

Ahoy, matey!

Peglegs, parrots and planks may be passé, but pirates still exist

ARTS & CULTURE ➔ page 18

Lock it up

University of Winnipeg security keeps your bike safe whether you like it or not

CAMPUS NEWS ➔ page 7

If the wind could speak to us, what would it say?

ARTS & CULTURE ➔ page 17

Waiting for debates

The Human Rights Museum is a conversation starter

COMMENTS ➔ page 9

"We actually live in a universe that is populated with spirits, witches, shapeshifters, transformers, demons, vultures and vampires."

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LOOKING FOR LISTINGS?

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY LISTINGS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ➔ page 5
MUSIC ➔ page 13, FILM ➔ page 15
GALLERIES, THEATRE, DANCE AND COMEDY ➔ page 17
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*COVER IMAGE

"Betrayal" by Kelly Ruth

Acrylic on Canvas, 2009

See more of Kelly Ruth's work at High Octane Gallery (in the Gas Station Theatre).

News

Winnipeg bridges falling down

Disraeli the latest in a binge of bridge construction projects

CAITLIN LAIRD
BEAT REPORTER

Recent speculation that the decrepit Disraeli Bridge would be closed for a prolonged period of time has people questioning why so many Winnipeg bridges are in a state of such disrepair.

While Mayor Sam Katz and Premier Gary Doer have indicated the bridge will not close but will undergo either a revamp or a complete redo, the prospect of yet another bridge construction undertaking has left some exasperated at the state of our infrastructure.

"If the Disraeli were to be shut down, it would have been huge," says Shelia Fortier, who uses the bridge to and from work each day to commute from her home in North Kildonan to CanWest headquarters downtown.

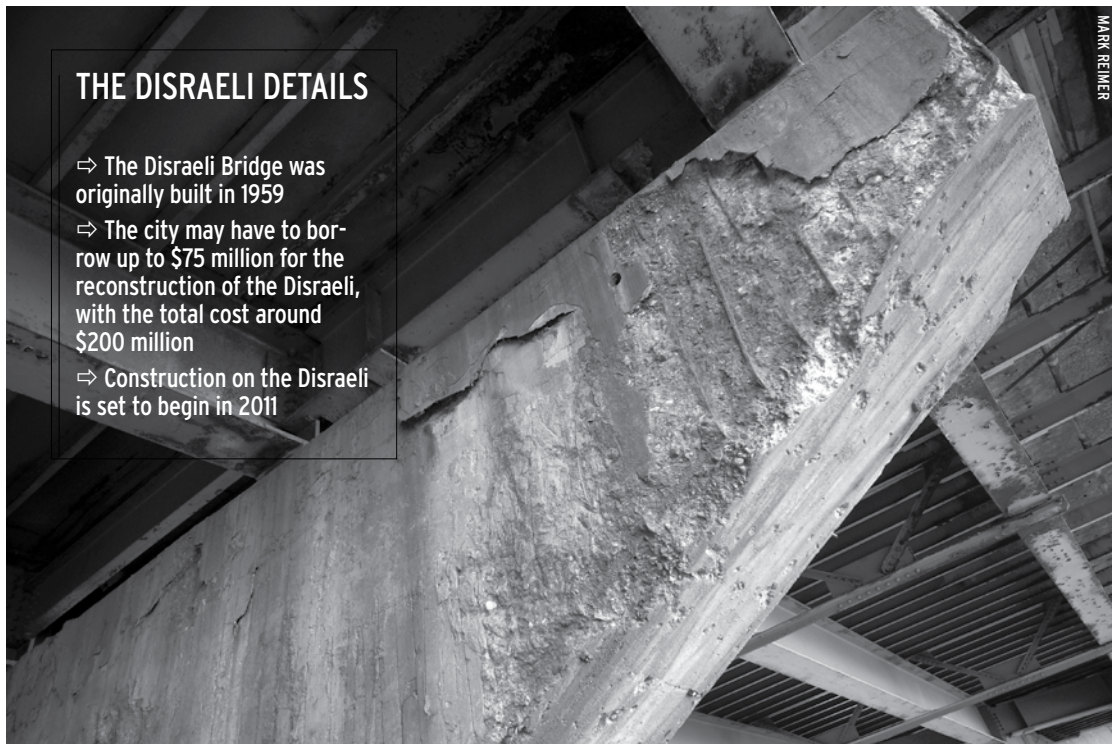
Fortier finds the prospect of construction on the bridge aggravating, but said she believes it is also necessary. She said more lanes should be added.

"Since September the congestion in the mornings is much worse. It's added an extra 25 minutes to my morning drive."

The Disraeli Bridge is the latest in a string of reconstruction projects around Manitoba. In August, there was the buckling of a bridge in St. Adolphe. It will need to be repaired now that it is stabilized. Also, the province announced \$33.4 million for infrastructure upgrades in Brandon.

Manitoba is not alone in its seemingly endless bridge construction binge.

"The construction that is going



THE DISRAELI DETAILS

- ⇒ The Disraeli Bridge was originally built in 1959
- ⇒ The city may have to borrow up to \$75 million for the reconstruction of the Disraeli, with the total cost around \$200 million
- ⇒ Construction on the Disraeli is set to begin in 2011

The crumbling Disraeli Bridge is only the latest in a string of overdue bridge construction projects around the province.

on now is occurring primarily due to the age of the infrastructure," said Andy Pankratz, a bridge designer for the province. "Most bridges here were made during the big boom in the 1950s and '60s. They are getting close to the end of their lifespan so they require a fair amount of work. It's something that is occurring all over North America."

Pankratz said there was an awareness of this issue 20 years ago, but nothing was done. Now, the province is forced to play catch-up as once sound structures crumble.

"It's just like a house. You

"[Bridges] are getting close to the end of their lifespan so they require a fair amount of work. It's something that is occurring all over North America."

- ANDY PANKRATZ, BRIDGE DESIGNER

have to do maintenance on it. Infrastructure is the same way. You can't leave it for 50 years and expect it to last," said Norm Ulyatt

of Dillon Consulting. Ulyatt said there could have been more investment on rehabilitating existing bridges in the past.

Whether the Disraeli will be heading to rehab or be made entirely anew will depend on economics and longevity.

"It all comes down to life cycle cost," said Pankratz. "You basically look at value of structure right now and what the cost is to rehabilitate it."

Premier Doer has said the province aims for the new Disraeli to last for 75 years, which Pankratz said is standard for new bridges.

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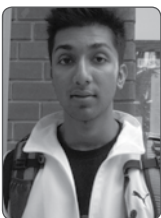
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STREETER

BY NAOMI SIMIYU

Q: WHAT'S YOUR LEAST FAVOURITE WINNIPEG BRIDGE AND WHY?



Vinny Goyal
second-year, science major
"Arlington Bridge, because there's a lot of traffic."



Alyssa Zacharius
first-year, undeclared
"The Louis Bridge. It's old. It doesn't feel well-constructed."



Stephen Kuzyk
first-year, English/education
"St. James Bridge. It's hazardous because of traffic emerging, you can't really see when it's coming."



Cindy Brazil
Wishes n' Dreams
"The Desrali Bridge, because of all the construction that was going on for so long."



Yahya Kagbanda
Palliser Furniture
"The bridge by Kildonan Place. It's a bit too small, so cars tend to be congested."



Mike Ambrose
marketing assistant
"I don't do a lot of driving so I am not exposed to a lot of bridges."

Barlow talk raises concerns over water privatization

Speech by "Water Woman" in Winnipeg comes at a tense time for water watchers

SAMUEL SWANSON
BEAT REPORTER

Citizens concerned about Winnipeg's move towards water privatization packed University of Winnipeg's Eckhardt-Gramatte Hall on Monday, Sept. 21 to hear a speech on the topic by Maude Barlow, national chairperson for Council of Canadians.

Barlow, nicknamed "Water Woman," is considered one of the foremost authorities in the world on water. Her credentials include eight honorary doctorates and she was senior advisor on water to the 63rd President of the United Nations General Assembly.

The City of Winnipeg is considering three corporations for the role of strategic partner in its waste-water utility. Barlow raised issues regarding the partnership, including the protection the North American Free Trade Agreement provides for private corporations. Chapter 11 of NAFTA allows a company to sue if its ability to make profit is obstructed.



Council of Canadians Winnipeg chair Michael Welch offers an alternative to privatizing Winnipeg's water services.

"It puts profit over people," said Michael Welch, Winnipeg chair of the Council of Canadians.

"There is the potential that if we want to boot them out of here and go back to a public system that they will sue us under Chapter 11 in NAFTA, if they go with one of the American corporations," said Lynne Fernandez, researcher with Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

The three companies competing for the spot are Veolia, CH2M Hill and Black & Veatch; three companies that are raising concerns of water watchers.

"I want to remind us that this is an American company and therefore, if they get this contract and the future city council changes its mind, under the terms of NAFTA, they have made an investment," Barlow said, referring to Black &

Veatch. "If the terms are changed they can sue for compensation of millions and potentially billions of dollars of lost future profits."

"All of those corporations have problems," said Fernandez. "They were very involved in the reconstruction of Iraq. You know the way the Americans just sold out contracts to their favourite companies... CH2M was one of those institutions that was in there.

"It's disconcerting that corporations that have this sort of track record, we're inviting them into our house."

She said the city should seek an unbiased legal opinion on what our liabilities are under NAFTA and the World Trade Organization.

The private partnering strategy was passed in order for city council to ensure that the four-year deadline, set by the province, is met for \$615 million worth of upgrades to the city's water treatment system infrastructure.

"It's disconcerting that corporations that have this sort of track record, we're inviting them into our house."

- LYNNE FERNANDEZ,
RESEARCHER, CANADIAN CENTRE
FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES

A public-private partnership may not be the best option, said Welch.

"The government can always get a cheaper rate of investment than a private corporation ... We could consider approaching the province and seeing if we can get an extension [on the deadline]."

Residential schools commission about more than abuse

Commission's mandate includes compiling historical record, supporting communities

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

After over a year marred by infighting and dispute, the Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) now has a new set of commissioners and is two months into its five-year mandate.

Justice Murray Sinclair, the new chairperson of the TRC, spoke to a packed lecture hall at the University of Winnipeg last week. The lecture highlighted the broad mandate of the commission and clarified that abuse – sexual, physical or otherwise – was only one aspect of the



Justice Murray Sinclair stressed that the TRC is about more than recounting tales of abuse.

reconciliation process.

"It bothers me that we have to think about abuse in terms of whether someone was hit or sexually violated," said Kim Hunter, director of outreach and communications for the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies.

Abuse can take the form of stripping a person of their rights and alienating them from their family, said Hunter.

Sinclair said the commission was largely concerned with the legacy of residential schools and that the notion of abuse was subordinate to the

larger question of human rights.

The commission's mandate includes gathering information for the purposes of reconciliation and to compile a record of the residential school legacy. This mandate has many intrigued and ready to get involved.

"We will assist in whatever way we can," said Ruth Oulette of the Long Plain First Nation, an Ojibway community in south-central Manitoba.

The community has committed to a project that would see a residential school in Portage la Prairie converted into a museum and healing place for former students.

"We need to do a lot of fundraising," said Oulette. "The museum has been on hold due to a lack of funding ... A lot of residential school survivors went there and it could be an educational and healing place for them."

It is possible the museum could receive funding from the TRC, which is mandated to support commemorative events and community initiatives.

"A lot of commemoration activities come from the ground up," said Rod Carleton, TRC communications officer. "If a community wanted to preserve an old school, the commission is willing to look at all ideas and determine how doable it is."

Community initiatives need to meet certain criteria before receiving TRC support, such as an educational element, said Carleton.

U of W is beginning many educational initiatives in response to the TRC mandate.

Three courses this semester will feature a component on residential schools and the reconciliation process, with an added feature that would see students quilting responses to the residential school issue.

"It is an emotionally difficult thing for students to learn about issues of racism and colonialism, so we decided to include a component about how women live with these issues in their lives," said Hunter.

The Uniter is looking for dedicated volunteers to report on the news and events that matter to our community.

Email news@uniter.ca to sign up,
or come to our weekly news meetings, Fridays at 12:30
in ORM14, Bulman mezzanine, University of Winnipeg.

Got something to say? Make your voice heard by sending your comments to editor@uniter.ca, or get the debate going by commenting on an article online at www.uniter.ca.

While you're there, don't forget to check out *The Uniter's* staff blogs.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Brooke Dmytriw

MAFIA GANGSTER USES CROCODILE AS A WEAPON

ROME, Italy: An Italian Mafiosi used a pet crocodile to intimidate clients and extort money from people. Antonio Cristofaro, a known criminal with Mafia family ties, kept a 40-kilogram caiman on the terrace of his condominium outside of Naples. The crocodile was 1.1-metres long and capable of pulling off a limb in one bite. The crocodile is protected under the Washington Convention and considered too dangerous to be kept as a pet. Authorities discovered the reptile last week while conducting a weapons raid on Cristofaro. According to CNN, this is not the first time Italian police have come across the illegal ownership of a reptile. Last year, authorities found a 2-metre crocodile housed with another Neopolitan drug dealer.

FEDERAL COURT LOOKING INTO FRIDA FORGERIES

MEXICO CITY, Mexico: Federal prosecutors are investigating a claim that more than 1,000 art pieces accredited to Frida Kahlo are forgeries. The grievance originated from the Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo Trust after the publication of two books featuring paintings, drawings and notes attributed to Kahlo. The works come from a private collection and are featured in the books *Finding Frida Kahlo* and *The Labyrinth of Frida Kahlo: Death, Pain and Ambivalence*. Publisher Katharine Myers said the pieces are not 100 per cent authenticated but still plans to keep selling the books despite the investigation. The Associated Press reported the owners of the art came from a carpenter who received five boxes from Kahlo. Frida Kahlo was known for her tormented self-portraits and her chaotic marriage to fellow Mexican artist Diego Rivera. She died in 1954.

IRANIAN MANNEQUINS NEED TO MAINTAIN MODESTY ACCORDING TO MORALITY POLICE

TEHRAN, Iran: Iranian police are cracking down on window mannequins that do not follow the strict religious dress code. Shopkeepers are getting warnings if their mannequins are caught not wearing the customary head scarves and if those mannequins are showing too much body curve. Both men's and women's boutiques are being targeted. Since 2005, when President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad came to power, the government has pursued a campaign against North American and European cultural influences in the Islamic Republic. Typically, the dress-attack was launched at the beginning of summer with the hot weather; however, the campaign was continued into winter to lobby against women's narrow pants. Violations against the dress code receive a warning first and repeat offences are sometimes dealt with by mandatory guidance classes, Reuters reported.

HELICOPTER USED IN HEIST

STOCKHOLM, Sweden: Burglars took to the sky in a stolen helicopter after a rooftop raid on a cash depot in the Scandinavian capital. Shortly before dawn, robbers broke into security firm G4S through a roof window. Once inside, they stole several bags of money and departed in their helicopter. According to the Canadian Press, employees were in the building during the heist. None were injured. Witnesses heard loud bangs and noises but police could not confirm whether explosives were used. The explosives suspicion prevented police from using their own helicopters to investigate the scene. Authorities later discovered a gray helicopter abandoned near a lake outside of Stockholm. The chopper was reported stolen and is believed to be the one used during the robbery.

