

THE

UNITER

FREE.WEEKLY.
VOLUME 71 // ISSUE 15 // JAN 12

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* ON THE COVER

Trinity guard Natalie Carkner is defended by Wesmen forward Shawn Pallister at a game on Jan 7, 2017.



Simple ideas for wellness that can start at home (read more on page 8).

PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

THE BIG FIVE

Wondering what that giant number five floating through the paper over the last few weeks is all about?

It's the Uniter Fiver, a contest where Winnipeggers vote for their five favourite new local bands, and then we put on a big show to celebrate. That big show is coming up on Jan. 19 at The Good Will Social Club.

Our city is known for its vibrant and bustling music scene, and with new bands starting up or winding down on a near-constant basis, sometimes it can be hard to keep up. With the Fiver, we want to give you a chance to both discover some new artists and to come out to support a full bill of new local music.

It's always fascinating to see which bands are selected for the final five, and this year it's no surprise that the Fiver bands cross a variety of genres. The five bands (that you, or readers like you) chose as your favourites this year are Tusk, Kakagi, Rosebud, Awaiting the Answer and June Killing Stones.

Come check them out next Thursday at The Good Will Social Club - doors are at 8 p.m., music starts at 9 p.m., and cover is \$10 / \$5 for students. And rest assured that what you pay at the door is all going into promoting the showcase and paying these five bands.

Celebrate Winnipeg's music scene with us on Jan. 19 and keep the love going every other day of the year too!

- Anastasia Chipelski



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

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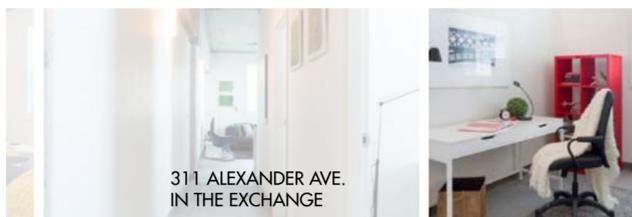
You can also stop by The Uniter office (Room ORM14 in the Bulman Centre at the U of W) every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. for a volunteer orientation. Orientations will resume Jan. 4. We'll cover the basics and give you more of an idea of what writing for The Uniter is all about, and after that you can get started anytime.

Illustrators, contact the Creative Director:
Bryce Creasy » creative@uniter.ca

Volunteer illustrators are visual artists who provide some of the eye candy that goes along with many of our articles. We'll send you an outline of technical requirements and a weekly list of possible assignments to choose from.

Photographers, contact the Photo Editor:
Daniel Crump » photoeditor@uniter.ca

If you're looking for variety, our volunteer photographers cover events as well as shooting fashion streeters, headshots and local landscapes. We'll send you the assignment list and help you connect with the subjects. Get ready to share your photos with the city!



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PHOTOS BY CALLIE MORRIS

THOMAS PASHKO @THOMASPASHKO

FEATURES REPORTER

When it comes to keeping a venue running efficiently, one's work doesn't always fit into a neat job description. Such is the case for Kevin Mozdzen, the wizard of The Park Theatre.

"I have a very loose job title at the Park," Kevin says. "I book talent, but I also do all the media stuff and graphic design for the theatre. A bunch of other little things here and there as well."

As if supporting the beloved music and comedy venue wasn't enough, Kevin also co-founded the Oddblock Comedy Festival in 2015. It was a whole new workload that stretched the limits of his job title so far that his wife Gillian Mozdzen had to pick up the slack.

"I was the volunteer coordinator for the first ever Oddblock," Gillian says. She put in the work during time off from her regular gig as a Grade 3 teacher. "That was a nightmare I got thrown into the middle of."

The Mozdzen's Crescentwood home is full of local antique knickknacks and Canadiana, something Gillian says isn't always intentional.

"The theme of our house has kind of become The Hudson's Bay Company Store," Gillian says. "In every room there's something from The Bay. Not by choice. It just kind of happened. You know, you find one interesting thing there, you tell a family member, and then that's all you get for Christmas for five years."

"Like everyone, we wonder why we live here," Gillian says. "Yet we have all this great Winnipeg stuff. So we obviously like it somehow."



1



2



3



4



5



6

1) FILM CAMERAS

KM: "I think every relatively creative person ends up spending some time messing around with film cameras. When I was going through that obsession, I bought a big box of old cameras for \$10 on Kijiji."

1) BOOKS

KM: "I have a couple first editions here and there. It seems like books are still easier to collect than records. I'd love to have that impressive record collection, but people are more aware of the value of those now. You can still find a first edition book for a dollar at a lot of places."

2) MANITOBA ARTWORK

GM: "We have a lot of stuff in the house that's about the city versus the country. We're both from rural towns. I'm from Gimli, so we have Lake Winnipeg, but we have the city as well. It's like those two worlds coming together."

3) DANIEL ROMANO PRINT

KM: "When Attack in Black played here at the Albert, for what I believe was their final Winnipeg show ever, I bought this Daniel Romano print. It's a limited edition. There are only a handful of them."

4) PHOTO DISPLAY

GM: "I like this photo setup with the clothespins because it allows us to change what photos we have out at any time we want."

5) FRIDGE MAGNETS

GM: "I collect magnets everywhere I go because I'm a nerd."

6) LOGO MODERNISM

KM: "This is one of my favourite books. There's so much great design work and logos in here. I used up some of those Chapters Christmas gift cards on this one."

RESOLVING TO CONNECT

Forming a deeper relationship with goal setting

MELANIE DAHLING @SUGARDAHLING

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

Though the beginning of a new year can be a healthy check-in point, committing to stick to a resolution for 365 days can be overwhelming. That's why some people take a different approach to New Year's resolutions.

Meghan Zahari, co-owner of Bronuts, says a year can be a long time to focus on one specific goal.

"Picking a specific thing like 'I'm going to eat healthy in 2017,' I find that really overwhelming, because that actually entails a very big commitment and a very big change to a lot of daily habits."

Instead of small and specific goals, Zahari chooses to broaden her focus to a theme for the year, one that she chooses with her husband.

"Last year, we just kind of picked a word for the year and we picked 'nurture,'" she

says. "We were like 'Oh, that's cool. We'll do a lot of self-care this year.' We didn't really know what it would look like for us, but it ended up taking a lot of unexpected directions."

Art therapist Tanissa Martindale prefers to uncover the emotion behind a goal before working with her clients to achieve it.

"I just get really curious and engage with a lot of questions to gauge the motivation," she says. "Is that genuinely you that wants to do that, or is that what you feel like the greater world is implying or what you've been fed through media or social context?"

Martindale says it's easier to achieve a goal when a person is connected to it. Self-love is an important part of the equation.

Having spent years as an athlete and being very disciplined, Martindale says she knows how to push herself when she needs to, but discipline isn't always the best route.

For example, if she needs to put off a few errands to get more sleep and she has the time to do so, she'd rather let herself get the rest.

"If I come from that loving place then it's actually from me. It's not from imposed pressure, which eventually I will get so annoyed with that I don't want to listen to that voice anymore."

Martindale says she helps clients find a deeper relationship with their goals through discussion, brainstorming and creating visual pieces such as self-portraits, metaphorical symbols and vision boards.

"I think it's very great to use our practical, logical, rational side of the brain.



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

Then we also have the side of the brain that is emotive and creative and visually dispositioned, so having images can be what pulls us forward," Martindale says. "It connects to a different part of us."

Zahari says remaining open but choosing a theme for the year leads to a

lot of self-exploration, going beyond the surface and asking the hard questions. This year, she plans to again follow a more general intention and continue to keep track of her thoughts throughout the year by journaling.

ARTS AND CULTURE BRIEFS

MEG CRANE // ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR @MECRANE

Celebrating Confederation

The National Film Board of Canada (NFB) has three cross-country projects to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Confederation of Canada. Aabiziingwashi (#WideAwake): Indigenous Cinema on Tour, #Legacies150 and special online programming will showcase the country's diversity and wide range of viewpoints to foster dialogue and encourage understanding. More information is available at nfb.ca.

Synthia's Closet

Ione Thorkelsson's latest exhibit is on display for free. From Jan. 12 to Feb. 24, her miniature landscapes set inside delicate glass spheres will be at the University of Manitoba's ARTlab. Her combination of natural elements - such as animal bones and feathers - along with fiber optics and LED technology, serves as a metaphor for bioengineers' pursuit of synthetic life.

DIO Fest

The University of Winnipeg's Theatre and Film Students Association (TAFSA) presents DIO Fest from Jan. 12 to 14. The first annual play festival is made of pieces created and performed by students which will be showcased at the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film. Tickets are \$5 per show at the door. More details will be announced on the Facebook event page for TAFSA presents: DIO Fest.

