

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

THE **UNITER**

2009/10 / 29
ISSUE
09
VOLUME 64

Mark your territory

With enough money, you can put your name on just about anything

NEWS ➔ page 2

No joke

Canadian cartoonist Seth talks comics, plus: Find out what all the fuss is about when it comes to comic conventions

ARTS & CULTURE ➔ pages 14 & 15

You have no job! Here's a car!

Will Manitobans soon be able to drive their way out of social assistance?

NEWS ➔ page 3

"Making the record was not about being safe. Some people aren't comfortable with that frank honesty, but really, I think that's the only thing I can offer."

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A few reasons why Stephen Harper should read *The Uniter*

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LOOKING FOR LISTINGS?

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***COVER IMAGE**

"Fall"

by Cindy Titus

News

What's in a name?

Winnipeggers can leave their mark all over the city

NAOMI SIMIYU
VOLUNTEER STAFF

There are plenty of opportunities right now for Winnipeggers to put their individual stamp on their city.

The CanWest Centre for Theatre and Film is currently selling the naming rights for seats in its new theatre building. For \$500 per seat, donors will have their name engraved on a plaque on the back of a seat.

The money earned from the seat sale is expected to go towards purchasing permanent seating in the theatre. The centre sold around 40 seats in the first two weeks.

Tim Babcock, chair of the theatre department at the University of Winnipeg, said the seat sale has had a great start "largely due to the fact that it's not too expensive and sponsors will see where their money is going."

While the university's campaign seems to be taking off, similar efforts by the city appear to have stalled.

The City of Winnipeg is currently working on a public fundraising campaign called Sponsor Winnipeg. The campaign, announced over a year ago, involves



These chairs in the CanWest Centre for Theatre and Film will soon be replaced by permanent seating bearing the names of donors who shelled out \$500 per seat.

selling the naming rights of public facilities like community centres, libraries, swimming pools, parks and certain buildings.

According to Ed Shiller, manager of corporate communications for the city, the program is not yet fully launched, and the city is laying the groundwork for the project while negotiations with potential sponsors continue.

"It looks hopeful that it will achieve some degree of success from ... Winnipeg," said Shiller. "It offers mutual benefits for both the city and the sponsors. There is no

reason as to why the project would not succeed."

Any organization involved in the campaign will have to pass through a vetting process to ensure it's an organization the city would like to be associated with.

While the seat sale at the U of W is picking up speed, more funds are needed to further develop the centre.

The theatre is currently named after its building sponsor CanWest, and Babcock said the possibility of future contributions from companies in further development of the

theatre would probably see some of the facilities in the theatre named after its sponsor.

However, Babcock said the centre welcomes contributions from both individuals and organizations.

A date has not yet been set for the official launch of Sponsor Winnipeg, however Shiller expects it to be launched soon.

To purchase a seat in the new theatre go to www.uwinnipegfoundation.ca or call 789-1470.

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STREETER

BY ETHAN CABEL

Q: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF COMPANIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS SELLING NAMING RIGHTS?



Chris Hunter
Second-year student, rhetoric and communications

"It's admirable in some ways if the person's reasoning is to give back to the community. But if you just want to have your name on a seat for the sake of having your name on a seat then I don't agree with that."



John Thompson
book seller, the Bookman

"I don't think there's any harm in it. It's just a way of getting extra funding, which is a problem particularly for universities right now. I guess it's fine if they want to be creative."



Katlyn Raymer
First-year student, pre-professional medical technology

"I think it's pretty cool and that if you were really into that, it'd be special to have a part of you there all the time."



Maxime Desjardins
First-year student, politics

"I think it's a great idea to make money. It's an ownership thing, so it makes you feel like you belong to a group."



Stephen Sim
performer with improv duo CRUMBS

"If it means that a theater [for example] is able to exist, then I'm for it. If it means they get to determine what happens there, then I'm not."



Kevin Focht, supervisor Casa Burrito

"It's definitely not a bad idea but I don't see myself having any interest in it."

NDP look strong with new leader

Opposition hopeful they can catch up

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

Even after losing the popular former premier Gary Doer, the NDP retain a firm grip on political popularity in Manitoba, a recent Probe Research poll indicates.

The poll was published shortly before the Oct. 17 leadership convention when Greg Selinger was elected leader. It shows the party sitting comfortably at 45 per cent support in Manitoba, with the opposition Progressive Conservatives at 38 per cent.

In Winnipeg, which holds the majority of legislative ridings, the NDP is at 53 per cent and the PCs at 30 per cent.

Despite these numbers, the Progressive Conservatives remain hopeful the party can benefit from Doer's resignation.

Immediately after Selinger's victory was announced, the PCs distributed a pamphlet called "Is Greg Selinger Trustworthy?" which criticizes Selinger for fiscal mismanagement.

"If the [PC] party is going to reconnect with voters, they will need to frame the debate so that Selinger is nearly always on the defensive," said Glenn Hollyoake, a University of Winnipeg student and PC party member.

Among the criticisms in the pamphlet is the issue of a Harmonized Sales Tax (HST). The NDP have been considering a federal proposal that Manitoba eliminate the PST (at seven per cent) and combine it with the GST (at five per cent) to create an overall

harmonized rate of 12 per cent.

The proposal is meant to balance out equalization payments to the provinces. Premiers are under pressure to adopt the tax, and many provinces are receiving cash incentives to implement harmonization, said Shannon Sampert, politics professor at U of W.

Critics have argued that consumers would be hit hard by a harmonized sales tax because PST-exempt items would be charged the full 12 per cent tax.

Although Rosann Wowchuk, the acting minister of finance, has said the government doesn't consider an HST beneficial, the PCs remain unconvinced.

"We have been asking for the benefits and costs of this proposal ... Show me the impact on consumers," said Rick Borotsik, PC finance critic.



Others believe the NDP looks strong under the new leadership and that a renewed mandate will benefit the party.

"I think that Selinger will appeal to many South Winnipeg voters because of his record as finance minister," said Christopher Adams, vice president of Probe Research Inc.

In order for the Progressive Conservatives to be successful in the next election, they would need to challenge Selinger in the south of Winnipeg and win back the support of the middle class, said Adams.

For more information on whether or not Manitobans will embrace a premier without an elected mandate, and further interview excerpts, go to Ethan Cabel's blog at www.uniter.ca/blogs.

Increase vehicle ownership to improve employment, report says

Critics question whether strategy is realistic

SONYA HOWARD
VOLUNTEER

A recent report suggests vehicle ownership may be one way to help social assistance recipients find and keep jobs.

The report, released by the Frontier Centre for Public Policy, cites positive results from U.S. non-profit vehicle assistance programs that match welfare recipients with inexpensive cars. Some states have dropped "vehicle asset tests" that sometimes force people to sell their cars in order to qualify for social assistance.

In Manitoba, social assistance applicants are allowed to own one vehicle without a reduction in assistance. However, after \$285 for



Buy a car to drive to work: Having access to a vehicle will open up more employment opportunities for low-income people, a Frontier Centre for Public Policy report argues.

shelter and \$195 for basic needs are accounted for, very little remains from the monthly social assistance allotment to cover transportation costs.

"Our current transportation system may not be meeting the needs of all users, particularly in remote or northern regions where there is no public transit," said Paula Keirstead, chair of the poverty advisory committee for the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg and a co-ordinator at Community Financial Counseling Services.

There are some concerns, however, with the suggested model.

"Promoting car ownership is inconsistent with our society's environmental goals," said Shauna MacKinnon, Manitoba director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

There is also little mention of ongoing vehicle maintenance costs.

"[Vehicle ownership] can be an added stress if you're on limited income," said former social assistance recipient Michael Zacharias.

MacKinnon agreed, adding that it can be difficult to afford vehicle upkeep on minimum wage, even if car ownership increases access to jobs.

The U.S. vehicle access models examined in the report are a mix of non-profit and gov-

ernment-funded initiatives.

"This charity model implies that only the deserving poor get assistance," said Kierstead.

MacKinnon questions the effectiveness of a private approach to an issue that has broader public implications.

"Why should our tax dollars go towards supporting a charity that focuses on individual solutions?" she said. "Our tax dollars would be better spent on items that assist everyone."

Zacharis, meanwhile, thinks people are missing the big picture in this case.

"The basic needs of housing and food security have to be met," he said.

Comprehensive supports and a transition component should be built in to allow recipients to focus on their future "instead of worrying day to day about survival," Keirstead noted.

"There needs to be a bridging mechanism that focuses on improving transit and allowing people to transition into employment," she said.

To read the complete report, go to www.fccp.org.

Local News Briefs

Compiled by John Gaudes

TIM HORTONS' KIDS WILL FIND NEW SITE

Plans to build a Tim Hortons Children's Foundation (THCF) leadership camp at Meditation Lake in Whiteshell Provincial Park have broken down due to a lack of water quality, according to the province.

The environmental criteria for THCF, which would provide year-round camps for Manitoba youth, has always been high. Even though Meditation Lake did not pass the test, both the provincial government and THCF members are confident a new site will be found in the Whiteshell area.

The area at Meditation Lake will still provide a camping experience and access to the backcountry for the public, with no development planned.

CBC NEWS: WINNIPEG GOES LATE NIGHT

Only a few months after moving their supper hour newscast up an hour to 5 p.m., CBC News is expanding its local coverage further with a new program, *CBC News: Winnipeg Late Night*. It will air for an hour starting shortly before 11 p.m.

According to a press release by CBC, the new show will start right after *CBC National News* and be hosted by Adrienne Pan starting Nov. 2.

"We are excited to showcase a new and improved CBC News," Jennifer McGuire, editor-in-chief of CBC News, said in the release.

These changes were preceded by the largest audience research project in CBC history.

ISRAELI EXCHANGE STUDENTS ARRIVE IN WINNIPEG

Local teenagers in Winnipeg's Jewish community are about to get a chance to see what life is like for members of their religion in Israel. According to the *Jewish Federation of Winnipeg*, six high school students and one teacher have arrived from Daniger School in Israel as part of the Partnership 2000 program.

The students will be here for 10 days. In that time they will appear before high school audiences to explain how life for a teenager in Israel is not so different from life in Canada.

Partnership 2000 has worked since 1997 to develop Jewish values and foster partnerships between Israeli and Canadian students.

WOMEN JUDGES HONOURED DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

With half of the provincial court judge chairs now being filled by women, the province recently took an opportunity provided by Women's History Month to honour these outstanding individuals for their hard work and determination.

"Having a woman in the ultimate decision-making role in the courtroom ... reflects the diversity of our society," keynote speaker Susan Devine said in a release. In 1988, Devine became one of the first women to be appointed provincial court judge.

Manitoba has one of the highest percentages of women judges at any court level across the country.

MANITOBA HYDRO TO SUBMIT TO SPECIAL AUDIT

Allegations of poor risk management at Manitoba Hydro has led the minister responsible for the company, Rosann Wowchuk, to call for a special audit.

This follows a report by the Office of the Auditor General in summer 2009 that promised a review of Manitoba Hydro in the near future. Wowchuk hopes that the process can speed up and noted that the next meeting of the Legislature's Standing Committee on Crown Corporations dealing with Hydro will be called as soon as possible.

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International News Briefs

Compiled by Brooke Dmytriw

SCHOOL TEACHES CONFIDENCE THROUGH FIRE EATING

TAIPEI, Taiwan: A private training centre was closed last week after parents and city officials complained the centre was making students walk on glass and eat fire. Mai-teh International Intelligence Research Institute was registered as a private training centre two years ago with the intention of building courage in its students. According to Reuters, students paid the equivalent of \$932 for a term's worth of after-school classes. Video and testimonies acquired by authorities show the school used corporal punishment and may have violated laws in its confidence-building exercises. Extreme confidence-building training is typically provided by the military, like the U.S. Marine Corps.

NEW PATENT ON THE PIZZA BOX

NEW YORK, New York: An American inventor is attempting to revolutionize the pizza box by selling a box that breaks down into convenient serving plates and a refrigerator-friendly storage size. The GreenBox converts a standard-size pizza box made from 100 per cent recycled paper to four plates and a half-size storage box. *NY Daily News* reported the GreenBox was the innovation of William Walsh, who came up with the idea while in college 20 years ago. Walsh ripped off a portion of pizza box to use as a plate and is now hoping to cash in on the 2.3 billion pizza boxes manufactured each year in the United States.

100,000 WOMEN OFFENDED BY PRIME MINISTER

ROME, Italy: Italian women are petitioning to voice their offence at their prime minister's behaviour. More than 100,000 women signed a petition initiated by a local newspaper, *La Repubblica*, after Silvio Berlusconi directed a sexist comment at an opposition politician. Berlusconi made a jab at Rosy Bindi on a late-night talk show saying she was "always more beautiful than intelligent." Bindi spoke against Berlusconi, saying she was not among the women at his disposal. Three Italian intellectuals quickly drafted feminist manifestos denouncing Berlusconi, claiming he degrades women and democracy at the same time, reported the Associated Press. Berlusconi has been at the centre of several scandals this year. His wife filed for divorce after his decision to make former showgirls candidates in European Union elections. Earlier in October, a judge reversed an immunity law protecting Berlusconi from corruption charges filed against him.

