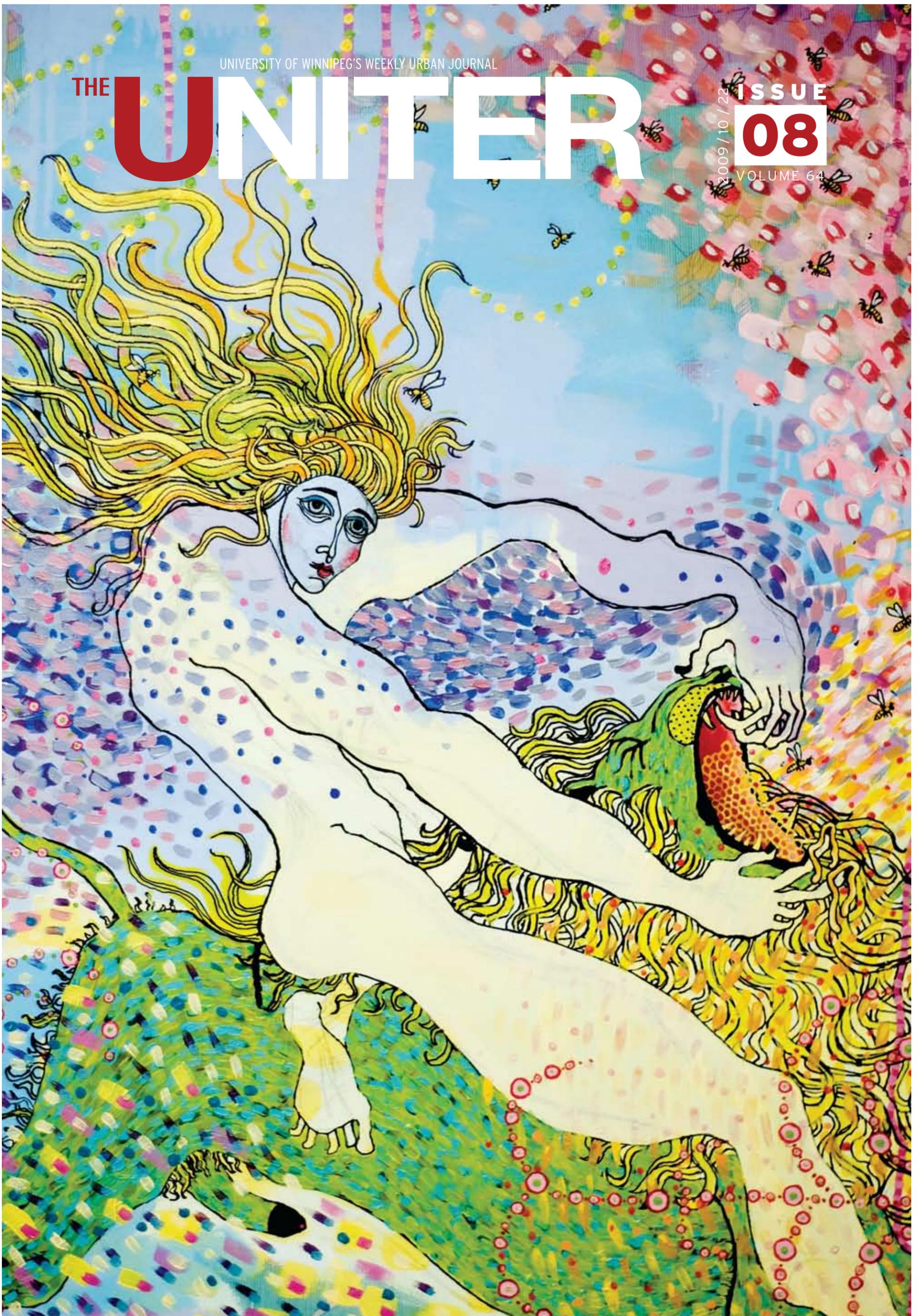


UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

THE **UNITER**

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LOOKING FOR LISTINGS?

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"Samson (Out of the eater came something to eat, and out of the strong came something sweet)"
by Seth Woodyard

Acrylic and ink on vintage patterned fabric, 3x3 feet, 2007

News

Is two-for-one, one too many?

Don't blame lawyers for gumming up justice system, prof says

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

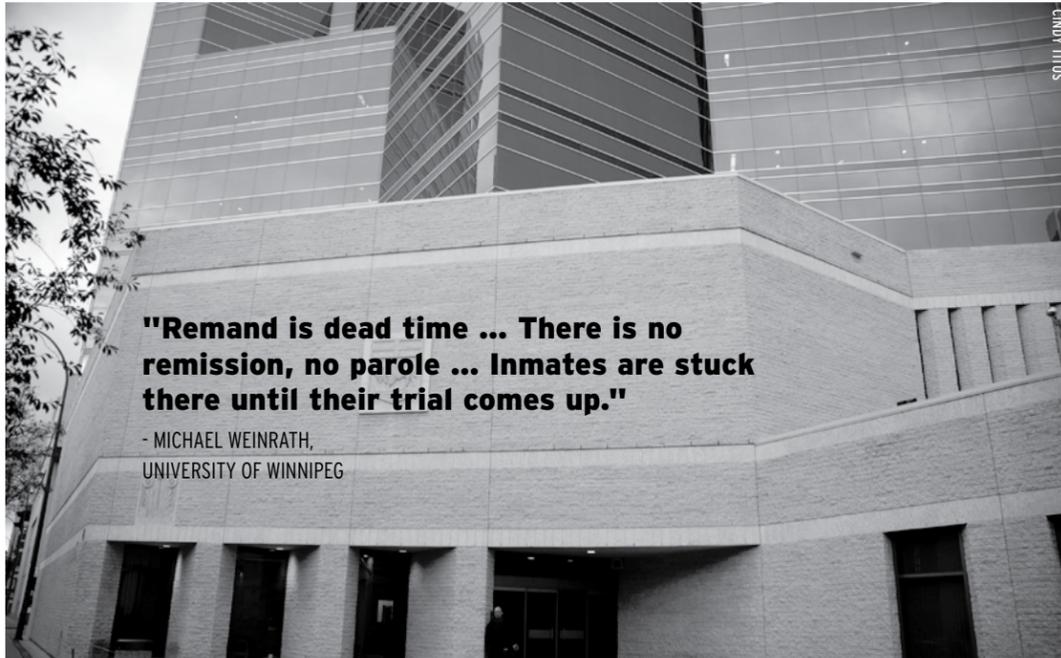
Manitoba justice minister Dave Chomiak recently waded into a controversial federal justice debate when he criticized the Senate committee on legal and constitutional affairs for weakening a bill that would have eliminated two-for-one credit for remanded inmates.

The credit grants individuals two days off their sentence for every one day spent in remand. Chomiak has accused defence lawyers and inmates of abusing the credit by deliberately delaying trials. Some, however, question whether eliminating the credit will solve any problems with the provincial justice system at all.

The credit often puts inmates below the two-year sentencing threshold required for admittance into federal prison, adding to the overcrowding of provincial facilities. Some provincial prisons are operating at nearly double the inmate capacity. Chomiak has said nearly 70 per cent of inmates are there on pretrial remand.

By delaying trials, Chomiak says lawyers are slowing down the justice system and adding to prosecutor workload.

"Defence lawyers, as long as there have been defence lawyers, have tried to slow down the system



Justice Minister Dave Chomiak wants the time criminals spend at the Remand Centre to count for one-for-one.

because it is advantageous for their clients," said Kelvin Goertzen, the Progressive Conservative justice critic.

Wilf Donaldson, a retired Winnipeg policeman, agreed.

"There are good lawyers and there are bad lawyers," Donaldson said. "But there's no doubt that the more they represent people, the more money they make."

Others believe that inmates have very little incentive to delay trials. Unlike prison, there are no employment or rehabilitation programs available in remand.

"There has been no evidence put forth by any of the ministers of justice that defence lawyers have prolonged remand time," said Michael

Weinrath, chair of criminal justice at the University of Winnipeg, who appeared earlier this month before the Senate committee along with Chomiak and others.

Weinrath conducted a survey of 226 inmates at Manitoba's Headingly prison in 2007. Based on that survey, the majority of inmates merely want to get to trial without delay, he said.

"Remand is dead time ... There is no remission, no parole ... Inmates are stuck there until their trial comes up," he said.

Others disagree with the assumption that the elimination of the credit would relieve the workload of the province's Crown prosecutors.

"I know for a fact [crown attorneys] are overworked. Many of them burn out," said Jim Cotton, a Manitoba political blogger.

A recent report made public by the Manitoba Association of Crown Attorneys recommended the hiring of 70 additional prosecutors and 70 support staff over the next seven years. The current average caseload for Crown attorneys in Manitoba is reported at 319 cases.

For more information on Dave Chomiak and the charge that he be held in contempt of Parliament, go to Ethan Cabel's blog at www.uniter.ca/blogs.

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STREETER

BY SAMUEL SWANSON

Q: WHAT CHANGES DO YOU EXPECT TO SEE FROM GREG SELINGER'S NDP GOVERNMENT?



Stavros Boron Dedeoglu
theatre student
"Choose people who are more experienced to represent the party at the Parliament and improve their campaign strategy."



Bud Simmons
massage therapist at the YMCA
"I expect him to make no changes, which is the best thing. You don't always need change if you can keep things going good. It'd be good if he just towed the line with a bit of emphasis on helping students."



Ekaterina Mirski
business and economics student
"The greatest changes that could be taken care of by the NDP are to increase the capacity of health care in the country with respect to the acceptance of newly immigrated doctors."



Earl Hart
aboriginal self-governance student
"I spoke with [Greg Selinger] about the education cap and he said he'd fight the federal government to lift the cap on aboriginal education. I just want to see if he'll live up to his promises."



Glenn Chartrand
retired construction worker
"He'll keep everything the same, how it is now."



Matt Abra
sales and service representative at the YMCA
"I expect to see a change in the intensity of the opposition."

Have credit card - will pedal

Bike rental system proposed for downtown

CAMERON MACLEAN
NEWS PRODUCTION EDITOR

Winnipeggers may soon be able to pick up a bike in the Exchange District, ride to Osborne Village and drop it off at The Forks.

Bike rental systems have already been set up in cities like Montreal and Paris. Ottawa, Boston and London, England all have plans for similar systems. City of Winnipeg officials are considering setting one up for downtown. The idea is still in its very early stages, but it already has bureaucrats and cycling advocates spinning.

David Hill, chief operating officer for the Winnipeg Parking Authority (WPA), said the idea came out of SpeakUp Winnipeg, the city's public consultation project to help create new plans for urban growth.

Hill has watched YouTube videos of other cities' systems and is excited to test the idea here.

"I've just seen these things in action and they seem to do good



Montreal's BIXI system has 5,000 bikes in 400 locations around downtown. Winnipeg could see something similar tested here in a year.

things for people," he said.

A bike rental system would make people healthier and enhance the urban environment by reducing traffic congestion, he said.

Hill said the system would probably work similarly to the BIXI ("bike taxi") system Montreal implemented earlier this summer. That system now has 5,000 bikes in 400 locations.

Users pay for a bike with their credit card at one site and drop it off at any other site. They are then billed for the time.

Each bike is equipped with a GPS tracker to prevent theft. If a bike is not returned, the user is billed for the cost of replacing the bike, which Hill said is about \$4,000.

Over the next year, Hill plans to study where bike parking congregates. He hopes to have a proposal ready by next spring and a pilot project by next summer.

Any potential rental system is a long way off, however, said Kevin Nixon, active transportation co-ordinator for the city. He said a bike

"You wouldn't think Winnipeg is a big biking city ... but it is."

- DAVID HILL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, WINNIPEG PARKING AUTHORITY

rental system has not been a big topic in his conversations with cycling advocates in the city.

"It's certainly not on our radar, big time," he said.

The systems are not without their problems. In Montreal, after two months, one in five bikes had been damaged and 15 per cent of bike racks were defective.

Although he hasn't heard of any plans for Winnipeg, Bike to the Future co-chair Kevin Miller said he would support anything that encourages active transportation in the city.

"A bike rental system would be a big plus for Winnipeg," he said. The success of any system would depend on there being a "critical mass" of users, he said.

Hill is confident there is enough support here for the system to work.

"You wouldn't think Winnipeg is a big biking city because of the nasty weather, but it is," he said.

Highway to the safety zone

Quest to make Canada's roads safest in the world nearing its end

JIHAN MUHAMAD
VOLUNTEER STAFF

As a 10-year plan to make Canada's roads the world's safest nears its end, Canadian officials are still trying to change drivers' behaviour and reduce injuries and fatalities.

In 2000, the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA) developed Road Safety Vision 2010 to make Canada's roads the safest in the world by the end of 2010.

Brian Smiley, media relations co-ordinator with Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI), said Canada faces some challenges to improve its numbers.



"Whether we will be the safest in the world lies with the driver to make a conscious behaviour," he said.

Canada is currently ranked in 10th place, with the Netherlands ranking first. The United States is 12th.

Audrey Henderson, director of programs with CCMTA, said every

year crime has been decreasing on Canadian roads. She said countries out-performing Canada are doing so because they are taking drastic measures.

"They use more speed cameras, higher fines for speeding, reduced speed limits on selected roads ... They have more infrastructure improvements, more drinking and driving enforcement, and they have an enhanced level of public education program on road safety," she said.

Canada's biggest goal is to decrease the average number of fatal or serious motor vehicle injuries in 2008-2010 by 30 per cent.

Smiley said MPI is involved in proactive campaigns to educate motorists with a focus on major problems, including drinking and driving, speeding, seatbelt usage and child car seats.

"We're providing funding to police agencies to do more roadside tests," he said. These tests include using radar cameras, performing alcohol tests and monitoring seatbelt

usage.

The Winnipeg Police Service started Operation Impact to address the major problems targeted by MPI.

Mark Hodgson, staff sergeant with the Winnipeg police, agrees these issues are preventable.

"All these activities are people's own personal choices. It only takes a second for these collisions to happen," said Hodgson.

Nikki Dodd, a former University of Winnipeg student, said she thinks an increase in roadside tests is a good strategy to make roads safer, but she doesn't agree with the use of radar cameras.

"Catching speeders is a cash grab," said Dodd. "Photo radar ... makes people slow down temporarily and they speed up [right] after."

Dodd thinks photo radar causes drivers to become frustrated.

"It goes back to road rage and when you have angry drivers you have unsafe roads," she said.

Saving the world, one mouse-click at a time

Online humanitarianism questionable

CAITLIN LAIRD
BEAT REPORTER

The easier something is, the more likely people are to participate in it. At least, this seems to be the underlying philosophy behind several Internet ventures designed to effect change and save the world, enabling people to make a difference without stepping out their front door.

Websites like www.bettertheworld.com allow individuals to choose a cause - anything from cli-

mate change to child poverty - and take simple online action to aid their chosen cause.

Likewise, www.kiva.org allows you to make micro-loans online to entrepreneurs worldwide in an attempt to alleviate poverty. Celebrity favourite Heifer.org allows you to donate livestock to various projects with the hope of eradicating hunger.

This new mode of humanitarianism involves everything from downloading a charity sidebar, creating a Facebook badge or Tweeting about your charitable accomplishments.

All of these easy-as-pie options appeal to people who may not have the time - or the inclination - to participate in more traditional modes of making a difference, but they also beg the question whether or not taking the "lazy" way out

sends the wrong message.

"It is a nice thing, but we can't assume that it's enough," said Alex Cox, a co-ordinator for Ecological People in Action (EcoPIA), a student group at the University of Winnipeg. "You can't just recycle a used paper cup and say you've saved the world ... You have to make holistic life changes that have a lasting impact and involve others."

That said, change needs to start somewhere.

"Micro-loans are really positive, as they actually go into sustainable development. It's a great thing to do as something little changes someone else's life in a big way," said Cox.

"It's better than people not doing anything," said EcoPIA member Seren Gagne. "You have to praise people's actions in order to get

them to do more in the future."

While the Internet may seem like an impersonal medium of charity, it is being used by groups looking to promote sustainable development as a way of reaching as many people as possible in an affordable, dynamic way.

"While a lot of this is symbolic of effecting change, we need to reach people where they are," said Josh Brandon, Living Green, Living Well co-ordinator for Resource Conservation Manitoba. "Like our online Green Driver calculator, which allows you to figure out the cost of your commute. Tools like this are useful because it shows people what their current behaviour is costing them. It personalizes things, but people also have to be aware of the global impact of their behaviour."

Local News Briefs

Compiled by Naomi Simiyu

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA FACES BUDGET CRISIS

According to CBC News, the University of Manitoba is facing a bleak financial crisis. University president David Barnard told the staff and students at a town hall meeting last Thursday, Oct. 15 to prepare for future cuts due to a \$36 million budget shortfall. Barnard did not say which services or programs would be affected, but told students that the university has halted the hiring of new staff. However, the university promised to give students a say in the cuts. Brad Mackenzie, president of the University of Manitoba Faculty Association, said that "reduction in efficiencies" could result in the decline of program quality or lack of services.

FREE CONSUMER PROTECTION INFORMATION

Finance minister Rosanne Wowchuk announced on Oct. 14 that the 2010 Protect Yourself calendar is now available. The calendar contains consumer tips on fraud, gambling, security, tenant and landlord issues and other consumer interest issues.

"The Protect Yourself calendar is another tool to inform Manitobans about relevant consumer information. The calendar provides helpful information on how to protect themselves in the marketplace," said Wowchuk in a release.

The calendar is available free of charge from consumers' groups, seniors' organizations and bilingual centres in the province.

NEW HOUSING UNITS FOR NEW CANADIANS

The Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg are teaming up under the Winnipeg Housing and Homeless Initiative (WHHI) to establish 25 affordable housing units for new Canadians. Construction of Centre Village Housing, located in downtown Winnipeg, is underway and will be ready for summer 2010.

