

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

THE **UNITER**

2009/02/12

ISSUE
20
VOLUME 63

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***COVER IMAGE**

"Garry Parkade"

by Bryan Scott

Check out more of Scott's work
at www.winnipeglovehate.com

News

Federal budget no green surprise

Environmental
groups **unhappy**
with green
initiatives

ANDREW MCMONAGLE
BEAT REPORTER

Despite mounting a massive effort for government attention, environmental activists are disappointed Canada can be green with envy at its Southern neighbours, rather than green with sustainability.

The Canadian government should have taken more cues from American President Barack Obama, said Tim Weis of the Pembina Institute, an Edmonton-based environmental think tank and a member of the Green Budget Coalition (GBC).

"Per capita, the U.S. spends about four times more than us on environmental initiatives," he said.

The GBC is a group of 20 environmental organizations that presented the government with budget recommendations emphasizing a focus on the environment in the month leading up to the budget.

The budget had a focus on stimulating the economy, which Weis considers connected to the environment.

"The economy and the environment are not two different things," he said.

Yet the budget was not without its environmental high points. The government pledged a \$10 million increase to better monitor environmental indicators such as air quality, water cleanliness and



"It is foolish to leave ecological and environmental issues alone at a crucial moment such as this."

—Matt Morison (EcoPIA)

greenhouse gas emissions.

Weis was happy this was included, but regarded that recommendation as a minor priority.

A higher priority for Weis was renewable energy.

"Clearly no priority was put on it," he said.

Another \$1 billion was pledged for green infrastructure over five years.

The details of this plan are not yet available. Service Canada said the plan was "in its infancy," and further information from the feds was unavailable before press time.

Weis put it in context.

"One billion over five years is only \$20 million a year," he said.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

From 2009 to 2011,
Canada will spend:

\$10,782 million
on infrastructure

\$5,260 million
on housing construction

\$4,493 million
to support businesses and communities

\$2,700 million
in loans to the auto sector

\$174 million
on strengthening Canada's financial system

\$528.3 billion
in total

Source: Government of Canada

"Compare that to Edmonton's light rail program, which is about \$4 billion dollars."

Andrew Van Iterson, project manager for the GBC, is disappointed with the budget.

"Some notable environmental pieces were mentioned, but they missed some major opportunities."

Van Iterson said the budget was put together quickly.

Fletcher Barager, economics professor at the University of Manitoba, agrees the budget was hasty in its treatment of the environment.

"The budget is a rush job," said Barager. "If the government had been really committed to green projects, then there would already have been a lot more green thinking and planning in all departments."

Matt Morison from of the University of Winnipeg student group Ecological People in Action (EcoPIA) was similarly disappointed by the context.

"Compare this to the \$2.7 billion dollar loan to the auto sector, or even \$500 million dollars set aside for home renovation tax credits," he said. "These figures astound me in Canada's short-sightedness."

The budget also reiterated the proposed 20 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

While it sounds good, Van Iterson pointed out that it is still not going by the Kyoto Protocol standards, which he feels Canada should follow.

Canada has signed and ratified the protocol, which calls on countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 5.2 per cent from 1990 levels. The protocol came into effect in February 2005.

"I will agree that Canada's failing economy certainly did require immediate action," Morison said. "But it is foolish to leave ecological and environmental issues alone at a crucial moment such as this."

Weis remained optimistic.

"Just have to work harder next year," Weis said.

STREETER

BY STEVE CURRIE

Q: IF YOU WERE FINANCE MINISTER WHERE WOULD YOU CUT FUNDING?



Sarah Deane
Environmental science student
"Canada's military is essentially useless, it's a waste of resources."



Brian Desquels
Biology student
"Reduce infrastructure spending, if we rush new projects through without proper assessment, we're not maximizing the benefit."



Marko Semchuk
Business student
"That's not what we need at all, we should be increasing spending for infrastructure and construction."



Kevin Grammett
Library Assistant
"Reductions are only fair if we cut back equally from all sectors. What money there is should be focused on long-term sustainability."



Andrea Philips
Collections employee
"We're too highly taxed right now, spending should be cut across the board, although the military has already absorbed enough cuts."



D. Calder
Technical employee
"Well, the easiest answer is to have them cut back their own salaries. I don't get a raise and a bonus every year."

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The *Uniter* is the official student newspaper of the University of Winnipeg and is published by Mouseland Press Inc. Mouseland Press Inc. is a membership based organization in which students and community members are invited to participate. For more information on how to become a member go to www.uniter.ca, or call the office at 786-9790. The *Uniter* is a member of the Canadian University Press and Campus Plus Media Services.

SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES, LETTERS, GRAPHICS AND PHOTOS ARE WELCOME. Articles must be submitted in text (.rtf) or Microsoft Word (.doc) format to editor@uniter.ca, or the relevant section editor. Deadline for submissions is 6:00 p.m. Thursday, one week before publication. Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. The *Uniter* reserves the right to refuse to print submitted material. The *Uniter* will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, racist, or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length and/or style.

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A dark day for science

Scientists concerned over major cut to science research funding

DAN HUYGHEBAERT
BEAT REPORTER

Scientists in Canada may soon experience their own economic meltdown, after the federal government snubbed one of the country's largest research funding agencies in the latest budget.

Genome Canada received no funding in the 2009 budget. It received \$140 million in 2008 and \$100 million in 2007.

One project funded by Genome Canada is Andrew Potter's study on why some bacteria produce diseases in humans but not animals. Potter is director of the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization at the University of Saskatchewan.

Potter said that while his current research will not be directly affected by the cuts, a prepared application for future funding will be.

"It won't go forward now," Potter said.

Potter is also concerned lack of consistent funding for future projects will limit research options.



"Anytime you have a break in the research, you lose people," Potter said. "You just don't start and stop like that."

Potter said it usually takes 10 years for impact to be seen on any research.

But Annie Trepanier, spokesperson for Industry Canada, the department responsible for funding Genome Canada, said funding has not stopped for Genome Canada, despite not being included in this year's budget.

Trepanier points to Genome Canada receiving \$840 million since 2000, including \$240 million in the last two years.

"Investments from the last two years fund Genome Canada's operations and current research support until March 31, 2013," she said.

"It just means we have to work a little bit harder and longer," said Carolyn Reynolds, director of cor-

porate development and communications at Genome Prairies, which helps support and manage genome projects in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

While Reynolds said the funding cut does not affect day-to-day operations, she is worried about its effects on future competitions for funding.

More information will become available on Genome Canada's future funding after a scheduled meeting in Ottawa on Feb. 13.

Researchers in Manitoba are also feeling the crunch.

"I'm a strong advocate of government-funded research and the government placing genomic research as their high priority," said Rodney Hanley, dean of Science at the University of Winnipeg. "There will be long term consequences for cutting back on funding."

Without consistent funding for Genome Canada, the future of Canadian science may be uncertain as it is hard to put long-term projects on short-term budgetary cycles, Hanley said.

For example, it could take years for a project mapping out the full genome of house mice to be completed.

"We are in the infancy of this kind of research," Hanley said. "We need lots of resources and a long term perspective."

Trepanier refused to discuss long-term plans for federal genomic funding.

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

Current Genome Prairies projects:

North American conditional mouse mutagenesis

Looking at developing mice with different genes inactivated to shed light on the effects of genetic changes in disease
⇒ Genome Canada's contribution: \$8.9 million (total cost \$24.9 million)

Frost-tolerant wheat

Identify and harness cold tolerant genes in wheat and other cereal crops
⇒ Genome Canada's contribution: \$4.1 million (total cost \$8.1 million)

Waging war on infectious disease

Knocking out specific genes in mice and treating them with salmonella to find out what role genes play in human and animal health
⇒ Genome Canada's contribution: \$8.5 million (total cost \$17.1 million)

Designer oils from Canada

Developing canola oils with better tolerance for heat, faster maturation and higher protein content using genomics
⇒ Genome Canada's contribution: \$6.8 million (total cost \$14.8 million)

Source: Genome Prairies

Not as environmentally friendly as you think

Leaked legislation indicates harmful projects might have an easier time in Canada

STEVE CURRIE
VOLUNTEER STAFF

A leaked government memo spells bad news for Canada's environmental assessment procedures, activists claim.

The federal New Democratic Party has reported a leaked Conservative Party of Canada memo showing the government's plan to draft a bill to weaken the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA).

But the Conservatives are de-

nying any such plans, said Dan McNaughton, director of the prairie branch of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

"While the government continually strives to maintain environmental standards and assessment, no bill changing the Environment Assessment Act has been submitted to the House of Commons," he said.

The law, originally passed by the 1992 Mulroney government, requires all construction or operation projects to pass a regulated environmental assessment before any permanent work can be started.

The proposed changes will exempt all projects under \$10 million from this federal procedure in an effort to stimulate infrastructure growth. The projects would still undergo a provincial environmental assessment.

Rumours of the changes have drawn pre-emptive responses from

many environmental groups.

"Federal laws ensuring development projects are environmentally sustainable must not be gutted in a rush to get shovels in the ground," Jim Hazell, executive director of the Sierra Club of Canada, wrote in a recent press release.

Hazell was director of legislative and regulatory affairs in the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency under Brian Mulroney and Jean Chrétien.

The proposed changes won't bring many changes to Manitoban investors.

The Manitoba-Canada Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation, the first of its kind in Canada, allows the provincial assessment to pass for both layers of government—provided the assessment meets the requirements of both.

"The majority of cases are handled concurrently, while we work with the [provincial] office to provide support and training for the assessments," McNaughton said.

Projects that had concurrent assessments include highway changes

to the Red River Floodway and the proposed Wuskwatim Dam.

A Green party press release quoted Elizabeth May, leader of the Green party, as saying federal legislation needs to be strengthened, not weakened, by introducing more independent study.

As it stands, May claimed environmental assessments are mostly carried out by government supporters of the proposed project. This often leads to reports that downplay environmental risks.

"It's a little like leaving the fox in charge of the henhouse," May stated in the press release.

"However, the legislation plays an important role and the parts that are working must be upheld."

The federal government welcomes any questions of the rumoured changes.

"These practices can be complex for those who are not immersed in them, but the office is open to all parties who want more information, especially the general public," McNaughton said.

Also on the leaked draft were proposed changes to the Navigable Waters Act, which regulates many damming and bridge-building projects. For more information on this Act and its effects see www.ispeak-forcanadianrivers.ca.

Local News Briefs

Compiled by Steve Currie

RECESSION, SAYS WHO?

Winnipeg is countering the national dropping trend in real estate with extensive expansion and sales.

City council approved the establishment of two new subdivisions on the border of St. Boniface and Transcona, to be built by the Waterside Development Corporation.

These 70 acres in the city's northeast corner will eventually be the site of hundreds of single and multi-family homes.

Meanwhile, CBC reported that condominium sales, homes on the market and dollar volume of homes sold are all higher than January 2008.

MINING IN MANITOBA

The province is showing commitment to mining efforts with a \$1.4 million contribution to 31 new mineral exploration projects.

These projects, funded through the Manitoba Exploration Assistance Program, are undertaken by 20 different speculators. Three of them are doing business in Manitoba for the first time.

The investment is expected to generate \$26 million in additional mining expenditures. The province will fund up to a quarter of the investment, with a maximum ceiling of \$300,000.

The mining companies usually spend \$8 to \$9 on exploration for each government-invested dollar.

BRITS WANT TO KNOW HOW IT'S DONE

Following heavy snows in London, British radio and newspapers needed a specialist to explain how to handle snow without the city shutting down—and they called Mayor Sam Katz.

On air with BBC Radio 4, Katz said we respond efficiently to snow because we have the equipment on hand.

London, which typically has a rainy February, should not be faulted for being caught unaware.

Katz added that other North American cities receive more snow than Winnipeg, but suspected the British media turned to Winnipeggers for information as we have the most efficient and autonomous snow clearing in the world, reported Canada.com.

SO LONG, SEPTIC FIELDS

In response to pressure from environmentalists and cottage owners, the province plans to stop the creation of new septic fields north of the city.

The Winnipeg Free Press reported the changes will affect the three-kilometre-wide corridor running along the Red River between Winnipeg and Selkirk. It will cover new septic fields and replacements for failed fields.

Currently, there are 20,000 to 30,000 septic fields between the city and Lake Winnipeg.

As these expire, they will have to be replaced with regularly pumped-out holding tanks.

NO SUBSTATIONS ON HERITAGE SITES

Manitoba Hydro has opted to back out of a plan to convert three Exchange District buildings into a new power substation for downtown.

The original plan, which required gutting the buildings while preserving their external facades, was criticized by the public.

The lot was chosen due to its access to existing power lines; any new station will have to build expensive new underground connections, reported CBC.

The Exchange District contains the majority of Winnipeg's heritage buildings, and was declared a National Historic Site in 1997.

Hydro has yet to choose a new location for the substation.

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Improving inner-city homes

Program fixes homes, turns around lives

JOE KORNELSEN
BEAT REPORTER

A new home improvement program will give houses in Winnipeg's inner-city a much needed facelift — while training its residents to pay it forward.

The Government of Manitoba partnered with Manitoba Hydro to renew and expand a program for retrofitting older homes in Winnipeg's inner city.

Money will be channeled to private homeowners through the non-profit organization Building Urban Industries for Local Development (BUILD) to install insulation and low-flow shower heads and toilets.

The company also includes a training component for those looking to get into the construction labour market.

After only five weeks of insulating houses with BUILD, Brian Bear said he already feels like he has

gained a lot of knowledge in the carpentry trade.

He said that he appreciates that the company's willing to work in areas where most contractors refuse to work.

"A lot of contractors don't want to go into these neighbourhoods," Bear said.

Shaun Loney, BUILD's executive director, said the company is working to improve houses that definitely need it.

"The North End is full of houses that were poorly insulated when they were built," Loney said.

BUILD began in 2006 and continued to retrofit 200 inner-city homes over two years. With the increased funding, Loney expects the company will retrofit 300 homes in the next year alone.

Colin Craig, the provincial director for the Manitoba branch of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, said that although the training program has merits, there are better ways to improve the housing stock in the inner-city that don't involve spending public money.

"If you reduce taxes across the board and reduce barriers to doing the renovations," there would be more investment by individuals in the neighbourhood, Craig said.



THE MONEY TALK

⇒ Canada's poorest 20% spend 7.3% of their income on utilities

⇒ Canada's richest 20% spend 2% of their income on utilities

Source: Shaun Loney, warmupwinnipeg.ca

A home in Winnipeg's Spence neighbourhood got a facelift thanks to the BUILD program.

Unlike Alberta or Saskatchewan, Craig said Manitoba places a much heavier tax burden on low income earners.

"A lot of contractors don't want to go into these neighbourhoods."

—Brian Bear, BUILD

Craig also suggested a broader approach may be a good idea. This would account for crime prevention to improve the perception of the neighbourhood and its house values.

This may in fact be one of the benefits of BUILD. Loney said that BUILD hires people that could be spending their time doing less productive things.

"Some are former gang members. How can you measure the value of them not being in jail or not committing crimes?"

Home owners interested in applying for BUILD can contact 204-943-5981.

TLC for those who need it

Program provides sex trade workers with respite from violence

SANDY KLOWAK
BEAT REPORTER

Once a year, the city's female and transgendered sex workers are invited to a pampering sleepover in their honour, in an effort to get them off the streets for one night.

Safe Night Off Winnipeg Streets for Women and Transgendered Sex Trade Workers (SNOW night) takes place for the second time on Thursday, Feb. 12.

It is organized by Salvation Army Correctional and Justice Services (SACJS), Sage House and several other community organizations.

"We want one night a year to hopefully not have any women working the street," said Dianna Bussey, SNOW night organizer and director of SACJS.

SNOW night includes spa treatments, food, movies and a safe place to sleep. Information on health care, housing, counselling and education opportunities for those seeking to quit the sex trade is also available.

There are many ways youth can end up as sex workers, according to Jane Runner, program manager of the Transition, Education and Resources for Females (TERF) program at New Directions, which offers support to child and adult sex workers and those at risk for sexual exploitation.

Some need money after running away from an abusive home, while others may have been sexually abused. Children with disabilities are also at a higher risk of exploitation by pimps and gangs, Runner



Dianna Bussey, an organizer for SNOW night, hopes the event will give sex workers a one-night-break from working the streets.

"SNOW night lets folks who work the streets know that many people in this city care about the safety and wellbeing of sex workers."

—Katie Haig-Anderson, Womyn's Centre

said.

"Usually it's something they're not getting at home," said Runner. "Nobody wants to be out there."

According to Bussey, the average age for women entering the sex trade is 14 years.

"It's women and children in positions of extreme poverty," she said. "They're a very vulnerable population."

For those seeking to leave the sex trade, barriers to getting off the streets include addiction, homelessness and violence from

pimps, gangs, former clients and boyfriends.

Winnipeg sex workers represent an unsettlingly high proportion of First Nations people, said Runner, at approximately 80 per cent.

The TERF program uses a holistic approach that incorporates traditional teachings.

SNOW night is about providing sex workers with a temporary respite from the streets and letting them know of the resources available in the community to help them.

The program was well attended last year.

Katie Haig-Anderson, co-ordinator of the Womyn's Centre at the University of Winnipeg, is supportive of the initiative.

"SNOW night lets folks who work the streets know that many people in this city care about the safety and wellbeing of sex workers," she wrote in an e-mail.

Those seeking help for a loved one who is in the sex trade can call New Directions at 204-786-7051. ■

Elijah Harper's campus talk

CARLEN GEORGE
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Last Wednesday, Feb. 5, the university hosted one of Canada's most renowned indigenous leaders, whose passionate plea for aboriginal rights crushed Canada's constitutional talks in the '90s.

Born on a reserve in northern Manitoba, Elijah Harper became chief of his hometown at 29 and entered politics in 1981 as the first Treaty Indian to be elected in provincial politics.

More than 25 years later, Harper is on a national speaking tour. He took the stage at the University of Winnipeg amidst a standing ovation after a brief introduction from old friend and travel companion Paul Chartrand, director of U of W's Aboriginal Governance Program.

Harper is most well known for the firm, passionate 'no' that shattered the Meech Lake Accord talks in 1990, and in doing so galvanized indigenous political action in Canada.

"He's had such a significant impact on aboriginals across Canada," said Leigh Brown, a high school teacher and instructor at the U of W.

Harper now keeps busy speaking to students and First Nations People across the country, seeking to inspire hope as an activist for aboriginal rights.