RICH IN OIL, NOT IN WATER

CARACAS, Venezuela: As a means to conserve water, President Hugo Chavez is encouraging Venezuelans to stop singing and opt for a three-minute shower. The oil-rich country has run into problems with blackouts due to an increasing demand on its electrical power. Under-investment and a drop in hydroelectric dams' water levels have forced the government to take energy-conserving measures. Reuters reported Chavez spoke about his own bathing habits, saying a three-minute shower is plausible. Chavez is also considering using airplanes to force rain from clouds in an effort to bring more water. Other proposals included the creation of a ministry to deal with electricity shortages and a law prohibiting inefficient appliances.

Secret agent parking man?

Largest security company in the world enforcing parking, handling cash in Winnipeg

WESLEY JOHNSTON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

You've probably seen them in their bright green vests placing parking tickets on your windshield or handling cash drops at the University of Winnipeg banking machine.

Group 4 Securicor (G4S), a prominent security company, has been popping up a lot in Winnipeg recently, raising interest in the company and concern among those who oppose contracting out city services.

With over half-a-million employees, the British company is the second-largest private employer in the world, after Wal-Mart.



To Winnipeggers they may just be the guys who give out tickets, but G4S has security contracts all over the world.

"We're a security solutions company," said Thor Goodmanson, district manager of G4S in Winnipeg. "We have the ability to track our clients, using GPS, to any corner of the planet ... There are a couple of spots in Antarctica we can't reach ... yet."

Goodmanson oversees the security solutions and technology divisions of G4S from his office at 530 Century St., while a third arm - cash solutions - operates from an office on Wall Street.

The City of Winnipeg contracted with G4S to enforce parking last year. There have been criticisms leveled against the city for contracting G4S, notably by Pete Hudson, a professor at the University of Manitoba.

In a November 2008 article for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, he cautioned against "flaws in ideology" responsible for city council's decision to contract with G4S, when the alternative of contracting city staff was hardly considered.

The traditional argument for privatizing public services is that it will be more cost-efficient and services will be more effectively administered.

"No one's added up the numbers to actually show that this actually happens," said Hudson.

Another criticism came from a

former employee of the cash solutions arm of G4S who spoke on condition of anonymity about his mixed feelings towards the company.

"I hated the company I worked for because they didn't care about their staff ... what you are there is cattle."

He recalled a shootout that took place on Route 90.

Attacked by an armed robber, "one of our guys was shot in the leg ... The supervisor then came up to the cop that had been called in, and said, 'Are you guys done here? I need someone to finish my run.'"

The cop replied, "No, these guys are mine for the day."

Indifferent, the supervisor insisted his staff move along to "finish the run."

Goodmanson, however, said G4S is "very in touch with [its] employees."

He pointed to a newsletter which regularly honours employee achievements.

Peak of potato monopoly

Marketing board helps growers stay profitable, supporters say

CAITLIN LAIRD
BEAT REPORTER

Recent allegations by a local small-scale potato farmer that Peak of the Market tried to squeeze him out of business when he sold without permission to a national grocery chain has some wondering if Peak is playing by the rules.

All potatoes in Manitoba must be sold through Peak of the Market, but Peak president Larry McIntosh said that, in the past, they've allowed farmers to sell at farmers' markets and roadside stands unhindered.

Parameters will be created in the coming months that make the rules regarding those who wish to sell outside of the Peak umbrella official.

"The exemption for selling potatoes outside of Peak will be intended for small producers and farmers' markets," said McIntosh. "If people have the perception that Peak is a monopoly I don't think that's accurate. People forget that Peak is not some big corporation. It's Manitoba growers working together ... We compete against other provinces, just not each other."

He also responded to allegations made by Eric Crampton of Crampton's Market that Peak was clamping down on producers, saying their approach is the same as it has always been.

"Marketing boards like Peak are one of the ways that we maintain profitability," said a local grower, who belongs to Peak. He asked that



Potatoes and profit: Some growers say Peak of the Market allows them to make more money by eliminating local competition.

his name not be used. "You don't have pricing competition. The product is jointly marketed."

Food safety is also an issue when it comes to evaluating the role of Peak in the Manitoba market-

place, according to McIntosh and Peak members. Peak must conform to food safety standards that are approved by the Canadian Food Inspection agency.

"Many products are marketed using boards like Peak. Eggs and milk are controlled by marketing boards. The Canadian Wheat Board is a good example," said the grower.

As to allegations that Peak is not local-food friendly, McIntosh said Peak values the relationship between the consumer who wishes to buy on a more local level and the small-scale farmer, and said they have no interest in abolishing it.

"I think people buy local because it's more personal," said organic and local food market Organza employee Joelle Kidd. "I think [reprimanding] someone from selling outside [Peak] is taking it a little too far."

PEOPLE WORTH READING ABOUT

Good treats for a good cause

U of W student bakes every month to help orphans in Haiti

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

Sarah Yachison is the definition of dedication.

At 21, the fifth-year psychology student at the University of Winnipeg heads a local organization to help combat the genocide in Darfur.

Also, since the beginning of the year, she has held a bake sale at the U of W on the first Monday of every month to raise money for an orphanage in the small, poverty-stricken city of Cap-Haitien, Haiti. The orphanage, called Foundation Bon Secours, is run by a part-time policeman and his wife.

Yachison first encountered the orphanage when visiting Haiti in the spring as part of humanitarian efforts orchestrated by the Florida-based non-profit Haitian Education



U of W student Sarah Yachison sends all the money from her monthly bake sales to the Haitian Education Project.

Project (HEP).

At first Yachison's parents were reluctant for their daughter to stay in a region often plagued by civil discord and violence.

"We were very proud and excited, but my wife and I were both very concerned for Sarah's safety," said Dean Yachison, Sarah's father.

While the Canadian Embassy advised Sarah not to visit the country, her parents eventually agreed

to the trip after realizing the legitimacy of HEP.

"It was a way for me to directly help the situation because my previous work [for Darfur] had been indirect," said Yachison.

Over a nine-day period in May, six volunteers and four HEP staff taught English and volunteered support for Bon Secours.

"It was amazing what our presence did for people," said Yachison. "It was as if our presence alone gave them hope."

Yachison has raised over \$200 through her two bake sales. The money goes to HEP president Laude Saint-Preux and right back to the underfunded orphanage.

One of the key projects undertaken by HEP was in the direction of agricultural and economic sustainability.

Yachison and other HEP volunteers and staff planted over 500 banana trees over 100 acres of land in Cap-Haitien, along with over 150 fruit trees in a neighbouring impoverished mountain community.

The agricultural initiatives were done to both encourage local growth and nutrition but, more

importantly, to teach responsible farming techniques.

"Agricultural efforts are absolutely necessary in Haiti," said Rose Woodard, a HEP volunteer who attended the trip to Haiti. "I do not believe that the Haitians themselves know enough about the need for improved agricultural systems and I believe that non-profits could focus more on this area."

Over 60 per cent of Haiti's workforce is employed through agriculture, with around 30 per cent of agricultural production contributing to the national GDP.

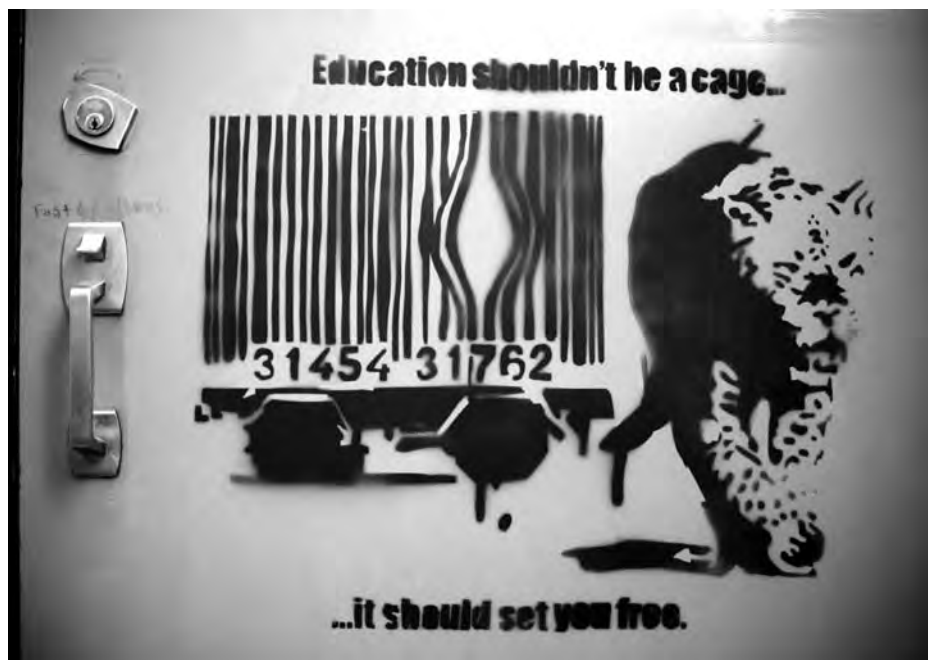
One of the largest economic problems in Haiti is that so much of their food is imported from the United States and other countries, driving up prices so that the average Haitian finds regular food completely unaffordable, Woodard said.

Check out next week's issue of The Uniter for more on Canada/Haiti relations. To read more about Erik, a little boy in Cap-Haitien and other information about Sarah's visit, go to Ethan Cabel's blog at www.uniter.ca/blogs.

Campus News

Exploring the university's top floors

Hidden rooms, secret gardens await adventurous students on the school's upper levels



Clockwise from top left: It's almost closing time for the university's observatory, which can't stay open during the winter and spring months. · The door and staircase to the seventh floor of Lockhart Hall is a favourite target for graffiti. · The fifth-floor greenhouse is home to many exotic plants from around the world.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CINDY TITUS



The University of Winnipeg is a quirky place. Although it is a small campus, many areas remain unknown to the average student. This "Know Your University" series will explore the quirky corners and interesting individuals that make this university unique.

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

MATTY RYGIEL AND NAOMI SIMIYU
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Ever wonder what goes on in the halls above the buffeteria? And where exactly does that staircase on the sixth floor of Lockhart Hall go?

The *Uniter* sent three reporters along with photographers to explore the many hidden nooks and crannies of the University of Winnipeg campus.

The explorers went around the fifth, sixth and seventh floors of the university hoping to get lost in the maze of hallways and mislabelled rooms.

From secluded study areas to infrastructure that doesn't make sense, there are places for students to hang out and study, as well as specialized rooms for specific research.

Some rooms on the fifth floor were marked with the number "4" on the door. Some doors can only be opened from one side. Others are accessible only by stairs.

If you ever want to find cool hidden places around campus where hardly anyone goes, start with our pictures and then go exploring.

✿ The secret garden: Fifth-floor Centennial houses lush greenhouse

On the fifth floor of Centennial Hall, tucked away deep in the library, is the university's greenhouse. Home to dozens of endangered and extinct plants from places like India and Ecuador, the greenhouse is a largely unknown treasure.

Karen Jones, a biological technician who has worked in the greenhouse for 23 years, said hardly any students know the greenhouse ex-

ists except for botany students reviewing for exams.

Considering the diverse collection of plants housed there, students are missing out, said Jones.

One of the most valued plants in the greenhouse is a Staghorn Fern, a large and unusual looking plant native to New Zealand.

"It's worth well over \$2,000," said Jones, adding that the plant is the envy of botanical gardens across Canada.

The greenhouse is home to another unique species - Australian walking sticks. The small, scorpion-like insects are housed in a small, clear box near the front of the long, narrow room.

Although the greenhouse has been in the same location since Centennial Hall was built, Jones said it will likely be replaced with a new greenhouse in the new science complex and Richardson College for the Environment.

✿ Star light, star bright, can't see the stars because of city lights!

Not only does Lockhart hall have a seventh floor, it has a place to star gaze. Built in 1972, the astronomy observatory is home to a 14-inch Celestron telescope, one of the largest in Manitoba, and a day star filter used to observe solar flares.

Despite the impressive equipment, the observatory's usefulness

is limited. Physics professor Dan Campbell said bright city lights make it difficult to see the night sky clearly.

He said the university could have built the observatory outside the city to maximize star-gazing abilities but opted to keep it close to home.

"It was a trade-off," he said. "They chose convenience over a better sky location."

Campbell said the moon, major planets, some galaxies and gas clouds can be seen on the right nights with the help of special light filters.

The observatory recently reopened after being closed for a year-and-a-half. The structure that supports the observatory is made entirely of wood, which needed to be replaced.

"It was made in Florida and unfortunately observatories don't match up with Winnipeg winters," said Campbell, adding that because of its structural shortcomings the room is closed during the winter and spring months.

✿ Going to the forest for some research? Better take a map from down the hall

The Centre for Forest Interdisciplinary Research (CIFA) is on the fifth floor of Centennial Hall or the mezzanine of the fourth floor (depending on which room

you're going to). CIFA is a centre for students and faculty to work on forest research.

"It provides room for undergraduate and graduate students to learn as it has spacious classrooms," said director Ed Cloutis.

The centre ranks low on accessibility as it has many one-way doors; however, Cloutis said "a lot of the doors are getting new locks ... the university is upgrading security."

Whether or not you're interested in forest health, CIFA has weird but quiet study corners.

Next to CIFA is the map library, tucked away on the fourth floor of Centennial Hall Mezzanine. It contains over 150,000 maps, books, atlases, globes and aerial photos.

"Many students in the university don't know about the map library," even though it's open to students and the public, map librarian Brad Russell said.

The library holds maps for the East European Genealogical Society, so if you need a map to show you where your ancestors came from, the library probably has it.

The library has copies of all the topographic maps that Canada produces as it's a depository of the National Topographic System of Canada. It's also a great place to study and is wheelchair accessible. Just call beforehand to arrange an elevator.