"Through this investment, Centre Village will be able to offer refugees and new immigrants more rental housing options and an opportunity to start a new chapter in their lives," Treasury Board president Vic Toews said in a release.

The partnership aims to provide funding for housing in order to eliminate homelessness and repair Winnipeg's old neighbourhoods.

NO MORE STOP SIGN VIOLATION TICKETS FOR CYCLISTS

City cyclists may soon be able to roll through stop signs at intersections where cars or pedestrians are not present, if the "Idaho stop law" is put in place. City councilors have formally asked the Winnipeg Police Service to look into the proposal. The council's city protection and community services committee voted unanimously to allow the police 60 days to study whether the implementation of this law would be possible. The law would allow cyclists to slow down at a stop sign - but not stop completely - without getting a ticket. Cyclist activists have been working to have the Highway Traffic Act amended.

MAWA GOES BOLLYWOOD

Mentoring Artists for Women's Art (MAWA) will be having a Bollywood-inspired fundraiser on Friday, Oct. 23 at 9 p.m. The event, dubbed "Thank You, Come Again," will take place at the East India Company, Winnipeg's oldest Indian restaurant. It will feature classically trained Indian dancers and percussionists, an Indian bazaar with a chai station, palm reader, fire dancers, raffle baskets, tasty Indian appetizers and more. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go into MAWA's endowment fund that will contribute in planning a sustainable future.

Tickets are \$30 and are available at MAWA, 611 Main St.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Brooke Dmytriw

HOMELESS MAN'S BOTTLE COLLECTION MAKES HIM RICH

MOSCOW, Russia: A former homeless man turned rummaging through garbage into a stock trade. Leonid Kononov, 63, collected over 2,000 bottles a day and invested the money he earned in the stock market. Kononov began collecting and cashing in the bottles last year when the economic downturn hit Russia. A glass bottle typically is worth two rubles (\$0.06) for recycling.

According to Reuters, Kononov told a Russian tabloid he noticed Russians were drinking more due to the financial crisis. Kononov said he was encouraged by his grandchildren to put his bottle money into investments. His first purchase was for a \$50,000 (\$74,120) share.

CUBA PREVENTS HONOREE FROM ACCEPTING AWARD

HAVANA, Cuba: The Cuban government will not let a popular blogger leave the country to collect a prestigious journalism award from Columbia University in New York City. Yoani Sanchez was awarded the Maria Moors Cabot Prize for her contribution to *Generacion Y*, her blog on daily life and politics in Cuba. Her blog receives 1 million hits monthly and *Time* magazine recently named Sanchez one of the 100 most influential people in the world. CNN reports Columbia University recognized Sanchez for her work because she works with scarce resources and has to search and travel excessively to find a Cuban cyber café that will post her blogs. In May, Sanchez was given the Ortega y Gasset Prize in digital journalism by Spain. The Cuban government would not allow her to travel to collect that award either.

FRENCH NUCLEAR PHYSICIST CAUGHT EMAILING AL-QAEDA

VIENNE, France: A French physicist was arrested two weeks ago after it was discovered that he was emailing al-Qaeda. The man was arrested along with his brother. Police said the emails were sent to a North African branch of the terror group and vaguely discussed ideas for future terrorist acts. The physicist is a French citizen of Algerian descent and was working on the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland. The Associated Press reported the scientist was under contract with another institute at the particle accelerator location but was not working with material or equipment that could have been used for terror plots.

ABUNDANCE OF BUNNIES USEFUL AS BIOFUEL

STOCKHOLM, Sweden: Culled rabbits are being used as fuel in a Swedish heating plant. The capital suffers from an infestation of rabbits that destroy parks and green spaces in the city. The rabbits are not native to Sweden but are generally the offspring of domestic rabbits released into the wild by their owners. Last year, over 6,000 rabbits were culled and already 3,000 have been collected this year. The culled rabbits are then frozen and sold to Konvex, supplier to the heating plant. The company developed a way to use the rabbits as a biofuel. According to BBC News, the raw animal material is ground and sent to a boiler which combines the decomposing remains with peat and wood to produce renewable heat for homes. Criticism against the process has arisen, particularly from animal rights groups.

An exclusive, closed community?

Concerns raised over whether or not the Canadian Federation of Students does an adequate job representing students

SAMUEL SWANSON
BEAT REPORTER

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is the group in charge of uniting university student unions and organizing campaigns on behalf of post-secondary students. They are paid through student fees. Some, however, see no connection between CFS and their

members – the students.

One concern expressed by students is that CFS executive positions form a closed community exclusive to past members of student councils.

"CFS is a retirement home for ex-university [students' association] presidents," said Justin Rodger, former faculty of business and administration director for the University of Winnipeg Students' Association.

"I felt a lot of political pressure to support a group I don't believe in," he said of CFS.

CFS Manitoba chairperson Jonny Sopotiuik disagrees.

"[CFS is] very open to new members," he said. "All of our meetings are for everyone to attend."

The CFS annual general meeting (AGM) will be held in Ontario this November. Some union executives can use their budget to attend the meetings. The majority of CFS members, however, need to find al-

"CFS is a retirement home for ex-university presidents."

- JUSTIN RODGER, FORMER UWSA FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR

ternate funding.

Some question if CFS campaigns are as efficient as possible. Rodger believes that some of CFS's campaigns, such as pushing for tuition freezes, are misguided.

"It's a pipe dream that we can keep a tuition freeze longer than the last one we had," he said. "CFS is way too caught up in political pressure that is continuing not to work."

Sopotiuik says that CFS campaigns are not decided on by a small, tight-knit community, but rather by the members who attend the AGMs.

"Campaigns are prioritized through our membership, made of every student on campuses that are part of Canadian Federation of Students ... The campaigns come up at annual general meetings and are democratically set," Sopotiuik said.

While students could attend CFS meetings, those aware of them are rare. After interviews with a dozen University of Winnipeg students, none could provide any information regarding CFS. Several were under the initial impression that the interview was about Child and Family Services.

"I don't know much about CFS," said Alison Zenisek, a third-year creative writing and rhetoric student with a previous degree in theology. Zenisek was one of ten students interviewed who had seen CFS's Lower Tuition Fees buttons and Target Poverty postcards but knew little of the organization itself.

Winnipeg Humane Society refuses to transfer animals to no-kill shelter

They would go "right back" to owner, says executive director

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

The case of a woman and her seized animals has reopened a controversy between the Winnipeg Humane Society (WHS) and the city's no-kill animal shelters.

After four letters of objection and several attempts to contact the WHS, Maureen McCurry was denied the return of her three dogs. Until recently, the status of her 12 cats remained undisclosed. The WHS also refused McCurry's request that the animals be transferred to either Quagga Stray Cat Rescue or D'Arcy's Animal Rescue Centre (A.R.C.), both no-kill shelters.

"We had a well-grounded fear that if we were to transfer the cats to any other facility they would be going right back to Maureen," said



Cat fight: D'Arcy's A.R.C. founder D'Arcy Johnston doesn't think WHS executive director Bill McDonald is in a position to comment on the condition of animals at his no-kill shelter.

Bill McDonald, WHS executive director.

After the province seized McCurry's animals, they became the property of WHS. Of the three dogs, two were adopted, while the other awaits dental surgery. Of the 12 cats, four were euthanized due to dental diseases, two were adopted and six are being fostered out, said McDonald.

Tension between D'Arcy's A.R.C. and the WHS became public recently after McDonald published an editorial in the WHS's fall

newsletter claiming no-kill shelters "warehouse" animals, whereas the WHS can give better care due to its euthanasia policy.

"It was something that shouldn't have been written by someone in [McDonald's] position," said D'Arcy Johnston, founder and president of D'Arcy's A.R.C. "People should realize that the normal staff [of WHS] are there to take care of animals ... Executive staff don't work with the animals and they put through the kill policy ... It's a numbers game for them."

Taking climate change to the streets

Rally in Winnipeg will be one of over 200 across Canada

ANNE THOMAS
VOLUNTEER STAFF

On Saturday, Oct. 24, Winnipeggers will join fellow Canadians in one of over 200 events across the country to ask Stephen Harper to take action on climate change.

The gatherings are part of a Global Day of Action on Climate Change, timed to give world leaders a wake-up call before the United Nations' final round of climate negotiations in Copenhagen, Denmark this December.

A strong call for action from Canadian citizens could be important in giving the negotiations an opportunity to succeed, since the Canadian government has worked to weaken past agreements.



"Canada's position and record on climate change have become a global embarrassment," said Josh Brandon, spokesperson for Resource Conservation Manitoba. "Not only have we had among the fastest growing emissions in the world, our prime minister contin-

ues to promote so-called 'intensity based reductions.' This is simply Harper-speak for the idea that oil companies can continue to pollute as much as they like, so long as we don't impede their economic growth."

What we need, Brandon said, are "real, substantial cuts in greenhouse gases to get us below 350 parts per million." He said Manitoba in particular is at the front lines of climate change, with expected increased variability of precipitation (meaning more floods and droughts) and warming rates up to double the global average.

Organizers of the Oct. 24 rally outside the Manitoba Legislature have lined up a variety of speakers, as well as live music and an audio link to another Day of Action event, the Fill the Hill gathering in Ottawa. Winnipeg participants will walk from the Legislature to the Canadian Human Rights Museum site at the Forks, where they will pose for their photo shot.

Their picture will join others

from thousands of events in 158 countries, to be displayed to global media from the giant screens in New York City's Times Square, then hand-delivered to diplomats and delegates at the UN Headquarters. The show is coordinated by 350.org, an organization founded last year to raise awareness about the latest climate-change research, which indicates that the probable threshold of atmospheric CO₂ to prevent runaway global warming is 350 parts per million.

Recent Red River Community College graduate Chelsea Grove, instigator of Winnipeg's rally, said a climate workshop at the Global Youth Assembly in Edmonton inspired her to take action. But her deeper motivation is knowing "the choices I make will ultimately affect my child."

The message she wants to share is simple:

"We need to act now so that our children and the generations to come after us don't have to suffer because of the choices we make."

Campus News

UWSA pushes province for more funding

Asks for 10 per cent increase, dedicated funding for faculty

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

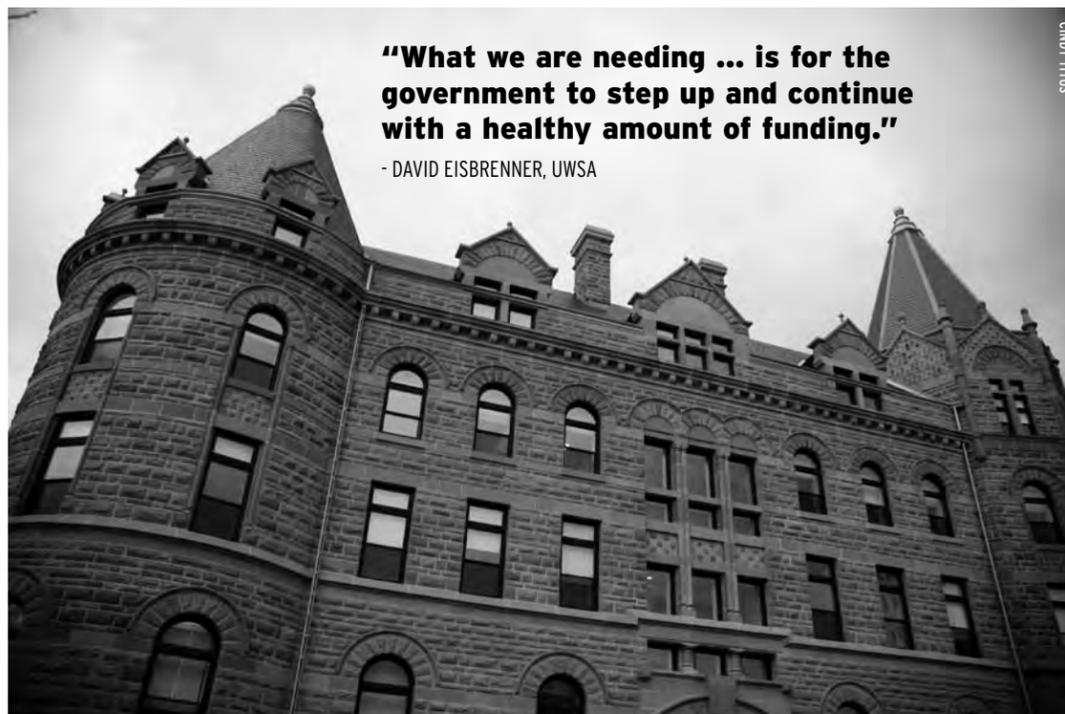
In a recent consultation with the Council on Post-Secondary Education (COPSE) to determine next year's funding for the university, University of Winnipeg Students' Association vice-president advocate David EisBrenner voiced funding concerns on behalf of University of Winnipeg students. In the proposal, EisBrenner advocated for dedicated and increased funding for the U of W.

The most immediate funding concern EisBrenner raised was for the salaries and benefits of faculty and staff. He asked the government to dedicate funds specifically for faculty and staff so concessions don't have to be made in the future.

"The thing that has really helped the U of W stand apart is the quality of the professors and the staff," he said. "I think if we lose that we are going to lose a very important part of the U of W."

Mike Emslie, controller and executive director of financial services for the U of W, agreed with EisBrenner.

"It is absolutely necessary that



"What we are needing ... is for the government to step up and continue with a healthy amount of funding."

- DAVID EISBRENNER, UWSA

COPSE, a provincial agency responsible for the allocation of government funds to Manitoba's post-secondary institutions, hears annual requests for funding from institutions like the University of Winnipeg.

we pay our staff competitively so that we attract and attain the best, and our ability to do so is really a function of our revenue sources," Emslie said, adding that the largest revenue source is the provincial government grant.

COPSE, a provincial agency responsible for the allocation of government funds to Manitoba's post-secondary institutions, hears

annual requests for funding from each institution. COPSE then puts forth a proposal to the provincial government, which decides the amount of funds allotted for the year.

EisBrenner also asked for dedicated funding for operational costs of new buildings. He proposed creating a sustainability requirement that would require institutions to

show the government detailed plans for covering operating costs before development grants are approved.

EisBrenner said this would ensure the new developments would have a line of funding in place to draw from when completed.

Dan Smith, manager of policy development and analysis for COPSE, said that while EisBrenner's proposal for securing

funds makes sense, it isn't likely to happen.

"Typically governments don't like to commit themselves beyond the next fiscal year," he said.

EisBrenner also requested a more secure form of multi-year funding. He said since the university's revenue depends on tuition fees linked to enrolment, a 10 per cent increase in yearly funding from the government is crucial.

"We can't base our funding formula on numbers that fluctuate year to year," he said, adding that enrolment is expected to decrease in the coming years. "What we are needing ... is for the government to step up and continue with a healthy amount of funding."

Smith said since 1999 the provincial government has increased funding for the U of W by 80.1 per cent.

"We have given them more money, so there is an aspect of management here," he said.

But Emslie said compared to other provinces, Manitoba is below average in terms of provincial grants for post-secondary education.

Though the budget process is still underway, Smith said the funding requests of all the institutions cannot be fully met.

"There are forever more demands in the system than there are resources," he said. "And that is just the nature of the beast."

Scientifically speaking

Science program allows students to interact with young learners

SAMUEL SWANSON
BEAT REPORTER

University of Winnipeg students are the youngest in Canada to be talking science with children in the community – not only teaching them science, but allowing them to get some hands-on experience with science experiments.

Let's Talk Science (LTS) aims to get children involved in science at a young age. The University of Winnipeg is unique in that its LTS team of student co-ordinators and volunteers is comprised entirely of undergraduate students, providing experience in teaching and applying science earlier than other post-secondary students.

"It prepares students with presentation skills and the ability to simplify what they learn for a younger demographic," said Brent Gali, student co-coordinator of U of W's LTS program. "Some universities don't even let undergrads



LTS volunteer Christian Nathan talking science with student from Dufferin Elementary School.

volunteer."

The LTS program has 110 volunteers this year. Incentives to participate in LTS include reference letters from the faculty co-ordinators as well as active participation in community learning – and of course,

the warm feeling of positively impacting at-risk youth.

"You see the direct positive outcome from working with inner-city children in their desire to learn science," said Kristin Kantautas, student co-coordinator of LTS.

"You see the direct positive outcome from working with inner-city children in their desire to learn science."

- KRISTEN KANTAUTAS, STUDENT CO-COORDINATOR OF LTS

"We focus on inner-city youth. Since we're in the heart of the city, we can do the majority of the activities within the school," said Gali.

Christian Nathan is a volunteer with the LTS program who first got to directly interact with the kids throughout the summer.

"The most popular [program] is forensic science," Nathan said. "[The kids] get to see a chemical reaction and do an experiment. They get to feel a bit independent."

LTS strives beyond presentations and experiments for children. It also provides a drop-in tutoring program in partnership with the Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak Learning Centre, where inner-city youth can get help with their science and math homework.

"There's a real need for LTS programs like homework club," said Kantautas.

"There are some kids who have come every day since we introduced it a few weeks ago," said Gali.

The co-ordinators of LTS partner with educators in the community, ranging from community learning centers, such as Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak, to public schools.

"The public school partnerships allow us to run programs for all levels from [Kindergarten] to [Grade] 12."

The range from early to later years has given LTS volunteers the experience of teaching a broad and diverse curriculum, along with the satisfaction of community outreach.

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Check out *The Uniter's* staff blogs at www.uniter.ca/blogs

Recent posts include:

"Manitoba's new premier" by Andrew Tod

"An institution is not a home" by Andrew McMonagle

"I am copy. I am style" by Chris Campbell

"Wanted: Chief elections commissioner" by Courtney Schwegel

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY LISTINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre presents a workshop for women who are experiencing legal issues. **WOMEN AND THE LAW** takes place on Monday, Oct. 26 at 12:30 p.m. at 104-3100 Pembina Hwy.

