the idolatry of its biggest stars.

Leagues, and even the sport itself, will tie their collective image to one or two of its most promising, photogenic athletes who assume a role of half-ambassador, half-Cover Girl.

Multinational corporations, in turn, will invest hundreds of millions of dollars into these spokespeople. 'As they're selling their game,' businesses figure, 'why can't they throw in a plug for Coke at the same time?'

These stars also serve as an intermediary between the financial behemoth that is professional sports and its base: the fans. To extensively follow a sport is to follow the sport's self-appointed representatives. To follow these "representatives" is often to take on the characteristics of a religious zealot. They do no wrong and see no wrong. In between dominating their competition in win-at-all-costs yet sportsmanlike demeanour, they spend their free time teaching impoverished elementary children to read and painting over inner-city graffiti – they eat all their vegetables and drink all their milk too.

NBA Hall-of-Famer Charles Barkley once famously said during his playing career, "I am not a role model." But that statement couldn't have been more wrong, in an arena where sports' biggest stars take on a persona of near-divinity.

This explains the giant, collective connoption of the North American media in response to the "Betsky" scandal that has consumed not only the sporting world, but the news world as well.

A four-month New Jersey state police investigation tagged "Operation Slapshot" has revealed ex-NHLer and current Phoenix Coyotes assistant coach Rick Tocchet allegedly financed an illegal sports gambling ring. Some have cited ties to the New Jersey mafia. Lt. Col. Frank Rodgers of the New Jersey State Police claims that "12 NHL players or people closely associated with NHL clubs" - including a team owner and a member of one coaching staff - placed bets with the ring. To date, no information has been revealed that suggest bets were placed on National Hockey League games.

But what makes this story so contentious is the involvement of hockey's biggest name.

Janet Jones-Gretzky, wife of Coyotes head coach and hockey legend Wayne Gretzky, was alleged to have bet \$500,000 during the investigation, including \$75,000 on last month's Super Bowl - \$5,000 alone on the game's opening coin toss.

With his wife heavily involved in a gambling outfit run by his assistant coach and close personal friend, the sport's unanimous Best Player Ever entered the crosshairs.

'How could The Great One, the great bastion of moral decency and fluid skill in a game perpetuated by thugs, find himself surrounded by such indecent behaviour,' the media

have frantically pondered. 'With two people so close to him heavily involved, how did he not know what was going on?'

'Because, surely, this is Wayne Gretzky we're talking about. Had he known about this, it's a guarantee he would have put a stop to it. He's Wayne Gretzky!'

The sporting world's reverence for their most excellent athletes explains their exaggerated response of incredulity. When the reputation of such a significant figurehead is tarnished (in the case of Gretzky, his idolatry dates back 25 years, or arguably even more), the reaction is comparable to ancient Greeks discovering Zeus was afraid of mice.

It has been estimated that more than \$4 billion US was wagered worldwide on this past Super Bowl. Gambling, particularly among sports fans, is not an uncommon practice. Until Operation Slapshot proves Tocchet or any other NHL players bet on hockey games, many observers of this whole fiasco have been left wondering what the big deal is anyway. Gretzky has barely even been rumoured to have directly participated. What has fueled this media fire is the belief that gambling is a vice. It makes human beings lesser people. And when it's linked to someone as untouchable as number 99, well, what's left in the world to believe in? The sporting world

ILLUSTRATION BY: MATT MUCHA



has been down that path before – it's not pretty.

Pete Rose is, by far, the most vilified gambling athlete. The former Cincinnati Red is most famous as the all-time major league leader in hits, but has also won three World Series rings, three batting titles, one M V P award, two Gold Gloves, and 18 All-Star appearances. He was considered one, if not the best, of the greatest players of his era. However, he was banned from baseball for life in 1989, including his rightful place in the Hall of Fame, after betting on baseball, including on his own team, while managing the Reds.

When a member of the professional sporting community brings up Rose, it is his gambling that first comes to mind, not his impressive on-field accomplishments. He is ostracized and belittled even to this day.

Those with vested interests in professional sports, even just a casual hockey fan that fondly remembers the Edmonton Oilers of the 1980s, do not want to see the stature of Wayne Gretzky diminished. He has been put on a pedestal; no one wants to see him knocked off.

In the religion of sport, such a thing would be heresy. U



Letter to the Editor

In the February 9 Uniter, Mr. Grandpre wrote of his support for Canada's role in "a front line in a global war," referring of course to the so called war on terrorism.

Canada is fully behind strengthening the hold of dominant countries over the necks and lives of oppressed countries. Canada is waging war in Afghanistan, as Grandpre applauds.

Then he insists we are helping the oppressed, fighting for their human rights. He fails to mention that the government

that Canada is defending is an Islamic theocratic regime that is systematically denying women's rights. Moreover, this government has done nothing to liberate the basic people of Afghanistan but instead is rooted among rich landlords as well as various cliques that are selling out the country's interests to the rapacious needs of US imperialism.

But the global war doesn't end there as this article might indicate. It continues in

Syria, where Canada sends Arabs to be tortured, as the case of Maher Arar has brought to the public spotlight when he was sent

there to be tortured for a year with the cooperation of the Canadian government. One has to wonder, how many more have suffered this way? How many people are being tortured by the Canadian government right now?

To leave description of this global war on terror at that would be unsatisfactory. It is here in Canada too - where basic legal rights, like the right to a defense, were wiped away with the introduction of security certificates. Right now, 5 Muslims are being detained without them even knowing what the evidence is, or what they're charged with.

To not discuss these component parts of Canada's role in the war on terror is to deny reality. When torture becomes a part of a state's functioning, and racial profiling becomes the policy of government, it is time to resist. The whole system has to be challenged, and a new one created. Millions are already in motion working toward this goal. The hope for the future is not in Harper, but in people linking the various struggles to challenge the atrocities being done in our name. U

- Mark Johnson

Red Card Blues

ANDREW MOREAU

I have been asked to contribute to The Uniter's discussion on the federal election from the Liberal perspective. Mine is lonely and meek voice in the Western plateau; I carry a red card, but it is neatly tucked away in my wallet behind old grad photos from my days at College Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau.

In Manitoba, there is little to rejoice about as a Liberal. Our party fared dismally outside of Winnipeg and the North. In Winnipeg, our Goliath was all too cocky and lost to some kid named Bruinooge. With an arrogant demeanour and thick glasses, the MP for Winnipeg South is just begging for a good face wash. By the way, has anyone seen our provincial wing?

On the national scene, however, hope springs eternal. Despite the most poorly run campaign since, well Doris Day, Martin and the Liberals managed to keep 102 seats (they were elected in 103), remain credible, and clear the way for a new leader.

I hope to address the question of why the Liberals do well time and again. What positive reason is there for voting Liberal? What do I see in them?

THE TALENT POOL

The answer is that the Liberal Party of Canada continues to attract varied and top brass candidates in an astounding way. No other party forwards candidates of the Michael Ignatieff or John McCallum calibre. These are leaders in the intellectual and economic fields. People like Irwin Cotler, one of the most respected international lawyers in Canada, flock to the Liberal ranks. At the same time, activist Dr. Hedy Fry is willing to run alongside Bay Street boys. Alcock himself taught courses at Harvard on the most mundane of topics in public administration. The Liberals have people that can run the country well and with inspired creativity.

To me, the most important thing to point out about the Liberal team is that their experience is not tied entirely to their politics. This election drove the point home to me. When I voted, I asked myself: "Do I want Cotler or Toews to be Justice Minister? Do I want Ignatieff or Day to be our face abroad?"

There is little depth to the Conservative party. It is, in my opinion, a collection of brash career politicians

peppered by the occasional boring businessman. Harper is one of the problems. He has years of experience in the public policy field, but that experience is coloured blue. He has held many different positions as an analyst or contributor to think-tanks and parties, but these have always been partisan positions.

Harper's cabinet is full of those whose sole credentials were earned as a result of their political affiliation with small "c" conservatives. Those from Ontario and Quebec who do have experience, and there are a few, are predictably either lawyers or businessmen. Most are backroom Blue Boys. There is little room for creative people in the Conservative caucus. Case in point: Harper's nomination of unilingual Alberta MP Ted Menzies as Parliamentary Secretary for La Francophonie!

THE EMERSON DEFECTION

Prior to last week I would have placed David Emerson among the ranks of those Liberals who I considered experienced and good assets to the party. That is why I hesitate to criticise Harper's poached egg.

On its face, David Emerson's defection to the Conservatives is a politically savvy move and a classic example of what Prime Ministers ought to do when constituting a Cabinet. Harper successfully plugged an urban gap and placed a man of considerable international experience into a key Cabinet post.

So why do we feel like installing him as a speed bump at Portage and Main? Well the short answer is that it was an asshole move. His jump to the Conservatives was pre-meditated and calculated to guarantee him a spot in the Cabinet...Conservative or Liberal. If Martin had won, do you think Emerson would have turned down a job? Not bloody likely.

It seems jarring to me that he could look his constituents in the eye and say: "Hi, I'm the Liberal candidate for Vancouver Kingsway". Oddly enough, he was neither the Liberal candidate nor the Conservative candidate. He was looking out for number one, and no I'm not talking about Sting's Commander Riker.

Hey c'mon, after the verbal spanking issued to Belinda Stronach and Dalton McGuinty it is only fair that we Liberals can go back on the offensive. **U**

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Letter from the Editor

Freedom of Speech, Reactionary Politics, and Religious Heat

JO SNYDER

These past few weeks have made it both exciting and difficult to be in the world of publishing. The recent controversy surrounding caricatures of the prophet Mohammed, originally published in the Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* and then re-published in a number of other newspapers around the world – including Canadian University Press member *The Cadre* in P.E.I. and the Alberta-based *Western Standard* – has put all publications in the situation of having to decide whether or not to print the controversial cartoons. For its part, *The Uniter* has chosen not to re-publish them. As an Editorial Board *The Uniter* has come to this decision, but the arguments we put forth to get here are very different. Even though the differences in opinion seem like nuances, there are in fact no small details in this debate, which is why in the end it's impossible for the paper to take a united stance. It's almost ironic.

Freedom of speech is at the centre of the debate. *The Western Standard* has accused the media of being scared rather than principled, while other media organizations, like *Alternet.org*, have pointed out that the cartoons themselves are about fear

and not hatred. Why can't the cartoons be published? What's the big deal?

The big deal is, that these kinds of cartoons offend religious sensibilities and the tradition of some Muslims. However, in a secular society, in the year 2006, where images of the Pope and Jesus Christ are smattered on anything from holographic stickers to lady's underwear, why does it matter? There is a disconnect in our sense of being offended. In the West, we can quibble about freedom of speech, we can flip flop between being offended by a picture of Muhammad with a bomb strapped to his turban one day, and on another day find that an episode of South Park, episode 608 *Red Hot Catholic Love*, featuring the Catholic Boat (a parody of the 1977 show the Love Boat, commenting on paedophilia within the Priesthood) is hilarious. We have this freedom.

However, it's been said that this issue is being politically hijacked, that the cartoons are a red herring for other politically motivated agendas. Muslims in the Middle East fear that the rioting misrepresents the religion, while others feel the protesting (violent and peaceful) sets an important precedent for anyone who dares satirize Islam.

There is no universal agreement on Religion. The world does not agree on its gods and masters. This outcry is an infringement on secular values, and yes, there is such a thing

as secular values. Part of the principle behind free-speech is being able to think for yourself and decide, instead of being told, what is and what isn't offensive. The United Nations, the EU and the Organisation of the Islamic Conferences recently have condemned the violent protests while at the same time calling for respect for Religion. George Bush also wants respect for his religion. So if we are being asked to observe the taboos of one religion, then why not observe the taboos of all religions? It's a long list. That's a big rulebook.

Political, satirical cartoons provide commentary on the state of the world. Journalists have written that the pictures are insulting because they "imply an association between Islam and terrorism." We face the unpleasant truth that the newspapers that published the comics linking violence to Islam are suffering severe consequences: arson, violent protests, and in some cases, Fatwas. In Yemen and Jordan, the newspapers were shut down and the editors were arrested! In Denmark, Flemming Rose, the Culture Editor of *Jyllands-Posten* and the first to publish the cartoons, is on a leave of absence. He's hiding.

In an article by David Morris posted on *Alternet.org* February 14, he astutely points out that, "In an article accompanying the cartoons, Rose informed the newspaper's readers that he had commissioned the drawings

out of concern that a secular society based on freedom of speech was in the process of censoring itself, not out of respect for a religion, but out of fear that if it did anything that was viewed as offensive to a particular religion, violence and even murder could result." What is this debate really about? Are we dealing with issues of principles or issues of practicality? And let's ask ourselves what lines are we as a society willing to draw, and who is going to police them?

Please, write in with your thoughts, ideas, and opinions to editor@uniter.ca. U

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Straight Faced

MATT COHEN

It's been cold outside lately. I think we're all aware of this fact. It's the end of February. We live in Winnipeg. This is not unheard of. So why are there so many people talking about the weather?

I went out for lunch with my dad yesterday and every other person had some type of comment about how cold it is outside. There were slight variations in tone or phrasing, but the overall message was clear. It isn't pleasant outside.

I'm not sure why everyone has to re-iterate this fact. We've all been outside and experienced the weather first-hand. Chances are pretty good that we'll be outside later to experience it again. The way I see it, people that talk about the weather can be broken down into four groups; the questioner, the pessimist, the expert, and the comic.

The questioner: This group often asks an obvious question in the attempt to make light of the situation. This group can be identified in winter by such questions as, "How do you like the weather?" or "Is it cold enough for you?"

The pessimist: This group will always see the weather as a bully. If the weather is bad, the pessimist will complain about it. If the weather is nice, the pessimist will say, "Don't

get too attached, it's not going to last forever." Never engage a pessimist in a conversation regarding the weather.

The expert: This group watches or hears snippets of weather forecasts and suddenly becomes a certified meteorologist. They will expel words of wisdom such as "It's a dry cold," or "There's a low front passing through." This group may have no idea what these terms mean, but believe they do because they can turn on a radio or open a newspaper; an action that nobody else in the city has figured out yet, apparently.

The comic: This group is entirely reliant on the questioner. When approached about the weather, they will come up with a snappy comeback such as "I should have put on some sunscreen today," or "Anybody for the beach?" It's important to note that the comic is only as funny as the snappy comeback they heard ten minutes prior and just used now.

Unfortunately for each group, nobody brings anything new to the table. Asking stupid questions isn't going to melt snow. Treating the weather like a human isn't going to make it feel sorry and get warmer. Knowing how long the weather's going to last doesn't speed the course of time. And having quick wit doesn't make the sun come out. It's cold outside. We realize this. Let's get past it and stop talking about it. U



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RECIPES ON A BUDGET

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 pound pearl onions (blanched and peeled)
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 2 teaspoons unsalted butter
- 6 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 2/3 cup white wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1 1/3 cup chicken stock
- 2/3 cup tomatoes -- cut into medium dice
- 10 fresh basil leaves
- 10 new potatoes -- cut into medium dice
- 1 10 ounce can artichoke hearts -- canned in water
- 1/3 cup mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons corn starch

INSTRUCTIONS

- Season the chicken with salt and pepper. Then, in a large skillet, brown chicken in clarified butter. Once cooked, remove the chicken from the pan, to a warm platter. Pour off excess fat.
- Add the onions, vinegar and wine to the saute pan and cook over medium-hing heat until reduced by half.
- Add stock, vegetables, and basil. Bring to a boil. Then return to a simmer and cook for 20-25 minutes.
- In small bowl or measuring cup, make a slurry by combining the cornstarch with about 2 tablespoons of water. Still until all the lumps are gone.
- While the vegetable liquid is simmering, add a bit of the slurry to the pan. Keep adding until the desired thickness is achieved. Add the chicken to allow to heat through. Serve.



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Art: Bartek Rucinski, - Script: by Bartek Rucinski & William O'Donnell
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7 Habits of Highly Under effective Undergrads

Merkin Muffler - Winnipeg Ironc Front

- 1) Bass fishing.
- 2) Taxidermy.
- 3) Straightening up without flying right.
- 4) Mescaline.
- 5) Drinking Diet Coke just for the taste of it.
- 6) Plagiarism.
- 7) Failing to evolve sufficiently when prompted.