Wesmen men finish fourth in Pembina Chrysler Invitational

Wesmen lead for three quarters against Concordia but lose in final 10 minutes

SARAH REILLY
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The Wesmen men's basketball team lost two hard-fought games to finish fourth at the 2009 Pembina Chrysler Invitational Oct. 23 to 24.

The Wesmen took on the University of Laurentian Voyageurs in the opening game Friday night.

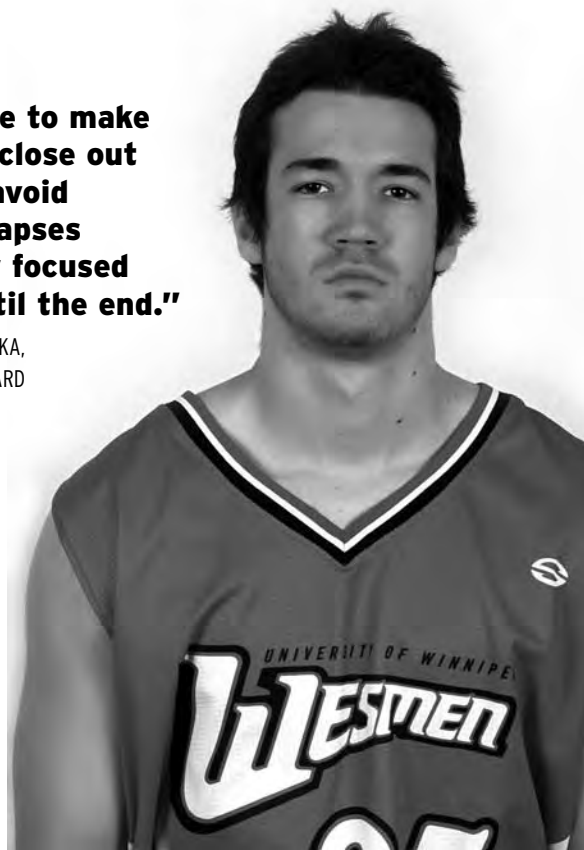
Laurentian started the game strong and took an early lead, leaving the Wesmen trailing by four points after the first quarter. The Wesmen were unable to steal the lead and at the end of the half were down 42-31.

The Wesmen came out fighting when the second half began. They pushed the ball in transition, boxed out, played tough defence and hit their shots.

Within the first three minutes of the second half, the Wesmen had gone on a 10-2 run, led by fourth-year forward Peter Lomuro, who scored eight of the 10 points.

"We have to make sure we close out games, avoid mental lapses and stay focused right until the end."

- JAMES HORASKA,
WESMEN FORWARD



James Horaska is a fourth-year forward with the University of Winnipeg Wesmen men's basketball team.

Undaunted, Laurentian responded with their own 10-0 run and, at the start of the fourth quarter, the score was 62-47 for Laurentian.

Wesmen fourth-year forward James Horaska noted that the Wesmen struggled to stop Laurentian's high scorer, Isiah Pasquale, in the second half.

WESMEN HIGH-SCORERS AT THE 2009 PEMBINA CHRYSLER INVITATIONAL

Vs. the University of Laurentian Voyageurs (Oct. 23)

Nick Lothar (fourth-year, guard) ⇒ 25 points, 5 steals

Peter Lomuro (fourth-year, forward) ⇒ 18 points

Ryan Willerton (third-year, post) ⇒ 8 points

Vs. the University of Concordia Stingers (Oct. 24)

Peter Lomuro (fourth-year, forward) ⇒ 17 points

Nick Lothar (fourth-year, guard) ⇒ 14 points

Ben Kingdon (third-year, forward) ⇒ 10 rebounds

"We have to stop letting one or two guys go off every game, because that's what killed us."

The last 10 minutes of play saw both teams fighting for the lead. Wesmen went on another run and closed the gap to 62-54, but fell just short of taking over the game.

On the other side, Laurentian's Pasquale tipped the balance with 30 points. The final score was 78-71 for Laurentian.

Winnipeg came out strong in their Saturday match against the University of Concordia Stingers, out-scoring Concordia 21-13 in the first quarter. Although the Stingers fought back in the second half and cut the lead to five, the Wesmen were still up 39-34 at halftime.

The second half started much like the first. The Wesmen appeared to bury the Stingers and led 65-50 by the end of the third quarter. But the Stingers came out fighting and on fire at the start of the fourth quarter.

The Stingers went on a 30-6 run in the last 10 minutes of the game, and defeated the Wesmen 80-71.

Looking towards the regular season which begins this weekend (Oct. 30-31) in Calgary, Horaska said the team needs to learn from the tournament and be ready for close games down to the wire.

"We have to make sure we close out games, avoid mental lapses and stay focused right until the end."

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY LISTINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CENTRAL CANADA COMIC CON is running from Friday, Oct. 30 to Sunday, Nov. 1, with a slew of great guest artists and performers. For more information visit www.cccomicon.com.

The MANITO AHBEE festival runs from Wednesday, Nov. 4 to Sunday, Nov. 8.

Professor Henry Rempel speaks about the tsunami in Southeast India at the Millennium Library on Thursday, Oct. 29 at 12:10 p.m.

The Winnipeg EMBROIDERERS GUILD will hold a demonstration of needle arts on Saturday, Oct. 31 at noon. McNally Robinson Polo Park.

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

THE NEW WAVE OF VIOLENCE: MISUSE OF TECHNOLOGY is a two-day conference on how technology affects family violence. Monday, Nov. 2 and Tuesday, Nov. 3 at Victoria Inn.

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 at 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 with 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 Wednesday, Nov. 4 to Sunday, Nov. 8. Visit www.manitohabee.com or call 956-1849 for more information.

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Spawning hundreds of connections

Students with infected computers and WebCT to blame for bogging down U of W's web network

SAMUEL SWANSON
BEAT REPORTER

The recent weakness of the University of Winnipeg's wireless Internet connection can be blamed on two things: A virus that confuses the wireless network and - believe it or not - WebCT.

Viruses in the network were said to be ruled out in the Sept. 24 issue of *The Uniter*. There are no viruses in the network, but there is a virus affecting the network from students' laptops.

Richard Nakoneczny, executive director of the Technology Solutions Centre, said there's a virus in the computers of many students which convinces the network that a single computer is actually several hundred.

"It happens instantaneously," he said.

This virus is unique in that it goes beyond affecting the infected computer to affect the online network the computer is connected to. This results in all the computers on the network receiving less bandwidth and slowing down.

To address the problem, the University increased its bandwidth by 20 per cent but due to the virus, the bandwidth increase didn't help at all.

"By the time the screen refreshed, all that bandwidth was chewed up," Nakoneczny said.

The Technology Solutions Centre will have a better idea of how they'll solve the problem in about a week.



A virus which makes one computer on the university server look like hundreds has infected several U of W students' laptops.

The problems with the school's network have left some students unprepared for class.

"I see my friends struggling," said Cody Dietrich, a second-year kinesiology student. "One of my friends was trying to get an article for his class. He wanted to print it so he could have it for that class that day but he couldn't."

The Powerland computer store on campus is receiving a lot of complaints from students, even though they don't run the wireless network.

"It's because we're visible," said employee Leif Norman while fiddling with the inside of a computer.

But it's not just this virus affecting the network. The WebCT site is overwhelming the University of Winnipeg between classes, said Nakoneczny.

"What we thought would be a remote learning tool ended up being a lot for the system."

Even last year WebCT wasn't a burden on the network, but with more professors using WebCT for their classes, the increase of students logging on at school has put stress on the network.

Nakoneczny said casual and social use of websites like Facebook, MySpace and YouTube don't help the bandwidth problem, but they aren't as strong contributors to the bandwidth problem as WebCT.

The campus' landline Internet went down for about 15 minutes during the afternoon of Tuesday, Oct. 20. That was caused by an MTS failure, unrelated to the U of W network.

In from the cold

Manitoba Urban Inuit Association helps students feel at home in Winnipeg

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

The Manitoba Urban Inuit Association (MUIA) is helping Inuit students make a smooth transition to urban life. The Winnipeg-based volunteer organization recently released a website and welcome guide for Inuit newcomers.

The project - a collaborative effort of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg and MUIA - came from a lack of resources specifically for Inuit people.

Jennifer Sheetoga, a first-year student at Red River College, arrived in Winnipeg in September from Whale Cove, Nunavut. She said the guide helped her find affordable housing.

"I didn't know the city," she said.

Jeff Booth, aboriginal student support officer at the University of Winnipeg, said finding housing is one of the major struggles for Inuit and other aboriginal post-secondary students coming to Winnipeg for the first time.

In addition to providing resources on how to find housing, the guide offers advice about medical services, transportation and provides phone numbers and addresses of various other resources.

MUIA president Nichola Batzel said Inuit students face several challenges in the transition to city life.



MUIA president Nichola Batzel says urban Inuit need a place to have their own community.

"It is a huge culture shock," said Batzel. "You are coming to a city where it is sort of fend for yourselves," she said, adding that unlike cities, Inuit communities are closely knit.

Sheetoga comes from a community of 350 people. She found Winnipeg's environment difficult to get used to.

"When I first was in the city my head was just kind of spinning," she said.

While other aboriginal organizations and centres provide similar resources for newcomers, Batzel stressed the MUIA is trying to create a community just for Inuit within Winnipeg.

"Other Aboriginal organizations are great," Batzel said. "But we need someplace where Inuit can identify as Inuit."

Although the organization, formed in

2008, is relatively new, Batzel hopes to eventually have a dormitory for students, as well as a cultural centre where the Inuit community can hold events.

The organization may also help attract more Inuit students to Winnipeg in pursuit of education. Currently there are only four Inuit students enrolled at the U of W.

Booth is optimistic that resources provided by the MUIA will help improve chances of success for Inuit students.

"They need to know what other centres are accessible outside of universities," he said. "And I think this is one of the things that will benefit them in the long run."

Visit www.manitobainuit.ca to see the guide for Inuit newcomers.

Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Jihan Muhamad

PUNK PROPHET TO KICK OFF SPEAKER SERIES

The Mouseland Press, Inc. Speaker Series 2009-2010 is set to launch next month.

On Thursday, Nov. 12, Canadian punk author Chris Walter will appear at the West End Cultural Centre. In time for Restorative Justice Week, Afghan politician and women's rights crusader Malalai Joya will take the stage on Monday, Nov. 16 at Convocation Hall at the University of Winnipeg. The Restorative Justice Coalition will present the third speaker, international journalist Sandy Tolan, on Thursday, Nov. 19.

Mouseland Press is the governing board of *The Uniter*.

For more information on the *Uniter* Speaker Series visit www.uniter.ca.

U OF W RANKS HIGH IN GLOBE AND MAIL REPORT

The Globe and Mail Canadian University Report 2010 ranked the University of Winnipeg as one of Canada's top undergraduate schools. U of W was rated alongside 17 other universities in Canada with student populations between 4,000 and 12,000, including five from Western Canada.

U of W was rated highly in several categories among Western Canadian universities, including class sizes, environmental commitment, academic reputation, recreation and athletics, student-faculty interaction, libraries, quality of teaching and student services.

The survey of U of W was completed before several big campus projects were finished, including McFeetors Hall, Great West Life Student Residence, the new day-care centre and Diversity Foods Services, as well as the campus pub the university is planning to add.

LARGEST DONATION TO CANADIAN LAW SCHOOL

The school of law at Dalhousie University has been renamed the Schulich School of Law. According to *The Dalhousie Gazette*, the name change was made on Oct. 15 after Seymour Schulich made a \$20 million donation to the school.

This wasn't the first donation made by Schulich. A report from the *National Post* in May 2008 said Schulich had donated more than \$250 million to post-secondary institutions in Canada, including York University, The University of Western Ontario, The University of Calgary and McGill University - all of which have schools named after him.

Phillip Saunders, dean of Dalhousie's law school, said the donation will be going towards 41 new scholarships, as well as various funding toward the school.

CLINTON ACCEPTS HONOUR FROM MCGILL UNIVERSITY

McGill University presented former U.S. president Bill Clinton with an honorary doctorate for "a lifetime of outstanding leadership" at a ceremony on Oct. 16. The private, invitation-only ceremony held at Montreal's Centre Mont-Royal was part of the university's inaugural Leadership Summit.

Clinton addressed inequalities around the world in his speech, stressing the need for a world conscience.

"This inequality problem cannot be solved by anybody alone; it will require a communitarian mentality," he said.

The few student attendees included student senators and students who had been awarded the Clinton-Dahdaleh scholarship.

Comments

Harper's unnecessary paranoia

Fear of Canadian news pointless given party lockdown



ROB HOLT
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Could anything be more clichéd than another screed against Stephen Harper? They seem to be as certain as the sun's rising each morning and setting every night.

Even in the major league of Canadian journalism, he's such a permanent fixture on so many shit-lists that commentators desperate to meet their deadline can play a game of Harper-bashing Mad Libs. All a commentator has to do is write the bulk of their article in advance, leaving a couple blank spaces to in-

sert the details of his latest foible, gaffe, scandal or fuck-up.

Personally, I'm no fan of the man, but I've been reluctant thus far to dip my toes into the world of political commentary. Mainly, this is because taking a jab at *any* of the people who populate Canadian politics these days - let alone our fearless leader - is like picking a fight with an old lady who only has one good eye and a club foot. Sure it's easy, but hardly satisfying.

What, then, made the bile rise in my throat this time?