During his talk, Harper didn't touch or glance at his notes.

"I'd rather talk from the heart, speak what I feel," he said.

Harper began with his dehumanizing experience in residential schools. He described this period and the pre-1867 government attempts to eliminate aboriginal spirituality as an assault on their very existence.

While Canada's aboriginals may have more rights now, many of the government policies against them are still alive and well, he said.

Harper feels the federal government should address issues with the chiefs as equals to move towards reconciliation—but so far their ac-



tions have been very one-sided.

This past June, Prime Minister Stephen Harper apologized for the wrongs committed against aboriginals and asked for forgiveness. In his talk, Harper likened this to a woman being raped and receiving an apology, while she now has the responsibility of a child.

It is now time for the prime minister to take responsibility, he said.

"The greatness of a people is not measured by money, power, or land... It's how much you are willing to give and share. The First Nations demonstrated that to the world."

He also worried about the closed-door approach the current Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission is taking, with government-selected commissioners questioning legal and church authorities.

"The healing needs to take place where they were removed from, the land and the language, rather than the Western philosophy."

Harper nonetheless holds no grudge against the government.

"In order to speak freely of these things, one must drop the burden."

He affirms education is the key to proper reconciliation, with the final goal being the involvement of aboriginals everywhere: politics, universities, institutions.

"When I said no, I meant yes. Yes for the recognition and justice of our people," Harper said.

"That's how it is with our culture, with the elders," said Jeanette Myran, an aboriginal student at the University of Manitoba who attended the lecture. "Respect." ■

You won't see a new *Uniter* on the shelves next week 'cause we're taking a bit of a break. But at the end of February - the month of love - watch for *The Uniter's* special issue on Sex and Relationships. We take a look at our current economic and social trends and apply them to what goes on behind Winnipeg's closed doors. No wonder we need a week off!

Clock ticking on school's green space dream

Winnipeg School Division dropped the ball, say activists

SANDY KLOWAK
BEAT REPORTER

The Winnipeg School Division has been dodging their responsibility in Gordon Bell High School's campaign for a sports field, say community activists.

Gordon Bell, which currently lacks a grass sports field of any kind, is fighting to acquire the former Midway Chrysler lot at 730 Portage Ave.

And while current owner Canada Post is willing to give up the lot, they need an alternate location to build their new downtown mail depot, and soon.

"There's a construction timetable that we need to adhere to in order to ensure that service to our customers is not interrupted," said Kathi Neal, media and community affairs manager for Canada Post.

"We remain open-minded," Neal said.

But Canada Post has yet to receive an official offer for their property from the school division or



Gordon Bell students (left to right) Raia Bryan, Morgan Collins and Haley Rice rally for a new sports field for their school at a protest on Jan. 23.

government.

After a meeting with Education Minister Peter Bjornson on Tuesday, Feb. 10, it was made clear to community activists that the Winnipeg School Division has to take the next step, and should have done so long ago, said Nancy Chippendale, a Gordon Bell alumnus and member of the Dream of Fields Coalition.

Dream of Fields is a community initiative fighting to create green space for the school.

Despite officially lending its support to the project recently, the school division had no plans to step in on the process when interviewed last week.

"It's their (Gordon Bell's) initiative, but what they've got now is the support of the division in principle," said a division spokesperson that re-

quested anonymity.

But the school division needs to offer more than theoretical support, said Kelly Holmes, executive director of Resource Assistance for Youth (RaY) and a Gordon Bell alumnus, who was present at Tuesday's meeting.

"Just giving us a nod is not enough," she said. "We need more than 'in principle' here... Until they do that piece we're kind of stuck."

The school division was unavailable for comment following Tuesday's meeting.

Last week prior to the meeting, Bjornson's office declined an interview, saying they have yet to receive a proposal from the Winnipeg School Division regarding the property in question. Though supportive of the project, the government's hands are

apparently tied until the school division acts, Chippendale said.

"We're just back to square one," she said.

Gordon Bell staff and students, community members and local politicians are searching for a new spot that fits Canada Post's needs, with no luck yet. They are hoping Bjornson and member of Parliament Pat Martin (NDP-Winnipeg Centre), can negotiate a deadline extension with Canada Post.

The deadline is currently set at the end of February.

Gordon Bell currently sports a paved courtyard for all recreation. Students are bused to nearby schools for all games and practices.

"I know my kids came home with more than their fair share of road rash, trying to play Frisbee out there," said Darrell Horn, member of both the Dream of Fields Coalition and the Broadway Neighbourhood Centre's Board of Directors.

Linda McLaren, co-chair of the Gordon Bell parent advisory council, said the field would not only improve the school's gym curriculum and promote healthy activities for students, but it could serve as a recreational space for all kids in the community.

"We need this space. We need it for the whole neighbourhood," she said.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Brooke Dmytriw

DOCTOR SENT TO JAIL FOR 50 CENT BRIBE

PATINA, India: A 75-year-old doctor was recently sentenced to jail for accepting a \$0.50 bribe in 1985.

Balgovind Prasad took 25 rupees from a sweeper in exchange for a falsified medical certificate. The case has dragged since 1985; in 1992 Prasad was convicted of the offence and issued a one-year jail term.

He appealed that conviction and has remained a free man since.

Last week a high court in the state of Bihar minimized that sentence to three months for such a petty crime.

Reuters reported the judge ordered the police to apprehend Prasad for the beginning of his sentence.

PARKING TICKET NO SMALL ILL

GRAND FORKS, North Dakota: Computer hackers are now infecting residents of Grand Forks with a computer virus through fake parking tickets.

Hackers left fake parking tickets on windshields, directing drivers to view their parking offence online. Yet upon logging in, drivers discovered the website infected their computers with the Vundo Trojan virus.

According to BBC News, the tickets directed the victims to a website that showed photographs of their parking violations; the virus would then get users to install phony anti-virus software.

This is the first reported time hackers used real-life approaches to spreading cyber viruses. The offenders remain at large.

CASH TO CRUSH OLD CARS

HAMBURG, Germany: The German government is offering a cash incentive for people to purchase newer, environmentally-friendly vehicles.

The government will offer \$4,000 to car owners who take their junky, inefficient automobiles to the wrecker. The incentive is part of a \$106-billion stimulus program instituted by the government.

According to the Canadian Press, to get the bonus Germans must take their old cars to government-recognized scrap yards and show documentation for the wrecking and the purchase of a new vehicle.

The Economy Ministry will make direct deposits to bank accounts beginning in March. The incentive will be in effect until the end of the year.

German automobile companies are also presenting additional bonuses such as price reductions and inexpensive financing.

SWISS DIPLOMAT ARRESTED FOR MAKE-OUT SESSION

TEHRAN, Iran: Iranian police arrested a Swiss diplomat for having indecent sexual relations with an Iranian woman last week.

Police discovered the liaison after identifying a car with diplomatic plates; they discovered the couple in the car. The woman was found to be improperly dressed and in an obscene situation.

The two were arrested and released on bail.

CNN reported the charges pressed against the woman were unclear.

The Swiss diplomat is said to be the first secretary of the United States interests section of the Swiss Embassy in Tehran. This post represents American interests in Iran through the Swiss embassy.

The U.S. and Iran severed diplomatic relations after the 1979 Iranian revolution.

Coollest thing I saw in the Galapagos: Darwin's Finches

COORDINATOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVER TRAINING.

I'm still searching for my motto.

Spent a summer in Kunming China, helping people living with HIV/AIDS.

Science is creativity. That's what I try to get kids to see.

I volunteer, teaching kids SCIENCE.

Africa next.

Le difficile n'est pas de monter, mais, en montant de rester soi. - Michelet

Volunteered to do recreation for young kids.

Helped build my college's spiritual centre.

Some roll a tennis ball down a hill. I ask them to think what if it was a bowling ball?

Protecting the environment is good. Living in harmony with it is BETTER.

HONOURS DEGREE in Biochemistry with a minor in social studies of medicine.

VERIFY YOUR THOUGHTS.

I study the "drill" of the HIV virus. I'm trying to stop it from working.

I've done fundraising for Kosovo refugees.

Born and raised in Baie-Comeau, PQ.

Le Canadian de Montreal!

I love to hike.

There's no such thing as a stupid invention.

WORKING ON A VACCINE FOR HIV.

Internship in France for HIV prevention campaign.

I speak 3/4 languages. (I'm learning Mandarin.) → 一起 (together)

STUDENTS TAKING ACTION IN CHIAPAS.

Chemical Compound drawings - AZT

JEAN-PHILIPPE JULIEN
Millennium Excellence Award Recipient

Idea Job philosopher in Ancient Greece.

My nickname is Jumpy. Never mind why.

Average basketball player. Better Biochemist.

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Campus News

Single university looking for international mate

Province unveils new strategy to attract international students to local universities

JOE KORNELSEN
BEAT REPORTER



Former international student David Arenas believes more labour incentives are needed to keep international students in the province after graduation.

With economic hardships potentially putting a damper on local enrolment, the Government of Manitoba is putting all its effort into attracting international students to the province.

The province unveiled its new International Education Strategy in late January. The strategy examines how the province can help Manitoba universities become hot spots for international recruitment.

Minister of Competitiveness Andrew Swan said the government

sees a lot of benefits to bringing international students here.

"It provides revenue, it creates diversity and it creates new connections for all of us," Swan said.

He pointed to the \$5 billion dollars that international students

annually bring to the Canadian economy and said the province hopes to bring some of that money here.

The strategy includes broad recommendations and comes without any new funding as of yet. However, the government is also open to suggestions from universities on what they can do to help, and it may choose to allocate money if universities come to them with appealing proposals, Swan said.

David Arenas is a former international student from Mexico. While the recent University of Manitoba graduate described his overall study experience in Manitoba as good, he also has some recommendations for improvement.

Arenas would like to see more support and information for students who first arrive.

"When you first arrive it's very hard to find a job because you don't have Canadian work experience," he said.

Neil Besner, associate vice-presi-

dent international at the University of Winnipeg, likes the idea of working with the province to attract more students.

Besner recognized Arenas' concerns and said that providing proper advising and guidance for new students was a priority for the university.

Although the province did not set aside any new funding for the initiative, Besner said the additional fees paid by international students cover the added costs of recruitment and acclimatization.

Because international students pay higher fees, local students don't have to be concerned about losing funding or space, Besner said.

International students pay 260 per cent more than regular students, at \$2,006.40 versus \$557.28 for a six credit hour course.

Currently the U of W has about 500 international students; that is five per cent of the university's total population. Besner hopes to increase it to 10 per cent by 2012.

Increasing the number of international students was good for the economy, he said.

"International students provide a good source of educated immigrants."

Arenas said the province needs to give students a career-related reason to stay in the province.

"Students need the opportunity to advance in their careers," he said.

Swan hopes the new strategy will address this need.

"The long term by-product of this strategy is more opportunities for joint ventures and more opportunities to collaborate with other countries," he said.

Chances are high Arenas will leave Manitoba now that his studies are done.

But Swan said this is not necessarily a bad thing.

"Whether they stay or go home, they will be good ambassadors for this province," he said.

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*Keeping the
Fantasy Alive*

Tough times for U of W

Recession could mean **scaling back** expansion projects and hiring

STACY CARDIGAN SMITH
MANAGING EDITOR

Despite the current economic slowdown and an \$8 million bill on the horizon, the University of Winnipeg is still vowing the scholarships and bursaries students receive annually won't decline and is pushing ahead with capital expansion projects.

However, a spending freeze is in place and some projects might need to be scaled back.

Last year, the University of Winnipeg Foundation gave out \$1.1 million in endowment revenue, close to 85 per cent of which went towards scholarships and bursaries, chairs and fellowships.

Although the economic pickle might make it difficult to keep this up in 2009/2010, the university is doing everything in its power to maintain these numbers.

"It's a priority for the university," said U of W's director of marketing and communications Shawn Coates.

The endowment funds of universities across North America have drastically declined in recent months.

The University of Toronto might not be able to pay the \$62 million it had promised to dole out come April—the cash was earmarked for everything ranging from hiring and research to student grants—and

"We have to even more diligent and more prudent with our spending and our costs."

—Shawn Coates, U of W Communications



The recession and a recent \$8 million legal loss may change some of the university's expansion projects, but the new student residence on Portage Avenue is still on schedule.

Harvard's endowment fund has lost about US\$8 billion so far.

U of W is facing a similar situation, but instead of providing less money for scholarships and the like, the Foundation has decided to encourage direct donations rather than endowment donations, Coates said.

Whereas endowment donations are invested and only the interest is paid out, direct donations are paid out immediately in a lump sum. In other words, endowments keep on giving and direct donations are a one-time thing.

Donors can choose their donation types in combination, Coates said.

"It's a sort of short-term measure," said University of Manitoba associate professor of economics Ian Hudson of the push for direct donations. "I can see why the university would do it. I guess what they're hoping is the downturn is

pretty short."

If the university expects the return on investments won't be big during the recession, then not paying into an endowment fund for a year or two won't really affect the bottom line, he said.

Unfortunately, the university can't be sure until the end of August or beginning of September whether their pleas for direct donations will work to ward off declining scholarships, Coates said.

Yet scholarships and bursaries are only a fraction of the Foundation's gifts to the university.

The Foundation is currently trying to raise \$70 million for their A World of Opportunity Capital Campaign, for which \$63 million has already been raised.

The campaign supports various initiatives including the new Richardson College for the Environment and the Opportunity Fund, which seeks to facilitate the

enrolment of impoverished youth in university.

Yet some projects might have to be altered due to the economic climate, Coates said.

"There is that chance. That is a realistic possibility, and I wouldn't use the term half-completed buildings, but maybe you have to change the scope of your project, so maybe a building has a few less labs or its scaled down a bit."

While the Foundation is still raising funds for the science complex, construction is on schedule, he said.

It is common for the funds for a capital expansion project to not be raised before the project gets the go ahead, Coates said.

However, he did not rule out the possibility that the complex might have to open a year later.

The university was also rocked by an \$8 million bill recently after it lost a court case surrounding choices it made with the employee pension plan eight years ago.

For comparison, U of W's annual budget is about \$100 million.

In 2001, \$6.5 million was deducted from the pension plan. At the time there was a surplus, but the money dwindled after 9-11.

The \$6.5 million has grown to \$8 million with interest.

U of W's vice president of finances Bill Balan was unavailable for comment.

As a result, the university stopped hiring for vacant jobs and all discretionary spending.

"We have to even more diligent and more prudent with our spending and our costs. The university has been mindful of its spending for a long time, but even more so now," Coates said.

Smoke baby, smoke?

University admits **tobacco company wrong** for career fair and conflicts with healthy environment

DAN HUYGHEBAERT
BEAT REPORTER

The University of Winnipeg admitted it made a mistake when it allowed representatives from a tobacco company to take part in its recent career fair.

"We want to promote a healthy campus environment," said Colin Russell, registrar at the U of W. "They are not the appropriate company to express that."

Russell said that the U of W has never included tobacco companies in its career fair.

Yet in this year's fair, held on Jan. 28 at the Duckworth Centre, Imperial Tobacco was allowed to have recruiting officers on campus.

The U of W has a smoking ban in effect on all campus property.

Murray Gibson, executive di-



U of W registrar Colin Russell admits Imperial Tobacco's participation at the campus career fair was a mistake.

SMOKING BY NUMBERS

- ➔ 45,000 deaths each year are attributed to tobacco
- ➔ Currently there are 5 million smokers in Canada
- ➔ \$3 billion went towards direct health care expenses from smoking in 2001

Source: Health Canada

rector of the Manitoba Tobacco Reduction Alliance, said it is unfortunate the tobacco giant was

allowed to have a platform at the university.

"They are trying to appear as a legitimate business," Gibson said. "But their product kills."

Gibson said due to their lethal nature, tobacco should not be treated as a normal product. As the government does not allow tobacco companies to advertise or display their products, they should not have the freedom to recruit employees at universities.

But Ashley Buleziuk, a smoker, thinks students should have the freedom to choose.

"It's hypocritical if they didn't allow them," said the third-year English student.

"An important thing about university is educating yourself and making informed decisions," Buleziuk said. "It's not realistic to think they (tobacco companies) would go away."

Amanda Snell, a fourth-year criminal justice and sociology major, who also smokes, feels differently.

"I don't really agree that the university should advertise something like that," Snell said.

Russell explained the person who normally organizes the fair was away on maternity leave, so the university contracted out someone to perform those duties.

"We should have a written policy in place for these matters," Russell said.

The university will work on such a policy for next year, he said.

Typically companies approach the university to participate in the career fair, which costs them \$250. Companies are admitted on a case-by-case basis.

Russell said a link to Imperial Tobacco's website was removed from the university's career fair website.

Efforts to reach Imperial Tobacco were not successful by press time.

Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Carlen George

OUTSPOKEN PROFESSOR GETS THE SACK

University of Ottawa professor Denis Rancourt was suspended from his tenured position and locked out of his laboratory for alternative teaching practices.

The dismissal came after Rancourt gave his entire physics class an A+. He argues that letter grades denounce the learning process.

In the past, Rancourt has altered the curriculum with student - though not university - consent, taught a popular activism course, and founded a social justice film society.

When Rancourt returned to campus for a film society meeting, he was led off campus in handcuffs.

Rancourt's dismissal raised serious questions of academic freedom from the Canadian Association of University Teachers, reported the *Globe and Mail*.

RESIDENCE LONG TIME COMING

Students at the University of Saskatchewan are about to get a whole lot more comfortable.

The U of S, which currently houses only six per cent of its students on campus, received \$15 million from the provincial government for a new student housing project.

Construction is expected to begin by the end of 2009.

According to the *Star Phoenix*, it's been three decades since a new residence was built at the U of S.

The provincial funding came after the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union released a report pointing out the shortage of housing on and around campus.

SETTING SIGHTS ON INSIGHT

Each year, undergraduate students of various backgrounds anxiously await the day to educate other students across Canada with their experience. And now, that day has arrived.

The Canadian National Students' Conference in International Studies, also known as Insight 2009, will take place May 27 to 30 at Ottawa's Carleton University.

The theme this year is 'Co-ordination, co-operation, and community: Governing governance in development.'

Insight is currently accepting presentation proposals; these are due by Friday, Mar. 6.

For more information, visit www.insightstudents.org or contact insight.conference@gmail.com.

UWSA ELECTION LOW-DOWN

Before Reading Week begins, it is time to seriously consider your student association.