Professor Henry Rempel speaks at the Millenium Library about the tsunami in Southeast India. 12:10 p.m.

Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library **USED BOOK SALE** takes place at Grant Park High School on Saturday, Oct. 24 and Sunday, Oct. 25.

There is a free wheel-building workshop on the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 28 at the Bike Dump.

You are invited to Mount Carmel Clinic's 83rd annual general meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 4 p.m.

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

The Manitoba Crafts Museum is holding a fundraising dinner and auction Monday, Oct. 26 at McNally Robinson Polo Park. 6 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 until 1:30 p.m. at Elim Chapel, 546 Portage Ave. For more information call Val & Veda Chacko 257-1670.

ON CAMPUS

Students who are on wait lists for winter term courses should regularly check their e-mail in order to claim their seat. After three days your seat will be offered to the next student in line.

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 at n.stokes@uwinnipeg.ca.

The **UWSA SAFEWALK PROGRAM** is looking for volunteers to walk students, faculty and staff to their cars, bus stops or residences within a reasonable distance. Each four-hour shift will receive an \$18 honorarium.

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 Community Education Development Association is looking for volunteer tutors for their **YOUTH OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS** in St. John's High School and Children of the Earth High School. For more information please contact Ashley at 589-4374 ext. 257 or ashley@cedawpg.org.

UNICEF Canada is asking Manitobans to give generously in support of disaster relief in the Asia-Pacific region. You can stop by Polo Park or Kildonan Place shopping centres, go to www.unicef.ca or call 1-877-955-3111 to donate.

Help inner-city school children through **CHOICES YOUTH PROGRAM**. Just call Kasia Buchman at 470-5651.

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.

WESMEN PLAYER PROFILE

Hooked on a feeling

Wesmen basketball captain loves beating the Bisons and dreams of playing pro in Finland

SARAH REILLY
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Wesmen women's basketball co-captain Jessica Stromberg is in her fifth year with the program. In her first four years, Stromberg has been to the Prairies Finals four times and the CanWest finals twice. In her final year, she hopes to make it to the National Championships.

Unfortunately, a lower-back injury has kept Stromberg out of play and practice for almost a month.

"It's hard to sit out, especially in my last year, but I want to be healthy when we start the season," she said.

The Wesmen will have their fifth-year starter back this weekend (Oct. 23-25) when they take on the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Manitoba and the University of Toronto in a tournament at the U of M.

Stromberg has many great memories from her years with the Wesmen. She remembers an intense game last season when the Wesmen came from behind to beat the Regina Cougars in a regular season game.

"I took my first technical foul in that game, but it was worth it because it was a turning point for us and we came from behind to win."

She also remembers ending the Bisons' season every year of her career.

"The feeling when your team ends the Bisons' season is amazing ... It never changes."

Stromberg's favourite Wesmen memory,



Jessica Stromberg is in her fifth year with the Wesmen.

however, is not directly related to basketball.

"Last December we went to England and it was incredible."

The Wesmen played against the semi-pro team, the Nottingham Wildcats. While in England, they also did a lot of sight-seeing and visited historic Stonehenge, Oxford University, the Nottingham Caves, Wallington Castle, Windsor Castle and the city of London.

"The whole trip was great. We squeezed a lot into one week, but it was amazing," she said.

Stromberg has enjoyed her entire university basketball experience so much that she is considering playing on a professional team abroad after she concludes her Wesmen career next spring.

"My family is from Finland and I would love to be able to keep playing basketball while travelling around Finland."

THE UWSA ANNUAL HALLOWEEN SOCIAL!!!

Date: October 30, 2009 **Venue:** The University of Winnipeg, Bulman Center Basement. **Time:** 9:00PM - 1:00AM
Tickets are \$5.00 and are available at the **U of W Info Booth**.
No Dress Code, But prizes will be awarded for best costume.
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A collaboration of UWSA & University of Winnipeg Housing.

Challenging but rewarding

Many options for extracurricular involvement on campus

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

From the Soleflow Dance Club to Youth for Christ, University of Winnipeg students have a diverse selection of student groups. And with new groups being created each year, students can easily find their niche.

University of Winnipeg Students' Association vice-president student services Kelly Ross said there are about 40 registered and a number of other unregistered student groups. She said the number of groups has remained stable over the past few years, but applications for new groups continue to come in weekly.

Three new student groups have been created this year, including Animal Enrichment Club, Positive Space Campaign and Students of Science Association (SOSA).

Brent Gali, science director for the UWSA and an avid member of several student groups, spearheaded the creation of SOSA. He said the process of starting a student group is rewarding but challenging.

In addition to mass e-mailing, countless meetings with administration and networking with other student groups, Gali said he found it difficult to gain student interest.

"I have to persuade them to think twice about it," he said, adding that for many students academic demands take precedence



Students of Science founder Brent Gali said grabbing student interest is one of the biggest challenges of running a student group.

over extracurricular involvement.

Contacting other student groups can also be difficult. Gali e-mailed various groups and only received a handful of replies – much of the contact information on the UWSA website is outdated. Ross said that the new info will be posted on the website once it is up and running.

Carly Slosower, a fourth-year student and member of World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and the Jewish Students' Association, said that in her experience continuity is a major issue student groups face.

"The problem is we have such high turnover," she said, adding that the majority of students involved in WUSC are graduating this year.

Ross agreed, explaining "a co-ordinator will graduate and won't pass along the information to the next co-ordinator or things get lost in the shuffle."

Despite the challenges student groups may encounter, Slosower said that the benefits of being involved outweigh the costs.

"Grad schools, professional schools and employers look for people who are well-rounded," she said.

Ross agreed that student groups have their perks.

"It is a great way for students to meet each other and work on projects that their formal education at the university can't necessarily give them," she said.

Searching for a room of one's own

University of Winnipeg faces office space crunch

PATRICIA BENHAM AND ASHLEY BULEZIUK
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Meeting with professors on campus can be a challenging task. Faculty and students have busy schedules and office hours can be random and inconvenient. But some students and professors have another impediment when it comes to meeting outside the classroom – they have nowhere to meet.

Tenured professors tend to have their own offices but are also less likely to have the time for students because of research grants and side projects. Contractual instructors have more time, but often get crammed into office spaces shared with up to 30 or 40 others.

"The office space crunch is really just a problem for contract instructors," said Gord Beveridge, English professor.

Almost 70 per cent of first-year English classes are taught by them, he said. Being a contracted employee himself, Beveridge shares a space with four others in one of the highest offices on campus.

"When someone comes to my office, first I have to let them catch their breath," he said.

In a lot of cases, this sort of inconvenience



Ivory tower? Not so much. Contract professors are often stuffed into tiny offices shared by many others.

deters students from seeking the extra help they need.

Contractual offices also tend to be ill-maintained and uncomfortable, leading some professors to meet with their students elsewhere, even when the space is available. Student-professor conferences are often held elsewhere on campus, but the noisy atmosphere and lack of privacy are distracting and certainly not the ideal solution.

Not all instructors at the U of W are feeling the office space crunch. Geography professor Salah Hathout has taught at the University of Winnipeg for 33 years and has never entered an office belonging to more than one person.

"Sometimes there are not enough classrooms, but office space is really good. Maybe other departments have other experiences," he said.

Chemistry professor Chris Wiebe is new to the University and has a prime office space location on the first floor of Lockhart Hall, though it's not very big and often boasts loud, mysterious noises unexpectedly.

"I have a really big office compared to some other people, so I'm pretty happy with it," he said.

With the University of Winnipeg's expansion downtown, the question of whether or not this will free up more office space is raised. With University policy moving towards hiring more and more contractual professors, this could become an even bigger issue.

Beveridge thinks the university will continue to get by just fine with the space it has.

"Contract instructors are very resourceful and capable people," he said.

Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Karlene Ooto-Stubbs

TRICK OR TREAT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Join the Winnipeg chapter of Meal Exchange in going door-to-door to raise food for local food banks this Halloween. The group dresses up, goes trick-or-treating and donates everything to food programs around the city.

The event, called "Trick or Eat," has raised over \$1 million in food donations over four years. This year's goal is \$400,000.

"Last year the places we donated to were very grateful because it helped them through the donation lag that happens between Thanksgiving and Christmas," said co-ordinator Karen McDonald.

Meal Exchange is a student-funded national charity and has been around since 1993.

To participate contact Kim at itsyourtime@mealexchange.com.

ECOPIA, MENNONITE HISTORIAN HONOURED WITH FALL AWARDS

The University of Winnipeg announced its fall award recipients Oct. 14. The awards recognize exceptional service, achievement and distinction. Winners include Richard Graydon, Royden Loewen, Kenneth Meadwell, Mark Ruml, the university library and Ecological People in Action (EcoPIA). Graydon is a U of W graduate who has spent years as principal of various Winnipeg schools. Loewen is a distinguished professor of history and chair of Mennonite Studies. Meadwell has served in the Faculty of Arts since 1983. Ruml has devoted himself to aboriginal religious traditions. The library and EcoPIA are being recognized for helping reduce the university's environmental impact.

The awards will be presented at fall convocation. The presentations will be webcast at <http://www.uwinnipeg.tv>.

U OF M-LED RESEARCH TEAM AWARDED FUNDING TO STUDY H1N1

The Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) awarded \$300,000 to University of Manitoba professor Satyendra Sharma and his team to study the mechanism of infection and the immune response of patients who experience severe respiratory illness due to H1N1. Sharma is head of respirology in the university's department of internal medicine, the Health Sciences Centre and St. Boniface General Hospital.

"The research team led by Dr. Sharma and his colleagues nationally, is taking a unique approach to finding answers to the factors associated with Severe Respiratory Illnesses in at-risk populations," said Digvir Jayas, Vice-President (Research) at the University of Manitoba, in a release. "This collaborative approach will give answers that can be used to reduce the severity of current and future pandemics."

CAMPUS SECURITY VAN GOES GREEN

An OttoView device has been installed in the campus security van by the Centre for Sustainable Transportation (CST) at the University of Winnipeg. The device measures the van's use, fuel costs and emissions output. The van is used mainly for moving people to and from campus housing, SafeWalk functions and for University errands.

"This is the first stage in a project to electrify the UW campus fleet vehicles," said CST research director Terry Zdan in a release. "The CST will analyze the geographical information and vehicle diagnostics to identify a range of more sustainable options for future vehicles."

In preparation for these future vehicles, the CST has outlined rules and guidelines for electric vehicle charging stations for the future Richardson College for the Environment. The data collected by the device will help provide information for the U of W's sustainability plan.



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Letters

Re: "Better than composting?"

I would like to respond to the article "Better than composting?" published in the Sept. 24 issue of *The Uniter* (page 4), for which I was interviewed. As the project co-ordinator for Resource Conservation Manitoba's Compost Action Project, I am familiar with many different methods of composting, although I have not had any experience with the Bokashi method and I don't know anyone who has.

The article alludes to the fact that Bokashi is not composting, but according to the Merriam-Webster dictionary compost is defined as "a mixture that consists largely of decayed organic matter and is used for fertilizing and conditioning land." Waste is being decayed in the Bokashi airtight container and the product would be used as a fertilizer, therefore, I would consider this a type of composting.

Choosing the most suitable method of composting depends on different factors such as the amount of waste you produce, how much space you have and if you have a yard. The Bokashi method could be ideal for some people but might not be the solution for everyone.

We felt that the article indicated that composting was not an ideal environmental practice and we think that this is incorrect. Composting has numerous benefits for the environment, for your pocket book and for your garden. Therefore, I would certainly say that composting is an ideal waste reduction practice.

You can reduce your carbon footprint by composting since you are diverting organics from going in the landfill. Due to the lack of oxygen exposed to the decaying material, organics in the landfill release methane, a greenhouse gas 21 times more powerful than carbon dioxide.

Landfills always produce methane and can have a methane collection systems are in place, as proposed at the Brady Landfill, but these systems never capture 100 per cent of the methane. In a backyard bin, carbon dioxide is released instead of methane, as this is an aerobic process. So the more waste you divert from the landfill, the better!

In your article, you state that large-scale composting can produce methane. This is true but not in all cases. Many large-scale composting systems require oxygen input, thereby avoiding methane production. If a system that is meant to be aerobic, such as windrow composting, and is anaerobic due to lack of oxygen, it's just not proper composting.

To get more information on

composting, please visit www.resourceconservation.mb.ca or call 925-3777.

Sylvie Hébert
Compost Project Co-ordinator
Resource Conservation Manitoba

Re: "Eating on campus at the University of Winnipeg"

The article, "Eating on campus at the University of Winnipeg" from the Oct. 15 issue of *The Uniter* (page 15) proved that the author or self-appointed cafeteria food critic wouldn't know good food if it ended up on his plate.

I too sampled some of what Diversity Food Services had to offer last week. I dined on three soft corn tortillas, with smoky pulled pork, fresh tomato, cilantro, house-made hot sauce, cheddar cheese and crisp lettuce, and found it to be fresh, tasty, affordable and healthy; all of which are difficult to achieve when cooking for masses of people throughout the day.

The author also thumbed his nose at Diversity Food Services as another of the U of W's "green causes." Little to no research into the realities of institutional procurement of local, organic and fair trade foods was evident in the author's criticism of Diversity Food Service. While Chartwells would have had one or two food conglomerates that it would buy from, Diversity will be procuring their local food from dozens of local producers and processors, sourcing certain products at certain times of year as they come into season.

Only a small handful of restaurants and cafes in Winnipeg have undertaken this immense task, as our food system is severely lacking producer/chef networks. Undertaking local procurement as well as providing fair trade and organic options when available for two cafeterias and a cafe which serve a student body of over 9,000 is gutsy and shows commitment.

Diversity is both a leader and an innovator in institutional food services. Their procurement and employment models may serve as a blueprint for other institutions within Manitoba and should not simply be brushed off as another "feel good cause."

While the author of the article may have been offended that his elk meat was not seared prior to it being stewed, I for one am thankful that our cafeteria now boasts a chef who knows what Manitoban farmers are producing and is able to cook tasty and affordable meals with it.

I believe that while the author was dissecting his cafeteria dinner for signs of proper meat searing, he may have missed the point.

Kristina McMillan

Re: "Letter to the Editor"

In response to the letter to the editor in the Oct. 15 edition of *The Uniter* (page 8), I would like to applaud your publication for providing an alternative to mainstream press in our community. While I do agree the sports coverage is often a little thin, I expect *The Uniter* will pick things up once the Wesmen basketball and volleyball regular seasons begin. I personally have no difficulty getting ample NFL coverage from every other media outlet in my life. I also cannot turn on the radio without hearing some reference to the previous night's NHL scores. Reporting on the university's own sports teams should be the priority of *The Uniter*.

This leads me to the music section. As a local musician, I cannot begin to express my gratitude to *The Uniter*, a fairly well-read weekly publication, for covering local artists and bands. Everybody wins when local musicians are put in the spotlight: The artists get the coverage they would otherwise unlikely receive, and readers can discover new music.

If people such as the writer of the letter want to read about bands everybody knows, I suggest picking up a copy of *Rolling Stone* or *Spin*. For someone who extols the virtues of being objective, the writer of the letter is quite prejudiced in her beliefs about the talents of bands she self-admittedly has never heard.

In conclusion, I say "Keep it up, *Uniter*!" I look forward to every Thursday to see which local, downtown issues and great new artists are featured. To the writer of the letter, I say go check out some of these "talentless" bands. You might just find your new favourite sound.

Chris Muirhead

Re: The Oct. 15, 2009 issue of *The Uniter*

My imaginary friend Admiral Frazzlepants and I read your latest issue and I can say, without a doubt, that it was just as terrible as always.

If the issues listed below are not addressed immediately, you will force me to not only boycott your publication, but also every other piece of print media in existence. Do you want to be responsible for

bankrupting the entire newspaper and magazine industry? I have a very sizable hamster farm and use a LOT of paper.

You guys are sooooooo biased. There was an entire article about how terrible Vinay Iyer was at being a member of the UWSA board of directors, but you fail to mention even one of the literally hundreds of terrible board members that the UWSA has had in the past and will have in the future.

The way political commentary is supposed to work is that you present two sides to every argument, even if no rational person would hold such opinions and no one who chooses to write for your paper feels that way about an issue. This way we get a false sense of balance and can call the middle ground (some war, some environmental destruction, etc.) the moderate position.

Just because you call yourselves the "University of Winnipeg's Weekly Urban Journal," and are mandated to serve the interests of the student body at U of W and the local downtown community, doesn't mean you shouldn't have reporters stationed in every town, village and hamlet from here to Churchill. Stuff happens other places too, you know. Like bake sales and antique car parades. That's what students really want to read about.

I am deeply offended by the amount of ink wasted on articles about "the arts." Do you know who practices "the arts"? Satanists, that's who. So I wouldn't expect anything less from the coven of blaspheming buggers that your piddling little rag harbours.

Art leads to questioning and questions lead to slow dancing. Do you want to be responsible for corrupting an entire generation of innocent university students? Obviously, you do.

The local music scene does not require your support. Maybe they wouldn't be struggling musicians if they spent a little less money on getting "trippy" with "giggle weed" and invested in Auto-Tune software.

Nobody wants to hear what real instruments and the raw human voice sounds like any more. Give me artifice or give me death.

Sports are the most important thing in the whole world. That goes double for the Olympics. Who cares if a few wildlife preserves have to get destroyed and thousands of impoverished Vancouverites have to get displaced from their already substandard dwellings? And who cares if every other Canadian newspaper and magazine already covers the Olympics ad nauseum?

Olympic news has to be everywhere I look because if it isn't then I lose that patriotic feeling that helps me forget my own sad, pathetic and inconsequential existence.