Fair dealing or no fair dealing

Copyright debate centres around what actually counts as infringement

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

MATT RYGIEL
VOLUNTEER

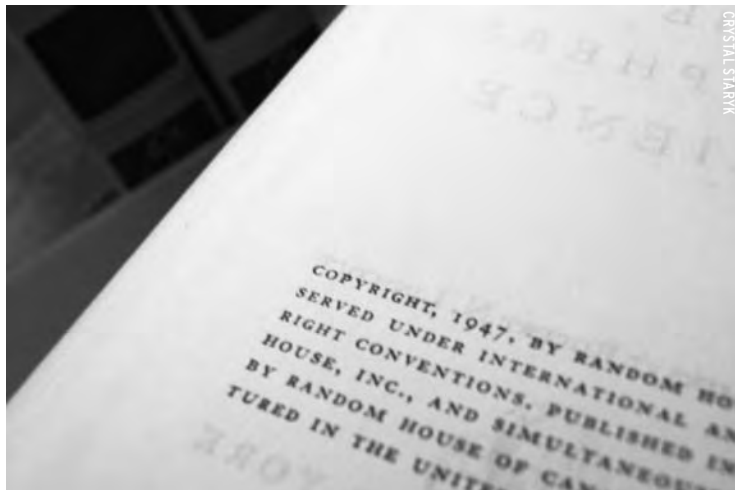
As consultations on updated copyright law end, the future of consumer access to movies, music, television and other media is now in the hands of the federal government.

Sept. 13 marked the end of nearly two months of nation-wide consultations on how to update Canada's copyright law. The key issue is whether Canada should broaden "fair dealing," the provisions that exempt certain acts from copyright violation.

Many are arguing for broadening fair dealing to protect researchers and students from severe copyright charges. Others see copyright as a necessity that shouldn't be changed.

"We don't advocate for the broadening of fair dealing, period," said Carolyn Wood, executive director of the Association of Canadian Publishers. "We think that the parameters in place for fair dealing are adequate protections for our business and others."

The problem is copyright means virtually nothing in a digitized



Changes to Canada's copyright law could make it harder for students to share information.

world where the spread of information is more fluid and copyright holders require protection from that world, said Wood.

Another voice emerging from the consultations is calling for broadening fair dealing to include more provisions regarding digitization.

"Unlike the U.S., which treats some of these activities as fair use, we do not have the same [copyright] coverage in Canada," said Michael Geist, a copyright law expert at the University of Ottawa. "It can change by adding some

flexibility to fair dealing."

The law does not clearly spell out what is and isn't legal. There are no provisions regarding format shifting – the transfer of copyright material from one software format to another – which is a popular aspect of student research.

"[People] have to have the ability as users and students to make copies to distribute, whether it's for research or private study, news reporting or archiving," said Sid Rashid, a Winnipeg representative from the Canadian Federation of Students.

Taking time off

Civil servant unions voice concerns about voluntary reduced work program

SAMUEL SWANSON
BEAT REPORTER

The idea of a shortened work week might sound like a sweet deal to some, but union leaders are warning workers not to participate in the provincial government's Voluntary Reduced Workweek (VRW) program.

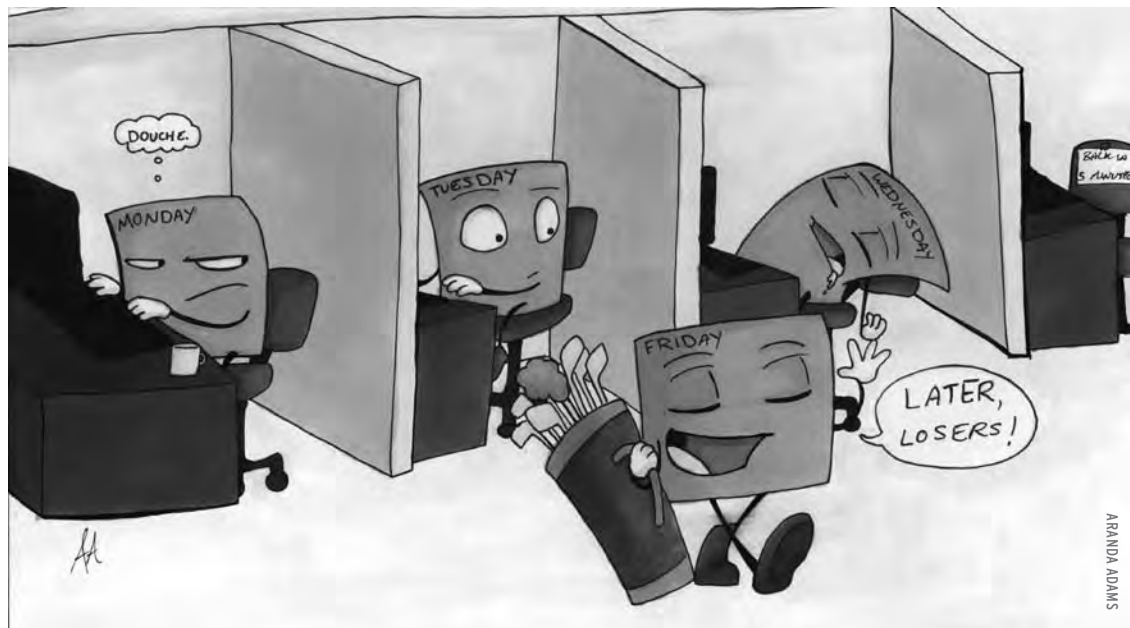
The program was first launched in 2002. It gave public sector employees the opportunity to take up to 15 unpaid days off. Many employees have opted to take advantage of this program to supplement vacation time.

New civil servants who have taken part in the program have added days of unpaid vacation to the two weeks of vacation leave out of the year that they receive.

Unions including the Manitoba Government and General Employees' Union (MGEU) and National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE) suggest civil servants should reconsider taking part in the VRW program.

"We're having a hard time defending civil servants with heavy workloads when they're taking time off," said John Baert, communications officer at MGEU.

Employees have reported to the MGEU that heavy workloads and staff shortages are a serious issue in Manitoba's public sector. It's difficult to get the province to pay at-



tention to these issues while some employees are taking unpaid leave.

According to a report by the NUPGE many employees take days off but bring work home in order to not fall behind.

"The approvals are subject to department approval so if there are issues with workloads, departments would not be approving time off," said Larry Grant, director of compensation services with the provincial government.

According to the MGEU, the heart of the issue is the six per cent vacancy rate of government positions, a number that isn't expected to decrease soon.

"It's a voluntary program. It's not something being forced on

anybody," said Grant. He added that he has not been contacted by the MGEU and was unaware of the

understaffing and workload issues claims made by civil servants.

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The only game in town

Inner-city activists support Selinger as the best hope for an NDP victory

CAMERON MACLEAN
NEWS PRODUCTION EDITOR

Community organizers in the inner city are rallying behind Greg Selinger as their best chance to keep a friendly government in office past the 2011 election.

The early front-runner in the race to become Premier has a number of current and former community organizers working for him. They include Community Education Development Association (CEDA) executive director Tom Simms, Dean of the House-turned-MLA Bill Blaikie and University of Winnipeg politics professor Jim Silver.

“I think Greg is the best bet to combine the likelihood of winning in 2011 with a progressive approach to... issues,” said Silver.

Silver has worked on several projects in the Lord Selkirk Park housing development. He said they are in the process of turning the neighbourhood around thanks



Community activists like Kaj Hasselriis (right) have come out in support of Greg Selinger (left), shown here at Ciclovía on Sept. 13.

in part to funding from the provincial government.

“Selinger is at the centre of all that as the finance minister,” said Silver.

Silver acknowledges the NDP government has been slow to act on some issues, but said they have done far more than previous governments.

“As somebody who works on the ground in the inner city, I think it would be a disaster if the Conservatives were to take office in 2011,” he said.

Rebecca Blaikie, an organizer

“I think it would be a disaster if the Conservatives were to take office in 2011.”

-JIM SILVER,
POLITICS PROFESSOR AT U OF W

with Selinger’s campaign, said she isn’t surprised inner-city organizers are supporting him.

“Greg has a history of understanding the kinds of issues facing

these communities,” she said.

Selinger worked as a community organizer before entering politics. He was active in the Sherbrook-McGregor overpass debate, which led to the first Core Area Initiative. He also helped found CEDA in the late ‘70s.

These connections have created a symbiotic relationship between the NDP and non-profits, whereby the government keeps money flowing and activists refrain from being overly critical, said Allen Mills, politics professor at U of W.

“One of the amazing things of the Doer government is how silent the left has been publicly about the deficiencies of the government,” said Mills.

These deficiencies include a conservative approach to political accountability and an “unimaginative” approach to urban development, he said.

Mills added that the NDP didn’t come out with their poverty reduction strategy, “All Aboard,” until what turned out to be Premier Gary Doer’s last weeks in office.

That last criticism may be too harsh, according to Blaikie.

“One of the reasons we have an ‘All Aboard’ strategy is because Greg is finance minister,” she said.

NDP delegates will vote on a new leader Oct. 17.

Students at 13 unions petition to leave CFS

Organizers express frustration with 'track record of aggressive litigation'

ERIN HALE
THE MCGILL DAILY (MCGILL UNIVERSITY)

MONTREAL (CUP) – Members of 13 student societies across Canada have started petitions asking their peers if they wish to leave the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), Canada’s largest student lobby group.

The development comes almost two years after student unions at the University of Cape Breton, Simon Fraser University and Kwantlen Polytechnic University in British Columbia tried unsuccessfully to leave the federation because either the student unions failed to meet CFS’s referendum bylaws, or students ultimately chose to stay with CFS following litigation.

Students circulating the petitions expressed strong disenchantment with CFS, and some felt that

the fees their unions pay to the group – ranging from \$40,000 to \$300,000 annually – could be better spent elsewhere.

Many student petition organizers expressed frustration with what they feel is a track record of aggressive litigation by CFS. In recent years, many of the student unions that have tried to de-federate from CFS have found themselves in hot legal water when they failed to follow CFS bylaws.

Simon Fraser University’s independent student paper *The Peak* reported that a case between CFS and their student union, on whether it had the right to leave the federation, went to the Supreme Court of B.C.

The Acadia University Students’ Union in Nova Scotia spent almost 10 years in litigation after they tried to leave CFS in 1996.

Former Canadian University

Press (CUP) president and *Maclean’s* OnCampus writer Erin Millar said legal threats from CFS have extended beyond student unions to student journalists in the past.

“In my experience, working as a student journalist, and my work at CUP and *Maclean’s*, CFS has consistently been the most aggressive organization I’ve ever covered as a journalist,” she said. “They’ve done that by employing legal means. They spend a lot of money using lawyers ... which I think is a completely inappropriate way to spend students’ [dues] ... Journalists, particularly student journalists who are inexperienced, are intimidated.”

Though CFS national treasurer Dave Molenhuis said he could not comment on some of the litigation between CFS and its members because it predated his tenure at CFS, he said as a democratic organization, CFS can handle any problems

internally.

“CFS is the common democratic framework under which the student movements in Canada make decisions on campaign lobbying and services decisions. The bylaws of the federation are voted on by delegates at general meetings. Student unions vote on their common democratic framework; it’s up to them,” he said.

If the petitions at the 13 student societies achieve a 10 per cent quorum, their supporters will have to wait up to five months before CFS recognizes their petition, and a date for their referendum can be set.

During that time, CFS will first have to acknowledge their receipt of the petition, then within three months decide on whether to acknowledge its legitimacy. If CFS chooses to approve it, they have 60 to 90 days to set the date themselves.

Local News Briefs

Compiled by John Gaudes



WINNIPEG PLANS GREENHOUSE EMISSION CUTS

The city is ready to take further steps to make Winnipeg a greener place to live. According to the *Winnipeg Free Press*, city council has recently approved a plan to cut greenhouse emissions in the city by a further 20 per cent before the year 2019.

Since 1998, the city has achieved a 20 per cent cut, but this is mostly due to the selling of Winnipeg Hydro and removing its emissions from the records.

Corporate cuts will be making vehicles and buildings more energy-efficient, and a community-based program will be launched in the next year.

TAXI DRIVERS CLAIM POLICE CRACKDOWN

For the hundreds of taxi drivers lining up outside clubs on weekend nights, work is apparently getting tougher lately. All the major taxi companies have recently complained that Winnipeg police have been cracking down on taxis illegally parked outside clubs and hotels late at night, according to the *Winnipeg Free Press*.

Police deny acting any different towards those parked along the street in the early hours of morning. They still have every right to enforce laws such as double parking, seatbelt violations and other offenses.

PLANS FOR GARBAGE CARTS PUT ON HOLD

The city’s plan to replace 42,500 Winnipeg garbage cans with newly paid-for garbage “carts” has hit a small snag in city hall. According to the *Winnipeg Free Press*, the plan was defeated symbolically in city hall, but will most likely still be passed by Sam Katz and the city council. This part of the plan calls for only homes in the northwest corner of Winnipeg to receive the carts, but all residential homes without a common bin will receive them by 2013 if the plan goes ahead.

The replacement cost for these carts would be \$50 and only garbage that fits in the cart would be taken by BFI collectors.

SEASONAL VACCINE DECISION STILL UP IN THE AIR

Health officials are still deciding whether to go forward with seasonal flu vaccines in light of a recent study that showed people who received the annual flu shot were twice as likely to catch H1N1. The *Winnipeg Free Press* reported officials in Saskatchewan may not vaccinate anyone and Ontario will only deliver shots to the elderly late in the winter. To date, health minister Theresa Oswald and her staff have favoured the former approach, but are still evaluating the new study.

PROVINCIAL HUNTING DAY TAKES PLACE AT WHITTIER PARK

The government recently declared the fourth Saturday in September to be Provincial Hunting Day and hunters across the city celebrated at Whittier Park. Conservation minister Stan Struthers made the announcement in a release.

“Hunting is the foundation of wildlife management and ensures sustainable populations of game for the benefit of future generations,” he said.

Provincial Hunting Day was organized by members from Manitoba Conservation, Ducks Unlimited and the Manitoba Metis Federation, among others.

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY LISTINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

AL-A-KA-BLUES, a night of magic, comedy and blues in support of Helping Hands for Manitobans with Breast Cancer, is being held at the Park Theatre Thursday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m.

On Saturdays until Nov. 7 attend a mandolin workshop with JAXON HALDANE at the Folk Exchange.

ROCKIN' RICHARDS RECORD AND CD SALE at the Victoria Inn, Sunday, Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Challenge your brain with host ACE BURPEE at the first annual MANITOBA LOTTERIES TRIVIA CHALLENGE in support of the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba on Thursday, Oct. 22 at Stereo Nightclub. 7 p.m.

FREE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CLASS. An opportunity to meet with other students and Canadian friends while learning English and the Bible. Takes place on Sundays from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Elim Chapel, 546 Portage Ave. For more information call Val & Veda Chacko at 257-1670.

ON CAMPUS

On Monday, Oct. 5 there will be a PUBLIC NDP CANDIDATES FORUM in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. The candidates will be focusing on poverty and inner city issues. 6:30 p.m.

SMART START, a study skills workshop series, helps students improve their study skills and succeed in university level courses. Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. in room 1L04. Register in

advance by calling 786-9863 or e-mailing a.weir@uwinnipeg.ca.

Every Thursday evening until Nov. 26 you can attend the NEUROSCIENCE LECTURE SERIES where experts discuss their work in the field of neuroscience. Register with n.stokes@uwinnipeg.ca.

Every Wednesday from 12:30 to 1 p.m. there is an interfaith university chapel service in the Carl Ridd Sanctuary in Bryce Hall. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Canadian Red Cross is looking for volunteers in their Humanitarian Issues Program to organize events and facilitate workshops. For more information contact Jennifer at 982-6737 or jennifer.montebruno@redcross.ca

The MANITO AHBEE FESTIVAL is looking for volunteers for the celebration of aboriginal music, art and culture. The festival runs from Nov. 4 to 8. Visit www.manitoahbee.com or call 956-1849 for more information.

Want to see your event in The Uniter?

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Campus News

Another way of doing business

Diversity Food Services to offer its workers shares in the new year

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

In addition to offering healthy, ethical food, Diversity Food Services offers a unique opportunity for its workers. In the new year, Diversity employees will be invited to own shares in the company.

Owned by Supporting Employment and Economic Development (SEED) Winnipeg and the University of Winnipeg Community Renewal Corporation (UWCRC), Diversity is an investment co-operative. Workers have the chance to become part-owners of the place where they work.

SEED executive director Cindy Coker said in the new year SEED will transfer up to 50 per cent of its shares in Diversity – 24 per cent of Diversity's overall shares – to the workers.