It was a comment made by Harper last Thursday, before an audience of reporters in Toronto, which I'll quote here:

"I tend to watch mainly American news because I don't like to watch Canadian news and hear what ... everybody else is saying about me, so my hobby is to watch politics elsewhere."

Is Harper's admission here *news* to anyone? Not if you've been watching the Canadian variety. It's

been an open secret that he holds contempt for the national media.

Since 2006, the Tories have clamped down media access to the prime minister, his cabinet and all Conservative MPs. At the same time, they banned media access to repatriation ceremonies for the bodies of soldiers returning from Afghanistan and stopped lowering the flag to half-mast on Parliament Hill every time a soldier died.

With their access controlled by a draconian communications department, news outlets have had little to report on besides what gets sent to them by the Prime Minister's Office. Loose lips sink ships, so every party member had to get their mouth stapled shut.

The plan has worked out so far. As Ethan Cabel pointed out in his article in last week's *Uniter*, the Tories have managed their public image masterfully.

For example, remember last fall when he came on television to play

Loose lips sink ships, so every party member had to get their mouth stapled shut.

with a bunch of kittens while wearing a sweater vest? You sure do.

Remember how he staunchly defended Minister of Natural Resources Lisa Raitt when she called cancer-related deaths a "sexy" issue? Far less likely.

So why not watch Canadian news if you've got an army of communications people to filter out the nasty stuff?

Harper's problem seems to be a lack of journalistic gratitude. Believe it or not, there are some foolish journalists who feel they have a duty to investigate what the government is doing, rather than just re-state press releases issued by the PMO.

Look, Stevie, I know you'll never read this, but let me just say that it's your job to look at the news here. Not because you like it, but because it's supposed to piss you off.

The media should - ideally - provide a critical perspective on the actions of Powers-That-Be, no matter what party they belong to. After that, it's your job to defend your policies to the public.

So switch off Bill O'Reilly and Glenn Beck, and tune into Peter Mansbridge or Kevin Newman or Robert J. Holt. We wouldn't say no to a few extra viewers.

Rob Holt is a second-year University of Winnipeg student who just realized that up 'til now, the paper has been claiming he's in his first year.

Sickening sales figures

Are cold and flu medications useful, or a waste of money?



ALEXANDER KAVANAGH
VOLUNTEER STAFF

It's cold and flu season again. This year, I was unable to avoid the onslaught. In two weeks of being down for the count, I spent \$250 on cold and flu medicine. The real kicker though is that most of it didn't even work. Is it just me or does that seem kind of messed up?

As consumers, we're bombarded with advertising for different cold and flu medicines and many of them seem to do very little, if anything. The truth is, as long as the product is not dangerous and the

companies can show that it can have some effect on cold and flu, they get to peddle it off for whatever price we're willing to pay for it.

Granted, after seeing a doctor I found out that I had caught a particularly medication-resistant kind of flu. I'm sure you've heard of it.

But it really got me thinking. For as long as I can remember, whenever I had a sore throat I bought a pack of Halls and it only seems to help for a few minutes. Yet I keep going to the store to buy more. Add to that a bottle of Buckley's, some NeoCitran, Vicks VapoRub and half a dozen other symptom-specific medicines.

All in all, pharmaceutical companies have quite a racket going for them - not even to mention the cost of going through all of the major multi-symptom medications trying to find the one that works best for a particular cold or flu.

In 2008, Americans spent \$4.6

billion on cough and sore throat remedies. So far, \$1.9 billion has been made by the makers of Tamiflu in the first nine months of 2009. Sales of Relenza in the second quarter of this year totalled \$99 million in just three months. I still haven't even brushed the tip of the iceberg when it comes to sales figures for cold and flu medicine.

The funniest part of it all is that most people swear, including my own doctor, that the best possible medicine for when you have a really bad flu, is chicken

noodle soup, lots of liquids, some vitamin C and plenty of rest. Think about this.

It may cost you \$1.25 for a can of soup, \$10 for a bottle of vitamin C and all the water you

need comes flowing from your taps. So how is it that the drug companies are making these kinds of profits off of us?

The truth of it is that we're wimps when it comes to being sick. As bad as the symptoms may seem at the time, if we overuse products with medicinal ingredients, they stop being as effective.

My advice to everyone is to start paying more attention to the medicinal ingredients of the products you're buying. Make sure that

the products you buy don't always have the same medicinal ingredients. The human body adapts and evolves to every situation it encounters, including drugs. That's how our bodies build a tolerance to things. Don't use medications every time you get the sniffles. Save that for when you're really sick.

Alexander Kavanagh is a first-year University of Winnipeg student.



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Re-thinking the anti-poverty strategy

Coalitions advocate false dependency

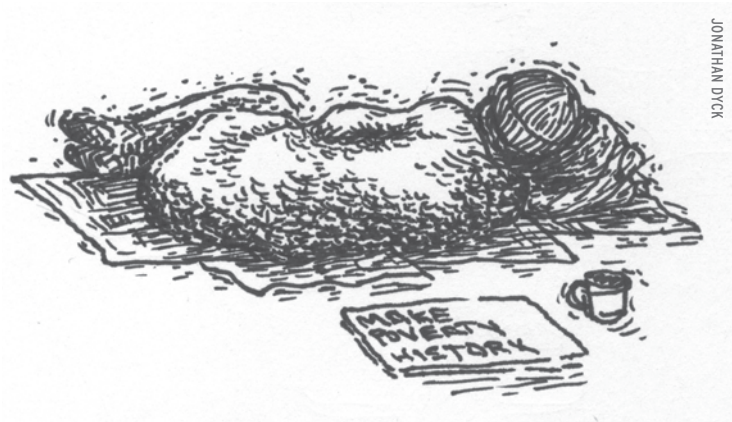


GARETH DU PLOOY
VOLUNTEER

Wading through the ocean of press releases and "calls to action" from Manitoba's anti-poverty groups in preparation for this piece triggered many feelings. Confusion. Sorrow, perhaps. Exasperation kicked in by the time I had read the term "coalition" for the 400th time.

It is helpful to begin with a cross-section of the groups involved in tackling poverty: The Canadian Federation of Students; the ever-essential Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives; Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council; Dude, Where's My Poverty; et al.

Yes, there are more, and each group is in a coalition with another group, the coalition of which is again part of yet another coalition. It's like a three-dimensional Venn diagram from hell: don't stare directly at it or you'll go blind from all those "calls to action" layered



JONATHAN DYCK

one on top of each other.

The *raison d'être* for this assortment of dependency theorists is the view that poverty is a condition thrust upon you by external forces and that sole responsibility for its relief is outside of your own grasp. Lest I be accused of building a straw man, read the material. You won't get far.

The influences of these groups are playing out currently with the recent influx of African immigrants to Winnipeg's centre. They arrive poor, yet eager. Typically, parents of these families find relatively low-paying jobs, or they open stores

and restaurants in forgotten corners of the city's core, taking risks that no Asper School of Business student would ever consider. Their labour inspires their children and instils in them desire for a higher education.

I predict that many of these young kids will be performing advanced medical surgeries on me when I'm 65, while my own daughter by then will still be deciding which of her many partial bachelor's degrees to finish.

Unless, that is, instead of reinforcing the idea that poverty is overcome by concepts such as spe-

By labelling public welfare as the "anti-poverty" choice, they prevent the underclass from ever examining real alternatives to the real poverty they experience.

cialization, wage labour and economies of scale, these new Canadians are handed a megaphone as soon as they arrive in Winnipeg and told where to stand and yell.

When I read a poster in the West End decrying the notion that 32 per cent of new immigrants to Manitoba live below the poverty line, I was actually not sure what to do with that statistic.

Are we to imagine that a family from sub-Saharan Africa decides one day that instead of living under a kleptocracy, they have just simply had enough and inform their family that they're going to move to Wolesley? "We're thinking maybe Palmerston Avenue, I heard there's an organic bakery close by and that you simply HAVE to try the cinna-

mon buns."

This is where the sorrow kicks in. By labelling public welfare as the "anti-poverty" choice, they prevent the underclass from ever examining real alternatives to the real poverty they experience. The "anti-poverty" label also stifles public debate and does seem a little condescending: Let me figure this out, if you're not anti-poverty, you must be ... Gasp!

My father worked at the bottom of a coal mine in rural Zimbabwe when he was young, the same way his father worked at the bottom of that same mine. One day my dad decided to leave the mine. Against all odds, he became a doctor and later moved our family from Africa to rural Manitoba. Because of this, I now have the fortune of living in a country where a wheelbarrow full of money buys you more than a loaf of bread.

I'm just glad that the day he left the coal mine there wasn't an anti-poverty coalition waiting at the top of the mine shaft telling him that the best way improve his fortunes was to lobby the state.

Gareth du Plooy is a first-year science student at the University of Winnipeg.

The moral question

In the wake of Goldstone Report, what are we to make of Israel's proposed change to international law?



ANDREW TOD
COMMENTS EDITOR

The fallout from Israel's Operation Cast Lead still lingers, much to the annoyance of its new/old Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Israel's "war" - if the corruption of language is such that a massacre now counts as war - waged upon Palestine was supposed to be seen as a legitimate counter-terrorism operation. It was supposed to be couched in terms of quelling Hamas' rocket attacks upon Israel's sovereign territory, a glorious disarmament of the West Bank's murderous leadership, both staged and wrapped-up conveniently enough right before Israel's most recent election.

As the apologists of Israel's "right" to do as it pleases are quick to point out, whenever some pro-Palestinian dupe questions *why* the Israeli military is able to commit what amounts to war crimes with impunity, Israel can do so because it is the only democracy in a sea of tyranny. Israel has the utmost right to defend its territory, to protect its people, to counter its ever imminent destruction at the hands of the Arab barbarians at the gates.

Which are more or less true. It is very much a fact that Israel is a beacon of that light we call democracy. Israel has every right to protect its citizens, to exist and to consider

threats to Israelis as being the concern of foreign allies.

What Israel most certainly does *not* have the right to do, nor any other country for that matter - beacon of democracy or not - is to commit war crimes. And it has been found within the report submitted to the United Nations by Justice Richard Goldstone that Israel committed such crimes in its latest attacks on Palestinians. Accusations of Goldstone's "anti-Semitism" notwithstanding - curious, as he is Jewish - the report has been criticized more so for what the United Nations have chosen to do with it, rather than for the truth of its findings.

The only major outcry of the report itself came from the likes of the Israeli government. For them to take full responsibility for their accused crimes would have been a shock, not their denial of them.

Yet, it seems as though the report, sinister as it is, has begun to change the way in which Israel's government wishes to be perceived in light of Operation Cast Lead.

What Israel most certainly does not have the right to do, nor any other country for that matter - beacon of democracy or not - is to commit war crimes.

Unfortunately, as is often the case when those with more power are accused of wrongdoing, Netanyahu has stated in recent weeks that the international checks upon the powerful should be re-thought, rather than the actions of the powerful be tailored to operate within legal limits.

Specifically, Israel wants the laws

changed to give its military the "freedom of action," which means that for Israel, the legal norms of war are too stringent because they do not account for the ability to murder civilians in the process of countering terrorism. And, as we have seen in Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan and now Pakistan, countering terrorism the way in which virtuous democracies wish to do so involves the wholesale murder of many civilians.

Apparently, those holding the balance of military power should not be held accountable, but rather international law should be flexible enough to allow "good" states to do as they wish and still call it legal.

Understanding the moral distinction between killing 1,000 Palestinians and killing 13 Israelis is a skill which Goldstone has employed in his report. He rightly condemns Hamas, but he condemns Israel more because it was Israel's military that was accused of committing the majority of such crimes. It is just as immoral to murder Israelis with rockets as it is to murder Palestinians with white phosphorous bombs. The question then becomes, who killed more? That the burden of guilt lies upon Israel, not because it is an evil state but because its military contributed to the majority of civilian casualties, is a distinction that is easy to make.

However, to dispute the protection of civilians, which is what Israel's proposal to change international law amounts to, is to uphold the rights of some people to exist over others. In doing so, the ability to distinguish between war crimes and legitimate government action would be lost.

Andrew Tod is a University of Winnipeg politics student.

Letters

Re: "Our big, fat public sector"
Samuel Swanson's article in the Oct. 8 issue of *The Uniter* (page 4) implies that I was interviewed for his story. In fact, I was never interviewed. My words were taken from a 2005 article of mine published by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives-Manitoba.

If I'd been asked about the study from the Frontier Centre for Public Policy that is the focus of Swanson's article, I would have pointed out what he fails to tell *Uniter* readers: the Frontier Centre is a very right-wing organization that favours giving free reign to capitalist market forces that have enormous negative effects on people and the Earth's ecosystems.

David Camfield
Associate Professor, Labour Studies
University of Manitoba

Re: "(Don't) seize the day"
This letter is in response to a comments piece published on page 10 of the Oct. 15 issue of *The Uniter*.
Living every day as if it's your

last doesn't necessarily mean you should try and cram as much "stuff" as possible into each day, just because there's a slight chance you'll wind up dead at the end of it.

As I see it, the Latin phrase "Carpe Diem" is an inspirational, old adage calling us to make every day worth living, which also carries with it connotations of not doing anything we may eventually regret. There are consequences for our actions.

I was rather surprised to read how literally Mr. Rygiel takes these sayings. No, we're not expected to waste all of our money running up an extensive bar tab so that all our friends can get juiced, and think we're the greatest. It's physically impossible to do everything you want to do in a single day; that's what the rest of your life is for! Just do the best you can with the 24 hours that have been allotted to you - well, more like 16 (sleep is pretty important, too) - and don't worry about tomorrow.