The University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) will be accepting nominations for next year from 9 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 23, until Friday, Mar. 6, at 4 p.m.

Those who are thinking of running can come to an information meeting on Friday, Feb. 13 at 12:30 p.m. in 3M67.

Voting will take place Mar. 16 to Mar. 19.

Those interested in running must be students of good standing at the University of Winnipeg and have submitted a completed nomination form.

All nomination forms can be picked up and submitted at the UWSA General Office, Bulman Students' Centre, Room OR30, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. during the nomination period.

CHECKING OUT THE UNIVERSITY

On Feb. 18 the University of Winnipeg will open its doors to hundreds of prospective students at the university's Open House.

Professors, staff and students will greet all newcomers at the Riddell Hall cafeteria from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. The event will include information sessions about degree programs and student housing, registration and campus tours.

The chance to win the cost of one first year tuition will also be available to those who fill a radio *Hot 103* VIP Card.

Visit www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/open-house-index for more info.

Comments

Buying protectionism

U.S. must be careful with finance policies



STEVE CURRIE
VOLUNTEER

If the United States lapses into protectionist activity, "It can only trigger retaliatory action, and we don't want to go there."

So spoke Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade, when he referred to the Buy American Campaign, currently part of the Obama administration's \$825 billion stimulus package, working its way through Congress. As it stands, this bill would only allow U.S.-forged iron and steel to be used in the infrastructure projects that Obama has made the backbone of his resurgence strategy. When the plan was released, it was met with international resistance and lobbying, chiefly from Canada and Europe, America's largest trade

partners.

Day is very correct. We don't, as a nation, want to go into the realm of retaliatory action. It was retaliatory protectionism, the finance equivalent of an arms race, which turned the recession of 1929 into

It was retaliatory protectionism, the finance equivalent of an arms race, which turned the recession of 1929 into the Great Depression

the Great Depression.

The other retaliation – suing the U.S. under Chapter 11 of NAFTA – is not a lot more optimistic. At best it would be a lengthy process, raise tensions between the governments, and increase anti-Canadian sentiment in the States; at worst,

we stand a chance of having our own dear-to-our-hearts protectionist practices reviewed (I haven't seen much Canadian water being sold to the United States, and would like to keep it that way).

On the other side of the Harper cabinet, Finance Minister Joe Flaherty said that Canada would not engage in retaliatory tactics regardless of the progress of the bill. "There is a clear consensus here that protectionism needs to be avoided, that protectionist is a direction we need not go," quotes *The Globe and Mail*.

Really though, they are both wrong. I'll apologize to international development studies, conflict resolution studies, politics and economics students who probably get more than enough of this already, but can anyone say 'Prisoner's Dilemma'? Once one actor defects there is no way for the others to reach an optimum outcome, whether or not they play by the rules. Neither Day's hardball stance nor Flaherty's stoicism will result in a win for Canada's producers or

consumers. The only way for us to get out of this mess is to convince the U.S. to cooperate.

Day currently seems optimistic that Obama will make an exception for Canadian imports in the bill, as there was seven years ago in the last U.S. restriction on foreign steel.

Obama's studied look of brow-furrowed concern aside, his job is safe for the next four years. The protectionist pork barrels are being added on Congressmen and, soon, Senators, some of whom face reelection in the looming Nov. 2010.

While Day's negotiations may well go through, hopefully in time for a cheery presidential visit on Feb. 19, this issue has made it clear that Canada needs to be addressing our trade independence and the strength of multi-lateral partnerships, as well as our ability to canvass lawmakers in Congress for Canadian needs, not just the shiny new president.

Steve Currie is a biochemistry and international development studies student at the University of Winnipeg.



Just for you: A universal conversation topic

Hi Gang. This week, I'd like to do you all a huge favour; not because I'm especially fond of any of you, but because I like the thought of you all owing me a huge favour (and you can never have too many people to help you move).

Today I'm going to teach you all an important skill that will help make your lives more interesting and will make you friendlier and better adjusted people. The skill I'm talking about is relating to strangers.

In order to effectively relate to strangers, it is important to choose a topic of conversation that you can be sure you and the stranger have in common. Some choose the weather as just such a topic, while others tend to rely on sports. These topics, while popular, have proven to be somewhat problematic. Not everyone is interested in sports, and those who talk about the weather too much tend to be my grandfather. So to avoid alienating non-sports fans or being my grandfather we must choose a new topic of conversation that is both universal and non-grandfather-forming. Well I've come up with just such a topic: poop.

Everyone poops. This is a fact. There is even a popular children's book called *Everyone Poops*, so it must be true. Since everyone poops, then it follows that no matter who you are talking to, you are sure to have this in common. There is no fear of alienating someone by talking about pooping only to find out that they are not a pooper. There is also no fear of becoming my grandfather, because he generally is far too busy talking about the weather to engage in conversation about pooping. (Although, admittedly, he once told me about a drought, that I'm half convinced was a metaphor for constipation.)

Anyway, in order to fully prepare you all to speak to strangers about your poop, I have compiled a list of some of my favourite different kinds of poop that should prove to be very fun to talk about:

1. The Soft Serve

The Soft Serve is the type of poop that comes out smooth and coils in the bowl (and which reminds me of the end of the all-you-can-eat buffet my dad took me to as a kid.)

2. The Phantom

The Phantom is the kind of poop that disappears down the toilet before you get a look at it. These can be scary.

3. The Avant-Garde

The Avant-Garde is the kind of poop that has distinct visual characteristics due to previous ingestion of specific substances like corn, blueberries or condoms full of drugs. These tend to be very pretty.

4. The Catch Twenty-Poo

The Catch Twenty-Poo is the type of poop that comes out like a slick little torpedo, and leaves the anus clean, with no need of wiping. Its name comes from the fact that, although it creates no need of wiping, one never knows that there is no need of wiping until one actually wipes one's anus.

5. The Combination

There are also combination poops, which belong to two or more of the above categories. (I once had a Phantom Catch Twenty-Poo that had me doubting my sanity for weeks.)

With these new conversational tools, you should all have enough inane stranger-conversation to last a lifetime.

J. Williams is a local musician. Catch him every Monday at Shannon's Irish Pub for more of his wisdom.

I'll still eat a sea kitten

PETA campaigns fail to make a legitimate argument



WILL DUMONT
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Where I grew up, ice fishing isn't just a popular activity: it is the primary means of economic stability during the winter months when the tourist industry dries up.

Growing up in a small ice fishing town, you gain the appreciation for dishes that serve up fried pickerel, perch and jackfish. Either that or you starve, I suppose.

The point is I am getting sick and tired of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) and their ridiculous attempts at shocking, scaring or guilting people into no longer eating any food that is derived from animals, or using animals as a resource at all.

I don't have a problem with vegetarians or vegans by any means. I think if you choose to live your life that way, whether for moral principles or health reasons, good on

you for doing whatever you feel is right. What I'm sick of is organizations like PETA going to preposterous lengths in order to further their own political agenda and force their beliefs on everybody. Whatever valid points they make about factory farming and unethical slaughtering practices is lost in their crazy, screaming voices.

Rather than being known for any legitimate work, PETA usually seems to be more associated with its ridiculous petitions. Take for example its current attempt to rename all species of fish "sea-kittens" so that children who grow up calling them as such will never want to eat one. Personally, I think it adds a little something to the dish, but that's just me.

PETA is guilty mostly of trying to brainwash children. They go so far as to publish and distribute children's stories that depict any mother who prepares chicken for dinner a homicidal maniac, and fathers who eat meat as sick and twisted individuals. I think that once an organization starts trying to turn kids against their parents in such a disturbing manner, it ceases to get my respect even if it had virtuous goals to begin with.

Not that PETA was ever virtuous. Newsweek reports that since 1998 PETA has managed to kill off 85 per cent of the stray dogs and cats it was supposed to help under the guise that euthanasia was the only option for these "broken beings." This is despite the fact that the Humane Society of the United States is only forced to euthanize 50 per cent of their animal wards, whilst adopting a much greater volume of animals than PETA-run shelters.

Whatever valid points PETA makes about factory farming and unethical slaughtering practices is lost in their crazy, screaming voices

Not to mention PETA's extreme attitudes towards "animal rights." When I think animal rights, I think humane treatment, painless slaugh-

ter for livestock animals, and a life free of hormone injection and other alterations. When PETA talks animal rights, they mean "total animal liberation," which means the abolishment of pet ownership and any form of raising livestock right down to bees that produce honey. PETA even petitions against all forms of medical research and testing on animals, despite the fact that medical research would likely grind to a halt without animals to test on. Insulin, for example, was created through testing on dogs.

If you love animals, and I know I do, you probably know there are a lot of organizations out there that do good things for them. The Humane Society, Anti-Cruelty Society and the International Fund for Animal Welfare are only a few of the organizations that support humane treatment of animals without resorting to brainwashing children and funding domestic terrorism against medical testing facilities.

Now then, I'm going to go fry up a nice juicy sea-kitten for dinner.

Will Dumont is a University of Winnipeg student and blogs at dumontration.blogspot.com.

Letters

Re: Failing UWSA needs its own Obama

As an elected director of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association, I would like to respond to Breanna Walls' article that flat out bashed everyone involved and everything done by the UWSA (Feb. 5 edition of *The Uniter*). The author's opinions of the UWSA in the article are extremely negative and misleading. And the fact of the matter is, they are just that, opinions. I wanted to take the opportunity to set the facts straight.

I do acknowledge that the

UWSA office is segregated by being in a lower level, but where do you want it? The UWSA has been trying to figure out areas to re-locate to but that is a very complex topic.

As a director, I have sat at tables, attended (the many) events, talked to students, and I know that the executives have as well because I have seen them. There have also been dozens of classroom presentations, and various campaigns besides the tuition freeze, such as stopping water privatization and raising awareness for a U-pass, which will hopefully be implemented one

day.

I do not understand what the author is tired of or complaining about considering I have not seen her attend any of our board of directors meetings or sub-committee meetings. If Breanna wants to hold the UWSA accountable, that is great as UWSA should be. It is intended to be transparent and we need more students who are passionate like Walls to be involved. And if she thinks she can provide a new perspective for the UWSA, then it is more than welcome. I encourage students to check out

the websites, call or e-mail the executives or directors, and come down and visit the UWSA offices. Personally, I would love to hear more from students, and it would help me immensely to do a better job. I truly wish Walls and other students like her would ask questions, give suggestions, feedback, etc. and put their energy towards improving and working with the UWSA instead of attacking it.

*Stephanie Chartrand
Environmental ethics director*

The facade of mediocrity

Protecting the Exchange



ROBERT GALSTON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The key to demolishing a building in the Exchange District today is patience.

For the Reiss family's Bedford Investments company, it has taken more than 15 years of willful neglect to finally win approval to demolish the Ryan Block for a parkade. Keeping the facade (or simply talking about it) is simply becoming another method, and the City of Winnipeg is giving \$1.5 million in municipal heritage grants to Bedford Developments to rebuild the facade of the 114-year-old warehouse and incorporate it into the parking structure.

Facade-retention is increasingly seen as a supposed "win-win," but is really just an excuse for continuing to gradually thwart the vibrancy of the Exchange District by adding more to its over-saturated parking supply. Urban spaces are not simply a collection of nice facades propped up like movie sets, but living and dynamic organisms: at their best when they are dense and complex in their uses.

Located at the corner of King Street and Bannatyne Avenue, diagonal to Market Square, the Ryan Block is not standing in some wind-



ROBERT HUYNH

swept fringe of the neighborhood where investment carries a greater risk, but right at the heart. It would not be difficult to imagine a modish eatery lighting up the arched windows of the main floor with small firms or residents upstairs.

This kind of adaptability of space, that in the surrounding blocks has given new life to numerous century-old buildings, does not seem to be the Ryan Block owner's strong

suit. Shortly after furs began to shed (pun definitely intended) some of their status as a *verboten* fashion item, and as the surrounding blocks solidified as retailing destinations, Reiss Furs and Fine Fashion, (another of the family's concerns down the street at McDermot), closed, citing changing consumer habits. Having never changed the teal green fur-lined ensemble worn by a mannequin in the window at any

time over its last few years in business, it is hard to believe their demise was caused purely by market externalities.

Built in 1895, the Ryan Block is one of the older warehouses in the Exchange District and the first to be built in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. But to defend buildings on their historical and architectural significance only gets one so far: there are older buildings

in the Exchange (like the Telegram Building built in 1882), and buildings that are more impressive evocations of the Richardsonian-Romanesque style (such as the monumental Gault and Ashdown warehouses) that could be argued are more important than the Ryan Block.

More than just the form, what must be understood and defended is the function that the buildings of the Exchange District serve. This is more important than age and ornamentation in creating a place that draws commerce and people. It is no accident that the busiest, most economically successful parts of the Exchange District are its most built up areas. The appeal is not just the character, but the density of relatively compact streetscapes that are largely devoid of massive surface parking lots and disastrously hostile Modernist designs.

A facade would still form a streetscape at King and Bannatyne, even if it is a dead one that failed to add anything to the neighborhood's usefulness, but it is doubtful that Bedford Investment is willing or able to do even that. Holding them to a promise to build the facade in its true form, and learning from the mistake of allowing the demolition by neglect formula to go on in the city's most vital neighborhood, is something that the city must now do.

Robert Galston blogs at riseand-sprawl.blogspot.com.

No longer a "Free" Press

Loss of independence only hurts us



ANDREW TOD
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Farewell independent *Winnipeg Free Press*, I knew thee well.

There was a time not so long ago that the *Winnipeg Free Press* was a bright light in the increasingly dark world of Canadian daily newspapers. Due to its distinction as a major daily that had somehow escaped the maelstrom of media conglomeration that struck so many other newspapers across the country, the *Free Press* was considered one of the last truly independent major newspapers in Canada. The *Free Press* held a special place in the hearts of many Manitobans as a

newspaper free of the meddlesome hands of large conglomerates like CanWest Global Communications, and a bastion of integrity as a local forum for opinion.

Those days, however, are over. Increasingly, the opinion pages of the *Free Press* are wrought with articles that are not unique to the paper at all, but instead are those of a separate newspaper altogether – the national daily and CanWest owned, *National Post*.

The practice of newspapers running comment articles by journalists from other papers is not in and of itself troubling. It is often beneficial for local papers to provide the public with alternative views and issues normally found within their pages. In fact, the *Free Press* did very well in the past few years to balance the focus of its op-ed section between local, national and international issues – occasionally utilizing the work of other papers' journalists to do so.

However, there is a vast difference between running articles by journalists unaffiliated with the *Free Press* when appropriate to do so, and its present practice which relies heavily on the *Post's* journalists providing opinion content. *National Post* writers are becoming firmly entrenched in the political and social opinions that the *Free Press* delivers to the public.

One needs only to have flipped through the pages of the *Free Press* from Jan. 26 to 30 – the days surrounding the unveiling of the federal Conservative government's budget – to witness just how drastic this reliance on the *Post's* journalistic opinions has become. Of the five comment sections published during that five day period, three days featured at least one opinion article regarding the budget taken from the *Post*.

That means the opinions pages of the *Free Press* were not concerned with the ways the federal budget

could affect Manitobans, but promoted the views of journalists from another newspaper, with no relevance in the Manitoban context.

National Post writers are becoming firmly entrenched in the political and social opinions that the Free Press delivers to the public

This increased synergy between the opinions of the *National Post* and the *Winnipeg Free Press* shows the troubling and increasing integration between both newspapers in general.

This relatively cozy relationship

became apparent in October, when CanWest's massive debt loads became ominous, and the company eliminated the *Post's* daily circulation in the Winnipeg area due to its tendency to hemorrhage money. A subsequent deal was struck between the two papers which ensured that a portion of the *Post's* business section would appear in daily editions of the *Free Press*.

What once was a proudly independent daily newspaper seems to be in the process of being co-opted into the waiting wings of the CanWest media empire. Even if no further integration arises, this increased reliance on opinions of *National Post* journalists poses major issues regarding the editorial integrity of the *Free Press*, as well as the very real possibility that yet another Canadian daily newspaper will fall prey to the CanWest media empire.

Andrew Tod is a University of Winnipeg student.



ROB ALTERMEYER
MLA FOR WOLSELEY 775-8575

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Arts & Culture

FASHION STREETER

The Uniter Fashion Streeter is an ongoing documentation of creative fashion in Winnipeg inspired by the Helsinki fashion blog www.hel-looks.com. Each week will feature a new look from our city's streets and bars in an attempt to encourage individual expression and celebrate that you are really, really good looking.



Kathryn
"I see things on other people and try to make them work for myself."

CINDY TITUS

MOVIE REVIEW

Way ahead of his time

30 Century Man offers an exclusive look into the life of influential and enigmatic rock musician **Scott Walker**

SCOTT WALKER: 30 CENTURY MAN

Directed by Stephen Kijak

95 minutes
Plays at The Cyrk (254 Young St.)
Feb. 12 at 8 p.m.

★★★★☆

CINDY DOYLE
VOLUNTEER

Fans of Scott Walker, a rock musician notoriously shrouded in mysteries and dark sunglasses, get a rare opportunity for insight into his career and music through Stephen Kijak's 2006 documentary *Scott Walker: 30 Century Man*.

Chronologically delving into the history and legend of this prolific, influential and reclusive musician, the documentary is held together with the commentaries and reflections of Walker himself, as well as various people and musicians who

either knew or worked with him, as well as those he inspired including Brian Eno, Jarvis Cocker, Radiohead and David Bowie, who served as the film's executive producer.

Born Scott Engel, Walker first became famous as a member of the '60s pop group The Walker Brothers, which featured three young men who were neither brothers nor named Walker. Here he began writing music, eventually going solo, only to evolve into the musician with the cult following that he is today.

The film features a balance of popular artists, listening to what is assumed to be their favourite Scott Walker songs and reflecting on what his music means to them. The film also includes a recap of his journey in the music industry and a glimpse into the recording sessions that became Walker's 2006 release, *The Drift*.

It most notably provides an epic exploration of Walker's melancholy music from the '60s all the way up to his recording studio where we witness his creative use of string orchestras mimicking World War II fighter airplanes, a percussionist playing a slab of raw meat by whacking his fists against it and various other unusual instruments used to create the sounds which provide a background for his deep vibrato voice.