SEED will then work with members of the investment co-op



Getting a slice of the pie: Workers at Diversity can either keep their share of the profits or reinvest it in the company.

to develop a business and governance model to decide how they will manage their share as a group. The workers can then choose to leave their share of the profits with the company or keep it for personal

use, said Coker.

John Melnyk, business professor at University of Winnipeg, said this offers a unique opportunity for Diversity's workers, who include immigrants, refugees, aboriginal

and inner-city individuals.

"Initiatives like this make certain aspects of capitalism, like owning shares, accessible to people that might not otherwise realize they have that option," he said.

Melnyk said the employee stock ownership is a big advantage for a company, as it aligns the interests of all parties, leading to greater cooperation and synergy.

"It also tends to decrease turnover because people are mentally invested in the company, both financially and mentally," he said.

Lydia Warkentin, manager of campus living (food services) for UWCRC, said being a member of the investment co-op will give workers a new perspective on the business world.

"This gives them the opportunity to learn from an owner's perspective," she said. "To analyze how the business is doing ... is really taking people a big step from just coming in and putting in the hours."

Warkentin said owning a por-

tion of the shares will give workers a voice to influence the direction of the business.

Like any business model, there can be downsides, said Melnyk. The more shareholders a company has, the more complicated governance can become. It can be difficult for multiple shareholders to reach consensus.

Nonetheless, Melnyk sees Diversity as a chance for students to become familiar with alternative business models that are not a large part of the business curriculum at the U of W.

Coker also hopes that Diversity's business model will broaden students' notions about business.

"You can do a for-profit business that is meeting both financial and social goals and ... by meeting those social goals you can be improving your financial bottom line. The two are not separated," she said.

Common currents

U of W and U of M rowing teams join forces



The Manitoba Post-Secondary Rowing club is open to everyone, regardless of experience.

SARAH REILLY
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The University of Winnipeg rowing team is entering its second season this fall. Julian Araneta, who founded Manitoba Post-Secondary Rowing (MPSR) at the University of Manitoba in 2006, said he decided to organize a U of W team last year because there was significant interest from students during the club's first two seasons.

Now the two university teams train together as MPSR and compete as one team against other rowing programs for most of the year. During the fall, however, they represent their own universities, competing against other university teams and participating in the Canadian University Rowing Championships in early November.

Last year, U of W had only one developmental crew attend the championships, but Araneta hopes more crews will attend this season.

The club has grown over the past three years. There were about 35 members on the team last year.

Unlike many university sports, no experience is required to join the team. In fact, Araneta said, the ideal age to begin rowing is during one's university years, between the age of 18 and 24.

The club is always looking for new members, who can join any time of the year.

"We're open for people who want to drop in and join the program halfway

through ... it doesn't matter if we're on the water or off the water," said Araneta.

Students interested in getting involved are encouraged to visit the Manitoba Post-Secondary Rowing website at www.mpsr.org or e-mail Araneta at universityrc@gmail.com.

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Small but speedy

Wesmen's daring shot pays off

SONYA HOWARD
VOLUNTEER STAFF

"Take the shot!"

With less than one minute to go, Keiko Kobayakawa knew she had to act. The game was close. Still six metres away from the basket, Kobayakawa took the shot and ... *Swish*. Her daring three-point shot won her high school team the game.

"At first I didn't want to play basketball," said Kobayakawa. "I wanted to play badminton."

She tried basketball at the urging of a friend. The fast action of dribbling and shooting quickly changed her mind.

That was over 10 years ago. Kobayakawa hasn't looked back since.

This first-year kinesiology student from Japan notes there are differences in how the game is played in Canada and Japan.

"In Japan, we do a fast break" and the emphasis is placed on speed, she said. The ball



First-year guard Keiko Kobayakawa said, in Japanese basketball, greater emphasis is placed on speed.

is pushed upcourt before the defence has a chance to set up.

The teamwork and camaraderie on and off the court, however, is universal.

Basketball allows Kobayakawa to develop skills that she hopes will help in her future career as a physical therapist. Not only has basketball taught her to "keep going," it has also helped her develop mental strength. She said success is a combination of perseverance and hard work.

"Never give up, even if you are small. You have to believe in yourself," she said.

Kobayakawa looks forward to traveling and playing games in western Canada with the Wesmen. Her goal is to help the Wesmen get to the nationals at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont. in March 2010.

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U-lock it, or they'll do it for you

U of W security deems certain bike locks insufficient

PATRICIA BENHAM
AND JIHAN MUHAMAD
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Security for bicycles at the University of Winnipeg used to come in the form of a little yellow flag attached to anything that wasn't a U-lock, telling you your bike is not safe. Last year, U of W security upped the protection ante by adding their own steel U-lock to as many potential theft cases as possible. This means anyone using a wire lock on their bike could end up having to go to the security office and reclaim their own bicycle.

Chris Rasick, security supervisor at U of W, said this is much less of a hassle than having to replace a stolen bike.

"Some wire locks can be ripped apart with your hands in a few seconds – you don't even need tools," he said.

Although the policy protects students from potential theft, University of Winnipeg Students' Association vice-president internal Courtney Maddock said it may not be ideal.

"The point is to educate people, and it's making students realize perhaps their locks aren't efficient, but the approach isn't necessarily the greatest," she said.

Maddock expressed concern that the system used might not be making people happy.

"General education, talking to students, putting up signs, [and]



Having a flimsy lock can cause stress, but so can having a surprise one added on.

word of mouth" would be more effective than the system in place, she said.

The UWSA is uncomfortable with the fact that security is locking students' bikes without asking them for permission.

Rasick said some people have asked not to be flagged or locked up in the future, but with over 2,000 bikes on campus, it can be tricky to comply.

Brian Peake, a U of W graduate and avid cyclist, said although

U-locks are safer, he sometimes still uses a wire lock because of the convenience. Peake was annoyed last year when he found a bright yellow tag on his bike.

"All it did, in my opinion, was draw attention to my bike," he said. "University students are adults who should have the freedom to make up their own minds about which lock they use."

Rasick said U of W is in a high-risk area for theft, but since the initiative started a few years ago,

bicycle theft has decreased about 42 per cent.

Aubrey Kehler, assistant director of security services at the University of Manitoba, said bicycle theft is not as serious a problem at the university.

"The situation at U of W is different than the University of Manitoba's because of the geographic location," she said. "There are pros and cons to the policy, but if theft has been decreased by 42 per cent then there is some progress."

A smoother transition

Transition Year Program helps first year aboriginal students

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

The number of students enrolled in the Transition Year Program, which helps aboriginal students in their first year of university, is steadily increasing.

This year, a section called Academic Writing: Extended, a six credit-hour course that is part of the transition program, was added to accommodate the growth.

Randy White, Transition Year Program co-ordinator for the Aboriginal Student Services Centre, said each year the program gains momentum.

"It has progressively succeeded," said White. He said the program had 21 students when it started in 2001. This year, 76 students are enrolled.

White's job is to co-ordinate a series of supports for students in the Transition Year Program. This includes helping with the registration process, course selection and time table arrangement.

Kevin Settee, a second-year history student who completed the Transition Year Program last year, said having the support in his first year made a big difference.

"If I didn't have the advice from Randy, I would have been really lost in my courses," he said.

While Settee said he benefited from the program as a whole, he



With the help of people like TYP co-ordinator Randy White, more Aboriginal students are coming back to school after their first year.

found the extended academic writing class to be the most useful in his further studies.

"It helped me out with the mechanics ... and my grammar ... and taught me how to write essays and tweak my writing skills," he said.

White said the number of transition-year students who return for their second year has steadily increased.

Karin Collins, an instructor for two of the three academic writing sections for transition year students, sees first-hand the benefits students reap from the course.

"I like seeing them develop confidence and trust and discover their

own potential," she said.

Collins includes aboriginal-related content to meet the interests of the students.

"Traditional storytelling is valued in many aboriginal communities, so I try to make sure that students are comfortable with personal narrative as evidence in an argument," she said.

White said since the class is exclusively for students in the Transition Year Program and runs through both fall and winter terms, students have the chance to connect with one another on a deeper level and get accustomed to university life in a secure environment.

"The whole class was aborigi-

nals ... so I felt comfortable being around other students who were like me," said Settee.

White said the university at-large has been extremely supportive of transition-year students. He said all the departments on campus have allowed White to reserve seats in first-year courses so students of the program will be ensured a spot if desired.

Overall, White is pleased with the results the program has produced.

"We discovered that building skills right at the beginning of your university career is tied directly to your success," he said.

Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Karlene Ooto-Stubbs

U OF W TO HOST NDP CANDIDATES' LEADERSHIP FORUM

On Monday, Oct. 5, the public is invited to attend a free NDP leadership candidate forum in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Steve Ashton and Greg Selinger will discuss poverty and inner-city issues. Make Poverty History Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg's Institute of Urban Studies and the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg are organizing the event, which will be moderated by CBC Radio host Terry MacLeod. The forum begins at 6:30 p.m.

FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS GETS \$250,000

The Certified Management Accountants of Manitoba gave the University of Winnipeg's Faculty of Business and Economics \$250,000 to help build a new facility for the faculty.

"CMA Manitoba is dedicated to business excellence, as we are, and this donation means our students can look forward to first-class learning environment, rich with possibilities and community support," U of W president and vice-chancellor Lloyd Axworthy said. "Business and Economics is one of our fastest growing departments as young people recognize the value of a strong business and accounting foundation, combined with a liberal arts education. Today, CMA is investing in our future leaders."

The money will also be put towards scholarships for outstanding students with a concentration in accounting.

FOURTH-ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE POSTER SESSION HELD

On Sept. 16, the results of several undergraduate research projects were displayed at the University of Winnipeg in the fourth-annual Undergraduate Science Poster Session. Sponsored by the University of Winnipeg and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the 13 posters featured work from the anthropology, chemistry, physics and psychology departments.

Physics student Dylan Buhr won first-place for his poster *Geometric Interpretation of Entanglement*, which discussed quantum mechanics. Other winners included Michael Lang, Tyler Atchison, Mathias Pielahn, Mark Abotossaway and Trevor Vincent.

The judges' panel was comprised of a variety of judges, from academics to editors of the *Winnipeg Free Press*. One of the main tests of the competition was to see how the students presented their work to non-experts.

'SMART START' WORKSHOPS BEGIN

Tips on how to improve study skills, note taking, using the library and time management are being offered in "Smart Start" workshops, held until Nov. 23.

Interested students must sign-up in advance for the free workshops. October's sessions include reading strategies, critical thinking skills, oral communication, class participation and essay writing. There is also one in November for exam anxiety.

The workshops are held Mondays & Wednesdays, 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. in 1L04.

Call 786-9863 or email a.weir@uwinnipeg.ca for more information.

FEMFEST ON CAMPUS

Presented by Sarasvati Productions, FemFest 2009 will take place in the CanWest Centre for Theatre and Film. "Winnipeg's festival of plays by women for everyone" has been around since 2003. This year features full productions, workshops and readings by a variety of female artists. Single shows are \$10, platinum passes (three shows) are \$25 and festival passes cost \$50. Workshops and readings are by donation. The festival is on now until Sunday, Oct. 4.

For more information and show schedules check out: www.sarasvati.ca.

Comments

Flu shot season in the Holy Land

Why the two-state solution doesn't address the fundamental issue



MATT AUSTMAN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

With United States President Barack Obama overseeing talks last week between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, the idea of a two-state solution to the conflict is becoming increasingly possible. Obama has expressed a strong commitment to achieving such a goal and has been successful on getting the two sides to talk about it.

However, history suggests that this isn't so much a path towards peace, but more so a bridge that bypasses all the dirt underneath. Having Palestine recognized as an independent country is a legality, not a cure. The creation of a sovereign state of Palestine has no direct correlation to peace.

Consider it this way: If we rank the importance of the steps that need to be taken to create peace between Israel and Palestine, does the



recognition of Palestine as a legitimate state in the eyes of the West remain priority one? Does it reconcile the differences between these two groups?

After all, Palestinians already consider themselves a country. They elect their own leaders and have a profound sense of nationalism.

What actually needs to be addressed in these talks is how the people of Israel and Palestine can

live in peace with each other. For this to happen, politicians have to work at converting the public. The two-state solution fails to address this issue.

How the majority feel toward each other is fundamental to establishing peace. Having an elite group of politicians decide on where invisible lines should be drawn on the map is an impractical way of winning over the hearts and minds of

National borders divide people and sadly those imaginary lines engrave profound divisions within people's minds.

millions of people.

There needs to be peaceful rhetoric, backed with actions.

One can criticize this suggestion as being far too ideological and unrealistic, saying that politicians will never relinquish so much power for the betterment of humanity. It's important to be skeptical of such suggestions.

However, the two-state solution is also rabidly ideological and it doesn't address the underlying issue. National borders divide people and sadly those imaginary lines engrave profound divisions within people's minds.

Obama seems to be selling the liberal idea of democratic peace theory, where functioning, side-by-side democracies are unlikely to go to war with one another. Unfortunately, it doesn't apply in such a deep-rooted religious conflict.

Also, in the two-state solution the question regarding the city of Jerusalem is exceedingly important.

Since this conflict has deeply embedded religious roots, with both Arabs and Jews regarding the city as a fundamental holy landmark, how are the rights to the city to be divided? It's long been decided that it should be shared, but how? How can the two-state solution practically address this?

For the protection of human rights on both sides of the fence, talks should be directed towards a singular democratic state that has equal rights for all its citizens. This is a longer-term goal, but it is more unifying than a two-state solution, in which both peoples would undoubtedly be locked into stiff competition for limited land and resources.

There will be some benefits to the two-state solution, such as the ability for the Palestinians to compete more "legitimately" in the global economy. If we take the bottom line of religious division into account, it is like giving the conflict a flu shot – but then having to go back next year once the virus has mutated.

The conflict will mutate, not dissolve.

Matt Austman is a University of Winnipeg student.

ILLUSTRATION BY NATALIE DYCK

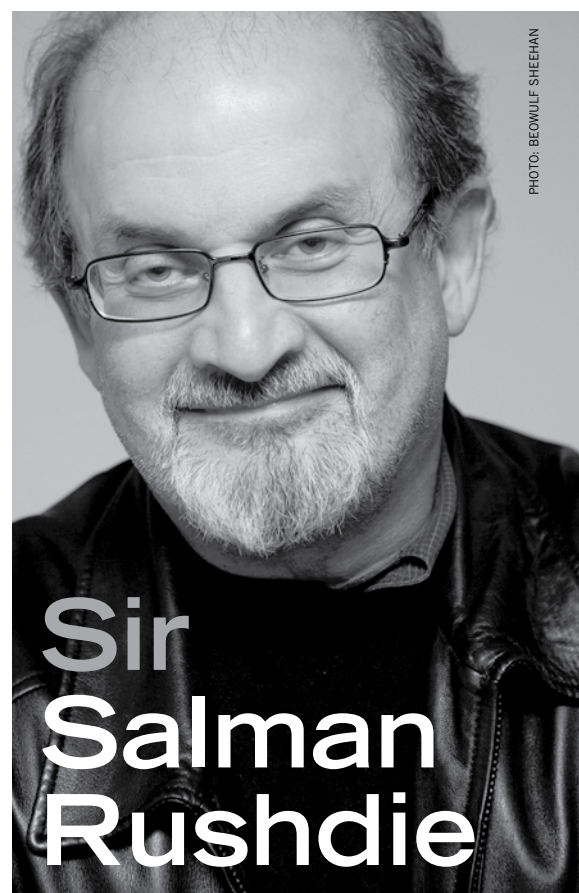


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Hold the hate: Governance straight up, please

Conservative ad campaign has no place outside of election



ALEXANDER KAVANAGH
VOLUNTEER

I was trying to hold off on slamming federal politics for another week or two, but this Conservative smear campaign against Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff has become too ridiculous to ignore.