I expect much more professionalism from amateur volunteer writers.

A danger to myself and others,

Rob McGregor

P.S. J. Williamez is hilarious. We should be together.



GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Send your hate mail, love mail, and just-want-to-be-friends mail to editor@uniter.ca

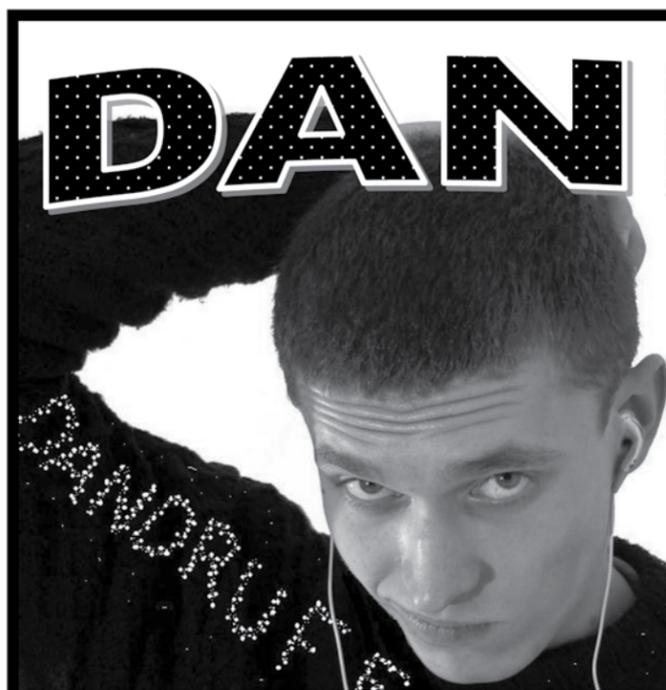
CORRECTIONS:

In the Oct. 8 issue of *The Uniter*, the skateboarder pictured at the bottom of page 15 is Richard Bolton. Incorrect information appeared in that issue.

In the Oct. 15 issue of *The Uniter*, the Streeper ("Do you think the Doer government has been open and transparent since taking office?" page 2) included the wrong name for Jason Robillard. Also in that issue, the Young Galaxy profile "Far, far away from a label" (page 13) should have been attributed to the writers Kevan Hannah and Courtney Brecht.

We regret the errors.

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Comments

When revenge trumps justice

Case of Lockerbie bomber has similarities to Peltier case



BRIAN RICE
VOLUNTEER

The outcry over the recent release of Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi, convicted Lockerbie bomber, made me wonder whether it really mattered if the man was guilty or innocent of the crime. The fact that there was scant evidence used to convict him, including the use of an informant who was paid \$2 million by the American government to testify against him, makes it appear more important that the authorities had someone to convict in order to appease the public.

It reminded me of a situation that occurred in the United States that involved a Native American man named Leonard Peltier and the U.S. judicial system. At the time, Peltier's conviction for the murder of two FBI agents was used to set an example to the American Indian Movement that if it continued to protest against abuses of Native Americans by corrupt tribal leaders and anti-Indian racists, they would feel the full brunt of the American judicial system.

In 1975, on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, Leonard Peltier was involved in a standoff with the FBI, allied with a local paramilitary group who were supporters of a corrupt tribal leader. During the standoff, two FBI agents were killed along with one Native American.

Many now believe that Peltier was falsely accused of the killings of the two FBI agents. Despite this, after 32 years of being incarcerated for the crimes, Peltier recently went before the parole board on July 28 and was once again denied parole. Similar to the

evidence used against al-Megrahi, witnesses were either bought off or threatened by the American federal police force unless they testified against him.

After escaping to Alberta, Peltier was extradited back to the United States on the basis of the testimony of Myrtle Poor Bear, a woman with a learning disability who had never met him in person. It was revealed years later that she was threatened with having her hands cut off if she didn't agree to testify that she saw Peltier kill the agents. Warren Almond, Solicitor General of Canada at the time of the extradition, later said that had he known the evidence was falsified, he would never have had him extradited.

It was found out later that the FBI had also doctored evidence involving the ballistics of a weapon belonging to Peltier to ensure that there would be a conviction.

In 1980, Peltier received another trial and with this new evidence at hand, it appeared the verdict might be reversed. During the trial, the judge would not allow Peltier's defence team to submit the new evidence that might have resulted in his release.

In both cases, it now appears it didn't matter whether Peltier, a Native American, or al-Megrahi, a Muslim, were guilty or innocent of the crimes they were convicted of. The perception that they were guilty through show trials, regardless of the evidence, seemed to be satisfactory to the public.

Revenge seemed to be a greater motive than actual justice taking place.

Brian Rice is a professor of education at the University of Winnipeg.

Better get used to it

Like it or not, the Harper Conservatives are here to stay



ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

Amid all the false starts, the drama and the stalled policy that has characterized the last two parliamentary sessions, there is one thing that has remained reliable – the strength, strategically and politically, of Stephen Harper.

The Tories have been successful at demeaning the opposition while touting the virtues of their own economic and political agenda. Michael Ignatieff has been cast as a visitor, a "tourist," who sputters on about a slow response to the recession, while the Conservatives have invested \$34 million in advertisements to demonstrate that stimulus money is moving very quickly.

The ads seem to be working. Moreover, the opposition has failed to present any alternative to low taxes and deficit spending.

The Conservative government has racked up a \$50 billion deficit this year, but have pledged to eliminate federal red ink in four years without raising taxes. Ignatieff has declared that a Liberal government would neither raise taxes nor cut spending, yet still get the country out of deficit.

The Conservative environmental record is abysmal. And yet Ignatieff, intimidated by the slaying of his predecessor, has claimed support for the Alberta tar sands and put the Green Shift to rest.

Harper has framed the political debate and discussion in this country for the last year and his influence is far-reaching. Last fall, the word "coalition" was a synonym for bipartisan cooperation. The word now connotes an opportunistic overthrow of elected government.

Harper has managed to spin the



MELROY MORRISSETTE

coalition debacle in such a way that an untimely non-confidence vote is seen as a near coup.

This fall, Ignatieff declared the end of the Harper regime. The Conservatives, rather than allow for an election Canadians don't want, gave that responsibility to the opposition. Harper decried another election as wasteful and unnecessary. He was met with a surge in the polls and the temporary support of the NDP who, terrified of a fall campaign, granted support to the government after meager Tory concessions.

The Conservatives have proven to be a reactive rather than progressive force. Harper is wise enough to understand that a huge overhaul of the political system, towards social conservatism or constitutional reform, would cause his demise. He understands that prudence is key in a minority government.

It is evident in the prime minister's approach to everything from policy to scandal.

When first elected in 2006, the Harper government proposed a motion to hold Senate elections, and another to introduce Senate term limits. Much of this legislation was introduced in the upper

chamber where it continues to be delayed. Harper knew full well this would happen. Introducing reform in the red chamber was a legislative demonstration of the Senate's ineptitude.

As 2010 approaches, the Conservatives are now in position to have a majority in the Senate, followed presumably by meaningful reform.

When Brian Mulroney faced scrutiny into his business dealings with lobbyist Karlheinz Schriber, Harper saw that leniency would be more detrimental than harshness. He banned his caucus from speaking to Mulroney and put the former prime minister through an exhaustive judicial inquiry and days of interrogation by a partisan-fueled parliamentary committee. All this to avoid any connection between his government and past mistakes.

Harper presides over a high-casualty war in Afghanistan that can't be won. He has steadfastly stood by the 2011 withdrawal date recommended by Liberal John Manley. As a result, no one says much about Canada in Afghanistan.

The prime minister has run the largest deficit in Canadian history, has a poor environmental record and has faced scandal, parliamentary crisis and charges of hypocrisy. Despite this, he continues relatively unscathed.

Stephen Harper is here to stay.

Ethan Cabel is a beat reporter with The Uniter.

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Iggy's agenda

The Liberals still don't have one, so why not give human rights a try?



ANDREW TOD
COMMENTS EDITOR

Federal election talk has wound down recently. Thankfully.

After a raucous in August and September, Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff seems to have at least curbed his rhetorical vendetta against the Conservatives over a notably slight disagreement in employment insurance (EI) reform. Though it has been humorous to witness the joining together of the NDP and the Harper Conservatives – if only because it seems odd that the NDP should long for less EI provisions than the Liberals – the fact of the matter is that a federal election would be devastating for Canada's official opposition.

Bluntly, the Liberals are in no shape to wage a successful election battle. They are suffering through a long stretch of political irrelevancy. Though Ignatieff has had nearly a year to re-define his party, there has been an

underwhelming attempt on his part to relay to Canadians a reasonable alternative to the federal government.

The Liberals are lost in the political wilderness and Ignatieff is a fool if he still believes that the time to characterize and project his party's agenda is during an election. Stéphane Dion attempted that with brutal results.

With the despair that has been wrought amongst Canada's federal opposition during the Conservative reign, a premature election may inadvertently relinquish the power they now hold in minority Parliament. With polls, untrustworthy as they are, now showing a rise in the support of the Tories to that pathetically undemocratic 40 per cent of voters needed to gain a majority in Canadian government, there is a very real chance that voters may just afford the Conservatives full control of the levers of Parliament.

But even as Ignatieff waffles in illusion, there is a bill currently making its way through Parliament which could at least allow his party to begin to formulate a political identity. The bill known as C-300, introduced by Liberal MP John McKay, is a somewhat trail-blazing piece of proposed legislation.

Essentially, Bill C-300 is a preliminary attempt at reducing the appalling record of Canadian mining, gas and oil companies

that do business in the so-called "developing world." Legions of major Canadian resource extraction corporations have a long and documented history of environmental devastation and human rights violations in countries throughout Africa, South America and Southeast Asia.

For example, the extent of environmental damage and labour exploitation caused by Barrick Gold – Canada's largest publicly traded company – in its operations in Papua New Guinea was severe enough for Norway to blacklist the company from its global pension fund.

These Canadian companies' actions are similar to those employed by many other large corporations who operate within countries where labour and environmental standards are weak and unenforced. Pitiful wages, dangerous working conditions and disregard for the environment which rival or surpass tar sands-levels are standard practice since domestic Canadian regulations are unenforceable beyond our borders.

Bill C-300 seeks to change this, as it would empower both the minister of international trade and the minister of foreign affairs to hold accountable Canadian resource extraction companies which operate overseas in these regulatory vacuums. So far, the levels of

incursion into business practices entailed in the bill have been unsupported by Harper's government.

Many assumed Ignatieff, with his extensive academic commitment to furthering human rights, would have attempted to raise the sceptre of previous Liberal governments in articulating a human rights-based discourse at home and abroad. It is therefore surprising that the Liberals have done little under his tutelage in this regard.

If Ignatieff is willing to bring down another parliamentary session over one piece of legislation – EI reform – he might as well allow for its continuance over another. At least the passage of Bill C-300, now through its second reading, would allow the Liberals to grab hold of an agenda to articulate something that is wholly separate from the current government.

Because in order for there to exist a reasonable check on Conservative dominance in Parliament, a Liberal identity must begin to emerge from the woods.

Andrew Tod is a politics student at the University of Winnipeg.

Crucifying Lahey is a dead end

A response to the majority opinion



MATT AUSTMAN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Earlier this month yet another Catholic Church sex scandal made the headlines. This time it concerned Bishop Raymond Lahey.

Now, as many would expect, the crime has to do with the abuse of children. He stands accused of possessing and importing child pornography.

This man's actions have understandably shattered the realities of many parishioners and, therefore, Lahey should be subject to criticism for his deceit. But by no means should he face accusations that he is a fatal blow to the Catholic Church, although this is what many writers in the media would like you to believe.

Personally, I practiced the faith until the age of 17. I find that the church has many problems, but almost all can be traced to the core of the institution. So when headlines like, "Lahey scandal: huge blow to Church credibility," are popping up on major news outlets, perhaps a reality check is in order.

Let's address the major themes of the issue first to get a reality check.

We have another priest committing a sexual crime. We have the media calling him a monster and telling Catholics to be angry and disgusted. We have a 2000-year-old institution. We have the essence of Christianity: Forgiveness. And we have pop culture and Catholic priest sex jokes.

There are a few points to make out of all this. Although the man has disappointed and disgusted many, he is not cutting the Vatican's Achilles tendon of support. Lahey's transgressions will not dent the majority's perception of the church's reputation. As an ancient religious institution, it doesn't take a singular blow to fatally damage its reputation. It does, however, have to deal with the gradation of events and societal reactions that weather away at its image. This erosion has been eating away at the church's ability to gain new members for a long time, especially in the Western world.

Continuing on, let's consider the calls for



MANALE DYCK

justice and reality. There seems to be a lot of demand for justice for priests like Lahey; that somehow, by getting them the punishment they *deserve*, priests will realize they shouldn't be looking at naked boys anymore. But isn't that thirst for revenge the dead end Catholics keep hitting with the recurring issue of child sexual abuse in the priesthood?

One influential writer proclaimed that every "right-thinking" Catholic "should be furious at what's happened to the institution that guides and nourishes their faith." But isn't that a useless point to make? Isn't a "right-thinking" Catholic supposed to forgive and work to better what has been impaired?

Isn't a right-thinking Catholic supposed to look past the easiest reaction and commit to the ideal of peace to strengthen bridges?

I was always taught that it's easy to go to church every Sunday, but it's hard to stay on course when you have to use what you were taught. Catholics should use this incident as leverage to bring about socially progressive changes to the institution and to bring about alterations to policy that address the "why" of the problem. Why do priests look at child porn? Why do priests abuse little boys?

Reactionary measures will only end up being a call for Big Brother to make sure priests don't look at child porn.

Instead, the answer must be widespread progressive change to the dogmatic institutionalized rules of the Catholic Church. So let priests marry. Let women be priests. Let priests be allowed sexual expression. Let what is beautiful be accepted.

Matt Austman is a politics student at the University of Winnipeg.

Shooting for the moon

NASA lunar bombing ends in disappointment



ROB HOLT
VOLUNTEER STAFF

I still remember those early days of my youth, where on those crisp clear nights of the late summer I would lie on a blanket in the backyard and stare into the night sky. For hours I would lie there, looking up at all the stars, feeling small and insignificant and I would think to myself, "Gosh, I wish I was a billionaire. Then, I could build a rocket ship and launch it into outer space ... and I would blow a big-honkin'-ass hole in the southern ice cap of the moon."

Of course, it was a silly little boyhood dream. Nobody in their right mind would spend a billion bucks on a mission to blow up the moon.

But as it turns out, the cost actually turns out to be far less – the good people down at NASA only had to spend \$80 million to make my childhood dream come true the other week. That was the day an empty rocket hull (dubbed Centaur) collided at over 9,000 kilometres per hour with the South Pole of the moon. The impact had the estimated force of one-and-a-half tonnes of TNT and left a crater half the size of the Pan Am pool.

The scientific rationale for the mission was that by bombing the moon, the space agency might possibly discover evidence of water that, in theory, may lower the costs of establishing a permanent research facility there sometime down the road. Perhaps.

However, something (and that thing is called thought) tells me that this mission had more to do with public relations than

science.

NASA spends \$300 million per month on its lunar programs, and has done so since 2003. Back then, the Columbia space shuttle had just blown up, George Bush was president of the United States and your parents' stocks in General Motors were still worth something.

But this is 2009. Taxpayers want a little more bang for their 300 million bucks and it's getting harder every day for NASA officials to protect their collective wallet. So they came up with a plan to give the good people the show they've been waiting for.

Well, not exactly. As it happened, the moon bombing turned out to be more of a moon plopping, failing to send the anticipated massive six-mile-high plume of twisted steel and moon chunks spewing skyward. Centaur, for all intents and purposes, was a dud.

Fear not though, dear nerdlings, for all is not lost. While evidence of water couldn't be confirmed by observing the impact itself, NASA is now analyzing data relayed by the chase craft to determine whether or not we've struck blue gold. The chase craft, after relaying the data, also collided with the surface of the moon.

Regardless of whether or not the mission finds evidence of water, perhaps a more important discovery has been made. NASA has found a new place to dump Earth's constantly-growing amount of space junk left over from past missions. We could even turn the moon into our own personal planetary landfill!

Now that's the kind of idea that saves a space agency's budget.

Rob Holt is a first-year University of Winnipeg student.



MICHELLE MCKENNA

Have an opinion? Write for comments!

E-mail comments@uniter.ca to sign up.

MUSIC LISTINGS

Ghost Town Manitoba presents TORNGAT

Touring in support of their latest effort, *La Petite Nicole*, TORNGAT seems to set a different mood on every one of their instrumental compositions. Each of the three members play an array of different instruments that they will bring with them for their show on Friday, Oct. 23 at the Lo Pub. Local acts SO HOLY HEADCASE and MIKE PETKAU will open.

DD/MM/YYYY on 24/10/2009

Toronto's DD/MM/YYYY perform a jaunty live show where members skip between their instruments, adding cool vocals and fun beats to make their strange music seem familiar. Playing at Mondragon Bookstore and Coffeehouse as part of the A-Zone fundraiser, with local acts VAMPIRES, THE PEACHES and CANTOR DUST. Don't miss your chance to see one of Canada's coolest touring bands in an intimate setting. Show begins at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24.

THURSDAY, OCT. 22

The Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club plays host to KERI LATIMER and BOBBY STAHR.

GARNET ROGERS is performing at the West End Cultural Centre.

DISCOVENANT and SCARLET HALO play the Royal Albert.

THE WAXBILLS at Shannon's Irish Pub.

Join the packed-floor of the Lo Pub at GOODFORM, with DJs MIKE B and ROB VILAR.

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

Jam Night with ROUTE 59 at the Cavern.

ALEXANDER MCCOWAN, ALLISON DE GROOT and ROSALYN DENNETT play at the University of Manitoba's Degrees Diner.