Manitoba Film Hothouse Award

Applications for the Manitoba Film Hothouse Award are being accepted until Feb. 9. The winner - who must have been working as a director or creator in film or video for a minimum of five years - will receive \$10,000 in cash and \$5,000 in services and a general membership with producer add-on from the Winnipeg Film Group. Visit winniepegfilmgroup.com for details on how to apply.

Steve Patterson

The host of CBC's *The Debaters* is coming to The Park Theatre. On Jan. 17, Steve Patterson will perform the 20th anniversary show to celebrate his years in Canadian show business. The show includes personal stories, social commentary and song. Tickets are \$30 in advance through The Park Theatre, Music Trader and ticketfly.com. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Your chance to dance

Interested in dancing but not sure where you fit? The Royal Winnipeg Ballet is offering free dance lessons every Tuesday from Jan. 17 to June 6 as part of the Sharing the Dance Day happening June 8. This day is part of a national movement to celebrate the health benefits of dance. To find out more, call 204-957-3467 or email school@rwb.org.



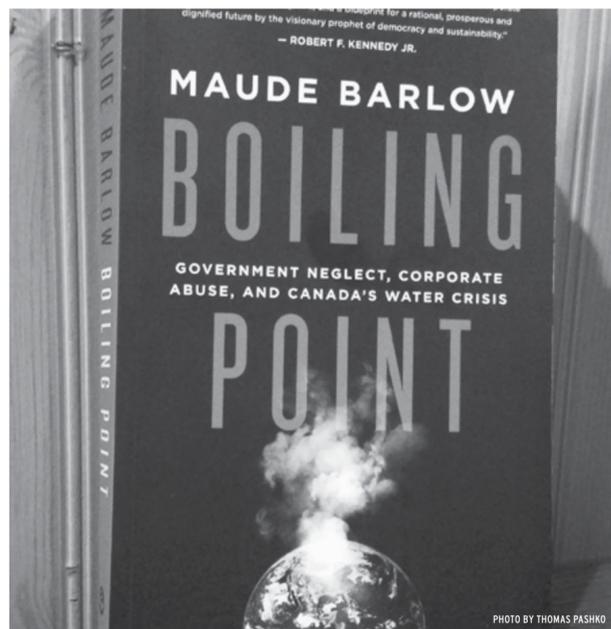

CKUW TOP 30

January 2 - 8, 2017

TW = This Week // LW = Last Week // ! = Local content // * = Canadian Content



TW	LW	C	ARTIST	ALBUM	LABEL
1	1	*	The Evaporators	Ogopogo Punk	Mint
2	5	!	John K. Samson	Winter Wheat	Anti-
3	2	!	Royal Canoe	Something Got Lost Between Here And The Orbit	Nevado
4	15	*	Loscil	Monument Builders	Kranky
5	3	!	The Catamounts	St Nuomatac	Transistor 66
6	4	*	A Tribe Called Red	We Are The Halluci Nation	Pirates Blend
7	10	!	J.D. And The Sunshine Band	Soaking Up The Rays	Transistor 66
8	7		Luisa Maita	Fiodamemoria	Cumbancha
9	16		Drive By Truckers	American Band	ATO
10	8	!	Monuments Galore	Colour Depth And Field	Self-Released
11	12	!	Micah Erenberg	Poor Mic's Toe	Self-Released
12	13	!	Duotang	New Occupation	Stomp
13	6	!	Zrada	Legend	Self-Released
14	18	*	Tanya Tagaq	Retribution	Six Shooter
15	RE	*	The Pack A.D.	Positive Thinking	Cadence
16	20		Wolf People	Ruins	Jagjaguwar
17	19		The Avalanches	Wildflower	Astralwerks
18	NE		Automat	Ostwest	Bureau B
19	23		Francois Viro	Marginal Spots	Born Bad
20	9	!	Johnny Sizzle	Recovery	Awkward Reasons Inc.
21	14	!	Moon Tan	The Faceless Knight	Self-Released
22	21		Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds	Skeleton Tree	Bad Seed Ltd
23	NE		FEA	FEA	Blackheart
24	24	*	We Are Wolves	Wrong	Fantome
25	17	!	Various Artists	Beach Station Blues V	Real Love Winnipeg
26	26	*	Monomyth	Happy Pop Family	Mint
27	RE		Blood Orange	Freetown Sound	Domino
28	NE	*	Sonic Avenues	Disconnect	Dirtnap/Blow The Fuse
29	NE		Wadada Leo Smith	America's National Parks	Cuneiform
30	NE		Paul & The Tall Trees	Our Love In The Light	Big Crown



BOILING POINT: GOVERNMENT NEGLIGENCE, CORPORATE ABUSE, AND CANADA'S WATER CRISIS

THOMAS PASHKO @THOMASPASHKO

FEATURES REPORTER

Maude Barlow, ECW Press, 293 pages, Sept. 19, 2016

Author and activist Maude Barlow has been banging the drum in the name of Canadian and global environmental justice for the past three decades. In addition to authoring or co-authoring 17 prior books, she serves as the national chairperson of the Council of Canadians, an activist organization, and a variety of other international councils and watch groups.

Her latest book, *Boiling Point: Government Neglect, Corporate Abuse, and Canada's Water Crisis*, focuses on the growing threats to Canada's renewable water. The timing of the book's release feels pertinent.

Water rights and safety have long taken a backseat in the larger environmentalist conversation, given short shrift in favour of discussing air pollution, carbon emissions and rising temperatures. In light of the 2016 Dakota Access Pipeline protests, water protection has gained increased prominence as an urgent environmental topic.

The threat to clean water, of course, is inextricably tied to those other environmental concerns. *Boiling Point* is a concise, informative guide to Canada's water crisis, its many facets and how they connect to concerns like oil pipelines and the Alberta tar sands. The book is a great primer on these issues.

Readers who are unsure about why pipelines are controversial or confused about what exactly tar sands oil is being used for will find complete yet digestible answers to these questions. Lest detractors should whine that it's anti-oil propaganda, Barlow points to and sources hundreds of news pieces and scholarly articles, a refreshing break from the post-fact Trumpian dystopia that is 2017.

Even the notion of the water crisis itself, which may strike potential readers as dubious ("Didn't they say in school that Canada has 20 per cent of the world's water?"), is explained in terms as accessible as they are alarming. Barlow's first order of business is explaining what constitutes renewable water safe for human consumption, how little we have, the myriad ways in which we're damaging it and the shocking lack of measures we take to protect it.

That lack of safeguards is one of the more infuriating details explored. While Barlow takes steps to avoid being overtly political, preferring to state clean facts rather than editorializing, those facts serve as a sober reminder of just what an absolute disaster the decade-long reign of the Harper Conservatives was for Canada.

While some of his more controversial moves reached a high profile (his attempt to destroy the Experimental Lakes Area project comes to mind), the extent to which the Harper administration razed environmental regulations to the ground and the undeniable racism and discrimination with which they targeted Indigenous opponents to the measures (which was validated by a Canadian Human Rights Tribunal in 2016), is a shameful blight on our present reality.

Barlow is measured in her appraisal of our current government. While admitting that the infrastructure Trudeau inherited is a ruinous post-Harper catastrophe, she still points to his tendency towards the pre-Harper norm of federal environmental policy, which is less overt hostility than inaction and indifference.

Barlow's final chapter offers hope by outlining the steps we can take to combat our water crisis. Sadly, that hope comes at the end of what amounts to an encyclopedia of watery dread. Here's hoping many Canadians read *Boiling Point* and demand the necessary action.



MS DOS

Kind of Day

Kind of Day is Edmonton band MS DOS' first mixtape release, which promptly followed their 2016 single track "Milk & Honey." For those who were using computers in the '80s the name MS DOS draws feelings of both nostalgic simplicity and progressiveness. These characteristics can be attributed to MS DOS' sound, which has the smooth airy ambience of jazz with touches of electronic and rhythmic styles of hip hop.

The band members began collaborating in the spring of 2016 and were inspired after

discussing the evocative lyrics in "Believe in Yourself" by Ziggy Marley, widely recognized as the theme song to the TV show *Arthur*.

The band revealed that "after deliberating about the societal impact of the lyrics 'what a wonderful kind of day,' the group decided to make a concept record that details a day in the life of the average struggling individual."

The album takes listeners through an introspective day by titling each of the five tracks with a designated period of time (waking up, morning, afternoon, evening, sleeping). Concepts of freedom and purpose are consistent lyrically as the album takes dark but necessary turns.

