

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

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PART OF
"This is the Nemesis"
BY WILLIAM KURELEK
MIXED MEDIA ON MASONITE, 1965
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PEOPLE WORTH READING ABOUT

Blog delves into the lives of Manitoba's missing and murdered women

RENEE LILLY
VOLUNTEER

It took 10 days for Winnipeggers to help track down Lauren Chopek, a 14-year-old who went missing after school in early October.

And right at the centre of it all was Shelley Cook, whose blog chronicling the plight of missing and murdered women in the province helped bring Chopek home.

"I just want to make sure these women are never forgotten," said Cook, author of the Missing and Murdered Manitoba Women blog and a recent graduate of Red River College's Creative Communications program.

Cook's interest in the issue began in 2003 when two women, Dru Sjodin and Sunshine Woods, went missing.

Sjodin, a 22-year-old college student, vanished from a mall parking lot where she worked. Woods, a 16-year-old aboriginal girl, disappeared from a downtown hotel.

"I wanted to know who these women were, who their families were. I wanted to tell their stories and show them as the people who loved them knew them."

- SHELLEY COOK



DYLAN HEWLETT

Shelley Cook founded her blog Missing and Murdered Manitoba Women as a way to tell the stories of those chronicled.

Sjodin's case seemed to gain more media attention and even had Winnipeggers going across the border to help search for her. Woods's case, meanwhile, was largely forgotten.

Though she was angered by the disconnect between the two cases, Cook felt powerless to make a difference.

Fast forward to 2008, when Cook was back in school, and three Manitoba women went missing: Jennifer Catcheway, Amber McFarland and Claudette Osborne.

"I remember wanting to read all I could about these cases and I wasn't satisfied with the stories I was reading," said Cook, noting that most women were portrayed as victims, judged by their lifestyles or looks and there was no expla-

nation of who they really were.

As part of a school project, Cook launched Missing and Murdered Manitoba Women, a blog dedicated to telling the stories of Manitoba's missing and murdered women and their families.

"I wanted to know who these women were, who their families were. I wanted to tell their stories and show them as the people who loved them knew them," said Cook.

Alongside the blog is a Facebook page, which Cook created to raise awareness about the issue. The page has 1,650 likes.

There are more than 70 missing women in Manitoba, though Cook notes there is no official list.

In Canada, the number is estimated around 600 and climbing, she said.

That's where Cook comes in as an unofficial watchdog, researching progress on the issue and doing her part to hold the government accountable.

In 2009, RCMP stated they would create a task force dedicated to searching for these missing women. As of last year, the task force had yet to be formed, Cook's research found.

"It falls on the government and other divisions to get together and create a clear agenda. They need to be more transparent also," she said.

To follow Cook's blog, visit www.missing-manitobawomen.blogspot.com.

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STREETER

BY OLENA KOZEL

Q: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE STATE OF DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT IN WINNIPEG? IS THE CITY SUCCESSFULLY REVITALIZING THE DOWNTOWN?



Amanda Remond, second-year Red River College student, graphic design
"I think the ideas the city has are underdeveloped. They have good intentions, but need to incorporate the needs of residents of the downtown in their long term plans."



Hollie Swart, second-year student, environmental studies
"I think the city is making definite progress. But in saying that, there are such large issues that need to be addressed before it is a complete success."



Chris Saniuk, civic employee
"I think with all the new development in the Exchange District and surrounding area, we're doing a great job with revitalizing the downtown, and making it a place where people want to be again."



Doug Shand, owner, Vintage Glory
"No. People don't even want to go to the South Side of Portage because they're accosted by pan-handlers every 10 feet, and I see it everyday outside my store. The things the city is building need to benefit all residents of the downtown."



Vinay Iyer, owner, Casa Burrito
"I feel that the city is trying, but not necessarily in the best ways. It could be happening in a way that is helping local businesses instead of having a corporate takeover."



Gen Boken, second-year student, science
"I think that the development of the downtown is bringing more life and attraction and is working towards putting Winnipeg back on the map."

News

Ragpickers set to close theatre, bookstore

Future of the main floor clothing shop remains uncertain, says owner

ETHAN CABEL
NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

After nearly 10 years of operating a popular independent theatre, Winnipeg Fringe venue and expansive bookstore, Ragpickers Antifashion Emporium will be closing down its top floor by Thursday, Nov. 15 while the future of the main floor clothing store remains uncertain.

"I believe what I'm doing is actually a service to people," said Kristen Andrews, an independent entrepreneur who has owned Ragpickers since 1990 and was involved in the early stages of developing the business in 1988.

"When I add up all the people that have seen shows in that space, all the years as a Fringe venue, we were sometimes getting upwards of 500 and 600 people a day seeing shows."

Ragpickers operates under two separate leases in an old Exchange District building at 216 McDermot Ave.

"We're looking for a landlord that is interested in the long-term development of the neighbourhood."

-KRISTEN ANDREWS, OWNER, RAGPICKERS ANTIFASHION EMPORIUM

The first lease, which is up for possible renewal at the end of this year, applies only to the main floor clothing shop. The second lease, which will not be renewed past the Nov. 15 deadline after the verbal assurance of building owner Mike Nava, applies to the second floor theatre and bookstore.

However, for Andrews, the future of the clothing shop is increasingly uncertain.

"We're negotiating right now for how long Ragpickers can remain on the main floor and ... we're looking for a landlord that is inter-



BRIT MCLEOD

Kristen Andrews, owner of Ragpickers Antifashion Emporium, is looking to establish a retail co-operative in a new location after the closure of her theatre and bookstore.

ested in the long-term development of the neighbourhood," she said.

"How many times have we seen spaces get tons of money dumped into them ... by someone who doesn't have a sense of what the community needs?"

According to Andrews, who has had to relocate several times in the over two decades she has owned the business, there is a pattern in the behaviour of property owners in the Exchange District.

From 1990 to 1999, Ragpickers operated out of a building at the corner of Arthur Street and McDermot Avenue, with a cooperative model that facilitated the development of many future clothing and book retailers in the Exchange, including what later became Vintage Glory at 88 Albert St.

The cooperative was asked to vacate with 40 days notice after the building owner decided to jump on the dot-com bandwagon, Andrews said, turning the building into a slate of computer offices, which lasted for just over a year.

Ragpickers then moved to a temporary location behind the Walker Theatre, now the Burton Cummings Theatre, on Smith Street before finally settling down on McDermot Avenue.

"When I look back, exactly what our issues were in 1999, 12 years later, they're not that much different," she said.

Mike Nava, the owner of 216 McDermot Ave., would not confirm whether the lease on the main floor will be renewed when *The Uniter* spoke with him several weeks ago.

He did not return more recent calls before press time and Andrews insists she has had no problem paying her rent since Nava took over ownership of the building.

Milena Placentile, the co-owner of the artistic collective Atomic Centre on Logan Avenue, has offered Andrews space to house her books and some theatre programs while she continues her negotiations and search for a new space.

Placentile is optimistic that Andrews can establish another retail cooperative in the coming years.

"As far as I'm concerned, Kristen made the Exchange," Placentile said. "The energy and spirit she contributes ... is what makes the Exchange an attractive place to be."

Does voting matter in the North?

Aboriginal voter turnout on a downward spiral

ANNE THOMAS
BEAT REPORTER

Although 72 per cent of Manitobans polled by Probe Research before Manitoba's election were "very certain" they would vote Oct. 4, only 56 per cent actually did.

And in Manitoba's four northern electoral divisions, where a significant part of the population is aboriginal, voter turnout ranged from 30 to 37 per cent.

Aboriginal voter turnout in the 1962 federal election, the first in which aboriginals could vote without losing treaty status, was 65 per cent. Since then, turnout has steadily declined, reaching a critical low of 26.7 per cent in 2003.

Doug Thomas, communications director for the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, said the organization actively encouraged voting in the federal election this spring, with the support of then-Grand Chief Ron Evans.

They produced a video titled *I'm First Nation and I Vote*.

However, for the provincial election, they didn't promote voting.

"The grand chief we have now, Derek Nepinak, he has a different approach to First Nations sovereignty, and more of a traditional approach where we take our sovereignty ourselves and we create our own laws and bylaws," Thomas said. "He kind of took the approach that they could vote if they like, but we're not accountable to the provincial government."

At the University of Manitoba's Café Politique on Sept. 26, CBC Manitoba reporter Wab Kinew expressed a different perspective.

He grew up believing any aboriginal or non-white person successful in mainstream politics would be a sellout or a token.

That is until he met Barack Obama campaigning in Sioux Falls in the Democratic primary.