The main problem with the federal government's strategy is that there isn't even an election to be advertising about. Sure, there's a lot of election talk right now, but lately there's talk of an election every year. Nevertheless, Canadians now have to deal with the second round of smear ads targeted at Ignatieff, much the same as we had to endure the anti-Stéphane Dion round well before the fall election of 2008.

No matter how inflammatory their propaganda machine is, the fact is this is the second time the Conservative government has spread filth around about a public



figure *without* the existence of an election to justify the process.

At least if we were to get an election out of the deal, Canadians would have the opportunity and power to make our own opin-

ions about a party's campaign tactics known and taken seriously. For the time being, Canadians are being bombarded with – in some cases – two consecutive 30-second television commercials three times

during a one-hour program (I counted). And all this when there is no election to legitimize such media saturation.

The real fear caused by these de facto campaign tactics is that they

No matter how inflammatory their propaganda machine is, the fact is this is the second time the Conservative government has spread filth around about a public figure *without* the existence of an election to justify the process.

might one day lead to the precedent of running political smear-ads campaigns all year long.

There may be those who say that the Conservative strategy is solely a solid political strategy, nothing more. But when you can't turn on your television without being bombarded by campaign slogans, it starts to resemble more and more the Two-Minute Hate from George

Orwell's *1984* – that state-administered method of brainwashing the population.

Moreover, the taxpayers have to pay for this crap every time an overly eager political strategist or MP wishes to drum up the word "election." It has been said before that when a politician decides to refrain from engaging in a smear-ad campaign – and instead supplying voters with politically useful information – they are merely posturing.

But it stands to reason that since they are paying for it, a lot of taxpayers appreciate ads that give them an idea of what a politician is about, rather than one minute of slander.

To ensure Canada doesn't descend any further into an Orwellian advertisement nightmare, it should be legislated that political parties be barred from airing any campaign material off the proverbial campaign trail.

If campaign ads are to be financed by the public, they should only be aired within limits. And this limit should be during election time only.

Alexander Kavanagh is a University of Winnipeg student.

Let the debate(s) begin

New director fosters contention, which is what human rights museum should be about



ANDREW TOD
COMMENTS EDITOR

Whoever thought that establishing a Canadian Museum of Human Rights would be so hard? Chances are that Gail Asper didn't years ago when she began to funnel her late father's dream of a testament to the too-often misunderstood notion of human rights into reality.

Sure, there have been the constant obstacles of fundraising and attaining enough long-term financial commitment from three levels of government to finance the – at present – \$310 million project. Sure, there have also undoubtedly been countless politicians, bureaucrats and potential private-funding partners who have scratched their heads collectively at the peculiar decision to house the first national museum in decades in Winnipeg.

Of course Winnipeggers are simply happy to be recognized by that distant land of political power, content the museum will magically "revitalize downtown" in much the same way that the MTS Centre promised the same pipe-dream earlier this decade.

Yet, the foundational reason for creating the first national museum outside of Ottawa has, at the very least, always seemed unimpeachable. After all, is not everyone for human rights?

Minority and marginalized groups and individuals appeal consistently to the more progressive sections of documents such as the Canadian Charter of Rights and

Freedoms or the United Nations' rights declarations as legal basis for their rights to be protected by representatives and citizens of the state. Staid defenders of long-entrenched civil and political rights regularly repeat the moral superiority of these "first wave" rights over the rights of gays and lesbians, women and countless other progressives – which to many of the old guard only represent societal decay and a grandiose affront to their prior ability to offend and legislate marginalization at will.

Even racists and misogynists reap the benefits, consistently brandishing the dual tablets of freedom of speech and freedom of religion to reinforce their repulsive convictions and their ability to disseminate them.

What is important to note here is that none of the evocations of "human rights" as pretext for protection from discrimination is necessarily a bad thing. Censorship, oppression and violence are the inevitable outcomes of societies based upon the fear of, rather than the ability to, engage in controversial behaviour.

What is instead worrying is that the controversy surrounding the appointment of former provincial Progressive Conservative leader Stuart Murray as the first director of the museum has demonstrated a fundamental misunderstanding of the museum's *potential role* as a catalyst for rights debate.

The gist of the contentious debate arose from Murray's decision, while PC leader, to vote against the furthering of adoption and other familial rights to gay and lesbian couples introduced by the Doer government. Like a well seasoned political actor, Murray has sidestepped any responsibility in his previous wish to deny these rights to homosexuals, insisting instead that it was a caucus decision. He has refrained from commenting on whether or not he would vote in a

similar fashion today, deprived of his party's shackles.

But those who criticize Murray's appointment fail to comprehend that a museum which is to be based upon ever changing understandings of legal, social and political principles is certain to create controversy. The trajectory of debate around human rights always involves those who advocate and those who resist.

Human rights are nothing in and of themselves. They require legally recognized support and enforcement in order to be anything other than abstractions.

It is within the context of a national museum where these principles may be learned about and debated; an accessible place in comparison to courtrooms and rights commissions, which mainly draw the attentions of the elite and highly-engaged.

Instead of an affront to those who have come to criticize the decision, Murray's appointment probably had more to do with placating conservative commentators worried that a human rights museum would inevitably, in the words of conservative group R.E.A.L Women of Canada, "serve as a powerful tool to champion the left-wing interpretation of human rights."

Yet the controversy and debate surrounding Murray's directorship is exactly what should be expected – indeed needed – from a national museum based upon what is essentially a museum devoted to the history of a debate. Namely, what constitutes a human right and what does not?

It is this opportunity to foster controversial debate that should truly cause Winnipeggers' excitement.

Andrew Tod is a University of Winnipeg student.

Universities are too overrun with business pursuits

Commercial interests take precedence over students' academics

DEVON BUTLER

THE CORD WEEKLY (WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY)

WATERLOO, Ont. (CUP) – The constant rise of consumerism seems to increase without much recognition. Our society has become so commercialized that it's often difficult for most to differentiate between degrees of consumerism or to even take notice when it becomes too excessive.

The cases of consumerism and commercialism that we see in our day-to-day lives are in the natural places we would expect: shopping malls, movie theatres, billboard or bus ads and, of course, the endless hours of television commercials. However, there are some places that are free from this consumerism and an effort must be made to uphold this tradition.

Places of higher education have always been regarded as an intellectual sanctuary, free from most marketing ploys present in society. Generally, universities have branded themselves, but instead of being branded by a logo, they take pride in their athletics, academics and in the culture of their institution.

What is so troublesome today is not that commercial practices are in place, but rather their unprecedented size and scope.

To give a small-scale example, while I hurry from class to class, eager to soak up new information, the last thing I need is to be bombarded by banks, cellphone companies and various corporations

spelling their rehearsed sales acts.

Corporations are slowly becoming nothing more than sponsors to universities, as universities are allowing companies the right to endow professorships, sponsor courses and clubs and advertise across campus, even in the bathrooms.

Making profit is essential, especially given the current economic times; however, the attitude most universities take regarding their students leads me to worry about future motives.

If the university system sees itself simply as a business, their priority will be profit and not to provide a world-class education.

This ideology creates an opportunity for lowering admission standards, as increasing student population will enhance the possible marketable demographic universities can offer advertisers.

This means lower standards to complete a degree and an ever-expanding institution of capitalist policies and politics.

Furthermore, from the business standpoint, universities' students may eventually take on the "customer's always right" mentality whilst universities pander to students only for continued finances.

The corporatization of universities extends beyond a struggle against advertising banners on the wall. It directly questions the credibility and future viability of our academic institutions and the future of education for generations to come.

Regardless of the source of funds, universities will always need students; likewise, students will need a university.

Universities should not see themselves as a mere business, nor as a service; repercussions will arise from both.

A balance of both is essential to maintaining the dignity of post-secondary institutions.

Arts & Culture

Chill out, relax and stay humble

Hip-hop group's positive message catches on with Winnipeg audiences

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

A year ago no one knew who The Lytics were. Today, everyone from Winnipeg's BMX community to campus radio station managers to Toronto hip-hop fans are singing their praises.

By way of explanation, Alex "B-Flat" Sannie, the eldest Lytic, offers this: "If it's authentic and it's good, people will listen to it and enjoy it."

Sannie, 28, is joined in the group by his brothers Anthony "Ashy" Sannie and Andrew "A-Nice" Sannie, as well as their cousin Mungala "Munga" Londe and friend Gavin "DJ Action Rick" Kalansky, all of whom are in their early 20s.

The group began writing music together six years ago, with B-Flat creating the beats and everyone else writing rhymes over top.

"I crashed my parents' computer several times making beats and I've blown a few of their speakers too," B-Flat said over drinks at the Toad in the Hole last week with A-Nice. "Considering they hated the music, they were pretty supportive."

The reason behind Mr. and Mrs. Sannie's hesitance to embrace hip hop is the same reason many people hate it: It's too negative.

Not The Lytics' songs, though.

"Our parents hate hip hop but they really like our music," B-Flat said. "There are some good messages in our music and that's be-



'Peg city holla: Two of The Lytics are so humble, they didn't even want to be in this picture.

cause of them."

A-Nice agrees.

"Positivity comes out because that's how we were raised. When it comes to swearing, I just don't need to."

B-Flat said the band is happy to provide an alternative in a time when most music seems to be aimed at identifying with people who are depressed.

"Your crack house got robbed or the rival pimp steals all your bitches – there's anthems up and down for that sort of thing," he said, only half joking. "We want people to chill out and relax. That's where *Stay Humble* comes from."

Stay Humble is the standout track on the group's self-titled debut EP. The group recorded it at home and quietly released it last December.

"Your crack house got robbed or the rival pimp steals all your bitches – there's anthems up and down for that sort of thing."

-ALEX SANNIE, MUSICIAN

When it began to pick up some steam, the band remastered and repackaged it, throwing a CD release party at the Royal Albert last month.

All of the money they made from the release party went towards buying plane tickets to Toronto, where The Lytics recently performed a 15-minute set at a hip-hop festival.

That's a long way to travel for such a short period of time, but B-Flat said the positive response from the crowd was worth it.

It also affirmed what he wants to do with his life.

Most of The Lytics are students at the University of Winnipeg. B-Flat spends his days working with children.

"It's good," he said. "But it's time to start doing music for a living."

- ⇒ See The Lytics play the Pyramid Cabaret (176 Fort St.) this Friday, Oct. 2
- ⇒ Moses Mayes will also perform
- ⇒ Visit www.myspace.com/lytics

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 issue 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.

Jenna
"I love leopard print."

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Did you hear the one about a band called Shrimp?

Six years after forming as a joke, local punk band calls it quits

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

It was intended to be a one-night joke but it lasted six years. Now, it's over. After forming on a dare in 2003, Winnipeg punk rock outfit Shrimp is calling it quits.

"We don't have the time to put into it anymore. In between gigs we'd ask each other, 'Do you wanna play?' And the answer would be, 'No.' So we thought, let's just call it quits and put on one last big show," guitarist Arlea "Battered Shrimp" Ashcroft explained over beers at the Royal Albert last week with her bandmate, singer Catherine "Raw Shrimp" Famega.

The band — rounded out by bassist Rea "Deeply Fried Shrimp" Kavanagh and drummer Dee Dee "Caged In Shrimp" McCaughan — will take its final bow this Saturday, Oct. 3 with a gig at the Royal Albert.

Opening for the band will be their friends in Trouser Mouth and Ditchpig — the two bands that dared them to form in the first place.



Assorted Shrimp, from left to right: Battered Shrimp, Caged In Shrimp, Deeply Fried Shrimp and Raw Shrimp.

"We're all in the arts and we have a lot of friends who find us highly amusing," Ashcroft said of the band's formation. "After some drunken boasting that we could do what they were doing, they dared us to play a show."

The band was dubbed "Shrimp"

by Trouser Mouth guitarist Zip R. Head after he dreamed about an all-girl band with that name. In the two weeks between the dare and Shrimp's live debut in July 2003, the girls in the band borrowed instruments, learned power chords from their friends and wrote three

songs.

Between the three songs and some stage banter, their first set lasted five minutes.

"I remember being scared," Famega said.

added. "Every time we thought we were done, something new would happen."

The band's final show will mark the release of *Smell My Finger*, a live CD recorded earlier this year at the

"We never claimed to be musicians."

- CATHERINE FAMEGA, SINGER

"It was terrifying," Ashcroft agreed. "I had to write 'Don't forget to play' on a cigarette pack and tape it to my mic stand."

One thing led to another and the band was soon playing its second gig at the Royal Albert.

In the years that followed, the band went through a line-up change, were featured in a three-page spread in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, recorded a CD (2006's *Peel n' Eat*), were the subject of a nationally-aired short documentary on CBC TV, sold a song to a Comedy Network TV show and played with members of bands like Propagandhi and American Flamewhip.

Ashcroft and Famega are quick to point out that they were extremely naïve when the band started, with zero knowledge of how to play their instruments. They didn't plan for things to happen the way they did.

"We've never claimed to be musicians," Famega said.

"All of the things that happened were astounding," Ashcroft

Times Change(d).

Even though in some ways it was all just a joke, Ashcroft is sad to see the band end.

"We're really lucky to have so many people who are real musicians who supported us," she said, tears beginning to fill her eyes.

"I'm just a girl from Transcona, and like any Transcona girl, I've always dreamed about being a rock star. Whether we were rock stars or not, we sure felt like it. And it was awesome! We got to follow our dreams and give it a shot."

"At the end of the day, we kicked some solid ass."

⇒ See Shrimp play the Royal Albert (48 Albert St.) this Saturday, Oct. 3

⇒ Trouser Mouth and Ditchpig will also perform

⇒ \$10 at the door

⇒ Visit www.myspace.com/shrimprocks

A very special show

Montreal's Apostle of Hustle are ready to transcend the darkness when they open for Gogol Bordello

NATHALIA POLISCHUK
VOLUNTEER

Andrew Whiteman is excited.

"When we come play Winnipeg it's a very special show. It's our first show of the tour and we're opening for Gogol Bordello, which is going to be amazing," the Apostle of Hustle singer-guitarist said by phone last Friday, taking a break from jamming with the band in Montreal.

Although he has previously described Apostle of Hustle as a band for introverts, stoners and bathtub listeners, they intend to pick up the pace when they hit the stage of the Burton Cummings Theatre.

"[We'll] warm up the audience, get their blood going and heart rates up so they're prepared for Gogol Bordello."

Life has been busy for Andrew Whiteman. The 42-year-old is currently performing a juggling act between his recent marriage and musical commitments.

To put things in perspective, not 24 hours before Whiteman arrives in Winnipeg, he will be in Austin, Texas playing with legendary indie collective Broken Social Scene.

"I have a job, and the job is being in Broken Social Scene, and I'm very lucky I have that because it allows me this other window where I can do what I need to do musically," Whiteman said of Apostle of Hustle.

Whiteman hasn't let fame get to his head. He explained how his love for reading keeps him on the straight and narrow.

"I'm a little too much of a book nerd really," he explained. "If I get too wasted every night I wouldn't get a chance to read. I can't really read when I'm drunk."



Three stooges: Apostle of Hustle frontman Andrew Whiteman can't read when he's drunk, but he can sure play with mannequin heads.

However, he understands that when it comes to partying, the ideal lies somewhere between being a teetotaler and being a drunk.

"I don't believe in this artist-

monk routine because ultimately I'm not a holier than thou figure — I'm an entertainer."

Yet Whiteman admits it can be challenging to remain open as a per-

former while maintaining boundaries. He feels that one must be an alchemist, transcending the darkness by transforming it through the creative process.

This notion of transformation and conflict is central to *Eats Darkness*, Apostle of Hustle's third and latest full-length release. The album acknowledges the unseen forces at work in the world.

"I believe there are multiple layers of reality and planes of existence," Whiteman said. "I absolutely believe that part of what *Eats Darkness* is about as a concept is that we actually live in a universe that is populated with spirits, witches, shapeshifters, transformers, demons, vultures and vampires. I don't mean like *New Moon* vampires, I'm talking about energy vampires — emotional vampires — and maybe they can't even help it."