Focus on today, because tomorrow has enough problems of its own.

Phil Enns

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

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Arts & Culture

Hannah takes the plunge

Vancouver songstress Hannah Georgas plays music wholeheartedly

MIKE DUERKSEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Three things you need to know about Hannah Georgas: She plays brisk, capricious folky pop songs, her full-length debut will be coming out this spring and she may one day marry Jack Black.

"He is the most hilarious person on this planet," Georgas, 26, said over the phone last week from Charlottetown, P.E.I.

The Canadian songstress was enjoying a well-deserved day off from her current tour, which has her opening for Vancouver's Said the Whale. They are currently trekking their way across Canada, and will be stopping in Winnipeg on Monday, Nov. 2 at the Pyramid Cabaret.

The Vancouver based singer-songwriter has only pursued music as a career for two years, but is already gaining significant attention.

"It's awesome and it's inspiring. I just can't wait for people to hear my record," Georgas said.

Georgas released her first musical offering, *The Beat Stuff EP*, earlier this year.

The EP is a strong effort, reveling in quirky acoustic-pop ditties



Polo, anyone? Vancouver-based singer-songwriter Hannah Georgas hangs out with her bronze friends.

and sensitive lyrics that were four-and-a-half years in the making.

Georgas made the decision to leave her hometown of Newmarket, Ont. in mid-2004 and headed west to try and make it on her own in Victoria, B.C.

"I needed to find my own place and find my own way," she said.

Enrolling at the University of Victoria, Georgas said she studied "psychology slash the history of rock 'n' roll" while also dealing with the implications of a dramatic personal relationship.

"We broke up 14 times and we always got back together. It was a lesson to be learned. At the time,

he was an asshole," she said. "He was no Jack Black! He wasn't funny at all."

Georgas moved to Vancouver shortly after calling the relationship quits for good and found it provided plenty of fodder for her writing.

After winning the 2008 Music

"We broke up 14 times and we always got back together. It was a lesson to be learned."

-HANNAH GEORGAS, MUSICIAN

B.C.'s songwriting competition, Georgas left school and decided it was time to finally pursue a career as a songstress.

"In high school I was one foot in, one foot out, never fully diving into music. This EP is finally a reflection of me being in control and doing my music fully wholeheartedly," she explained.

Georgas admitted that she is even more excited about her full-length album, which hits stores in March.

"I can't wait until the music comes out. It's going to be great!" she said.

"The songs really have to speak to people. Good music is going to keep people coming to you," she said. "If you're writing good music, you're fine. And that's my goal."

⇒ See Hannah Georgas open for Said the Whale (see page 13) on Monday, Nov. 2 at the Pyramid Cabaret (176 Fort St.)

⇒ *The Beat Stuff EP* is currently available on CD from Hidden Pony or for download on iTunes

⇒ Visit www.myspace.com/hannahgeorgas



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Free-range troubadour

Matt Epp speaks his mind and refuses to play safe

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

Matt Epp could be forgiven for taking some time off.

From B.C. to Newfoundland, to California to Tennessee, to Mexico and a lot of the places in between, the local singer-songwriter played more than 150 shows in support of *Orphan Horse*, the CD he released in April of last year.

But he's not taking a break. This Tuesday, Nov. 3, he's releasing his fourth album in as many years - *Safe or Free*. It's a prolific pace, but for Epp (no relation to the writer), it's all part of the process.

"I still feel like I'm really new at this," Epp explains over coffee at his favourite Winnipeg hangout, Espresso Junction at The Forks, one sunny Saturday morning in September.

"I'm trying to work out the bugs and get closer to whatever the thing is I have that's unique. I'm just learning so fast, I need to keep making records."

Epp, who turns 29 next month, has released all of his albums independently. He recorded *Safe or Free* in between tours last December. Unlike *Orphan Horse*, which was a stripped-down affair focusing on his voice and acoustic guitar, *Safe or Free* is a full-band effort.

To record it, Epp enlisted the help of friends from Winnipeg's music scene, including members



"I'm just learning so fast, I need to keep making records."

-MATT EPP

Viva la beard! It's been a hairy year for local singer-songwriter Matt Epp.

of Twilight Hotel and The Waking Eyes. Eliza Gilkyson, Amelia Curran, Jesse DeNatale and Steve Bell also sing on the disc.

The majority of the album was recorded live off the floor over three days by recording engineer John Paul Peters, who co-produced the disc with Epp.

The result is Epp's best CD to date. Standout tracks include *Working Holiday*, a piano-driven rocker, and *They Won't Find the Bodies*, an eerie love song about

protection that has Epp singing: "And even if they tell you a lie / I might cut their tongues out / And gouge out their eyes."

Lines like that may not seem out of place in a world where a new *Saw* movie is released annually, but coming from a Christian who grew up in a denomination that prides itself on pacifism, it may come as a shock.

"I feel completely free to say what I want to say because I feel solid in my faith and I don't re-

ally need to be accepted otherwise," Epp says. "Making the record was not about being safe. Some people aren't comfortable with that frank honesty, but really, I think that's the only thing I can offer."

Safe or Free marks a number of firsts for Epp: He filmed his first music video (for *They Won't Find the Bodies*, which people can view on his official website), hired his first publicist and is planning his first European tour.

"It feels like we had reckless

abandon to be creative, and it's totally the record I wanted to make," he says of *Safe or Free*. "I feel like the luckiest guy."

⇒ Matt Epp releases *Safe or Free* on Tuesday, Nov. 3 with a full-band concert at the Pyramid Cabaret (176 Fort St.)
⇒ The Lytics will also perform
⇒ Visit www.mattepp.com

No means business

B.C. punk legends return to Winnipeg this weekend

JOSH BOULDING
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Playing Winnipeg only once in the last eight years, legendary west coast punk rockers NoMeansNo

have left fans here anxiously awaiting their return.

This weekend they may be getting more than they bargained for, as the Canadian outfit will be ripping a strip off the Royal Albert two nights in a row.

"We were invited, actually," said John Wright, who co-founded NMN with his brother Rob in 1978.

"Sam [Smith, artistic director, Royal Albert Arms] called us up and asked if we wanted to play

"We no longer have the luxury to play live as we did in the '80s."

- JOHN WRIGHT, MUSICIAN

Winnipeg on Halloween."

"Sam is a fine fellow," added Wright.

Though the band's lineup has gone through many evolutions since their formative days, the brothers have stuck together, with guitarist Tom Holliston the only change from their original two-piece lineup.

Despite the band's gig here earlier this year, the time is ripe for their return, as evidenced by their sold out show this Saturday.

Taking advantage of their new material, NMN will be playing to as many audiences as possible as they prepare to lay down new tracks for their upcoming releases.

"We no longer have the luxury to play live as we did in the '80s," said Wright. "The album *0+2=1* was the first album we wrote and recorded without playing live first."

"Songs change and grow as you play them," Wright added. "Records are like practice arrangements. Sometimes it's more fun to discover new [live] arrangements."

The Wright brothers, credited with a heavy influence in the late '80s punk and the fledgling math rock genre, started playing together after Rob brought home a Tac four-track recorder.

Two years later, in March of 1980, the world heard the ugly birth of NoMeansNo in the single *Look, Here Come the Wormies*.



Out on the street and up to no good: NoMeansNo.

"The music was just fun, at first," said Wright. "There weren't any career aspirations. We just latched onto the very vibrant punk rock scene of Victoria."

The band's popularity peaked between '88 and '92 after they signed with the Alternative Tentacles label and established a large following in Europe. Since then, the band has released a steady stream of albums, the latest being *All Roads Lead to Ausfahrt* in 2006.

Coming up on the 30th anniversary of the band's original release, NoMeansNo is heading back into the recording studio, preparing for a set of upcoming vinyl and digital download-only releases.

"These [vinyl releases] are mostly to get some new album art and collector's items out there," said Wright. "The CD, as a medium, is mostly dead now. Almost anyone who is buying [our records] is a collector."

"CD sales are hardly worth concentrating on," he added. "We're set to legitimize our digital [material]. We don't get paid for most of what you download now."

Instead of releasing a full album, NoMeansNo plans on releasing a set of 12 EPs over the next year, both vinyl and digital download, through major online retailers.

"I don't do a lot of downloading," commented Wright. "But my brother does download a lot through a subscription service."

⇒ See NoMeansNo with Electro Quarterstaff on Friday, Oct. 30 at the Royal Albert (48 Albert St.)
⇒ They will also be playing Saturday, Oct. 31. The show is sold out.
⇒ Tickets are still available for Friday through Music Trader, Ticketworkshop.ca and Into the Music
⇒ Visit www.myspace.com/myspaceiswong

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Toponymy, topography and topology

Vancouver's Said the Whale is a coast-to-coast Canadian outfit

LEE REPKO
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Tyler Bancroft, co-founder of Vancouver's Said the Whale, said of their first record that "it's all songs about Vancouver and the places we knew."

"This last record reflects the months that we have spent on the road," Bancroft explained over the phone last week from Corner Brook, Nfld., surprised that his mobile phone didn't work in the tiny Rock 'burgh.

STW's latest record, *Islands Disappear*, produced by Howard Redekopp (Tegan and Sara, The New Pornographers) and Tom Dobrzanski (We Are the City, Hey Ocean) on Montreal pop label Hidden Pony, explores the relationship between people and their unique environments, attempting to solve the quintessential geographic query: Why are things where they are?

One of their ballads, *Out on the Shield*, references Precambrian topography and the challenges of living "for the gold" in an unyielding and unforgiving landscape of what could be northern Ontario, giving us a glimpse of the people that got stuck there whilst searching for riches.

"Even if you've got a map, you should never travel alone," Bancroft sings on *B.C. Orienteering*, giving the impression that he knows of what he speaks.

This is not only because the singer has four talented bandmates



Settling into popularity: Said the Whale takes a seat.

"Even if you've got a map, you should never travel alone."

- TYLER BANCROFT, MUSICIAN

- co-founder Ben Worchester, percussionist Spencer Schoening, Jacelyn Brown on the keys and Peter Carruthers on bass - but also because the five of them have logged thousands of kilometres across the country and beyond promoting this and their earlier slough of EP releases.

"It's great," Bancroft said, regarding the band's newfound success. "We have never played a sold-out tour and all of our shows out this way have been packed."

The band's sudden popularity could be credited, in no small part, to the loads of attention they've garnered from CBC Radio 3.

STW pushes a funkied-up folk mix, straddling storytelling with ceilidh-steeped sea shanties with thoughtful piano-driven and ukulele-spiced ballads with mid-paced quirky pop rock - a mix that shouldn't be much of a stretch for

east coast audiences to swallow.

"We couldn't wait to get out here and play these songs for them," Bancroft said.

Many of their songs have maritime themes which, apparent at their shows, transfer well across the 4,600 kilometres that separate Corner Brook from their home in Vancouver, B.C.

In the past, Winnipeg audiences have also received the band well, showing that the roll of the sea is alive and well on the prairies.

"Our last time through we played the same night as Elvis Costello (at

the Folk Fest) and still had a great crowd of about 50 in the Lo Pub."

Their show at the Pyramid this Monday, Nov. 2 will likely continue their trend of packed houses and ever-receptive fans.

⇒ See Said the Whale on Monday, Nov. 2 at the Pyramid Cabaret (176 Fort St.)
⇒ Hannah Georgas will also perform (see page 10)
⇒ *Islands Disappear* is available for download on iTunes and on CD through Hidden Pony
⇒ Visit www.myspace.com/saidthewhale

Seven days in November

Aboriginal Music Week showcases talent and culture in the community

LORELEI LEONA
VOLUNTEER

Originally part of the Manito Ahbee Festival, this year's Aboriginal Music Week will be breaking away from MAF, starting its first annual stand-alone festival.

This November, aboriginal artists will get the chance to showcase their talents as they perform a variety of concerts throughout the downtown area.

Intended to introduce audiences to the high caliber of talent within the aboriginal music community in Canada and the United States, the Manitoba Music Host Committee created the Manito Ahbee Festival, which for four years has been able to spotlight these talented individuals.

"The reason for the committee doing the festivals is to highlight talent, cultural pride and strengths of the Aboriginal People," said Michelle Boivin, project manager for Aboriginal Music Week 2009.

While the Manito Ahbee Festival still exists, and is in fact running concurrently to the Aboriginal Music Week, AMW is hosting its



Crystal Shawanda will be hosting the Rising Stars Concert at the Pantages Playhouse Thursday, Nov. 5.

first ever event on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.

While the stage for AMW is of course in Winnipeg, numerous artists, not just from Manitoba, have been invited to participate in this event.

"The festival does not feature a specific type of genre, but rather many, all done by Aboriginal Native American artists," said Boivin.

The week features up-and-coming artists as well as established acts that are guaranteed to entertain individuals from any community.

Aboriginal Music Week features five evening performances and three free noon-hour shows at Portage Place Shopping Centre.

Big names such as Crystal Shawanda, who is also up for an Aboriginal People's Choice Award

(which will be held Friday, Nov. 6 at the MTS Centre), will be hosting the Rising Stars Concert at the Pantages Playhouse on Thursday, Nov. 5.

Joey Stylez, hip-hop artist from Saskatchewan, will keep the energy going Friday night at Blush Ultra Club, while Digging Roots and Bastard Fairies will close out AMW with a concert Saturday evening at the Martial Caron Theatre.