The film's unwavering attention to Walker's music over his personal life is likely intentional, as it's ob-



Scott Walker: Texas ranger, or misunderstood pop genius? If you guessed misunderstood pop genius, you're correct!

vious that his fans are just as passionate about his work as he is. From the intricate attention paid to the smallest details, it's clear why Walker can take up to 10 years to record his albums. Nothing gets past him in the recording studio, and it appears that his fans notice and appreciate the little things he does to make his music uniquely and exquisitely Scott Walker.

Although the visual effects shown intermediately to provide ambience to Walker's music become tiresome at times, on a whole, this is a documentary that needed to be made and equally needs to be seen by music fans everywhere.

Tickets for the Winnipeg premiere of Scott Walker: 30 Century Man are \$7 and include a glass of wine. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

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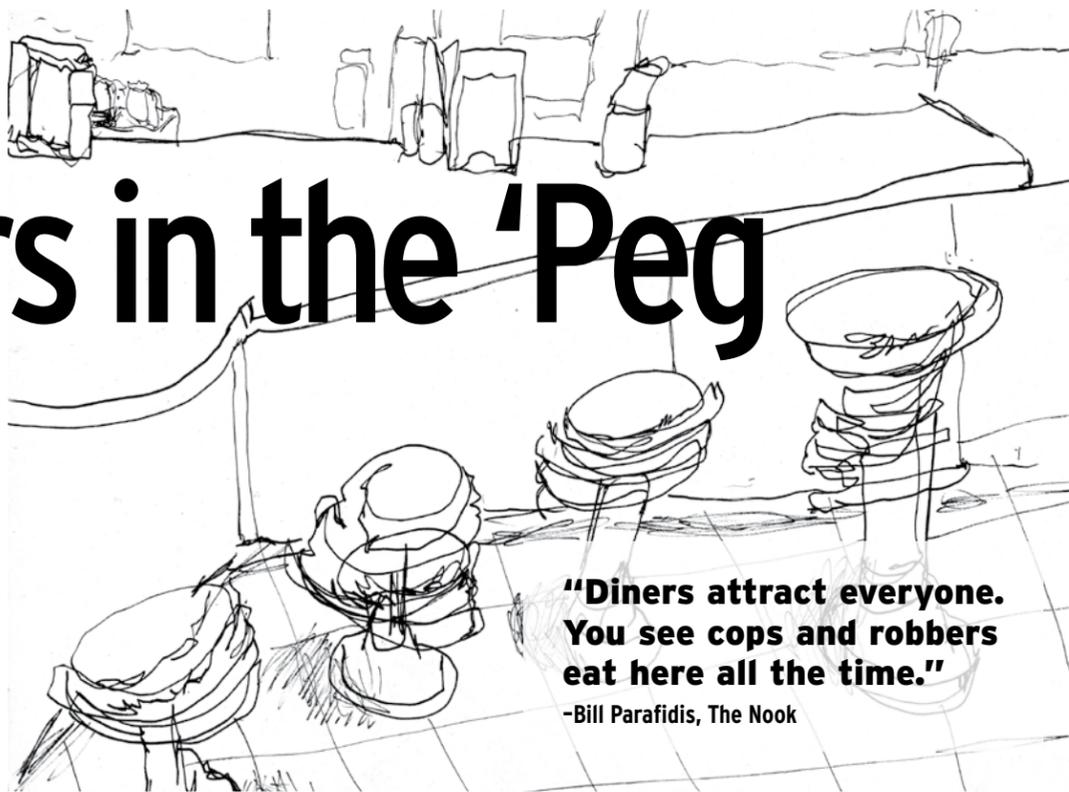
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Sidelined Productions UNITER

Diners in the 'Peg

Some restaurants come and go, but with their **reliable menus** and **comfortable atmosphere**, diners are here to stay



"Diners attract everyone. You see cops and robbers eat here all the time."

-Bill Parafidis, The Nook

ANDREW MCMONAGLE
BEAT REPORTER

While chain restaurants can be nice because you know what you're going to get every time you step into one, there's no beating the unique atmosphere of a Winnipeg diner. While some new restaurants tend to flicker in and out of existence, there are diners in the 'Peg that have been around for 50 years.

"Diners are here to stay," said Bill Parafidis, owner of The Nook Diner on Sherbrook Street. "In Winnipeg, we're blessed with all our greasy spoons."

Diners rose to popularity in the 1950s as places for youth to go and have a milkshake – or a 'malted,' as they were known. These days, diners are still youth-friendly, though some serve alcohol.

Diners are just restaurants with a more personable feeling, said Karen Ashley, who has owned and operated Wanabees Diner on Broadway since 1993. At Wanabees, it's not uncommon to see a table of police

officers eating there during the day, a testament to the attractiveness of a diner.

A constable eating with three fellow officers, who requested his name not be used, said he prefers diners because they "aren't commercial." He likes Wanabees because they serve "kub" or kubasa, a garlic sausage.

Ashley has an equation for why diners are so popular.

"Diner equals comfort," she said. "Ninety-five per cent of my regulars order the same thing every time."

It's not only the comfort of being able to order the same thing, but the food itself is comforting.

"January was my busiest month," she said, referring to the blistering cold month Winnipeg experienced. "Everyone ordered comfort food."

Louis Mathez has worked at the Wagon Wheel on Hargrave Street for 50 years. He's seen a lot of business come through in that time.

"People like the personal feel," he said. "A diner is smaller and usually the owner does the work. A restaurant's owner might manage it but not produce food."

Mathez took over the diner from his dad and has been cooking over the same grill for the entire 50 years. He defines a diner in terms of what it produces.

"You have to have good food," he said. "(And) you have to try to be as quick as you can."

The Wagon Wheel promotes itself as being the "Home of the Clubhouse." Mathez prides himself on their clubhouse, but acknowledges that the good food has to come at a good price to appeal to everyone.

"You take all walks of life," he said. "A doctor or a guy who bums money on the street. They're respected like anyone else."

The *Winnipeg Sun's* restaurant reviewer goes under the moniker "Discreet Diner" (DD) and has a lot of experience eating in diners. The DD is the pen name for a rotating cast of reviewers.

The current DD identifies diners as "places where the no-frills menu remains largely unchanged over the years, and where atmosphere counts for a lot more than actual décor."

Angela Forget opened The Black

Sheep Diner early in 2008 and tries to make the décor as appealing as the food. The Black Sheep features art from local artists on the walls that gets renewed every three months.

"The culture will keep them there," she said, referring to the staying power of diners. Traditional diners tend to live up to the greasy spoon stereotype, but Forget believes in an organic, good food experience.

"Diner-style food has sort of a bad rap now," she said. Forget created a menu based on locally-grown organic food that's proven to be a success.

Forget says the fact that the owner is usually in the back is an appealing point for customers.

"I'm uncomfortable with businesses where the owner's never around."

While Forget is expanding what being a diner means, the more traditional style is undeniably popular.

"Diners attract everyone," said The Nook's Parafidis. "You see cops and robbers eat here all the time."

ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES CULLETON



Louis Mathez from the Wagon Wheel. He's made a million breakfasts, and he rocked 'em all.

WHERE TO EAT TODAY?

Whether it's called a diner, grill, café, restaurant or something else, a diner has a feel to it that's unmistakable. Here are the top five diners in Winnipeg, as reviewed by the Breakfast Connoisseurs:

5. Alexis Grill

258 Kennedy St.

The Alexis Grill offers a quiet respite for breakfast or lunch. The owners are friendly, chatty and whip up a mean gyro. Though there is no table-service, Alexis offers a home-style menu that's hard to beat.

4. The Wagon Wheel

305 Hargrave St.

A Winnipeg institution. While they are known for their clubhouse, the Wagon Wheel also serves up a solid breakfast. They've been serving Winnipeg faithfully for 50 years and don't have plans to slow down anytime soon.

3. Wanabees Diner

639 Broadway Ave.

Wanabees' black-and-white checkered floors and at-the-bar service make it a must-see. This place screams "diner" like not many others do. The bar is original from when it used to be a Salisbury House, though it's been lowered. They give generous helpings of garlic sausage and love to chat while cooking.

2. Eye Opener Diner

3132 Main St.

Though it's close to the edge of town, the Eye Opener brings people from all over the city. The lineups attest to the quality of the food. Their breakfasts come with fruit on the side and they pay attention to the presentation.

1. The Black Sheep Diner

540 Ellice Ave.

With a focus on organic and locally-grown food, Black Sheep earns its name by standing out in the crowd. Their breakfast, while traditional, has un-traditional options like steamed greens, roasted tomatoes and fruit salad. Their nut-burger and rotating display of kitsch make Black Sheep a refreshing place to eat.

Visit www.breakfastwinnipeg.com.

Arts Briefs

Compiled by Jonathan Dyck

SPRINGSTEEN HATES ON TICKETMASTER

Bruce Springsteen is sounding less like the Boss and more like Pearl Jam frontman Eddie Vedder these days. It's not that Springsteen's gone grunge. Rather, the Boss has spoken out against concert ticket monopolizer Ticketmaster. Last week, scores of New Jersey fans were unable to buy tickets to Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band from Ticketmaster.com, and were redirected to a website called TicketsNow.com (also owned by Ticketmaster) where ticket prices doubled or even tripled the original face value.

Before long, politicians were yelling back and forth about it in the U.S. House of Representatives, demanding that the Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice investigate. TheStar.com reported. There's also talk of a merger between Ticketmaster and its major competitor, the promotion giant Live Nation.

On his website, Springsteen criticized the further monopolization of the concert industry, noting that a single system "would make the current ticket situation even worse for the fan than it is now." Tickets going on sale for the Boss' stop in Toronto are already drawing attention for popping up on TicketsNow.com before officially going on sale. It's a concern because tickets for high profile shows like this one sell out within minutes and pre-sales are another opportunity to inflate prices and exploit loyal fans. Springsteen is reportedly "furious" at how his fans are being treated by Ticketmaster.

If there was ever a time for the Boss to be the Boss and damn the man, this is it.

NINE-YEAR-OLD CREATES PROGRAM FOR IPHONE

What did you accomplish in your ninth year? I mastered the art of two digit subtraction. Apparently, it didn't mean a whole lot. A fourth grader named Lim Ding Wen wrote a program called Doodle Kids for the Apple iPhone that allows users to "fingerpaint" on the phone's touchscreen, CBC.ca reported last week.

If the fact that he's a genius doesn't impress you, then maybe the motivation for his project will. According to his father, Lim Thye Chean, the boy wrote the program for his younger sisters, who are three and five. What a generous little boy. He's "probably one of the [world's] youngest iPhone developers," Chean said, adding that his son has been programming since he was seven.

Whoa, don't sound so excited, pops. Not so surprising: "The elder Lim, who is the chief technology officer of a technology company in Singapore, said he teaches children to program in his spare time."

ETTA JAMES HAS BEEF WITH BEYONCE... AND OBAMA

Even though it's not really her song, Etta James has reportedly criticized Beyonce for performing "At Last" for Barack Obama and his wife at their first dance during the Neighborhood Ball, InMusic.ca reported.

During a recent concert, James hinted at her discontent: "You guys know your president, right? You know the one with the big ears? ...He ain't my president...that woman he had singing for him, singing my song - she's going to get her ass whipped."

What make this even more confusing is the fact that Beyonce recently won acclaim for portraying James in the film *Cadillac Records* and has even performed the song in front of James herself.

Sounds like someone's a little jealous.

"I can't stand Beyonce," James continued. "She has no business up there on a big ol' president day, gonna be singing my song that I've been singing forever."

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UWinnipeg is a dynamic learning environment that encompasses interactive academics and conveniences to meet your needs and the needs of our community. You remain an integral part of the renaissance as our campus grows. YOU fuel the transformation for YOU of W.



NEW CHILD CARE CENTRE

Adjacent to McFeetors Hall on the Furby/Langside campus, the new University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) Child Care Centre will serve both infants and toddlers from the University and surrounding neighbourhood. It will feature outdoor play areas in an enclosed green space.

McFEETORS HALL: GREAT-WEST LIFE STUDENT RESIDENCE

Enhancing Student Life at UWinnipeg
Situating next door to the Science Complex, McFeetors Hall will be a home away from home for 176 students in dorm-style rooms and will also include 25 unique townhouse-style homes that can accommodate adult learners with families. These townhouse-style residences will house University of Winnipeg student families and provide family housing for community residents beginning in Fall 2009.



SPENCE STREET BUS

Working in partnership with area residents, UWinnipeg Transit has a new bus loop on Spence and Portage Streets beginning in Manitoba that allows

- Reduce congestion on Spence Street
- A pedestrian zone on Portage along Spence
- A new bus stop on Spence Street construction increases accessibility and

RICHARDSON COLLEGE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT & SCIENCE COMPLEX

Enhancing Science Education & Research at UWinnipeg
Located on UWinnipeg's new Furby/Langside Campus, this complex will be the new home for most of our Faculty of Science, Richardson College for the Environment and community learning programs, such as the innovative Model School for Science and Sustainability. Students and faculty alike will engage in cutting-edge research in biology, chemistry, environmental studies, Indigenous science and the social sciences. And they will share this knowledge with school-aged children and adult learners from the local community.

This LEED complex, slated for completion by 2011, will be a model of green building technology – recycled materials – a tree-filled atrium and "cutting edge" labs with state-of-the-art energy efficiency and heat recovery systems. – A living laboratory in the heart of the city.



GREEN CORRIDOR

The Green Corridor will link our new Furby/Langside campus to the west to the main campus. This safe 'walkway' begins at Langside and continues to Young and Spence. This corridor, developed in partnership with our neighbours in the community, will add significant green space and may include green houses, Indigenous plant gardens and recreational spaces. The Green Corridor will have valuable educational purposes for our students and the children who live in our community/neighbourhood. The new Spence Street bus loop is the first step in the corridor.



UNITED ARMY

The former United Army building will soon be replaced in 2011 with an environmentally-friendly building to expand our urban campus. Located on Portage Avenue and Colonel By Avenue, possible uses include a new Faculty of Business and Economics, a Centre of Continuing Education and a gallery for contemporary art programs, along with the Gallery Institute for Contemporary Art, a university and retail operation.



BILL WEDLAKE FITNESS CENTRE

Your Bill Wedlake Fitness Centre, named in honour of retired Athletic Director Bill Wedlake, was completed in February 2008. This new fitness centre has an expanded athletic therapy clinic and new classrooms. The fitness centre features state-of-the-art cardio equipment, weight machines and free weights. The facility also features a new sound system and several mounted televisions for students, faculty, staff, alumni and local community members to enjoy during their workout.



SOMA CAFÉ

Your new, student-run SOMA Café that looks onto Spence Street features fair-trade coffee products, local baked goods, homemade soups and other light meals.



CANWEST CENTRE FOR THEATRE & FILM

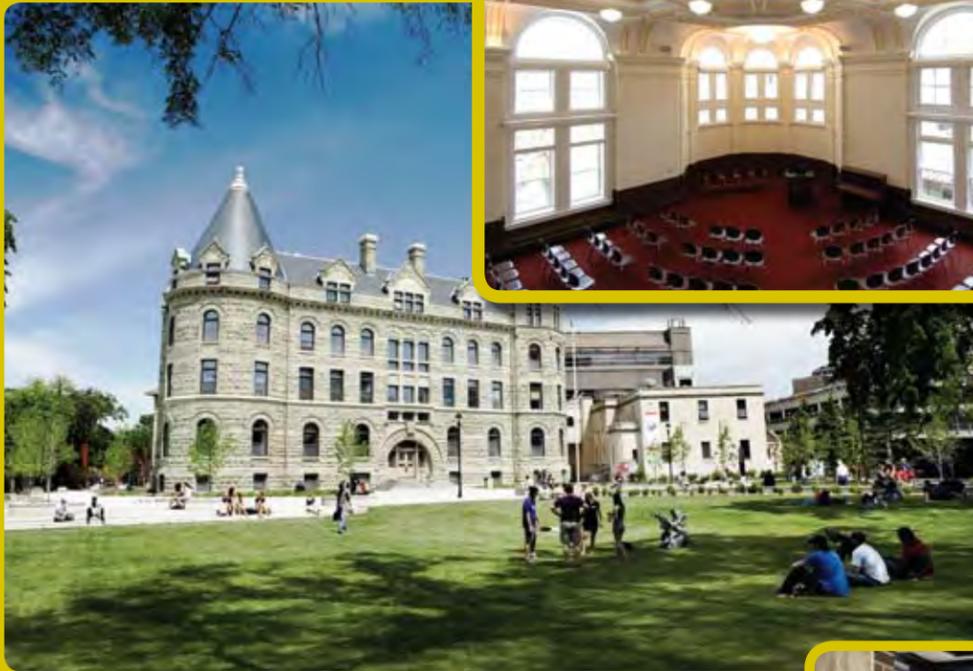
Your CanWest Centre for Theatre & Film has already come to life with two new acting studios, film studio, prop shop, six rehearsal rooms, office space, two film editing labs, film equipment check-out and storage, dimmer room, and a state-of-the-art flexible studio theatre (120-180 seats) with full green room facilities. Extensive renovations made include the addition of a two-storey annex on the south side of the building. The inaugural production in the new facility, The Blue Room, runs from February 6-13.

SPENCE STREET LOOP

In cooperation with residents, the City of Winnipeg and Winnipeg have opened a loop between the Young and CBC buildings:

to reduce traffic congestion on Young

and create a pedestrian-only zone on Spence Street between UManitoba and UWinnipeg. The heated shelter will be used for student comfort and safety for students and area residents.



PORTAGE COMMONS

Extensive redevelopment of our front lawn was completed in Summer 2007 creating a new public park in the heart of downtown with additional green spaces, benches, a basketball court and a rose garden.



WESLEY/ CONVOCAATION HALL

Convocation Hall is a fully historically restored space located in Wesley Hall, used for the many events, conferences and meetings students have the opportunity of attending. The fine restoration has earned The University of Winnipeg the Heritage Winnipeg Preservation Award of Excellence for a sensitive, thorough and sympathetic interior restoration by Heritage Winnipeg on Feb. 18, 2008.



BUS DEPOT

Greyhound will vacate space they are using as a bus depot in August 2009 allowing the University to redevelop the space to accommodate university programs and services, as well as a possible restaurant or pub.

PLUG-IN SURPLUS

The Plug-In Surplus building, completed in 2010 with a new building that will be located east to the corner of Spence Street, connecting the arts and business communities. It will be the new home of our Business and Economics and Division of business-related programs, including the renowned Plug-In Temporary Art, and other programs.