The album shares the need to go on with that of the individual by smoothly transitioning from each track, analogous to the undetectable moment morning becomes afternoon. While the lyrics encourage self-reflection this album is suited for calm evenings of relaxation with the resonance of rainfall and the soothing voices of vocalists Rachel Meindertma and Catlin W. Kuzyk.

Meindertma, Kuzyk, and the band's four other members Evan Tonack, Will Scott, Connell Stinnissen, and Eli Browning plan to tour in the summer of 2017 and are currently working on their debut LP.

-QUINN MACNEIL



Siblings Madeleine and Lucas Roger joined forces to form the band Roger Roger.

TWINS MAKE EXCELLENT BANDMATES

Roger Roger focuses on storytelling and sharing their music

MAHLET CUFF

VOLUNTEER

Madeleine and Lucas Roger of local folk band Roger Roger say there are benefits to forming a band with your twin.

"Like having similar interests, living together for a long time and easy communication with each other," are some of the benefits, Madeleine says.

Roger Roger have been able to use this to their advantage to come together and make music that is powerful but carries a genuine vibe.

"Intensely memorable hooks, faultless harmonizing and lingering melodies," is how their website describes their music.

The twins have not played music together for a long time because they were both involved in other creative pursuits. Yet they have been able to make

listeners wholeheartedly enjoy their great sound and their genuine way of storytelling through their music, according to their website.

This year, they released their album *Fairweather*, which reached the No. 1 spot on the National Folk/Roots/Blues charts.

The duo also had the chance to make their mark on the Canadian music scene this year by playing at Folk Fest, University Of Winnipeg's Roll Call event and many other gigs and music festivals across the country.

This gave them the opportunity to travel across Canada, which they say they really enjoyed, because it gave them the chance to discover so much of Canada and see unique places they have never seen before.

"We are super grateful for everything that has happened to us in 2016 and are hopeful to be able to grow more as musicians," Madeleine says.

The traveling has helped stimulate growth as meeting people on the road – including other musicians – was inspiring when it comes to lyric writing, Madeleine says.

Their songs can be about almost anything from their own experiences to nature, but one of the most common writing strategies for them is interpreting stories they have been able to learn, she says.

They gather stories from "strangers, friends, acquaintances on the road most typically," Madeleine says.

Roger Roger, and especially Lucas, are inspired by bands like The Hold Steady. "They've created a whole bunch of albums that follow a storyline of the same fictional characters - you end up feeling like you know them personally," Madeleine says.

In her case, Madeleine draws a lot of inspiration to write from the Austrian artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser. She loves his choose-your-own-adventure approach

and how he has the ability to describe his paintings as an act of dreaming.

"He didn't believe in straight lines or flat floors, and was obsessed with spirals, and making his own paints out of things he found in nature during his many voyages on his sailboat," Madeleine says.

Madeleine and Lucas listen to and appreciate the stories they are told and put them into their own perspectives.

"Storytelling has the ability to dazzle, confuse, move, anger, inspire and connect humans to themselves, their imaginations and each other. Kids are so good at it. We're just trying to get back to that careless freedom of storytelling, but with a better handle on the English language," Madeleine says.

In 2017, Roger Roger has plans to tour across Canada, writing and making the band a full-time gig. They hope to play a few shows in Europe and say they'd love to go to the U.K.

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WELLNESS IN WINTERPEG

Finding affordable winter self-care

STEPHANIE BERRINGTON  @UNITERVOLUNTEER

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Blue Monday, the alleged saddest day of the year (which falls on Jan 16, 2017), is looming. How can Winnipeggers give the cold shoulder to the chilly weather?

Snowflake Winter Wellness Festival – founded by Rachelle Taylor, president of Prairie Yogi Inc. – might be the answer for some.

“Snowflake is a winter wellness festival with an intention. It’s rooted in self-care,” Taylor says.

Snowflake offers participants restorative and vinyasa yoga sessions in addition to workshops on meditation, feng shui and essential oils. It also has speakeasies, or learning opportunities, for manifesting personal potential and connecting with the divine feminine.

“We have some really inspiring facilitators offering some really wonderful stuff,” Taylor says.

This is the second festival. Last year’s incarnation brought about 250 participants and 50 staff and volunteers to its Hotel Fort Garry venue.

“In my experience as a human and a yoga instructor, wellness typically is centred a lot in connection,” Taylor says. “The festival is really about connection. It’s about connecting to your body. It’s about connecting to your mind, your creative brain. It’s about connecting to your community.”

Louise Blanchard, Canadian-certified counsellor and founder of Birch Wellness Center, says there’s a particular difficulty in maintaining this sense of connectedness in the winter months.

“Winter tends to isolate people because you’re just not out and about as much,” she says. “People tend to do that hibernating so there’s loneliness. I think there’s stress and depression that kind of peaks.”

After struggling with anxiety and depression, Jaz Papadopoulos says they have found a sense of wellness in a witchcraft community, largely populated by queer and trans individuals who share a focused spiritual practice and are committed to activism.

“When I think about magic, I guess it’s probably the same feeling that I used to feel when I was a Christian and just that feeling of depth of connectedness and calmness and feeling the strength of being held by something bigger than yourself,” Papadopoulos says. “Magic is a feeling of that sense of connection.”

What can those on a budget, who cannot afford the festival ticket and do not have mental health care coverage, do to



Moving your body, either indoors or out, can help with winter wellness.

PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

maintain or achieve a sense of wellness in the winter months?

Blanchard says there are publicly funded organizations that offer counselling, including Women’s Health Clinic, Klinik Community Health, Aurora Family Therapy and New Directions, as well as the Crisis Response Centre for those in crisis.

For general self-care, she advocates maintaining a daily routine, despite the shortened days, such as eating well, providing the body with opportunities for movement like going for a walk and prioritizing community. Apps like Headspace

and Calm also promote mindfulness and stress reduction.

Papadopoulos suggests movement-based practices like dance or yoga, which can be practiced at the Broadway Neighbourhood Centre or Dragon Arts Collective by small donation.

Basking in greenery can go a long way in beating those winter blues.

“Go to the conservatory at the Assiniboine Park,” Taylor says. “It’s free to enter and it’s green, so when your eyes are starving for some green, the conservatory is a great place.”

CELEBRATE MALANKA

How Winnipeggers do Ukrainian New Year’s

MELANIE DAHLING  @SUGARDAHLING

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

On Jan. 21, the Ukrainian Youth Association (known as CYM, the acronym for their Ukrainian name) is celebrating the new year according to the Julian calendar.

Lesia Szwaluk and Larysa Marcinkow organize the new year’s event, called Malanka, and say anyone is welcome to take in the festivities.

“Everyone has someone that wants to be a surrogate Ukrainian,” Marcinkow says, “so a lot of us bring what we call our English friends, people who want to come because they know it’s a good time.”

This year, CYM has drawn from Ukrainian communities across Canada for the evening’s entertainment.

“We’re bringing in a band from Edmonton this year called Millenia,” Marcinkow says. “Hoosli Ukrainian Male Chorus (usually does) a performance, then we welcome the members, do a greeting for all the best of health and happiness in the new year and then have a good party.”

The party is a departure from the traditional Malanka celebrations which are still held in Ukraine. Andriy Zayarnyuk,



ILLUSTRATION BY BRYCE CREAM

associate professor of history at the University of Winnipeg, says.

“Here in Canada, it is mostly about a party,” he says.

Historically, Malanka is a folk holiday celebrated by people who dress up in costume and go door-to-door to perform short plays or carry out light-hearted pranks.

“Malanka is the central figure but she is usually accompanied by people dressed as animals,” Zayarnyuk says. “Sheep, a goat is very important, then there should be an old man, usually a younger lad dressed as an old man.”

As for the origins or significance of these costumes, he says no one knows for sure.

“People think that maybe Malanka stands for water, for some kind of feminine element of nature. But for youth it was just about fun.”

Zayarnyuk is from Ukraine, so as a teenager he participated in these traditional Malanka performances.

Though the celebrations he attended were more faithful to history, Zayarnyuk says even in Ukraine there has been some change over the years.

“In the city, it’s very difficult to have exactly the same kind of celebration that people had in the villages in the 19th century,” he says.

While the original Malanka participants were mostly young unmarried men, now it is usually a mixed group of young people who will carry out the performance, he says.

Though Winnipeg’s Malanka may not look the same, a sense of celebration and camaraderie is still present, Szwaluk says.

While organizing the event for more than 35 years, she has been happy to see families grow in the community.