JOEY LANDRETH BAND at the King's Head.

FRIDAY, OCT. 23

JOHN PRINE entertains at Pantages Playhouse.

GRADY, DOMENICA, LUCID and CLINT CRIGHTON at the Pyramid.

TORNGAT, SO HOLY HEADCASE and MIKE PETKAU at Lo Pub.

Winnipeg glam-rockers MAHOGANY FROG finish their tour with a stop at the Albert, with JICAH and THIS CITY DEFECTS.

DEL BARBER at the Folk Exchange.

WALKIE TALKIE and THE ENGLISH MOCCASINS play at the Cavern.

ROLLIN PENNER & THE TRAVELING MEDICINE SHOW at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

AMBER EPP, WILL BONNESS, KATHERINE PENFOLD, MIRA BLACK and HEATHER WITHERDEN at St. Norbert Arts Centre.

SOUL BERRY is at the Standard.

THE ORIGINAL PAINKILLER plays at Shannon's Irish Pub.

THE LIPTONIANS and JOHN BLACKWOOD AND THE HOUSEWIVES perform at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

DJ TEGC at Room 720.

SATURDAY, OCT. 24

Winnipeg rock darlings INWARD EYE flail around on stage at the Burton Cummings Theatre.

DAN FRECHETTE releases and performs a live solo album at Times Change(d).

DD/MM/YYYY plays alongside VAMPIRES, THE PEACHES and CANTOR DUST at Mondragon.

BIG JOHN BATES AND THE VOODOO DOLLS at the Pyramid.

All-girl group the BUSHTITS, named after the bird, play at the Standard.

HIGH FIVE DRIVE and TALK CITY at the Royal Albert Arms.

BLIND MULE at Shannon's Irish Pub.

B.A. JOHNSTON plays the Lo Pub with SHOTGUN JIMMIE.

POLYGON WILD at the Academy.

SASSY BUT CLASSY BURLESQUE steams up the Cavern.

ALANA LEVANDOSKI at the West End Cultural Centre.

BOB WATTS at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

THE HONKY-TONK DOUGHBOYS and STEW CLAYTON perform at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

SUNDAY, OCT. 25

BAD COUNTRY play real good-like at the Standard.

BIG DAVE MCCLEAN's blues jam at the Times Change(d).

3 INCHES OF BLOOD, SAVIOURS and SEVENTH SIN shred at the Royal Albert Arms.

ALL THE KING'S MEN at the King's Head.

MONDAY, OCT. 26

JAMES BROWN spins ancient wax at the Cavern.

QUERKUS at Shannon's Irish Pub.

Open mike with MELISSA PLETT at Le Garage Café.

TUESDAY, OCT. 27

HARRY MANX at the West End Cultural Centre.

SCOTT YOO conducts the MANITOBA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA at Westminster United Church at 7:30 p.m.

DEFLATED EGO'S at Shannon's Irish Pub.

RUMBLEFISH at the Academy.

Soul night with THE SOLUTIONS at the Cavern.

THE NEW CITIES play synth-punk at the Burton Cummings Theatre with MARIANAS TRENCH.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28

METRIC at the Burton Cummings Theatre.

PRAGUE, CREEPER and VELODROME at the Albert.

KATY MURPHY and DAN MANGAN at the Lo Pub.

J. WILLIAMEZ at Shannon's Irish Pub.

ANDREW NEVILLE AND THE POOR CHOICES do their weekly thing at the Standard.

COLIN LINDEN and the DOWNCHILD BLUES BAND at Club Regent.

JASON MCCOY at McPhillips Street Station.

THURSDAY, OCT. 29

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS at the Pyramid.

Texas swing combo ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL are at the McPhillips Street Station.

THE NEW GYPSY SWING BAND take you "from Transylvania to New Orleans" at the Millennium Library at 12 p.m.

Shake your tush at GOODFORM with MIKE B and ROB VILAR at Lo Pub.

READY MIX with DJ's DAN L and DIAL UP at Ozzy's.

Jam Night with ROUTE 59 at the Cavern.

QUERKUS perform at the Standard.

UPCOMING SHOWS

MUM, Oct. 30 at the Pyramid.

NOMEANSNO, Oct. 31 at the Royal Albert.

GWAR, Dec. 5 at the Garrick.

ELEMENT SIRCUS, Dec. 21 at the Pyramid.

STEVE EARLE, Jan. 29 at the Burton Cummings Theatre.

CD REVIEWS

DR. RAGE & THE UPPERCUTS

Sexus Diablo

Absurd Machine Records

★★★★☆

He's the one they call Dr. Rage, he's the one that makes you feel all right: Since getting his MD in 2005, Rage and his Uppercuts have made a name for themselves playing a riff-based mix of rock, blues and funk that sounds like it's straight outta the '60s and '70s. On *Sexus Diablo*, the follow-up to their debut *Hittin' Wood and Diamond Hard*, the quintet perfects that sound. Standout track? Album opener *Ego*, a funkastic rocker that has Rage trying to win a girl over with the line, "I don't want to be your son of a bitch tonight." This band doesn't get points for musical originality, but if you're looking for good music played with attitude and a good time, a trip to the West End Cultural Centre on Friday, Oct. 23 to attend this band's CD release party is just what the doctor ordered.

- Aaron Epp



LOCAL

Listen to the song *Ego* by Dr. Rage and the Uppercuts at www.uniter.ca

THE MISSION LIGHT

Hearts for City Limits

Socan

★★★★☆

The Mission Light's debut, *Hearts for City Limits*, boasts a fascinating blend of folk and pop elements. The album's 10 acoustic-driven songs are propelled to great heights by the soul-stirring vocals of Guy Abraham, and are further enhanced by the lush organ, piano and violin interplay throughout. They range in mood from quiet and introspective to intense and emotional, often in the same song. The musicianship is excellent, with the above-mentioned piano-violin interplay reaching its zenith on *Breakdown in the Afterglow*, where Abraham asks of the listener: "Here we are / Are we living?" Fans of Coldplay will enjoy the epic soundscapes found within *HFCL*. With its themes of hope and the search for truth, The Mission Light's *Hearts for City Limits* is bound to find a home in the hearts of a vast array of listeners.

- Phil Enns



LOCAL

Listen to the song *Idle Times* by The Mission Light at www.uniter.ca

TODOR KOBAKOV

Pop Music

88 Calibre

★★★★☆

The style of music on Kobakov's first solo classical-piano album is not what one would expect from the disc's title, *Pop Music*. Each tune on the 11-track album was inspired by some aspect of Kobakov's life and brings a level of intensity and emotion that is missing from the majority of modern classical music. While each track perfectly flows into the next, Kobakov is able to separate the emotions on each track and give the listener a new experience throughout the entire disc. The track *Tokyo at Night* encompasses feelings of chaos and helplessness, while *Isolated Incident* is a calming melody that would be best listened to while looking out a window on a rainy day. If you want to experience a new kind of music, make sure to pick up a copy.

- Lorelei Leona

**PARLOUR STEPS**

The Hidden Names

Nine Mile Records

★★★★☆

Spawned somewhere along the West Coast comes Parlour Steps' newest release, a call-to-arms for our technology-saturated culture. "Where we go, where we go, cellphones are not needed / Where we go, where we go, our money's not needed," frontman Caleb Stull sings in but one instance of yearning for a world with fewer distractions. Despite Stull's apparent belief that society at large has become replete with vacuous media coverage and pills, *The Hidden Names* does not come across as preachy or contemptuous. In fact, if anything it sounds hopeful. All 13 tracks are beautifully constructed and carried out with equally flawless harmonization, with Julie Bavalis and new-addition Alison Maira's back-up vocals complementing Stull's already pleasant voice. With so much meaning absent in our lives, it's nice to hear a contemporary group that puts thought in their pop.

- Janelle Campbell

**THE DUSTIN BENTALL OUTFIT**

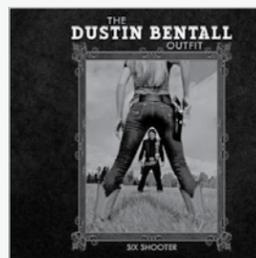
Six Shooter

Impala Records

★★★★☆

For those of us who aren't quite ready to let go of summer yet, *Six Shooter* sufficiently captures the essence of lazy, hot days in a desert town and compresses it into a convenient 45-minute format. There's definite talent in guitar player Adam Dobres' often intricate riffs that echo the laid-back sounds of Neil Young and Tom Petty, and Dustin Bentall's versatile vocal stylings are mostly complimentary. My only major issue is with Bentall's lyrical choices; his songs about love and heartbreak are emotional and moving, but when singing songs about getting high or going to war, his words come across somewhat awkward and disingenuous. Here, Bentall should have stuck to the old adage: write what you know. Overall, *Six Shooter* has good aim, but this time doesn't quite hit the bull's-eye.

- Kelly Diamond



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Arts & Culture

When three become one

Jicah may have stacked the deck, but they're not a supergroup

SAMUEL SWANSON
BEAT REPORTER

Music math problem: What is The Nods + Quinzy + The Waking Eyes + the ambience of a 1965, Frankie Avalon surf movie? If you didn't guess Jicah, then you probably didn't know that musicians from three of Winnipeg's highly acclaimed bands have fused into one.

Jicah was initially a side-project of Nods' lead guitarist Micah Braun and drummer Jeff Bruce. The Nods came to a screeching halt with a fully-recorded album indefinitely waiting in the wings, and it was then that the side project became serious.

After recording one album as Jicah, the duo have become a five-piece, adding Majche Bunjalowski (guitar), former Quinzy guitar-



Don't get up, it's only rock n' roll: Jicah crams local talent together.

ist Brian James (keyboards) and Waking Eyes bass player Joey Penner.

Despite the compilation of local rock talent, Jeff Bruce shied away from the term "super group," coined for bands made up of previously proven talent.

"All these are local bands so I don't think you can throw the tag 'super group' on it," Bruce said

during happy hour at the Toad.

However, he was quick to add that the band doesn't suck.

"When you stack a band full of members that were also in really good bands, you're gonna get something good."

Bruce added that he feels no pressure in terms of expectation.

"I think people have some sort of expectations, but we're so new

"When you stack a band full of members that were also in really good bands, you're gonna get something good."

- JEFF BRUCE, MUSICIAN

that not many people know who we are yet."

Jicah is undoubtedly influenced by The Beatles and has a sound that makes you feel like you're in an episode of *Happy Days*, something Bruce says is the result of nostalgia-influenced songwriting (along with lots of reverb and careful file compression).

"The best music came from the '60s and '70s, in my opinion. They got that from the '40s and '50s, and that was good music too," said Bruce.

As far as a journalism-musical-cliché-description, Penner offered: "Really fun, high-energy rock."

In terms of the songwriting, "it's a total collective effort," Bruce said.

Collaborating the efforts of The

Nods, Quinzy and Waking Eyes is what makes Jicah such an interesting emerging local band.

"The evolution of this band has been four times faster than any other band," said Bruce, speaking to the results of their music. "I honestly believe that if you put us in a studio every day for a year, at the end of the year we'd have 365 songs."

Here's hoping that's the case.

With retro-ringing songs like *Understanding* and *Left Her There*, accompanied by top-notch modern indie rock such as *Frown*, 365 sounds like a good number of songs.

⇒ See Jicah open for Mahogany Frog on Friday, Oct. 23 at the Royal Albert (48 Albert St.)

⇒ They'll also perform Saturday, Nov. 7 at the Zoo and Friday, Nov. 13 at the Park Theatre

⇒ A split EP with The Nods is in the works

⇒ Visit www.myspace.com/jicahmusic

River's edge



"This button turns down the suck." Former Power 97 DJ Dick Rivers rocks the airwaves with his new Internet radio show.

Abrasive ex-Power 97 DJ returns to the airwaves, regulation free

MIKE DUERKSEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Six years ago, Dick Rivers was a lewd, cocaine-snorting rock DJ known for his abrasive personality and off-colour jokes on Winnipeg's Power 97 FM.

Today, Rivers, clean with a new perspective on life, is at the helm of new local Internet rock radio station "The Rooster Rocks" – but that doesn't mean he's lost his crude sense of humor.

"That's just how I communicate," the wry 39-year-old said in an interview last week, perched behind the soundboard of his new studio on Portage Avenue. "My mom doesn't even like listening to me, but I'm going to talk the way I talk and be no bullshit. I'm going to talk straight from the hip. There's no sense in holding back."

Rivers started his broadcasting career in Saskatchewan, working for numerous country stations under the moniker Corncob Kelly before landing at Power 97 in 1996, though he says the details are fuzzy.

"It's all a bit hazy from all the drugs I did," Rivers said.

He was soon caught in the throes of success, enjoying positive reactions at the station, running his own business – Dick's Pizza – on the side, and hitting up bars every night.

"I lived a dream, it was everything I wanted. Growing up, I dreamed of being in the music business and meeting rock stars and partying like a madman with all the chicks and the drugs," Rivers said. "I really took advantage of it, and I kind of bought

into the whole bullshit. I went nuts, I lived however I wanted to."

For Rivers, that meant taking cocaine and relying on the drug to make it through each day.

"Snorting is what kept me up. I don't blame anything on the drugs, it was a personality thing," Rivers explained. "Once I started doing cocaine, it snowballed. I couldn't get out of bed without it."

After he missed two shifts in one week at the station, Rivers was fired in 2003. He moved back to Saskatchewan for a few years to battle a thyroid problem, recoup some energy and clean up for good.

Rivers worked short stints in print, publishing and radio before Minnesota-based West Central Radio approached him about DJing one of their new internet radio stations.

Unwilling to move away from Winnipeg, Rivers bought a portion of The Rooster Rocks and established it locally. The first broadcast went out in early September and has been streaming live ever since.

"It's a free for all. It's like the first days of radio all over again. We don't have any regulations at all. I can say or do whatever I want," Rivers said, with a big grin on his face. "If I want to play anything, I can play something bootlegged off the Internet right now and I'm not going to get sued."

For now, the little station relies on website banner adds to cover the bills, but Rivers said paid on-air advertising will soon take effect.

"I don't see a master plan of this going big. I just want to have fun and to entertain. If there's one or two people listening, gravy," Rivers said. "I'm happy to be on the air."

Listen to Dick Rivers' radio show Monday to Friday from 7 p.m. to midnight at www.theroosterrocks.com.

The blues: As good as dead?

Grady frontman Gordie Johnson spares a few minutes to educate *The Uniter*

LEE REPKO
VOLUNTEER STAFF

"Did you even listen to our new record?"

Grady singer-guitarist Gordie Johnson challenges me from the other end of a telephone over a truck-stop sandwich.

"The blues are history and I have no interest in being a curator."

This writer has often referred to Johnson's last band, Big Sugar, as a blues-reggae band, so the question was digging about what it was like playing in a straight-up blues band.

According to Johnson, *Good as Dead* (released by Alternative Tentacles in the U.S. and by local upstart label C12 Records in Canada) is not a straight-up blues record.

"We throw so much into this mix ... I mean, listen to the accordion, lap steel and the riffs."

But it is a Grady record, and the backdrop for this, their third release, is Austin, Texas, not the Jamaican neighborhood in Toronto, Ont., which Johnson left behind in 2004.

Recorded in the hills northwest of Austin at Willie Nelson's Pedernales Recording Studio, *Good as Dead* soaks up the high-desert sonics and reflects the wealth of talent that is Austin.

Toronto native, Ben Richardson (The Phantoms) and Austin local, Nina Singh (Grady's third drummer), round out this super-solid power trio.

"Round here the accordion player is king," said Johnson, and he could definitely be referring to Michael Ramos (John Mellencamp, Los Lonely Boys), who lends his hand on the Tejano-influenced *If I Was King*.

He teams up with country-truckin' outsider Dale Watson on his song *Truck Stop in La Grange*, and puts the Moonhangers frontman Ethan Shaw to work on a couple of tracks.

This album hits country, metal, sludge and hard-driving rock throughout its 40-plus minutes, which includes a jaw-dropping organic version of the Tragically Hip's *Boots or Hearts*.



They call that the thousand-yard stare: Gordie Johnson (left) and company.

Johnson's overdriven sound is as loud as it ever was in Big Sugar, with the right to wear his "shredneck" influences on his sleeve.

When asked about his Winnipeg connections, he informs that he was born here – a surprise to this writer, but I was digging a little deeper. There's a little shop of St. Matthews Avenue that Grady's identity owes a lot to, I suggest.

"Oh yeah, Gar Gilles," Johnson says. "We actually use the Garnet amp's logo as influence on our own. I went to see him every time I was in Winnipeg, even if I was just visiting family. I was sad to hear when he had passed on [in 2003, at age 85]."

The West End inventor and legend made the vacuum tube-based amplifiers that gave bands like the Guess Who their gritty and driven sound.

So how does Johnson relate to the Garnet amp now?

"I have found the right sound. I have just stopped looking."

The band also uses Canadian noise masters Traynor Amps to round out their menacingly thick sound.

So their upcoming Winnipeg show is a bit of a homecoming?

"Yeah, first show in the [C12 Records] label's town, visiting my family and the Garnet connection ... feels good. We are looking forward to the Winnipeg audience 'cause they always make it feel like we're home."

⇒ See Grady on Friday, Oct. 23 at the Pyramid (176 Fort St.)

⇒ Domenica, Lucid and Clint Crighton will also perform

⇒ Tickets are \$16

⇒ Doors open at 8 p.m.

⇒ Visit www.shadygrady.net

Exposed in public

Prolific songwriter Dan Frechette releases his first solo live recording

JAMES CULLETON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Dan Frechette, one of Winnipeg's foremost songwriters, will be releasing a CD of live recordings at the Times Change(d) on Saturday, Oct. 24.

The recording, *Dan Frechette – Performer*, features solo performances on harmonica and guitar by the Winnipeg troubadour.