It's an exciting time to be at UWinnipeg!

To find out more about your sustainable urban campus visit www.uwinnipeg.ca.

A product of his landscape

Local author
David Elias talks about
the craft of writing

JENNIFER PAWLUK
VOLUNTEER STAFF

For local author, David Elias, writing isn't just a career; it's a way of life. It's what he knows, it's what he does and it's what he shares with others. And he loves every minute of it.

"I don't waste a word or sentence," he said over drinks at a local café recently.

Not only does he have a prominent local literary voice, Elias is also extremely active in varied areas of the community. A former mentor for the Manitoba Writers' Guild's mentorship program and a teacher with the school of writing at Canadian Mennonite University, Elias writes full-time but still finds enough hours in the day to take on numerous side-projects.

It's safe to assume that the Winnipeg writing community wouldn't be the same without him. As an avid member of the local literary

scene who enjoys attending readings, Elias firmly believes that writers in a community should be familiar with each other's work.

Elias also believes that one of the many values of reading local fiction is the affirmation that may come from it.

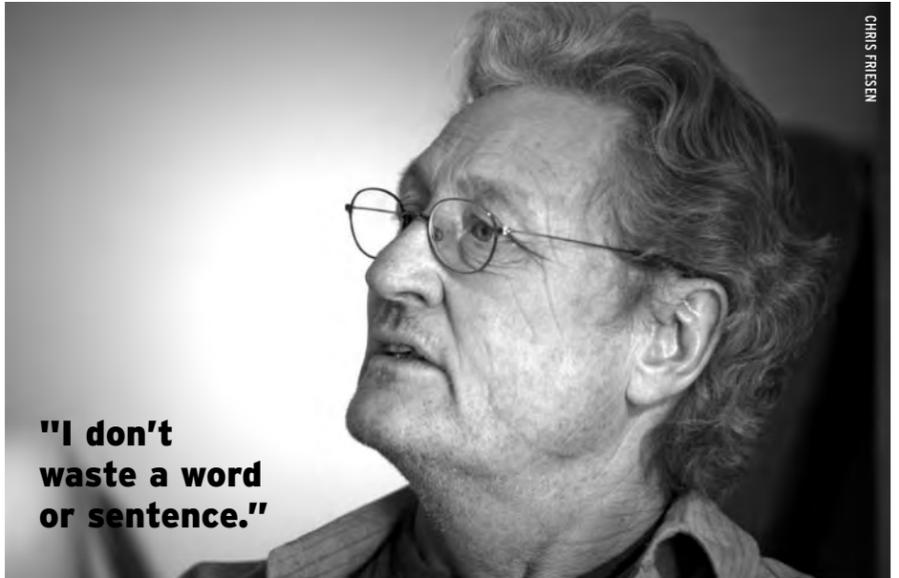
"We are a product of our landscape," he said, adding that he's proud of the literary culture in Winnipeg.

There's no doubt that Manitoba has seen burgeoning success from its Mennonite-author population, specifically, as of late, including Elias, as well as major literary award-winners David Bergen and Miriam Toews. Some in the literary world, including Elias, consider Winnipeg to be the Mennonite writing capital of North America.

"It's who you are," Elias said in regards to the cultural identification of Mennonite writers. He insists, though, that he is personally ambivalent about his cultural status as a writer. "[I] just write."

In his own writing, Elias celebrates the "physical act of committing words to paper," and considers the process to be "a craft to practice, improve on [and] hone."

"A deeper commitment to illuminating or exploring the human condition," said Elias, is fundamental to serious authorship.



"I don't
waste a word
or sentence."

CHRIS FRIESEN

A cutline can't express how dedicated local author David Elias is to writing. Seriously, just read the article.

In his second novel, *Waiting for Elvis*, Elias honours that commitment. Released by Coreau Books late last year, *Waiting for Elvis* has a unique focus. The book is actually his first that hasn't been discussed in terms of its Mennonite influence, he observed.

What makes *Waiting for Elvis* work as a standout novel is Elias' commitment to exploring the duality of everyday life, its successes and its sufferings. Such honesty is both enlightening and disturbing. Elias avoids sentiment for its own sake, and encourages readers to think critically about the human condition, blurring the lines between lost

and fallen souls.

"[It's about] getting in the shadows and being where the light is shining ... illuminating human nature," he said of *Waiting for Elvis*, noting the prominence of light metaphors in the book, which support an overarching message of hope. His favourite lines from the novel are the very last three, "They shimmer. They glow. They shine."

For David Elias, writing is life. He is truly a role model for local aspiring writers. Amid our literary community, he undoubtedly shines.

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4	!Venetian Snares	Detrimentalist	Planet Mu
5	*Jeff Healey	Mess of Blues	Stony Plain
6	*Subhumans	Death Was Too Kind	Alternative Tentacles
7	TV On The Radio	Dear Science	Touch & Go
8	!Magnificent Sevens	Dirty Roads	Independent
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10	!Waking Eyes	Holding on to Whatever...	WEA

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Coming up Feb. 26 in Arts & Culture section of *The Uniter's* "Sex and Relationships" issue:

Pop culture romances that have influenced the way we view relationships, swinging in Winnipeg, and a look at the question, "Where have all the virgins gone?"



UWSA General Election

Nominations for the UWSA General Election

Voting Starts:

Monday, February 23, 2009, @ 9:00 A.M.



Voting Ends:

Friday, March 6, 2009, @ 4:00 P.M.

All forms can be picked up and submitted at the UWSA General Office, Bulman Students' Centre, Room 0R30, between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M.

Join us for an Information meeting:

When: Friday, February 13th, 2009 at 12:30 P.M.

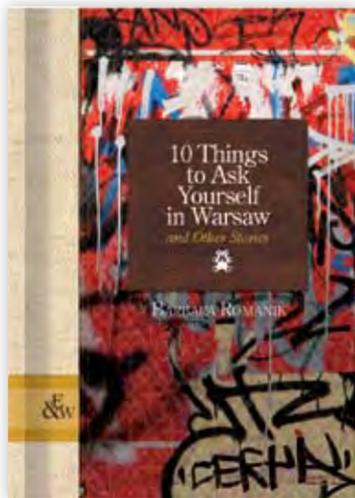
Where: Room 3M67

The following positions are open for election:

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Community Liaison Director
Recreation and Athletics Director
Status of Women Director
Environmental Ethics Director
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Students' Director
Adaptive Services Director
Director of Student Living
Business and Economics Director

For more info contact: Michael Rac, Chief Elections Commissioner
In person: room 0R24 in the Bulman Centre
email: cec@theuwsa.ca

BOOK REVIEW



10 THINGS TO ASK YOURSELF IN WARSAW AND OTHER STORIES

By Barbara Romanik

Enfield & Wizeny, 2008
190 Pages
\$29.95

BROCK PETERS
VOLUNTEER

Picture this: you're sitting in front of a cozy fire. The howling winter wind is miles away, sharing some dark corner with impending homework and early-morning labs. You want a nice book to curl up with, nothing too cerebral, nothing too extraordinary. Can you see it?

Good. If this is you, then your first step should be putting down Barbara Romanik's *10 Things to Ask Yourself in Warsaw*. Put it down, right now, because Romanik's debut collection of short stories is anything but relaxing. She bends sentence structure like a blizzard bends trees, tearing from story to story at breakneck speed.

These 13 stories, many of them previously published in an impressive resume of literary journals, are modern and edgy as hell. Romanik's sparse, profanity-riddled writing sometime reads like a spaced-out teenager's journal; you'll be lucky to figure out exactly what's going on in these stories.

But perhaps that's not the point. Whether featuring a robotic, Jehovah-praising teddy bear, an old Polish grandmother or a depressed soccer fanatic, Romanik's stories are teeming with life. The zany characters demand empathy as easily as they demand attention, and they drive these stories forward.

Romanik expertly weaves several unique themes throughout the collection. Almost every story features at least one main character of Polish descent or relation (Romanik herself is a Polish Canadian). The title story speaks of the simultaneous journeys of a Polish immigrant returned home, a young Polish lover and an Italian clergyman, all living very different lives in the context of Warsaw.

Soccer is another recurring theme, along with graffiti and painting. And, interestingly enough, Romanik often chooses to portray male characters in the first person, a task (writing from the other gender's point of view) often cited by experienced authors as very difficult to do well.

Romanik, however, does it ably. Whether you're getting bored with the English language or you're looking for a story that will kick you in the shins and go through your pockets for change, *10 Things to Ask Yourself in Warsaw* will be a worthwhile read.

And I'd keep an eye on Barbara Romanik. She's currently working on a novel, and you'd better believe her writing will make the literary world take notice.

THEATRE REVIEW

A seven-sided story about a fatal mishap

Hilarious and heart-wrenching MTC production showcases actress' talent and highlights the value in other points of view

THE BLONDE, THE BRUNETTE AND THE VENGEFUL REDHEAD

Directed by Alisa Palmer
Plays at the MTC Mainstage until Feb. 28
★★★★★

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Manitoba Theatre Company's production of the —one-woman play, *The Blonde, the Brunette and*

the Vengeful Red Head, received a standing ovation on opening night, Feb. 5. And it's no wonder not many actors can so convincingly play seven diverse characters in one fell swoop.

The play portrays the impact that a fatal mishap in front of a discount jewelry store has on seven different people. The characters include Rhonda, the red headed protagonist who's been left by her arrogant and sleazy husband Graham; Dr. Alex Doucette, a British medical doctor and girlfriend of the victim of a brutal attack; Lynette, Rhonda's nosy brunette neighbor and supposed confidant; Matthew, the sweet four-and-a-half year old son of Alex and her partner; Mrs. Carlisle, the elderly, opinionated neighbor of Matthew; and finally Tonia, Graham's blonde, Russian love interest.

Through their monologues, each character reveals how the event has personally impacted them. The fragments they reveal become woven together to form a



Kelli Fox stars as Lynette (the brunette) in MTC's *The Blonde, the Brunette and the Vengeful Redhead*.

incredible curiosity around the character about to emerge.

Kelli Fox, the actress, meticulously mastered the mannerisms of each character while also undergoing remarkable physical changes in a matter of minutes. Each character was so vastly different from the previous that I may not have believed it was the same actress playing all the roles if I hadn't viewed the process of her costume change.

Fox's incredible ability to go from playing a four-and-a-half year old boy, to playing an elderly woman, speaks volumes of her talent.

All in all, this is a unique production that should not be missed. Not only is it both hilarious and heart-wrenching, it also causes one to think outside of themselves. By being exposed to multiple perspectives of one single event, we are reminded not to be too quick to form judgments and make assumptions about others, and that there is value in other points of view.

web of shocking secrets, lies and truths.

One of the most intriguing aspects of the production is the costume changes. They take place on stage behind a translucent screen that gives the audience a view of the actress's silhouette as she changes. This method is extremely effective in heightening the attention of the audience and causing

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CD REVIEWS

BILL DOWLING

In the Wood
Independent

★★★★☆

Released early last year, Winkler-based singer-songwriter Bill Dowling's first recording, *In the Wood*, is a collection of clever and honest folk songs ranging in subject matter from family and friends, to politics and the economy. Dowling's songs are rough around the edges and his voice is like the gravel roads his part of the country is crisscrossed with. Some songs are serious and some are humorous, like the sarcastic country song, *Presidential Satisfaction Blues*, where Dowling criticizes the Bush administration with the refrain "I liked the world better when the boss was getting some," (referring, of course, to Clinton). Infused with elements of rock, folk, pop and country, *In the Wood* is a good first effort. It'll be interesting to see where Dowling goes from here.

-Brandon Bertram

Stream "In the Wood" by Bill Dowling at www.uniter.ca.

THE TOM FUN ORCHESTRA

You Will Land With a Thud
Company House Records

★★★★☆

Listening to The Tom Fun Orchestra is like finding a CD with the positive energy of an OK GO record combined with the soulful and rhythmic sound that only musicians from the East Coast of Canada can provide. The nine musicians who make up the TFO have found a perfect synchronicity of contemporary and classical sounds. They ably combine the heavy rock of an electric guitar and drums with the swing of the trumpet, accordion and banjo, among other instruments. The lead singer, Robot Orbison, provides weird vocals that compliment the already eccentric tone of the album. *You Will Land With a Thud* is definitely the most fun you'll have listening to an album. See them live at The King's Head on Saturday, Feb. 21.

-Kate-Lyn Danyluk



DD/MM/YYYY

Black Square
We Are Busy Bodies

★★★★☆

Obscure, impossible to pronounce band name? Check. DIY silk-screened artwork? Check. Non-sensical song titles like *Infinity Skull Cube*? Check. I won't lie, upon first glance, I wrote this band off as mere hipster dance-rock. Boy, was I wrong. This Toronto band is likely to be the last thing you'll hear playing in American Apparel. DD/MM/YYYY combine sophisticated musicality with an aesthetic that brings to mind Fort Thunder bands like Lightning Bolt and Arab on Radar. Jagged, impossibly catchy rhythms lay amidst zig-zagging synths and quirky guitar parts. And yet, instead of sounding overly pretentious and alienating, DD/MM/YYYY manage to imbue a dreamy-yet-subtle pop sensibility into their music that is inviting to those who are perhaps a little less adventurous in their listening.

-Curran Faris



LUKE JACKSON

...And Then Some

Popsicle Recordings/Urban Myth

★★★★☆

Now situated in Toronto, Swedish songsmith Luke Jackson sounds like he grew up listening to a lot of pop radio. This is both a curse and a blessing. Let's break it down: The curse - trite lyrics and string arrangements (think Edwin's 1999 mega-cheese hit *Alive*) paired with predictable chord progressions in stock verse-chorus formats. The blessing - tastefully thick layers of vocal oohs and ahhs, neat interludes (see: the fuzz bass and Hammond organ-driven breakdown in *Longest Day*), and bouncy feel-goodery (see: the unabashed nostalgic romp that is *Goodbye London*). The end result falls somewhere between The Beatles' most honest and poppy bits and adult contemporary hits. There's a fine line between earnest and cheesy, and Jackson walks it precariously.

-Bucky Driedger



WOODPIGEON

Treasury Library Canada
c/w *Houndstooth Europa*
Boomba

★★★★☆

Woodpigeon originally came out with *Treasury Library Canada*, their sophomore full-length, as a limited release available only online and at shows. Now, the band's giving it an official release along with a bonus 10-song CD, *Houndstooth Europa*. This Canadian collective from Calgary incorporates all the indie-rock gimmicks - glockenspiels, whistles, hand-claps, unreasonably long song titles, etc. - but they do it in ways that make their songs a joy to listen to. Think Sufjan Stevens and Elliot Smith jamming with Broken Social Scene somewhere on the prairies and you're imagining the rich yet subtle soundscapes Woodpigeon has crafted on this narrative about place and the struggle to belong. It's poppy, folky, orchestral, and with two CDs for the price of one, it's hard to go wrong.

-Brandon Bertram



Won't you be their neighbour?



The performers of the CKUW radio drama *At the Monarch's Convenience* are looking for people to join their cast, but don't even think of trying out if you're one-and-a-half years old. That spot's already filled, thank you very much.

CKUW radio drama creates community and gives performers complete creative control

KATE-LYN DANYLUK
VOLUNTEER

Have you ever wondered what it'd be like if *The Office* was set in a convenience store? Well, look no further than CKUW 95.9 FM.

The community radio station is host to *At the Monarch's Convenience*, a radio drama that takes place in Winnipeg's West End and airs every Monday at 5:30 p.m. The show follows the lives of several characters as they interact in the commonplace setting of a convenience store called Monarch's.

The show was founded by University of Winnipeg theatre student Jason Hooper, who wanted a drama that local listeners would be able to relate to.

"We really wanted to throw open the station's doors to the community, let them know that the station is theirs as well as the students'," Hooper wrote in an e-mail interview. "We were inviting them to take part in the show and hopefully begin to see the station as a community resource that they could access."

When the show began in April 2008, Hooper's intention was to have everyone involved come up with their own character. From there, they were all responsible for writing and performing this character on the show. It's a formula that has created a unique learning environment for the cast.

Kathy Herbert, who plays Cassia, a pretentious hippie, is in her final year of U of W's theatre program. When Hooper approached her about joining the cast and explained the concept of the show, she doubted that she had the ability to write drama. She found out she could.

"I've really grown. I wasn't a writer before the show but I am now," Herbert said. "The best way to learn how to write is to just do it."

The show is now looking for new cast members. Susie Shepherd, who has been involved in the show since its inception, stresses that you don't need to be a theatre student to get in-

involved. Shepherd herself is not a student at the U of W but a member of the West End community. She got involved in the show because she thought it would be fun and has nothing but good things to say about the experience. She emphasizes that they are looking for anybody. Even if you don't have any experience in radio or drama, you are welcome to come and join the cast for the rest of the season or just an episode.

"We're all writers, characters, we do improv, some of us do the radio editing, mixing, normalizing... You can work on your speaking skills or learn about radio," Shepherd said. "We've all improved since the show began."

The show wraps up in April 2009 when many of its cast members are graduating. Their intention is to initiate a student-based radio drama group for the 2009/2010 school year. This new group will be creating a new show with all new characters.

"We really wanted to throw open the station's doors to the community, let them know that the station is theirs as well as the students'."

-Jason Hooper,
At the Monarch's Convenience founder

The show relies heavily on sponsors, as well as the staff and facilities provided by CKUW. Thus, they were all adamant about CKUW's annual Fundrive, which is on until Friday, Feb. 13. Shepherd was quick to praise the volunteers and staff at the station for their patience and help with broadcasting.

"There were times we couldn't figure out how to turn the equipment on," she said. "They were very helpful."

Donate to CKUW's Fundrive 2009 at www.ckuw.ca or by calling 774-6877. To get involved with *At the Monarch's Convenience*, send an e-mail to ckuwdrama@gmail.com or just show up at the CKUW station, located up the stairs in the fourth floor cafeteria, between 2 and 4 p.m. on Fridays. Visit <http://radiodrama.ckuw.ca>.

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➔ Going Places.

Five local artists to watch in 2009

AARON EPP
ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

CURRAN FARIS
LISTINGS CO-ORDINATOR

MATT PREPROST
VOLUNTEER STAFF

If you're anything like the music critics at *The Uniter*, you love the fact that it's impossible to walk two feet downtown without seeing a gig poster. If your problem isn't deciding whether or not to go to a show, but rather, deciding which show to go to, here are five local acts you should make a priority to check out.