Whiteman has developed strong tactics for dealing with the darker aspects of performance — aspects that could be destructive.

"When you put yourself out there on stage, it has to be at a distance. So I treat it as a ritual, some sort of ceremony. That way I can do what I need to do on stage. I'm very open but at the same time my precious underside and psychic underbelly are being protected."

He wants to last for a while as a musician and not burn out in flames of glory like so many other musicians have.

"It's not my ego I'm taking on stage. There have been incredible performers that were based in ego, but like I said: I'm a long-term guy."

⇒ See Apostle of Hustle on Saturday, Oct. 3 at the Burton Cummings Theatre

⇒ Advance tickets are \$25-\$35 at Ticketmaster

⇒ Visit www.apostleofhustle.com

The intoxicating taste of success

Award nominations and high-profile gigs are nice, but for Saskatoon's Deep Dark Woods, it's all about playing for the fans

ALEX KYLE
VOLUNTEER

For most people at least, the taste of success can often be an intoxicating one. But it's not for Ryan Boldt, vocalist and guitarist for the Saskatoon-based folk-roots band The Deep Dark Woods.

The band was nominated at the 2008 Western Canadian Music Awards for Roots Duo/Group Recording of the Year for its song *Hang Me, Oh Hang Me*, and just this summer performed at the Winnipeg Folk Festival.

In response to the success, however, Boldt is nonchalant. He doesn't let it go to his head.

"I'm playing for myself and the people that like my music," Boldt said by phone last week.

Upon further inspection, it's hard to understand this level of humility, being that the band is only a few years old. Furthermore, there is something truly haunting, yet altogether inviting about The Deep Dark Woods' music. While listening to albums like 2007's *Hang Me Oh Hang Me* and 2009's *Winter*

Hours, it's easy to initially be wooed into a sense of enchantment by the melodic sound of the guitar.

Boldt himself has always been a musical person. There was something about roots music that attracted him from a young age.

"When I was a kid, I generally liked melodies more so than rocking out," he said.

Thus the transition towards the folk-roots scene was more than easy for him.

The Deep Dark Woods first formed in 2005 by Boldt and his friends. They always got along well and rarely run into conflict while on the road, despite periodic annoyances.

"When I was a kid, I generally liked melodies more so than rocking out."

- RYAN BOLDT

Boldt's positive attitude spills over to his friends as much as to his choice of venues. Having already visited this city earlier this year for the Winnipeg Folk Festival – which he describes as incredible – Boldt and his Deep Dark Woods bandmates will return next week for the conclusion of their current tour.

⇒ See The Deep Dark Woods on Thursday, Oct. 8 at the Park Theatre (698 Osborne St.)
⇒ Little Miss Higgins and Foy Taylor will also perform
⇒ Advance tickets are \$15 at the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store and Ticketmaster
⇒ Visit www.thedeepdarkwoods.com



COURTESY OF KILLBEAT MUSIC

Given their penchant for bringing a mounted fish and washboard everywhere they go, is it any wonder the guys in The Deep Dark Woods couldn't get dates for the prom?

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MUSIC LISTINGS

Wind Whistles

Formed as a duo to explore the possibilities of folk music, THE WIND WHISTLES have honed a sound both dense and honest. Spending much of last year on the road playing their songs, which feature alternating harmonies, acoustic bass and guitar lines, Tom and Liza missed their full-band side projects they left in Vancouver. The natural thing to do was to introduce an edgier element into their own music. With the release of *Animals Are People Too*, The Wind Whistles have got a momentum flowing through them as they pass through Winnipeg with their Dutch tour mates PAPER TIGER. Also on the bill at Ragpickers on Sunday, Oct. 4 is local genre-hopping band ULTRA MEGA.

- J.P. PERRON

Learn from the best at Bluebird North

Four of Manitoba's most captivating female songwriters will exchange stories and sing their original compositions at the Park Theatre on Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m. The Songwriters Association of Canada (SAC) has been organizing BLUEBIRD NORTH events across Canada, taking inspiration from the Bluebird Café in Nashville. The Winnipeg version of Bluebird will see, for the first time on stage together, JAYLENE JOHNSON, KERI LATIMER (NATHAN), ALANA LEVANDOSKI and recent WCMA songwriter of the year ROMI MAYES. Deep-voiced radio personality HOWARD MANDSHEIN will host the showcase.

- J.P. PERRON

THURSDAY, OCT. 1

BUSHTITS, CHEERING FOR THE BAD GUY and GEORDIE TENTREES get drunk and rowdy with you at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

GASLIGHT ANTHEM, FRANK TURNER, THE LOVED ONES and MURDER BY DEATH at the Garrick.

A WILHELM SCREAM, THE ARTISTS LIFE, RIOT BEFORE and HIGH FIVE DRIVE jam the stage at the Pyramid.

HELPING HANDS, a benefit for Manitobans with breast cancer, features musical guests DEBRA LYN NEUFELD and GORD KIDDER at the Park Theatre.

DIESELBOY makes the dance floor tremble with his drum 'n' bass, with DARA, AKI200 and MC MESSINIAN at the Republic Nightclub.

READYMIX with DJs DAN L and DIAL UP at Ozzy's.

FATTOOTH get freaky at the Zoo.

DECEMBERS INSURGENCY and TAYLOR DEMETRIOFF at the Academy.

FRIDAY, OCT. 2

FINAL FANTASY and TIMBER TIMBRE will blow minds at the West End Cultural Centre.

QUAGMIRE releases *Don't Forget the Blowtorch* with a wicked line-up of local rock awesomeness, featuring HOT LIVE GUYS, 77 GUNS and the ANGRY DRAGONS.

THE PERPETRATORS with LINK AND THE MOUSTACHES at the Times Change(d).

ROBERT ALLAN WRIGLEY performs at the Folk Exchange.

Abrasive sound artist KYLIE MINOISE is joined by KKRAKK, NO METHOD and PROJECTORPROJECT at the Graffiti Gallery.

WSO POPS presents CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE at the Centennial Concert Hall. 8 p.m.

JESSE DENATALE makes an appearance at the Park Theatre with SCOTT NOLAN and guests.

MOSES MAYES with the LYTICS at the Pyramid.

THE DUST RHINOS at the Academy.

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

GOGOL BORDELLO and APOSTLE OF HUSTLE are gonna destroy the theatre seating at the Burton Cummings.

MOST SERENE REPUBLIC with GRAND ARCHIVES take the stage at the Pyramid.

SHRIMP play their final show at the Albert with TROUSER MOUTH and a reunited DITCHPIG.

GENRELESS at Graffiti Gallery with KRAM RAN, TYLER FUNK, NO COMPUTER, DOUG HOYER, MICHAEL RAULT, CODENAME: THE SHARKS! and PHILIA.

FINAL FANTASY and TIMBER TIMBRE play their second show in as many days at the West End Cultural Centre.

DOUG EDMOND CD release at the Park Theatre with LINDSAY WHITE.

GRANT DAVIDSON BAND at the Academy.

TINNITUS, WANG THE MERICLESS and THE FAUX MOJO at the Zoo.

ULTRA MEGA party at the Standard.

Launching the Winnipeg Art Galleries' Jazz Under the Rooftop winter season, AMBER EPP performs.

Pianist ANG LI performs in Eckhardt-Grammatté Hall as part of Virtuosi Concerts. 8 p.m.

WSO POPS presents CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE at the Centennial Concert Hall. 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCT. 4

WIND WHISTLES, PAPER TIGER and ULTRA MEGA play at Ragpickers.

BAD COUNTRY play until it's good at the Standard.

Cellist DAVID EGGERT and pianist DAVID MOROZ perform at the Winnipeg Art Gallery at 2 p.m.

WSO POPS presents CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE at the Centennial Concert Hall. 8 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT. 5

Country legend GEORGE JONES takes the stage at the Centennial Concert Hall. 7:30 p.m.

Jazz vocalist CARA MATTHEW is at the Park Theatre. Show starts at 7:15 p.m.

VINYL DRIP at the Cavern.

TUESDAY, OCT. 6

BLUEBIRD NORTH has ROMI MAYES, JAYLENE JOHNSON, KERI LATIMER and ALANA LEVANDOSKI sharing songs at the Park Theatre beginning at 7:30 p.m.

THE MAHONES stop by the Pyramid with London's DJ RAY GRANGE, THE POPES and Toronto's THE DELINQUINTS.

ADRIAN BELEW POWER TRIO at the West End Cultural Centre.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7

Student night with KID CASSETTE at the Academy.

ANDREW NEVILLE AND THE POOR CHOICES at the Standard.

THE FARREL BROTHERS and THE BRAINS are playing the Royal Albert Arms.

THURSDAY, OCT. 8

READYMIX with DJs DAN L and DIAL UP at Ozzy's.

Oh no! It's KENNY G at Club Regent.

DEEP DARK WOODS with MAYOR MATT ALLEN AND HIS LITTLE BUDDIES at the Park Theatre.

CHEERING FOR THE BAD GUY at Degrees.

BRAVE NEW WAVES at the Pyramid.

BILLY SHEARS at the Academy.

KENT MCALISTER plays Times Change(d).

UPCOMING SHOWS

LOVERBOY Friday, Oct. 9 and Saturday, Oct. 10 at McPhillips Street Station.

SEND + RECEIVE: A FESTIVAL OF SOUND Oct. 13 to 17 at various Winnipeg locations.

SHOUT OUT OUT OUT OUT, LEBEATO and NOT ANIMALS Tuesday, Oct. 13 at the Pyramid.

MUM Friday, Oct. 30 at the Pyramid.

NOMEANSNO Saturday, Oct. 31 at the Royal Albert.

DEF LEPPARD with CHEAP TRICK Wednesday, Nov. 4 at the MTS Centre.

THE MISFITS Friday, Nov. 6 at the Pyramid.

DINOSAUR JR. with the PINK MOUNTAINTOPS Tuesday, Nov. 17 at the Pyramid.

GWAR Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Garrick.

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CD REVIEWS

GRANT DAVIDSON

Tired Limbs for Ashes

★★★★☆

Dollartone Records

Those in the know are already informed of Davidson's obvious talent and flare for great stories and tasteful arrangements. Gut-wrenching heartache Americana-style brings to mind shades of Hank Williams, but tracks like *Margie's Land* channel Boss Springsteen's *Nebraska* (or *Devils & Dust*). Stories about hard work on the prairies, watching crops, waiting for your sweetheart's healing love and trucking up the Yel-lowhead Highway make this a distinctly Western Canadian old-time country/folk record. Recorded at the legendary home studio Beverland by the D.Rangers' Jaxon Haldane, this disc is warm, crisp and rife with the local and travelling talent that frequents the West End studio. See Davidson this Friday, Oct. 2 at Le Garage Café and on Saturday, Oct. 3 at the Academy.

- Lee Repko



Listen to the song Not You or Me at www.uniter.ca

THE SAVANTS

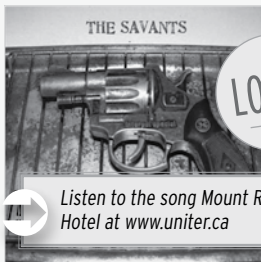
Absolver

Transistor 66

★★★★☆

In 30 years there hasn't been a shortage of sweaty, dirty underground punk rock releases sprouting up across the globe. The Savants' *Absolver* is no different. The Win-nipeg trio plays that fast and furious, lo-fi, in-your-face punk, slaying the listener with exasperated rough-hewn vocals drowned in a barrage of raucous, overdriven power chords. There are some real highlights here, notably the melodic chorus on *President's Choice* and the acoustic lament of *Half Assed Apology*, which truly lives up to its name. But at the same time, there is nothing here we haven't heard before. The Savants come across as a more pissed off version of The Ramones, recycling four-chord tunes we've heard countless times before, no matter how catchy. Overall, fans of old-school punk will find themselves enjoying *Absolver* and can catch The Savants when they play the Albert on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

- Mike Duerksen



Listen to the song Mount Royal Hotel at www.uniter.ca

FRANK TURNER

Poetry of the Deed

Epitaph Records

★★★★☆

If one could sum up this album by singer-songwriter Frank Turner in one word, it would certainly be "earnest." This being the U.K.-based artist's third full-length in as many years, the man obviously has a message to spread and he's wasting no time in getting it out there. Bursting with substance, the music ranges from the cheeky, folk-infused punk shanty *Try This At Home*, to the laid back, sprawling *The Road* (which would, indecently, make the perfect song to play on a road trip) to the contemplative soul-searcher *Journey of the Magi*. This album's intent is to take you on a journey, both on a lyrical and musical level. With equal parts social commentary and self-reflection, Frank Turner succeeds wonderfully on all levels. Check when he opens for Gaslight Anthem tonight (Thursday, Oct. 1) at the Garrick Centre.

- Ryan Suche



KENT MCALISTER & THE IRON CHOIR

How I'll Remain

Independent

★★★★☆

Sagas of gambling, love-lorn lamentations and hard-done-by living abound on *How I'll Remain*, the third release by Vancouver's Kent McAlister & The Iron Choir. The disc is a collection of 10 straight up country-rock tunes standing tall on the shoulders of storytellers such as Alabama, Johnny Cash and Corb Lund. In the standout *Ballad of The Oar & Chain*, McAlister's tenor voice depicts brutal naval slavery while Spanish guitar and horns adorn the quasi-mariachi tune. He proves humorous in *Memory Replacer*, a song that compares a former lover to American beer: "You looked fine on the outside my dear / but when I opened you up trouble spilled out." Although *How I'll Remain* remains a country album at the end of the day, it's devoid of the incessant cheesy twang found on most Nashville releases. Catch Kent McAlister at the Times Change(d) on Thursday, Oct. 8.

- Mike Duerksen



YACHT

See Mystery Lights

★★★★☆

DFA Records

Occult phenomena is the lyrical and visual backdrop to this album of dance floor treasures. Previously just a solo project by Jona Bechtolt, the addition of vocalist Claire L. Evans has doubled the membership of YACHT (Young Americans Challenging High Technology). See *Mystery Lights* was named after the eerie Marfa ghost lights which appear near the studio where they recorded. The songs sometimes veer into the existential, but mostly stick to repeated lyrics on top of jumpy beats, Krautrock synths, staggered vocals and very liberal use of delay. An example of this contrast can be heard between the album opener *Ring The Bell* which asks, "Will we go to heaven or will we go to hell? It's my understanding that neither are real" and *It's boring / You can live anywhere you want* which repeats the word "boring" until it actually drills a hole in your brain.

- J.P. Perron



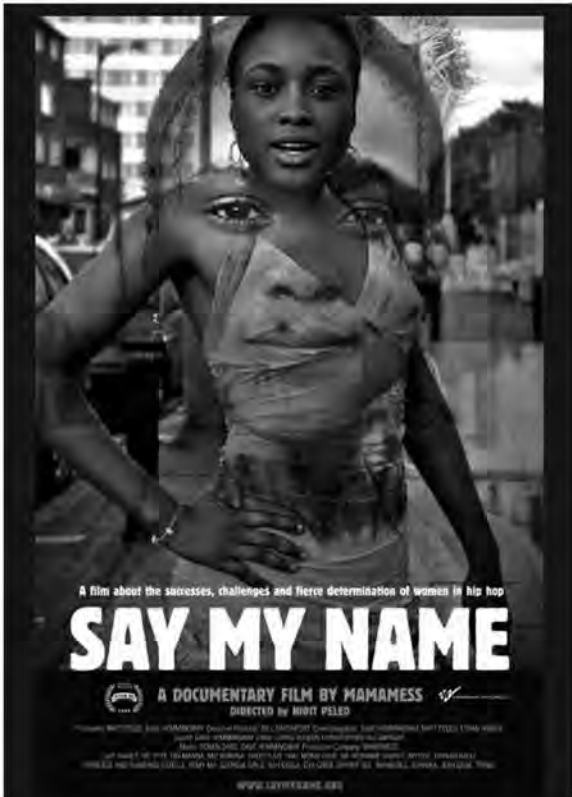
New documentary traces the history of famed Winnipeg music venue

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A film about the successes, challenges and fierce determination of women in hip hop

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DIRECTED BY MIMI PELED

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MOVIE REVIEW

Pet shop boys and girls

Documentaries demonstrate the love people have for their cats and dogs

SAM HAGENLOCHER
VOLUNTEER STAFF



Festival of Cats and Dogs
featuring:

Cat Ladies

Directed by Christie Callan-Jones, 2009
58 minutes
★★★★☆

Dog Stories

Directed by Shereen Jerrett, 1992
24 minutes
★★★★☆
Plays at Cinematheque Friday, Oct. 2 and Saturday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., as well as Sunday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m.