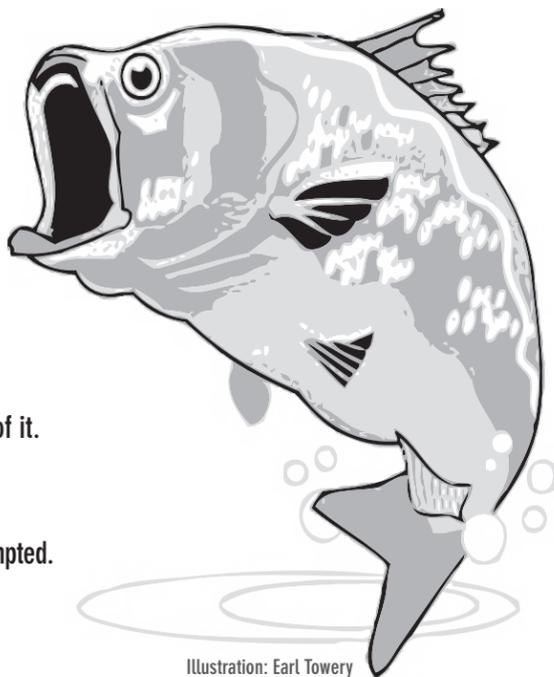


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Winnipeg: A Centre for Human Rights

BY JAYME VANDENBERG



ANTOINE PREDOCK'S Model of the Museum.

In the last 20 years Canada has placed no. 1 in the United Nations human development index, which is 10 times more than any other country. Topping the UN annual list bestows a commonly held view that the reigning country is considered the best place in the world to live, yet public opinion polls conducted by Canadian polling firm Pollara in 2005 suggest that one in five Canadians have personally been the victim of human rights violations.

Race, ethnicity, religion, gender, age and sexual orientation are often the subjects of discrimination. To serve as a reminder of past atrocities, and to promote and develop human rights, the late Israel Asper and the Asper Foundation launched the Canadian Museum for Human Rights Project. Toted as an "idea museum," the project's mission is to create an international destination for history and learning in regard to human rights.

"The museum," says Kim Jasper, director of communications for the Asper Foundation, "will be a visitor experience that leads to action." Located at The Forks, Winnipegger's will be able to experience the international destination right in their own backyard. According to Jasper, there are many reasons for the proposed Canadian icon to be located in Winnipeg.

"It's about symbolism. Winnipeg is the geographical centre of North America, it has a history as an Aboriginal meeting place for peace, signifies the joining of French and English culture, and represents such ideas as women's rights," explains Jasper, citing Manitoba teacher Nellie McClung who helped achieve women's right to vote in Manitoba and Alberta.

The museum is nothing short of grand considering its scale. Israel Asper remarked, while promoting his vision of the museum on the CBC, that "We Canadians have a tendency to aim for the middle, not the top, not the stars. Here, we are aiming for the stars." He also stated that the museum will prove to define Winnipeg and Canada just as the Eiffel Tower defines Paris and the Sydney Opera House defines Australia. The museum structure—designed by architect Antoine Predock—includes nine building levels capped by a crystalline "tower of hope" that rises 100 metres from the base of the site. The interior of the museum will include one-and-a-half kilometres of interpretive experience.

"Before visitors even enter the museum they will be inspired," says Jasper, referring to human equality quotes that will be displayed along large walls leading to the museum entrance. Once inside, museum guests will enter a 500-seat introductory theatre, which "will feature a Hollywood-type film that introduces visitors to the theme of the museum," explains Jasper. The museum, she says, strives to involve the visitors in everything they encounter throughout the journey.

"Visitors will be given personal key cards that allow them to interact with exhibits and save information from hundreds of human rights heroes and mentors featured throughout the museum. Once their journey is complete they can then choose to print their collection of saved information at the museum's resource centre or at home."

The theatre sends visitors on their journey with a message stating that in order to progress human rights we must come to terms with our past. An Aboriginal bridge directs guests toward two floors of Canadian stories.

"The Canada Story exhibit displays Canada's ethno-cultural social history through minimal exhibits," explains Jasper, "such as railroad ties symbolizing the Chinese head tax, or a theatre exhibit on Viola Desmond." The exhibits she refers to involve the \$13 million that was collected by the Canadian government from Chinese immigrants who worked connecting the western provinces by rail. The Chinese were the only ethnicity targeted and four workers died for every two kilometres laid. Viola Desmond is considered Canada's Rosa Parks. She refused to sit in the balcony of a Halifax theatre, opting instead to enjoy the movie in a ground seat where Africans were not allowed.

Other exhibits in the Canadian Story will be on a larger scale. "The

Canadian Story section will feature exhibits such as a walk-in dormitory of a residential school," says Jasper. "Visitors will be able to hear stories about these kids spoken from actual interviews." The exhibit's goal is to surround visitors in real experiences experienced by real people. Jasper says that Ralph Appelbaum, who has also designed exhibits for the Clinton Library and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, is designing the museum exhibits.

Another bridge of heroes—where visitors can again download hundreds of stories about individuals who stood up for equal rights onto their key cards—leads to the museum's section devoted to the Holocaust. "The museum will examine the events of the Holocaust by applying knowledge to the visitor, looking at how a high society can descend to the Holocaust," says Jasper. The exhibit will feature Canadian stories told by survivors and relatives of the Second World War genocide. "As well," says Jasper, "we will have staff-led forums where visitors can discuss the events of the Holocaust and how we can prevent human right violations from occurring."

The next stage looks at the introduction of the concept of human rights, which was brought into the spotlight after the horrors of the Holocaust. "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was drafted by Canadians," explains Jasper. "Visitors will enter a crystal-like theatre where they will learn about the key meanings of the declaration." This area of the museum will look at the introduction of women's and children's rights as well as analyze recent events such as Rwanda, Bosnia, and even terrorism.

One of the most important parts of the museum will be the Canadian Challenge. This section of the museum will house a two-story digital recreation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and ask visitors how they can incorporate human rights awareness into their lives. "We are working at obtaining the original charter," says Jasper. "It's locked up somewhere and it would be great to have, but regardless we will feature an electronic version."

The final segment of the museum journey is dubbed the human rights observatory. In many ways it links the past to the present, featuring international reports from embedded journalists showing visitors where human rights violations are taking place in the world and how they are being resolved. "It puts visitors in touch with the globe," says Jasper. There, guests are encouraged to

sign a statement of personal commitment to human rights by having their picture taken. "All portraits will be added to a huge mosaic of commitments," Jasper says, "as visitors ascend the tower of hope they can look down upon the video mosaic of faces rising towards the huge glass tower, all the while viewing Winnipeg in the distance." An elevator returns visitors to the base level and into a meditation garden where museum guests can reflect and contemplate their human rights experience.

To date, the museum has collected over \$200 million of its \$311 million price tag. Private pledges amount to \$60 million, including \$20 million donated by the Asper Foundation; the city of Winnipeg has promised to donate \$20 million as well. The provincial government has promised to cover 10 per cent of costs while the federal government has pledged \$100 million to the project. The new conservative government has yet to confirm the inclusion of the \$13 million annual operating cost, something the Liberals previously had. "We are discussing it at the moment but are feeling positive," says Jasper. She also divulges that while the museum is still in the architectural drawing stage, "we hope to have the shovel in the ground for 2007 and are looking at a completion by 2010."

In their mission to make Winnipeg the capital of human rights awareness, the museum is joining with the University of Winnipeg's Global College and the University of Manitoba's Arthur V. Maruro Centre for Peace and Justice in sponsoring the Winnipeg Winter Summit for Human Rights. The conference takes place Mar. 8-10 and will help shape the future of United Nations Human Rights Council.

"The summit," says Samantha Arnold, director of the Institute for Human Rights and Global Studies at the University of Winnipeg, "will look at structuring the UN human rights commission reform and feature speeches by notable human rights advocates such as Romeo Dallaire." Arnold says students will also be involved in the human rights summit.

For more information on the summit visit: <http://winnipegwintersummit.uwinnipeg.ca>.

If you wish to find out more information about the Canadian Museum for Human Rights or take a video tour of the museum, you can visit their website at www.canadianmuseumforhumanrights.com/. 

STUCK IN THE OFFICE?

Instant messaging keeps artist K.C. Adams in touch with the outside world

_ □ ×
BY: RICHARD LIEBRECHT

File Edit Actions Tools Help

Invite Send Files Webcam Audio Activities Games

To: K.C. Adams
Photos: Submitted By Richard Liebrecht



Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:06:42 PM)

Starting with the typical...what inspired this exhibit and the Cyborg Living Space series it belongs to?

just breathe says: (2:10:05 PM)

I was inspired by the home decor phenomenon I found myself watching it with such vigor and I started recognizing that focusing on one's living space meant that there was an element of isolation going on Martha Stewart also became an inspiration

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:11:44 PM)

Is that why you locked yourself up in this room?

just breathe says: (2:11:54 PM)

She sold "the American Dream" in a very unrealistic way

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:15:53 PM)

How do you confront her, then, with this exhibit?

just breathe says: (2:16:24 PM)

I am creating these spaces that are beautiful and white What becomes apparent after you get over the beauty is how warped living in white can be It is obsessive It is impossible to maintain It can drive a sane person crazy And I think Martha is crazy

just breathe says: (2:19:00 PM)

When I hear something like that I think that she is so afraid of her own culture. She is trying to fit in the "white" world That is also one of the elements that I am trying to get across is the lack of cultural reference

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:23:09 PM)

What inspired the different physical elements of the room?

just breathe says: (2:24:14 PM)

Like isolating oneself I have been focusing on the idea of cyborgs; combining the living with technology. I believe that we introduce new technologies without thinking about the consequences.

Within the room I have cyborgs existing within the space to entertain me

just breathe says: (2:24:51 PM)

I also created the office to showcase that I too am a cyborg

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:28:40 PM)

How do you see yourself as a cyborg in this space? define cyborg

just breathe says: (2:29:24 PM)

Donna Harroway wrote the Cyborg Manifesto almost twenty years ago and she defines a cyborg in many ways. One is someone who is reliant on technology In my case, I can't go anywhere without my laptop because it is my lifeline to people across Canada and other places around the world That is how I get exhibitions I communicate my ideas and people respond

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:34:46 PM)

You are using electronic communications exclusively to contact the outside world... how close do you think this is to some people's real lives?

just breathe says: (2:35:04 PM)

I worked with a guy who was a social moron He had no sense of personal space I later realized that the guy did nothing but play video games all night and played on-line against others around the world He had no capability to have a normal conversation with the living I understand that He was such a cyborg Same with my niece She doesn't hang out with her friends, they MSN each other They can do it for hours

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:43:10 PM)

You'll be in this environment for several days. How do you think it will affect you over that time?

just breathe says: (2:43:46 PM)

I am a social animal and it will drive me a bit crazy I might start talking to myself Oh wait, I already do that lol

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:45:13 PM)

lol Do you think that, with people almost mimicking your isolation in everyday life, we are going to drive ourselves crazy?

just breathe says: (2:47:52 PM)

Absolutely, if not crazy, moving away from community That is the worst fate. Community and family should be the most important link to an individual Without it we are lost, no direction

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (2:51:13 PM)

But, in this exhibit, the world can see you. You are on a web cam 24/7. How does it feel to live under observation?

just breathe says: (2:52:36 PM)

Weird but I have developed a confidence about myself to a point that I really don't care what people think about me. So observing me is just like being in a room and not being aware that others are watching.

Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (3:00:43 PM)

alrighty Its been nice chatting with you

just breathe says: (3:01:39 PM)

Later gator kc the cyborg

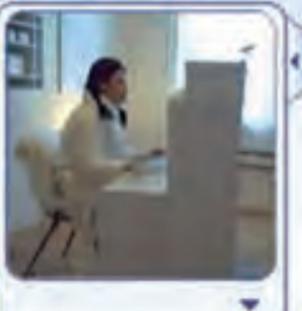
Richard - Conditional Democracy says: (3:02:00 PM)

Can you do the robot for a sec? 🤖

Font 🗨️ Winks 🗨️ Backgrounds 🗨️ Packs 🗨️ 🗨️

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A Bittersweet Fury

A music fan mourns a death in the family

MIKE LEWIS

Some people will never forget the day that Kurt Cobain died, or the day that Bono officially became an asshole. I will never forget the day I found out that Projektor was over. It was a Thursday night at the West End Cultural Centre, a friend ran up to me saying "Hey, did you hear? Projektor has broken up!"

"No!" I cried drawing stares from audience members clearly intent on enjoying the Honeybuckets set. I was stunned. Projektor had been such a huge part of my life both in and out of the stereo. Unable to pay attention during the show, I went out into the night, fighting against the blowing snow. Climbing the stairs back home, I locked my doors, shut off my lights and turned on the stereo, placing Red Wolf Glass and Young Hearts Fail inside and hitting play. As the album unfolded, I sat watching passing cars, thinking about my history with the band over the last four years.

I first met Projektor in my car. I was driving home from somewhere at 3 a.m. when the opening strains of "Foxfire" leaked out from the speakers. As the song progressed, I parked the car at the side of road, overcome by the passion and intensity that was washing over me. I hadn't heard music like this come out of Winnipeg in quite some time. As the song faded to a close, I was struck by the sheer honesty that I'd just been witness to. I went out and bought Red Wolf Glass, and proceeded to play it to death, each track dripping with sorrow, regret, and sincerity; the album spoke to me, as it did many others.

Therein lay the biggest irony in this whole situation. Projektor made beautiful music. It was beautiful not only because of the love put into it by all members past and present, but because front-man Jahmeel meant every single word he sang every time. It was the love that inspired the words that ultimately led to the downfall of the band. Speaking with Jahmeel a week after I heard the news, he tells me that he is trading his snow fort for a sand castle and relocating to Vancouver to be with his fiancé. And who can blame him? If he didn't do it, he'd be a hypocrite and every song he ever wrote would be meaningless.

That said, the band's demise wasn't sudden, nor was it instigated by one member. It came about after a solid year of set-backs, starting with the release of their second album Young Hearts Fail. Critics panned the album despite the

fact that, like its predecessor, it provided a moving sonic backdrop to the lives of many, including my own. This band has wreaked havoc on my love life. Songs like "From Steel", "Young Hearts Fail", or "A Quiet Night" encouraged such a wide-eyed, hopeless optimism that it made it okay to spill your heart out to someone, even if it wasn't a good idea. Both albums were soundtracks to love, pain, loneliness, and foolish desperation.

Ultimately, that's the effect that Jahmeel and the others wanted; to reach people, to make an impact. The band became discouraged when attendance at shows dwindled throughout 2005, and problems with booking agents made it almost impossible to tour to promote the new album. Yet, despite all that, or maybe in spite of it, the band put forth its best at every show regardless of the size of the audience, just to make that impact.

Unfortunately I was only able to see them for the first time in the fall of 2004. They played for me, my date, and about four other people. Regardless, they played like the place was full, and me, my date, and the four other people loudly cheered them on, wanting more with every song. A year later, at the planetarium, premiering guitarist Jon Stewart, who'd replaced Sean Stevens after the latter's joining Novillero, the band once again played a memorable set. As the song "Vena Cava" slowly built, lovers held each other, gazing intently into one another's eyes. Guitar, bass, and moog coalesced into the warm blanket that encompassed each person



PHOTO: KASIA STROMECKI

in attendance as the music whispered "I love you's" that danced gently across open mouths that longed for one another's embrace. It was a magical evening, and made that much more so because you knew that the four guys on stage loved what they were doing and loved you for sharing in the experience.

That was the last time I would ever seem them live. The band, in an effort to take back its reputation from the naysayers of the previous year, recorded new material over the fall, and recently completed work on a four-song EP. If the tracks posted online, "Emergency" and "Glass City", are any indication, a third album would have enabled them to at least go out on a high note, and they may yet do that, depending on how the money situation works out. Each member of the band has poured time, energy, and money into it to keep it going, and, as it does with every musician, it's taken its toll. I can hear the fear in Jahmeel's voice

as he tells me about that. He wants the band to leave a positive legacy, but he wonders if it ever really will.

Well, it has. There is not a person alive who can listen to "Foxfire" and not want to tear their heart out of their chest, all the while screaming their love from the rooftops. "Silver Circles" or "Blue Ocean" are the epitome of bittersweet. "From Steel" can make you feel a hundred feet tall and vulnerable at the same time. And if there's a person that can listen to "Beautiful Skin" and not feel moved by the time the e-bow guitar comes in at the end, then they're simply not human.

As I sit and listen to Jahmeel, Chris, Dustin, Darren, Jeremy, Sean, and Johnny, I can't help but feel grateful that I got to know Projektor. This is the effect they had on me. And I don't forget to feel lucky each time it goes tearing up my back. **U**

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African Dance Warms up Winnipeg

KENTON SMITH

“We’re bringing heat to the cold,” an enthusiastic Casimiro Nhussi, artistic director of N Afro Dance Productions, tells me over the phone. “We’re warming up Winnipeg – warming up mind, warming up spirit.”