"Most of the people over the years have been whispering to me that they would prefer to have a solo recording, since I usually play solo when I'm live, as opposed to in a band. I'm happy to offer something that is just me and still has a full sound."

Frechette's decision to release these recordings, which were recorded in 2006 and 2007, was a practical one.

"In the summer I broke my wrist out at the lake and was in a cast for two months. Since I wasn't able to play, I decided to compile some of my archives. It took the whole summer to do and I came up with 2,600 recordings. Everything



Local singer-songwriter Dan Frechette emerges from the woods with a smile on his face and, no doubt, a song in his heart.

under the sun."

Known as a prolific songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, Frechette has played upright bass, dobro and mandolin on previous recordings.

In this latest release, he focuses on guitar and harmonica, which arguably portrays him as a folk performer and shows his interest in the traditional folk genre.

"My big heroes have always been Woody Guthrie and John Lennon – people whose lyrics said things that were brutally honest and made people stand and look at themselves or rethink their own beliefs or motives."

"[My wrist] was in a cast for two months. Since I wasn't able to play I decided to compile some of my archives."

- DAN FRECHETTE, MUSICIAN

"Lately I'm listening to Cannon's Jug Stompers and a vast variety of old blues from the '20s," Frechette responded, when asked about what inspires him musically. "I still love the great melody writers from the early pop era, Dixieland, jazz and the upbeat pop of the mid-'60s."

Frechette started playing guitar in 1989 and has been playing music all his life. He has toured throughout Europe, as well as all over the U.S. and Canada.

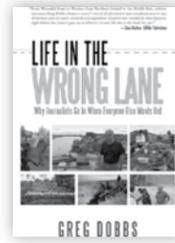
Frechette currently resides in St. Boniface, and is working to book next year's shows. In the meantime, his calendar is peppered with a healthy amount of upcoming shows in Winnipeg, just to keep him busy.

⇒ See Dan Frechette on Saturday, Oct. 24 at the Times Change(d) (234 Main St.)

⇒ He'll also perform at that same venue Saturday, Nov. 14 and at the Millennium Library on Saturday, Nov. 21

⇒ Visit www.danfrechette.com

BOOK REVIEW



ANDREW TOD
COMMENTS EDITOR

Life in the Wrong Lane: Why Journalists Go in When Everyone Else Wants Out

Greg Dobbs
205 pages, iUniverse, 2009

Life in the Wrong Lane chronicles the turbulent professional life of television journalist Greg Dobbs. This compilation of recollections by the long-time television correspondent encompasses a lifetime spent traveling towards and immersing oneself within dangerous situations. As Dobbs himself points out, foreign correspondence consistently requires the willingness to approach and detail unseemly situations which would cause most people to escape rather than draw near.

One would assume that given such riveting subject matter as exploits in Iran during the revolution, Northern Ireland and Afghanistan – to name but three – Dobbs' accounts would make for enthralling prose.

Instead, the reader is puzzled as to why this book was conceived in the first place. For at its best, it provides only folksy simplifications of complex world events, such as expansionism being explained as the U.S.S.R. taking the "workers of the world unite" motto a little too seriously. Elsewhere, he typifies the

Iranian Revolution as basically resulting in "a mean regime" being replaced by another one.

At its worst though, this book serves as a crass vanity project for the author who is altogether only too content to write without a reader in mind – other than, of course, himself.

The impression that Dobbs leaves is simply that he wants to prove just how dangerous his job can be – allusions to bullets and physical risk are reiterated to the point of redundancy – rather than serve to provide any meaningful account of a life spent abroad during some of the 20th century's defining moments.

In and of itself, Dobbs' penchant for egoism would be acceptable if he had premised the book on why *he*, not *journalists*, enter these situations. Then the book would at least be consistent with its title.

It is assumed from his narration that Dobbs so often risked life and limb only for personal gain. The residents of the countries that he details are only alluded to sparingly, though they were the ones unable to board an airplane once the news story grew stale.

Rather, Dobbs repeatedly couches his reasons for going into situations others wished to flee in patriotic and dutiful language, which reads as both self-serving and comical. For instance, in describing his time in Iran, Dobbs states that it seemed as though the American people needed him, rather than that the events of the revolution should be told.

This book leaves much to be desired, for a correspondent with as much experience as Dobbs certainly has more to recount than the stale subject matter told here.

Sadly, for someone who has spent their life telling the story from some of the world's most dangerous places, Dobbs disappoints as a storyteller.

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LITERATURE

Manitoba's Angela Narth co-wrote A HISTORY OF GHOSTS: THE TRUE STORY OF SEANCES, MEDIUMS, GHOSTS AND GHOSTBUSTERS with Peter Aykroyd, the actor/comedian Dan Aykroyd's father. The book tells some of the strange stories from Aykroyd's childhood, spent watching his family's parlour seances through the crack of the basement door, which inspired his son Dan to make *Ghostbusters*. The book will be launched Wednesday, Oct. 28 at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

Firefighter Jeff Derraugh signs his second cookbook WHERE THERE'S FOOD, THERE'S FIREFIGHTERS on Saturday, Oct. 24 at McNally Robinson Polo Park, 2 p.m.

MARK BITTNER takes a break from his famous flock of wild parrots to read from his book THE WILD PARROTS OF TELEGRAPH HILL on Friday, Oct. 23 at the Millennium Library, 1 p.m.

The presentation and signing of CLIMBING PATRICK'S MOUNTAIN by author DES KENNEDY introduces readers to Patrick Gallagher, an eccentric breeder of roses. Thursday, Oct. 22 at McNally Robinson Polo Park.

SIR SALMAN RUSHDIE will give a lecture in collaboration with the Winnipeg Arts Council's 25th anniversary. Thursday, Oct. 22 at 8 p.m. at Pantages Playhouse.

Arthur Walker-Jones launches his book on the relationship between the Bible and the environment, THE GREEN PSALTER, on Thursday, Oct. 22 at McNally Robinson Grant Park, 8 p.m.

THE WRITERS COLLECTIVE 2009 POETRY CONTEST is asking for submissions no later than Monday, Nov. 2. For details call (204)786-9468 or email writerscollective@uwinnipeg.ca.

The Winnipeg release of DENYING THE SOURCE: THE CRISIS OF FIRST NATIONS WATER RIGHTS takes place on Tuesday, Oct. 27 at McNally Robinson Grant Park, 8 p.m.

On Thursday, Oct. 29, McNally Robinson Polo Park is holding a GRAVEYARD BOOK PARTY in hopes of winning NEIL GAIMAN's North American Graveyard Book Party Challenge, which would bring the author to Winnipeg. The party runs from 7-10 p.m.

Asian fables a real horror show

Howie Tsui exhibit draws from the dark side of folklore

JAYA BEANGE
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Howie Tsui's *Horror Fables* explores different 'heads' of fear through a grotesque series of depictions of Chinese and Japanese ghost stories.

During an artist talk he gave at the exhibit's opening reception on Tuesday, Oct. 13, Tsui explained that he has long been fascinated by how fantasy can be simultaneously absurd and violent, comic and graphic, creative and terrifying.

For the Hong Kong born, Ottawa-based artist, this show is a nostalgic return both to the imaginary worlds, into which he could escape as a child and to the horrifying stories through which his mother endeavoured to shape his character.

"A lot of fear was instilled by my mother. She told me: Every grain of rice you leave in your bowl is the number of warts your future wife will have," Tsui explained.

The show is delivered in two parts. The first is a series of large scale yet intricately detailed sketches on mulberry paper that mimic ancient Asian scrolls.

The imagery and scenery are taken from ghost stories Tsui learned from the media and from family members, but also includes characters he invents himself. Much of the background, including temples, carp, and shadow puppets, draws from Tsui's Asian heritage.

"I jumbled various references together with my own unconsciously produced characters with the hope that viewers will construct their own ghost stories," he explained.

This is not a scene from *Lord of the Rings*. An image from Howie Tsui's *Horror Fables*.

COURTESY OF ACEARTINC.



The scrolls teem with content that could keep the viewer busy for hours on end – two-headed children, a gangly frog navigating a canoe, a woman sentenced to live with hands of a dead woman hanging from her breasts, and a bird-man perched atop a mountain with talons and feathery eyebrows. His characters are equal parts cute and cuddly, and equal parts grotesque, graphic, bloody or obscene.

The second component of the exhibit is an installation that alludes to Japanese Kabuki theatre. Half of the gallery walls are covered in smudged and bloody images of skulls and monsters with devil wings.

Matches are used to highlight these apparitions. The sulfur stains a yellowish colour and the smoke leaves ghostly tendrils which emanate from the images, creating a dizzying sensation of falling and

depth.

Tsui came up with this clever idea while working on the aforementioned scrolls. After pulling down some of his pieces from the walls, it seemed as if the paint had seeped through the paper and left a residue. Shapes and faces began to pop out of the abstract forms, with the paper 'corpses' lying nearby.

"Process-wise, it's a metaphor for the afterlife, where the discarded rice paper resembles a lifeless corpse, and the spirit of the painting is transferred onto the gallery walls."

This exhibit is well worth seeing, but if you tend to get scared, be sure to bring a friend.

Horror Fables is at Ace Art Inc. (2nd floor, 290 McDermot Ave.) until Friday, Nov. 13. Visit www.aceart.org.

When there's no more room in Hell, the dead will walk King Street

Zombie Walk 2009 takes place a week before Halloween

ANDREW NASH
VOLUNTEER

If you happen to venture through the Exchange District this weekend, you may find yourself among the dead – or at least the slightly dead-looking.

Zombie Walk will once again lurch its way through the streets of downtown Winnipeg on Sunday, Oct. 25, beginning at Old Market Square.

Sarah Reed, 26, is the co-ordinator of Winnipeg Zombie Walk 2009 and considers herself a veteran when it comes to zombies, describing them as "totally bad ass."

Reed has been involved with the Zombie Walk, the annual gathering of the not-so-undead, for almost a decade now.

"I've been involved with ones in Winnipeg and Ottawa," Reed said over the phone last week.

Every year, people gather dressed as zombies to walk around downtown together. The event draws zombies of all shapes and sizes – from Voodoo Zombies to Biohazard Zombies to Chemical Zombies and Blue-Skin Zombies, all are welcome here.

Zombies, of course, are naturally attracted to our tasty human brains



and sweet, warm flesh.

Reed explained that zombies are attracted to highly populated areas like the Exchange and downtown because there are lots of human brains there, an observation that is still up for debate.

"It just makes sense," Reed concluded.

Some walks have come under fire because zombies sometimes vandalize things. When asked if she's ever witnessed Winnipeg zombies assaulting property, Reed responded, "Yes and no

"Sometimes they surround cars, but usually don't spit blood. Usually when that happens, people take pictures and honk their horns."

So how can you protect yourself from zombies?

When approached about this serious public safety issue, the Winnipeg Police Service had no comment. However, they did advise Winnipeggers to take extra precautions around Halloween time.

"Garlic doesn't work in deterring zombies," Reed advised. "It's a misconception. The best thing

to do is keep your distance from them."

Or, of course, you are welcome to join them.

So when the sun sets on the streets of Winnipeg on Oct. 25, you may want to watch your back – and guard your soft flesh.

Zombie Walk 2009 will be gathering at Old Market Square, Sunday, Oct. 25 at 8 p.m. All undead are welcome.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

The CR8ERY hosts PAINTING IS ABOUT COLOR from Thursday, Oct. 22 to Tuesday, Oct. 27.

The KEN SEGAL GALLERY is hosting ROBERT SIM'S first solo collection, SELECTED PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND SCULPTURE. The show runs until Saturday, Oct. 31.

HORROR FABLES brings an eerie atmosphere to Ace Art. HOWIE TSUI draws upon traditional Asian ghost stories for his paintings and an installation that resembles traditional kabuki theatre. Exhibition runs until Friday, Nov. 13.

KEN GREGORY: WIND COIL SOUND FLOW at Gallery 1003 in conjunction with the Send + Receive Festival runs until Saturday, Oct. 31.

RABBLE ROUSERS by PAUL ROBES at Gallery 803 runs until Saturday, Nov. 21.

The Canadian premiere of CUBA AVANT GARDE opens at the Winnipeg Art Gallery on Thursday, Oct. 22. The exhibition is on display until Sunday, Jan. 10.

The exhibition CITY, TOWN AND COUNTRY will be on display at the Woodlands Gallery until Saturday, Oct. 24. Featuring artists RICK BOND, JOHANNE DUCHAINE, GERALD LAPOINTE and ALEX SUPROWICH.

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 Urban Shaman Gallery presents MÉTIS/SAGE, works by DAVID GARNEAU until Saturday, Nov. 14.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery puts on display 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 is drawings, paintings, photographs and sculptures inspired by music. The show runs until Friday, Oct. 30.

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

Merlyn Productions Theatre Company presents two one-act plays, FANCY FREE and THE STEPMOTHER, from Thursday, Oct. 22 until Saturday, Oct. 24 at the Ellice Theatre. Shows daily at 7:30 p.m. with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, Oct. 24.

SOUVENIRS is onstage at the Prairie Theatre Exchange until Sunday, Nov. 1.

Romantic murder-mystery STRONG POISON opens the MTC's John Hirsch Theatre on Thursday, Oct. 22 and runs until Wednesday, Nov. 4.

MY LEAKY BODY, a performance about chronic illness, disability, women's bodies and the medical establishment, is being held in the University of Winnipeg's Bulman Centre on Thursday, Oct. 29 at 6:30 p.m.

FIVE O'CLOCK BELLS, a play about Winnipeg guitar legend Lenny Breau, will be performed in the Tom Hendry Theatre in the MTC Warehouse until Saturday, Oct. 24.

Comedy night with SCOOT'S MCTAVISH on Thursdays at Shannon's Irish Pub.

Leave your legacy in the Canwest Centre for Theatre & Film by making a donation and receiving a plaque on your own chair in the theatre.

WANT TO SEE YOUR EVENT LISTED IN THE UNITER?

Send your information to listings@uniter.ca

Arts Briefs

Compiled by C. Jordan Crosthwaite

ANIMAL RIGHTS VS. ART RIGHTS

American arts organizations are fighting legislation that criminalizes the distribution of images of animal cruelty, according to Artinfo.net.

Groups like College Art Association believe the legislation will prevent artists from making work and is tantamount to censorship. Value judgments about art are not tenable under the legislation, according to the CAA.

The legislation comes in the wake of shows like "The Wings of God," by artist Adel Abdessemed. The show contained videos of animals being clubbed to death and being pitted against each other in gladiator-style death matches. The show faced protest and criticism by animal rights activists when it went on to show in Italy and New York this spring.

AGENT MUSTARD IN THE STUDY WITH THE IPHONE

The classic board game Clue is being reissued by Hasbro, but this time with a technological twist, reported *The New York Times*. "CLUE: Secrets & Spies" employs text messaging to help aspiring detectives solve international crimes. It's the first time Hasbro has employed text messaging in a board game.

Taking on themes of undercover operations and technological espionage, the new Clue features an evil enemy plot, "C.L.U.E." (Criminal League for Ultimate Espionage), that players (Agent Mustard, etc.) must bring to justice.

Cellphones not included, but an ultra-violet decoder is.

ARE THERE LASER BEAMS IN MY CORNFLAKES?

Cereal giant Kellogg's is quite literally re-branding its signature breakfast staple Corn Flakes. Kellogg's is producing a trial edition of the cereal that features the company's logo laser-etched into the surface of the flakes, according to *The Daily Mail*.

The laser-cut cereal is meant to deter consumers from enjoying non-Kellogg's corn flakes, which are not made by the Kellogg's company. Apparently knock-offs have been growing in recent years and Kellogg's believes that reinforcing its company's image on individual flakes will assure customers of superior quality.

The trial of the branded cereal will include a few flakes in new boxes of cereal and if the campaign is successful, may extend to other Kellogg's breakfast brands, like Raisin Bran and Special K.

THE RETURN OF A CLASSIC

The Most Exciting Announcement of the Week Award goes to Polaroid, who announced last week the reintroduction of its classic line of instant film.

Just when there was about to be another surge of the old cameras in thrift stores and garage sales, Polaroid has told the world to hang on to their old cameras for another year. At a press conference in Hong Kong, the photography brand said that it would hope to ready new stock of Polaroid film by the middle of 2010, according to the *Seattle P-I*.

The Polaroid company faced bankruptcy last year and ceased production of the instant film, saying instant images had been taken over by digital cameras. Much disappointment ensued, even to the point where Polaroid enthusiasts bought an old factory to try and reproduce the film. Prices of expired Polaroid sky-rocketed and even expired stock continues to be difficult to acquire.

MOVIE REVIEW

This is not Hollywood

Documentary shows the colourful, exploitive and explosive low-budget cinema driving world's third largest film industry

CRYSTAL LADERAS
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Nollywood Babylon

Directed by Ben Addelman and Samir Mallal, 2008

74 minutes

Playing at Cinematheque Fri, Oct. 23 at 11 p.m.

4/5 stars

Where slums sit across skyscrapers and 500,000 people commute in and out of the city each day, the world's third-largest film industry is operating with open public auditions and self-financed projects. Often described as "the answer to CNN," Nollywood Babylon explores Nigeria's film industry as it employs amateur writers, first-time actors, self-taught directors and apprenticing film crew.

"We don't even want to go to Hollywood anymore," says actress Omotola Ekeinde.



Nigerian filmmaker Lancelot Imusen directs in *Nollywood Babylon*.

"We want to make Nollywood the best and the biggest African industry in the world."

Hollywood films, which were first introduced by colonizers "so that Nigerians knew what was going on in the world," have become an expensive import, leaving only three working theatres in Africa's largest city, Lagos. Today, 2,500 films are produced every year, using a budget under \$15,000.