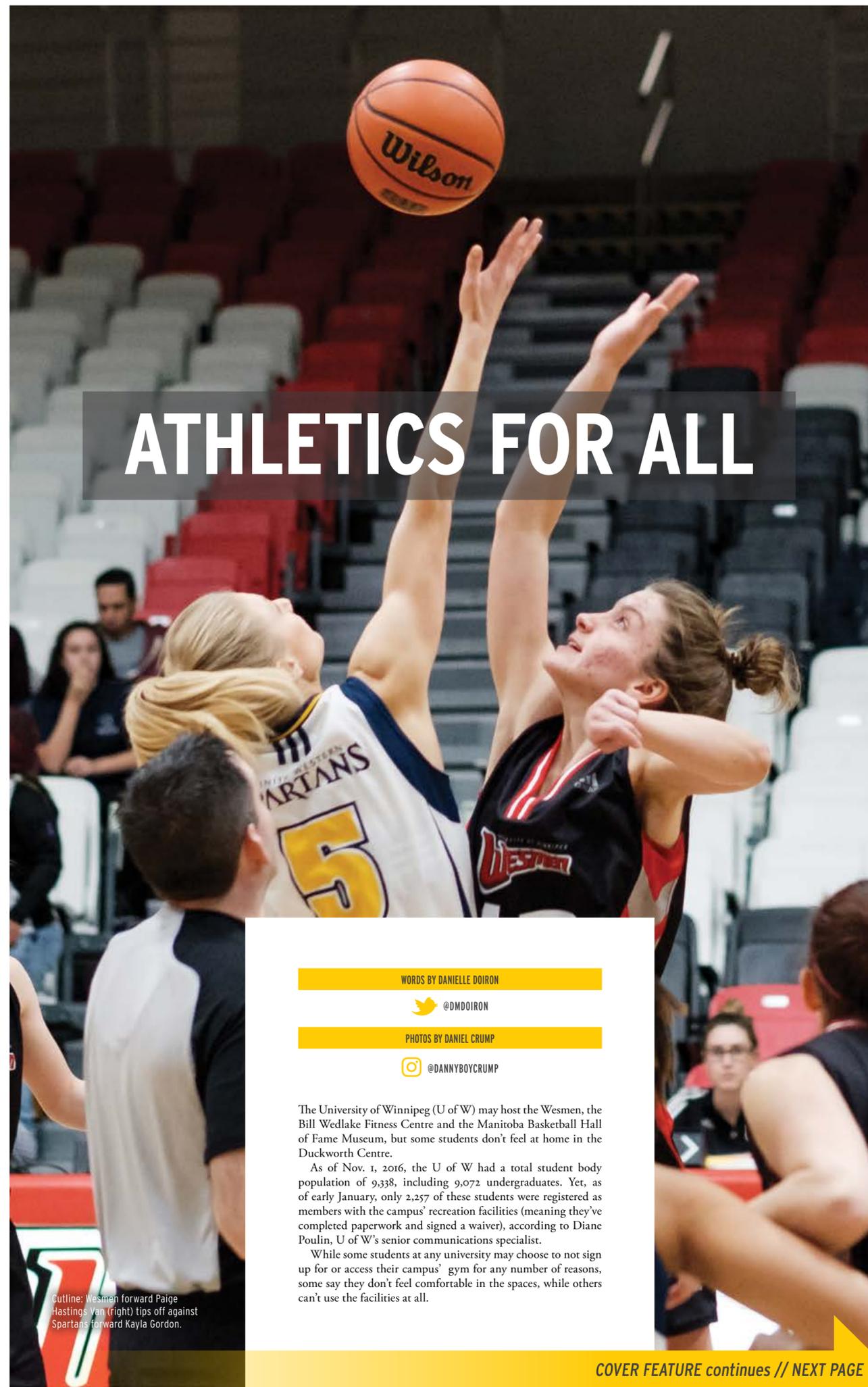
“It still stays really close to the family and friends, but you see the parents out at Malanka, and their children out at Malanka, and their grandchildren out at

Malanka,” Szwaluk says, “so, that’s what I’ve noticed, and it’s very, very nice. And a lot of youth, which is very good too.”

Marcinkow is a great example of that spirit of community. She has been a member of CYM since she was five years old and celebrates Malanka every year with her parents, cousins, aunts and uncles.



CYM’s Malanka will be at the Victoria Inn Hotel on Jan. 21. For more info and tickets, email Lesia Szwaluk at cymwpg@gmail.com.



ATHLETICS FOR ALL

WORDS BY DANIELLE DOIRON

 @DMDOIRON

PHOTOS BY DANIEL CRUMP

 @DANNYBOYCRUMP

The University of Winnipeg (U of W) may host the Wesmen, the Bill Wedlake Fitness Centre and the Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame Museum, but some students don’t feel at home in the Duckworth Centre.

As of Nov. 1, 2016, the U of W had a total student body population of 9,338, including 9,072 undergraduates. Yet, as of early January, only 2,257 of these students were registered as members with the campus’ recreation facilities (meaning they’ve completed paperwork and signed a waiver), according to Diane Poulin, U of W’s senior communications specialist.

While some students at any university may choose to not sign up for or access their campus’ gym for any number of reasons, some say they don’t feel comfortable in the spaces, while others can’t use the facilities at all.

Cutline: Wesmen forward Paige Hastings Yan (right) tips off against Spartans forward Kayla Gordon.

Continued from previous page.

The U of W athletics department itself, including the Wesmen teams and supporting staff, are funded through the university and through third-party facility rentals, team merchandise sales, concessions, game tickets and different fundraisers, Poulin says.

The \$254,811 in scholarships and awards she says 139 Wesmen athletes received last year was collected via donations, corporate partnerships and contributions from Sport Manitoba, according to Sheldon Appelle, U of W's sports information coordinator.

But while athletics programs are self-sustaining and funded through outside sources, U of W students help pay for the school's fitness facilities – whether they use them or not.

Each academic year, students are charged a \$39.50 Fitness Centre Fee (as approved by a student referendum in 2007) and a \$31.60 RecPlex Fee per term, to a maximum of \$94.80 per academic year (after a 2011 student referendum).

Both are incidental fees charged on top of tuition and give students access to the Bill Wedlake Fitness Centre, help fund the Axworthy Health and RecPlex and give students access to Wesmen home games, something few students take advantage of. On average, Appelle says, about 500 people come out to watch Wesmen courtsports on a given night, up to half of whom are U of W students.



Wesmen guard Antoinette Miller charges to the bucket.

A little-known perk of the student levy is free entrance to Wesmen home games, like this one held at the Duckworth Centre on Jan. 7.

NOT WELCOME HERE

In May 2016, the Wesmen teams joined True Sport Lives Here Manitoba, an initiative “based on the values of fairness, excellence, inclusion and fun,” according to a release. True Sport promotes seven principles, one of which is to include everyone in sport, “regardless of creed, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or ability.”

And although the Wesmen teams may have adopted this attitude, some students feel that the fitness centre and facilities give off a different vibe.

Over the summer, the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) launched what it calls the Inclusive Gym Initiative as a response to “hearing again and again that many students feel uncomfortable using the university gym,” UWSA status of women director Jade DeFehr says in an emailed statement.

The initiative, which so far has involved a student survey and meetings with gym administration, aims to “promote safer spaces and equitable participation” for all U of W students who pay fitness and recreation fees by raising awareness about this discomfort with the gym and advocating for women- and non-binary-exclusive gym time.

It's a move Adrienne Tessier, the UWSA arts director who sits on the Inclusive Gym Initiative committee, says is important for two reasons.

“A university gym does not exist simply as a revenue stream,” she says. “They exist in order to support student athletes, promote active living on campus and to encourage students to maintain a healthy lifestyle. In short, they are services students pay for.”

Tessier notes that students, especially those who experience “physical or mental ill-being,” need fitness and recreation services.

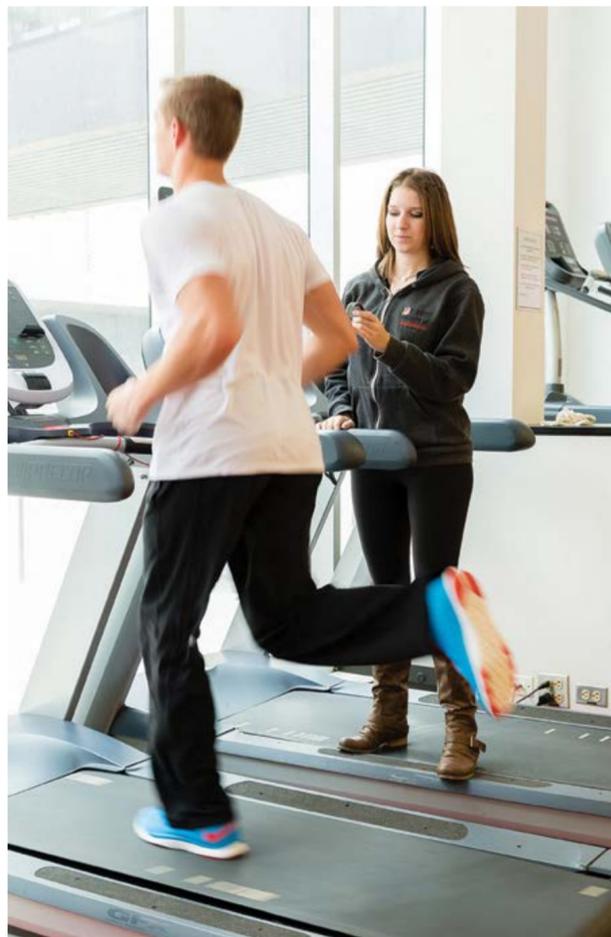
“These services are becoming ever more important,” she says, noting that it's increasingly crucial that these kinds of services are accessible to all students.