This is what Nhussi promises for N Afro’s upcoming performance event, Oasis, running from Feb. 24 to Feb. 26 at the Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers Studio Theatre. Featuring choreography by Nhussi and N Afro Senior Artists Paula Blair and Alex Badger, the five-part, roughly 80-minute show is the result of the group’s labours to mount at least one large-scale production every year – something that Nhussi says he would like to make a twice-annual occurrence, in addition to mounting more small-scale events in between.

N Afro, one of the leading African dance groups in Western Canada, is a non-profit organization that fuses the modern and the traditional into what

can be called Contemporary African, or African-Modern, dance – an approach that presents a study in contrasts.

On the one hand, says Nhussi, “Africa is changing.” The old traditions are still there, but modernity is manifesting itself more and more: “In Africa today, people are using cell phones, they’re modernizing.” To be static in dance, as in anything else, he tells me, is not an option. Constantly striving to innovate, N Afro not only combines various styles of choreography, but also most often performs accompanied by a live, seven-member band comprised of drums, guitar, saxophone, and flute.

The result, Nhussi says, has been the attraction of crossover audiences: ballet and contemporary dance enthusiasts have been drawn to N Afro performances in addition to those interested specifically in African styles.

Born and raised in Mozambique, Nhussi was a principal dancer and later artistic director of that country’s national dance company, with which he performed in 24 different countries. He

then became an independent choreographer, traveling the world yet again, only this time in a much freer capacity. After a stint with the Alvin Lailey American Dance Centre in New York, Nhussi moved to Winnipeg in 1997 and subsequently choreographed two shows, gathering around him a group of collaborators that would crystallize as N Afro in 1999.

Neither such rich worldly experience, nor his desire to break new artistic ground, has made Nhussi forget his own ancestral traditions, however, and he tells me that he draws heavily upon the way in which music and dance were, from an early age, woven into the very fabric of his life.

“I grew up in a big community,” Nhussi says. “Dancing, singing, these things are our way of celebrating, of honouring, of commemorating. We dance at funerals, we dance at weddings, we dance at births. It’s very much a part of the way of life I was raised in.”

Nhussi’s traditional roots manifest themselves in the way he strives to make

N Afro performances a “breaking of the boundary between dancer and audience,” in the spirit of ancient dancing and storytelling practices that take place communally, “around the fire.” Encouraging the audience to collectively stamp their feet, clap their hands, and sing along, N Afro performances foster an infectious “spirit of sharing,” creating a powerful source of energy that both audience and dancer mutually feed off of.

“Our shows are never just passive experiences,” Nhussi says. “You can always come to our shows expecting a good time – and leave having made a friend with whom you’ve shared something.”

Oasis, February 24 and 25 at 8 p.m., and February 26 at 2 p.m., at the Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers Studio Theatre, 2nd floor, 211 Bannatyne. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors, students, and children under 12, and are available at the door, or can be reserved by calling the N Afro office at 946-0829.

The Innocent Eye Test

ERIN MCINTYRE

Original, poignant, and relentlessly funny, Michael Healey’s *The Innocent Eye Test* takes a unique spin on the difficulty of navigating modern relationships, be they romantic, business related, or of international importance.

The Innocent Eye Test is making its World Premiere at the Manitoba Theatre Centre, in conjunction with Mirvish Productions in Toronto. The playwright, Michael Healey, became truly established on the North American theatre scene with his hugely successful *Drawer Boy*. The 2001 hit took home the Governor General’s literary award (among others), and went on to be the most produced North American play the following season. Deemed “our most humanely intelligent playwright” by *The National Post*, Healey has a remarkable sense of how to intertwine comedy with a sincere and deep knowledge of the human condition.

The play centres on Sam Kneck, a bumbling Canadian who, while trying to make an art deal in Tuscany, finds himself in the heart of international intrigue involving weapons-grade pluto-

onium. The other characters in the seven-person cast include a clairvoyant with a secret, her skuzzy boss, a Ukrainian with no inhibitions, an irritatingly confident American, and an Irish couple who like to “swing” while on vacation. In this world of mixed identities, nationalities, and sexualities Sam stumbles on some fantastic truths about life, self-image, and art.

Rather than relying on the conventions of a comedy, Healey plays off of them, bringing cultural labels, nudity, and physical comedy to a new level. Each character is comically stereotypical of their respective countries, such as Darryl, the American who defends his overwhelming bravado by claiming he “comes from a place where people don’t have to learn about other places.” Sam is typically Canadian in his passivity, leading everyone to question Canadian sexuality (“You’re a straight man, right? Sexually? Sorry, it’s just sometimes it’s hard to tell with you people.”); James, the Irish husband has a drinking problem, and Uri the Ukrainian’s crude exuberance, occasional nudity, and understanding of multi-generational suffering allows him to clearly contrast the Westerners who he warns to never try to “out-hopeless” him.

Each of the actors tackled their character’s unique eccentricities with poise and excellent timing. The success of the storyline was completely dependent on the comedic ability and chemistry of the actors, and they pulled it off beautifully. The cast included Kevin Bundy, Tom McCamus, Lisa Norton, Tanja Jacobs, C. David Johnson, Gord Rand and Keith James, and was guided by veteran director and actor, Christopher Newton.

Set designer David Boechler made the sets like the characters: larger than life. There is only one set change, but the switch is from a full-size pool and the wall of a villa, to a giant wall painting of Mona Lisa’s eyes and some excellent ‘60s throw-backs such as shag carpeting and modern-art-inspired, transformative furniture.

The Innocent Eye Test gets its name from the painting Sam is trying to sell to the Darryl. “*The Innocent Eye Test*” is an actual painting by Mike Tansey, and can be found hanging in the New York Museum of Modern Art. The painting itself features a cow looking at a painting of another cow, while its reaction is being judged by six men. The deeper message of both the play and the painting is of self knowledge and perception, yet Healey keeps the mood light with several of the characters exclaiming “I am the cow!” when it’s unveiled.

While *The Innocent Eye Test* carries a clear message about what it is to have an identity and role in the modern world, it never loses sight of its comedic values. Uri, for example, equates “terrorist feelings” with pent up gas and suggests that everyone should just “let go of all the hate...just fart it all away.” In other words, *The Innocent Eye Test* satisfies on every level, being both wickedly entertaining and not entirely whipped cream. Through hilarious characters and intricate circumstances, Healey leaves his audience with the undeniable message that in order to survive in today’s world of dating games, indistinct sexuality, and incomprehensible cruelty, you’d literally have to be a mind reader.

The Innocent Eye Test will run from February 9-March 4 at the Manitoba Theatre Centre Main Stage. Tickets range from \$16-\$53 and can be purchased at the MTC box office. 



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CD REVIEWS



BOOK REVIEW

The Bloodhound Gang

Hefty Fine
2005 Geffen Records
(www.bloodhoundgang.com)
Dan Huguelybaert



OK, so I liked Bad Touch. It was kinda catchy and I was a huge X-Files fan at the time. But let's face it, this CD

simply sucks. While song titles such as "Ralph Wiggum" and "Diarrhea Runs in the Family" show that juvenile humor appeal, the Bloodhound Gang do not show any signs of growing up. Not that it's a bad thing, but when the latter tune consists of nothing but sounds of a guy sitting on the toilet doing his business, it makes me wonder who would actually pay for this kind of stuff, especially when I personally listen to that kind of thing at least once a day for absolutely free. The music is boring, the lyrics twice so. This disc has absolutely NO imagination. ☹

Divine Brown

Divine Brown
2005 Universal Records
(www.divinebrown.ca)
William Walker



Aggressively good vocals, made sublime by crispy technical production. Other than that

there's not much to say about this album. Divine Brown knows that she can blow, her signature style of course being the soul-stuffed downbeat hip-hop of familiar tracks like "Old Skool Love" and "U Shook Me", and she justifiably feels no need to devote any track time to other lead vocals or instruments, with the exception of a short verse in "Twist My Hair" which lamentably spoils her perfect game. This album really is Divine Brown from start to finish. It's a great showcase of DB's extreme range and versatility, power and agility, never getting too bogged-down in soul standards, with just enough beats and hot vibes backing the already stand-out lead voice: a must for any fan of fine female vocals. ☹

Devin Townsend Band

Synchestra
2006 HevyDevy Records
(www.hevydevy.com)
Mike Lewis



Canada's resident genius has done it again. Synchestra is an over-the-top ride through Devin's

dementia that at times can be a little hard to navigate. The album plays like one track, with the transitions between songs being almost seamless, and this prevents the listener from really identifying with individual pieces. However, at about the halfway point of the album, the songs tend to take on identities of their own. Tracks like "A Simple Lullaby" or "Pixillate" cry for a second listen. All in all, it's a beautiful piece of work, with the same high standards of musicianship and sound-scaping that Devin is so well known for. While the album needs to be heard more than once to really 'get it', it is worth every spin. ☹

Starlight Tour:

The Last, Lonely Night of Neil Stonechild
Authors: Susanne Reber and Robert Renaud
Published by Random House Canada - 397 pages
REVIEWED BY DEREK LESCHASIN



In 1990, on a cold November night in Saskatoon, a 17-year-old Aboriginal boy left his mother's home and never returned. He was found frozen to death days later in a field on the outskirts of the city. He had been

on the run from the community home where he was to serve another conditional sentence in a life already too familiar with the justice system. His name was Neil Stonechild, and the last time he was seen alive (by anyone willing to admit they'd seen him) was in the back of a police cruiser.

Anyone not familiar with the years of sporadic news coverage and investigations into the mysterious fate of Neil Stonechild, as well as a number of other Aboriginal men found frozen to death outside of Saskatoon, will find a thorough recounting of these events in Susanne Reber and Robert Renaud's exhaustively-researched book.

Reber and Renaud, two journalists employed by the CBC, have compiled reams of interviews and transcripts into this book, the journalistic saga of what has been an ongoing issue in Saskatchewan over the last two decades.

Disturbingly, as the book details, it took nearly 10 years, a half-hearted Saskatoon police investigation, and more dead Aboriginal men for the system which imprisons such a high proportion of Aboriginals to launch an investigation led by the RCMP into these unexplained deaths. Ultimately, this led to a public inquiry and the firing of two Saskatoon police officers, as well as disciplinary action against other members of the force (an ongoing legal battle). Throughout this time, Stonechild's family did not give up on discovering what happened to the teenager. Reber and Renaud allow others to see these events through their eyes as we journey with Stonechild's family and friends over the course of these 10 years and beyond. This is an experience far different than the cursory one many may have gained from reading newspaper headlines covering the issue.

Starlight Tour reads like a novel; a grand tour through a twisted and tragic scenario. Written in the true-crime style, it introduces us to a wide cast of characters as they navigate the twists and turns of the path towards justice and, perhaps more importantly, closure. It's unfortunate that every page of this book is non-fiction. The events detailed within are on the record, and are important to know for anyone truly interested in the character of this country, and especially race relations within our borders.

While the pair are clearly not novel-writers, Starlight Tour has the ability to make the reader feel for its characters - hardly something that can be said of the official inquiry's report, which to a large extent Reber and Renaud draw from. An authoritarian report filled with legalese is not something which will stay in the public's mind, however important it may be. What Reber and Renaud have done is taken an issue with which it may be difficult for many to empathize, and created a work that is poignant and insightful. ☹

TEDIOUS MINUTIAE

Or: Ineffectively Detailing One's Cultural Consumption for the Uncaring Installment #16

BY BEN MACPHEE-SIGURDSON
TEDIOMINUTIAE@GMAIL.COM

RATED: OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES AS OF 02/17/2006

Dost thou have Olympic Fever? I can't say that I do, but I also can't say that I'm entirely turned off by them either. I've actually watched more of this Olympics than any other, which is likely more indicative of my level of productivity than my dedication to international sports. Anyhow, I thought I'd offer my ratings of some of what I've seen so far; said ratings are, of course, inconsequential and entirely arbitrary.

SPORT: HOCKEY, WOMEN'S RATING: SILVER TO GOLD

I can't believe people are asinine to complain when the Canadian women's team plays their best and routs a team by scores of 12-0 or 16-0. Frankly, if I were on the losing team I wouldn't think the victors had been in any way disrespectful; au contraire, I would just think they were at a different caliber of proficiency than my crappy team. People who say they should "tone it down" or whatever should consider that skating circles around your opponents while purposefully not shooting the puck would be way more of a slap in the face than getting blown out of the water; at least both teams would have shown up to give it their all. Overall, it's very good, although having a team to cheer for that is almost guaranteed to do well can't hurt. The upset of Sweden over the United States was nerve-wracking, to say the least. Also, I think there should be mild hitting allowed in women's hockey.

SPORT: MEN'S SKATING, FIGURE RATING: BRONZE TO SILVER

First off, it seems this Emanuel Sandhu character is a bit of a mystery wrapped in an enigma wrapped in a crappy skater's body wrapped in buttoned-down man-blouses. I watched a documentary about figure skating on The Fifth Estate and the guy came across as kind of self-centred. I did watch some of the "free skate" and couldn't believe how much better Evgeny Plushenko was than everyone else, even though he looked like Adrian Brody with blonde Partridge Family-type hair.

SPORT: SKELETON RATING: GOLD... PURE, SWEET, GOLD

This is quite possibly the most foolish activity I've ever seen humans undertake, yet is at the same time the most riveting and bone-chilling event I've seen so far. It's like the luge, but in skeleton you ride this tiny sled to the bottom on your stomach, face first. It's like you're a span-dexed superhero, skimming the grooved ice in search of seedy Italian criminals. Watching these maniacs hurl themselves to the bottom causes anxiety; I always assume someone will crash into a wall and the resulting explosion will send fireballs billowing up into the Alps.

SPORT: ICE DANCING RATING: NOT EVEN THE PODIUM

OK, so there's figure skating, so why ice dancing? Is there regular dancing in the summer Olympics? Exactly. Once I start seeing countries offering up their best tango or waltz I'll give this another consideration.

SPORT: CURLING RATING: SILVER TO GOLD

Ahh, curling... like a childhood blankie (what, you didn't have one?), the warm comfort of curling always lures me back in. It's all about strategy, and I love the fact that on any given day a men's team could lose to a women's team. Also, it's one of the few remaining sports where some of the best athletes wear moustaches (on the men's side, anyhow). One time my mom saw Paal Trulsen, the Norwegian skip, in the Bay downtown in the men's underwear section. Only my mom would recognize someone of that stature. I'm tempted to label curling the bowling of the winter Olympics, but I think this might require some more pondering.

ANCHOR: BRIAN WILLIAMS, CBC RATING: GOLD

Nobody gets as excited about the Olympics, winter or summer, than Brian Williams. Seriously, CBC should just cryogenically freeze the guy (if they aren't already) and just wheel him out every couple of years. I've never seen another human more willing to offer up a little Olympic-related anecdote so quickly. Also, I don't think he actually does anything else for the CBC. ☹



Mennofolk 2006

BY KENTON SMITH

What started out as an annual summer event at Camp Assiniboia, just west of Winnipeg, has expanded into a three-day showcase of music, visual art, and literature centering on a common theme: the multifaceted character of the Mennonite identity.

Mennofolk Manitoba 2006, running from Feb. 24 to Feb. 26, kicks off Friday night with a free art exhibition and concert featuring musical guests Cassette, Bucky Driedger, and Flying

Fox and the Hunter Gatherers, at A Label For Artists. An addition this year is an evening of folk music, poetry, and short films on Saturday at Canadian Mennonite University. Capping the weekend is a Sunday-night concert at the West End Cultural Centre featuring The Chris Neufeld Band, The Secondhand Pants, Knackzoats, and Grandy.

So popular has Mennofolk been in the past two years that a third day has been added for 2006 to accommodate the sheer volume of talent taking part.

"Mennofolk is just one more way to locate music in a meaningful and helpful fashion," says Mennofolk

Manitoba Committee member Jeff Friesen, also a member of Cassette. "With Mennofolk, we are able to celebrate those artists who have some association with the Mennonite community and see how that association impacts the art they do."

Committee member Karin Kliever stresses that, while it is indeed largely the Mennonite community that is being spotlighted, the intent is to present it as an open-ended model.

"We're not trying to say, 'See, this is what Mennonites are all about,'" Kliever says, adding that there is a great diversity of identity among those who call themselves Mennonites.

"For the general public, Mennofolk need not be thought of as a sneak peek at Mennoniteness or something like that," says Chris Neufeld, who emphasizes that "the Mennonite community is not static and unchanging."

Kliever adds that organizers want to provide Mennonites a safe forum to express themselves on a more individual basis, whether it be in a religious, ethnic, cultural, or artistic sense. Likewise, Neufeld says that he appreciates Mennofolk for the way it affords young 'mennofolk' an outlet outside of what are "arguably debilitating church

confines," while still fostering a sense of community.