Billboards and posters advertise various genres, from traditional stories to modern comedies. Blockbuster hits are sold in Lagos markets and distributed throughout Africa, where workers from other African countries, such as Kenya, are starting to come to learn the trade.

Easily accessible cinema

NSI's Online Film Festival presents Canadian short films to a wider audience

KENTON SMITH
VOLUNTEER STAFF

With its former annual FilmExchange festival, the National Screen Institute of Canada brought audiences to Canadian films. But since June 2008, it's been bringing Canadian films directly to audiences.

"People who might not have considered going to an actual festival can now see these films for free online," said Liz Hover, web manager and content producer for NSI's Online Short Film Festival.

Although films had been shown online as part of the now-discontinued FilmExchange, Hover is sure to stress that the current festival is an altogether different project.

"It's absolutely not meant as a replacement for an actual, physical film festival," she declared.

That being said, she was wary of comparing the two means of presentation: "You can do both, after all."

The advantage of the online film festival is simple, according to Hover.

"Canada's such a vast country, with so many talented filmmakers living from coast to coast, that an online format seemed the perfect solution to reaching people across the land," Hover explained.

That aspect is precisely what attracts some filmmakers, including Winnipegger James McLellan, the writer, director and co-producer of the ambitious 23 minute *Tucked and Folded Away*.

"More than anything, I wanted it to be in a place where it could be seen," he said. "Hence, I thought it would be nice for it to be online."

Polly Washburn, writer/director of the short drama *The Coffee Maker*, submitted her film for the same reasons.

"Literally anyone can see it now, from anywhere in Canada," she said.

Hover described herself as "obsessed" with tracking the number of views for the



Curse of the Jade Falcon: One of NSI's many online shorts.

fest. She said that the number of people it reaches far exceeds the estimated sizes of past FilmExchange audiences.

One submission criterion that certainly does work to the filmmaker's advantage is that films made as long ago as 2006 can be accepted now. This, Hover explained, is so that they can "do the festival circuit" and still find a home online. Many festivals will not accept submissions that have already appeared on a web forum.

Indeed, the NSI fest was precisely where McLellan decided his film – which has played at several international fests since its completion in the spring of 2008 – would finally "live." Washburn likewise completed her film in 2005 and had it shown on the festival circuit before submitting it to NSI.

"Having it accepted and available there on the NSI website does give your film an added cache," said Washburn, who recently served as production manager and line producer on *Black Field* – the debut feature of local filmmaker and NSI Features First program alumnus Danishka Esterhazy.

McLellan noted that it's also a great way to showcase your film when applying for grants and recruiting a crew for your next project.

Hover is aware that some people may have certain perceptions about films found online – that one won't find festival-quality shorts.

The film follows Lancelot Imusen, who is as passionate as any Hollywood director, though he never went to film school.

During one especially rushed day of filming, in which he shoots 59 scenes, Imusen lets loose on camera.

"You didn't pan on time. Why is he jerky? The cable ... please, that cable boy. I will break your head."

Like its American counterpart, Nollywood is not free of critique. Not for its portrayal of violence or its depiction of women, but for exploiting a seemingly impossible target audience. The movies in question target deeply religious audiences, who mainly live in poverty, using what is arguably storytelling which is overtly inspirational.

"There isn't enough attempt to see the implications of the struggle between tradition and modernity. They have been taken over, for instance, by born-again Christians ... away from enlightened nation and society building," says writer Odia Ofeimun.

Whatever the implications of these films might be, *Nollywood Babylon* provides an insightful look at the incredibly popular industry, the chaos and culture of Lagos, and Nigerian storytelling, from its film-making to its unique marketing.

The documentary is worth watching, not only for its criticisms or the ever-animated filmmaker Imusen, but also for its rare samples of Nollywood's impressive and unique catalogue of films.

"People may think of YouTube," she said.

What she assures webheads and potential viewers is this: "We've already done the filtering. You don't have to go digging for hidden treasure."

To check out the NSI's Online Short Film Festival visit www.tinyurl.com/nsishortfest.

FILM LISTINGS

CINÉMENTAL, a festival of French language films (with English subtitles), will be at the Globe Cinema from Oct. 21-25. For more information visit www.cinemental.com.

The second year of GIMMIE SOME TRUTH: THE WINNIPEG DOCUMENTARY PROJECT presents a four-day documentary forum that features film screenings, master lectures and workshops, Thursday, Oct. 22 to Sunday, Oct. 25. For more info visit www.gimmiesometruth.ca.

VAMPIROS EN LA HABANA (Vampires of Havana) plays at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24 at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

The University of Winnipeg is proud to be a smoke-free campus.



Our smoke-free policy encompasses all buildings and grounds, including the new Spence Street Promenade and our new western Furby-Langside campus.

You may smoke on city property but are required to be a minimum of 20 meters away from University windows and doorways. Please use the ash urns provided in the smoking areas.

Thank you for respecting each other.



AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG AWARDS:

WORK STUDY PROGRAM

Project descriptions and applications for the 2009-10 Work Study Program are available in Student Services (located on the first floor of Graham Hall) or in Student Central (on the first floor of Centennial Hall). You can also obtain project descriptions and application forms from the Awards & Financial Aid website: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awards-work-study-program>.

To be eligible for the Work Study Program, you must:

- Be registered in a degree program at the University of Winnipeg in the 2009/10 academic year on a full-time basis as defined by the Manitoba Student Assistance Program (18 credit hour minimum)
- Have successfully completed 30 credit hours (GPA of 2.0 or higher)
- Be on Regular Status at the University of Winnipeg

- Receive a government student loan of at least \$1,000 for 2009/10 as a result of the financial need assessment done by the Manitoba Student Financial Assistance Program or another province's student aid office OR obtain a student line-of-credit or student bank loan for 2009/10 of at least \$1,000

Deadline: Oct. 16, 2009. Late applications may be accepted.

Note: You can apply for a maximum of four positions and cannot be hired for more than one.

AWARDS OFFERED BY EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS:

AUCC AWARDS

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada provides 150 scholarship programs on behalf of the Federal Government, domestic and foreign agencies, and private sector companies. Check out their website www.aucc.ca and look under the heading Scholarships and Internships for Canadian Students.

Deadlines: Various

IDRC/CRDI AWARDS

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a Canadian crown corporation that works in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable and more prosperous societies. Various research and academic awards are available for application. Please visit their website for more information on their award programs: www.idrc.ca/awards.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY AWARDS

The Women's Opportunity Awards is an annual program that begins at the local Soroptimist club level, where award amounts vary. Club recipients become eligible to receive region-level awards, which are granted through Soroptimist's 28 geographic regions. Each Soroptimist region grants one first-place award for \$5,000. (Note: most regions grant additional \$3,000 awards.) The 28 first-place recipients then become eligible to receive one of three \$10,000 finalist awards.

Eligible applicants must be women who provide primary financial support for their families, and who are enrolled in or have been accepted to a vocational/skills training program or an undergraduate degree program. Applicants must demonstrate financial need, and cannot have already earned an undergraduate degree. Only residents of Soroptimist International of the Americas' 19 member countries and territories are eligible to apply.

Applications are accepted each year from July 1 until Dec. 1. Applications received after Dec. 1 and before July 1 will not be considered. Visit their website for more information or to apply: www.wcsoroptimist.org.

NAAF SPECIAL MÉTIS HEALTH CAREERS BURSARY

The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation (NAAF) is a nationally registered charity organization with a mandate to provide financial support to First Nations, Inuit and Métis individuals who are pursuing education and professional development. If you are a Canadian resident with Métis status recognized by the Métis National Council, are enrolled full-time at the post-secondary level in a program of study that is a minimum of two academic years, and are studying in a branch of the health sciences (such as: nursing, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, lab technology, physiotherapy, dietetics, nutrition, health administration and public health policy), you qualify to apply for this special bursary.

If you have any questions, please contact the Education Department of the NAAF at 1-800-329-9780 or by email at education@naaf.ca. Application forms may be picked up from the Awards & Financial Aid office (located on the first floor of Graham Hall) or can be downloaded from their website: www.naaf.ca

Deadline: Nov. 2, 2009

UKRAINIAN RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE AWARDS

This year, the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre (URDC) is offering the following four award opportunities to students:

1. The Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts (ACUA) Award (\$500) is offered annually for a project that fosters a greater awareness of Ukrainian art in Alberta. This project may be in the form of an exhibit, festival, educational program or special project.
2. The Roger Charest, Sr. Award for Broadcast & Media Arts (\$500) is offered annually to applicants, either individuals or groups, for an initiative to create a special program or series which may later be suitable for broadcast and may further the cause of multiculturalism in Canada.
3. The Roman Soltkyewych Music Scholarship (\$500) is offered annually to applicants, either individuals or groups, determined to pursue further studies in the field of Ukrainian choral or vocal music.
4. The Anna Pidruchney Award for New Writers (\$1,000) is available annually to a novice writer for a work on Ukrainian-Canadian Theme. Submissions for this year's award must be in Ukrainian. Previous award recipients of this award are not eligible.

For more information contact the Awards & Financial Aid office at 786-9984. Application forms and guidelines are available from URDC.

The Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre

Grant MacEwan College

Box 1796

Edmonton, AB T5J 2P2

ph.: (780) 497-5494 or 497-4374

fax: (780) 497-4377

email: haydukl@macewan.ca

Deadline: Nov. 30, 2009

HOLSTEIN CANADA EDUCATION AWARDS

Six bursaries of \$750 will be awarded according to the following geographical divisions: Western Canada (1), Ontario (2), Quebec (2) and Atlantic Canada (1).

Consideration will be given to each category according to the following criteria:

- 20 points, farm involvement
- 30 points, youth program involvement
- 30 points, career choice
- 20 points, points scholastic record

Other accomplishments may influence the Selection Committee in the event of a close decision. Winners will be notified immediately upon the committee's decision in December. A general announcement will be made through the *Info Holstein* publication at a later date.

To be eligible to apply you must:

- be a regular or junior member of Holstein Canada, or the son/daughter of a member
- have completed at least one year of university/college (or Cégep in Québec)
- submit an official, original transcript (faxed and photocopied submissions will not be accepted) and a copy of your resume
- be returning to school within the calendar year

Submissions may be typed on the pages provided on Holstein Canada's website: www.holstein.ca

It is the responsibility of the applicant to confirm receipt with Holstein Canada. Mail or courier to:

Alain Lajeunesse

Holstein Canada Education Awards

20 Corporate Place

P.O. Box 610

Brantford, ON N3T 5R4

For more information and general inquiries, contact Alain Lajeunesse by phone 519-756-8300 (ext. 280), fax 519-756-3502 or e-mail: alajeunesse@holstein.ca

Deadline: Nov. 30, 2009

HAMILTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS

The Chaney-Ensign Bursary Fund provides modest bursaries to post-secondary students who can demonstrate financial need and who have completed their high school requirements in publicly funded secondary schools located within the Hamilton-Wentworth District.

Eligible students are welcome to obtain application forms and guidelines at www.hcf.on.ca or from the UW Awards & Financial Aid office. Applications will be submitted to the Awards & Financial Aid office (located on the first floor of Graham Hall).

Deadline: Feb. 1, 2009

J. DOUGLAS FERGUSON AWARD

The J. Douglas Ferguson Historical Research Foundation offers two competitions for student essays. One award for \$1,000 will be made to the author of the best postgraduate essay and two others, for \$750 each, will go to the undergraduates who write the best essays. To be eligible for an award, applicants must either be enrolled in a postgraduate program (MA, MSc or PhD) or undergraduate program (BA, BSc) at a Canadian university. The essays should have significant relevance for numismatics (which concerns coins, paper currency and medals). This would include essays in history, art history, archaeology or classics for which coins, tokens, jetons, paper money, cheques or medals provide an important source of evidence; as well as essays in banking history, monetary history, medallic art, banknote engraving, or the technology and metallurgy of coinage. Although students are encouraged to select topics relevant to Canadian numismatics, essays on ancient, medieval or modern international topics are also eligible. The essays may have been submitted in a course or may represent new work. Applicants may submit three clear copies (typed or printed) or one copy plus a computer file on disk. The text should be double spaced, on one side of the page only, with pages numbered and author's name and address clearly marked on the title page. Include also a short resume. Winning essays in both categories will be published in the Canadian journal most relevant to their topics.

Contact: The J. Douglas Ferguson Historical Research Foundation, 654 Hiawatha Blvd., Ancaster, ON, L9G 3A5.

Deadline: Oct. 15, 2009

ALLIANCE FOR EQUALITY OF BLIND CANADIANS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBEC) is dedicated to providing blind, deaf-blind and partially-sighted individuals with the opportunities they need to compete on an equal basis with other members of Canadian society. Through public education and advocacy, AEBEC works to improve the lives of these Canadians by providing a forum for mentorship, discussion and action on issues of common concern.

Each year, the AEBEC offers scholarships to recognize outstanding blind, deaf-blind and partially-sighted post-secondary school students. This year there will be five awards in total: three \$1,000.00 scholarships and two \$700.00 scholarships. Each scholarship will be accompanied by a year's free membership to AEBEC.

All scholarships are awarded on the basis of:

- Academic performance with particular emphasis on the three \$1,000.00 scholarships
- Community involvement
- Overcoming adversity

The Scholarship Committee reviews all applications and selects the scholarship recipients. These recipients will be notified of their selection by Dec. 15, 2009. Scholarship monies will be sent to the recipients no later than Dec. 31, 2009.

For more information on how to apply, please visit their website: www.blindcanadians.ca.

Deadline: Oct. 31, 2009

DAVID L. SQUIRES MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The Squires Foundation was created in 1994, in honour of David L. Squires, by his peers at the Data Processing Management Association (DPMA) to promote excellence in the study of informatics by individuals, conduct or sponsor research in informatics education, and sponsor informatics educational offerings to the public. This year we are offering another three \$1,000 scholarships to Computer Science students who have completed at least one year of full-time schooling.

For more information on eligibility or to apply, visit their website: www.ificanada.ca/squires/.

Deadline: Oct. 31, 2009

MANITOBA STUDENT AID PROGRAM (MSAP)

Manitoba Student Aid is now accepting applications for the 2009-10 Fall/Winter session. Students can apply online at www.manitobastudentaid.ca.

New to the Student Aid program this year are a series of grants and bursaries:

- Canada Student Grant for Students from Low-income Families
- Canada Student Grant for Students from Middle-income Families
- Canada Student Grant for Students with Dependents
- Rural/Northern Bursary

These grants are the first money students will receive in their financial aid packages, before any loans are awarded. Many students may, in fact, receive the majority of their financial assistance in the form of grants.

Be sure to apply early and to submit all requested documentation as soon as possible to ensure that you receive all the grant funds for which you are eligible.

PROCEDURES:

Confirmation of Enrolment & Release of Government Student Aid Documents

Approximately 3 weeks before classes begin, the Manitoba Student Aid Program (MSAP) will begin printing official assistance documents for students whose MSAP documentation and University course registration are in order. MSAP will mail the documents to students at the addresses they have provided on their MSAP applications. The document you receive already will have been electronically approved by the Awards & Financial Aid Office. It will indicate the fees you owe to the University of Winnipeg. These fees will be deducted from your student aid.

If the document is a Canada Student Financial Assistance document, you should take it to an approved Canada Post outlet for forwarding to the National Student Loan Centre.

If the document is a Manitoba Student Aid document, you should forward it to the MSAP Loan Administration Department.

The National Student Loan Centre of the MSAP Loan Administration Department will process the document, transferring the fee payment portion directly to the university and depositing any additional balance to your account. Instructions on these processes will be included in your student aid document package.

Course Load

The minimum course load for which you must register to be eligible for any form of government student assistance is 60 per cent of the maximum course load required for your study period:

- Fall/Winter academic year - 18 credit hours

- Fall Term or Winter Term only - 9 credit hours which begin and end within that term

You must maintain the appropriate minimum course load for your study period in order to retain your student assistance eligibility.

Registration at Another Post-Secondary Institution

If, in addition to University of Winnipeg courses, you are registered and taking courses elsewhere during the academic year for credit towards your University of Winnipeg degree, you must present proof of registration to the Awards & Financial Aid Office before your student assistance document can be authorized and released to you.

Fee Payment

Your fees will be deducted from the student assistance document when it is electronically approved by the University. Government Student Aid is used first to meet educational costs. All overdue fees and emergency loans as well as fees for the current study period will be deducted from the student aid document. If your student assistance does not cover your required fee payment, you will have to make payment on your own by the fee payment deadline. Credits for scholarships you may be receiving will reduce the amount of fees deducted from the student aid document.

Fee Deferral

The Awards & Financial Aid Office can defer your fees if you have applied for Government Student Aid but have not received your confirmed assistance document by the fee payment deadline. Fee deferral means that your registration will not be cancelled because of your failure to pay by the deadline. However, you will be charged the late payment fee unless you have submitted your Student Aid application in sufficient time for it to be processed by the payment deadline.

If your name is on the Awards & Financial Office fee deferral list but you withdraw from University courses, you will be responsible for the fees you owe until your actual date of withdrawal.

DID YOU KNOW... That Manitoba Student Aid staff can be on campus on Fridays from 1 - 4 p.m. To meet with them, you need to set up an appointment time. Come to Student Services and book an appointment, or phone 786-9458 or 789-1420.