Though the week's focus is on musical performances, it also offers music workshops for those individuals already involved in the music business.

These workshops include topics such as Digital Music Marketing,

Entertainment Law and more, that are designed to enlighten professionals about the inner workings of the music industry.

If you are looking to get involved in the local music scene, be sure to visit www.aboriginalmusicweek.ca for great ways to volunteer.

The site also offers free music downloads and videos from the artists that will be performing at Aboriginal Music Week, as well as AMW's full lineup.

Tickets for all events are available at the door. So mark your calendars for Nov. 3-6 and get out and experience some great aboriginal talent.

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TW	Artist	Recording	Label
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2	!SubCity	Where's the Noise?	Transistor 66
3	*Evangelista	Prince of Truth	Constellation
4	*Amy Millan	Masters of the Burial	Arts & Crafts
5	Vieux Farka Toure	Fondo	Six Degrees
6	!Grand Analog	Metropolis is Burning	Urbnet
7	*Amelia Curran	Hunter Hunter	Six Shooter
8	Vivian Girls	Everything Goes Wrong	In the Red
9	Sonic Youth	the Eternal	Matador
10	*Gruesomes	Hey	Ricochet Sound

Comics: Collecting, conventions and academics

No longer just for adolescents and collectors, comics have come a long way

C. JORDAN CROSTHWAITE
CULTURE REPORTER

Popular film adaptations of comics like *Watchmen*, *Hellboy* and the blockbuster run of *Spider-Man*, *Batman* and other superhero movies, are some of the most visible manifestations of comic books entering the mainstream consciousness.

Comics have a long history in popular culture, that extends from daily strips like Charles Schultz's *Peanuts* to collectible superhero comics, to arty, adult-targeted graphic novels, and even into the University of Winnipeg's classrooms. Hundreds of comic fans will flood the Winnipeg Convention Centre this weekend, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, to celebrate that history at the fourth annual Central Canada Comic Convention.

"I probably started buying comics on a regular basis in 1991, at age 11. When I was 12, I got started with a reserve," said Andrew Lodwick, a local comic collector. A reserve is a subscription-like service that comics stores offer, setting aside new titles every week or month for regular buyers.

Guy Dagui, the owner of Corydon Avenue comic book store Mighty Comics credits reserve lists for sustaining his business.



"The lifeblood of our store is subscribers," Dagui said.

Collecting is no longer a pastime for lonely teens, either. As comics enthusiasts grow up, an interest in the medium doesn't necessarily wane.

"I have over 200 subscribers, most in their middle twenties and up," said Dagui.

"I was able to make it through 17 to 21 years old sustaining an interest in comics, now I'm a lifer. Though when you get a wife or a mortgage ... I guess that's another out," said

Lodwick.

Collectors and enthusiasts also have more options that cater to more mature interests. Smaller publishers like Montreal's Drawn & Quarterly specialize in more narrative, art-based comic artists. Large publishers also provide for wider markets.

"Marvel and DC have every market covered. DC has a line of mystery, horror and spiritual," said Dagui.

Comics have grown up so much that university academics have be-

come interested in comics, organizing conferences and graduate studies around the unique visual media.

"[T]here is a strong drive to distinguish comics from other media by theorizing their aesthetic and formal qualities as a hybrid medium of words and pictures," said Dr. Candida Rifkind, an associate professor in the English department at the University of Winnipeg.

Rifkind, like Lodwick and Dagui, sees the distinction between popular superhero comics as a blurry.

"The division may appear to be about taste or quality - as in one seems more arty and the other more popular - but it is also a division between modes of production and distribution," said Rifkind.

"North American [art comics creators] do work for DC and Marvel. They write for them and stuff; there is crossover. They do it to make money, but also because they have an affinity for it," Lodwick said.

Comics no longer fall strictly under the purview of adolescent interests and collectors' whimsy. *The New York Times*, *The Globe and Mail* and other institutional publications now regularly review and champion graphic novels and comic series.

Though comics were for so long a marginalized media, their popular success hasn't escaped the history of pulp drugstore comic books.

"The North American [comic artists] grew up with superhero stuff, and though they aren't doing it, they are influenced by it. A lot of it is deconstructing the superhero," said Lodwick.

As academic interest grows,

Rifkind says there is new motivation to theorize and establish a history of comics as a unique aesthetic media.

"There is a lot of attention being paid to pictorial elements and sequencing, now being called the visual rhetoric of comics, as well as to the narrative content of the stories, which is also a way of legitimizing the form as complex enough to warrant scholarly interest," said Rifkind.

New complex, art-driven comics aren't the only kind warranting serious study, though. Part of investing intellectual energy into comics is also the study of popular media and popular culture.

"At the moment I'm not working on superhero comics, but there is just as much academic interest in them as in alternative comics and daily comic strips, and it's impossible to study the one without some awareness and grounding in the other two," said Rifkind.

Alternative comics often focus on everyday life and artists often employ the conventions of superhero comics in a kind of deconstruction of the medium's historical identity. Alternative comics artists are also fans of popular comics and still invest in them.

The diverse field of comics will be on display at the Central Canada Comic Con, according to Dagui.

Dagui is one of several vendors at the convention. His Mighty Comics will be selling comics, toys, and games.

"There is more variety than there ever has been. Anything you can think of is in a comic book form," said Dagui.

Visit www.cccomiccon.com.

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Memory and looking back

Canadian cartoonist Seth reflects on his work and what makes comics art

C. JORDAN CROSTHWAITE
CULTURE REPORTER

He is largely regarded as one of the best and most innovative cartoonists at work today, and he goes by one name only: Seth.

Known to his mother as Gregory Gallant, Seth has several volumes of his own work and has also edited an anthology of Doug Wright cartoons called *Doug Wright: Canada's Master Cartoonist*. His most recent original work is *George Sprott: 1894-1975*.

The cartoonist, who lives in Guelph, Ont., was at the University of Winnipeg on Tuesday, Oct. 20 to give a lecture at the University of Winnipeg.

Seth has dedicated his life to the medium of cartoons, comics and graphic novels. He's as much an artist as he is a comic historian and collector.

"The funny thing about collecting is that it has almost been indivisible from comic books and that I think has a lot to do with the fact that you had to collect things. Especially as a cartoonist, you had to collect things, if you wanted to discover the origins of your own medium," the 47-year-old said during a wide-ranging interview at the Inn at the Forks, a few hours after his appearance at the U of W.

When Seth was coming into his own artistic practice and digging deep into the history of comics, he was forced to become an authority on comics as he dug a niche into the comic world.

"To find the history of your me-



COURTESY OF DRAWN & QUARTERLY

Guelph, Ont.-based cartoonist Gregory Gallant adopted the pen name "Seth" early on in his career.

dium, there might have been only one or two reference books. And I know now they are full of inaccuracies. It meant comic book shops and second-hand bookstores," he said.

Seth is turning his wealth of personal knowledge into a more solidified record of comics and cartooning. He is partially laying down a history of comics, as seen in his history of Doug Wright.

"I like the idea of bringing these things back into the world in concrete form. I like the idea of artists of the past getting their dues now. I have a real respect in the artists that came before me and a real interest in what they did."

If there is anyone left in the world that doesn't recognize comics as a legitimate art form, Seth

gives an excellent defense. As comics have been celebrated in film, in the university and by literary and art critics, it's hard to let them slide by as an inconsequential medium.

"I began to believe comics were art when I began to see they could really talk about the human condition," he said.

Seth's criteria are a result of the relatively recent development of the

to make things more fragmented, so it was really up to the reader to recognize gaps and fill them in themselves. I wanted the reader to make their own decision about what they thought of George," Seth said.

Seth himself is a reflective person and many of his books are about the process of remembering. The work is generally sad, as characters watch the past slip away from them.

"I'm drawn to write about sadness. I'm so interested in the past, it always comes out as the sadness that is connected to the passing of time. If I was more interested in human relationships it would be the sadness of loneliness. Sadness and loneliness are very distinct," he said.

"A lot of my work is basically analogy. I feel human life has a sad basis, not that it is inherently sad, but it *feels* sad. The minute I am away from other people I am sad. The only thing that keeps me from being sad is the distraction of interacting with others," said Seth.

For Seth, recollecting the past, and the sadness of remembering a life gone by, is very distinct from nostalgia. He said that nostalgia is often a derogatory term, used to label anything with content about the past.

"I don't like the word nostalgia," he said. "I'm trying to be aware of looking back - a character like George is actually not reflective enough to know why he is looking back."

Seth quotes artist Thoreau McDonald on the subject: "As you get older, the world is not your own."

Visit www.tinyurl.com/gregorysethgallant.

"I'm drawn to write about sadness. I'm so interested in the past, it always comes out as the sadness that is connected to the passing of time."

-SETH, CARTOONIST

language used to discuss comics.

"I think a lot of other art forms have stopped worrying about whether the works are meaningful or whether they talk about human life. But comics are really behind. The best artworks really try to tell you what it feels like for that particular person in the world. It's a limited definition, but when I see that in comics it's proof that they can be art."

Seth's latest book, *George Sprott*, tells the story of the titular character in the final moments of his life. The book is full of his memories, his looking back and taking stock of his life. It's a sad book, and George isn't the most likeable character, either. The story is told in a series of short, disconnected episodes that build to a robust character profile of George.

"*George Sprott* is really about fragmentation. At every stage I tried

A FRESH START



An image from *George Sprott: 1894-1975*, the latest offering from Canadian cartoonist Seth.

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FILM

Animator PIERRE HÉBERT gives a free live performance with dry erase markers on Friday, Oct. 30 on the third floor of Artspace (above Cinematheque) at 7 p.m., followed by a screening of *THE DEVIL WEARS A PAPER HAT*, which is a series of new Winnipeg animation.

Video artist Tony Mendoza's work in *ROUND-UP* will be on display in the Urban Shaman Gallery until Saturday, Nov. 14.

FOOD, INC. is back by popular demand at the Cinematheque beginning Sunday, Nov. 1 until Saturday, Nov. 7.

The National Film Board and Freeze Frame are holding an ANIMATION WORKSHOP and KIDS SCREENING at the Cinematheque on Saturday, Oct. 31. Noon.

Q: *THE WINGED SERPENT*, in which a giant flying lizard attacks New York, also plays on Halloween at Cinematheque. 7 and 9 p.m.

The Winnipeg premiere of the terrifying documentary on lunatic child killer CROPPSEY is screening in the warehouse space above Ace Art Inc. on Friday, Oct. 30 at 8 p.m.

Cinematheque plays *GET ANIMATED: INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION* on Thursday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m.

LITERATURE

Cara Hill, the author of *SUPERNATURAL WINNIPEG: A GUIDE TO A GHOSTLY VACATION*, will present a workshop on writing about strange phenomena, Halloween day from 10a.m. to 1 p.m. at the University of Winnipeg (Room 4M39 - fourth floor, Manitoba Hall)

Talk and signing of *HIGHEST HIGHS AND LOWEST LOWS OF THEO FLEURY* on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 6 p.m. at McNally Robinson Polo Park

The Winnipeg launch of *BETWEEN EARTH AND SKY: STEINBACH'S FIRST 50 YEARS* happens on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at McNally Robinson Grant Park. 7:30 p.m.

CAROL MATAS celebrates 40 published books on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at McNally Robinson Grant Park. 7:30 p.m.

Prairie Fire Press celebrates the launch of *HOME PLACE 3: PART 2* with readings from 17 of Winnipeg's fiction authors. Starts at 7 p.m., Thurs. Nov. 5 in McNally Robinson Grant Park.

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

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.

SLAM! WRESTLING: SHOCKING STORIES FROM THE SQUARED CIRCLE gets launched Thursday, Nov. 5 at McNally Robinson Polo Park. 7 p.m.

Cartoon show time

NFB's Get Animated! festival is a smorgasbord for the imagination

CORY RIVARD
VOLUNTEER

*For he goes birling down a-down the white water;
That's where the log driver learns to step lightly.
It's birling down, a-down white water;
A log driver's waltz pleases girls completely.*

As the National Film Board of Canada marks its 70th anniversary this year with its Get Animated! film festival at the Cinematheque, it is the nostalgic images conjured up by those three letters - N, F and B - of flannel-wearing, log-driving ballerinas, psychotic house-destroying cats and Scrabble-loving, apocalypse-ignoring grumpy old men that should drive the children of the '80s in droves to this event.

Back then, children were guaranteed to be spoon-fed at least a couple of NFB short films between their Saturday morning cartoons.

With only about 12 channels to



Regina Pessoa's *Tragic Story with a Happy Ending*, part of NFB's Get Animated! festival

COURTESY OF NFB

choose from, one had little choice but to tune in to a history lesson about Flin Flon for the 600th time or to watch an egg try to repair its own shell, courtesy of the NFB.

Though those days may be long gone, the National Film Board's Animation Department has continued to feed its creative creed.

Hailed as one of the most important animated film studios in the world, the NFB continues to have an output that not only utilizes major technological breakthroughs in animation, but creates them.

The Winnipeg lineup of Get Animated!, running from Tuesday, Oct. 27 to Saturday, Oct. 31, features a variety of ways to celebrate and enjoy this major Canadian staple in creativity.

Appropriately titled "A Master Class With Cordell Barker," Tuesday night's event featured an analysis of clips from the animation legend's own films, as well as a study of the short films of other animators.

Barker, the creator of the classic animated short *The Cat Came Back*,

discussed the important element of timing in animation.