"I feel now that there is a fairly large demographic of young Mennonites in Southern Manitoba that no longer relate to the Mennonite Church, but may still identify themselves as Mennonite in some shape or form," Neufeld says. "I fit into this demographic."

The end result, says Kliever, is that Mennofolk is a chance to expand understanding of Mennonite culture – for both Mennonites and non-Mennonites alike.

Finally, Kliever and Neufeld agree that Mennofolk is also a chance for Mennonites to have fun with themselves, and, in Neufeld's words, "not be so damn serious all the time."

Indeed, both Kliever and Neufeld emphasize that first and foremost, and on the most simple of levels, Mennofolk is all about having a great time.

"It's just a good show," Neufeld sums up.

For the full line-up of events at Mennofolk 2006, as well as information on admission prices and event passes, visit:

www.myspace.com/mennofolkmanitoba.

U

ARTS BRIEFS

MONDRAGON SEEING RED

The fundraising continues for the hard up Mondragon Bookstore and Coffeehouse. The purveyors of vegan food and left-wing books are in the midst of a month-long fundraising drive to keep their doors open. A series of concerts and performances by local artists have so far chipped away at The Drag's \$12,000 debt. On Saturday, Feb. 25, Mondragon will hold a panel discussion on the role of the coffeehouse in the community, and its future aspirations. A rousing Karaoke Bash will follow. Other upcoming events include a show by ex-Blue Rodeo member Bob Wiseman (Mar. 3) and a discussion by prison-abolition activist Ann Hansen (Mar. 8).

(www.a-zone.org/mondragon/) U

COCKBURN ALERT

Steve Bell has been a changed man ever since his first encounter with Bruce Cockburn, which was at a Cockburn concert nearly 30 years ago. Cockburn's lyrics, Christian spirituality, world view and melodies did a number on the Winnipegger. As a result, Bell and his band have carefully chosen 13 of the Canadian legend's songs to record for their album, *My Dinner with Bruce*. The acoustically-performed songs are a good tribute to Cockburn, but whether the group has Cockburn's energy in a live setting remains to be seen. Admirers of Cockburn, and those interested in Canadiana or Christianity can see Bell and his band perform at the Grant Memorial Baptist Church on March 3. (www.signpostmusic.com) U

WINNIPEG COMEDY FEST - APRIL 4TH - 9TH, 2006

The 5th annual Winnipeg Comedy Festival is just around the corner. The event, hosted by CBC and the Gas Station Theater, is introducing some new shows this year. Rowdy Roddy Piper will host the *My Hometown International*, featuring comics from the UK and Ireland. Other new programs include the *Women's Gala*, and the *All Foul, No Harm* late night show for mature audiences only. The festival will also be building on previous years with another installment of the *Get Over It Show*. This year, it will focus on people with disabilities. It's okay to laugh just this once. Tickets are on sale now at all Ticketmaster outlets (www.ticketmaster.ca). For more information visit www.winnipegcomedyfestival.com. U

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Opium: The Heavenly Demon

BY KSENIA PRINTS

Despite the fact that opium is rarely a part of our everyday lives, if at all, the Manitoba Museum is out to challenge our knowledge and alter our perception of what was the drug of choice in the previous two centuries. This colourful new exhibit is titled 'Opium: The Heavenly Demon', a name that reveals the ambivalent nature of this substance.

Confined in a hall too small for its size, this elaborate exhibition covers hundreds of years of opium usage and production. The spread of the drug goes all the way back to ancient Egyptian burial tombs and continues into Indochina and the Western World. Whole sections are dedicated to the captivating history that led to its penetration of Europe and North America. It seems as though it has had a vital role in shaping the modern world, with countries being built on opium trafficking money and international government relationships forming through the opium trade.

One message that emanates strongly from the photographs and items on display is the West's exploitation of

the East. After pitching liquid opium to newborns and selling heroin as a miraculous solution to morphine addictions, Britain began importing large portions of its opium back to China. When the Chinese ban of the highly addictive drug interfered with the entrepreneurs' plans, wars were launched and new laws were forced. This message is still relevant today, says Holli Moncrieff, the museum's Communications and Public Relations Manager. "For example, when you look at the US going into the Middle East and trying to take their oil... There are still cases where the East feels like they are being taken advantage of by the West."

A major aspect of the exhibit pertains to opium's popularity in the arts. The opium dens, common in Chinatowns of the early 20th century, quickly became a "hip hangout" for the crème-de-la-crème of society, and many an artist produced wonderful creations under the influence. The dirty '30s and its crime and gangs brought an end to this romanticized notion. During those days, opium penetrated cinema and literature in the form of a common demon, and its medical virtues were quickly forgotten.

This exhibit originates from Vancouver, where "opium has such a big

part in history," says Moncrieff. "They were one of the last places to have opium factories, and they've got a large Chinese population, so it was a big problem with the Chinatowns they've had," she explains. The idea to bring it to Winnipeg stems from the unique nature of the exhibit. "We thought it was really thought provoking and interesting... Opium has a really fascinating history that is still tied to today."

The exhibit's controversial concepts are sometimes lost among the many items on display, which range from Chinese household items and merchants' stock lists to paintings and books. This enlightening journey can sometimes weigh on the observer, and the amount of information consumed is a bit much for a single trip.

The real message of the exhibit, says Holli Moncrieff, is that "there are positive and nega-

tive aspects to any drug." Opium has the power to heal and the ability to kill, and viewers are invited to see its effects for themselves.

Opium: The Heavenly Demon is running in the Manitoba Museum from January 12 until March 19. The exhibit is included in the regular admission price, and a student discount exists. **U**



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Employment Opportunity

Government of Manitoba

Management Internship Program — 3 year Term, Manitoba Civil Service Commission
Advertisement No.: 15722. Salary Range: \$39,661 per year. Closing Date: March 6, 2006

The Government of Manitoba is recruiting for its Management Internship Program to commence May 29, 2006.

You will undergo an extensive three-year training program, leading to professional/managerial placement within the Civil Service. Program includes an extensive orientation; a series of rotational assignments in the first two years; and a third year placement which reflects the intern's interests and abilities and the organizational needs of government.

This will be of interest to individuals who have recently graduated with a public sector focus from an accredited university or college with a graduate degree, undergraduate degree or two-year diploma. Public service or related volunteer service will be an asset. You will be highly motivated towards a career in the public sector and will be able to describe how your post-secondary education applies to a career in the public sector. You will demonstrate: strong interpersonal skills with sensitivity and respect for organizational values; strong leadership abilities fostering collaboration and partnerships; value for diversity; effective problem solving skills with the ability to organize and interpret information in a logical manner; effective oral and written communication; flexibility when dealing with ambiguous situations in a complex and diverse environment. Your cover letter and resume must clearly indicate how you meet these competencies. Visit our website at www.gov.mb.ca/csc/programs/mipd.html for information on the Manitoba Government Competency model and Screening Questionnaire. (If you are unable to access the internet, contact the Civil Service Commission to obtain a hard copy of the Manitoba Government Competency model and the Screening Questionnaire.)

Management Interns will start at \$39,661 per annum, on a one-year renewable term for a maximum of three years, subject to satisfactory performance and must be eligible to work in Canada. Individuals with foreign academic credentials must submit evidence of Canadian academic equivalency www.gov.mb.ca/labour/immigrate/newcomerservices/7a.html.

Applications must be received by **March 6, 2006** and you must submit the following: cover letter; resumé; copy of your recent transcript; completed Screening Questionnaire; information regarding availability for interviews.

Apply to:
Manitoba Civil Service Commission, Management Internship Program
935 - 155 Carlton Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3H8
Phone: (204) 945-2332. Fax: (204) 945-1486
email: MIP@gov.mb.ca in Word format only
(email submissions will receive acknowledgement)

We thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

Employment Equity is a factor in selection. Applicants are requested to indicate in their covering letter or resume if they are from any of the following groups: women, Aboriginal, visible minorities and persons with disabilities.



FOR FEBRUARY 23RD ONWARDS.

ONCAMPUS / ONGOING

THE UNITER will hold General Contributor Meetings the first Monday of every month. These meetings will be for those who are interested in contributing to the paper and need some direction, or want to write for several different sections. It is also an opportunity to meet Uniter staff and other Uniter contributors. Meetings are held in the Uniter office, located on the mezzanine level of the Bulman Centre, ORM14. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PARTNERS

needed in the English Language program, U of W Continuing Education Massey Building, 294 William Avenue. Language partners are native (or fluent) English speaking volunteers who give ESL (English as a Second Language) students an opportunity to practice English outside of the classroom and to learn more about the Canadian way of life. The day and time partners meet is decided by the student and the Language partner. Time commitment 1-2 hrs/week. A letter of reference is available after completion of the program. Contact Rina Monchka, 982-1151, email r.monchka@uwinnipeg.ca

DO YOU SPEAK ENGLISH?

Are you taking even a single course through the English department? If you answered yes to either of the above questions, then the English Students Association wants you! Speak English with like-minded people, consult our semi-professional paper-editors, party like a poet. The ESA meets every Wednesday during the free period in 2A47, the English studies common room. Join us there or e-mail our simply amazing president, Susie Taylor, at uofw.esa@gmail.com for more details.

EVENTS

UWINNIPEG READS DAVID BERGEN'S THE TIME IN BETWEEN

Join Giller Prize-winning author David Bergen for a book club discussion on *The Time In Between*. February 23, 5-7pm in the Pitcairn Learning Commons. Beyond Words bookstore has copies for sale at 30% off for this event.

READING CULTURES SPEAKERS SERIES

A Literary and Cultural Studies Faculty Colloquium presented by the Department of English. Feb 24: Alden Turner of the English Dept presents his topic "Lost in... Adaptation". 12:30-2pm in room 2M70. Everyone welcome to attend.

U OF W AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL MEETING

To write letters and discuss potential human rights awareness campaigns for the future. February 24, 12:30-1:30pm in room 1L04. All welcome to attend.

VIRTUOSI CONCERTS

"Triple Forte" - Wood - Djokic - Jalbert Trio. February 25 Eckhardt-Grammatté Hall, University of Winnipeg. Tickets \$28 adults / \$26 seniors / \$16 students at 786-9000.

MARGARET LAURENCE WOMEN'S STUDIES CENTRE

Presents: Jan Braun, "Queer and Menonite: Putting My Protestant Work Ethic to Good Use" in collaboration with LBGT* Gender Week on February 28, 1:30pm in the Bulman Centre MPR. Co-sponsored with the Manitoba Writers' Guild and the Manitoba Arts Council.

PRAYER SERVICE

Marking the beginning of Lent, Ash Wed on March 1 at 12:30pm at the University of Winnipeg Chapel. All welcome.

MARGARET LAURENCE WOMEN'S STUDIES CENTRE

Presents: Debbie Schnitzer, "She'll Be Coming Round The Mountain When She Comes: Teaching places in the path of beauty," on March 2, 2:30 -3:45, in room 3M63.

2005 GLOBAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL FAVORITES

March 3, 6:30 - 9:30pm in Theatres A and B, 4th Floor of Manitoba Hall at the University of Winnipeg. Screening *Orwell Rolls In His Grave*, Room 6, The End of Suburbia and *El Contrato*. For more info call 775-8178.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

March 8: The University of Winnipeg Margaret Laurence Women's Studies Centre Presents: A Panel Discussion, "Forming a Feminist Identity: Coming Out as A Feminist in the 21st Century" with Meredith Milne, 3:30 - 5:00pm, in room 3M63.

PUBLIC LECTURE:

AIIESEC Presents UNICEF in Africa. March 8, 12:30pm - 1:30pm in room 3M63. UNICEF's Regional Director Stefanie Yamniuk will discuss HIV/AIDS in Africa. This presentation is part of AIIESEC's week-long awareness and fundraising campaign for UNICEF in Africa.

READING CULTURES SPEAKERS SERIES

A Literary and Cultural Studies Faculty Colloquium presented by the English Department. Everyone is welcome to attend. March 10: Serena Keshavjee, Art History at the U of W - "Univer- sity of Winnipeg's Centennial Hall: The Campus as City". 12:30-2pm in room 2M70.



MR. LAHEY & RANDY FROM TRAILER PARK BOYS

will be on hand for a performance and meet & greet. March 14, 9pm. Tickets (\$15 each) will be on sale in the Atrium in Riddell Hall during Market Week, February 20 to 24. (Interac, Visa, MC, Cash). Tickets are also available at The University of Winnipeg Bookstore. Beyond Words (cash only).

U OF W ANNUAL POW-WOW

March 17 from 12 noon to 6pm at the Duckworth Centre. The U of W Aboriginal Students Association welcomes all the colours of the earth to come out to experience their living, breathing, beautiful culture, with traditional singing and dancing as well as a home-cooked traditional feast. Volunteers needed. For more info call 786-9647.

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

CAREER RESOURCE CENTRE INFORMATION SESSION:

Chiropractic. Representatives from Northwestern College of Chiropractic in Minnesota will be on campus Wednesday, March 1 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the Centennial Foyer across from the Infobooth. If you're thinking about a career in Chiropractic, drop by to find out what's involved. For more information, please contact the Career Resource Centre at 786-9863 or email careerresource@uwinnipeg.ca.

WORKSHOP: MYERS-BRIGGS TYPE INDICATOR PART 1

on February 28, Part 2 on March 7 from 11:30am-12:30pm in room 3D01 both days. What's your type? Take the Myers-Briggs test and find out. Register online at http://crc.uwinnipeg.ca/events_signup.html.

INTERVIEW SKILLS

March 2, 1:30-2:20pm. Learn some practical and important facts about the job interview from what to wear to questions to ask the employer. Register online or call 786-9231.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DO YOU LIKE WORKING WITH NEWCOMER CHILDREN?

Do you believe you can change our community? If you said Yes, you are invited our Programs as a volunteer! The Citizenship Council of Manitoba Inc. International Centre is looking for student volunteers to help new arrivals to Canada learn English and feel welcome in our country. Opportunities exist for volunteers to give their time and support to the Centre's Immigrant Children and Youth Programs including Sports Activities for Newcomer Kids, Empowerment for Newcomer Kids and Newcomer Kids Welcome Program. If you'd like to help out, contact Si-il Park at 943-9158 or at sisocanada@hotmail.com.

AROUND TOWN / CONCERTS

CONNIE KALDOR

February 23 West End Cultural Centre 8pm. Tickets \$22 in advance at Ticketmaster and the WECC.

RETROGRADE

February 23 The Zoo. With Tele, The Morning After and 47 Ronin. Tickets \$7.

ALPHA YAYA DIALLO

w/ guests February 25 West End Cultural Centre 8pm. Tickets \$17 in advance or \$20 at the door. Or, combine with the two other Global Grooves concerts for an advance price of \$45.

FIRST STRIKE, WOUNDS RUN DEEP, NINETEEN TWENTY, RAMIREZ, ZERO TOLERANCE BENEFIT

For Viz Cabrera and the fight to end breast cancer. February 25 A Label for Artists, 7pm. Tickets \$5 at the door.

DAN FRECHETTE

February 25 Gas Station Theatre 8pm. Tickets \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door and available at the Gas Station (284-9477) and at Walnut Street Music (480-3380).

3RD ANNUAL 20 GUITAR CIRCULAR WALL OF ANGELIC SOUND

February 25 Graffiti Gallery 9pm. Hosted by Absent Sound, 20 guitar players will surround the circular crowd and create from practically silence a wall of sound that to most is angelic and uplifting to witness. Film and video projections will be shown on the ceiling and walls, and Philia will play a set of acoustic and electric experimental music. Tickets \$8, \$5 with a non-perishable food item.

MENNOFOLK

w/ CHRIS NEUFELD, SECOND HAND PANTS and GRANDY February 26 West End Cultural Centre 8pm. Tickets \$7/\$10 or \$12 for a weekend pass for all Mennofolk events.

WINNIPEGBLUES.COM MUSIC AWARDS

February 28 Windsor Hotel 8pm. Hosted by Rockin' Ronnie & EB with live performances by Tim Butler and special guests. Free admission.

MONREEN

W/ CHOKE AND OUR MERCURY February 28 West End Cultural Centre 8pm. Tickets \$12 at Sk8.

BOB MOULD

w/ GUESTS TBA March 2 - The Venue (Ramada Entertainment Centre). Tickets \$26.50 at Ticketmaster.

VANCOUVER ENSEMBLE OF JAZZ IMPROVISATION

March 3 Centre culturel Franco-manitobain 8pm. Tickets \$15 - \$25 and available at 223-8972.

SKYDIGGERS / CASH BROTHERS ACOUSTIC

March 3 & 4 West End Cultural Centre 8pm. Tickets \$17 in advance at Music Trader, Into the Music, WECC and Ticketmaster; \$20 at the door.