UPCOMING LOCAL CD RELEASES

We're barely a month-and-a-half into 2009 and already there's been CD releases by Chris Carmichael, The Minglers, The Perpetrators, Jarhead, Afflicted Faith, Midnight Dawns and Inward Eye. Here's a list of other Manitoban musicians expected to put out new music this year:

- * Alana Levandoski
- * Big Trouble In Little China
- * Blue Sky Addicts
- * Crisis Jane
- * Davinport
- * Don Amero
- * Donovan Giesbrecht & Chris Neufeld
- * Grand Analog
- * Hunter
- * Hundredfold
- * Ian La Rue & The Condor
- * Keith Price
- * Kim Reimer
- * Les Jupes
- * Lost Priority
- * Matt Epp
- * Paper Moon
- * Port Amoral
- * Propagandhi
- * Romi Mayes
- * SoHoly HeadCase
- * SubCity Dwellers
- * The Nods
- * The Paperbacks
- * The Paps
- * Quinzy



DOMENICA

Over the past five years, Domenica have won over fans in Winnipeg and abroad with their inventive, hook-filled modern rock. 2008 was a busy year for the four-piece. After recording in Los Angeles with P.O.D.'s Marcos Curiel, the band headed to Europe, playing the Popkomm festival in Berlin and the Musexpo conference in London. Their hard work seems to be paying off, the group is currently in the process of inking major distribution deals in Australia and Germany. Their debut record, dropping spring 2009, features some of the band's most polished work to date; the first single, "I Love My Gun," features some slippery guitar lines and showcases Bekki Friesen's skills as a vocalist. Alternately raw and melodic, Friesen's pipes are the perfect counterpart to Domenica's infectious and heavy rock. See them live Thursday, Mar. 5 at The Zoo and visit www.domenica.ca.

THE LYTICS

What is a lyric anyways? Aside from one of the two cycles of viral production (high school biology, anyone?), Andrew Sannie, Anthony Sannie, Mungala Londe and Gavin Kalansky are The Lytics. The group has been playing its brand of smooth hip-hop from the south end of the city since 2003. The Lytics's beats are effortless in their flow and rhythmic in their execution, a showcase of how hip-hop should sound. What's refreshing is that they don't sing about stereotypical hip-hop themes like money, bitches and hos. That's not to say they don't sing about girls or parties, but they craft rhymes about love without being abrasive, sexist and unnecessarily profane, which allows them to appeal to a broad audience. The Lytics are a rare gem in the city and some may be surprised that they're even from Winnipeg. They produce high-calibre hip-hop that even a 20-year-old white suburbanite from St. James who listens to Fall Out Boy can enjoy. Catch them live Monday, Feb. 16 at HiFi Club and visit www.thelytics.com.

SIGHTS & SOUNDS

It seems Comeback Kid frontman Andrew Neufeld and his brother Joel (drummer for Sick City), are busy men these days. Formed by the brothers in 2005 alongside friends Adrian Mottram (guitar) and Matt Howes (bass), Sights & Sounds released their debut EP in 2007. So it begs the question: why start another band when you're already semi-famous? The answer appears in the resulting product: their raw, emotional sound has quickly captured the ears of audiences across Canada and the band performs like they've been writing songs for ages. Neufeld's pleading vocals lace over top haunting guitar riffs. The result is a more tame and melodic version of Comeback Kid. The band's full-length album is expected to drop in the spring on Smallman Records and was produced by renowned metal musician and producer Devin Townsend (Lamb of God, Misery Signals). Even though Neufeld has broken ground with Comeback Kid, audiences may just be warming up to the sounds of this project as the year rolls on. See the sights and hear the sounds when they play The Royal Albert on Thursday, Feb. 26. Visit www.myspace.com/sightsandsounds.



DIANA POPS

With a taste for the melancholy, Diana Pops writes piano-based pop songs in the vein of Sarah McLachlan. What really stands out is her voice, a rich alto that's mature beyond her 22 years. After being discovered by local producer Dave Zeglinski (she babysat his kids), Pops wrote a song that was recorded by singer-songwriter Steve Bell when she was just 16. Her self-titled debut followed in March 2006, which quickly led to writing and recording opportunities in the U.S. with singer-songwriter Mat Kearney, producer John Fields (Jimmy Eat World, Switchfoot) and Grammy-award-winning producer Walter Afanasieff, known for his work with Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey. This past December saw her working with Afanasieff on "the ever elusive 'single'" (according to a MySpace blog entry), for her sophomore effort, *The Touch and Go*. Currently, Pops is hard at work on the disc in Nashville with producer and Winnipeg expat Adrian Bradford. Visit www.myspace.com/dianapopsmusic.



DEL BARBER

Delaney Barber is your new favourite singer-songwriter – you just don't know it yet. Over the past four years, he has toured across much of the U.S. and plans to trek across Canada as well. Barber writes songs that are at once classic and contemporary, traditional and original. Imagine if James Taylor, Iron & Wine and The Cardinals made a record together and you're starting to get an idea of what Barber's music is all about. Delicate folk, roots and bedroom indie songs with subtle country nuances like pedal steel and electric guitar drift atop Barber's acoustic guitar and golden voice. The 24-year-old is currently putting the finishing touches on his new record, *Where The City Ends*, due out in April. Do yourself a favour and check out Barber; you won't be disappointed. Visit www.myspace.com/delbarber.

Art that's contemporary, political and conservative

Terrorism, Democracy, Leisure exhibition by Montreal artist Afshin Matlabi raises unique questions

NONI BRYNJOLSON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Alongside *All Power to the People!*, an exhibition of Black Panther poster art, Afshin Matlabi's *Terrorism, Democracy, Leisure* is one of two politically-themed art shows currently being held at Aceartinc.

Matlabi's show in the larger gallery involves drawings, digitally manipulated photographs and animated videos. Judging from the title, one might expect an anti-war statement, or a weighty exhibition critiquing western values.

A Montreal artist of Iranian descent, Matlabi contrasts images of war and terrorism with images of "get-aways" produced by the travel industry.



"Cuba," a digital image created in 2002, is part of *Terrorism, Democracy, Leisure*, a new exhibit at Aceartinc. showcasing the work of Afshin Matlabi.

The digital photograph "Cuba" near the entrance depicts a tourist on a postcard-perfect beach. This is the idealized, middle-class holiday, a vision of escapism where the only thing to worry about is getting an even tan.

Matlabi spoke about the inspiration behind the exhibition in an artist talk at the gallery on Jan. 24:

"Two years after 9/11, I started to become obsessed with the missile and developed a fear of terrorism, yet every summer I would take my family to Cuba. How could we be so anxious about destruction, and yet have a week of leisure, heaven?"

he asked.

In the video "WMD," a missile dances to the tune of ancient, and very beautiful, Persian music. In the crayon and paper piece "Ballistic Missile's Weekend Family Outing," caricatured tourists dive alongside grey missiles into a vast expanse of swirling blue. Water, symbolic of refreshment, rebirth, and also salvation, is a common theme throughout the show. Nearby, the piece "Anxiety Apology" shows dozens of zombie-like men running over surreally coloured hills, towards a spouting fountain much too small to save them all.

"Afshin's work outlines his political views, focusing on countries currently at war or under different ideological regimes. There are some interesting parallels between the two current shows, and both fit within our mandate to exhibit art within a political context," said Liz Garlicki, gallery assistant at Aceartinc.

Many important questions are raised by the artwork in this show, such as what are the artist's intentions? Matlabi wants to be a political artist, but what is his cause?

In his talk, Matlabi advocated going back to "family values, core

values, and a faith-based system, and looking at the Bible and the Torah, which are more sophisticated than philosophy."

Referring to universities as "apolitical institutions," he also stated that he had voted conservative in the last election. This little tidbit of knowledge creates somewhat of a paradox, since political art is most often associated with resistance against ingrained traditions that have worked against marginalized members of society—exemplified by Emory Douglas's work in the adjacent Black Panther show.

Conservatism has not typically been an arena in which core society values are challenged, and when a conservative artist creates political artwork, one wonders what kind of change is being sought. Is political art just another style or influence to Matlabi?

Terrorism, Democracy, Leisure provides a chance to reflect on the contradictions present in post-9/11 daily life. Perhaps more importantly, it raises unique questions surrounding artwork that aims to be simultaneously contemporary, political and conservative.

Terrorism, Democracy, Leisure is at Aceartinc. (290 McDermot Ave.) until Feb. 28. Visit www.aceart.org.

Are you dry and flaky?

A make-up artist offers tips on how you can fight dry skin



VELANGELINE FERRIGNO
VOLUNTEER

Does your skin feel tight after coming in contact with water? Are your hands white from dryness? Well, you're not the only one dealing with dry skin. Most Winnipeggers have had to deal with it at some point.

FACE

If your face feels tight after washing, use a foaming or moisturizing face wash. This will help prevent excessive stripping of the skin. Also, don't exfoliate more than three times a week and don't use a washcloth to wash your face.

When drying your face or body, pat your skin with a towel rather than rubbing.

When choosing a moisturizer for your face and body, Kristie Leong, MD, at BeyondJane.com, suggests looking for these ingredients:

☞ Glycerin – It's a humectant, meaning it draws moisture from the atmosphere and bonds it to your skin.

☞ Lanolin – It's an occlusive, a substance that helps to prevent loss of water from the deeper skin layers.

☞ Petrolatum – It's one of the best occlusives that won't aggravate acne or promote allergic reactions.

Melanie Drain from Holt Renfrew suggests shea butter, which is a great emollient -it softens and soothes the skin- and moisturizer. It draws moisture to the skin and binds it.

Drain recommends using a vitamin serum before your moisturizer to add some extra nourishment to your skin, like Bobbi Brown's Vitamin Face Base (available at Holt Renfrew for \$55).

It's important to note that whenever you change your skin regimen, it's likely that you will experience a minor break out. Try using the product for a few weeks (if it is comfortable) before you return it to the place of purchase. Your skin



Most Winnipeggers have dealt with dry skin. Drinking a lot of water and using a moisturizing face wash are two things you can do to prevent it.

will get used to its new "diet" and you will start to see the intended results.

Try using Nivea Crème, which is available at Shoppers Drug Mart, as a face moisturizer. Use about a dime-sized amount and warm it in your fingers. By warming the product, you release the active ingredients, making the cream more effective. Then massage it onto your face and neck, avoiding the eyes.

Dry, chapped lips can hurt, so try using a lip balm like Rosebud, available at Frockstar in Osborne Village. If you don't want a tinted lip balm, try using good old Vaseline on your lips, during the day or as a night treatment.

BODY

When taking a shower, choose lathering and moisturizing body

washes. If you're extremely dry, you can use baby oil in the shower. But, be careful not to fall-it creates a slick surface!

Try to stay away from fragrance creams as your only source for moisture. The excessive fragrance (alcohol) can actually dry out your skin more. Instead, try using it over a moisturizer like Jergens or Glysomed, both of which are available at Shoppers Drug Mart.

If your hands or feet are extremely dry, apply a lot of moisturizer and put on a pair of socks or mitts, or even a plastic bag. Do this at night, and you will wake up with softer, more hydrated feet and hands.

TIPS

- ☞ Drink lots of water.
- ☞ Grab some mini moisturizers from Dollarama and keep them in you bag.
- ☞ Use a mineralized water mister on your face to freshen up, and to add extra moisture to your skin.

Velangeline Ferrigno has spent the past eight years working as a make-up artist.



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Going Places.

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CONCERTS

ECOLECTICA The University of Winnipeg's EcoPIA is hosting their annual fundraising event Feb. 12 at The Pyramid Cabaret. The night will feature performances from Perse, Amity Splash, Entre Parentheses, Sir Grooves-a-lot and his Soul Crusaders, and The Playing Cards. Tickets are \$8 in advance and are available from band members, EcoPIA members and the Infobooth. Doors open at 8 and the show starts at 9 p.m.

PRAGUE With Kursk, L'viv and Dirtbaggers, Feb. 14 at Ragpickers. Tickets are \$6 at the door and music starts at 9 p.m. sharp.

THE JUKE JOINT Presented by Mama Cutsworth and Mizz Brown, Feb. 14 at the Lo Pub. This concert is part one of a four-part series titled, "The 1960s: Stop! In The Name of Love." Tickets are \$5 at the door and the show starts at 9 p.m.

ELECTRO QUARTERSTAFF With Evil Survives and L'viv, Feb. 20 at the Albert. Tickets are \$6 at the door and the show starts at 10:30 p.m.

WOMEN IN BLUES MANITOBA CD Release party, Feb. 21 at the Pyramid. The night will be hosted by Howard Manshein and will feature Angel Calnek & Hillbilly Burlesque, Shelley-Lynne Hardinge & The Majestics and Kat Kennedy's Blues Earth. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door and the show starts at 10 p.m.

DD/MM/YYYY With Sylvie, Feb. 23 at the Albert. Tickets are \$8 from Into The Music, Music Trader and www.ticketworkshop.com. The show starts at 10 p.m.

SOILWORK With Darkane, Warbringer, and Swallow The Sun, Feb. 24 at the Albert. Tickets are \$25.00 at Into the Music, Music Trader, www.ticketworkshop.com and the show starts at 10 p.m.

MUSIC

Rock, Pop & Indie

ACADEMY FOOD DRINKS MUSIC 437 Stradbrook. Feb. 12: Rude Dale; Feb. 13: Matt The Alien and The Gaff; Feb. 17: Open Mic with Melissa Plett; Feb. 18: Papa Mambo; Feb. 19: Kid Remington; Feb. 20: Pop Vegas; Feb. 21: Jaylene Johnson, Pop Vegas; Feb. 24: Open mic with Melissa Plett; Feb. 25: Tim Butler Blues Jam; Feb. 26: Fast Human.

THE CAVERN 112 Osborne St. Feb. 12: Jam night with Route 59; Feb. 13: The ultimate Rancid tribute, Hyena! with The Harsemen; Feb. 14: The Bottle Rockets, The Sleuths; Feb. 15: The Afterlife, The Twerps; Feb. 16: The Vinyl Drip with James Brown; Feb. 17: The Soul Patch Orchestra; Feb. 18: It's not Karaoke... It's Cavernaokel; Feb. 19: Jam night with Route 59; Feb. 20: Alverstone, Weatherman Underground; Feb. 21: Johnny Moonbeam, The Lunatics; Feb. 22: Business Casual; Feb. 23: The Vinyl Drip with James Brown; Feb. 24: The Solutions; Feb. 25: It's not Karaoke... It's Cavernaokel!

KING'S HEAD PUB & EATERY 120 King. Sunday: All The King's Men; Monday: The Magician; Tuesday: Comedy Night; Wednesday: Little Boy Boom; Thursday: Joey Landreth Band.

LO PUB 330 Kennedy. Feb. 12: Goodform; Feb. 13: CKUW Fundrive Wrap-up with Haunter, Not Animals and Jay Crocker; Feb. 14: The Juke Joint Part 1 with Mama Cutsworth and Mizz Brown; Feb. 17: Open Mike Night with The Liptonians; Feb. 19: Goodform. Feb. 20: LeBeato, Mike B; Feb. 24: Open Mike Night with Les Jupes.

PYRAMID CABARET 176 Fort. Feb. 12: EcoEctelica Wilderness Committee Fundraiser; Feb. 13: DJ's Co-Op and Hunnicutt; Feb. 14: Les Dales Hawerchuk; Feb. 20: 92.9 KICK FM CD release with Pushing Daisies, Sons Of York and Tele; Feb. 21: Women in Blues Manitoba CD Release; Feb. 24: Beast, LeBeato; Feb. 25: That 1 Guy.

Country, Folk & Jazz

GORDIE'S COFFEE HOUSE 127 Coburg. Feb. 12: Beggar's Brawl; Feb. 19: The Dead Letters; Feb. 26: Jonathon Todd.

MCNALLY ROBINSON GRANT PARK Feb. 13 - 14: Ed Goertzen; Feb. 20: Alasdair Dunlop Trio; Feb. 21: Bob Watts Trio.

MCNALLY ROBINSON POLO PARK Feb. 13 - 14: Winnipeg Classical Guitar Duo; Feb. 20: Jan Smith and Dallas Crawford; Feb. 21: Paulo Borges Duo.

TIMES CHANGE(d) HIGH & LONESOME CLUB Main & St. Mary. Feb. 13: Patrick Alexandre and the F-Holes, Woody Holler; Feb. 14: Kitcheneers, Free Bacon; Feb. 19: Minglers, Skybird Band; Feb. 20 - 21 Andrew Neville and the Poor Choices.

Dance & Hip Hop

HIFI CLUB 108 Osborne. Feb. 14: Conga Rock, Italy, Electro Party Mash; Feb. 21: La Riots.

OZZY'S 160 Osborne. Wednesdays: Soho Trash DJs: Punk, Glam, New Wave, Power Pop; Thursdays: Readymix Dance Party: Indie-Dance, Electro, Brit-Pop, New Wave, Mash-Ups, '80s/'90s, and more; Saturdays: Modernized.

Punk & Metal

THE ROYAL ALBERT 91 Albert. Feb. 12: CKUW Benefit show with Unwanted, Nervous Lugers; Feb. 13: Angry Dragons, Summer of Legs, Sodomizing Sarah; Feb. 20: Electro Quarterstaff, Evil Survives, L'viv.

THE ZOO 160 Osborne. Feb. 12: On the Fly; Feb. 13: Coda, Losing Focus, Fame; Feb. 20: Living in Red, Reverse Separation, Answers in Green; Feb. 21: Xplicit.

DANCE & THEATRE

THE CROSSEYED RASCALS Present Feezeway of Love, an improvisational comedy Valentine's Day event, Feb. 13 at Prairie Theatre Exchange's Colin Jackson Studio (3rd floor, Portage Place). Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Advance

tickets are available from 980-2734 or rascaltickets@gmail.com. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

DIE ROTEN PUNKTE Winners of the 2008 Best of the Fringe Festival return to perform their punk rock odyssey, Super Musikant (Super Musician), Feb. 13 and 14 at the Gas Station Theatre. Tickets are \$15 from www.winnipegfringe.com and the MTC box office. Tickets are \$12.50 if purchased before Feb. 8. Both shows start at 8 p.m.