"I call him my boyfriend because he loves me," a young woman said, describing her relationship with

I can has a blonde action figure with little tiny kittehs? A scene from the documentary *Cat Ladies*.

her cat, Chester.
"Cats are the non-prescription anti-depressant," another woman explained.
This is *Cat Ladies*, a documentary by Toronto's Christie Callan-Jones, about cats and the women that love them.
It begins light, with these proud cat lovers defending themselves against the unfair label some members of society have given them.
"Just because a single woman has cats, doesn't mean she's a crazy cat lady," one woman argued.
What Callan-Jones is interested

in here is less the cats and more the psychology of why they attract these women.
On the surface, these female subjects from different places and lifestyles seem quite normal. They are friendly and confident, if a little shy. Some have cats from pet stores and some rescue them from the street.
But as we are drawn deeper into this world, where the subjects' cat ownership varies from five cats to, astoundingly, over a hundred, these characters' struggles with loneliness, depression and family

and relational abuse become cutt-ingly real.
It's clear Callan-Jones cares deeply about these subjects and it becomes impossible not to empathize also.
This makes Winnipeg filmmaker Shereen Jerrett's *Dog Stories* a surprising contrast.
The film is simple: Local dog owners telling stories about their favoured pets. What's surprising is how hilarious these stories – and subjects – actually are.
One man tells of his blind affection for his childhood dog, which he also describes as "probably the worst pet anyone has owned."
Another man describes his pet as "the smartest dog in the world" because, as he shows us, his dog knows how to play baseball.
Probably the funniest moment is the near-painful scene of a woman making her poodles dance for cheese while singing "dancey dancey" over and over and over.
But, near the film's close, as one man describes the emotional experience of taking his childhood pet on his last trip to the vet, it becomes evident that beneath the ridiculousness of these pets stories, there is also heart.

FILM

The 2009 MANITOBA FILM TRAINING EXPO presents workshops from Friday, Oct. 2 to Sunday, Oct. 4 on various aspects of film-making, from sound editing and location shooting to 3-D technologies and acting. For more information visit www.filmtraining.mb.ca.
GOGOL BORDELLO NON-STOP premieres at the Lo Pub, Friday, Oct. 2 at 8 p.m.
SAY MY NAME, a film about women in hip hop, will be having a free screening followed by a panel discussion on Thursday, Oct. 1 in Eckhardt-Grammatte Hall at the University of Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
The WINNIPEG SHORT FILM-MASSACRE is now accepting entries for the 2009 festival. Enter your horror film (10 minutes max.) and have it screened in front of a live audience. Entry deadline is Monday, Oct. 5. For more information visit winnipeg-shortfilmmassacre.com.
Go to the CINEMATHEQUE for the FESTIVAL OF CATS AND DOGS, which consists of two pet-centric films: CAT LADIES and DOG STORIES. Also playing at Cinematheque this week is THE COVE and POETIC PASSAGES: A PHILIP HOFFMAN RETROSPECTIVE.
WNDX, the Winnipeg festival of video and film art, begins Thursday, Oct. 8. Check out www.wndx.org for information on tickets and show times.

MOVIE REVIEW

A ragtag gang of European immigrants

Rock doc lacks a message but is hard to ignore nonetheless

COURTNEY BRECHT
VOLUNTEER

Gogol Bordello Non-Stop

Directed by Margarita Jimeno, 2008
90 minutes
Plays at the Lo Pub (330 Kennedy St.) Friday, Oct. 2 at 8 p.m.
★★★★☆

From Gogol Bordello's humble beginnings in an underground Bulgarian bar in New York, to appearances on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and collaborations with Manu Chao, Margarita Jimeno chronicles the rise of Eugene Hutz's brainchild, step by filthy step.
Big Smash! Productions is screening the film this Friday, Oct. 3 as a lead-up to Gogol Bordello's performance at the Burton Cummings Theatre the next day.
Gogol Bordello, a group that's arguably best known in North America as the founders of gypsy



Gogol Bordello is the brainchild of Eugene Hutz, the moustachioed fellow on the right.

punk, is comprised of a ragtag gang of European immigrants, whose diversity is suitably paralleled in their theatrical costumes and colourful stage performances.
Frontman Hutz, a self-proclaimed "cultural refugee," carries this documentary with easy charm

and linguistic gift, spouting quotable passages referencing his journey from Communist Ukraine during the Soviet collapse, to the fulfillment of his own personal American Dream.
Teenage Eugene bounded from underground bar to bar mitzvah,

picking up an assortment of multi-ethnic musicians and their respective styles in his wake.
The viewer is transported with the band and their punk antics on a tour of North America following the release of their first album *Voi-La Intruder*. They are subsequently banned from local pub after dingy bar.
Their destructive on-stage tomfoolery, however, is noted as being the catalyst for underground attention from bored punk rockers looking for something new.
The band's rise from obscurity climaxes in the film as a headlining collaboration at the Manu Chao Festival.
Since this documentary was made, the band has played alongside musical greats like Madonna and Kings of Leon, and, as the aptly-titled documentary suggests, they show no signs of stopping.
The highlight of Jimeno's doc comes in the spliced-in concert footage between band interviews, during which the viewer is subject

to the sensory overload that is a Gogol Bordello performance.
Hutz's seemingly endless amount of energy propels the band and audience into a frenzy, evoking images of a Ukrainian Johnny Rotten.
The band's redefinition of crowd surfing, a trademark of their live performances, has one back-up dancer surfing across the audience standing on a drum.
Jimeno encapsulates the energy of the band in a fitting style of somewhat grainy handheld cameras; but at no point does this compromise the visual stimulation.
However, at times she adds elements to the film that seem questionable, specifically on Hutz's daily errands to the shoe repair store and the sandwich shop.
This film doesn't tackle any enormous current issues and the band gets along with little conflict. The documentary may be lacking an overall message, but the band's mantra is tough to ignore: "Think globally, fuck locally."



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TW	Artist	Recording	Label
1	*Black Mold	Snow Blindness is Crystal Antz	Flemish Eye
2	Neko Case	Middle Cyclone	Anti
3	Sonic Youth	the Eternal	Matador
4	Dinosaur Jr.	Farm	Jagjaguar
5	*Metric	Fantasies	Last Gang
6	!Grand Analog	Metropolis is Burning	Urbnet
7	!SubCity	Where's the Noise	Transistor 66
8	*Great Lake Swimmers	Lost Channels	Weewerk
9	*Gruesomes	Hey	Ricochet Sound
10	Vieux Farka	Toure Fondo	Six Degrees

THEATRE PREVIEW

High school sex scandal

University of Winnipeg students star in Canadian premiere of hit off-Broadway play

MARIA LAUREANO
VOLUNTEER

Sex, secrets, performance art blogs and blackmail. What else do you need from a night at the theatre?

Stage16's latest production marks the Canadian premiere of *Speech and Debate*, a hugely successful off-Broadway play.

It also marks the transition of Stage16 founder Ryan Segal into the director's chair. Segal founded the company in 2006 with friends Joseph Tritt and Jillian Willems. He's always had a passion for theatre, but said he really loves working behind the stage.

"When the opportunity arose to produce *Speech and Debate*, I thought it was the perfect chance to step out of my comfort zone and take on the role of director," Segal said.

The play is situated around three high school misfits who develop an unlikely bond while trying to expose a sex scandal within their high school.

However, the play is also about the ways people receive information and divulge secrets, make friends and then blackmail them. Using their blogs, interpretive George Michael dances and musical theatre performances, the characters set out to reveal the truth.

Segal first heard of the play



Naughty! Tatiana Carnevale as Diwata (as "Time Traveling Mary Warren") with Jonathan Lawrence as Howie (as "Gay Teenage Abraham Lincoln") in the Stage16 production of *Speech and Debate*.

when it had its world premiere at the Roundabout Theatre in New York City. It was the inaugural production of the Roundabout Underground – an initiative to produce plays by emerging playwrights and performers.

The play ended up extending its

planned engagement several times.

While the success of the production throughout the United States was one thing that drew Segal to the story, it was playwright Stephen Karam's accurate depiction of the teenage characters that sealed the deal.

"When the opportunity arose to produce *Speech and Debate*, I thought it was the perfect chance to step out of my comfort zone and take on the role of director."

- RYAN SEGAL

"Karam perfectly captures the way teenagers talk and interact. I found the dialogue so organic, so wacky and completely hysterical," Segal said.

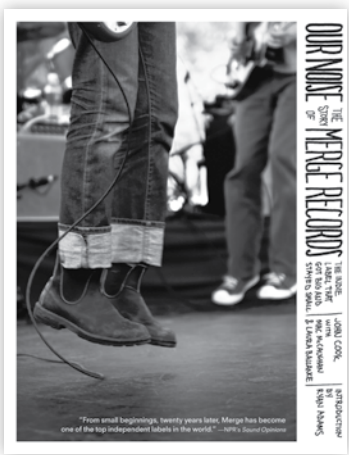
Another interesting angle was the use of blogs and instant messaging as a means of dialogue, and how it depicted social interaction.

The cast is made up entirely of University of Winnipeg students: Tatiana Carnevale, Nyk Bielak, Jonathan Lawrence and Connie Manfredi.

"I've been lucky enough to work with a cast and crew of all University of Winnipeg students – many friends from before – who have been amazing collaborators throughout. This is more their production than mine and I am very fortunate to have the chance to work with them on this hilarious play."

Stage16 presents Speech and Debate at the Rachel Browne Theatre (204-211 Bannatyne Ave.) from Thursday, Oct. 1 until Saturday, Oct. 3. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$10 in advance by calling 896-7125. For show times and more information visit www.stage16.ca.

BOOK REVIEW



MIKE DUERKSEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Our Noise: The Story of Merge Records, the Indie Label That Got Big and Stayed Small
John Cook with Mac McCaughan & Laura Ballance
320 pages
Algonquin Books Of Chapel Hill, 2009

While major labels struggle to come up with a sustainable business model and cope with wavering music sales, indie label Merge Records has defied the odds and is celebrating its 20th anniversary this fall.

To commemorate the occasion, the Durham, N.C.-based label – so small it only counts 13 people on staff – has released a captivating book chronicling the grueling road to their impressive presence today.

Written with strong literary force by journalist John Cook and the collaboration of Merge-founders Mac McCaughan and Laura Ballance, *Our Noise* is an intriguing look into the workings of the label, the history of its bands and their journey to becoming one of the world's most successful indie labels.

Started in the late '80s in Chapel Hill, N.C., Merge was seen as the east coast counterpart to Nirvana-dwelling Sub Pop and the thriving grunge scene in Seattle. Merge took a more DIY approach by hand-labeling and shipping each release, and working out of a rented room.

The book is propelled by first-hand accounts from McCaughan and Ballance (who both fronted Merge's revered flagship band, Superchunk), friends of the label, music associates and members of Merge bands.

Fans of Arcade Fire, Spoon, Magnetic Fields and Neutral Milk Hotel (who all call Merge home) will find special delight in reading the bands' perspective on the music industry as well as their unique relation with Merge.

With over 300 pictures of the bands, record art and memorabilia, the book feels like a giant intimate scrapbook of the '90s music scene many of us grew up with and still love.

Ryan Adams' introduction is an erratic, chaotic, at times awkward, account of how the Chapel Hill music scene fuelled by Merge releases came to save his life. Even though he challenges English writing conventions, Adams captures the spirit of the effect music has on people, as well as the spirit of the little label that could.

But perhaps what the book does best is shed a light on how indie music went from an angst-ridden, self-conscious, self-affected, underground alternative rock scene to hip-and-cool, widespread social acceptance and mainstream success.

For anyone remotely interested in the rise of alternative music, the dynamics of the music industry, the workings of a label, the life of a band in the studio and on the road – heck anyone interested in music at all – *Our Noise* is not to be missed.

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Blowing in the wind

Five years of local artist's work culminates in new exhibit at gallery on campus

LAURA CLARK
VOLUNTEER

On top of his involvement with the Send + Receive festival and Mike Petkau's Record of the Week Club, local DIY kingpin Ken Gregory has spent the past five years on a most intriguing project. Ken Gregory has been trying to catch the wind.

Gregory's *wind coil sound flow* exhibit is the end result of a five-year project that aims to answer the question: If the wind could speak to us, what would it say?

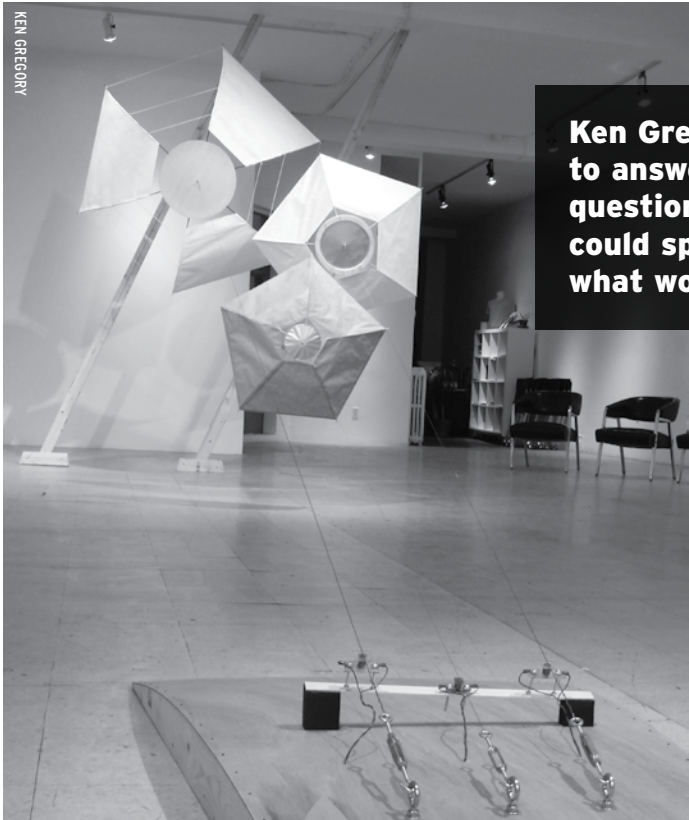
By merging acoustic electro-mechanics, sculpture and a strong sense of playfulness, the artist has created a collection of bare-boned, hand-made wind instruments.

These instruments are not played per se, but rather built. The rest is left up to the wind, which either vibrates the strings or blows through specially designed openings in the body of the instrument, creating a multi-layered and unique tone.

Gregory's experimentation with these devices has been realized with his exhibition opening at the University of Winnipeg's Gallery 1Co3 on Thursday, Oct. 1. *Wind coil sound flow* is the result of Gregory's most ambitious creation within this project, the Aeolian Kite.

"The kite's towline is acoustically coupled to a resonator," Gregory wrote on his blog, *Cheap Meat Dreams and Acorns*. "The resonator amplifies the wind-induced vibrations of the towline and resonates harmonically."

The resulting "wind song," eerily comparable to the human voice, is then incorporated into an installation within the gallery,



Ken Gregory aims to answer the question: If the wind could speak to us, what would it say?

☛An image from Ken Gregory's *wind coil sound flow* exhibit. Installation view as presented at Article in Montreal.

amplified through kinetic speakers reminiscent of kites.