The initiative's survey, which received over 750 responses, indicated women are about twice as likely as men to, in DeFehr's words, “feel there is something preventing them from feeling more safe and comfortable using the Duckworth gym facilities.” Media coverage since has cited verbal harassment, catcalling, stares and feelings of unbelonging as some of the reasons certain people feel unwelcome.

“People who identify as non-binary are even less likely to feel safe and comfortable there,” based on the survey responses, DeFehr says. “A number of other issues also affect how comfortable students feel using our gym facilities, but nonetheless, male domination of the space was a clear pattern that emerged.”

“Each student pays a fee of around \$100 to access recreational services, and it is the responsibility of the university to ensure their services are accessible so that most students feel comfortable actually using the services they are paying for. This is especially important when issues of identity come into play, and we see that certain groups of students who typically face oppression in other forms are also much less likely to feel comfortable using the gym.”

The university is also conducting an online survey until Feb. 3 to gauge student and general member opinions on the fitness centre and services. It asks if current gym-goers feel comfortable and safe in the facilities and whether or not they would change their current workout habits if the gym set aside certain hours specifically for women and non-binary people.



The fitness centre is also an important part of U of W's athletic culture.

WINNIPEG TAKES NOTICE

So far, the initiative has received mixed reviews.

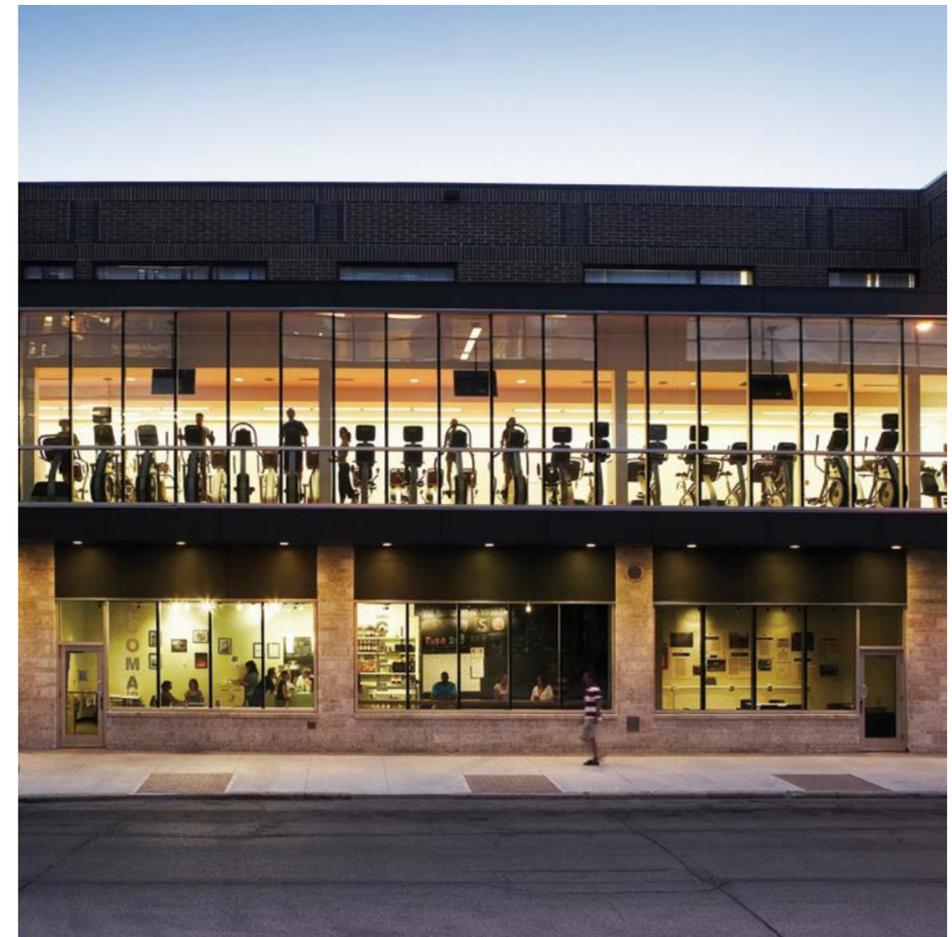
On a thread about the proposed set-aside gym time, one Reddit user says she'd rather see the university amp up its security and harassment awareness training, while others say they're concerned that exclusive gym hours unfairly discriminate against men, who pay the same fees as non-male students but would have less available hours to access the fitness centre.

Aly Raposo, a student at the University of Manitoba (U of M), writes in a comments piece for *The Manitoban* that DeFehr's (and UWSA LGBT* director Jacq Pellend's) efforts inspired her to propose a similar initiative on her own campus.

“I am a firm believer in a safe space being initiated on campus permanently,” Raposo writes.

“I am also very enthusiastic about having that safe space be reserved hours for women and non-binary people at the gym. This is because the gym is considered a public space; in the U of M's case, it's a public space that every student on campus pays for through their tuition fees. Yet this particular public space is dominated by men, and even in this day and age, women are made to feel uncomfortable and basically not entitled to participate because of the overwhelmingly male presence.”

She notes, however, that the time slotted for women and non-binary people doesn't need to exclude others from using the gym for an entire day. Instead, a few hours could be set aside for this group each week to make sure “all demographics have more or less equal access to the facilities we all pay into.”



Access to recreational services is one of the benefits included in the approximately \$100 of fees a student can pay.

Continues on next page.

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previous page.

INACCESSIBILITY ISSUES

Andy Fenwick has also raised other concerns with the U of M's fitness and recreation facilities. The 21-year-old economics student is in his fourth year and was previously the University of Manitoba Students' Union's (UMSU) accessibility representative.

He's advocated for a number of changes to the university's new Active Living Centre, which opened in 2015, including the addition of automatic door buttons, a pay station nearer to the fitness centre's accessible parking and an opt-out program for quadriplegic students who pay for but can't use the centre.

U of M full-time students pay a mandatory Sport and Recreation Fee of \$77.34 per term during the fall and winter terms, and all students pay \$58.00 for a summer term. Like at the U of W, this fee is assessed regardless of whether or not students can, will or feel comfortable using the gym and other facilities.

Fenwick says he's been working on the opt-out and meeting with U of M administrators for over a year with little luck.

"They're maintaining that they don't want to give opt-outs for any students," he says. "They use the justification that it's a student levy, which to me is a bad argument, because it's not something like the library (that we need) to get our degrees. It's outside of the whole realm of education, but also, the gym is based off an able-bodied sense of active living, so it's not even designed for everyone."

He says one of his friends, who is a quadriplegic and physically can't use the gym, first brought up the idea of the opt-out to him after struggling to find work and pay for some expenses like the Sport and Recreation Fee. Fenwick himself uses a wheelchair but stresses he regularly uses the gym and doesn't personally want or need to opt out of the fee. Instead, he's trying to help people like his friend and says he's received a lot of support so far.

"I think it got a bit more traction and opened up a few more people's eyes to figure out that you can't just slap an umbrella fee on all these people and assume that everything is perfect," he says.

Fenwick estimates that fewer than 10 U of M students would qualify for this opt-out if it passed, but he's heard some people are worried waiving the fee for one group could open the door to future requests.

The former Big Horns executive says he's also heard from administration that the fee goes toward Bison games and ensures that all U of M students have access to see their home teams play. However, Fenwick, who used to buy a pass to attend games before the fee came into effect, remembers those passes cost \$10 each.

"That still leaves a \$140 differential," he says. "To have a student levy that goes to gym, which is an able-bodied facility working towards an able-bodied sense of active living, that's standing on the shoulders of students who can't use the facility based on their disability is the worst way to run a levy. I just don't like it."



Wesmen forward Faith Hezekiah makes a layup during a game at the Duckworth Centre on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017.