On Wednesday night, Oct. 28, Barker's new film *Runaway* was screened along with eight other exciting new animated shorts.

Thursday night will be a showcase of the best animated short films from around the world.

Friday, Oct. 30 will feature films from local independent and student animators.

Saturday, otherwise known as Halloween, will focus on the kids.

Along with a hands-on workshop where kids can learn animation techniques using digital cameras and various inanimate objects, there will be a screening of five kid-friendly short films.

This, in conjunction with the Halloween party that follows, should help a new generation of Winnipeg children fall in love with the endlessly imaginative animation of the National Film Board.

So whether it be to stimulate your nostalgia-seeking psyche, to activate or expand your imagination or just to suck up some gorgeous, award-winning short films, the National Film Board's Get Animated! festival is jam-packed with enough unique animated wonderment to entice and satisfy everyone.

For more specific program times and details, please visit <http://films.nfb.ca/get-animated/>.

Works of painstaking wonder

New local animation makes a perfect Blind Date

LISA MOORE
VOLUNTEER

Get Animated: New Winnipeg Independent Animation

Plays at Cinematheque Friday, Oct. 30 at 9 p.m.

Free admission

★★★★☆

As part of the National Film Board's Get Animated! festival, the Winnipeg Film Group has assembled a collection of recent work by students in the Red River College Digital Arts Program, the Communication Multimedia Program at Collège St. Boniface

and several fresh pieces from individual Winnipeg animators as well.

There is a little something for every animation fan in the mix, from highly experimental ultra-shorts like *Zeb* to sweet and playful tales of brotherly love like *Frères*, all of them worthy of an NFB commercial break.

Art City's contribution, a compilation of stop-motion animation and claymation, is like the organization itself: frenetic, colourful and full of youthful energy.

Mark Klassen's film *Blind Date* is amongst the number of pieces presented here which are utterly remarkable in their own right.

In particular, Klassen's *Blind Date* is the definite highlight of the festival. The story of an extraterrestrial courtship gone sour, it combines the juiciest bits of UFO movie convention with good old romantic humiliation, making a film that is equally inventive and humorous.



Scenes from Curtis Wiebe's *The Devil Wears A Paper Hat*.

COURTESY OF WINNIPEG FILM GROUP



Klassen's jagged, colourful animation, as well as his surreal soundtrack, make the film an exceptional piece of work.

In another great little film, Curtis Wiebe's *The Devil Wears a Paper Hat*, a tale of prairie fabulism is presented - appropriate viewing as autumn settles in on Winnipeg. *Devil* is a largely live-action story of a girl lost on the side of the road and her woodland encounters with a shape-shifting gunslinger and a strange roaming tree-man. It's a

fantastically imaginative and playful film, which mixes Spaghetti Western sensibilities with the fairy tale genre.

Wiebe does everything from direct and write the film to providing its soundtrack, and the product of his painstaking efforts is impressive.

The last real stand-out is Brenna George's *Allsorts*, a trippy ride through Grandma's crystal candy dish that leaves you feeling high and perhaps a little hungry as well.

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No Wow-factor

MTC's *Strong Poison* is intriguing, but ultimately, disappointing

COURTNEY BRECHT
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Strong Poison

Directed by Steven Schipper
Presented by Manitoba Theatre Centre
Plays at the John Hirsch Theatre mainstage until Saturday, Nov. 14
★★★★☆

Manitoba Theatre Centre's 52nd season opens with a witty, whodunit murder mystery.

Strong Poison, adapted by Frances Limoncelli from British author Dorothy L. Sayers' popular 1930s detective novels, recounts the tale of Harriet Vane's (Miriam Smith) imprisonment for allegedly murdering her ex-lover; and the Renaissance-man, Lord Peter Wimsey, who tirelessly endeavours to free his caged bird.

Wimsey is portrayed by charming-as-heck, monocle-clad Greg Ellwand, who appears in almost every scene of the two-hour production.

It's a good thing too, because he is easily the most developed and likable character in the troupe. This is quite a compliment, as the characters are numerous: 20 supporting roles (with 20 accents to match), divided amongst six actors.

The Eddie Murphy-esque multi-role aspect does add a measure of intrigue, however it becomes confusing and distracting halfway through the production.

Many of the characters remain undeveloped and act mostly as living backdrops or comic relief in certain situations.

In the first act, the audience is introduced to murder-mystery writer Vane's presumed



Inspector Parker (Matt Kippen, left) and Lord Peter Wimsey (Greg Ellwand, right) have a drink together in MTC's *Strong Poison*.

and short-lived innocence, as the jury has declared a mistrial. Professional sleuth Lord Wimsey, stricken by the poor woman's circumstance as well as her beauty, takes the case in order to win the doomed woman's heart.

Vane spends the majority of the first act looking wistfully into the audience, but spouts the mature charm of a 1930s independent woman when visited in her cell by the detective.

It's difficult not to root for Wimsey as clues are periodically uncovered, but the progression slows down substantially near the intermission, as minor characters are introduced time and time again, discombobulating the audience in their unneeded complexity.

The production picks up in the second act, aided undoubtedly by Ellwand's comedic timing, as the mystery is solved.

Although the plot and cast of characters can be convoluted at times, there are elements of the production that make up for the hit-and-miss European accents. The authentic 1930s costumes, in a mostly-muted colour palette, worn by an array of British bourgeoisie, are worth seeing alone for those with an eye for fashion. The set design is grandiose, but works to add to the believability of the portrait that set and costume designer Judith Bowden paints for the audience.

Unfortunately, these elements may not be enough to leave a *Wow-factor* with the viewer.

Lord Wimsey's "spot on" comedic timing carries this season opener, but unfortunately doesn't altogether transition it into a "jolly good show."

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

ART CITY presents the NIGHT OF 100 MONSTERS on Friday, Oct. 30 starting at 4:30 p.m.

The Wayne Arthur Gallery invites you to SPIRIT OF A PROVINCE, paintings and quilts by JUDITH PANSON, opening on Friday, Oct. 30 and running until Wednesday, Nov. 25.

QUALIA at the CREBERY features artists BLAKE MCARTHUR, CATHERINE EMILIE and VICTOR POPOW, opening on Thursday, Oct. 29 and on display until Tuesday, Nov. 3.

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. The exhibition runs until Friday, Nov. 13.

KEN GREGORY: WIND COIL SOUND FLOW at Gallery 1C03 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 is on display at the Winnipeg Art Gallery until Sunday, Jan. 10.

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

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

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

THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

THE TELEPHONE: A CHAMBER PLAY runs from Tuesday, Nov. 3 to Sunday, Nov. 8 in Adhere and Deny's Pocket Theatre at 315-70 Albert St. 8 p.m. nightly.

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

Romantic murder-mystery STRONG POISON at the MTC's John Hirsch Theatre runs until Saturday, Nov. 14.

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.

THE LAST DOG OF WAR kicks off Theatre Projects Manitoba's 20th anniversary season with its run from Thursday, Nov. 5 to Saturday, Nov. 14 at the Costume Museum of Canada.

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.

Ukrainian dance group RAZOM perform at the Centennial Concert Hall on Sunday, Nov. 1 at 2 p.m.

On Thursday, Oct. 29, MISS LA MUSE BURLESQUE will perform at the Academy.

The JUST FOR LAUGHS comedy tour will make you guffaw, Tuesday, Nov. 3 at the Centennial Concert Hall.

Comedy night with Scoots McTavish every Thursday at Shannon's Irish Pub.

Arts Briefs

Compiled by C. Jordan Crosthwaite

EXPENSIVE SOCIALIZING

Twitter was offered \$500,000 for advertising space this week, according to the *Telegraph UK*. And while half-a-million seems like small potatoes for the advertising world, this costly ad campaign was for a single day of advertising. Apparently an ad company called uSocial made the offer to have just one measly banner on Twitter for one measly day.

Twitter doesn't have any ads right now, but as *The Uniter's* managing editor pointed out, Twitter sure could use some extra money. He's sick of being blocked from updating his status because of too many other tweets.

It's not yet known if Twitter accepted the offer and it's thought that the type of advertising by uSocial may be objectionable to Twitter's standards.

BETTER OFF AT DOLLARAMA

The enormous popularity of Etsy, a site dedicated to helping artisans distribute their handmade merchandise, has led to a plethora of crafty-crap clogging up the Internet.

Regretsy, an aptly named blog, has taken the advantage of the hilarious garbage on Etsy and compiled it into a central locale, reported *New York* magazine. Items on Regretsy include wall-mounted "masturbating dinosaurs" with eight-inch penises (\$29), a "sexy vampire reusable menstrual pad" (\$12) and a teddy-bear with a plush vagina (\$35).

"Not safe for work" labels abound on the site, so be careful.

THE ILLUSTRATED OLD TESTAMENT: RATED R

A new version of the Bible illustrated by Robert Crumb is finding harsh criticism with Christian organizations. This latest edition Bible is a comic-book style version of the book of Genesis from the Old Testament, reported the *Telegraph UK*.

The artist Robert Crumb is a well-known graphic novelist and cartoonist, famous for racy comics and animations.

Crumb's Bible renders much of the text explicitly in cartoon form, including graphic sex scenes from the more exciting bits of the Good Book.

It's been labelled "scandalous satire" and isn't recommended for young ones, and while several groups have condemned the book, some Christian thinkers admire Crumb's "really engaged" version of foundational Christian stories.

Other recent Bibles include *The Green Bible*, a version that renders any Earthly matters in green text, the LOLCats Bible (online only) and the Conservative Bible, which removes any scripture that is deemed too liberal.

PRIVATE INTERNET

Ever have a slow wireless connection? Ever want those pesky neighbours to stop stealing your wireless Internet? Researchers at the University of Tokyo have developed a solution: Wi-Fi-blocking paint. The electro-magnetic paint, which is used like normal house paint, stops wireless signals, according to PSFK.com.

Apparently, the newly developed pigment mimics the frequency at which wireless Internet signals are broadcast, causing the signal to deaden on contact.

Possible uses include stopping cellphone calls in theatres, securing private networks and stopping poachers from downloading high-quality versions of *Twilight* on your dime.

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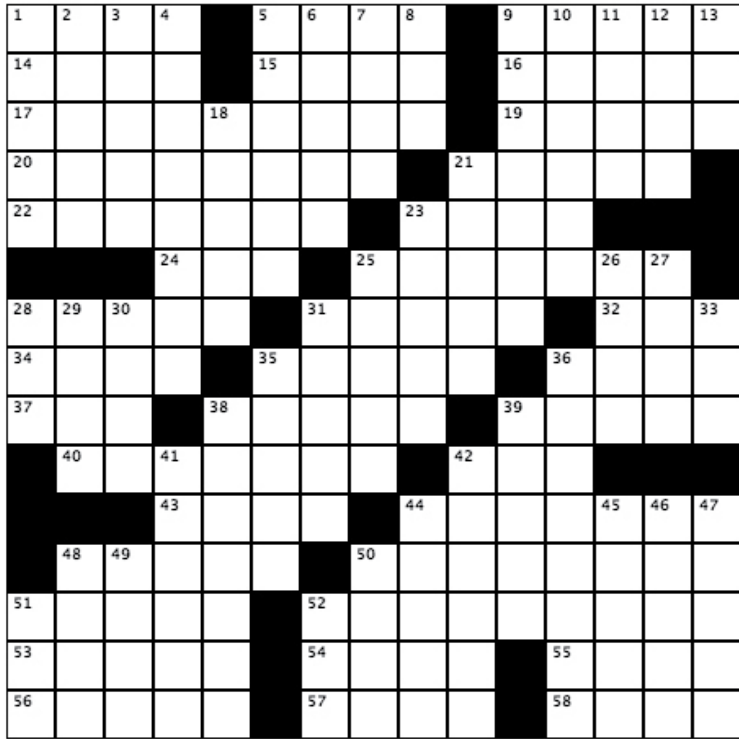
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Putting on an event that should be in *The Uniter*?

Send your info to listings@uniter.ca eight days prior to the issue you would like your event to appear in. *The Uniter* hits the stands every Thursday.

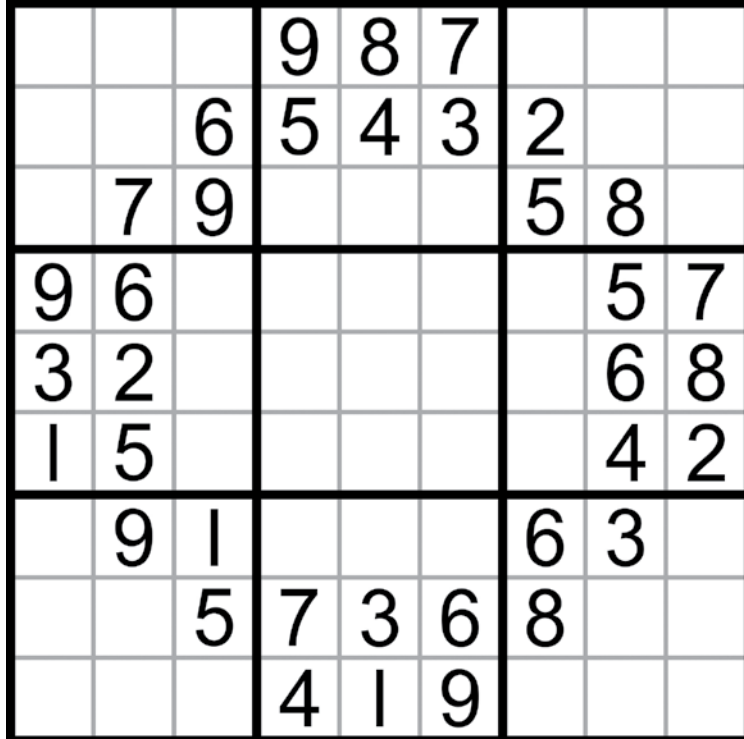
Crossword Puzzle 09

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



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Rumours of my shortcomings have been under-exaggerated

Hey gang, it's me. I'm back for another week, to the dismay of some of you, as I recently found out.