"I realized, this guy is going to win the general election, not just the primary," Kinew said.

It changed Kinew's whole thinking about Canada.

"We've got to spread education to all corners of the country, so that all children in Canada have the opportunities to fulfill their career destinies," he said. "We have to encourage participation in democracy to all corners of Canada, especially the First Nations."

"Being in school changes my views about voting and other things. When you're on the reserve it's like you got no options. Coming out here you see what you could do, not just for yourself, but for your community."

- JOHN FOX, UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENT

University of Winnipeg student John Fox, from Big Trout Lake in northwest Ontario, has never voted in a provincial election.

"We think it's so far away, where everything is happening, it doesn't affect us, so we just don't bother," Fox said. "We think it has nothing to do with us."

His family didn't vote, even when Fox's



DYLAN HEWLETT

Since 1962, aboriginal voter turnout has steadily declined from 65 per cent, reaching a critical low of 26.7 per cent in 2003.

uncle ran for the Liberals in Rainy River, Fox said.

"My family tried, but to get to a municipality where they vote was hard," he said. "They're not going to bring polling stations to each reserve. It's expensive."

A provincial election is not highly advertised in the North, Fox added. The local Cree language radio station makes little mention of it, he said, so those who don't speak English won't hear about it.

With such low participation, it's easy for a government to turn its shoulder on issues becoming prevalent up north, like the lack of running water, Fox said.

"When the media is (reporting on issues), the government will say 'Well, we will (do something about it).' But when they look back and they see that these people don't vote, they won't bother doing anything about it," said Fox. "I'm starting to realize that now. I'm trying to vote."

So far, he hasn't. But that could change.

"Being in school changes my views about voting and other things," he said. "When you're on the reserve it's like you got no options. Coming out here you see what you could do, not just for yourself, but for your community."

Local News Briefs

Compiled by Jon Sorokowski

HOMICIDE RATE HIGH IN MANITOBA

Manitoba led the country in homicides last year, according to a new Statistics Canada report. Of the 45 homicides that occurred in Manitoba in 2010, 22 were in Winnipeg. Saskatchewan had the second highest amount, with 34 homicides. The report said Canada's homicides fell to its lowest rate since the 1960s, but in 2010 there were still 554. Of those, guns caused 170 homicides, a decrease from 2009, and the homicide rate was highest in the western provinces and the north. So far this year, there have been 32 homicides in Winnipeg, and two of those remain unsolved.

HAZED BOY TOLD TO APOLOGIZE

The boy who reported his Neepawa Natives junior hockey team's hazing incident is facing strife with his teammates. In order to return to the team, the team told him to apologize for speaking out, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported. The Manitoba Junior Hockey League fined the team \$5,000 and suspended 16 players for the incident, which involved the young player having a water bottle rack tied around his scrotum, then being made to walk around the team locker room three times. Other rookie players had to strip to music. The team informed the MJHL, which issued the suspensions and fine last week after an investigation.

MANSLAUGHTER CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST SHOP OWNER

Manslaughter charges against a store owner who killed a shoplifter have been dropped because of a lack of evidence, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported. Police say Geraldine Beady was hit in the upper body with a weapon after allegedly stealing a can of meat to feed her homeless friend. She died five days later. The Crown attorney said his key witness has fled the country to avoid possible criminal charges. That witness allegedly saw the altercation between store owner Kwang Soo Kim and Beady. But without that evidence, the attorney said the Crown has no case.

WHEAT BOARD ACCUSED OF MISUSING FARMERS' CASH

Farmers claim the Canadian Wheat Board has misused their money in its fight against the federal government. The Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association said it would use whatever legal means it must to stop the Wheat Board's spending of farmers' money on a court appeal against a proposed federal Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act. "The CWB ... (has) a duty to safeguard monies received from the sale of grain. They have no right to use farmers' funds to advance a political agenda," the Wheat Growers chair said in a release, published by the *Winnipeg Sun*.

FUNDRAISING FOR BEAR EXHIBIT ON THE WAY

The Richardson Foundation's \$5-million contribution to the Assiniboine Park Zoo's Journey to Churchill exhibit will help forge a new home for six polar bears and a pod of ringed seals. The 10-acre Arctic exhibit will feature a seal exhibit and a polar bear display area with an underwater viewing area, an outdoor enclosure and a "ice den" to keep the bears cool, according to a *Winnipeg Free Press* report. Construction will begin this fall, but the project still requires \$17 million to meet its \$58-million price tag. The province has contributed \$31 million, and the zoo hopes the federal government will also help. The zoo will begin a fundraising campaign next spring.

Literacy advocates meet to develop plan of action

ANNE THOMAS
BEAT REPORTER

Statistics show that about 30 per cent of learners drop out of the average Canadian literacy program, but that's not the case in Walpole Island First Nation in Ontario.

There, the success rate is pretty much perfect.

"In terms of participation and dedication, we've had almost 100 per cent of the program people keep coming back," said Bryan Loucks about the reserve's literacy program.

Loucks was in Winnipeg this week as part of the 2011 Aboriginal Literacy Symposium, hosted by Literacy Partners of Manitoba (LPM).

Loucks made a presentation about his community's successful Mino Nendmowin (Good Minds) program, which integrates developing literacy, community and employment connections, and self and cultural connections.

Good Minds attempts to cultivate essential skills like self-esteem, memory, goal setting and self-motivation, Loucks said. It helps people connect with resources in their home community and with urban resources.

"But also to connect to a history and a way of thinking and a way of life which for the most part has been denied through the mainstream education system," Loucks said. "With that foundation of knowing who you are, then you can be successful in any realm of life, including employment and education."

The symposium was held to develop an action plan for improving literacy and educational opportunities for Manitoba's growing aboriginal population as it gains influence in the economy.

"Within a decade, (aboriginal) youth will be a driving force in (human resources) departments, because by 2017, 25 per cent of the population is going to be aboriginal, minimum," said Edward Kidd, a LPM board member.

Education levels for aboriginal Manitobans are improving slowly, according to LPM. But systemic barriers remain, including lack of money, lower academic preparation on reserves, lack of understanding of aboriginal culture in educational institutions, and the aftermath of assimilative poli-



DYLAN HEWLETT

Systemic barriers remain between aboriginals and education, including lack of money, lower academic preparation on reserves, and a lack of understanding of aboriginal culture in educational institutions.

cies such as compulsory residential schools.

As part of Good Minds, elders share reflections from their own experience, and give meaningful substance to the learning process. For example, elders may teach the Anishinabe names of culturally significant places in the local community.

"These are really important things for helping the learners to get connected in a mean-

"With that foundation of knowing who you are, then you can be successful in any realm of life, including employment and education."

- BRYAN LOUCKS, ANISHINABE ADULT EDUCATOR, WALPOLE ISLAND FIRST NATION

ingful, less alienated way with their environment," Loucks said.

The program also involves assessing literacy levels, developing individualized training plans in arithmetic and writing English, as well as encouraging some participants to complete missing high school credits.

Pre- and post-testing show significant

shifts in essential skills, understanding of life situations, feelings of hope and connection within the community and personal understanding of cultural roots.

Loucks said someone who's really angry or in a lot of pain is not a very good employee.

"We've been focusing a lot on people's behaviour, which is in our literacy programs. For Anishinabe, we've always been deep thinkers, deep feeling people, and I think in general that hasn't been recognized to the same extent that it could."

Kidd emphasized that aboriginal people did most of the planning and presenting for the symposium.

"A lot of non-aboriginal organizations look at 'Let's do this for you,'" he said, "Well, we don't need you to do it for us. We can do it on our own. We just need the support... and the partnerships to make this happen."

Wendy Bulloch, LPM's director, said symposium participants will get together for yearly follow-up meetings. Kidd expects this will provide much-needed data on what works to improve literacy for aboriginal learners.

LISTINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

LITE'S 15th ANNUAL WILD BLUEBERRY PANCAKE BREAKFAST is on Friday, Nov. 4 from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Indian and Métis Friendship Centre, 45 Robinson St. at Dufferin. Tickets are \$15 and are available at the LITE office (640 Broadway), at Mon-dragon (91 Albert St.) and at the door. If you are interested in volunteering, or would like to purchase tickets, please email litebreakfast@mymts.net or call the LITE office at 942-8578.

From hoop dances to hip hop, THE MANITO AHBEE FESTIVAL brings together people from all nations in sharing and celebrating aboriginal culture. The festival runs until Sunday, Nov. 6. For a complete schedule go to www.aboriginalpeople-choice.com.