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MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

WITH TIM RUNTZ

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PORTAGE AND MAIN IS OUR PUBLIC SQUARE

The first time I stood on the pavement at Portage and Main, the ground felt hard under my boots.

It wasn't any harder than Portage and Vaughan or Main and Bannatyne I'm sure, but there was something about standing in a spot not meant for human soles that made me notice my feet.

The crossroads has been closed to pedestrians since 1979, when then-mayor Stephen Juba's administration erected barriers, apparently choosing the city's drivers over those who walk.

But despite the intersection's off-limits status, it's remained a sort of public square, a gathering place where Winnipeggers congregate to assert themselves, whether in celebration of the return of the Jets or in solidarity with Dakota Access Pipeline protesters.

There's some symbolic heft to this gathering place. It's where the city's main

arteries converge, and stopping traffic lends the feeling of bringing the city to a halt, as it did during an Idle No More round dance in 2012.

It's where, in 1919, "aliens, bohunks and foreigners" were assaulted by police during one of the largest general strikes in Canadian history.

Whether justifiably or not, we take weird pride in the intersection as one of the coldest and windiest in the country. "I would say it's the windiest and coldest intersection on the planet," Colorado Avalanche reporter Kyle Keefe said recently. "Just being out here, I feel like I might die."

It has a spot on the 2000 edition of Canadian Monopoly and it graces the can of Fort Garry Brewing Co.'s Portage and Main IPA.

Yet today Portage and Main is impassable to anyone without a vehicle, and the underground concourse of a crosswalk is particularly inaccessible to people with disabilities. For people who can't use stairs, a trip across the street takes back corridors and no less than five elevators, one of which was out of order this past fall.

Coun. Ross Eadie told *Metro Winnipeg* that the route underground can't possibly be navigated by a person with complete vision loss.

So why, in an era when study after study has demonstrated the cultural, judicial and economic benefits of a pedestrian-friendly city centre, is this staple of Winnipeg's culture and history still designed to discriminate against those without vehicles?

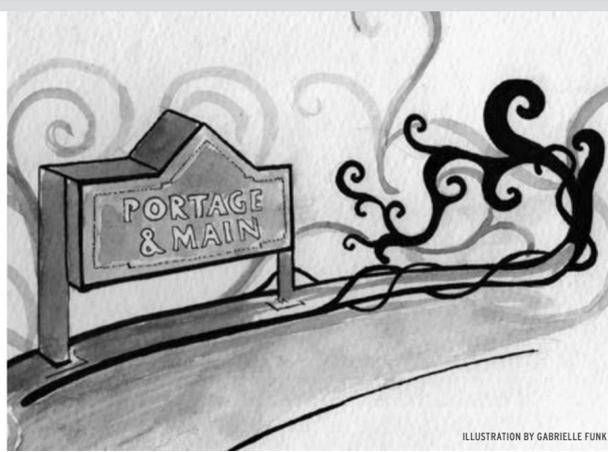


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

A growing number of Winnipeggers would like to see the intersection opened, despite efforts from organizations like CAA to convince the public otherwise.

Defenders of the status quo tend to cite traffic and expense as rationale for barring residents from their streets.

Habitual active transport critic Coun. Jeff Browaty recently told reporters that opening the intersection would cost Winnipeg Transit millions by slowing down its fleet, ignoring the likely upshot of increased ridership and revenue with easier pedestrian access.

The *Winnipeg Sun* published reader Gord Higham's opinion that "climate change hypocrites" are overlooking the "thousands upon thousands of vehicles

day after day pumping out tonnes of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases while stuck in a perpetual gridlock of idling engines."

Meanwhile, Rick Sparling, columnist for *The Herald*, "managed to find [his] way around despite alack [sic] of obvious signage," and thinks Portage and Main is "just fine the way it is."

But for those who aren't convinced that Winnipeg is "just fine the way it is," who don't think expediting vehicles will end climate change, and who do want to live in a city with an accessible and bustling downtown, one next step is obvious: reopen Portage and Main.

Tim Runtz is the comments editor at The Uniter. His regular column Middle of Nowhere explores the culture and politics of places around Winnipeg.



PHOTO BY CALLIE MORRIS

Thunderbird House has become a "spark in the community," Ronald Gamblin says.

THUNDERBIRD HOUSE HOPES TO OFFER MORE IN 2017

Elders' teaching nights are healing for the community

TALULA SCHLEGEL

NEWS REPORTER @TALULACORA

In 2016, Thunderbird House (known by members as "The Bird") received a grant of \$2,500 for elders' teachings. Since receiving the grant, they've held a teaching every month and hope to eventually make the teachings a free, weekly community resource.

"We've been having elders' teachings nights since August. We've had seven so far (and) the goal would be to increase it," Chuck Copenace, Thunderbird House facilities manager, says. "I'd like to have them once a week."

Thunderbird House, a centre which shares Indigenous teachings and spirituality under a council of elders, has hosted women's teachings, star teachings, Thunderbird teachings and youth night

with traditional games. The teachings are chosen collaboratively by Copenace and elders who possess traditional knowledge.

"Of course we need to have Thunderbird teaching as much as possible. Those teachings go along with what the Thunderbird House was meant to be doing," Copenace says. "A lot of elders have different knowledge about the Thunderbird. It's its own set of really big stories."

Copenace also emphasizes the importance of the new youth programming held during youth nights, explaining that the pipe ceremony, feast and traditional games at the event are something Indigenous people would have been doing historically.

"That's part of what the whole point of (these teachings) and Thunderbird House: to start bringing all that pre-colonization knowledge (forward)," Copenace says. "Connect people who haven't heard (it) and then have them start openly seeking that out themselves. Thunderbird House

was basically meant for that purpose."

Copenace explains how Thunderbird House is bringing healing to a community through the elders' teachings.

"Our main focus is healing, helping with colonization, the residential school, the Child and Family Services system," Copenace says. "There are a lot of Indigenous people who are seeking help, and the system that exists isn't equipped to help them ... we want to fit ourselves into those systems."

This connection and the opportunity to give back to the community is what brought 18-year-old volunteer Ronald Gamblin to Thunderbird House.

"I came here because ... I wanted to get involved with Indigenous issues as much as I could," Gamblin says. "Before, I wasn't really a cultural person. I didn't really think about the big picture, about helping others very much ... I wasn't really in it for the community."

But Gamblin says when he started volunteering, learning more about his culture, spirituality and community, his focus shifted and those things became his priority.

"To get involved, you have to find intrinsic motives for yourself. You have to find the need for you to want to grow and the need for you to want to see the community grow."

Gamblin says getting involved applies to Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members alike. He emphasizes that if you want to help the community, in doing so, you become a part of the community.

"In Winnipeg, we don't have too many places where we can feel culturally connected," Gamblin says. "I've seen it become this spark in the community that could become this leading fire in a sense."

NEWS BRIEFS

ALANA TRACHENKO // CITY EDITOR

@ALANA_WPG

Direct Farm is in town

The Direct Farm Conference will take place on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Best Western Airport Hotel. The goal of the event is to bring together farmers, small-scale producers and local food businesses to network and further develop the local food sector. Lydia Carpenter, Jamie Zinn and Chris Loewen will be speaking. For more info, visit smallfarmsmanitoba.com

Black History Month around the corner

Black History Month events will kick off on Jan. 29 at 6 p.m. with an opening ceremony and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. memorial service at New Anointing Christian Fellowship Church (1425 Manitoba Ave.). The youth symposium will take place on Feb. 4 at Truth and Life Worship Center (51 Richfield Ave.), which will showcase participants' findings from a history research challenge. All are invited to attend the free events.

Women's March Jan. 21

The Women's March on Washington is coming to Portage Avenue on Saturday, Jan. 21. A rally starts at Portage Place Shopping Centre at 11 a.m., followed by a march down Portage Avenue towards Main Street. The event began as a response to Trump's inauguration to the White House but has spread throughout Canada as a way to advocate for social issues closer to home. All are welcome to participate.

Let's talk Trump

The University of Winnipeg's Political Science Speakers' Series will present A Discussion on Trumpism in response to how Canadians have been affected by the results of the recent American election. The panel discussion will look at analysis and critique on the new president-elect with participation from Dr. Matthew Flisfeder, Dr. Paul Lawrie and Dr. Jenny Wills. The event is on Jan. 18 at 12:30 p.m. in 1L11 and is free to all.

Fentanyl community forums

The Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM) will host community forums throughout Manitoba in response to a growing number of fentanyl-related overdoses and deaths. The forums are designed to communicate important information regarding fentanyl and other drugs to youth and families, as well as harm-reduction strategies. Winnipeg forums take place on Feb. 8 at Vincent Massey Collegiate and Feb. 9 at Garden City Collegiate, both from 7 to 9 p.m.