These low-tech phonographic machines may look a little like junk – they're tin cans and bungee cords – but that simplicity is the beauty of Gregory's aesthetic.

"The basic idea is to experiment with acoustic and electronic amplification systems so that these sounds can be heard by the naked ear."

Gregory's penchant for both "naked" and "basic" is his greatest strength. His work isn't just for the visually inclined either. As Milena Placentile, curator for Gallery 1Co3 points out, Gregory's work pours over the edge of the visual arts realm.

"There are unexpected curriculum connections [such as] applied computer science,

physics and sciences/sustainability studies ... Ken's practice encompasses an incredibly diverse range of activities from DIY electronics and hacking, to audio recording, to live performance."

Indeed, any audiophile who recognizes the name John Cage, who has listened to a Godspeed You! Black Emperor album or who can argue for the inherent beauty of dissonant noise will certainly find merit in this work.

This is acoustic ecology at its finest. Gregory is diving deep with a striking study of environmental sound and how it is interpreted, as well as meditating on the unrealized inspirational potential hidden in the most unlikely places.

Ultimately, the viewer finds him or herself looking for what else is ever-present but constantly ignored.

Wind coil sound flow opens at Gallery 1Co3 (515 Portage Ave.) on Thursday, Oct. 1 with a reception from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. It is on display until Saturday, Oct. 31. Gregory will give an artist talk on Friday, Oct. 2 at 12:30 p.m. Visit <http://cheapmeatdreamsandacorns.blogspot.com>, www.sendandreceive.org and <http://gallery1co3.blogspot.com>.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

MIDNIGHT PIE FIGHT is exactly that - the biggest Winnipeg has ever seen. ACE ART will be covered in plastic wrap, there will be pie fight movies, live music, a silent auction and more. On Friday, Oct. 2 at 8 p.m.

The Cre8ery hosts ENCOUNTERED SOULS, a painting and sculptural exhibition by ANDREW MAREK, with an opening reception Thursday, Oct. 1. The show runs until Saturday, Oct. 10.

KELLY RUTH will be on hand at the Gas Station Theatre for the opening reception of her SELECTED WORKS on Thursday, Oct. 1 at 5 p.m. The exhibition will be on display in the lobby until November.

Paintings in the exhibition CITY, TOWN AND COUNTRY will be on display at the Woodlands Gallery from Oct. 8 to 24. Featuring artists RICK BOND, JOHANNE DUCHAINE, GERALD LAPOINTE and ALEX SUPROWICH.

The University of Manitoba's Gallery of Student Art hosts BLOODLINES, a sculptural essay of genetic impurity, by JOSHUA PEARLMAN, until Friday, Oct. 9.

Gallery One One One will be hosting an installation by JEFFREY SPALDING, which will occupy the hexagonal space just outside the gallery. Opening Wednesday, Oct. 7 from 5 to 8 p.m.

KEN GREGORY: WIND COIL SOUND FLOW launches Thursday, Oct. 1 at Gallery 1Co3 in conjunction with the Send & Receive Festival. Exhibition runs until Saturday, Oct. 31.

ROBOTS + US has taken over the Manitoba Museum throughout October.

The Plug In Gallery is hosting MICHEL DE BROIN's exhibition DISRUPTION FROM WITHIN until Saturday, Nov. 21.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery displays photographic portraits by YOUSUF KARSH. Some of the famous faces include Muhammad Ali, Winston Churchill, Audrey Hepburn, Grey Owl and Pierre Trudeau. Exhibition runs until Sunday, Jan. 3.

15 MINUTES is a showcase of local art happening the first Thursday of every month at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Local artists can submit their work for the series to art-educator@wag.ca.

ART OF MUSIC at The Folk Exchange features drawings, paintings, photographs and sculptures inspired by music. The show runs until Friday, Oct. 30.

Come out to the Ken Segal Gallery to take in A GLOBAL INUIT (sex, jokes and polar bears) by Milos Milidrag. Ends Saturday, Oct. 3.

PLATFORM Centre for Photographic and Digital Arts is pleased to present the group exhibition AS THE SIDEWALK BLEEDS, on display until Saturday, Oct. 24.

THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

Stage 16 presents the dark comedy SPEECH & DEBATE at the Rachel Browne Theatre. Thursday, Oct. 1 until Saturday, Oct. 3. For reservations, call 896-7125 or visit www.stage16.ca.

Sarasvati Productions presents FEMFEST 2009: HERSTORY, Winnipeg's festival of plays by women for everyone. Shows are at the Canwest Centre for Theatre and Film until Sunday, Oct. 4. Check out www.femfest.ca for more details.

Winnipeg Jewish Theatre is proud to present David Gow's drama CHERRY DOCS. The show runs from Thursday, Oct. 8 to Sunday, Oct. 18 at the Berney Theatre in Asper Jewish Community Campus. There will be no performances on Oct. 12 and 13. For more information, visit www.wjt.ca or call 477-7478.

LITERATURE

JOHN BARTON reads from his new book of poetry HYMN. The evening also features local authors Clarise Foster and Ariel Gordon. McNally Robinson, Grant Park on Thursday, Oct. 8 at 7 p.m.

As part of the MANITOBA WRITERS' GUILD READING SERIES, PER BRASK and PATRICK FRIESEN will be reading at the Yellow Dog Tavern on Monday, Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m.

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Arts Briefs

Compiled by C. Jordan Crosthwaite

TV ON THE MAGAZINE

CBS has a new video advertising campaign this fall to promote a new TV series. The video ad, however, will be featured in print media. CBS is embedding teeny-tiny little video screens in *Entertainment Weekly*, according to C-Net News.

The little screen has a little battery that lasts over an hour, and is a co-advertisement with Pepsi.

Next time you want to get the latest on the new episode of *CSI: Miami*, just pick up a magazine and hit “play.”

NABOKOV ON THE NEWS

The last bit of writing from Vladimir Nabokov will reach shelves this fall. The unfinished novel, from the author of *Lolita* has been holed-up in a vault with an uncertain future for decades, reports *Slate*.

Nabokov instructed his wife to destroy the piece while on his deathbed. She locked up the manuscript, but didn't follow through with its disposal. The burden of the literary giant's legacy fell to his son, who decided to publish, against his father's dying wishes.

The short novel is titled *The Original Laura* and will be published by Random House. Excerpts will appear in *Playboy* before the release date of Nov. 17, 2009.

A FUNNY RECESSION

American television is pushing new comedy programs this year, in hopes to ease recession-fueled depression amongst the populace. The *Guardian* reports that American TV is moving toward family-based comedies for fall programming.

Perhaps Americans spend more time with the family watching the old boob tube when they are poor and unemployed. In the U.K., television producers are staying away from comedy, which isn't a consistently successful type of programming across the pond.

Maybe TV execs predict Brits would rather drown their sorrow at the pub in tough times, as opposed to watching a feel-good dramedy with the kids.

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

Buying a knock-off purse for 10 bucks from a street vendor isn't that shocking. What's more shocking would be finding out that the purse you bought for next to nothing was actually authentic.

Designers in New York City are turning to street-side copycats to build buzz for their high-end products, according to MSNBC. The designers are hoping that hiring vendors who sell fake brands to sell the new designs will help the image of the upstarts designers.

Having your purse sell next to fake Coco Chanel bags might actually do more for reputation and sales than trying to prevent the counterfeit merchandise.

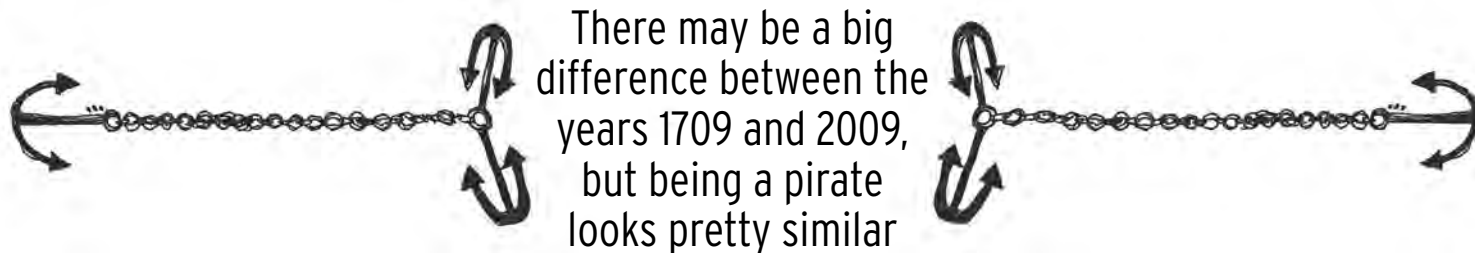
THE PIRATE BAY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

A German technology group has developed a way to pirate information from the popular torrent site The Pirate Bay, without using the Internet.

The Pirate Bay, which has been one of the most controversial and popular sites for illegally sharing digital information, has found a way set up small peer-to-peer networks that exist on local wi-fi connections, as opposed to the World Wide Web.

The new configuration of The Pirate Bay, reported by online publication *PSFK*, is just one of many manifestations of file-sharing that resist being shutdown by governments and copyright holders.

Living like a pirate in modern times



There may be a big difference between the years 1709 and 2009, but being a pirate looks pretty similar

GET YOUR PIRATE ON

You don't need a pegleg and a parrot to swashbuckle

Pirate politics

The Pirate Party of Canada is a national political party that has its sights set on re-imagining copyright law for the 21st century. While they don't have an official platform, these political privateers formed this year to solve the problems of digital media and creative expression in the online world.

Reaching out to artists, software developers and consumers, the Pirate Party takes after their Swedish counterparts who have grown to the third largest party in Sweden's parliament.

Talk the talk, yarr!

International Talk Like a Pirate Day just passed last week, and if you didn't participate you've got 12 months to perfect your “yarrs” and “mateys.” Every Sept. 19, aspiring pirates worldwide dress up their dialogue with the language of yore.

Dress the part

Gags Unlimited at 209 Osborne St. boasts the most comprehensive collection of costumes in town. Whether you go for the modern, AK-47-toting, GPS-navigating, ransom-demanding Somali pirate, or the 17th century swashbuckling swordsman, the onset of Halloween means all kind of costumes will suit your seafaring needs.

Strategize the attack

Cutthroat Capitalism, featured on the *Wired* website (www.wired.com) is an online game that will help you hone your marauding skills before you test them on the high seas.

Featuring “aggressive” negotiations and million dollar payouts, *Cutthroat Capitalism* will outfit you with the business savvy and economic know-how to be a successful pirate on today's dangerous seas.

C. JORDAN CROSTHWAITE
CULTURE REPORTER

Pirate life, in many ways, hasn't changed for 300 years.

Pirates off the coast of Somalia in the Gulf of Aden, bankrolled by landlubber warlords, threaten worldwide trade with a degree of fearlessness, organization and camaraderie that harkens to the old-time pirates from what is affectionately referred to as The Golden Age of Piracy.

Because Somalia's government is failing and absent, warlords, businessmen and tribal leaders control the marauding gangs through cultural influence and financial support, according to a recent article in *Wired* by Scott Carney. The article also outlines the structure of Somali pirate organizations.

Similarly to pirates of yore, modern pirates take advantage of vague national boundaries and the lack of clear governmental organization. Somali pirates are not accountable to their own national governing body, and international military forces – both private and national – have had to intervene.

Based on “motherships,” attack squads carry out their banditry from a strict hierarchy of direction and use GPS systems and Internet shipping databases to target and track their prey.

Once a suitable vessel has been targeted for ransom, small groups of heavily armed bandits speed toward the target in small, fast boats. Once boarded, crews are generally helpless against aggressors. They don't carry weapons.

Hostages on overtaken ships are treated well, compared to maritime captives in the past, who were often tortured and murdered.

Eighteenth century pirates didn't always resort to violence, though. Like today, crews didn't always fight back. Often letting pirates seize control meant crews would go unharmed, much like today, and crews were not held accountable for lost goods.

Modern pirates don't make off with booty; they are only interested in the ransom they receive when

they make a deal with shipping companies.

Insurance prices have soared since 2008 to cover the huge cost of piracy, but like yesteryear, crews lack the motivation to take severe action against pirates because parent companies always pay up.

“They can collect insurance and go home,” said a security advisor in Carney's article, who says that some crews are tempted to sink a ship themselves after being boarded by pirates.

Pirates - ancient, modern and online - hold fast to the principle of milking the system.

In what's called the “Golden Age of Piracy,” in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, piracy was widespread and violent, but according to a recent *New Yorker* article by Caleb Crain, the conditions were similar to today.

Pirates in the days of swashbuckling lore were highly democratic, exclusive, profitable and largely unpunished.

Because of lucrative trade and new land acquisitions in the New World, Spanish, French and English pirates preyed on vulnerable vessels stealing loot for equal division among the criminals.

Pirates that flew the Jolly Roger back in 1720 often had a direct vote and collectively written code of conduct to adhere to, according to Crain. This set of principles made the life of a pirate enviable by lawful seamen, who were often underpaid and had little say in their ship's ventures.

Pirates today are definitively less violent than pirates of the past. The BBC reported a story in 2008 of Somali pirates who fired at a cruise ship, but deaths among piracy victims are quite rare.

More commonly, intervening military forces kill pirates, like when US Navy Seals felled pirates on an American cargo-ship that was under duress. According to

CNN, Captain Richard Phillips had an AK-47 to his back when the American military intervened. Phillips and his crew survived.

Somali pirates need their captives alive so ransoms keep being paid. If they were after gold and treasure, like their historical counterparts, they might be more inclined to kill.

Violence was used with impunity in the Golden Age, when pirates know for torturing their victims didn't face international military threats, like Somalia's pirates do now.

Bustling trade and a transforming and growing world have parallels between old-time pirates and their modern incarnations, according to Antoine Garapon, an editor at *Espirit*.

Changing political geography and high-concentration trade routes busy with new kinds of commodities provide ripe conditions for modern piracy, according to Garapon.

If it sounds like there's a complicated economic logic to piracy, that's because there is. And while several academic and news publications analyze the phenomena, *Wired* has developed a more fun way to understand pirates.

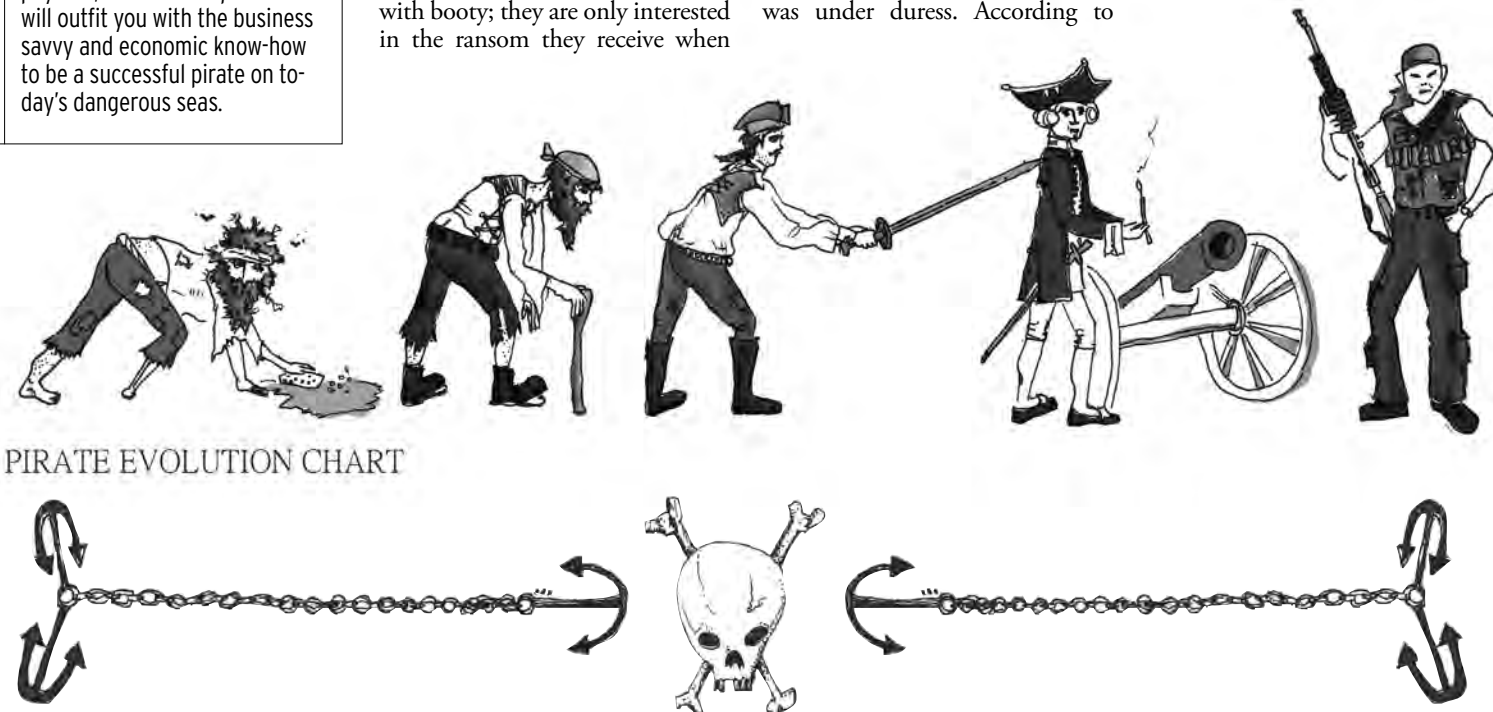
Cutthroat Capitalism: The Game is available as a web-based game on the *Wired* website that allows players to act out piracy. Instead of killing and stealing for treasure, *Cutthroat Capitalism* allows players to negotiate with the ships' owners and reach an agreeable ransom.