The Wendy Wersch Memorial Lecture Committee presents LEE-ANN MARTIN: INTERSECTING PRACTICES OF ART and ACTIVISM on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 2 p.m. at Cinematheque. Along with Joane Cardinal-Schubert, Doreen Jensen and Daphne Odjig, senior curator Lee-Ann Martin presents the work of three groundbreaking artists, and discusses the ways they challenged art movements and society at large. Visit www.mawa.ca.

WHAT'S BEHIND THE ABOLITION OF THE CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD with activist KEN KALTURNYK is on Monday, Nov. 7 at Aqua Books at 7 p.m. Hear activist Ken Kalturnyk discuss the political economy of Canadian agriculture and the class interests behind the abolition of the Canadian Wheat Board.

YAP Theatre (South Africa) and Aqua Books present AFRICAN FOLKTALES with ERIK DE WAAL on Wednesday, Nov. 9 and Friday, Nov. 11 at 6 p.m. at Aqua Books. The master storyteller and puppeteer writes new stories each year that are directed by Marie Kruger, head of the University of Stellenbosch Theatre Department (South Africa).

Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library features a FESTIVE ARTISANS MARKET SALE on Nov. 18 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Manitoba Hydro Place, 360 Portage Ave. Manitoba craftspeople will be selling their beautiful and functional creations during this sale of unique handcrafted items, including felted, marbled paper, handmade greeting cards, pottery, jewellery, polymer clay, clothing, Christmas ornaments and more.

West End Cultural Centre's community outreach program is getting ready for the return of TUNE IN. This program is for neighbourhood youth to try their hands at drums, guitar or electric bass. The WECC provides all of the instruments, professional instruction and a healthy snack. The program runs Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the WECC. To participate contact the WECC at 783-6918 or email info@wecc.ca.

ON CAMPUS

THE GLOBAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL shows on campus Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. The festival shows films and documentaries that bring attention to social and environmental justice issues from around the globe. Films include KICK LIKE A GIRL, BLACK WAVE: LEGACY OF EXXON and FORCE OF NATURE: THE DAVID SUZUKI MOVIE. Go to www.globaljusticefilmfestival.ca for a complete schedule.

THE UNITER SPEAKER SERIES presents philosopher and author JOSEPH HEATH on Thursday, Nov. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. On the eve of Buy Nothing Day 2011, Heath will deliver a lecture titled THE MYTH OF THE REBEL CONSUMER. The lecture is based in part on *The Rebel Sell: Why the Culture Can't Be Jammed*, the 2004 book he co-authored with Andrew Potter. Everyone is welcome to attend and admission is free. Visit www.uniter.ca/speakers-series.

Educators and the public are invited to attend a conference devoted to understanding how children learn math. THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MATH EDUCATION CONFERENCE takes place on Saturday, Nov. 19, at the University of Winnipeg, Convocation Hall. For more info and to register, visit www.mathstats.uwinnipeg.ca/mathedconference. Inquiries may be sent to mathstats@uwinnipeg.ca.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION WOMYN'S CENTRE provides a space where womyn can build community with other womyn. Collective meetings currently take place on Mondays at 12:30 p.m. At meetings, Womyn's Centre members plan events and actions, build community, and discuss feminist and womyn's issues. All womyn and trans folks are welcome to come hang out in the Womyn's Centre, ask questions, and get involved. The Womyn's Centre is located in the University of Winnipeg's Bulman Centre. Please check the door for current office hours. For more information, phone 786-9788 or email womynsctr@theuwsa.ca.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION WOMYN'S CENTRE provides a space where womyn can build community with other womyn. To volunteer phone 786-9788 or email womynsctr@theuwsa.ca.

To volunteer for the UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S STUDENT ASSOCIATION fill out an application on their website, www.theUWSA.ca, or grab an application from their office in the Bulman Centre.

To volunteer for PEER SUPPORT email uofwpeersupport@gmail.com, or grab an application from their office (ORM13) or from the UWSA.

To volunteer for UWSA FOODBANK email foodbank@theuwsa.ca.

ca, or grab an application from the UWSA.

PLUG IN INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART is looking for enthusiastic and reliable volunteers to help in a number of different areas of their operations. If you are interested email info@plugin.org.

THE UNITER, the weekly rag you are holding right now, is looking for contributors. See your words in print or your photos and drawings on the page. Email Aaron at editor@uniter.ca.

CKUW 95.9 FM is seeking volunteers for the music and news departments, and as hosts for programs. Email ckuw@uwin-nipeg.ca.

THE WEST BROADWAY YOUTH OUTREACH CENTRE is always looking for more volunteers to help with a variety of programs including sports, tutoring and other programs to benefit inner-city youth. Call 774-0451 or stop by 222 Furby St. to offer your skills.

THE SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION is looking for volunteers to help with their programming. Interested volunteers can download a volunteer application form at spenceneighbourhood.org or call 783-5000 for more information.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY is looking to assemble an experienced team of volunteers to assist with the salvaging and safe removal of a wide variety of donated items. For more information please call Greg at 223-5160 or email gmllett@habitat.mb.ca.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF MANITOBA needs volunteers to deliver JA business programs to classrooms throughout Winnipeg. Through your time, you will give young Manitobans work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills that will encourage them to stay in school and guide them through life. Call Kristin at 956-6088 to volunteer.

THE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION OF MANITOBA (IRCOM) is looking for volunteers. IRCOM is a non-profit organization that operates a 5-storey transitional housing complex in downtown Winnipeg. IRCOM is seeking enthusiastic, patient individuals to assist youth with homework from 4 to 6 p.m., Monday to Fridays. Volunteers will work under the supervision of a newly hired IRCOM Teacher and Educational Assistant providing drop-in participants with a variety of homework assistance. Please contact Erin Anderson, volunteer and communications co-ordinator at 943-8765 ext. 23 or erina@ircom.ca.

THE SALVATION ARMY on Logan Avenue needs KITCHEN HELPERS to assist in the preparation and serving of meals at their children's program on Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Please call Breanne at 946-9490 or email youthworker@mymts.net.

Another downtown upgrade

Will the Sports Hospitality and Entertainment District plan return downtown to its 1945 vibrancy?

CHRIS HUNTER
BEAT REPORTER

By way of larger sidewalks and new restaurants, the Sports Hospitality and Entertainment District (SHED) means to reinvigorate downtown Winnipeg's former crime-free, cosmopolitan splendour.

New construction slated for 2012 includes a food and entertainment emporium, street and sidewalk improvements and an expansion of the Convention Centre.

Jino Distasio, director of University of Winnipeg's Institute of Urban Studies, said SHED has been a long time coming.

"Winnipeg, unlike other Canadian cities, has been trying to develop the downtown area for 30 sustained years," he said. "We have tried everything and anything to revitalize the area."

In the 1980s, with downtown revitalization intentions similar to SHED, City Place and Portage Place were opened. SHED has been one many revitalization projects implemented over the years, adds Distasio.

"The downtown has had to reinvent itself so many times over the last 50 years," he said. "At one point, it used to be the only area for movies, but that was displaced in the '90s with Cineplex."

However, Distasio emphasizes SHED is nothing new.

"The old archive building was once an auditorium, the Great West Life building was once a stadium where the Bombers played," he said. "I don't think we are creating anything new here, we are simply moving back to what downtown was 70 years ago."

Distasio's only quibble with the development is its name.

"If we are branding the district we need to find something sexier than SHED," he said. "We are trying to create a district and an identity for drawing people downtown."



KAITLYN EMSLIE FARRELL

More of the same or a saving grace? Winnipeg's proposed Sports Hospitality and Entertainment District will build itself around the MTS Centre downtown and include restaurants, sidewalk improvements and an expansion of the convention centre.

Distasio also believes the space should be accessible to as many people as possible.

"It should not be thought of as some exclusive enclave for suburban people who come and go to events," he said. "The downtown is, and always has been, about a mixture of people."

The income generated from SHED should also feed back into the downtown community, Distasio added.

"One thing we have to consider is how all this economic growth is going to affect people," he said. "We need to figure out a way to use taxes generated from this to help the inner city - to turn the lives around of people in Winnipeg."

Ross McGowan, CEO of the Centre Venture development corporation, said new development will influence a reduction in

downtown crime.

"Activity, density and people are the keys here," he said. "Ultimately, if we put more people on the street it should reduce the crime."

McGowan hopes the development will restore the downtown to its former vigour.

"Part of the objective is to restore that 1945 vibrancy," he said.

Though Centre Venture has been committed to downtown development for some time, McGowan holds the return of the Jets to be paramount to the project's acceleration.