Little Brown Jug now open

Little Brown Jug Brewing Company is now open in the Exchange District, offering Winnipeggers a new beer to try. The taproom allows visitors to see and experience the brewing process while relaxing or studying. Owners say they hope to add to the streetscape with the building's large, inviting windows and bright lights. Find it at 336 William Ave.



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MANITOBA OPEN WINDING UP FOR CURLING EVENT

Bonspiel has been hurrying hard for 125 years

TALULA SCHLEGEL

NEWS REPORTER @TALULACORA

The longest-running bonspiel in the world is happening right here in Winnipeg. The Manitoba Open has been running for 125 years. This bonspiel and the Manitoba Open HalfSpiel are two consecutive curling tournaments in clubs all across Winnipeg happening from Jan. 19 to 23 and 20 to 22 respectively.

"In Winnipeg, this bonspiel in particular has been the biggest bonspiel for a very long time," Jamie Hay, manager of Granite Curling Club, says.

The Manitoba Open, formerly known as the Manitoba Bonspiel, was exclusively male until 2014. When entries began declining in the ladies division they decided to open the tournament to both women and junior teams, Hay says.

"Everyone enters at the same level 'main event' ... it's definitely open to all skill levels," Hay says. "The majority

of the teams come from four people who curl together from other leagues at various curling clubs, and other teams are formed just to get together for the bonspiel to enjoy the weekend."

Though the tournaments are separate, they feel like the same event, Hay says. In some cases, both full and half spielers are curling in games side-by-side. Curlers are drawn to the bonspiel with the promise of weekend fun as well as the incentive of competition.

"One way to qualify for the curling provincials is through the Manitoba Open Bonspiel ... but the last opportunity, the last spots, are in (this event)," Hay says. "High quality teams who haven't previously qualified are going in with the sole intent of getting into provincials."

Despite the peppering of competition, Hay emphasizes that most teams are in the



ILLUSTRATION BY BRYCE CRESAY

Bonspiel for good fun, and she encourages new curlers to enter in either tournament.

"The game of curling is something that anybody can play. You don't have to be an athlete. You can just be someone who's a little bit active," Hay says. "It's enjoyable, it's social, it's a game you can play for many, many years - start young and finish old and all the years in between."

Sydney Arnal's father introduced her to the sport when she was a kid, and she has curled for 13 years since, eight of which have been competitively. She recently started her third year playing on the World Curling Tour.

"My favorite aspect is the competition," she says.

Arnal has played in most central and eastern areas of Canada (Calgary, Saskatoon, St. John's, and around Manitoba) and emphasizes love of international competition in the World Curling Tour against teams from Scotland, Korea, Sweden, the United States and more.

"The events outside of Winnipeg are World Curling Tour, which is where I play

against teams such as Jennifer Jones and Rachel Homan, to name a couple of the Canadian curlers," Arnal says.

Though Arnal's playing stretches beyond Winnipeg, she encourages anyone who wants to try curling to start with local resources, like the upcoming Bonspiel and HalfSpiel.

"New curlers can get involved in many ways. There are clinics run by some curling clubs and CurlManitoba to teach people how to curl (and) many curling clubs offer mixed 'Funspiels,'" Arnal says. "It's a great sport for someone of any age and ability ... and of course it's fun."

i

The Granite Curling Club hosts a "Learn To Curl 'Drop-In'" league on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. for \$10.



PHOTO BY ALANA TRACHENKO

PROFILE - MATT DYCE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

ALANA TRACHENKO

CITY EDITOR @ALANA_WPG

Matt Dyce has been at the University of Winnipeg (U of W) for just over four years, and he says it's still a little weird teaching prairie kids about the prairies, when he's not from them himself.

The geography professor is originally from Ontario and attended and taught at the University of British Columbia before making his way to Winnipeg. Take a class with Dyce, and you'll find yourself having discussions on the cultural significance of different landscapes, or how Vancouver locals feel about Winnipeg.

"Cultural geography applied anywhere is the study of landscape, which would be the story you see as an observer," Dyce says. "If you're at the Legislative building, it's paying attention to a landscape of power or authority. How does the façade of the building convey history?"

Dyce says that 2017 hasn't brought on any resolutions - he rarely plans more than a day in advance and didn't know he'd be a professor, even though his nickname on the baseball diamond was Professor Dyce.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM STUDENTS? One of the crazy things is I notice how much power people associate with my voice ... I'm sarcastic, and I'll say things like ... 'I'm not giving your assignments back. I threw them all in the garbage,' just trying to get people to laugh and the look on people's faces ... I've had people start to cry.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR 2017? I'm not a planner, and my students will probably confirm that. I plan the next day very well but beyond that, I'm generally open to whatever life seems to want to hand me.

WHAT IS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ? *The Utopia of Rules*. It's a cultural analysis of bureaucracy. And I just reread *The Great Gatsby*. Great book.

MOVING IMAGES EXHIBIT SHOWCASES U OF W FILMMAKERS

Creators work being shown off at 1C03

JUSTIN LUSCHINSKI

CAMPUS REPORTER @SCHOLARJ

Ervin Chartrand's *504938C* tells the story of a man caught between two worlds as he comes to grips with his violent past. Inside a prison cell, the main character smudges, wafting smoke into his face, remembering his time in a gang, as he attempts to make peace with the life he's lived.

504938C was the first film Chartrand created, and it comes from his own experiences in prison and facing a crossroads between his past and the future he wanted.

"I think it's almost what everyone faces, what everyone (who) comes out of prison faces," Chartrand says. "While they're in there, they're bettering themselves ... creating this almost ritual or promise to themselves that they will change ... but when they come out, that's the obstacle, where they gravitate towards that past."

Chartrand's film will be featured in *Moving Images*, an exhibition of 23 films from people connected to the University of Winnipeg (U of W).

Jennifer Gibson and Alison Gillmor are the curators of *Moving Images*. They say that they had a lot of trouble selecting movies for the show.

"There's just so many great films that didn't make it in," Gibson says.

"A lot of people look at us and go, 'Why are all of these films coming out of this small prairie town?'" Gillmor says.

During the same show, the gallery will feature an exhibition of Guy Maddin's short film *Seances*, as well as a panel conversation with him about various topics, including where his inspiration and influences come from.



SUPPLIED STILL

A still from Leslie Supnet's *The Idea* (2012), showing as part of *Moving Images*.

Gillmor says there are a few differences between the influences of Guy Maddin and young filmmakers. According to her, Maddin reacted to things like old Soviet films, whereas up-and-coming creators are reacting to the world around them.

"If you look at the really young filmmakers now ... a lot of them are very influenced by pop culture, a lot of them are responding to Hollywood genres but doing crazy things with them and subverting them ... very much responding to boxing movies and music videos," Gillmor says.

For Chartrand, his homegrown style of filmmaking has also been influenced by European cinema. As he studied more about film theory in school, he started to merge his own creative process with

techniques he learned at the U of W. "In the beginning I was self-taught ... I couldn't convey what I wanted in a professional matter, so that's why I went back to school to learn that," Chartrand says. "European cinema has influenced my work now... I feel like the theory and the self-taught aspects came together almost like the perfect recipe. It's such a good experience."

i

Moving Images will be open from Jan. 12 to Feb. 18 at Gallery 1C03.

CONNECTING WITH YOUR CAMPUS

UWSA event aims to welcome students back to school

JUSTIN LUSCHINSKI

CAMPUS REPORTER @SCHOLARJ

The holidays are over, and it's time to get back to work.

To help ease students back into school life, the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) hosted *Snowed In*, a series of community-building events during the first week of classes.

Denae Penner, event coordinator for the UWSA, says the events are meant to make the students feel good about their campus and connect them with the city around them.

"We want to connect students to spaces around campus so students feel grounded," Penner says. "We want to focus on connecting the students with the community."

"Because the university is downtown and situated in an existing neighbourhood, I think it's good that students can look outside of the physical campus and see what's going on around them."

According to the UWSA, the response has been positive so far. There are no exact numbers for how many students participated in events this year, but the

UWSA estimates that around 50 students took part in each of the events.

But some students believe *Snowed In*, and other UWSA events, could do better.

Kyle Strong, an education student at the University of Winnipeg says he has never taken part in any of the previous UWSA events before this year, mostly because his work schedule is very demanding. While taking part in the festivities around *The Hive*, he says that he would like to see more diversity in the events.

"I'd like to see some cultural integration, especially now that we're seeing a lot of the push for Aboriginal education in universities, we have a (big) community to draw upon," Strong says. "Maybe pulling in some sort of Aboriginal aspect, that could be good."