DJ COOP AND DJ HUNNICUTT ROLLER-SKATING PARTY

March 4 Galaxy Roller Rink 595 Portage 10pm. Tickets \$10 and include skate rental and admission to the Rollerskating Jam Afterparty.

OPETH, DEVIL DRIVER, DARK TRANQUILITY

March 5 The Venue (Ramada Entertainment Centre) 7pm. Tickets \$27 at Ticketmaster, Sk8, Into the Music. All ages.

COMEDY

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB

2025 Corydon Ave Until Feb 25: Steve Patterson. Feb 28 - Mar 4: Ty Barnett. Mar 7, 9-11: Debra Di Giovanni.

TOAD IN THE HOLE / THE CAVERN

108 Osborne St IMPROV SUPPER CLUB: Mondays, Toad in the Hole Pub & Eatery, 8, 9, 10, 11pm.

JACK 'UM & ATTACK 'EM IMPROV

featuring Ron Moore. Tuesdays, The Park Theatre & Movie Café, 8pm. \$4.99.

PULFORD STREET IMPROV PALACE

Weekly shows and workshops. All shows/workshops \$4.99 at the door. SHOWS: Fridays, 12am (midnight): Feb 24: Outside Joke. Mar 3: The Jist. Saturdays, 8pm: Showcasing Winnipeg's newest improvisers and some "brand spanking new" improv troupes with the support of the Manitoba Improv League. Hosted by Stephen Sim. All ages. Saturdays, 10 pm: The world renowned CRUMBS! DROP-IN WORKSHOPS: Sundays, 1:30-2:30pm :The Ladie's Room (an improv comedy workshop for Ladies only). Sundays 3 - 4pm The Social Hall (an improv comedy workshop for Ladie's and Gentlemen only). The Pulford Street Improv Palace can be found at 109 Pulford St (Augustine Church across from the Gas Station Theatre), side door, second floor.

CRUMBS

presents THE BERLIN OR BUST 6 SHOW March 11, 8pm at the Gas Station Theatre. \$10/\$8 and proceeds will help CRUMBS make it over to Europe for their 6th overseas tour.

FILM



CINEMATHEQUE

100 Arthur St Sundays at 2pm: Cabin Fever! Free Films for children: Feb 26: National Velvet from 1944. Mar 5: The Cat Returns from 2002. Feb 23, 9pm: Harlan County USA by Barbara Kopple, 1976 (Academy Award Winner). **Feb 24 - Mar 2, 7pm & 9pm: Best of the Ottawa International Animation Film Festival 2005.**

PARK THEATRE

698 Osborne St 478-7275 Neighbourhood theatre and venue. Free matinee shows during the week. Feb 24: DOA, 7pm. Feb 27: The Gong Show - mixed multi-media live event, 7pm. \$100 cash prize. Mar 3: Pizza and a Movie In Cold Blood. All day. Mar 5: First Annual Park Oscar Party, 6pm.

ELLICE CAFÉ & THEATRE

585 Ellice St 975-0800 Neighbourhood theatre and restaurant. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays - free movies. On weekends, local musical acts. Feb 25 & 26: Olympic Bronze and Gold Medal Hockey Games.

THE HAITI UNDER THE GUN FILM FESTIVAL

Presented by the Canada-Haiti Action

Network (CHAN). The festival marks two years since the Canadian, French and US coup against the democratically elected Haitian government. All films will be shown on Thursdays at 7:30pm in room 1L11 at the University of Winnipeg. Films are free of charge though donations are gratefully accepted. Feb 23: *The Agronomist* (2005).

NSI FILM EXCHANGE CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL

An annual celebration of Canadian screen achievement bringing together some of Canada's best and brightest film talent whose work is celebrated. March 1 - 4. Featuring events at the Globe Cinema, The Forks and Fort Garry Hotel. Visit www.nsi-canada.ca/filmexchange for more info.

2005 GLOBAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL FAVORITES

March 3, 6:30 - 9:30pm in Theatres A and B, 4th Floor of Manitoba Hall at the University of Winnipeg. Screening *Orwell Rolls In His Grave*, Room 6, The End of Suburbia and *El Contrato*. For more info call 775-8178.

WEST END CULTURAL CENTRE

DINNER & A MOVIE March 11, "Singing Cowboys". A Good Music Listenin', Movie Watchin', Yum Yum Good Eats Fundraiser in support of the WECC! Cocktails: 6:30 pm Dinner: 7:00 pm. Tickets Only \$30 available at Ticketmaster and the WECC.

THEATRE, DANCE & PERFORMANCE

THE GRIND

Every second Thursday at Ellice Café & Theatre (585 Ellice Ave) The Grind, a venue to encourage and develop performers and their ideas through the presentation of scenes, sketches, monologues, spoken word, short film, stand-up and music in front of a live audience. 7pm, \$4 per person. Next event: March 2.

THE BLACK HOLE THEATRE CO.

Presents Shakespeare's 'The Winter's Tale' March 7th - 11th, 14th - 18th at the Black Hole Theatre, basement of University College at the U of Manitoba. One of Shakespeare's rarely performed works; a tragicomedy directed by Dr. Margaret Groome. Tickets \$11 adults and \$9 students and seniors. Call 474-6880 or visit www.umanitoba.ca/theatre.

THE CERCLE MOLIERE THEATRE

SEASON The comedy 'Surprise' by Marc Prescott. March 3 - 25 at Theatre de la Chapelle 825 Rue St Joseph. Tickets \$11-29.50. Call 233-8053 or email reception@cerclemolieretheatre.com.

MANITOBA THEATRE CENTRE

presents the world premiere of 'The Innocent Eye Test' by Michael Healey, directed by Christopher Newton. Until March 4. Tickets available at 942-6537.

MANITOBA THEATRE CENTRE WAREHOUSE

presents Becky Mode's 'Fully Committed' March 2 - 18. Tickets available by calling 942-6537.

PRAIRIE THEATRE EXCHANGE

presents Daniel MacIvor's 'Marion Bridge'. Until March 5. Tickets \$22.47 - \$32, or \$18.19 on Wednesdays (rush seating). Call 942-5483 or visit www.pte.mb.ca.

JAZZ WINNIPEG

Canadian Jazz Concerts. March 3 Veji, a Vancouver ensemble of jazz improvisation with guests Michelle Gregoire and Janice Finlay 8pm. In the Salle Pauline-Boutal at the CCFM (340 Provencher Blvd.) Tickets Adult \$22.50 (advance), \$25 at the door, students/seniors \$15 and available at CCFM (233-8972) or McNally Robinson Grant Park.

MANITOBA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Presents Tuomas Ollila, conductor featuring Gwen Hoebig and Karl Stobbe on the violins. February 28, Westminster United Church, 745 Westminster Ave,

7:30pm. Tickets \$23 for adults, \$21 for seniors and \$7 for students, plus GST. Call MCO at 783-7377 or pick up tickets at McNally Robinson or Ticketmaster.

MANITOBA OPERA

Presents 'Stories That Sing', a concert evening of opera's greatest hits. February 25. For tickets call 957-3483.

VIRTUOSI CONCERTS

"Triple Forte" - Wood - Djokic - Jalbert Trio. February 25 Eckhardt-Grammatté Hall, University of Winnipeg. Tickets \$28 adults / \$26 seniors / \$16 students at 786-9000.

WINNIPEG CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL ARTIST CONCERT SERIES

featuring Harold Micay (Vancouver) - solo recital. March 4, 8pm at The Planetarium Auditorium, The Museum of Man and Nature, 190 Rupert Ave. Advance Purchase through the Winnipeg Guitar Society: Adults \$15 / WCGS Members \$10 / Students \$10 / WCGS Students \$5. call 775-0809.

WINNIPEG SINGERS

presents Concert III 'Rachmaninoff's Vespers' with the Elmer Iseler Singers on February 27 at Crescent Fort Rouge United Church at 7:30pm. Tickets available by calling 989-6030(1) or info@winnipegsingers.com.

WINNIPEG SYMPHONY

March 4: City Classics/Choral Series Colossal Concerto, James Paul, conductor and Marc-Andre Hamelin on the piano.

BOLERO DANCE

"Goya to Lorca" which celebrates, through dance, the art of painter Francisco de Goya and of poet Federico Garcia Lorca. March 3 at 8pm & March 4 at 2pm and 8pm, Gas Station Theatre. \$17 Adults, \$15 Students/Seniors through Ticketmaster.

INDIA SCHOOL OF DANCE, MUSIC & THEATRE

presents "Kalpana", an evening of East Indian dance, both traditional and contemporary. March 18, 2006, Pantages Playhouse. 7:30 pm. Tickets 15\$ at Ticketmaster or call Julie 336-0484.

LITERARY

McNALLY ROBINSON BOOKSELLERS GRANT PARK:

Feb 23: "Thinking Out Loud" book discussion moderated by Terry McLeod and hosted by the UM Institute for the Humanities. Discussing Jared Diamond's *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, 7:30pm. Feb 25-26: 10am to 10am - Quest 24 hour Freedom to Read Marathon. Call 942-6134 for more information. Feb 27: UW English Students present their own children's picture books, 7pm. Mar 2: Wally Kroeker launches Introduction to the Russian Menonites, 8pm. Mar 8: Tony Deluca autographing copies of *The Italian Way of Cooking*, 7pm. Mar 9: Linda Holeman launches *The Moonlit Cage*, 8pm.

SPEAKING CROW OPEN-MIC POETRY

First Tuesday of the month at Academy Bar & Eatery. 8pm. Free admission. March 7.

AQUA BOOKS

89 Princess St The Stone Soup Storytellers' Circle, veteran Winnipeg storytellers, meets for storytelling once a month on Saturdays at 7:30pm. All are welcome. Next get-together is on March 11. ideaExchange: Aqua Books, in conjunction with St. Benedict's Table, is pleased to present our award-winning monthly conversation series dealing with issues of faith, life, theology and pop culture. Come early as seating and parking will be limited. Admission is free.

WORDS PERFORMED

Words Performed is a monthly event where open mic and slam poetry are re-invented. The first half of the evening is open-mic style. If you want to use props or read/perform pieces written by someone other than you, go right ahead. Anything Spoken Word is possible within 5 minutes. The second half of the night is feisty, competitive

original Spoken Word! There are no score cards or time penalties, but there is still a prize and a 'winner'! Prizes sponsored by Sugar Vintage, Winnipeg's newest vintage shop. For more additional info or to 'sign up' for either half of the evening, contact WordsPerformed@Canada.com or shapid@shaw.ca.

OUT LOUD

is an open mic opportunity for you to give your words voice. Every two weeks a special guest will kick off the evening after which the mic is open for your words of any genre in five minutes or less. Runs every second Tuesday at the new Millennium Library after that. Sign up is at 7pm. Free.

AD LIB

an evening of improv-style word games. Every night is guaranteed to be different and full of laughs. From round stories to fridge magnet poetry, from opening lines to creating new endings, there's no limit to the places these games—or your writing—can go. Runs every second Tuesday, alternating with Out Loud. 7:30pm. Free.

WRITER'S REVERSE

open mic event at the Label Gallery on February 27, 12:30p-2:30pm. Here you will encounter an enticing mix of genres, and the reading by poetess and professor Catherine Hunter as a guest reader will surely give us transcendence; all forms of writing are welcome and yet do not feel you have to read—you can witness - for the meek observers will inherit the word. All welcome.

GALLERIES & EXHIBITIONS

ACE ART INC.

290 McDermot St 944-9763 Tues-Sat 12-5. Until February 25: Brian Flynn uses carpet underlay and his fingers to produce these huge portraits by removing the black bits in 'Belfast Portraits'. Until March 19th in the Flux Gallery project room at [aceartinc.com](http://www.aceartinc.com): "Saltwatch Experiments" — Elvira Finnigan. Visit also www.saltwatch.ca.

THE ALBERT HUB

www.thealberthub.com Artist-run multimedia gallery.

THE ANNEX GALLERY

594 Main St 284-0673 Tues-Sat 12-5. Contemporary art.

ART CITY

616 Broadway Ave 775-9856 Mon 5-8, Tues-Fri 4-8, Sat 12-4. Featuring high quality artistic programming for kids and adults.

GALLERY 1C03

Centennial Hall, University of Winnipeg 515 Portage Ave 786-9253 Mon-Fri 12-4, Sat 1-4. Non-profit public gallery providing everyone opportunities to learn about visual art. March 2 — April 1: 'The Power of Place: St. Michael's Printshop and 30 Years of Printmaking in Newfoundland'.

GALLERY LACOSSE

169 Lilac St 284-0726 Tues-Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5. Small neighbourhood gallery. March 10 — 25: 'Through a Glass Darkly', Linda Vermuelen.

GALLERY ONE ONE ONE

Main Floor Fitzgerald Building, School of Art U of Manitoba 474-9322 Until March 10: "26", or "Two Sicks", or "Too-six" — the Winnipeg collections participate in their first museum show. Successful artists with street cred and art world sanction.

GRAFFITI GALLERY

109 Higgins Ave 667-9960 A not-for-profit community youth art center, using art as a tool for community, social, economic and individual growth. Until March 20: 'The Archives' — photos of train graffiti by railway worker Ed Hay. February 25: 3rd Annual 20 Guitar Circular Wall Of Angelic Sound hosted by the Absent Sound.

KEN SEGAL GALLERY

4-433 River Ave 477-4527 Tues-Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5. Showcase of original contemporary art. Until March 11: "Order of Things" by Danny Hussey.

LA GALERIE

at the CENTRE CULTUREL FRANCO-MANITOBAIN 340 Provencher Blvd 233-8972 Mon-Fri 8am-10pm, Sat-Sun 12pm-10pm. Until Feb 26: 'Nature

Morph' by Don Reichert. Mar 2 — April 2: Recent works by Tony Tascona.

LA MAISON DES ARTISTES

219 Provencher 237-5964 Mon-Fri 9-5. Until April 14: "La Dichtée" by Colette A. Balcaen.

LABEL GALLERY

510 Portage Ave 772-5165 Tues-Sat 12-5. On now: MennoFolk 2006, until February 24. Music and art by local Mennonite artists.

THE LION & THE ROSE GALLERY

2nd Floor 70 Albert St 452-5350 Mon-Fri 11-5, Thursday evenings 6-8pm. March 16 — 30: Oil paintings of downtown Winnipeg by Michael Bromley.

MANITOBA CRAFTS COUNCIL EXHIBITION GALLERY

214 McDermot Ave 487-6114 Tues-Fri 11-5, Sat 11-4. March 3 at 7:30pm, The Heart of Craft silent auction and fundraising event. Event tickets \$20 at the gallery or call 487-6114.

MARTHA STREET STUDIO

11 Martha St 772-6253 Mon-Fri 10-5. Showcasing the fine art of printmaking.

MEDEA GALLERY

132 Osborne St 453-1115 Mon-Sat 10:30-5, Sun 1-4. February 26 — March 11: "New Marine Renderings", watercolours by Leo McVarish.

MENTORING ARTISTS FOR WOMEN'S ART

611 Main St 949-9490 Supporting women artists at their new home on Main Street.

OSBORNE VILLAGE CULTURAL CENTRE

445 River @ Osborne St 284-9477 Community art gallery in the Village.

OUTWORKS GALLERY

3rd Floor 290 McDermot Ave 949-0274 Artist-run studio and exhibition space in the Exchange.

PLATFORM

(CENTRE FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC AND DIGITAL ARTS) 121-100 Arthur St 942-8183 Tues-Sat 12-5.

PLUG-IN ICA

286 McDermot Ave 942-1043 Until My 13: Jeremy Borsos 'Then Again' — Over five years in the making and adapted to the city where it is presented, this project matches envelopes and postcards delivered to addresses in Winnipeg up to a century ago with their present-day locations — some which have changed dramatically over the years. Until May 13: Paul Robles 'The World is Your Oyster', the inaugural edition of Plug In ICA's Quick Response Series.

URBAN SHAMAN

203-290 McDermot Ave 942-2674 Until March 3: 'Sacred Feminine', a photographic testament to the ancestral lands of the Dakota people by Lita Fontaine.

VIDEO POOL MEDIA ARTS CENTRE

300-100 Arthur St 949-9134 Contemporary media art.

WAH-SA GALLERY

302 Fort St 942-5121 Contemporary Aboriginal art. Until March 4: Mixed-media artists Carl Fontaine and Terry Young. March 16 — April 1: Collector's Showcase.

WAYNE ARTHUR GALLERY

186 Provencher Blvd 477-5249 Manitoba-based art gallery. Until March 1: 'Open Minds' by David Cooper, Bill Lucenkiw, Omar DeWandel. Opening March 5: Elizabeth Yonza.