"The Jets are the icing on the cake for us," he said. "We have been at this for a couple years now, but the Jets helped push the SHED over the top."

Honorary degrees awarded to three aboriginal leaders

Lloyd Axworthy and Elijah Harper reflect on U of W's fall convocation

CHRIS HUNTER
BEAT REPORTER

Bringing to light the exceptional achievements of three prominent aboriginal leaders, the University of Winnipeg awarded three honorary degrees during this year's fall convocation.

Recipients included Elijah Harper, Justice Murray Sinclair and Tobasonakwut Kinew, each of whom received their degrees on Oct. 16.

Honorary degree recipients are chosen on a basis of merit, said university president Lloyd Axworthy.

"We try to find people that would be very strong examples for students," he said.

Honorary degree recipient nominations can be made by virtually anyone, including students, alumni, professors and other staff, Axworthy said. Once nominations are made, a committee made of students and faculty staff decides who the ideal recipients would be.

"It struck us that three distinguished leaders from the aboriginal community had been nominated," said Axworthy. "We thought it would be a great opportunity to bring them together, to offer examples of what very strong aboriginal leadership looks like."

With a 24 per cent application increase from aboriginal students, Axworthy believes the university needs to highlight the communal work of aboriginal leaders.

"I think it's part of our mission to help us better understand the achievements aboriginals have made to the community," said Axworthy. "Convocation is part of expressing university diversity."

Elijah Harper, an aboriginal politician, called the experience "very honoring."

"Honorary degrees offer a sort of prestige and recognize real practical experience," he said.



SUPPLIED

Elijah Harper was one of three aboriginal leaders to receive an honorary degree during convocation on Oct. 16. Harper, along with Murray Sinclair and Tobasonakwut Kinew, were chosen to highlight "strong aboriginal leadership."

The event made note of Harper's work in the legislative assembly, charitable work in Africa, his implementation of aboriginal traditional governance and a wealth of other philanthropic contributions.

As of late, Harper has been heavily involved in public speaking events, Corrections Canada and the renewable resource company Next Alternative Inc (NAI).

NAI researches methods for creating renewable energy resources and is currently involved in the development of longer lasting batteries and emulsion fuel, a biofuel made of oil and water.

"We are trying to build batteries that will store energy more efficiently than lithium through nano-tube technology," he said. "We are also working on emulsion fuel - a safer, greener alternative to pure diesel."

Harper believes education is a deterrent to poverty and has been a vocal supporter of universities.

"It is important to get an education and I have always told aboriginal students that it is the way to lead you out of poverty," he

said. "An uneducated society is less progressive and harder to govern than an educated society."

However, Harper notes that lack of income and funding dissuades many students from pursuing degrees.

"We have more students than ever, but there seems to be a lack of funding from the federal government," he said. "U of W is doing a great job in attracting aboriginal students and setting up programs - I hope that will continue."

Justice Murray Sinclair, a sociology graduate from University of Winnipeg and the first aboriginal judge in Manitoba, was chosen for the degree based on both his affiliation with the school and his work with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, which works to educate the public on the atrocities associated with residential schools.

Tobasonakwut Kinew, a member of U of W's faculty of indigenous studies, was selected for his role as an educator and role model within the faculty.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Eva Wasney

CONGRESSMEN DELAY PIPELINE PROJECT

UNITED STATES: Construction of TransCanada's controversial pipeline project, Keystone XL, has been stalled by opponents. *The Guardian* reported that 13 congressional Democrats have demanded the pipeline's environmental impact be reinvestigated before it is approved by the State Department. Concerns have been raised about a possible conflict of interest because the contractor who completed the first evaluation was hired by TransCanada. The project faces further delays as the state of Nebraska explores possibilities of rerouting the pipeline away from an important underground aquifer. As these debates continue, it is questionable whether the pipeline, which would transport crude oil from Canada to the U.S., will ever reach completion.

AMERICAN DRONE STRIKE KILLS BROTHER OF TALIBAN COMMANDER

PAKISTAN: The brother and cousin of one of the Taliban's most influential commanders were killed when two missiles from an American drone strike collided with their vehicle. According to the *New York Times*, the incident occurred in the northwest corner of Pakistan, close to the Afghanistan border, an area Taliban groups often use to wage attacks on American forces. The strike came a week after Secretary of State Hillary Clinton visited the country and urged Pakistani leaders to take action against Taliban militant groups.

CHINA TO CRACKDOWN ON ENTERTAINMENT AND BLOGGING

CHINA: The Chinese government is calling for stricter regulations on entertainment television and micro-blogging websites that are similar to Twitter. Beginning Jan. 1, television stations across the country, which already experience government censorship, will be limited to only two 90-minute entertainment shows per week and be required to air two hours of state-approved news every evening. Government officials are also working to expose and punish residents who spread "harmful information" via social networking sites, reported the *New York Times*. It's possible this crackdown has been inspired by social media-assisted uprisings in other parts of the world.

UN TO END LIBYA MISSION

NEW YORK: The United Nations Security Council voted unanimously to end the NATO military operation in Libya on Oct. 31. The UN operation, which has been active since March, enacted a no-fly zone over Libya and permitted foreign military forces to use "all force necessary" to protect Libyan civilians, reported the *Globe and Mail*. The NATO efforts led to the recent capture and death of ousted Libyan leader Muammar Gadhafi. Libya's Deputy Ambassador to the UN had asked the council to postpone the termination of the operation so the country could assess its security situation. The council denied the request since the operation was already beyond the UN's mandate.

FLOODING FORCES EVACUATIONS IN THAILAND CAPITAL

THAILAND: Major flooding has occurred in Bangkok after the Chao Phraya River burst its banks due to high tides and monsoon rain. Four thousand residents have been evacuated from their homes in the country's capital and it is expected flooding will get worse in the low-lying area. Among those evacuated, 600 serious offenders have been moved from the city's Bang Kwang Central Prison. Shortages of drinking water and other staples have caused many supermarkets to ration items, reported the *Telegraph*. So far, 26 of Thailand's 77 provinces have experienced extensive flooding and 373 people have died.

uwsa

SOMA

SOMA CAFE

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Campus

Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Danelle Cloutier

U OF W APPOINTS TEMPORARY DEAN OF BUSINESS

Dr. Michael B. Percy of the University of Alberta will temporarily replace Dr. Michael Benarroch as dean of the faculty of business and economics beginning Nov. 15 until the university finds a permanent dean. The university expects to find and hire a permanent replacement by July 2012. Percy's goals in the next few months include finding a Canada research chair in sustainable economics and making three new faculty appointments in marketing, ethics and human resources, and international business.

PROVINCE HONOURS U OF W PROFESSOR

On Oct. 26, the Government of Manitoba honoured feminist activist, writer and artist, Dr. Roewan Crowe in celebration of Women in the Arts: Artists Working for Social Change as part of Women's History Month. Crowe is co-director of the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Winnipeg and associate professor in the University's Women's and Gender Studies program. As an activist, Crowe is known for initiating projects that engage others in community cultural life. Crowe mentors Winnipeg's FemRev Collective, a group that works at improving women's lives through marches and education campaigns. As a writer, Crowe is known for exploring the relationships among words, images and experiences of trauma in her writing. She recently published her new novel, *Quivering Landscape*.

ELEMENTS ON CAMPUS NOW OPEN

Elements - The Restaurant opened on Oct. 28 in the University of Winnipeg's Richardson College for the Environment and Science Complex. Chef Aron Epp leads the restaurant

team under U of W's Diversity Food Services, which employs people from ethnically diverse origins, offers nutritious, fairly priced and ethnically diverse food options with a focus on locally sourced foods, organic ingredients and fair-trade practices. Elements will be hiring 25 people in both full-time and part-time positions. Diversity Food Services has increased food sales at the University by 20 per cent since the program began in 2009.

U OF W RISES IN MACLEAN'S SURVEY

The University of Winnipeg is one of Canada's most innovative and successful campuses in nurturing indigenous knowledge and excellence, according to *Maclean's* magazine. The university was featured in the 2011 *Maclean's* University Rankings. Since last fall, the number of aboriginal student applications increased by 24 per cent at the U of W. Most notably, the U of W ranked fourth for overall reputation (ranked fifth last year), first in Western Canada and second for lowest tuition fees among primarily undergraduate universities in Canada.