The game's dashboard is a GPS-like map that lets the player pick and choose victims from the high volume of shipping traffic in the Gulf of Aden.

If conflict isn't resolved quickly, or if a hostage dies, the military intervenes and you lose the game. Getting a pay out early on keeps trade moving and continues the trend of payouts for stolen high-priced cargo.

Pirates – ancient, modern and online – hold fast to the principle of milking the system.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MEGAN TURNBULL





Solving the problem of mass murder, one incestuous photo at a time

Hi kids! It's me, J.Willamez, with another installment of your favourite weekly column written by a douche with a mullet and a handlebar moustache!

This week I'd like to talk about something that I think we can all agree is evil - even you pesky nihilists who sit around all day drinking strawberry daiquiris and not caring about stuff. The thing I'm talking about is mass murder. Mass murderers seem to garner a special spot in our media and I'd like see this come to an end.

For some reason, they fascinate us so much that the news media make millions of dollars every time there is a school shooting or someone cuts their family into little pieces before sautéing them in butter and mushrooms. I guess this is just a logical extension of our love of trainwrecks (both literal and figurative) which explains the old journalistic axiom: *If it bleeds, it leads.*

I'm not saying that it's wrong for us to love carnage. I'd certainly be the first to admit that I'm a huge fan of giving dead bodies the old "poke-it-with-a-stick" treatment when I find them in the woods. I do think, however, that the media could act a little more responsibly when it comes to their coverage of mass murders.

I remember when the Columbine High School shooting happened a few years back, every newspaper, television station and website was dedicated almost exclusively to telling the story.

In and of itself, this is not surprising. It was pretty big news and that's what newspapers and programs are supposed to be filled with, right? Gordon Sinclair Jr. and I being the obvious exceptions, of course - I write mostly about poop and unicorns and he writes mostly about puppies and sunshine.

However, what I object to is that the media almost unfailingly gives more coverage to the lives and minds of the murderers than to the victims of these horrible crimes. For weeks on end, the media run over their family history, blog entries and interviews with their neighbours. And then they have the collective balls to pass judgment when another messed up angry kid who has no friends and gets no attention goes off and kills a bunch of people.

What the hell do they expect? Of course people are going to keep mass murdering if part of their "punishment" is exactly the attention they wanted in the first place!

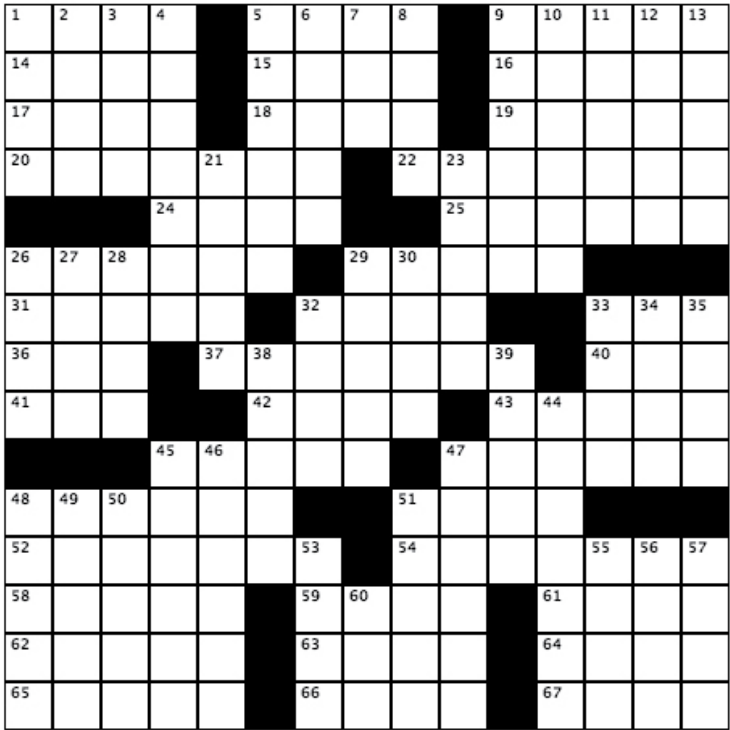
My solution is this: Instead of doing in-depth profiles on these murderers, newspapers should doctor up some family photos to show them having "relations" with their grandparents or something along those lines. I think it's a safe bet that no one who ever said "There's no such thing as bad publicity" has ever had a photo of themselves being double-teamed by their grandparents on the front page of every newspaper in North America.

An approach like this should be enough to nip the problem in the grandpa's butt.

J. Willamez is a local musician who has no use for objective media. Catch him live at Shannon's Irish Pub every Wednesday night.

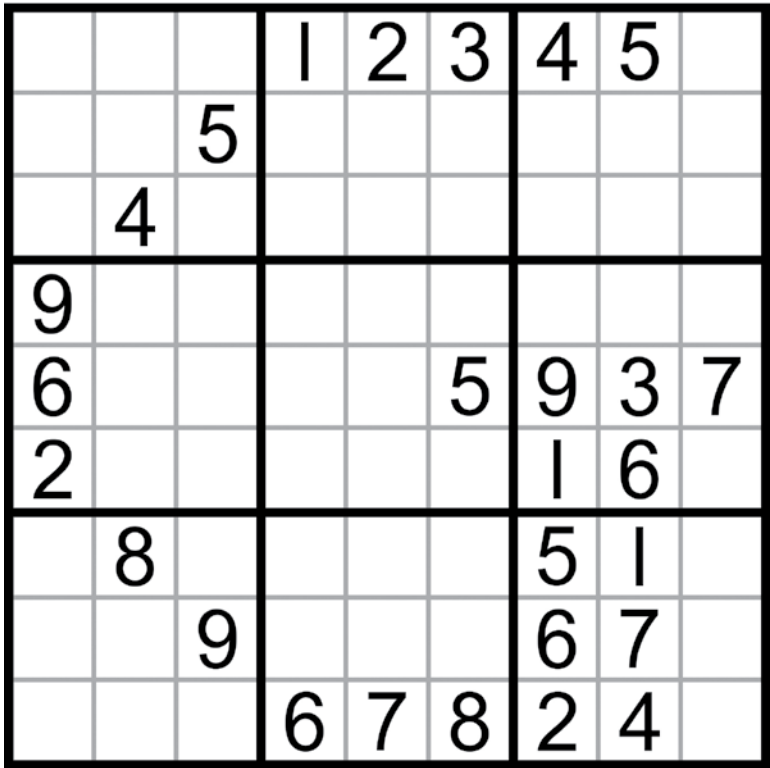
Crossword Puzzle 05

Solutions to crossword and sudoku will be printed in the next issue.



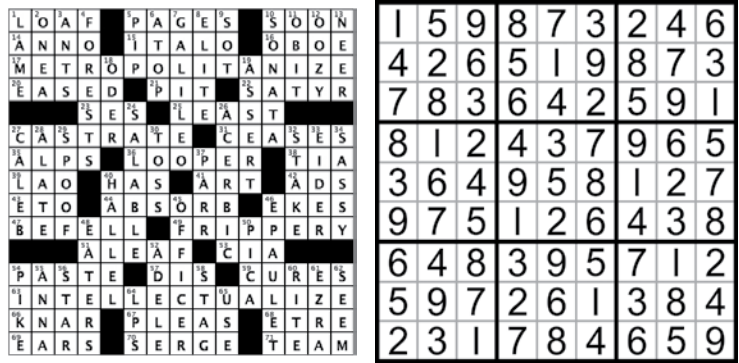
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Sudoku Octagon



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Solutions to September 24 puzzles.



- Across**

1- Scandinavian

5- Jar

9- Does a Daffy Duck impression

14- Brain wave

15- Salt Lake City hoopsters

16- Old-womanish

17- Scorch

18- New Rochelle college

19- More adorable

20- Obliquely

22- Strategic withdrawal

24- Goes out with

25- Midday nap

26- In a foreign country

29- Flat circular plates

31- Waterfall

32- Bistro

33- Damage

36- Bit
- 37- Producing effects

40- "Hold On Tight" band

41- Bass, e.g.

42- Rhythmic swing

43- Overturn

45- Dough

47- Interweave

48- Utterly senseless

51- Den

52- Feline

54- Agreeable-ness of sound

58- Declaim

59- Rubs out

61- Bustles

62- Stupid person

63- Commedia dell'___

64- Hollow cylinder

65- Concerning

66- Beams

67- Clairvoyant
- Simpsons

2- Citrus coolers

3- Highest point

4- Umbrella

5- Drunk

6- Siouan speakers

7- Novelist Deighton

8- Boris Godunov, for one

9- Obtained from milk

10- Hardens

11- Locations

12- Fold

13- Simmons rival

21- Cool!

23- Ruhr city

26- Hammett hound

27- Ancient Semitic for "Lord"

28- Uncouth

29- "Our Gang" girl

30- ___ first
- you don't...

32- Overlay with wood

33- City near Phoenix

34- Novelist Waugh

35- Portnoy's creator

38- Trudges

39- Bell-shaped flower

44- Possibly

45- Flesh of sheep

46- Familiarize

47- Hesitates

48- Pueblo Indian village

49- Member of the nobility

50- Blank look

51- Southpaw

53- Rime

55- Comics canine

56- Uh-uh

57- Belgian river

60- Brother's title
- Down**
- 1- One of the



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Q&A: Ask Kathleen



KATHLEEN CERRER
STAFF WRITER

Dear Kathleen, how can I add color to an otherwise all black/neutral wardrobe?

—*Dressing in the Dark*

Accessories are a great way to add colour to any wardrobe and freshen up a look. If you're not fond of experimenting with bold, vivid colors, then scarves, hats, jewelry and gloves are an easy way to add unexpected bursts of color. Trying new things with inexpensive items is a good way to spice up a bland wardrobe and avoid feeling sorry about how much you spent if you don't end up liking it.

Bold bracelets can be interchanged with almost any outfit and a patterned tie can change up that same suit season to season.

Handbags/purses are another way to add a touch of color and

texture to an ensemble. I find you can be more adventurous when choosing handbags since they can be interchanged with various looks.

Stepping out of your comfort zone when it comes to make-up also can add that punch of colour. If you're daring, try eyeshadow hues in purple and gold, or berry-toned lipstick.

Dear Kathleen, I've recently cleaned out my closet. What can I do with clothes I no longer use?

—*No More Skeletons*

Donating unwanted apparel that's in good condition to second-hand shops and other charitable organizations is a great way to get rid of the clothes you no longer wear.

Another way of putting your clothes into good use is re-inventing them. If you like the design of a skirt that no longer fits, put yourself into do-it-yourself mode

THE UNITER'S RESIDENT FASHION FANATIC
ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT CLOTHES

and transform it into a scarf. You can turn jeans into cute cut-offs, or if you're crafty take embroidery and accents from old bags and tops and use them for scrapbooking or to accent picture frames.

Dear Kathleen, what are a few items I should buy to freshen up and update my wardrobe?

—*Stuck in the '90s Again*

Oh, Stuck in the '90s Again, to easily update a wardrobe you can accessorize and buy items that catch your eye this season.

A new pair of shoes also instantly updates a look. For fall, try tall leather or suede boots with buckles or studs. Men's shoes also incorporate a mixture of rich textures in sporty styles.

Dear Kathleen, how do I wear plaid without looking like a tablecloth?

—*Party of One*

From the bold lumberjack style to the subtle stripe, plaid button-up shirts have that uni-sex look that can be worn with black pants, jeans — distressed for a more rugged look — and can be draped on top of loose tanks and tees.

Plaid scarves can be worn to accent a plain outfit or with a different plaid top for contrasting patterns. Plaid skirts can be pulled off successfully as long as it doesn't look too school girlesque, which can look like some sort of Halloween costume. Plaid pants worn with the right fit and colour, and with a matching blazer, can come across as quite sophisticated.

But be careful which color you choose, as it can resemble flannel pajamas or a Christmas-themed outfit.

Do you have a question for Kathleen? Send it to arts@uniter.ca.



LIVING WELL

Whether or not it's really the best medicine, laughter does lighten the load and improve your health



SAGAN MORROW
STAFF WRITER

The next time you're feeling stressed, watch a comedy: Laughter has been proven to have a number of health benefits, including stress relief.

A recent study at the University of Maryland Medical Center indicates that laughter as a stress-reliever prevents cholesterol build-up in arteries. It is the first study to suggest a correlation between laughing and a decreased risk of heart disease. The cardiologists who conducted the research recommend that we try to take ourselves less seriously and to find humour in everyday life.

Humans aren't the only creatures who laugh either. In a different study designed to determine the roots of laughter, researchers discovered — through tickling apes — that they too can laugh.

Experts at the Yerkes National Primate Research Centre at Emory University in Atlanta said that this research demonstrates how laughter traces back to a shared ancestor between humans and apes more than 10 million years ago.

Dr. Marina Davila Ross, the leading researcher of this study, told BBC News she plans to continue experiments to learn more about laughter functionality and behaviour similarities between humans and apes.

In the meantime, this research makes for a fun project — and that's really what a study on laughter should be all about.

Helpguide.org states that the health benefits of laughter span across physical, mental and emotional health. Physically, laughing lowers stress hormones such as adrenaline, thereby relaxing us. Laughing is also a good workout for your heart and can prevent pain and associated disease.

Because it restores chemical balance in the brain, laughter also has the mental benefits of relieving stress and reducing anxiety. All of this contributes to a better mood.

The more we laugh, the more we enjoy life (and the more others enjoy being around us!).

Our enjoyment of life is fundamentally linked to a good social life. This is connected to emotional health. Laughter can help us to bond with others. It also heightens our teamwork skills and decreases the likelihood of conflict.

Improving our perspective on life can also have health benefits. Focusing on how life's obstacles are a challenge rather than a step backward will increase our success in our goals. Finding the amusement in a given situation and laughing over it will help you see the situation in a new light.

Laughing really is contagious, so if someone you know is feeling blue, take them along with you to see that comedy. You will enjoy it even more and laugh even harder if you have someone to share it with.

To understand the fullness of what laughter can do for you, there are humor therapy, laughter yoga and laughter seminars worldwide.

But you don't have to go to a seminar to learn how to laugh! Taking some time off from the everyday humdrum and joking around is enough to lighten the load and improve your health.

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

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