BAD DATES By Theresa Rebeck, Directed by Steven Schipper and starring Precious Chong, Feb. 19 to March 7 at the Tom Hendry Theatre Warehouse. Tickets range from \$12 to \$38 and are available from the MTC box office.

GALLERIES

GALLERY 1C03 University of Winnipeg. Colonizing Oort, new works by Winnipeg/Montreal-based artist Kevin Kelly. The exhibit will be open until Feb. 21.

GRAFFITI GALLERY 109 Higgins. Fort! a new installation in William Friedman Memorial Gallery. There will be an opening reception from 4 to 6 p.m. on Feb. 12.

HI-WINNIPEG DOWNTOWNER 330 Kennedy. Our World: Peoples, Places, Cultures, an Exhibit, installation by Winnipeg-based photographer Keith Levit. The exhibit celebrates Hostelling International's 100-year anniversary and Levit's work will be on display until Feb. 20.

PAVILLION GALLERY MUSEUM Assiniboine Park. Tides & Totems: Phillips in the West, watercolours and woodcuts by Walter J. Phillips. The exhibit is on display until May 3.

PLATFORM CENTRE FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC + DIGITAL ARTS 121-

clinic.mb.ca.

ACUPUNCTURE The Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre presents an auricular (ear) acupuncture clinic for women, Thursday mornings from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Sessions begin Feb. 5 and continue until March 2. All treatments are free and donations are welcome. The sessions will be held at the Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre, 1150 A Waverley Street. Please call 477-1123 for more information.

SECRET POSTCARDS Wolseley Family Place is hosting a secret postcard event called Insight Out. You are invited to submit your secret to Wolseley Family Place on a homemade or reconstructed postcard. One secret per postcard, each postcard must be anonymous and creativity is welcomed. Your secret will be shared with the public at our community art event that takes place on April 14 to 19 at Artbeat studio. All secrets can be sent to Wolseley Family Place, Lower Level 691 Wolseley Ave., R3G 1C3.

FREE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CLASS A free class for international students will be held Sundays from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Elim Chapel. The class is an opportunity to meet fellow students and to learn English and the Bible. For more information contact Val and Veda Chacko at 257-1670 or vtchacko@shaw.ca.

LITERARY

WRITING WORKSHOP The Writers' Collective presents Editing 101: The Basics, hosted by Clarise Foster, Feb. 21 in room 3M50 at the University of Winnipeg from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is \$15 for members and \$30 for non-members.

WRITING CONTEST Admissions are being accepted for the 2009 Prairie Fire Press/McNally Robinson writing contests. The

THE UNITER'S TOP 5 EVENTS

BY CURRAN FARIS

● **ELECTRO QUARTERSTAFF** With **Evil Survives** and **L'viv**, **Feb. 20** at the **Albert**. Be sure to absorb the structured cacophony of Electro Quarterstaff as well as the return of whimsical prairie-progsters L'viv. Tickets are **\$6** at the door and the show starts at **10:30 p.m.**

● **DD/MM/YYYY** With **Sylvie**, **Feb. 23** at the **Albert**. Toronto's DD/MM/YYYY bring their complex synth-driven indie rock through town. But they also bring Regina's Sylvie, who are not to be missed. Tickets are **\$8** from Into The Music, Music Trader and www.ticketworkshop.com. The show starts at **10 p.m.**

● **PRAGUE** With **Kursk**, **L'viv** and **Dirtbaggers**, **Feb. 14** at Ragpickers. Number-crunching guitar/drum duo Prague return after a lengthy hiatus. Tickets are **\$6** at the door and music starts at **8 p.m. sharp**.

● **DIE ROTEN PUNKTE** Winners of the 2008 Best of the Fringe Festival return to perform their punk rock odyssey, Super Musikant (Super Musician), **Feb. 13 and 14** at the **Gas Station Theatre**. That's right, a punk rock odyssey. Find out what that means yourself. Tickets are **\$15** from www.winnipegfringe.com and the MTC box office. Tickets are **\$12.50** if purchased before **Feb. 8**. Both shows start at **8 p.m.**

● **THE JUKE JOINT** Presented by **Mama Cutsworth** and **Mizz Brown**, **Feb. 14** at the **Lo Pub**. Two of Winnipeg's finest DJs present the first of four series titled: "**The 1960s: Stop! In The Name of Love.**" The impending grooves are sure to be the perfect soundtrack to Valentine's Day, so practice safe dancing. Tickets are **\$5** at the door and the show starts at **9 p.m.**

100 Arthur. Art and Cold Cash. This multimedia installation examines the introduction of capitalism into northern communities. There will be an opening reception Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. and the installation is open until April 4.

PLUG IN INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART 286 McDermot Ave. The Plug In is hosting a fundraiser/exhibition titled Dream House 2009, which will explore domestic environments through art based on re-imagined domestic dwellings. The exhibit will be open from Feb. 14 to March 8 and the works will be auctioned off on March 7 and all proceeds will go to supporting the Plug In Gallery.

WAYNE ARTHUR GALLERY 186 Provencher. Through Two Fixed Eyes: The Photography of Dan Harper, on display until Feb. 25.

WINNIPEG ART GALLERY 300 Memorial. Cabinet and Ornamental Wares: Painted Porcelain of the 19th and 20th Centuries, open from Jan. 24 until June 28. Also open is The Painter as Printmaker, which features a series Impressionist prints from artists such as Van Gogh and Renoir. Angakkuq: Inuit Shaman is open until May 3. There will be a Curator talk March 5 at 7 p.m.

URBAN SHAMAN GALLERY 203-290 McDermot. Urban Shaman is currently calling for submissions to be displayed in the Main Gallery, Marvin Francis Memorial Gallery and the Virtual Gallery. Submissions should be mailed to: Director, Urban Shaman Gallery, 203-290 McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 0T2. Scout's Honour, exhibit by Michael Belmore and Frank Shebageget, on display until Feb. 21.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

MAN TO MAN Presented by Klinik Community Health Centre, The Man to Man project is intended to raise awareness about depression, stress and mental health in men. The project involves presentation aimed to help participants identify and understand the causes and effects of depression. For more information, contact Curt Sparkes at 784-4015 or csparkes@

ELIZABETH THORNTON Launch of The Runaway McBride, Feb. 19, 8 p.m. at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

RICHARD GORDON Talk and signing of Divine Action and Natural Selection: Science, Faith and Evolution, Feb. 23, 7 p.m. at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

NITIN DECKHA Reading and signing of Shopping for Sabzi, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. at McNally Robinson Polo Park.

LEE GOWAN AND SUSAN OLDING Reading and signing their respective works, Confession and Pathologies: A Life in Essays, Feb. 24, 7 p.m. at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

FILM

CINEMATHEQUE 100 Arthur. Feb. 12: Groundswell Presents: LivetonFilm (8 p.m.); Feb. 13: No Cuts, No Splices, The One Take Super-8 Showcase (7 p.m.), Sonic Youth: Sleeping Nights Awake (9 p.m.); Feb. 14: Bollywood: Yuvvraaj (7 p.m.), Love Bites: The '80s Power Ballad Sing Along (9 p.m.); Feb. 15: Cabin Fever: Bugsy Malone (2 p.m.), Bollywood: Yuvvraaj (7 p.m.); Feb. 18: Bollywood: Yuvvraaj (7 p.m.); Feb. 19: Bollywood: Yuvvraaj (7 p.m.);

NATIONAL FILM SERIES Presented by the National Film Board (NFB), a series of classic and contemporary Canadian films will be shown at the Millenium Library. Feb. 14: NFB in Love; Feb. 21: NFB: Black Canadian Experience; Feb. 28: Great Northern NFB. All films start at 1 p.m. in Carol Shields Auditorium.

SCOTT WALKER: 30 CENTURY MAN This film, directed by Stephen Kijak, is being shown Feb. 12 at the Cyrk. Tickets are \$10 at the door or in advance from bigsmashproductions@gmail.com. Doors open at 7:30 and the film starts at 8 p.m. Free wine and musical entertainment are also included. Seating is limited.

ON CAMPUS

LUNCH WITH AXWORTHY University of Winnipeg President Lloyd Axworthy will be having lunch in Riddell Hall on Feb. 25 and welcomes all students to join him.

ECOLECTICA Is hosting a fundraiser Feb. 12 at the Pyramid featuring performances from Perse, Amity Splash, Entre Parentheses, Sir Grooves-a-lot and his Soul Crusaders, and The Playing Cards. Tickets are \$8 in advance from Infobooth, EcoPIA members and band members. Music starts at 9 p.m.

BATHTUB PROJECT Presented by the Jewish Students Association, the Bathtub Project is a fundraising event for Osborne House. Between Feb. 23 and 28 an actual bathtub will be brought on campus to collect donated items for Osborne House. For more information, contact sloxton@jewishwinnipeg.org.

COLLEGIATE OPEN HOUSE The Collegiate High School is hosting an open house Feb. 25 from 5 to 8 p.m. in Wesley Hall of the University of Winnipeg. Prospective students and families are invited to this information session and current students and faculty will be in attendance to answer questions. This event is free. For more information visit www.uwinnipeg.ca/collegiate.

OPEN HOUSE The University of Winnipeg is hosting its annual open house Feb. 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Riddell Hall, 515 Portage Avenue. High-school students, adult/mature students and the public are welcome and admission is free. The Open House offers prospective students the opportunity to chat with professors, students and staff. There are information sessions on degree programs, registration, student housing, career exploration, campus tours and more. For more information contact Naniece Ibrahim at 988-7130 or n.ibrahim@uwinnipeg.ca.

INSIGHT 2009 The 2009 Insight Conference (Canadian National Students' Conference in International Studies) held at Carleton University in Ottawa is now accepting proposals. Insight aims to reach out to the undergraduate body from different backgrounds to use their studies and their experience to educate students across Canada. The conference is a great opportunity to participate in dialogue and debate. The deadline for proposals is March 6. For more information visit www.insightstudents.org or contact insight.conference@gmail.com.

DARWIN DAY Feb 13 is Darwin Day and a series of activities and lecture will be held at the university. A costume contest will be held in Theatre A from 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. and two public lectures will be given in Convocation Hall at 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FOOD NOT BOMBS Food Not Bombs is looking for volunteers to help on Sunday afternoons between 1 and 4 p.m. Volunteers are needed to pick up and deliver food to the M.E.R.C. on Langside and/or to help cook and clean up at the M.E.R.C. For more information contact Dandy at 296-8946.

BIKE DUMP The Bike Dump is always looking for volunteers. Orientation session take place on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m.



Scattering harmonic conventions, Electro Quarterstaff are at the Albert Feb. 20.

CLASSIFIEDS

"Bikes and Beyond now hiring part time bicycle assemblers, sales, and website support staff. Customer service, ability to multi-task, and mechanical skills are an asset. Email resume to bikesandbeyond@shaw.ca"

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

The Awards and Financial Aid staff of the University of Winnipeg provides our student body with current information on award opportunities. This information is updated weekly.

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG AWARDS:

Do you have a teacher you would like to nominate for The Clifford J. Robson Memorial Award for Excellence In Teaching? Application forms are available from the Awards Office-main floor Graham Hall, and Student Central-main floor Centennial Hall. Deadline: March 2, 2009

AWARDS OFFERED BY EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS AUCC AWARDS

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada provides 150 scholarship programs on behalf of the federal government, domestic and foreign agencies, and private sector companies. Check out website <http://www.aucc.ca/>. Look under the heading Scholarships and Internships for Canadian Students.

KIWANIS CLUB OF WINNIPEG FOUNDATION INC: MANITOBA CITIZENS' BURSARY FUND FOR NATIVE PEOPLES AWARDS 2009

Open to students currently enrolled at the Universities of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Brandon. In 2008, bursaries totaling \$7,000 were awarded for the three Universities. The bursaries range from \$175 to \$450 each.

Criteria: Preference will be given to Native students (Indian, Metis and Inuit) who demonstrate financial need; students must maintain satisfactory grades to retain their eligibility; points will be given to students participating in extra-curricular activities; the Bursary Fund is not designed to help applicants meet the financial cost of entering University. On the contrary, it is designed, subject to the above criteria, to help meet financial problems that arise subsequently.

Applications are available at the Awards & Financial Aid Office located in Graham Hall. **Deadline:** Please return your application to the Awards & Financial Aid Office by Feb. 16.

TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION OF CANADA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Foundation scholarships are intended to provide education assistance in technical areas or disciplines which will contribute to safe, secure, efficient,

effective and environmentally and financially sustainable transportation services in support of Canada's social and economic goals. In Canada as a whole, the Foundation's primary focus for educational support (scholarships) is on roadways and their strategic linkages and inter-relationships with other components of the transportation system. In urban areas, the primary focus is on the movement of people, goods and services and its relationship with land use patterns and other transportation modes.

General Criteria for Foundation Scholarships: Candidates must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants; preference may be given to candidates with relevant work experience; Scholarships may be awarded to individuals receiving other scholarships; the maximum number of Foundation scholarships which will be awarded to any individual is two (2). (TAC Foundation Entrance Scholarships are not included in this restriction); scholarships are for full year attendance in post secondary institutions only. (Applicants must be enrolled for the entire academic year, not just one term.); beginning in 2009, college level students may apply.

Criteria for Undergraduate Scholarships: Candidates must be entering third or fourth year studies; Candidates must intend to pursue a career in some aspect of the transportation field and meet the conditions that apply to a particular scholarship; Students must have achieved an overall B level or equivalent average mark in their previous academic year; on completion of the studies for which they received a Foundation scholarship, students must send a copy of their thesis or major project, if their program of study produced one.

Criteria for Postgraduate Scholarships: Candidates must be admissible to a postgraduate studies program or already registered as full-time graduate students; candidates must be studying in the field of transportation and meet the conditions which apply to a particular scholarship; candidates must be in the top quarter of their class in addition to having a minimum GPA of B; on completion of postgraduate studies, scholarship recipients must send a copy of their thesis to the Foundation.

Deadline: March 2.

See the website for more information and application form: www.tac-foundation.ca.

PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN HONOUR OF STUART NESBITT WHITE

Public Safety Canada (PSC) is seeking to encourage graduate research in support of its mandate, which is to enhance the safety and security of Canadians in their physical and cyber environments. These awards are available for those students who are studying and conducting research in the area of Emergency Management (EM). This includes work in the areas of one or more of the four pillars of Emergency Management; mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Studies focused on the all hazards approach with regard to EM are encouraged, as are studies in cyber security, disaster management, and critical infrastructure protection and assurance*. Cross disciplinary / multi-disciplinary studies in these areas are preferred and encouraged. Preferred disciplines are regional planning, engineering, environmental studies, computer science, geography, sociology, economics and/or areas such as risk modeling and system science.

*For a definition of what PSC deems to be critical infrastructure see: <http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/prg/em/nciap/about-en.asp>

Number of Awards: eight (8)

Value: \$19,250 CDN

Deadline: March 31

Interested candidates will find the information needed to apply for this program in a PDF or Word format by visiting the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada's website <https://juno.aucc.ca/wes/hes.aspx?pg=934&oth=0005052009>.

MANITOBA STUDENT AID PROGRAM

The following information is provided with regard to the second disbursement of your Manitoba Student Aid Program (MSAP) assistance (Manitoba Student Loan) for the 2008-09 academic year:

Missing information. If any documentation requested by the MSAP, such as

summer income verification, has not yet been submitted, electronic confirmation of your loan document will not occur and your loan funds will not be in place at the beginning of the winter term.

Revision to your needs assessment. You should be aware that new information, such as verification of your summer income, may increase or decrease your MSAP needs assessment and the resulting loan amounts you are eligible to receive. Similarly, if your current course load is different from that on your Notice of Assistance letter, the amount of loan you are eligible to receive may change.

DID YOU KNOW You can check the status of your student aid application, find out what documentation is still outstanding, update your address information and much more on line? Go to www.manitobastudentaid.ca Link to MySAO to log into your existing account.

DID YOU KNOW If you are a student who has had past Government Student Loans and are currently a full-time student but do not have a student loan this year, please fill out a Schedule 2 document to remain in non-payment status. Please come to Student Services in Graham Hall, where front counter staff can help you with this form.

DID YOU KNOW That Manitoba Student Aid staff can be on campus on Fridays from 1 to 4 p.m. To meet with them, you need to set up an appointment time. Come to student services and book an appointment, or phone 786-9458 or 786-9984.

Other Award Websites:

Canada Student Loan program and other important information on finances and budgeting www.canlearn.ca

Manitoba Student Aid Program www.manitobastudentaid.ca

Surfing for dollars? Try these two websites:

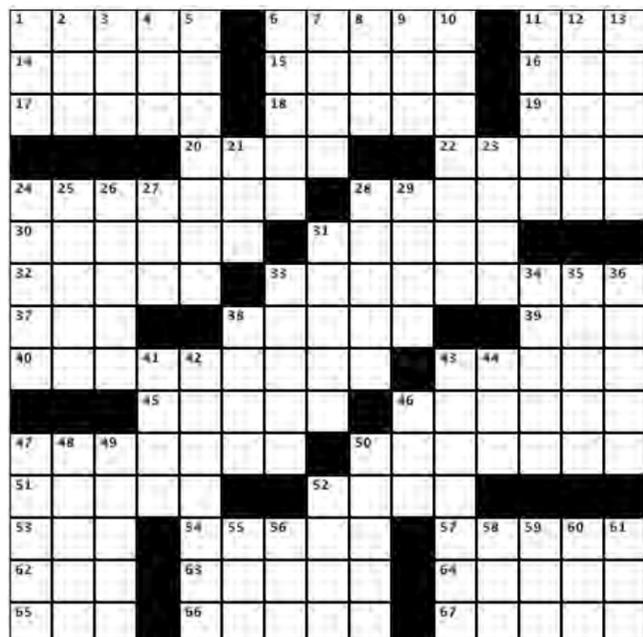
www.studentawards.com

www.scholarshipscanada.com

Please contact the awards office for information regarding external awards.

Crossword Puzzle #20

Solutions to puzzles will appear in the next issue.