Strong says he understands the value of these back-to-school events, believing it's a good method to help build a sense of community while also helping with the mental health of the students.

Penner says the UWSA is going to expand its student events to more than



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Divest UW hosted a discussion with Meet Me At The Hive as part of the UWSA's *Snowed In*.

just one-off parties. They're looking to diversify what they offer and appeal to issues that matter to students.

"We want to curate programming that's more diverse than it has been in the past," Penner says. "It's not just partying

or dancing ... we're inviting artists from outside the campus to talk about issues they see."

For more information about upcoming events, visit theuwsa.ca.

DON'T DE-POLITICIZE ART

Critics of return on investment should focus on workers' rights

TIM RUNTZ @TIMRUNTZ

COMMENTS EDITOR



If the work of an artist is to create eye-opening societal critiques, government funding should focus on providing a living wage for creative labours, Tim Runtz says.

As pledged in their throne speech last November, the provincial PCs are launching a "cultural strategy review" this year, the first of its kind since 1990. The review is an initial step in a broader initiative to test the return on investment of provincial cultural spending.

While advocates of small government will be glad to see the cuts likely brought on by a number-crunching cultural policy, proponents of the arts are quick to point to an intangible, higher purpose that art might serve.

"For me it's the highest expression of humanity," Alexander Mickelthwate, music director of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, says in an interview with the CBC.

"The arts are the roses that make our lives worth living," Gail Asper told CBC. "People always say, 'but what about the potholes?' And I always say well, yes, we

need to fix the potholes so we can drive to the theatres – we need both."

The argument that follows, often repeated by cultural-funding advocates, is that though money should be spent wisely, you can't necessarily put a price on art. Its value lies in something beyond the machinations of debit and credit, and so cultural funding is in part an investment in that greater ideal.

The sentiment can be alluring to those on the left who are critical of a society driven by the whims of the market.

To be sure, the provincial government's initiative to quantify culture and presumably slash funding should be met with resistance, but the argument that you can't place a price tag on art, as if it exists on some plane beyond the economy, is misguided.

To suggest that art is some vaguely transcendent and life-affirming good is to

depoliticize it, to abstract it from a world of celebrity dictators, mass inequality and ecological devastation.

Arts funding is important because artists are the ones who offer up a different way of looking at the world, who criticize the way things are and help us imagine a better future.

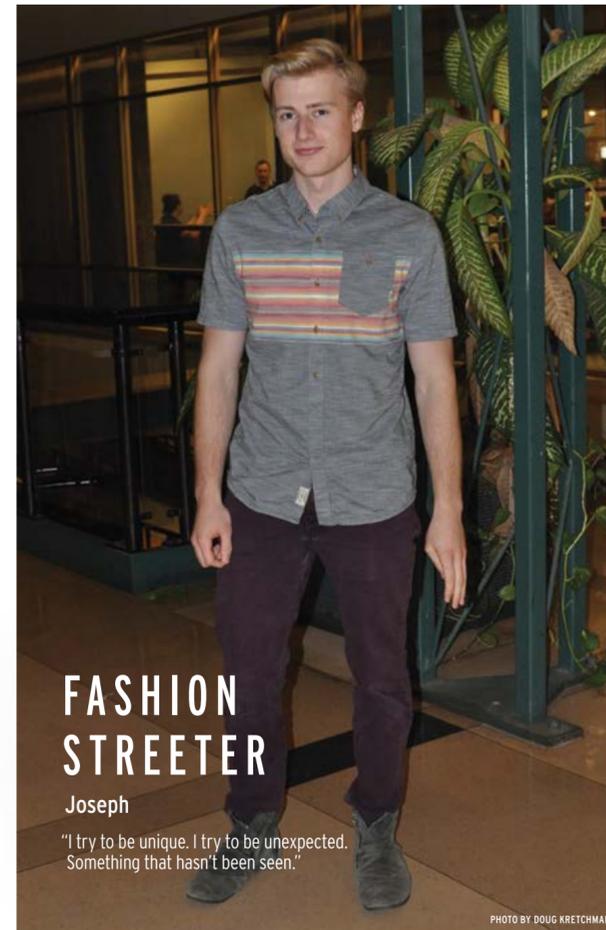
But when we think of cultural products as "the roses that make life worth living," we end up with a \$350 million human rights museum that bemoans the violence of the past while ignoring ongoing atrocities and spiraling upwards in a celebration of human progress.

We also end up with a community of artists who work multiple jobs to pay the bills while doing what they love for little or no pay.

It's time, at long last, for increased cultural funding in Manitoba. It should absolutely not be predicated on financial return, but nor should the conversation be framed in terms of reaching for the "highest expression of humanity."

Instead, governments must be urged to provide a living wage to artists who offer prescient critiques of the status quo and visions for a better future.

Tim Runtz is the comments editor at The Uniter.



FASHION STREETER

Joseph

"I try to be unique. I try to be unexpected. Something that hasn't been seen."

PHOTO BY DOUG KRECHMAR

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THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG Student Services

STUDENT SERVICES
The Student Services staff of The University of Winnipeg provides the student body with current information and opportunities. This information is updated weekly.

AWARDS AND FINANCIAL AID
The following award applications are available. Be sure to submit them before the end of the business day on the specified deadline date. Late applications will not be considered.

Research Awards
For students who have undertaken a research project. Deadline: Monday January 16, 2017

General Bursary
Need some additional assistance to make it through to the end of term? A bursary is a grant made to a student where the main selection criteria is financial need. Students must also have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 (C). Deadline: Tuesday January 31, 2017

Graduate and Professional Studies Expenses Bursary
For students in their final year of an undergraduate degree program applying for Graduate or Professional Studies. Deadline: Once funds have been exhausted.

To obtain application forms, go to www.uwinnipeg.ca
Click "Student"
Click "Awards and Financial Aid"
Click "In-Course Awards (current students)"

STUDENT CENTRAL
Winter Term Courses
The Add/Drop Period for Winter Term (U2016W) courses is January 4-17. The final day to register for

a Winter Term course is January 17. The final day to withdraw from a Winter Term (U2016W) class for refund is January 17, 2017. No refund is applicable from January 18 - March 1. Please consult the withdrawal schedules online.

Fall/Winter Term Courses
The final day to withdraw from a Fall/Winter Term (U2016FW) class is January 19, 2017. No refund is applicable.

Courses are dropped through WebAdvisor using the "Register/Drop Course Sections" link.

Changes to SC's Hours
SC will be open 9:00-4:15 on Friday, Jan. 20. SC's regular hours are 8:30-5:30 Monday-Thursday and 8:30-4:15 on Fridays.

U2016F Grades
Grades for Fall Term classes will be posted on WebAdvisor about the week of January 23, 2017.

Rent a locker today!
Need a space to store your stuff? Rent a locker today! To rent a locker go in-person to Student Central, OR fill out the form online at uwinnipeg.ca/lockers

STUDY SMART
Get advice and tips on essential study skills by taking FREE Study Skills Workshops! No registration required. January 16 - February 1, Mondays & Wednesdays, 12:30-1:20 P.M., and Tuesdays, 4:00-5:15 P.M. Room 1C16A, 1st Floor, Centennial Hall, UW

For workshop topics and more information, visit: uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-adv-study-skills-workshops

Welcome new students and welcome back returning students from all the staff in Student Services!

PHONE: 204.779.8946 | EMAIL: studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca

CAREER FAIR

Expanding your job opportunities!

Talk to representatives from over 80 employers to find out about career opportunities as well as part time jobs, summer jobs, volunteer positions and post-secondary jobs in a wide range of fields. **All students, employers and community members welcome.**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17
David F. Anderson Gymnasium,
Duckworth Centre | 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

UWINNIPEG.CA/CAREER-SERVICES

SPEED NETWORKING WITH EMPLOYERS

The Speed Networking Event takes place alongside the Career Fair and is your opportunity as an undergraduate student to speak one-on-one with alumni and employers who recognize the value, usefulness, and relevance of your degree in the job market.

Every 30 minutes there will be a fresh group of employers and alumni to meet with. Drop by anytime throughout the event to join the conversation.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17
David F. Anderson Gymnasium,
Duckworth Centre | 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

UWINNIPEG.CA/CAREER-SERVICES

Un-Supermarket by Sari Habiluk

Panel 1: Jenny (cashier) says, "Hey guys, this is Jenny. She's our new cashier." Rick and Val (colleagues) respond, "Hey Jenny! I'm Rick, and this is Val."

Panel 2: Rick says, "Welcome to HELL."

Panel 3: Jenny says, "Yah... I was gonna sugar-coat that."

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SOLUTIONS TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE.

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