WESMEN WIN SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Both the University of Winnipeg Wesmen men's and women's soccer teams took gold at the MCAC soccer championships. The women's team beat Providence 6-0 while the men's team beat Red River 3-1. For the women, Serafina Trunzo was named the Wesmen player of the game and regular season MVP. Sheri Hince was named tournament MVP. Yiannis Tsalatsidis was named Winnipeg Wesmen player of the game for the men's team. The Wesmen women trounced the Red River College Rebels, the tournament host, 9-0 in the semi-finals. The men's team bested St. Boniface College 6-1 in the semi-finals.

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Professor, Queen's University

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Mary Lou Finlay

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WHEN: November 4th, 8:00 AM

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Campus living not exactly home away from home

Tough rules and frequent fines make the U of W's student housing a hostile place to live, students say

AMY GROENING
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

The University of Winnipeg's Community Renewal Corporation-run student residences are facing severe criticism for stringent rules, frequent fining of students and unfair eviction policies.

Nils Deppe, a former resident assistant, said there is no mutual ground between students and housing management.

"It's very much hostile in the sense that if somebody says you said something, you must have said it," said Deppe.

According to the Campus Living Handbook, which is available on the Campus Living website, offences are divided into three categories.

Level one offences, such as putting up unapproved posters, warrant punishments including warnings or fines of up to \$50.

Level two offences, including disrespecting staff or having unauthorized parties (a party is defined as a gathering of four or more people who do not live in the residence) can include punishments of fines of up to \$100, community service and eviction.

Level three offences can warrant fines of over \$100, eviction and persecution under the law.

Students who cannot or will not pay their fines are not allowed to take out library books, register for classes or graduate.

Deppe said the strict rules and fines create more problems than they solve, causing undue stress and worry that prevents many students from enjoying their years in residence.

"It's a lot about making money and screwing students over," said Deppe. "It's run like a business, not like a student residence."

Although there have been protests against unfair treatment, Deppe said most students are afraid to speak up.

"It's tough for students to get involved because (management) will find something to fine you for," said Deppe. "They'll find something to do to you if you do something to them."

The University of Winnipeg Students'



MEAGAN MOUND

Student life at McFeetors Hall is not what it seems according to some. According to the UWSA, fines and eviction notices have been issued without proof that an infraction has occurred.

Association is working towards getting student residences covered by the Manitoba Residential Tenancies Act.

Rebecca Bock-Freeman, director of student living, said the housing office is not following RTA guidelines.

Bock-Freeman said that in many cases, fines and eviction notices have been issued without proof that an infraction has occurred.

"Students are receiving fines with no documentation. They don't know what the fines are for - they're getting fines without having been spoken to by management before. Students are overwhelmingly displeased," said Bock-Freeman.

If student residences were covered under the RTA, there would be a formal body of appeal for students, Bock-Freeman said. Currently, students can seek help with appeals

from the UWSA, but these appeals are still handled by the university itself.

Tyler Blashko, vice-president of the UWSA, said in the past six months, at least three students have come to him for help in appealing eviction notices.

"I find there isn't a clear line between the university and the UWCRC, which leads to some concerns involving accountability and transparency," said Blashko.

Blashko encourages students to familiarize themselves with policies and advocacy services before issues arise, and to come to the UWSA for help if they are experiencing unfair treatment from the housing offices.

"There definitely needs to be some type of legislation protecting students," said Blashko. "We haven't seen the movement we would like to see to protect students living in residence."

Jeremy Read, senior executive officer and advisor to the president of the university, says the university works to ensure that RTA guidelines are followed.

Read said he is sure proper documentation procedures are being followed when it comes to fining and evicting students. According to Read, if students feel the fines are a form of punishment for speaking out, they should go to the campus harassment officer.

Read said the university does not fine students as a way to generate income, and that he doubts the fining is as wide spread as it has been made out to be.

"You'd have to do a lot of fines to make that profitable. I think that it's a bit tenuous as an argument," said Read.

The number of fines issued to students by the housing office last year was not available by press time.

UWSA Bike Lab open

Lab emphasizes education and sustainability

CLARA BUELOW
VOLUNTEER

After three years of planning, the volunteer-run University of Winnipeg Students' Association Bike Lab is off to the races after opening its doors to the public on Oct. 21.

Housed inside a recycled steel shipping container and constructed out of recycled material, the building "presents a pioneer design in shipping container building in Winnipeg," according to the lab's co-ordinators.

"We wanted to demonstrate the usefulness of recycled materials as part of the project's overall commitment to sustainability," said lab co-ordinator Robin Bryan.

The lab is open weekdays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Monday to Friday and is currently running a drop-in style atmosphere. It aims to offer free year-round bicycle support and workshops to students, staff, faculty and community members as well as promote advocacy and awareness around sustainability.

It is also an educational facility with a hands-on approach to bicycle repair and maintenance.

"The focus is on teaching. It's not a place you will go drop off your bike," said Andrée Forest, a lab volunteer.

Following in the footsteps of other community bike shops, the bike lab will be run by a well-established volunteer base. Most of the volunteers belong to the Ice Riders, a support group on campus for winter cyclists that



LEAH BORCHERT

University of Winnipeg student and cycling enthusiast Robin Bryan speaks at the launch of the new bike lab on campus.

started in March 2010.

The Bike Lab is still in its beginning stages and in that respect opening in the fall is a good thing, said Ted Turner, outreach and special projects co-ordinator for the UWSA.

"By spring we'll know what we will be able to do and be able to do it well," he said.

The lab is funded by an annual \$2 student fee, which was voted in during the 2008 campus election. A \$100,000 private donation along with capital from the UWSA and the Mass Climate Change Action fund also

helped pay for the project.

But whether or not the new lab catches the eye of the average student remains to be seen.

"Personally it's 50-50 as to whether I'll use the lab, but \$2 isn't a big deal. It's what I would spend on a coffee," said Marina Goodwin, a fourth-year international development studies student.

"I didn't realize that the construction I was walking by every morning was the bike lab until I saw people in there doing repairs and

I put two and two together," added Chantal Hogue, a fourth-year arts student.

Bicycle registration will be available so volunteer mechanics can have access to information about every bicycle that is worked on. The registration will also be a way the different groups "can get a better idea of the demographics of cyclists on campus," said UWSA president Lauren Bosc.

For more information about the bike lab, visit www.theuwsa.ca.

Comments

I know my rights

Saudi women can now vote and run for office, but there's more to the royal decision than meets the eye



FATEMAH AL HELAL
VOLUNTEER

Women in Saudi Arabia seem like they are always waiting for a royal decision to have their rights given to them. In 1960, women were granted the right for education by King Faisal bin Abdul-Aziz, despite opposition from the public.

After 50 years of living with this decision, the results are clear.

According to the World Bank report, there are more female students in higher education in Saudi Arabia than in Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia or West Bank-Gaza. Women in this country realize that they don't want to wait another 50 years to have another basic right.

As an example of this, a group of women last June defied a nationwide ban that keeps them from driving.

This step seems to be a very small one toward reaching equality between men and women, but at least it starts things moving.

Unfortunately, the authority's response to this event was to detain the women who drove their cars and to continue to ban women from driving.

Surprisingly, on Sept. 25, the king of Saudi Arabia announced that women will be allowed for the first time to join the unelected parliament. Women will now be able to vote and run for office starting at the next municipal councils in 2015.

This is the most significant step forward in Saudi women's rights since the girls' educa-

tion decision in 1960.

A lot of women have been dreaming of this for long time, and many were surprised by the decision. As a Saudi woman, I was also surprised, but at the same time I couldn't be wholly optimistic about it.

Women in Saudi Arabia realize that they don't want to wait another 50 years to have another basic right

I garnered conflicting messages from the announcement.

The first one, which is positive, was that King Abdullah bin Abdul-Aziz believed that this action would lead to women's empowerment and political reform.

The second message was that this was just a way to bend to the international community in order to avoid the embarrassment of being so far behind the rest of the world when it comes to women's rights.

Looking at it in this context, the women's involvement in the municipal election and parliament wouldn't be positive, but a sham. There are examples of this throughout the Middle East.

Afghanistan parliament, for example, has women elected, but this doesn't make Afghanistan a democratic country or a better place for women.

As a matter of fact, some of those women are warlord's allies, and most of the time they work against women's well-being because



AYAME ULRICH

there is no way to oppose the warlords' patriarchal government.

Even if there were a woman who decided to talk honestly or fight for women's equality, they would end up dismissed from the parliament.

Malalai Joya was a good example of a woman who was dismissed for publicly denouncing the presence of what she considered to be warlords and war criminals in the Afghanistan parliament.

In light of the possibilities at hand, the

most important thing is for women in Saudi Arabia to benefit from this powerful right and keep pushing to gain more rights, so that we can consistently enhance women's status there.