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

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

OTHER AWARD WEBSITES:

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

Manitoba Student Aid Program: www.manitobastudentaid.ca

Surfing for dollars? Try these two websites:

www.studentawards.com

www.scholarshipscanada.com

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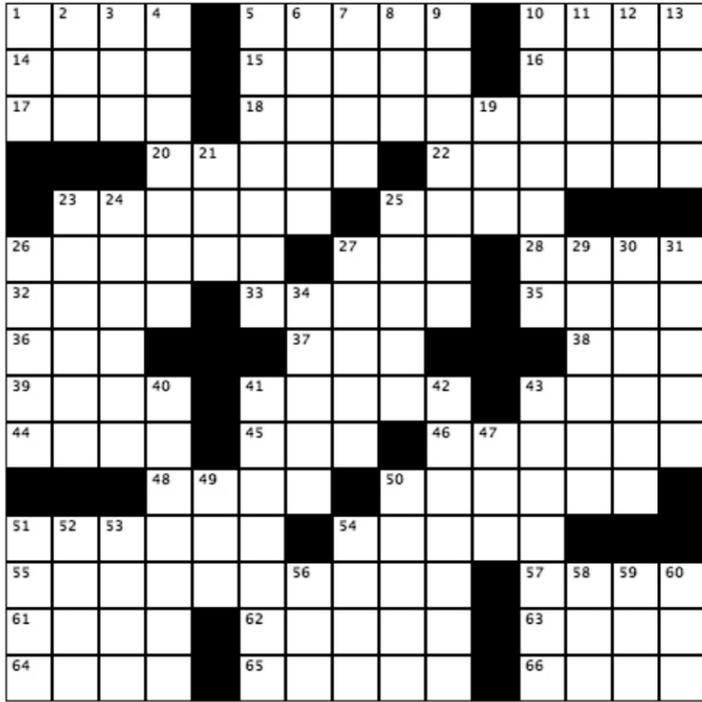
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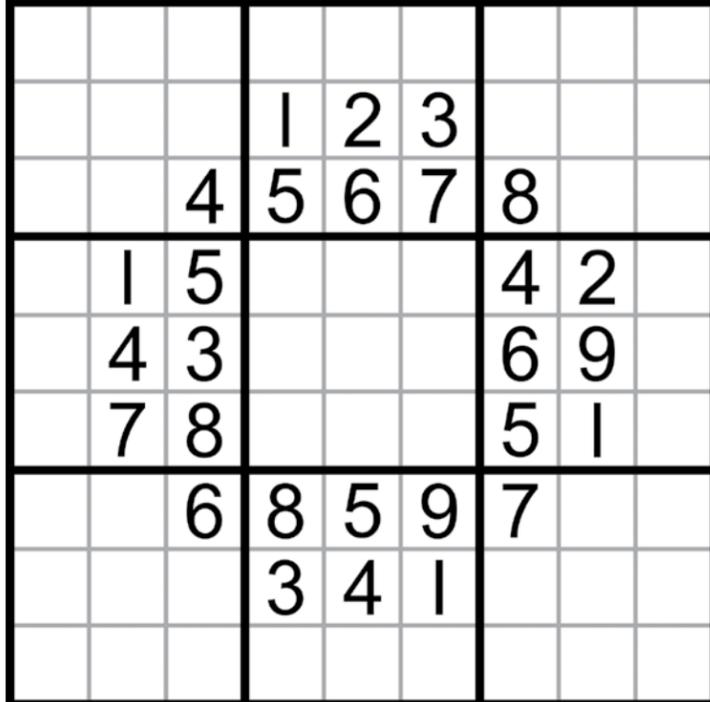
Crossword Puzzle 08

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



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Sudoku Octagon



will.octagon.gibson@gmail.com



Get ready to rumble

Something's been bothering me lately and I'm just gonna come right out and tell you what that is. Why don't people have rumbles anymore?

For those of you who have never read *The Outsiders*, or just don't know what a rumble is, it's when a bunch of young guys wearing leather jackets get into a big fight with a bunch of young guys wearing sweaters.

Back in the 1950s people had rumbles all the time. If someone was sweet on someone else's main girl, they'd have a rumble. If someone ever wandered onto someone else's turf, there'd be a rumble. If a bunch of "Socs" ever wandered upon a bunch of "Greasers," there would *definitely* be a rumble. And in every situation that involved someone named "Pony Boy," you can bet your ass there'd be a rumble.

Sometime around the late '50s or early '60s, the rumbles just stopped. Oh sure, people still fought each other, but they didn't call these fights rumbles anymore. In my humble opinion, that was the beginning of the end.

When people went to a rumble, they brought bats and crowbars and switchblades; no one ever brought a gun to a rumble. It just wasn't done. It would be like bringing porn to a church picnic.

As soon as the rumbles stopped, however, people started bringing guns to gang fights and here we are 50 years later in a world where people are shot in fights all the time in cities all over the world.

Sure, you bleeding heart liberals can whine all you want about the senseless loss of life, but how many of you are actually going to get off your flabby asses to do something about it? Well, I propose to do exactly that.

I have devised a brilliant strategy to significantly cut down on the number of gun-related murders every year in North America. My plan is simple: We bring back the rumble.

Because no one would ever even dream of bringing a gun to a rumble, all we have to do is reintroduce rumbles into our everyday lives. The best way to do this involves three key steps:

1. We need to reinforce socio-economic class distinctions, to create obvious divisions between rich and poor. This shouldn't be too tough; we're already headed pretty aggressively in that direction anyway, so all we'll have to do for this one is stay the current course.

2. We need to concentrate pretty heavily on hating people who are not like us. This also shouldn't be that hard. It certainly comes pretty naturally to a lot of people I've met.

3. We need to dress according to our station in life. The rich people in sweaters, preferably with large letters on them, and the poor people in leather jackets and wife-beaters with slicked back hair.

If we follow these three easy steps, I'm certain we will see a dramatic decrease in gun violence and at least a 70 per cent increase in awesomeness.

J. Williams is a local musician who can't wait for the time when being called "greaser" is again a matter of pride.

Across

- 1- Aggregate of fibers
- 5- Collection of maps
- 10- Torn clothing
- 14- Drug-yielding plant
- 15- Waggish
- 16- Arguing
- 17- Scheme
- 18- Pert. to the administration of justice
- 20- Unfettered
- 22- Hawk
- 23- Capital of Lebanon
- 25- Lodge letters
- 26- Exhaust
- 27- Sprechen ____ Deutsch?
- 28- Holds up
- 32- Dull pain
- 33- More pleasant
- 35- Diamonds, e.g.
- 36- Cpl., for one
- 37- Gal of song
- 38- ____ kwon do
- 39- Greek goddess of the earth
- 41- White-and-black bearlike mammal
- 43- Alleviate
- 44- Auto pioneer
- 45- Chow down
- 46- Sell
- 48- Blueprint detail
- 50- Made of different-color fibers
- 51- More sore
- 54- Chip dip
- 55- Shining
- 57- Contest, ethnicity
- 61- Cease moving
- 62- A bit, colloquially
- 63- Mardi ____
- 64- Formicary residents
- 65- Water vapor
- 66- French 101 verb

Down

- 1- Mouth, slangily
- 2- Competitor of Tide and Cheer
- 3- Aussie hopper
- 4- Reticular
- 5- Postpone
- 6- Confidence
- 7- Come up short
- 8- Cockpit abbr.
- 9- Cinderella candi-date
- 10- Oakland outfit
- 11- Not much
- 12- Female child
- 13- Eye sore
- 19- Corp. bigwig
- 21- Metal-bearing mineral
- 23- Pertaining to the cheek
- 24- Reverberated
- 25- Shelter
- 26- Latin-American dance
- 27- Meager
- 29- Interruption
- 30- Tendentious
- 31- Guide
- 34- Sir ____ Newton was an English mathematician
- 40- Aids
- 41- Noblewoman
- 42- Dental filling
- 43- Blow up
- 47- Surgery sites, briefly
- 49- Domestic animal
- 50- Devilfish
- 51- Turkish honorific
- 52- Extended family unit
- 53- Sword handle
- 54- Beget
- 56- "As if!"
- 58- Illustrative craft
- 59- Automobile
- 60- Compass pt.

Avoiding the cold is easy if you prepare with proper clothing



LIVING WELL

SAGAN MORROW
STAFF WRITER

Temperatures are dropping and although we hate to think about the freezing weather approaching, this is the time to start preparing ourselves to keep warm *before* it really gets cold.

If we're in denial about anything, weather should not be it. Dressing as though it's still the summer is risky business for our health because when we don't take care to wrap up warmly, the risk of frostbite increases.

Frostbite occurs when cells die in freezing temperatures. It causes skin tissue to freeze and

can result in varying degrees of harm. Frostbite most often affects the extremities due to prolonged exposure to the cold.

In cases of extreme frostbite, major tissue damage can cause blisters and hardening of the skin, in addition to the skin turning white. In some situations, the numbness and pain from frostbite lasts for years. Affected body parts may even have to be surgically amputated.

If we live within the city, particularly the downtown area, we are generally able to stay indoors enough to prevent ourselves from getting frostbite. A more common occurrence for people who spend less time outdoors in the winter is frostnip. Frostnip is a less severe version of frostbite, though it still damages skin tissue.

Frostnip can be remedied by adding extra warmth, but if we do not reverse the problem, frostnip can easily lead to the more serious frostbite.

When our bodies become too cold, we fail to generate enough heat to reach all of our extremities. The body reduces blood flow to those extremities in order to keep warm. This is a survival method to protect against hypothermia.

Prevent frostbite and frostnip by wearing appropriate clothing during the winter months. We tend to be negligent about covering our ears, so be sure to wear a hat to protect them from

freezing. Always wear gloves or mittens before leaving the house and try to choose clothes that are good insulators. Because jeans let in a lot of the cold air, you can put on long underwear beneath them for that extra layer of protection.

Too many layers are better than too few! If you overheat, it's easy to remove a layer.

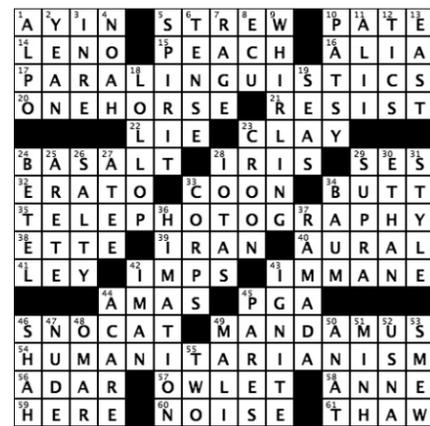
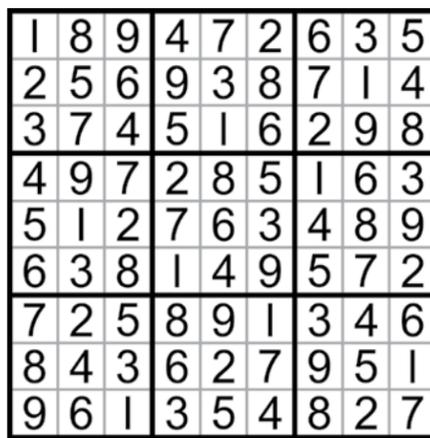
If you do get frostbite, it is important to try to warm the frozen areas very slowly. One way to do this is to place the affected parts in warm water. Because frostbitten areas are often numb, we cannot always feel the affected parts, so they can feel like they are burning if we unknowingly submerge the affected areas in water that is too hot. The key here is not to shock the body by changing from one extreme temperature to another.

Getting out of damp clothes is also vital to prevent refreeze. Moisture traps the cold, undoing any frostbite treatment that you might already have started.

Take measures to stay warm and dry throughout this snowy season and you will be safe from the hazards of freezing temperatures!

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

Solutions to October 8 puzzles:



WWW.UNITER.CA
JOIN THE DISCUSSION

What to wear this Halloween...

Go all out and get creative during this spooky season



KATHLEEN CERRER
STAFF WRITER

Halloween costumes involve three main things: Originality, creativity and, of course, fun.

Whether you are buying your costume as a whole, or piecing it together bit by bit, standing out in a crowd and having that wow-factor is exactly what Halloween calls for. Here are some categories and ideas to get you in the spooky Halloween spirit – and get your creative juices flowing.

Like any other Halloween costume, there is usually a theme which people like to stick to especially when dressed in large groups. Ideally, the theme should be loud and clear and easily recognizable; for example, '70s disco or a sports team. Think outside the box and try something new and creative. An eco-friendly superhero perhaps?

POP CULTURE

Always a hit when it comes to Halloween, pop culture screams ideas galore for your upcoming Halloween event. Through television, movies, music, magazines and the media in general, the pop-culture industry can concoct quite the ensemble. What's great about pop culture is that most people

are in the know about current events happening and can easily identify your costume. Since these events or people are currently in the media, it makes it more exciting when you are recognized as your character. The pop-culture genre has limitless ideas that you can take in your own direction and, like anything, put your own unique spin on it.

Suggestions: Lady Gaga, Kate Gosselin, characters from the *Twilight* series, Jabbawockeez dance crew, paparazzi, Michael Jackson ... to name a few.

CLASSIC

Although pop culture seems to always be a hit come Halloween time, each year the traditional scary costumes seem less common. Halloween is about having fun with plenty of sweet treats, but what happened to the scary part of it? This year why not pull out that old witch's hat or vampire cape?

Along with the scary classics are the (hopefully) less frightening classic costumes. The infamous Disney characters always seem to resurface and, when done right, can be just as classic as the stories they belong to. The great thing about traditional Halloween character costumes is that you can usually buy them in one set and then hand them down or reuse them the coming year.

Suggestions: Mummy, Dracula, zombie, witch, monster, devil, queen or king, crayon, pumpkin, genie, pirate

Things to look out for to ensure the best costume possible are:

Quality – Ensuring your costume looks how your character is supposed to is the

whole point of dressing up. Nobody wants to walk around in a costume that lacks effort and that no one can identify.

Versatility – It's great to have pieces you can use for the upcoming year so that you don't end up being a cheerleader, firefighter or ghost ... again. Also, versatile clothing and accessories mean that you can DIY parts of your old costume into another one.

Cost – Thrift shops are the place to be as you gear up this Halloween because you can

create your own look. Rummage through your old clothes and you'll be surprised at what you may find – there's nothing better than a creative costume for free!

Creativity – Adding your own unique touch to a costume can work wonders, especially if you see someone else with the same character. Creativity can make or break a costume, as even the simplest costume with a creative spin can make the best costume.

Make a statement or send a message without muttering a word this Halloween!

— VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.UNITER.CA —

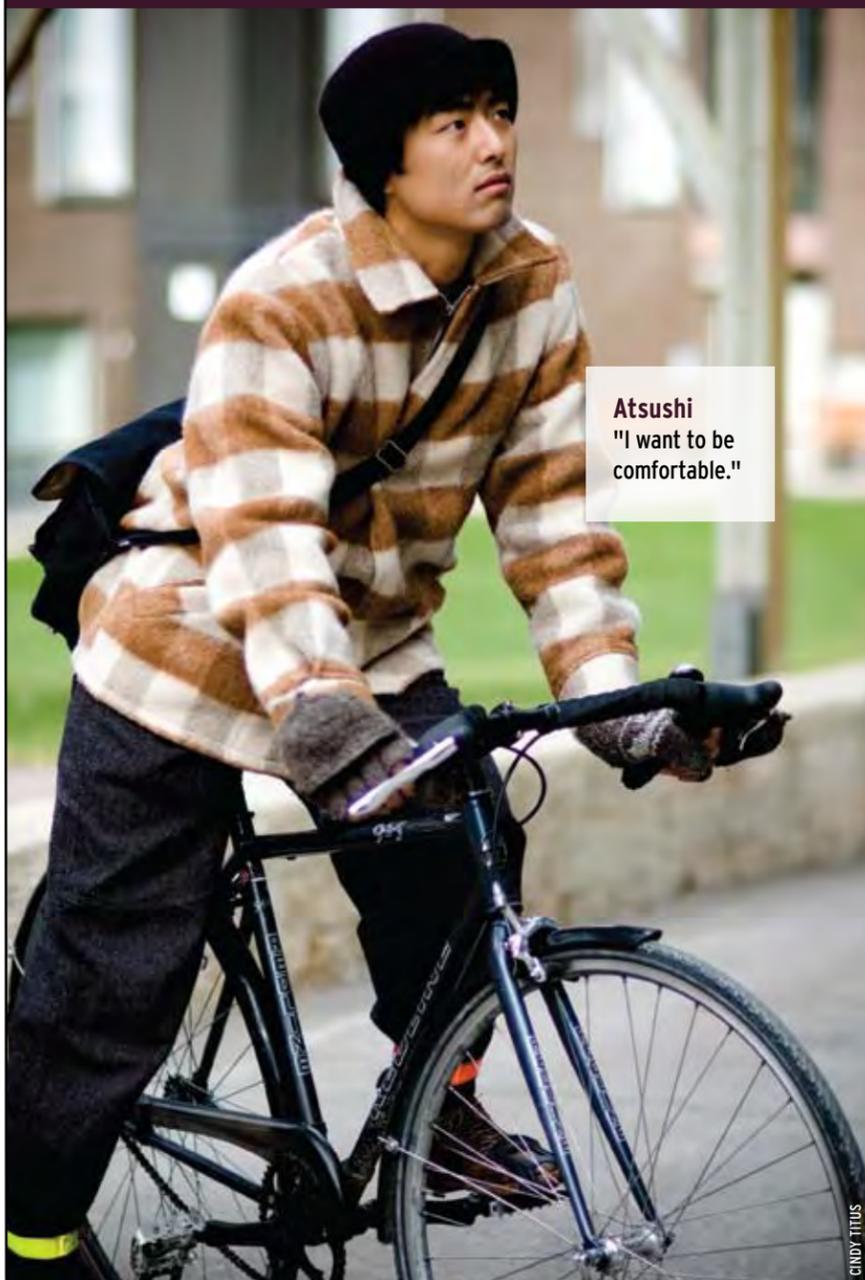
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FASHION STREETER

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.



Atsushi
"I want to be comfortable."

CINDY TITUS



If you've hit your spending limit, it's time to fold.

Like other forms of entertainment, gambling costs money. Enjoy yourself, but only play with what you can afford to lose.



Manitoba Gaming
Control Commission

www.mgcc.mb.ca