Across

- 1- "Til ___ do us part"
- 6- Locations
- 11- Actor Vigoda
- 14- Like a mosquito bite
- 15- Fool
- 16- Turf
- 17- Satisfied
- 18- Conger catcher
- 19- Mao ___-tung
- 20- Baltic capital
- 22- Hipbone
- 24- Become cheeselike
- 28- Restaurant in Greece
- 30- Theater district
- 31- Engender
- 32- Entertain
- 33- Striking
- 37- ___ Quentin
- 38- Gather
- 39- Lentil and spice dish
- 40- Make firm
- 43- Stage play
- 45- Delight
- 46- Ground squirrel
- 47- Pattern of colorful curving figures
- 50- Feathered
- 51- Engage in histrionics

- 52- Overfill
- 53- Whole bunch
- 54- Where Columbus was born
- 57- Can't stand
- 62- Shipping magnate Onassis
- 63- Bad lighting?
- 64- Hackneyed
- 65- Meadow
- 66- Inclined
- 67- Brewer's need;

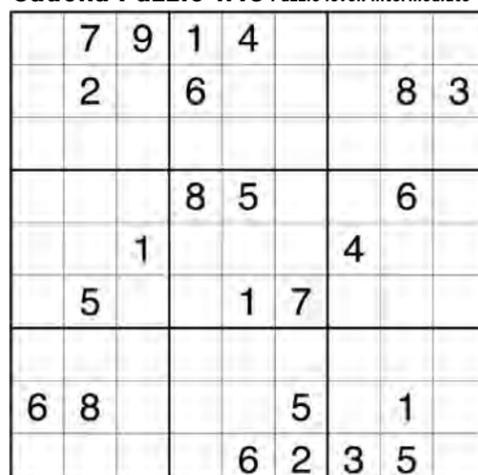
Down

- 1- Put down, in slang
- 2- Greek vowel
- 3- Pretend
- 4- Definite article
- 5- Combine chemically with water
- 6- Surround
- 7- Think tank product
- 8- Up to, briefly
- 9- Fair-hiring abbr.
- 10- Tries hard
- 11- Up and about
- 12- Boatswain
- 13- Excess fluid in an organ
- 21- Simpson trial judge
- 23- Riga resident

- 24- Gross
- 25- Shoot for
- 26- Sweatbox
- 27- Overhead trains
- 28- Curt
- 29- A long time
- 31- To make of brass
- 33- Friendship
- 34- Spud state
- 35- Titles
- 36- Stare angrily
- 38- Winglike parts
- 41- Of the highest quality
- 42- Forbidden by law
- 43- Valiant
- 44- LP speed
- 46- Day-___
- 47- Flower segment
- 48- Love, Italian-style
- 49- Ancient region

- of Asia Minor
- 50- Factory
- 52- Masked critter
- 55- Before
- 56- Code-breaking org.
- 58- Is for more than one?
- 59- Carrere of "Wayne's World"
- 60- Aliens, for short
- 61- Become firm

Sudoku Puzzle #16 Puzzle level: intermediate



Last week's puzzle solution (#15)

1	9	7	3	2	8	4	6	5
8	5	2	6	4	9	3	1	7
3	6	4	5	7	1	2	8	9
6	4	5	7	1	3	8	9	2
2	8	1	9	6	5	7	4	3
9	7	3	2	8	4	6	5	1
7	1	9	8	3	6	5	2	4
4	2	6	1	5	7	9	3	8
5	3	8	4	9	2	1	7	6

Last week's puzzle solution (#19)

C	L	A	M	O	M	E	N	S	C	A	T		
O	A	S	I	S	N	I	N	E	C	I	N	E	
O	R	I	O	N	E	L	E	M	A	T	T	N	
P	A	S	I	N	T	O	A	G	R	E	E	D	
S	T	E	W	S	T	R	E	S	S				
S	I	R	O	C	C	O	E	O	E				
O	B	E	A	H	O	L	D	G	L	O	R	Y	
R	A	N	K	A	M	B	L	E	I	B	I	S	
T	R	E	S	T	L	E	S	S	M	I	L	E	
M	O	N	R	O	E	T	Y	W	E	E	T	E	R
R	E	P	A	I	R	L	I	E	D	O	A	R	
A	D	E	S	A	M	O	R	O	B	D	L	Y	
D	A	R	T	N	A	G	S	W	O	O	L	A	
S	L	A	Y	S	T	E	T	E	R	A	T		

Sports & Fitness

Adrenaline junkies welcome

The Crashed Ice experience



KEVIN CHAVES
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The event is an insane combination of hockey, downhill skiing and boardercross, and it calls on all adrenaline junkies to go for a ride.

For those of you who haven't heard about the Red Bull Crashed Ice event, you will soon, as it grows every year. This year, the event took place on Jan. 24.

"The whole experience was awesome," said Derrick Gagnon about his four-day extravaganza in Quebec City. "I felt like a celebrity."

Gagnon's strong hockey history helped him out-skate 145 competitors, allowing him to be one of the five athletes who represented Winnipeg at the event. The new Cindy Klassen Recreation Centre (the former Sargent Park Complex) held the try-outs where participants went through a short, up and down time trial against one another.

All five of the guys got full accommodations, including flights to Quebec City, hotel, food, and all the Red Bull one could want.

There were special tents for the athletes filled with everything they might need, from massages to exercise bikes, Internet and even a Nintendo Wii. There were also nightly dinners where competitors had a chance to meet people from around the world.

As a spectator the cost is free, but the atmosphere is priceless. The festival night-life goes 24-hours a day for the entire event and the fans are just as crazy as the competitors.

Originating in Europe, the race brings some of the best fans and athletes from around the world. Countries like Finland actually put money into training athletes for the program. Not surprisingly, a Finnish competitor won the men's division.

The course takes some practice, as it is one of a kind.

"You're at the top of the hill and it's intimidating," Gagnon explained. "Not only the track but all the TV cameras, lights and the 100,000 people watching around you."

It's a unique race, with four competitors starting on top of an ice hill that is 56 metres higher than the finish line 550 metres away. Competitors skate as fast as they can through vertical drops, bumps, jumps and sharp turns, while attempting to maintain balance in

full hockey gear.

Some participants have been clocked at over 40 km/hour. Of course going down a curvy ice hill on skates is not the safest idea, but let it be clear that there is no contact. None. No exceptions.

Competitors know that all non-accidental contact will lead to an instant disqualification. Most of those crazy collisions seen on the tube are intentional.

For the first time this year, there was a women's division, again proving that this event is progressing. The X-Games quickly became a mainstream attraction and Crashed Ice may be next.

Crashed Ice is attracting new fans and competitors every year, and there is always room for adrenaline junkies with no fear – like Derrick Gagnon.

"You're at the top of the hill and it's intimidating."

**-Derrick Gagnon,
Red Bull Crashed Ice
competitor**



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, 2009. 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 the 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, 2009 – 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**

Iceberg, right ahead?

U of W's latest **Duckworth Centre improvement**

JESS CHAPMAN
VOLUNTEER

If you thought improvements to the University of Winnipeg's Duckworth Centre have been completed, you might want to think again.

In its Jan. 14 report, the President's Task Force on Athletics and Academics introduced a proposal to construct a field house, similar to the University of Manitoba's Max Bell Centre, on the University of Winnipeg campus. The field house would be known as "the Iceberg," named for its entirely glass-walled design.

The report contains rough sketches for a 200-metre indoor track and enhanced volleyball and basketball courts within the Iceberg, as well as areas of the building that would allow students to take part in such sports as tennis, lacrosse, fencing, indoor soccer and hockey, to name a few.

Does that mean we might see some Wesmen competing on the rink?

"Hockey and ice sports are very common and popular in Canada. It's really a Canadian cultural icon, when you consider our passion for ice sports," said David Fitzpatrick, chair of the task force that drafted the initial plans for the Iceberg.

A campus ice rink "would allow us to bring back what was here many years ago, a Wesmen hockey team," Fitzpatrick said.

The Iceberg has been met enthusiastically by U of W students.

"I think if they did have this, it would attract a lot of different people to the U of W. I think it's been one of the things that's been missing from the U of W for a long time," said fourth-year communications major

Dan Verville. "A hockey team is definitely a viable option. We definitely have the talent here to put together a team."

The task force's report also lists a number of services that could potentially be offered at the Iceberg. Among them is a new sports medicine clinic, additional classrooms, seminar rooms and administrative offices.

The establishment of the Lifespan Research Institute would also be possible, according to Fitzpatrick. This would allow the Kinesiology department, as well as others, to "research some of the determinants of physical activity" and the impact of participation in organized sports on the reduction of gang involvement, unplanned pregnancy and drug use.

"I think if they did have this, it would attract a lot of different people to the U of W. I think it's been one of the things that's been missing from the U of W for a long time."

**-Dan Verville,
University of Winnipeg student**

Another potential outcome is the growth of the existing athletic therapy centre, which means that a Masters of Athletic Therapy degree could be offered at the U of W in upcoming years, possibly accompanied by a masters program in coaching.

The Iceberg is still looking for funding before it can be confirmed for development.

"We haven't received firm commitment from our funders about receiving monies to build any sort of facility," said Fitzpatrick. "We've had a number of discussions with potential funders, but nothing has been formalized."

SFU hit threes early and often against Winnipeg

Wesmen women lose to number one ranked Clan

BRAD PENNINGTON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

On Friday, Feb. 6, the University of Winnipeg Wesmen (13-8) took on the Simon Fraser University Clan (21-1) in women's basketball action. SFU ended up on top as they dominated Winnipeg 87-56.

The match started off close but SFU started hitting three pointer after three pointer and that kept the Wesmen down. Winnipeg also kept turning the ball over and the Clan's defence kicked in and took advantage of the Wesmen's sloppy passes and mistakes.

With the size of SFU's players coupled with their shooting ability, it is easy to see why they are ranked number one in the country and how they can force a team like the Wesmen to turn over the ball.

"They're a very good team," said Wesmen guard Caitlin Gooch. "They run their offense well and find their shooters."

It wasn't until late in the second quarter when the Wesmen were able to force SFU to turn the ball over and Winnipeg brought the game a little closer. However, by the end of the first half the Wesmen were still trailing SFU 27-39.



Wesmen guard Amy Ogidan looking for a pass against Simon Fraser on Friday, Feb. 6.

The second half went about the same as the first. The Clan's Robyn Buna kept on connecting from the three point line and hit six of 13 from beyond the arc, leading her team to victory.

High scorers for the Wesmen were Gooch with 17 points and fourth-year guard Randie Gibson who had 10 points on the night.

The next day the Wesmen women beat the Trinity Western University Spartans 74-54 on a night where Winnipeg's fourth-

year forward Jessica Stromberg earned a double-double with 11 points and 12 rebounds.

The Wesmen men's basketball game against SFU was a lot closer, but the Clan still won by a score of 70-62. The high scorers of the night were guard Nick Lothar of the Wesmen scoring 19 points and SFU's Matt Kuzminski who also scored 19 points.

The men's game against the Spartans had an unfortunate ending for Wesmen fans as they

dropped that game 62-70 despite third-year guard Nick Lothar's 17 point performance.

In volleyball action, both the women and men faced the cross-town rivals, the Manitoba Bison.

The women were swept 0-3 in both games but, on a positive note, first-year Ariel Smith keeps improving as she led the Wesmen with 11 kills in the first game, and seven in the second. In the years to come, she is going to be an offensive juggernaut for Winnipeg.

The men were victorious 3-0 and 3-1 as Alan Ahow led the first match with 13 kills and Andrew Town led the second match with 20.

Next for the Wesmen are the playoffs as the women's basketball team play host to the Bison starting on Thursday, Feb. 12. The men's basketball team travels to Regina to play the Cougars in their best of three while the men's volleyball team is off to Calgary to battle it out with the Dinos.

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SAGAN MORROW
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Living well



The importance of vitamin D

Moaning about the temperature is a common pastime during a Winnipeg winter, but the cold weather has more of an influence on your health than you might think.

The lack of sunlight reaching our skin is cause for concern when it comes to our intake of vitamin D.

Most of the vitamins and minerals we require are not too difficult to incorporate into our diet when we know which foods they are found in. Vitamin D, however, is a special case.

Although it is found in a few natural foods, vitamin D is in its most potent form when our skin synthesizes it from sunlight. And this is simply not an option during many months of the year.

Vitamin D is essential for the absorption of calcium and phosphorous, two miner-

als that we need for strong bones and teeth. Even if we consume the recommended amounts of calcium and phosphorous in our diet, when we consume inadequate amounts of vitamin D the minerals can not be properly absorbed.

We need all three of these nutrients to protect and strengthen our bones, as well as to prevent many dangerous conditions and diseases such as osteoporosis, rickets, multiple sclerosis and several types of cancer.

A recent study published in the U.S. Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism suggests that vitamin D is directly related to the development of muscle power and force.

Good food sources of vitamin D include egg yolks, milk, cod and halibut liver oil, salmon and tuna (among other types of fish) and green leafy vegetables. Other food products such as butter and orange juice are now being fortified with it as well.

Because few of us eat all of these foods on a regular basis and in large enough quantities, it might be a good idea to take a vitamin D supplement. Remember, however, that a supplement is not a replacement for real food and should only be used to complement your diet.

Vitamin D is a fat-soluble vitamin, meaning it is not flushed out of our system the way water-soluble vitamins are. This tends to be a good thing when our intake of the vitamin is reduced, as our body holds onto it and retains it.

Fat-soluble vitamins can also be dangerous when we consume too much all at once; our bodies keep the nutrient in our system and may reach toxicity levels.

When it comes to vitamin D, this is generally a danger that only comes from taking too many supplements, as it is highly unlikely that we consume enough foods with vitamin D in them on a regular basis to reach that extreme.

Over-zealous supplementation can lead to kidney stones, nausea, headaches, fatigue, and even weak bones and muscles (the very thing we're trying to prevent!), among other symptoms.

University of Winnipeg student Sagan Morrow writes a health and wellness blog. Check it out at <http://livinghealthyintherealworld.wordpress.com>.

Recession? What recession?

Yankees continue ridiculous spending habits



ADAM PELESHATY
VOLUNTEER STAFF

While the whole world is stuck in recession mode, Hank Steinbrenner and his New York Yankees are out for recess and want to play - except Steinbrenner and the Yankees are like the bullies of the playground looking to pick on all the poor kids.

The Yankees payroll will be around \$200 million in 2009. By comparison, the reigning American League champs, the Tampa Bay Rays, had a relatively measly payroll of \$42 million last year.

Steinbrenner, president of the

Yankees, has chosen not to re-sign Jason Giambi, Bobby Abreu and Mike Mussina but went ahead and signed first baseman Mark Teixeira and pitchers C.C. Sabathia and A.J. Burnett to big contracts in December. Their deals will have a combined monetary value of almost \$425 million over many years.

In a time of collapsing economies, were the Yankees fiscally irresponsible in their spending? Yes. Should we blame them for the disparity of team payrolls in baseball? Not exactly.

While the Yankees' wealth and cash flow create an unfair advantage when it comes to attracting high priced free agents, they are doing everything in their power to create a winning baseball team and it is perfectly within the rules of Major League Baseball.

Yet, it turns ridiculous when Alex Rodriguez made more money in 2008 (around \$25 million) than the entire Florida Marlins baseball team (\$21 million). The blame should go towards Major League Baseball.

The MLB still uses the luxury tax system, where it penalizes teams who go over a certain amount of salary for their players, instead of a salary cap. This has allowed richer teams, like the Yankees, the New York Mets and the Boston Red



Sox, to sign any player they want while poorer teams like the Kansas City Royals, Washington Nationals and the Pittsburgh Pirates cannot afford to sign any big names.

However, it seems like a salary cap will never be implemented. If owners insisted on a hard salary cap on teams' players, then surely, a players' strike would happen again. Teams with high salaries would also be up in arms, as they believe that a salary cap would inhibit on their ability to field championship-calibre teams.

Still, the Yankees must be aware of the times. They must realize that fewer people can afford to watch a

MLB game and if they want to finance their new signings, they must get people in the stands.

The Yankees cannot continue to be the bullies of the sports world. Baseball's economics seem to deny any existence of a recession but with people being laid off and health insurance being cut, it will be a difficult time for all professional sports teams.

It remains to be seen whether or not teams like the Yankees, the Mets and the Red Sox can weather the storm. For the Yankees, the forecast seems sunny but it is only because of their naivety.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

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NOT GUILTY FOR MURDER CHARGE

Jason Stinson, a Louisville, Kentucky high school football coach, has pleaded not guilty to the homicide of 15-year-old offensive lineman Max Gilpin.

According to SI.com, Gilpin collapsed during a practice that was being held on a very hot day. Gilpin was reported to have been running sprints in his gear. Gilpin's medical records will be investigated during the proceedings of the trial due to a history of medical conditions.

Some of the Louisville community who believe that Stinson should not be held responsible for Gilpin's death came together to support the coach at a prayer gathering. Stinson played for the University of Louisville and the New York Giants for a brief period of time.

THERE IS NO GOLD IN POT SMOKING

Olympian swimmer Michael Phelps promised that he has puffed his last pipe of marijuana.

Just after being named the U.S. Olympics committee Sportsman of the Year and the AP male athlete of the year, Phelps was found taking a puff from a pipe in a photo that was discovered in a tabloid called News of the World. According to TSN.ca, Phelps issued a response claiming that the suspension issued by the U.S. Olympics Committee was fair and that he exhibited "bad judgment" for what he did.

The USOC claimed that Michael Phelps has acknowledged his mistake and apologized.

BLOOD, VIOLENCE AND CONTROVERSY AT CFC

Canadian Fighting Championship's first show on Feb. 6 was anything but a snoozer.

Dean Lewis suffered a career-ending beat down at the hands of Eric Perez. Robin Black saw his first MMA win over Stephane Poirier via a triangle choke in the second round. Local undefeated fighters Justin Barnard and Rodrigo Munduruca increased their flawless records; both are now 6-0.

Other local fighters who saw success in the ring include Jon Henderson, Mark Durant, Dominick Blais, Lindsay Hawkes and long-time pro Chris Fontaine. In the main event, "Dangerous" Dave Zuniga saw a controversial split-decision loss to Ottawa's Mark Holst.

FIGHT NOT OVER YET

After his loss to welterweight champion Georges "Rush" St. Pierre, BJ Penn has a number of complaints about the fight.

According to SI.com, St. Pierre's cornerman accidentally rubbed Vaseline on St. Pierre's back making him slippery and not allowing Penn to get a grip on Rush.

St. Pierre later explained that his cornerman was rubbing his back as a breathing technique and not to cheat.

The UFC has made a new rule that fighters can no longer provide their own cut men that handle the Vaseline and that the UFC will provide its own.

St. Pierre has offered a rematch, which Penn has accepted.



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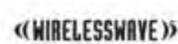


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