WINNIPEG ART GALLERY

300 Memorial Blvd 786-6641 Until Mar 5: Selected Works 1980-2004 of Nancy Edell, including rug-hooking, paintings and prints. Until Mar 19: 'Aliyah Suite' by Salvador Dali. Commissioned to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel, these works combine biblical texts with references to the Second World War, creating images at once both tragic and hopeful. Until April 2: 'Early Masters' a collection of Inuit Sculptures.

Until May 14: 'supernovas', an eclectic explosion of art by Winnipeg's emerging new artists—performance, video, audio, installation, sculpture, painting, drawing, and craft. January to March: lone Thorkelsson 'Arboreal Fragments'. Manitoba's leading glass artist, positions familiar objects in unexpected contexts, thus removing the familiar and suggesting new possible meanings.

WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL ART GALLERY

(WYG) (formerly Cream Gallery) 264 McDermot Ave 488-8699 On now: The new "Eight-Inch Gallery", a sub-exhibition of small works.

WOODLANDS GALLERY

535 Academy Road 947-0700 Until March 11: Featured artist Julie Cosgrove's abstract paintings.

BARS, CAFES & VENUES

ACADEMY BAR & EATERY

414 Academy Rd Sundays: Funday Night. Mondays: Student Night. First Tuesday of the month: Speaking Crow poetry night. Feb 23: Radiation. Feb 24: Jodi King. Feb 25: Radiation with Disillusion. Feb 27: Landmines Awareness Fundraiser. Feb 28: Tim Butler jam night. Mar 1: Jazz night w/ Glenn Buhr and Jason Bernstein. Mar 2: Flat Lines and Racing Hearts. Mar 3: Red Faculty with Kram Ram. Mar 4: Marcel Desilets and friends. Mar 6: Scott Hinkson. Mar 7: Speaking Crow Poetry.

BARCA CLUB

423 McMillan Mondays: Live hip hop/R&B/soul & open mic with Breeze and the Nu Funk Federation. Wednesdays: Back to the Lab DJ Night.

BAR ITALIA

737 Corydon Wednesdays: Joints & Jam w/ Hot Sauce Duo. Thursdays: D-LO. Fridays: DJ TwentyTwenty. Saturdays: My Generation featuring djharrychan. Sundays: Sindays featuring Spitz and ICQRI of Mood Ruff.

BELLA VISTA

53 Maryland St Wednesdays: Scott Nolan.

BILLABONG AUSTRALIAN BAR & BISTRO

D-121 Osborne St. First Monday of the month: Open Mic.

CENTRE CULTUREL FRANCO-MANITOBAIN

340 Provencher Blvd Mardi Jazz, Every Tuesday in Salle Pauline-Boutal or Antoine Gaborieau (2nd Floor) at 8:30pm. Free admission. Every second Thursday: Keith Price Trio and Invitees jam session, 8:30pm. French Karaoke Evening, Mar 4, 7pm, free admission. Lions du Jazz Series, in Salle Antoine Gaborieau: Mar 10: The U of M Jazz Faculty Septet, w/ Siggie Flosason. \$10.



COLLECTIVE CABARET

108 Osborne St Thursdays: '80s and '90s Night. Fridays: Goth/Industrial. Saturdays: WinnipegJungle.com presents DJs Dexx, Whupass, Krisco, Gumby Buzblaze and guests. Feb 24: Dreadnaut, Port Amoral. Feb 25: Mung CD Release w/ The Daggers, Igor & The Skindiggers. **Mar 3: Radio for Help, The Reception.** Mar 4: Suiciety.

DYLAN O'CONNOR IRISH PUB

2609 Portage Ave Mondays: Open mic night w/ The St. John's Jammers. Tuesdays: Pat Alexander. Wednesdays: Guity Pleasures. Feb 23: Mad Young Darlings, Love City Overdose. Feb 24: 47 Ronin. Feb 25: Steeple Chaser. Feb 26: Barry G. Player. Feb 28: Pat Alexander. Mar 2: Banshee's Wail.

ELEPHANT & CASTLE PUB

350 St Mary Ave Fridays: Jazz guitar

and vocals by Lawrence Patzer. Sundays: Student Night. Feb 26: Adrien Sala. Mar 5: The Mandarins.

ELLICE CAFÉ & THEATRE

587 Ellice Ave. Neighbourhood café and theatre showing films and showcasing local talent. Every second Thursday: The Grind performance event. \$4. Feb 25: Bronze-medal Olympic hockey game, 1:30pm, \$4.99. Feb 26: Gold-medal Olympic hockey game, 7am. \$4.99. Mar 18: Cold Fusion Fest: Creative Workshops, Performances, Networking Party. Call 783-4640 or visit www.coldfusionfest.com for more details.

FINN'S PUB

210-25 Forks Market Rd Johnson Terminal Tuesdays: Ego Spank — Jazz w/ Murray Pulver, Marc Arnould, Gilles Fournier, Daniel Roy, 10:30pm-2am. Wednesdays: Open Mic w/ Guy Abraham.

FOLK EXCHANGE

211 Bannatyne Ave First Monday of the month: Festival Folk Club. \$4.99. Anything and everything for the love of performing folk music. Open mics, guest performers, folk jams and more. Second Monday of the month: Folk Workshop Series. \$25. Third Monday of the month: Traditional Singers Circle. \$2. Fourth Monday of the month: Hand Drumming Circle. \$5. Feb 24: David Essig Festival House Concert, \$15.

GIO'S

155 Smith St Mondays: Student Night. Wednesdays: Karaoke. Thursdays: DJ Perry. Fridays: DJ Chris. 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month: Womyn's Night. 2nd Saturday of each month: live lounge music. 2nd Sunday each month: Prime Pages book club, 5pm.

HEMP ROCK CAFÉ

302 Notre Dame Ave Local and touring acoustic and punk shows



HOOLOGAN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB

61 Sherbrook St Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays: Karaoke. **Wednesdays: The Perpetrators.** Thursdays: Andrew Neville and the Poor Choices. Sundays: Blues Jam with Scotty Hills and Curtis Newton. Mar 11: Banshee's Wail.

NN AT THE FORKS — THE CURRENT LOUNGE

1 Forks Market Road Thursdays-Saturdays — Jazz. Feb 23-25: Joel Kwiatkowski.

KING'S HEAD PUB

100 King St 1st three Wednesdays of the month: Filliment Funk, 8-11pm. Last Wednesday of the month: Papo Mambo Latin Jazz Night. Sundays: All The King's Men. Feb 24: The Kicker. Feb 25: The Afterbeat. Mar 3: Dr. Rage & The Uppercuts. Mar 4: Subcity Dwellers.



MONDRAGON BOOKSTORE & COFFEEHOUSE

91 Albert St Feb 24: Putrescence, Kursk, Under Pressure, Kursk, Space Amazon and the Warrior Queens, \$6, all ages, 9pm. Feb 25: Panel Discussion including past and present Mondragon collective members speaking in regards to the Dragon's roots and its dreams for the future, 6pm and later Save the 'Drag Karaoke Bash. Mar 1: Wobbly Wednesdays will kick off with folks from the Industrial Workers of the World. **March 3: Bob Wiseman w/ Leah Abramson.** \$10, 9pm.

McNALLY ROBINSON BOOKSELLERS — PRAIRIE INK RESTAURANT:

Portage Place All music at 6:30pm. Feb 24: Keith Dyck. Mar 3: Mira Black Trio. Grant Park: All shows at 8pm. Feb 24: The Bob Watts Trio. Mar 3: David Cramer. Mar 4: David Hasselfield.

OSBORNE FREEHOUSE

437 Osborne St Mondays: Jazz Hang Nights with Steve & Anna Lisa Kirby and various other artists, 8-11pm. Wednesdays: 'Why Not Wednesdays?' Live local and touring music. Feb 24: Mood Ruff. Feb 25: ICQRI & RPG. Mar 1: Matt Epp. Mar 8: Electric Orange featuring Tim Butler. Mar 15: Jeremy Proctor.

PARK THEATRE

698 Osborne St Tuesdays: Jack 'Em & Attack 'Um Improv, 8pm. Feb 24: DOA, 7pm. Mar 1: Canadian Landmines Association Documentary Night. Mar 4: Live Jazz, 7pm, \$10/\$12. Mar 5: S.O.N.S., 3pm



PYRAMID CABARET

176 Fort St Thursdays: The Mod Club w/ DJ Sean Allum and the Invisible Man, doors at 8pm. Sundays: Ra NRG VIII. Feb 24: Red Shag Carpet, Jay Crocker. Feb 25: Fly Wheel, Lucid, Coda. Feb 27: Eat to the Beat. **Mar 4: The Most Serene Republic.**

REGAL BEAGLE

331 Smith St Tuesdays: Hatfield McCoy. Wednesdays: Open Mic Nights. Last Saturday of the month: Brace and @ Large Keepin' It Dope. New and classic Hip Hop. No cover.

ROYAL ALBERT ARMS

48 Albert St Mondays: Karaoke. Saturday Afternoons: Blues Jam, 4-7. Feb 23: You Say Party! We Say Die! Feb 25: Putrescence, Maniac Sumo Cunt and guests. Feb 28: Action, Dead City Disease. Mar 1: We Are Wolves, 9pm. Mar 2: Bob Mould Pre/After Party, 6pm. Mar 8: The Illuminati, 10pm.

SHANNON'S IRISH PUB

175 Carlton St Sundays: fascade@137dps. Mondays: Patrick Keenan. Wednesdays: Sons of York. Thursdays: Power Thursdays — various bands. Feb 23: Lives of Many w/ Derek Zacharias. Feb 24 & 25: Dust Rhinos. Feb 26: Status Red, Playing Cards, Losing Focus. Feb 27: Pat Keenan. Feb 28: Broken Halo.

TIMES CHANGE(D) HIGH AND LONESOME CLUB

Main St @ St. Mary Ave Sundays 9:30pm: Jam with Big Dave McLean. Feb 25: Johnny Cash birthday bash. Mar 2: The New Kings. Mar 3: Romi Mayes and Dan Walsh. Mar 4: Ham.

TOAD IN THE HOLE / THE CAVERN

108 Osborne St Sundays: Vinyl Drip w/ Uncle Albert. Mondays: Improv Supper Club hosted by Steve McIntyre. Feb 23: Godspeed. Feb 24 & 25: The Telepathic Butterflies. Feb 28: Trivia w/ Spencer the Sound Guy.

WEST END CULTURAL CENTRE

Ellice Ave @ Sherbrook Feb 23: Connie Kaldor. Feb 24: Manitoba Independent Songwriters Circle. Feb 25: Global Grooves — Alpha Yaya Diallo with guests. Feb 26: MennoFolk 2006 with Chris Neufeld, Grandy. Feb 27: controller.controller. Feb 28: Moneen w/ Choke and Our Mercury, 8pm, \$12. Mar 1: Joel Fafard & Eileen Lavery. \$12/\$15. Mar 3 & 4: Skydiggers/Cash Brother Acoustic show. See Concerts for more details. Mar 10: Dust Poets CD Release, \$12/\$15. March 11: Dinner & a Movie "Singing Cowboys". Tickets \$30 at Ticketmaster and WECC.

WINDSOR HOTEL

187 Garry St Mondays: Jams with Tim Butler. Tuesdays: Latin Jazz Night featuring Jeff Presslaff, Rodrigo Muñoz,

Julian Bradford, 10pm. Wednesdays: Jams with Big Dave McLean. Saturdays: The Perpetrators. Feb 23-26: Tim Butler. Feb 28: winnipegblues.com Music Awards, 8pm. Mar 4: Wild T and the Spirit, 8pm, \$10.

WOODBINE HOTEL

466 Main St Historic downtown hotel bar. Tuesdays: Karaoke and 3Ball Tournament. Feb 24 & 25: The Perpetrators.

THE ZOO / OSBORNE VILLAGE INN

160 Osborne St Mondays: DJ Rockit. Thursdays: New band showcase. Fridays and Saturdays: Stripfest. Feb 23: Tectral Echoes, Monty Yanks, Justin Waterman. Feb 24: FREQ presents Retrograde w/ Tele, The Morning After, Ronin 47. Feb 25: Potatoes w/ Kovered in Live. Mar 3: Radio Outlaws, River City Hum and Mad Young Darlings. Mar 9: Slow Mojo w/ Pressure and Still My Queen. Mar 10 & 11: Misery Metallica Tribute.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT CO-OP SKI WAXING CLINICS

Join us for free in-store waxing demos every Saturday morning in the Ski Dept. Find out how to prep, wax and maintain your x-country skis from our knowledgeable staff. Call the Member Services Desk at 943-4202 for more info. Saturday mornings, 9am at MEC, 303 Portage Ave.

ATTENTION WINTER CYCLISTS:

The Bike Dump will be open all winter, providing free help fixing your bike and free recycled parts. Stop by any Sunday between 12-6pm at 594 Main St. -- access through the back lane off King or Logan. Visit: <http://bike-dump.ca> for more info.

SKYWALK CONCERT SERIES & LECTURES

Co-presented with the University of Winnipeg, the Skywalk Concerts and Lectures series is held every Wednesday for lectures and Thursday for music from 12:10 until 12:50pm at the Carol Shields Auditorium, 2nd floor, Millennium Library. Bring your bag lunch and be informed, entertained and enlightened! Free admission. Seating is limited. Upcoming events: Feb 23: Concert: "Double Duty" by Oleg Pokharnovski. Mar 1: Lecture: Melanie Martin, UW Physics — "Uncovering the Mysteries of Disease Deep Inside the Living Brain." Mar 2: Concert: Nathan. Mar 8: Lecture: Louise Saldanha, UW English — "Children's Literature: How Our Kids Learn About Canada's Cultures". Mar 9: Concert: Ron Paley Jazz Trio.

MUSIC 'N MAVENS SERIES

All shows begin at 2pm at Rady Jewish Community Centre, 123 Doncaster St. Tickets \$5/\$7 available at 477-7510 or www.radyjcc.com. Feb 23: Hot Jazz! Feb 28: "The Impacts of Gaza on Israeli Security" by doctoral candidate Brent Sasley. Mar 2: Fifteen-year-old jazz musical prodigy Sophie Berkal-Sarbit. Mar 6: At Gwen Selter Creative Living Centre, 1588 Main Street — Concert featuring the Classical Mandolin Ensemble. Mar 7: "Israel Has Its Special Needs Too", Yude Henteleff. Mar 9: Concert — Connie Gitlin, MCO Clarinet.

ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE

THE WORK OF CHRISTIAN PEACEMAKER TEAMS As the fate of four Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) hostages hangs in the balance in Iraq, you are invited to attend an evening with Gene Stoltzfus, Karen Ridd, and others as they answer your questions about the work and vision of CPT and other nonviolent organizations. "Alternatives to Violence" will explore non-violent responses to aggression as practiced by CPT around the world. February 23, 7:30-9pm, Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall, University of Winnipeg. Everybody Welcome. Free Admission.

HEALING FROM INJUSTICE

In honour of Aboriginal Justice Day, the Manitoba Aboriginal Justice Equality Coalition (MAJEC) is hosting a community healing circle. Anyone affected by police violence is invited to attend. 1-4pm,

Graffiti Art Gallery, 109 Higgins Ave. For more information, contact info@majec.ca.

MANITOBA NATURALISTS SOCIETY

Indoor Program presentation "The Red River Floodway Expansion Project" February 27 at 7:30pm at the Centre Culturel Franco-manitobain, 340 Provencher Blvd. Guest speaker will be Doug MacNeil, VP Hydraulics, Manitoba Floodway Authority. Admission: \$2.00 for MNS members & \$6.00 for non-members. For further information, please call the office at 943-9029.

WHAT IS CANADIAN CULTURE NOW?

(City Festival of Contemporary Culture) March 4, 1-4pm in Carol Shields Auditorium, Millennium Library. Readings and debate on the current dilemmas and possibilities for people working in the arts in Winnipeg. For many contemporary Canadian artists, English is a second language; Canada offers a second culture. What are the international aspects of the Canadian creative and performing arts? What has been the impact of globalization and shifting patterns of immigration on Canadian culture? How is Canadian culture perceived from the 'outside'? Faced with the emphasis on 'Reality' as entertainment, is there a questioning in contemporary culture of the value of imaginary constructs, of 'Art'? What is the future for writing, visual art, dance, theatre in Canada? No registration required. Space is limited. For further information, call 986-4294.

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL MANITOBA PRESENTS

Travel Talks 2005/06. Slide show presentations and travel talks featuring a world of travel opportunities. Travel Nights are held at the Sport Manitoba Building, 200 Main Street 7:30-9pm. Everyone Welcome! FREE Admission. Donations gratefully accepted. For more information call 784-1131. March 9: Remembering New Orleans.