Fatemah Al Helal is an international student who was awarded her first degree in Food and Nutritional Science. Currently majoring in Sociology at University of Winnipeg, more of Fatemah's writings can be found at <http://daughterofarabia.blogspot.com>.

It was our idea first

Students should be proud of Diversity



DAVID JACKS
VOLUNTEER

The University of Winnipeg is home to one of the most innovative, healthy and cutting-edge campus food providers in the country, if not the world.

Mainstream media from across Canada have hailed Diversity as a pioneer in community-driven food services, benefiting students, faculty, staff and the university's immediate community through its Community Economic Development business model.

But credit for the idea for Diversity Food Services, which has thus far belonged to the University of Winnipeg, should actually go to the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA), and to you, the student.

Throughout the early 2000s, campus food services were provided by Chartwells, a private company whose sole motive was profit - not providing healthy food, and not contributing to the community.

Credit for the idea for Diversity Food Services, which has thus far belonged to the University of Winnipeg, should actually go to the University of Winnipeg Students' Association, and to you, the student

The UWSA organized numerous surveys of the student body to gauge the top issues facing students.

The results: issue number one was tuition fees, issue number two was food on campus.

Students at the time also identified that they would prefer local and organic food products, biodegradable containers and a not-for-profit philosophy.

Students recognized that the food provided by Chartwells was inadequate and over-priced. The UWSA, in response, devel-

oped a business plan in 2003/2004, and joined with SEED Winnipeg with projected funding from the Winnipeg Partnership Agreement.

This plan was called Food Cubed Social Enterprise Development.

The goal of Food Cubed was for the students' association to partner with SEED Winnipeg and the university to provide local, organic, affordable and healthy food services to students, while at the same time ensuring community involvement.

Sound familiar?

Unfortunately for the UWSA, the university's contract with Chartwells had a number of years left, and Food Cubed was shelved. The UWSA then turned to creating Soma Café, opened in 2008, as a healthy food alternative to Chartwells.

In the meantime, and unbeknownst to the UWSA, the University of Winnipeg had already begun planning the creation of Diversity, using the same (or at least similar) business model the UWSA had proposed.

The UWSA, in fact, resubmitted the Food Cubed proposal in 2008 to facilitate the opportunity to provide food in the new science complex.

Again: familiar?

The fact is: Diversity was a student idea.

UWSA resources went into developing a full business plan, philosophy and funding model five years before Diversity Food Services was launched in 2009.

Credit should go to chef Ben Kramer and the team at Diversity for the formidable execution of this great idea, which in retrospect, the UWSA would never have had the capacity to operate.

As students we should be proud that one of the nation's most inventive, high quality, socially responsible campus food providers is actually modeled after *our* proposal, and in an environment where plagiarism is generally frowned upon, it would be nice if students were recognized for it.

David Jacks was president of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association in 2007/2008, and is currently majoring in International Development Studies and Rhetoric, Writing and Communication.



8

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And God said, 'Don't change that channel'

TV ads for religions are bound to fail



CARSON HAMMOND
VOLUNTEER

It's probably safe to say that few eyebrows are raised today when a new ad campaign for a stick of deodorant, movie or bacon-loaded burger makes its way into regular rotation on our televisions.

Advertisers need to grab their audience's attention through the use of humour, excitement, fear, lies, or possibly a combination of two or more of these in order to sell their respective products.

There's nothing shocking about that, but recently we have seen the rise of TV ad campaigns that expressly promote specific religions, such as Mormon.org and Scientology.org.

Get ready for "intelligent debate," Internet.

While TV advertisements for organizations closely affiliated with specific religions are nothing new - charities have been using this angle for a long time - the recent trend of advertising religions in-and-of themselves is nearly unprecedented for the television medium.

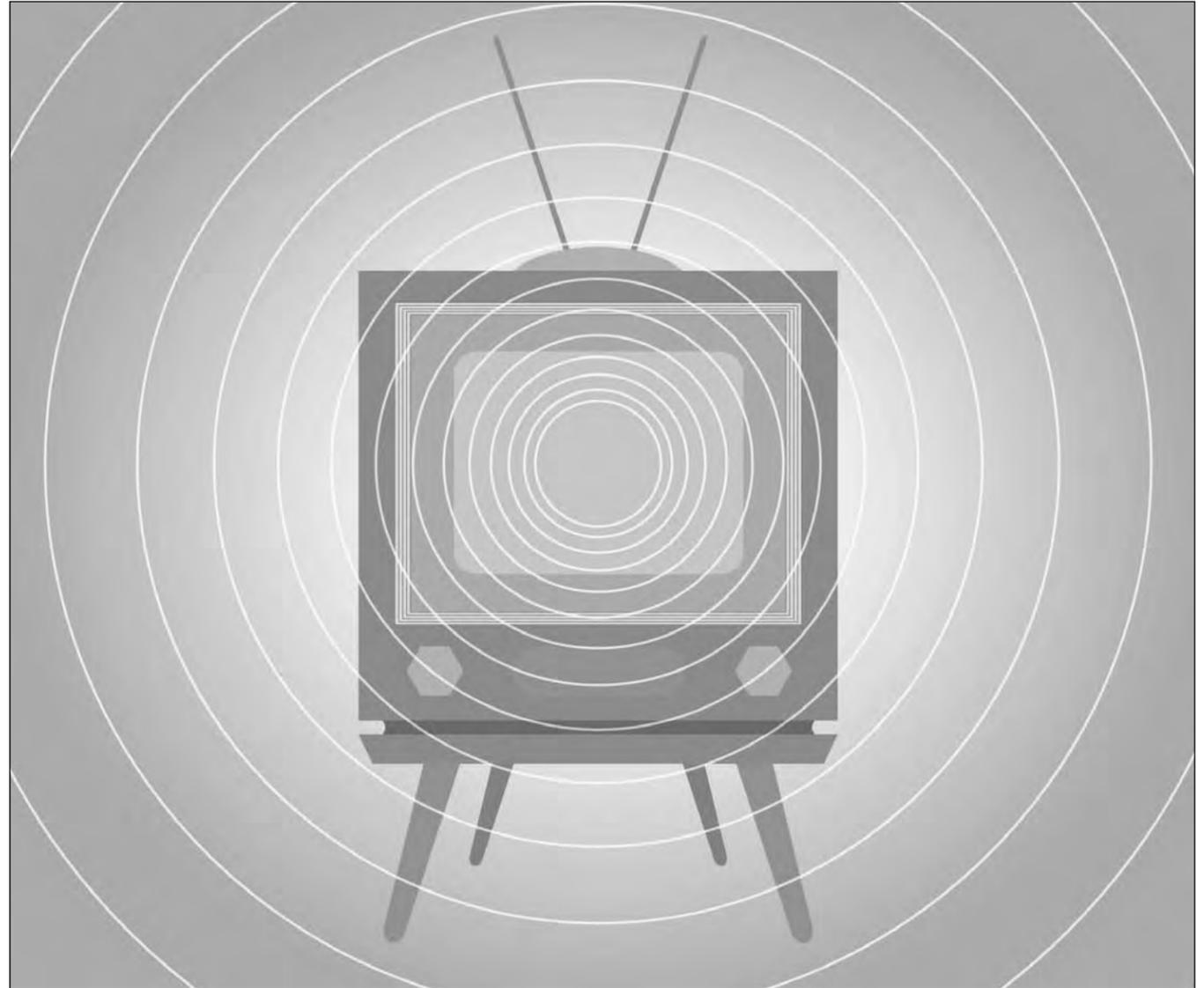
While Scientology.org aims to attract new members with heavy doses of enigma and spectacular imagery, Mormon.org seems to be going for a down to Earth, "See, we're not so weird" approach

Take, for example, The Church of Scientology's series of TV spots featuring a cast of trendy young people turning their faces to a mysterious light, climbing and hoisting mirrors skywards while narrators offer a succession of poetic, confusing phrases about - well, about something good.

Throw in some nature footage and exceptionally high production values and you've got one hell of a commercial - that is, until the viewer realizes that they *aren't* watching a trailer for the latest Sundance Film Festival award winner.

Mormon.org seems to be taking a different route with their campaign. Their spots are unusually long, casually paced interviews with individuals who adhere to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, more commonly referred to as the Mormon Church.

In the various monologues, subjects talk about their lives, jobs, families and interests. Each advertisement concludes with the individual saying, "I'm _____, and I'm a Mor-



AYAME ULRICH

mon."