I read a letter to the editor the other day in the Oct. 15 issue of *The Uniter* that complained about the lack of sports coverage in the paper (page 8). The writer implied that articles about the arts and bands and other cultural events were uninteresting, and that the space they currently occupy in these pages could better be filled with stories about university sports. The writer then ended the article by saying something to the effect of "J.Willamez isn't funny."

This really hurt my feelings. It's not that I necessarily disagree, it's just that I don't feel that the writer gave enough effort in putting me down. All she said was that I'm not funny. There are a lot of other things about me that deserve just as much ridicule as my lack of humour, but this writer clearly didn't feel they warranted any discussion. She could have commented on my poor personal hygiene or on my white-trash haircut and facial hair, or even on the fact that I'm 32 years old and still don't own a home or a car.

She could even have pointed out that I spent an embarrassing amount of time taking philosophy in university, or that I have what some people would call "downright evil foot odour." But for some reason, all she chose to say was that I'm not funny.

I guess this oversight might be due to the fact that she probably doesn't know me; but if she had simply taken the time to do her homework, she would have discovered a wellspring of ridicule-fodder to work with.

I think one of the reasons that she doesn't find my columns very funny is that humour is subjective. When I fart in church, for example, I am usually the only one other than the priest to laugh.

It's just very surprising to me that she doesn't share my sense of humour, considering that we have so much in common.

For example: Like her, I hate art and culture. These things are just silly wastes of time that could better be spent doing math or writing instructional pamphlets for DVD players. There's really nothing like the feeling of writing a really good instructional pamphlet and then going out to picket cultural events. She and I also share the opinion that university-level sports are incredibly interesting to a wide range of people.

Most importantly, however, we share an intense hatred of me (or at least we will soon if she reads this column).

Given all of these important similarities, it boggles my mind that the writer of this letter and I have such differing views on what is funny. Moreover, I can't believe that in a city as small as Winnipeg, she and I have not already become fast friends.

Well, it's not too late ... Drop me a line and let's do coffee!

J. Willamez wants you to know that if you're out there, you should come see him play Shannon's Irish Pub on Wednesdays. Bring your friends!

Across

- 1- Kernels
- 5- After John in the NT
- 9- Mocks
- 14- Other, in Oaxaca
- 15- Baht spender
- 16- Pays to play
- 17- Put back
- 19- Gold measurement
- 20- Commentary
- 21- Cavalry sword
- 22- Not friendly
- 23- British nobleman
- 24- 401(k) alternative
- 25- Lounges
- 28- Hard outgrowths
- 31- Ridge
- 32- Finish first
- 34- Inter ___
- 35- Beer mug
- 36- Actress Turner
- 37- Are we there ___?
- 38- Check recipient
- 39- Tall and thin
- 40- Pressed together
- 42- Fabled bird
- 43- Helps
- 44- Miscreant
- 48- The Hindu Destroyer
- 50- Bring into existence
- 51- Sweatbox
- 52- Subsequent to childbirth
- 53- Atoll unit
- 54- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland
- 55- Like some orders
- 56- Willow provision
- 57- Call for
- 58- Switch ending

Down

- 1- Compass point
- 2- In ___ (unborn)
- 3- Attempts
- 4- Short composition
- 5- King of the Huns
- 6- Pursue
- 7- London gallery
- 8- Sprechen ___ Deutsch?
- 9- Capital of Indonesia
- 10- Make possible
- 11- French 101 verb
- 12- Back
- 13- Concorde, e.g.
- 18- Agitates
- 21- Glossy fabric
- 23- Causing goose bumps
- 25- Spirited horse
- 26- McGregor of "Trainspotting"
- 27- Gravitate
- 28- Cut and dried grass
- 29- Corrida cries
- 30- Baptism, e.g.
- 31- Eye sores
- 33- Negative vote
- 35- You ___ mouthful!
- 36- Tear roughly
- 38- Personal
- 39- Actress Sophia
- 41- Showered
- 42- Leased
- 44- "Siddhartha" author
- 45- Golden Horde member
- 46- Author Calvino
- 47- Big fiddle?
- 48- Scarf
- 49- Hawaiian native dance
- 50- Clotted blood
- 51- Bro's counterpart
- 52- Compose

Don't take pomegranates for granted



LIVING WELL



SAGAN MORROW
STAFF WRITER

Pomegranates are one of the most powerful natural sources of antioxidants. In comparison to other beverages believed to be high in polyphenol antioxidants, such as red wine, green tea and other fruit juices, pomegranate juice has been proven to contain 20 per cent greater antioxidant potency than any of these other beverages. Research studies in 48 peer-reviewed reports show that the Wonderful variety of pomegranates especially play a prominent role in preventing heart disease.

Polyphenol antioxidants neutralize free radicals and combat oxidative stress. This means that they fight against illness and dis-

ease. They have been associated with helping to decrease cardiovascular disease and cancer risk, in particular. These antioxidants reduce inflammation and have effective anti-aging properties. In addition to being an antioxidant superpower, pomegranates are sources of vitamin C, vitamin K, potassium, iron and fibre.

Although it is likely that all pomegranates contain this abundance of nutrition, the research cited here has only been conducted on the Wonderful variety. The POM Wonderful company ensures that every pomegranate is both nutritionally and aesthetically blemish-free. POM Wonderful operates on a personal basis with a focus on quality products and health awareness.

In a harvest tour last week, POM Wonderful invited 14 health bloggers, including myself, to see the orchards and processing plant first hand.

Brad Paris, vice-president and general manager for POM Wonderful's produce business, led the orchard and plant tour himself. As he helped us pick pomegranates and cut open fruit for everyone to sample, Paris said that pomegranates are a highly versatile fruit with a nutrient content that everyone can benefit from.

Based in California, the orchards span across 18,000 acres and 2,000 people are involved in hand-picking all of their fruit.

POM Wonderful has a line of POM 100% pomegranate juice, POMx Tea, POMx Iced Coffee and POMx bars, among other additional products to their pomegranates.

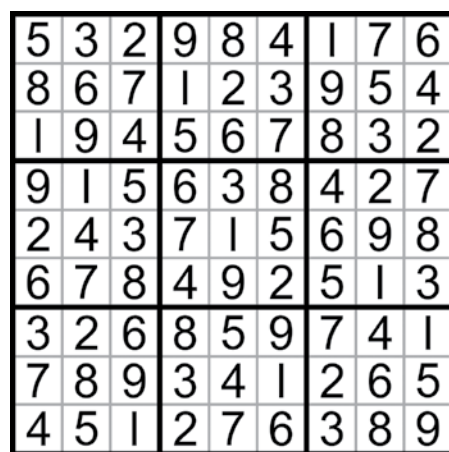
The ingredients used in POM Wonderful products are all-natural and contribute to a healthy diet. POM Wonderful 100% pomegranate juice is rated as low-glycemic, so it is a healthy choice for people with diabetes. It stabilizes blood sugar levels and contains naturally-occurring sugars.

The company aims not only to contribute to improving human health, but to be environmentally friendly as well. Juice bottles are made from a high amount of recycled material. There is very little waste when it comes to using the pomegranates, since even the husk is crushed for juice in the process of making some of their products, such as POMx Tea.

November is National Pomegranate Month. And, as it is the peak harvest season for pomegranates, be sure to look for them in your nearest grocery store to enjoy a healthy and delicious fruit.

University of Winnipeg student Sagan Morrow writes a health and wellness blog. Read about her experiences at the POM Wonderful orchards in California at <http://livinghealthyintherealworld.wordpress.com>.

Solutions to October 22 puzzles:



WHAT ABOUT BOB?

The *Uniter* recently decided to stop chronicling the misadventures of *Bob: The Suicidal Penguin*. Fear not, though: Thanks to the Internet, you can get your fix by logging on to www.bobthesuicidalpenguin.com.

Cleaning out the closet

Keeping your clothes in line will make for a better dressing experience



KATHLEEN CERRER
STAFF WRITER

Many of you may have already put those shorts and sandals away, but with hectic schedules of work, school and making room for a social life, organizing your closet may be the least of your concerns. It's not such a daunting task as one may think.

Instead of diving right in and throwing your clothes every which way, start out with a plan.

Categorize your belongings in separate containers or bags which you can easily store away or access quickly when needed. Label your containers so you can easily identify what is in each one of them.

There are many designs and closet organization systems which can be bought anywhere, from grocery stores and furniture shops to arts and crafts stores. These usually come with a shelving system which can be altered according to your closet's size and your preference. Be sure to bring your measuring tape, although many of these closet organizers can be easily adjusted.

IKEA is a great place for getting your closet organized to your own unique style. If you're looking for a quicker method, try large clear plastic containers which you can store your belongings and easily see.

Proper hangers for your wardrobe are also key in order to keep your clothes wrinkle free (after ironing, of course). Pant, skirt and tie hangers not only keep your clothing in tip-top shape, but save you time rummaging through a pile of clothes last minute for that shirt you swore you had! They can be purchased in bulk at a reasonable price, which is excellent for a

large or ever-growing wardrobe.

Footwear holders are also available if you want to neatly keep your shoes; also, inserts are especially great for keeping the shape of leather footwear.

Now that we are well into the autumn season, those tanks and tees have been replaced with sweaters and scarves. But don't be too quick to entirely banish your summer wardrobe into hiding until next spring. Keeping a few summer pieces can work well with a winter wardrobe.

For instance, summer tanks and t-shirts tend to come in handy when layering for the fall season. The darker, earthy-tones of autumn can use a touch of colour here and there, and adding a splash of colour to an autumn ensemble is an easy pick-me-up for those cold, dull days.

Fancier summer sandals can be worked into a festive outfit for the holiday season (indoors, of course!).

Sunglasses are a year-round necessity, since protecting your eyes (and skin) is vital even through the cold winter months. Those fun bright styles of summer can be worked into fall and winter when combined with neutral colours.

If you haven't worn an item of clothing for a year, it's unlikely you will anytime soon. So if it's still in good condition, donate it to a charity or second-hand shop. The general rule goes that if you buy a new item you take an old one away. Just make sure you aren't keeping unworn clothing which just takes up space.

For more design ideas and inspiration, visit these sites:

⇒ <http://www.houseandhome.com/design/storage-solutions-11-designs>

⇒ <http://www.ikea.com/ca/en/catalog/categories/departments/bedroom/>

⇒ <http://www.betterlivingthroughdesign.com/furnishings/shelvingstorage>

Betty & Johnny

Peer Support answers your questions about sexual health

PEER SUPPORT

Q: Should I see my doctor if my period hasn't stopped for a week?

A: Menstruation can last anywhere between two and eight days; the average length is four to six days. Menstruation may not last for the same number of days with every cycle and some variation is normal. Often we think of periods as occurring once per month. While some women's periods do occur precisely every month for the same amount of time, other women have cycles that are longer or shorter. There are spontaneous small changes, and there can be major changes when a woman is under a great deal of stress or loses a significant amount of body fat. As you get older, or if you have a baby, you may notice more significant changes in your cycle length.

Q: What is your chance at pregnancy if you use two methods of birth control (ie. the pill and a condom)?

A: In most cases, the percentage of women who actually conceive as a result of using hormonal/non-hormonal birth control varies from person to person, as every body reacts differently to various things. There are a number of factors that actually reduce the effectiveness of the pill, such as various other medicines and herbs, being overweight, as well as alcohol and marijuana use. If you were to use two or more types of hormonal/non-hormonal birth control, your pregnancy prevention does go up; however, no method is 100 per cent effective at preventing pregnancy or the transmissions of STIs.

Method	Typical Use Rate of Pregnancy	Lowest Expected Rate of Pregnancy
Sterilization:		
Male Sterilization	0.2%	0.1%
Female Sterilization	0.5%	0.5%
Hormonal Methods:		
Implant (Norplant)	0.09%	0.09%
Hormone Shot (Depo-Provera)	0.3%	0.3%
Combined Pill (Estrogen/Progestin)	6-8%	0.1%
Minipill (Progestin only)	5%	0.5%
Intrauterine Devices (IUDs):		
Copper T	0.8%	0.6%
Progestrone T	2%	1.5%

Q: When should girls first see an obstetrician-gynecologist (ob-gyn)?

A: It has been recently recommended that females see an ob-gyn between ages 12 and 14 before becoming sexually active, the purpose of which is not to get a Pap smear, but to discuss reproductive health issues. A Pap smear is strongly recommended within two years after becoming sexually active for the first time. Sexual preference is not a determining factor here, as STDs/STIs can be spread through sexual contact and sexual intercourse.

Betty and Johnny is a University of Winnipeg campus-wide anonymous question and answer program. Questions are posted on posters in bathrooms and are researched, answered and verified by professionals before being posted again in both places.

Betty and Johnny is a project run by Peer Support, a student-run support group for students that provides a safe and confidential environment to discuss concerns and referral information for other organizations.

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.

Rachel
"No, this is not real fur."

CINDY TITUS



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

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



Manitoba Gaming
Control Commission

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