HOSTELLING 101

Join us for Hostelling 101: A series of Q&A discussion groups hosted by Hostelling International, featuring experienced budget travellers and hostellers. Discussion is lively and informative! Seminars presented by Hostelling International are held on the first Thursday of the month at Mountain Equipment Co-op, then the third Thursday of the next month at McNally Robinson Book-sellers, Portage Place. Next seminar is on March 9 at Mountain Equipment Co-op. To pre-register, call 784-1131. Admission is free.

LOCAL TO GLOBAL 2006: THE FEMINIZATION OF HIV/AIDS

With Guest Speaker Katherine McDonald, Executive Director, Action Canada for Population and Development. Jennifer Rattray will be the Guest Emcee and the evening will include refreshments and a performance by the Fubuki Daiko Kagemusha - Japanese Drumming Troupe, as well as a silent auction of an original painting by local artist Naomi Gerrard. Tickets: \$30.00, available from Manitoba Women's Advisory Council at 945-6281 and McNally Robinson Book Stores. Proceeds to support UNIFEM's HIV/AIDS Prevention Program. March 9, 7-9pm at Canad Inns Polo Park.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



BHAKTI YOGA:

Kirtan and Karma-Free Feast: Sundays at 5:30, 11 Alloway Avenue. For more information phone Vrinda at 947-0289 or email iskconlive@mts.net.

BECOME A MENTOR

at the Immigrant Women's Association of Manitoba. Being a Mentor will entail speaking to a variety of audiences on how being a first or second-generation immigrant has impacted your life, along with your personal challenges and choices. Advantages of being an IWAM Mentor include receiving a generous honorarium, learning new skills, making new contacts and meeting interesting people. Please call the Immigrant Women's Association of Manitoba's office at 989-5800 or email iwam@uwinnipeg.ca

CONVERSATION CIRCLES

Practice speaking English, make new friends and visit the library. The Library's English as a Second Language (ESL) Conversation Circles program returns this winter. The program is intended for adults who can understand English spoken at an almost normal rate and who can speak in short sentences. Join others who are interested in improving their English conversational skills. All meetings are led by a trained ESL volunteer from the International Centre of Winnipeg, Millennium Library Meeting Room 1. Wednesdays, January 11 - March 8 from 6:30 - 8pm. To register call 986-6475.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Manitoba Artists in Healthcare is looking for musicians willing to volunteer to play in hospitals. For details please call Shirley Grierson at 475-8085 between the hours of noon and 6pm.

FRONTIER COLLEGE

There are one-hundred and sixty-eight hours in a week. We are asking for one! Frontier College is a non-profit literacy organization that recruits volunteers to act as tutors to work with children, youth and adults who want to improve their literacy skills. Frontier College aims to strengthen communities by enhancing the pride, self-esteem, and confidence in individuals and their families. We run a variety of fun literacy programs in various Winnipeg neighbourhoods and schools. Programs are one hour once a week and run from October through to December and January through to April. Training and on-site support are provided. For more information please visit our website at www.frontiercollege.ca or contact us at 253-7993 or wpgcoordinator@hotmail.com.

CALLING ALL SILVER HEIGHTS COLLEGIATE GRADS!

50th Reunion is being planned for September 2007. Send your contact info, including email address, mailing address, and if applicable, married/maiden names, to silver.heights@hotmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE BIKE DUMP

Come spring 2006, the Bike Dump would like to expand the number of days we're open to three, or at least two. To do this, we'll need more volunteers knowledgeable about bikes to help others out. Even if you're new to bike repair and maintenance, if you're interested, get in touch by writing to bikepunks@bike-dump.ca and we'll see if we can help get your skills honed in time.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

is looking for ten volunteers to work with immigrants and new Canadian youth and children living in the inner city to help these young people become comfortable and familiar with their new culture and environment, as well as encouraging them to maintain pride in their own cultures. All programs run for a period of 16 weeks. Student volunteers will have the opportunity to interact with different cultures, build leadership skills, experience community development and provide mentorship to newcomer children and youth. For more information contact Si-il Park, Program Co-ordinator at 943-9158 extension 285 or email sisocanada@hotmail.com.

STUDY IN EUROPE

Participate in a summer school experience at Lessing Institute in Prague for \$45 USD a day. The four week long course provides participating students with two course credits that are transferable to Canadian degree programs.

The Lessing Institute supplements and enhances the educational experience of students who major or minor in the Humanities and Arts, Social Studies, Religious Studies, International Relations and Political Science. Runs from July 1 to 30, 2006. Many scholarships of \$1,000 to \$2,000 USD are available. Without scholarship, the cost is \$3,350 USD per student and includes tuition, accommodation, and two weekend site visits. For further information on Lessing Institute and the 2006 Summer Program, contact info@lessinginstitute.com. To apply, visit www.LessingInstitute.com. Applications must be received by April 1, 2006. For more information on The New Anglo-American College in Prague visit www.aac.edu.

BIG BROTHERS / BIG SISTERS OF WINNIPEG IS RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

Wanted: Kind, caring, enthusiastic volunteers to participate in group activities with one or two other mentors and 2-6 enthusiastic, fun-loving youth. If you are interested in having fun, doing diverse activities and making new Big and Little friends, WE WANT YOU! The Big Bunch Program consists of two activities per month, for 2-3 hours. Costs for activities are reimbursed by the Agency. This is the perfect opportunity to volunteer with a friend or partner. The Big Bunch program is available to youth on our waiting list and youth who could specifically benefit from group mentoring. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Tara at 988-9215 or [tara@bigwinnipeg.com](mailto: tara@bigwinnipeg.com) for more details.

VIDEO POOL MEDIA ARTS CENTRE

Call for Exhibition Proposals: Nano-Mega: The Changing Scales of Media Art. Proposals will address the notion of scale in media art. The viewer should be prompted through contact with the work to reflect on the scale (either tiny or grandiose) of the presentation format, file size, bit rate, data set or subject matter. New media work, experimental electronics, video, film/video hybrids, audio art, media-assisted performance, installation and curatorial packages will all be considered for programming. Artists and curators submitting single-channel work are strongly encouraged to package work into screenings of approximately 40 - 120 minutes in length. For more info contact 204-949-9134 ext. 1, vp-programming@videopool.org or www.videopool.org.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Camp Quality Manitoba, a non-profit volunteer organization, is looking for a few good people. Camp Quality Manitoba runs a weeklong camp taking place August 12 - 19 2006 for children living with cancer and provides them, along with their families, with year-long support programs. If you are interested in volunteering for a worthwhile cause or know of someone who can benefit from our program, please email Liz at lizkarp@hotmail.com or call 1-866-799-6103.



AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID: INFORMATION

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG INTERNAL AWARDS:

THE CLIFFORD J. ROBSON MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING:

Nominations will be received from all segments of the University community such as students, alumni, faculty members and the administration. To be eligible, a nominee must be teaching at this University. Candidates will be appraised in terms of their undergraduate teaching above the Grade XII level. No candidate is eligible to receive this award more than once. Copies of the nomination form are available in the Awards office in Graham Hall, Student Central in Centennial Hall, and the Information Booth. Nominations should be sent to the Director of Awards: Judy Dyck 1605A. Deadline: February 27 2006.

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES APPLICATION EXPENSES BURSARY:

This bursary assists students with respect to the high costs associated with applying to Graduate and Professional Schools. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- 1) have a minimum GPA of 3.55 in the previous academic year.
- 2) be registered in the final year of an honours or four year degree program in Arts or Science, or in the final year of the Integrated B.Ed program.
- 3) have documented financial need: a Canada Student Loan/Provincial Loan or a Student line of credit at a banking institution.
- 4) both full-time and part-time students may apply.

Applications are available in the Awards office located in Student Services and will be accepted beginning October 15, 2005. Students may apply any time during the Fall/Winter academic year, providing that funding is available for this bursary. Applications will be evaluated on a first come, first serve basis.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION

Applications for this University of Winnipeg Scholarship are available in Student Services in Graham Hall. The Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University Asper Scholarship has been established to encourage students to spend part of their academic careers at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel. These scholarships are open to any University of Winnipeg students who have completed at least 30 credit hours, are studying history, political science, or other areas of the social sciences, and who intend to complete their degrees at the University of Winnipeg. Scholarships for study in Israel may be awarded for either a six-week or a one-year program.

ISABELLE & LEW MILES CANADIAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship has been established by Isabelle Miles to encourage students to spend part of their academic careers at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel. These scholarships are open to any University of Winnipeg students who have completed at least 30 credit hours, are studying humanities or social sciences, and who intend to complete their degrees at the University of Winnipeg. Scholarships for study in Israel may be awarded for either a six-week or a one-year program. Scholarship value: \$1000 for the 6 week program, \$5000 for the one year program. To be eligible, you must have achieved an overall GPA of 3.00 as well as an average of 3.00 on the most recent 30 credit hours you have completed. Applicants should contact the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, at 942-3085 to register their interest in attending the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and to inquire about programs. Completed application forms should be delivered to the Awards & Financial Aid Office. Deadline: April 13, 2006

EXTERNAL AWARDS:

ROBERT KAUFMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:

These 20 undergraduate scholarships are valued at \$250.00 - \$5,000 for students studying in the area of accounting, attending a recognized accounting program. Selection is on monetary need. For more information contact: Independent Accountants International Educational Foundation, 9200 South Dadeland Blvd. Suite 510, Miami FL, 33156. Deadline is February 28, 2006.

BUSINESS COUNCIL OF MANITOBA - ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARDS:

If you are of Aboriginal ancestry you are eligible to apply for the Business Council of Manitoba Aboriginal Education Award (maximum of \$3,000 value for university students), provided you meet the following criteria:

1. You are a citizen of Canada and permanent resident of Manitoba, having resided in Manitoba for the last 12 months.
2. You plan to attend a Manitoba public post-secondary institution, in any discipline in the next academic year.

3. You plan to maintain full time status (at least a 60% course load).

4. You are in need of financial assistance.

Attach a brief essay in your own handwriting, a copy of your most recent transcript or academic history and a resume. You are to also enclose proof of your acceptance to a university or college for the award to be released. Download an application form at www.businesscouncilmb.ca or pick up one at the U of W Awards office in Graham Hall. Deadline Date: March 1 2006 - Return completed application to Awards office only.

J. ARMAND BOMBARDIER INTERNATIONALIST FELLOWSHIPS:

Fellowships for Canadians to study, research and work abroad in order to build their international competence and to enhance Canada's participation in the world economy of the third millennium. You must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada and hold at least one university degree, or are in the final year of a degree program. The latest degree must have been awarded no longer than five years from the date of application. Applicants must have achieved high academic standing. Value: Fellowships are valued at \$10,000 and are non-renewable. Other awards may be held concurrently. Applications are available online or send electronically at www.cbie.ca/bombardier. For more information, contact E-mail: SMelanson@cbie.ca. Deadline: March 1 2006

DALTON CAMP AWARDS:

Friends of Canadian Broadcasting Each year, up to three Canadians are selected to win a \$5,000 prize for excellence in essay-writing on the link between democratic values and the quality of the media in Canada. For details on the Dalton Camp Awards visit website www.friends.ca/DCA. Deadline: March 3, 2006

ARTHUR V. MAURO SENIOR STUDENT AWARD

This annual gift supports an annual award to encourage graduating undergraduate students to continue to graduate studies at The University of Manitoba. The award will be offered to a student who:

- 1) has achieved high academic standing (3.5 GPA) in their graduate year
- 2) was enrolled in full-time study (60% course load) in each of the last three years of undergraduate study
- 3) is seeking admission to the Faculty of Graduate Studies for the first year of graduate studies which will be within three years of them having completed their undergraduate degree
- 4) has demonstrated his/her contributions to the university community and to the larger community outside the university by means of submitting a two-page letter outlining these contributions.

This \$1000 award may only be applied against fees and expenses associated with graduate study at The University of Manitoba.

Applicants need to submit the application form, available at Faculty of Graduate Studies or online at http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/graduate_studies/funding/112.htm and a two-page letter outlining their contributions to the university community and to the larger community outside the university and official transcripts to: Awards Officer, Faculty of Graduate Studies, 500 University Centre. Deadline: March 15, 2006

CANADIAN WOMEN'S FOUNDATION:

The Canadian Women's Foundation recognizes outstanding feminist work by a young woman in media or activism with the 2006 Michele Landsberg Award. The successful candidate must be between the ages of 16 and 30. The value of the award is \$1000 and will be used for tuition assistance to a registered educational institution in Canada. For further information, email eburgess@canadianwomen.org. Completed applications can be mailed or faxed to Canadian Women's Foundation, 133 Richmond Street, Suite 504, Toronto Ontario, M5H 2L3 416-365-1444 X221. Applications can be found in the Awards office in Graham Hall. Deadline: March 17 2006.

THE MANITOBA COOPERATOR SCHOLARSHIP:

The Manitoba Co-operator will provide a \$1,000 scholarship to a Manitoba resident enrolled full time or part time in his or her first or subsequent year of a post-secondary program in journalism, communications or broadcasting anywhere in Canada. Submit your essay of no more than 1,250 words on one of three pre-determined topics of importance to rural Manitoba:

1. Do government controls on agricultural commodity production (choose either foreign or domestic) have a direct impact on your daily life? If so, which ones — and how?
2. Other than insurance and stabilization programs such as CAIS, what should Manitoba farmers do to insure themselves against disastrous drops in income or production?
3. Should there be increased public (federal and/or provincial) investment to sustain or improve small communities in rural Manitoba? Why or why not?

PRIZES: First prize \$1,000 scholarship and a paid one-year membership in the Manitoba Farm Writers and Broadcasters Association, second and third prizes of \$150.

-Essays can be submitted one of three ways: by regular mail to "Manitoba Co-operator Scholar-

ship", Box 9800, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3K7; by fax to 204-954-1422; or by e-mail to news@fbc-publishing.com

More information can be found at website, www.manitobacooperator.ca

Deadline: March 31 2006.

MONA GRAY CREATIVE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP:

This annual scholarship of \$5,000 will be awarded to one individual who holds a Bachelor Degree from a Manitoba university and must be pursuing graduate studies within or outside the Province of Manitoba in one of the following areas: Creative Writing, Film, Fine Arts, Music, Theatre or Dance. You must be a student of academic excellence, have financial need and have community or volunteer involvement. Applications are available by contacting the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba or can be printed from the Jewish Foundation website. www.jewish-foundation.org

Deadline: March 31 2006.

SISAM FORESTRY AWARD:

Open to all full-time undergraduate/graduate students at any Canadian University for the best article dealing with forestry or forest-environment subjects, written solely by the applicant for the award, in English or French, not in report form, and published to reach a general audience beyond the university. An article submitted for the award should be the original or a photocopy of the published article, and should clearly indicate the publication name and date in which it appeared. It should be sent to The Sisam Forestry Award, Admissions & Awards, 315 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A3. Deadline: March 31 2006.

ROTARY FOUNDATION AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

This program supports the mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International to further world understanding and peace. There are three main programs, The Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship, The Rotary World Peace Fellowship, and the Rotary Grants for University Teachers. Applications, eligibility criteria, and further information can be found at www.rotary.org. The Rotary Foundation is currently the world's largest private sponsor of university-level international scholarships. Deadline for applications March 31 2006.

MANITOBA ROUND TABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP:

Sustainable development involves changing the ways we do business, how we live, what we teach our children and how government operates. It will also involve working together toward economic and social development in harmony with our environment. Value: \$4,000 one time award to a graduate student or \$1000 to undergraduate student.

Eligibility criteria includes the following: you must be enrolled in a program at an approved Manitoba post-secondary institution and expect to continue enrolment the following year, have a min. of 3.0 GPA, be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, meet provincial student financial assistance residency requirements, maintain a 60% course load for the entire academic year in an approved program. This scholarship is not available to employees of the Province of Manitoba or their immediate family. Application can be downloaded from www.gov.mb.ca/consevation/susresmb/scholarship. Deadline: April 1 2006.

SURFING FOR MORE DOLLARS?

Try these websites for more possibilities! These two sites will lead you through Canadian based scholarship searches. www.studentawards.com www.scholarshipscanada.com

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

FINANCIAL AID: MANITOBA STUDENT LOANS

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DID YOU KNOW... Manitoba Student Aid staff can be on campus on Fridays 1 - 4p.m. Please book an appointment by coming to student services or phone Tania at 786-9984.

Rising from the ashes of Phoenix

MIGHT THE FLIGHTLESS BIRDS WADDLE TO WINNIPEG?

BY DANIEL FALLOON

Teemu Selanne wants one. Hockey's higher-ups want one, and Darren Ford wants you to want one, too. Ford runs JetsOwner.com, a site devoted to returning an NHL franchise to the River City.