While Scientology.org aims to attract new members with heavy doses of enigma and spectacular imagery, Mormon.org seems to be going for a down-to-earth, "See, we're not so weird" approach.

It seems to me, however, that both campaigns are destined to fail in their attempts to connect with viewers.

First off, as a society virtually raised in front of our TV screens, we're conditioned to see commercials as sales pitches.

While advertisers are constantly working to create commercials that appear honest, friendly and wholly un-commercial-like, wiser individuals remain suspicious of their intentions.

This means that most viewers will be instinctively skeptical of the aforementioned campaigns - and rightly so.

Even though they may not be literally

"selling something," viewers are likely to treat them as if they are.

By virtue of their respective values, both groups purport to hold knowledge of "the truth," as do most - if not all - organized religions.

When advertisement is present, competition is reasonably implied. It seems then to become a case more of "our truth is more attractive than your truth," rather than "our truth is *the* truth."

This overt competitiveness, in my opinion, winds up undermining key values of both groups.

Questions come to mind: Why must you try so hard to make your religion appealing if it is, after all, the truth? Why not focus on informing viewers of the actual beliefs of your religion, thereby letting the power of "the truth" speak for itself? Isn't the attractiveness of truth, after all, irrelevant in light

of its truthfulness?

If there is merit to these advertisements, it seems to be in their tendency to raise questions and controversy.

There may be thousands of furious rants crammed into the dark recesses of online forums and comments sections due to this very topic, but as they increase in number, the respective religions' websites will see more and more hits.

So, the question becomes, "Is all attention - even critical attention - beneficial for a belief system that aims to spread?"

If we see more of these types of TV spots in the future, the answer is probably "yes."

Carson Hammond is a second-year English major at the University of Winnipeg. He has exactly zero blogs to tell you about, and no writing-related accomplishments of which to brag.

We're in this together

Neepawa scandal brings bizarre hazing rituals into question



TREVOR GRAUMANN
COMMENTS EDITOR

The Neepawa Natives hazing scandal rolls on.

The 15-year-old player who first reported the hazing has been traded from the team, a move welcomed by the player's parents.

Brad Biggers, the assistant coach of the team, has resigned in light of allegations that he was in the room at the time of the hazing, and has been indefinitely suspended from coaching.

Neepawa's local radio station, CJ97 Radio, has pulled their support from the team, saying they will only replace it if the player who reported the hazing is apologized to, and if head coach Bryant Perrier is fired.

For those not in the know, the scandal began when the player in question reported the team's hazing rituals, which he was subjected to in September. These rituals included dragging around a case of water bottles tied to his genitals.

As this story illustrates, hazing can be a

cruel fixture of joining a sports team, as well as a confusing one.

Like many observers, I can't see how forcing a teammate to perform degrading acts does anything to promote togetherness. And I played hockey for many years growing up.

If there's one thing I know, it's that laws should not be created based on the emotional response of parents; if this were allowed, anyone who made a harsh comment on Facebook would be in jail

But it must be said that not everyone goes as far as the Neepawa team, especially when the hazing takes place out of the realm of sports.

When I started Grade 9, a few of my friends and I were laid down on the side-

walk and treated to a shower of ketchup and mustard from the Grade 12s, an uninspired excuse for hazing that had been learned from *Dazed and Confused*.

It was silly, and though our principal took it very seriously, it was certainly not malicious. In all honesty, I think it *did* bring us closer to the older guys. I realize this isn't the norm, but it must be said that not all hazing is disgusting and vicious.

In light of the Neepawa story becoming national news, talk of hazing being considered an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada has begun.

This is a tricky issue, because as my anecdote illustrates, the spectrum of hazing may be wide, and not every form is as hurtful as the one performed by the Neepawa Natives hockey team.

If there's one thing I know, it's that laws should not be created based on the emotional response of parents; if this were allowed, anyone who made a harsh comment on Facebook would be in jail.

However, it's true that many team rituals

are bizarre and degrading. From close friends who played high school hockey, I have heard several stories similar to that of the Neepawa Natives.

Extremes such as forcing a new player to masturbate in front of the rest of the team are not unheard of.

Putting aside the psychoanalytic tendencies this behaviour inspires in me, such stories do not depict a team growing closer together, and they are usually not told by players still on said team.

I welcome the criminal consideration for hazing, especially in the wake of this awful story.

But the guidelines for what constitute malicious hazing need to be precise, so that an abstract title is not utilized to accuse harmless people of a crime.

Trevor Graumann is The Uniter's comments editor.

Arts & Culture

William Kurelek: The Messenger

Famed Stonewall artist's work displays social critique that's still relevant more than 30 years after his death



JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI
VOLUNTEER

The Winnipeg Art Gallery's latest exhibition, *The Messenger*, examines the famed work of one of Canada's most polarizing, yet prized, artists - William Kurelek.

Fittingly, Kurelek grew up on a farm in Stonewall, less than an hour away from the establishment that now houses the largest display of his works ever to be seen.

"Kurelek was doing most of his work when globalization was just beginning. He was painting after the Cuban Missile Crisis, when people believed 'The end is nigh!' and you can feel the anxiety still."

- ANDREW KEAR, CURATOR OF HISTORICAL CANADIAN ART, WAG

With 85 pieces grouped into eight categories, the exhibition's organization mirrors one of Kurelek's early artistic themes: *The Maze*.

The core motif he drew upon repeatedly in his first collection *Who Am I? Where Am I? Why Am I?* is most explicit in *The Maas Maze* (1971), an intricate depiction of Kurelek's brain that reveals insight into his grotesque thoughts.

What makes the series so disturbing is the vague line it straddles between real and surreal. Often times, the artist recalls his past torment to recreate scenes such as those in *Maas Maze*.

Be it a boy getting bloodily beaten up amongst a crowd of bystanders, or a grown man being prodded by hoards of doctors in a hospital, Kurelek (presumably) lived these experiences.

In the same tableau there's a man skinning his arm with a blade while studying an anatomy book.

If you are willing to ask what the dark and twisted imagery might mean, the viewing experience is intriguing and eye opening, especially towards issues of mental health.

Kurelek sadly fit the definition of "tortured artist" too well. He committed himself to psychiatric care in London, England from 1952 to 1954 and attempted suicide in '54, an episode he foreshadowed a year before in painting *I Spit On Life*.

Later, the Ukrainian farm boy reestablished his prairie roots to paint another series, *Big Lonely*. This sequence portrays quiet landscapes featuring few characters amid fields of wheat and snow.

Of this category, *Despondency* (1963), an image of a lone farmer standing in his flooded crops, is most poignant.

Our World Today (1968) is a satirical stab at human morality. The painting's description quotes Kurelek describing humanity as "a child playing in a burning barn, blind to its own mistakes and to the world's suffer-



WILLIAM KURELEK

I Spit on Life (left) is a painting made using watercolour on board. *Where Am I? Who Am I? Why Am I?* (above) is watercolour on paper. Both works were created in the early 1950s.

ing."

Andrew Kear, curator of historical Canadian art for the WAG, describes Kurelek's work as very narrative and interactive.

"You can go in close to see the details, and step back to get the whole picture," he says. "The website (www.kurelek.ca) is a great addition and allows people who can't make it to Winnipeg, Victoria or Hamilton (the show's three stops) to access the exhibit from home."

Of course, if you can make it down to the gallery, you definitely should. There is no substituting seeing Kurelek's flawed intricacies in person.

cies in person.

"There's something about the kind of social critique that goes on with Kurelek that's definitely relevant to today," Kear says. "Kurelek was doing most of his work when globalization was just beginning. He was painting after the Cuban Missile Crisis, when people believed 'The end is nigh!' and you can feel the anxiety still."

William Kurelek: The Messenger is at the Winnipeg Art Gallery until Saturday, Dec. 31. Visit www.wag.ca or www.kurelek.ca for details.

× THE UNITER SPEAKER SERIES PRESENTS ×

× THE MYTH OF ×
THE REBEL CONSUMER

A LECTURE BY **JOSEPH HEATH**
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PHILOSOPHY PROFESSOR
AND AUTHOR OF THE BOOKS *THE REBEL SELL* AND *FILTHY LUCRE*

ON THE EVE OF BUY NOTHING DAY, FIND OUT HOW POPULAR ANTI-CONSUMERISM IS NOT ACTUALLY A CRITIQUE OF CONSUMERISM; IT'S MERELY A RESTATEMENT OF THE "CRITIQUE OF MASS SOCIETY" THAT HAS BEEN AROUND SINCE THE 1960S.