"There are more hockey fans per capita in Winnipeg than there is almost anywhere else," said Ford.

The immediate candidate for re-location is the Pittsburgh Penguins, who were put up for sale in January. However, if the Pens are able to acquire a Pennsylvania gaming license to raise money for a new

arena to replace the aging Mellon Arena, the franchise will stay put. That fact, however, did not quell Ford's optimism.

Other squads that could be on the move include "the Sun Belt teams, the Washington Capitals... Nashville, Carolina. Just teams that are in trouble," Ford said.

Also in trouble could be the New York Islanders, who rank last in average attendance at 12,667 customers a game, which could be attributed to the fact that the team plays in the dilapidated Nassau Coliseum. With Miroslav Satan, Alexei Zhitnik and Rick DiPietro, the talent

isn't lacking. Even the legendary Original Six franchise Chicago Blackhawks are unstable, ranking 27th in attendance at 13,889 fans per game. Chicago Sun-Times beat reporter Len Ziehm does not see the 'Hawks on the move, however. "As an Original Six team they are a fixture in Chicago, though they have lost much of their fan base in recent years for a variety of reasons -- the most obvious being that they haven't fielded very good teams," said Ziehm via email.

Not all the news is bad coming out of the Sun Belt. The Stanley Cup champion Tampa Bay Lightning are riding their success to the bank, ranking second in the NHL with an average attendance of 20,642, an increase of 16 per cent.

Damian Cristodero of the St. Petersburg Times said: "Given that climate, the way the team has integrated itself into the Tampa Bay area's consciousness and that the Lightning's owners control the lease for what is one of the United States' busiest arenas, it is highly unlikely the team is moving anywhere." The Penguins' attendance has increased 35 per cent since the arrival of Sidney Crosby. The red-hot Carolina Hurricanes have seen their attendance spike by 25 per cent. However, the arrival of a young phenom has not meant more fans in the seats in Washington, whose attendance has dropped 7 per cent since Calder Trophy front-runner Alexander Ovechkin debuted. Most other teetering franchises have seen little change in their attendance.

However, according to Ford, "a lot of them (the fans) aren't even paying full price for their tickets."

An NHL team here would likely be another city's loss, as Ford does not see Winnipeg acquiring an expansion franchise.

"I don't think the league is looking at expanding. There are probably too many teams as it is," said Ford.

In terms of ownership for the franchise, Mark Chipman, who currently owns the Manitoba Moose, would likely lead the purchasers. If the Chipmans back off, Ford is still confident that a team could return to Winnipeg.

"People underestimate the amount of money that is in this province...But I think they (Chipman and partners) are one solid group and will step up to the plate," said Ford. When asked about the possibility of a community-owned team, Ford said: "That was always something Glen Murray (former mayor of Winnipeg) used to ask me about...I don't know that a lot of people would go for it. I don't know that anyone would go for spending any kind of taxpayer money on pro sports.

It's not impossible, but I think it would have to be a private venture."

Another means of support for a team is via a lottery program similar to the one that the Penguins are pursuing, which could include selling scratch-and-win cards. "That's an interesting revenue stream. Nowadays, anything you can think of that wasn't thought about ten or fifteen years ago can be used. If there's scratch ticket or VLT money there, that certainly helps," said Ford. "We don't have Winnipeg Enterprises around anymore, so we can get the parking, popcorn, hotdogs, and we own the building, too."

In terms of ticket prices, "you're probably looking at about triple. You're looking at an average ticket of about 65 or 70 bucks. A range would be about 30 to 100 (per game)," said Ford.

Winnipeg's competition includes Houston, Kansas City and Portland, Ore. The Houston group is looking to replicate the success of the Dallas Stars in the Lone Star State. The team would play in the Toyota Center, opened in 2003. Houston hosts the Aeros, who currently rank 10th in AHL attendance at 5,677 customers per game. However, there are inconsistencies in the Aeros' attendance this season, from a high of 11,672 on Jan. 28, 2006, to a low of 3,382 on Nov. 3, 2005. Kansas City is also aiming for a team to compliment the opening of the new Sprint Center in fall 2007. However, the city has been without professional hockey since the IHL's Blades folded with the league in 2001. Portland is home to the WHL's Winter Hawks, who split their time between the Memorial Coliseum and the Rose Garden, and can draw up to 11,000 fans a game when playing at the Rose Garden. If a team were to be moved



to Portland, chances are that billionaire Paul Allen would be behind it.

Scott Brown of the Manitoba Moose said the advantage that the Moose have over the NHL is that "the Moose are less expensive. It's more affordable for a family to come to a game than it is to go to an NHL game."

Some critics consider Winnipeg to be a minor-league city without an NHL team. In response, Brown said: "That's a disappointing response. They don't give the hockey team a chance. Technically, the hockey on the ice is affiliated with a 'second tier' level of hockey, but everything else around the hockey is not minor-league," said Brown. "It's what would go on in an NHL building."

Brown said that the Moose are not worried that attendance may have been inflated due to the fact that the Moose have fielded good teams in years past. "We have a fairly solid fan base and season ticket base. But your walk-up crowd is very dependent on your success," said Brown. "We at the Moose have a strong enough season ticket base to ensure financial success year-to-year, but at the same time, you're going to count on your walk-up crowd."

Neither Ford nor Brown could see an NHL team co-existing in the Winnipeg market with the Moose.

"It would be unrealistic to think that our market could support two teams, even though we have more hockey fans per capita," said Ford.

U

THE SCORE

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

(12-8, 3rd in Great Plains, no. 7 CIS Coaches' Poll)

Thurs, Feb 16 Trinity Wesman 3 Wesmen 1
(16-25, 25-20, 28-26, 25-17)

** (Wesmen lose best-of-three series 2-0)

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

(12-8, 2nd in Great Plains, no. 7 (tie) CIS Coaches' Poll)

Thurs, Feb 16 UBC 3 Wesmen 1
(23-25, 26-24, 25-17, 25-20)

Friday, Feb 17 Wesmen 3 Wesman 1
(25-20, 23-25, 25-18, 25-11)

** (Wesmen lose best-of-three series 2-0)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

14-6, 1st in Great Plains, no. 6 CIS Coaches' Poll)

First Round Bye.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

(6-12, 3rd in Great Plains, unranked)

Thursday, Feb 17 Brandon 83 Wesmen 77

Saturday, Feb 18 Wesman 83 Wesmen 79

Saturday, Feb 19 Wesman 81 Brandon 79

(Wesmen win best-of-three series 2-1)

COMING UP

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Eliminated in Canada West Quarter-final.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Eliminated in Canada West Quarter-final.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Home vs. Manitoba - Feb 23 @ 7:30

Home vs. Manitoba - Feb 24 @ 7:30

Home vs. Manitoba - Feb 25 @ 7:30

(if necessary)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

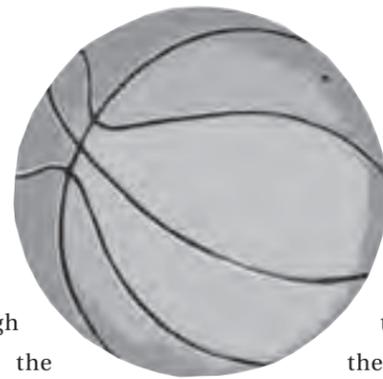
Away vs. Regina - Feb 24

Away vs. Regina - Feb 25

Away vs. Regina - Feb 26 (if necessary)

Love & Basketball

THE RAPTORS ATTEND A CLINIC. FEE: 81 PTS.



BY PATRICK FAUCHER

Every third week, Patrick Faucher brings you Love & Basketball, a breakdown of all that is NBA. E-mail him (love or hate) at pfauch@hotmail.com

So, to recap the last three weeks in the NBA: Kobe goes for 81 and the Babcocks get eighty-sixed, while the 44-year-old worm tries to wiggle back onto the hardwood, and the Raptors trade away a crippling contract in hopes of retaining their All-Star forward and only hope for the future (plan B is to take away his passport).

Mr. 81? – Kobe Bryant's ego is big. We all know it. But is his back large enough to fit another digit on his jersey? Number 8 scored 81 points against the Toronto Raptors Sunday, Jan. 22, registering the second highest total in NBA history behind Wilt's century in Hershey, Pa., 43 years ago. Kobe actually outscored the Raptors' entire team in the second half, 55-41. He connected on 28 of his 46 shots, including 7-for-13 from downtown and 18-20 from the line, all while only committing three turnovers and one foul. But his most amazing statistical feat of the night has to be his assist tally: two. I love it.

24-second drill: If you heard a thundering cheer coming from the East on

Jan. 26, it was probably just every Raptor fan in the T-dot rejoicing at the long awaited news that Rob Babcock, the team's general manager responsible for shipping out VC for nothing and drafting Rafael Araujo, was finally canned. The first move made following his departure saw Jalen Rose being sent to the Garden for disgruntled ex-Raptor Antonio Davis, whose contract expires this year. The team hopes to clear salary-cap space so they can re-sign their now All-Star forward Chris Bosh. Two steps in the right direction...I'm just waiting for the one step back...News has it Dennis Rodman, after being evicted from Celebrity Big Brother, has his sights set on an NBA return. If successful, he'd become the oldest player

in league history. Physically, anyway... In high school hoops, the Sisler Spartans managed to avenge their Wesmen Classic loss to the CJS Olympians in the semis at the WIT tournament at Tec Voc, before defeating Moorhead for the title. Just wait for the provincial finals...During the dunk competition at halftime of the WIT tournament, one of the competitors broke the hoop, sending shattered glass all over the floor...In unrelated news, it was the NBA's All-Star weekend. Andre Iguodala's off-the-back of the backboard dunk, man, they should have just called it there. Game over. Highlight of the year. And this just in: Chris Andersen is still trying to make that dunk.

Seriously though, they really need to enforce a time limit per dunk.

Line of the Month: Bryant said the Hall of Fame had called and asked for the shoes he wore in Sunday night's game. When asked if he would comply, Bryant seemed stunned, replying: "The Hall of Fame? You serious? They're so gone." –John Nadel, AP Sports.

Game of the Month: March 5, at 2:30 on ABC you've got the Mavs and the Suns: full throttle basketball. Catch the best the NBA has to offer before you ignore the League for a month for March Madness. U

Hoop Hopes, Net Losses

MEN'S BASKETBALL UPSETS BRANDON, VOLLEYBALL TEAMS LOSE IN B.C.

BY DANIEL FALLOON

Basketball will be the sport of choice around the University of Winnipeg campus this weekend as the Wesmen men's basketball team knocked off the number-two ranked University of Brandon Bobcats in the unfriendly confines of Brandon. The men's and women's volleyball teams were not as fortunate as the men lost their series 2-0 to the Trinity Western Spartans and the women were swept 2-0 by the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds.

The basketball team advanced the hard way, rebounding after losing game one on Friday night 83-77 to take the next two games by 83-79 and 86-79 scores. In game one, the story was rebounds and shooting from downtown, as the Bobcats outrebounded the Winnipeggers 51-28 and hit 7-14 from beyond the arc. Dan Shynkaryk and Ryan Roper

paced the Wesmen, scoring 17 and 16 points, respectively. In Saturday night action, Matt Opalko's 21 points helped the Wesmen stave off elimination for another day. The Wesmen led by as much as 12 points in the first half, but relinquished the lead late in the game. Down the stretch, the Wesmen took control and forced a winner-take-all showdown on Sunday. Again facing elimination, Erfan Nasajpour stepped up in a big way, pouring in an incredible 41 points to push the team west to Regina, where they face the Great Plains Division champion Regina Cougars starting Friday. The Wesmen led by as many as 15 points, again letting the Bobcats back in the game, but delivered the final blow in the clutch. While the men are battling the Cougars in the Queen City, the women's team will be back in action after a first-round bye, battling the cross-town rival Manitoba Bisons

at the Duckworth Centre. Games are Thursday, Friday and Saturday (if necessary), starting at 7:30.

In volleyball action, the Wesmen women lost a pair of 3-1 matches to UBC, eliminating them from the Canada West playoffs. On Thursday, the Wesmen won the first set 25-23, but dropped the remaining sets 26-24, 25-17 and 25-20. Kaitlyn Jackson and Nicola Dirks had 16 and 15 kills respectively, while Kristin Brisebois came up with 18 digs. With their backs against the wall, the Wesmen could not bounce back. Despite hanging on in the first set, losing 25-20, and pulling out a narrow 25-23

victory in the second set, the home team was too strong. The Thunderbirds stormed back, winning the remaining sets 25-17, and delivering the final blow 25-11. Marlee Bragg and Dirks had 14 and 12 kills respectively and Jackson ended up with 12 digs.

The Wesmen men also returned from the West Coast disappointed after being knocked off in two straight by Trinity Western. In game one, the Wesmen fought valiantly against the Trojans, taking the first set handily by a 25-16

score. However, the Trojans roared back, taking the next three sets 25-20, 28-26 and 25-17. Ben Schellenberg finished with a match-high 18 kills. In Friday night action, the Wesmen again took an early lead, eking out a 25-23 victory in the first set. However, the Trojans showed their mettle, breezing to 25-18, 25-10 and 25-16 wins to knock the Wesmen out of the Canada West playoffs. Richard Wiebe paced the Wesmen with 13 kills and 7 digs. U

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FACT & FITNESS

BY SARAH HAUCH

Are you frustrated by the astronomical amount of "get in shape" slogans out there? Don't know what to believe or where to start? Well, I'm here to let you know the truth about the myths and facts of fitness. As a third year student in the faculty of Physical Activity and Sports Studies, I have the inside info and want to show you just how simple 'being in shape' can be.

Today's topic comes from a great question I received from one of my male readers. He asks, "When I go into the gym I routinely see guys whipping light weights around in circles and exaggerated stretching motions to warm up the shoulder. It seems pretty commonplace but is there really any benefit to it?"

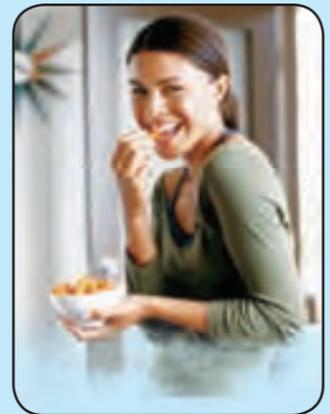
Anyone who uses the weight room knows what this guy is talking about. The first thing many people do before lifting weights is to stretch the shoulder and rotator cuff

muscles in a larger-than-life way; performing quick (ballistic), almost violent arm circles and arm stretches. Although light stretching before a workout can ensure a safer and more productive workout, overstretching a muscle prior to lifting weights can actually cause damage. If, when you are warming up, you take your shoulder (or any other muscle for that matter) past its normal range of motion (meaning the amount of movement the arm can do without you swinging it around) you are at risk of micro-tears to the muscle.

Additionally, if you stretch a muscle quickly past its comfortable range, you weaken the joint temporarily, which is NOT a good thing if you plan on lifting heavy weights afterwards. Your shoulder is now not as stable as it was prior to the stretching and you won't be able to lift as much weight safely (because you've decreased shoulder stability). But don't take away from this article that warming up the joint is a bad idea. In fact, it's a great one. But you NEED to remember that when you actively stretch a muscle you should do it in a

range that feels comfortable, not strained. Don't arch your back or swing your torso so that you can swing the arm further. You'll only wind up hurting yourself. Think of it like this. Imagine that your muscle was a piece of salt taffy and you need to bend it. (Your buddy will give you 5 bucks if you can do it.) To do so, you have to gently warm the taffy and move it slowly backwards and forwards, bending it slowly until it's fully pliable. If you were to just bend the get go, the taffy would have snapped.

Realistically, this too can happen to your muscles. So the next time you want to warm up your shoulders, take it easy. It may save you a lot of grief. 



If you would like to ask a fitness question, or comment on anything related to fitness and getting into shape, email Sarah Hauch at sar_endipity@hotmail.com, or leave a message at 786-9497



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG GETS AN 'A' GRADE AND IS RANKED IN THE TOP TEN OF ALL CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES BY THOSE WHO MATTER MOST ... OUR STUDENTS AND GRADS.

The Globe & Mail 2005 Report Card, a survey of 26,198 students, gives UWinnipeg an overall 'A' grade in the area of Education. Grads in the *Macleans University Graduate Survey* (Nov.15/04) ranked UWinnipeg in the top ten of Canadian universities, and in the *2005 Annual Maclean's Ranking* The University of Winnipeg is 11th nationally and 2nd in Western Canada. Find out how you can be part of The University of Winnipeg.

Visit www.uwinnipeg.ca or call 204.786.9064.

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