THE TWO ARE NOT THE SAME. IN FACT, THE CRITIQUE OF MASS SOCIETY HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL FORCES DRIVING CONSUMER SPENDING FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2011 × 7:30 P.M.
Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall × The University of Winnipeg

+ FREE +

Of Land and Sea

KAELEIGH AYRE
ARTS REPORTER

Writing, recording and producing a single album is a labour of love for musicians. Tack on a second disc and you have twice the amount of writing, recording, producing and therefore, twice the time and money.

This was a challenge that Toronto singer-songwriter Sarah Slean was willing to take on with her latest release, the double-disc recording entitled *Land and Sea*.

It's been three years since Slean released her last disc, *The Baroness*, an album she calls the back cover to a book about her life up until then.

"(*The Baroness*) was the end of a really stormy, tumultuous 20s," Slean says by phone. "I did all kinds of travelling, made all kinds of mistakes, did all kinds of searching, had lots of bad relationships, made business decisions that were terrible - I experienced the whole gamut.

"I also had some great highs as well. *The Baroness* was just ending a chapter of extremes. I have a new footing now with *Land and Sea*. I have a clear understanding of who I am and what I can do."

Through YouTube, Slean has released a series of behind the scenes videos chronicling the recording process of *Land and Sea* leading up to its release on Sept. 27.

Slean explains in one video that when she sat down to write for this disc, the songs were coming out in two very different streams - a pop music stream that turned into the material on the *Land* disc, and an orchestral stream that turned into the material on the *Sea* disc.

"Those streams have always been present in my music, but in their infant stages, like on (major label debut) *Night Bugs*, I sort of patched them together, or I would smear some orchestral colour on top of a pop song. I'd have some cabaret, but I'd put in a rock band with it. I would try to make them exist together.

"I feel like both of those influences have really found their clarity. The lyrical voice is very clear and separate for *Land* and for *Sea*,"



IVAN OTIS

On her new album *Land and Sea*, Sarah Slean balanced her love of writing pop songs with her love of writing orchestral music.

Slean says of the double-album.

"You can't really try to ram these into one song, and you can't have this beautiful ballad followed by this crazy rock song. They seem to be really separate audio worlds. I wanted the listener to be able to experience them both that way, without having to sort of ping pong back and forth or be jolted out of one."

Being coupled together, *Land and Sea* can be seen as one complete record, or two very different records that complement each other.

"*Land* is a perspective of being here, in this time and place on planet earth as a particular person in a particular situation. It's the specificity of your existence right now."

Compared to *Sea* which, like its namesake, is an infinite, mysterious entity that ebbs and flows and exists in each of our lives.

"You feel this incredible presence, an eternal presence that's an undying, timeless thing. It's the force of life itself. (*Sea* is) when you go beyond self and the specific person rooted in this time and place. I think that's what gives the finite self its rich meaning."

Read more from this interview in Kaeleigh Ayre's blog at www.uniter.ca, including what it was like to work with producer Joel Plaskett and what Slean's tour must-haves are.

⇒ See Sarah Slean at the West End Cultural Centre on Thursday, Nov. 10

⇒ Doors at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

⇒ Tickets are \$28 at the WECC, Ticketmaster, Music Trader and Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store and \$32 at the door

⇒ Visit www.sarahslean.com



Seamus

"My mom doesn't dress me anymore, so I dress in her clothes"

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.

STEPHEN KURZ & VALERIJA KUZEMA



OHBIJOU

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 8:00PM
DOORS OPEN 7:15 PM
WEST END CULTURAL CENTRE

586 ELLICE AVENUE | WWW.WECC.CA | PHONE 783-6918

Tickets: \$12 Adv | \$15 Door | Phone 1-800-745-3000 Available at **ticketmaster**, The Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store, Music Trader & the W.E.C.C.

MUSIC LISTINGS

THURSDAY, NOV. 3

The Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club will be hop-pin' when local rockers SUBCITY return to the stage with Edmonton rock act THE FALKLANDS and Vancouver's PREVIOUS TENANTS.

Miss THE HUMMERS? Well they're getting back together for a reunion show at the Lo Pub.

As part of Aboriginal Music Week, THE ABORIGINAL SONGWRITERS CONCERT is at the West End Cultural Centre with ALI FONTAINE, CASSIDY MANN, KYLA CEDERWALL and LEELA GILDAY.

Aboriginal Music Week continues with THE SASKMUSIC SHOWCASE at the Pyramid with CONRAD BIGKNIFE, DONNY PARENTEAU, MITCH DAIGNEAULT and RIVA FARRELL RACETTE.

Aboriginal Music week also features great blues acts at the Windsor Hotel with J.C. CAMPBELL, TRACY BONE, CRISTA COULTURE and GABRIEL AYALA.

Folk act OLD SEED plays the Folk Exchange.

THE DINO DEAN BAND plays Shannon's Pub.

Aboriginal rock quartet BRUTHERS OF DIFFERENT MOTHERS play the Zoo.

FRIDAY, NOV. 4

Acclaimed sound artist KRAM RAN returns to Winnipeg to destory minds and celebrate his new album *The Idiot Prince* at the Warehouse, 318 Ross St. with opening acts AUNTIE DADA, MALLORY KNOX and DAVID M. SWEATMAN.

EVIL SURVIVES! METAL! OZZY'S! with SKULLFIST and LEGION OF LIQUOR.

VALERIE JUNE, a favourite at this year's Folk Festival is returning to Winnipeg at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club at 7 p.m.

THE PERPETRATORS are releasing their new album *K-Mac's and Howik's Punk Blues Funhouse* with BRADLEYBOY at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club following Valerie June.

MANITO AHBEE FESTIVAL presents the ABORIGINAL PEOPLES CHOICE MUSIC AWARDS at the MTS Centre featuring DEREK MILLER, GHOSTKEEPER, ELISAPIE ISAAC, KELLY DANIELS and SAMIAN featuring FLORENT VOLLANT.

MARK KOZELEK of Red House Painters and Sun Kil Moon graces the West End Cultural Centre stage.

Roots act RED MOON ROAD plays the Folk Exchange, 211 Banatyne.

THE BUSHTITS play everyone's favourite new Osborne haunt, the Army & Navy Air Force Club 60, 433 River Ave.

MARCO CASTILLO plays the Current at the Forks.

BERT JOHNSON and SOULSTATION play Le Garage Café in St. Boniface.

Folk Fest favourite RICKY SKAGGS plays the McPhillips Station Casino.

As part of Aboriginal Music Week THE ELECTRIC POW WOW features A TRIBE CALLED RED, SAMIAN and WORLD HOOD at the Pyramid Cabaret.

BERMSIDE plays Shannon's Irish Pub.

GUMBY plays the Zoo.

Jump and jive to the 19-piece EXECUTIVE BIG BAND at the Park Theatre.

SATURDAY, NOV. 5

Get ready boys and ghouls! TONY DANZIG and THE CHILDREN IN HEAT play the Park Theatre with REPUBLIC OF CHAMPIONS, KIDS AND HEROES and THE GUMSHOE STRUT.

VALERIE JUNE plays another early show at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club at 7 p.m.

THE PERPETRATORS celebrate their new album release for a second night at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

Bluegrass with a punk rock attitude - LARRY AND HIS FLASK is at the Pyramid. It's gonna be a barn burner.

Bluegrass with a traditional attitude - local sensations OH MY DARLING release their new album *Sweet Nostalgia* at the West End Cultural Centre.

Get your punk rock fill with A GREAT FUCKING SHOW at the Kings Hotel featuring FLASH OUT, TERRORIST, SORITES PARADOX and MCNASTIES.

Indie rock act BOATS! plays with Heartbeat City and Zoppa at the Lo Pub.

QUADRAFUNK is at the Modern, 354 Portage, with SEED ORGANIZATION, KASM, REDWORM and special guest VIBES-MAN!

STICKYBUDS is spinning at Marquee Lounge & Event Centre with DJ HUNNICUTT, ILL TYPE and MOLLYFI.

Saskatchewan folk rocker SHUYLER JANSEN plays Pop Soda's Coffeehouse & Gallery.

JELLY B & THE KMART SHOPPERS plays Happy Mike's Coffee

House, 195 Collegiate St.

KEITH DYCK and FARGO ARIZONA plays the Bella Vista, 53 Maryland St.

2MSU, MORTAL RUINS, SOULLESS ICON and THE RUINED play the Zoo.

Aboriginal Music Week keeps going with THE ALL MY RELATIONS STAGE at the Windsor Hotel featuring JB THE FIRST LADY, THE JOHNNYS, WILL BELCOURT & THE HOLLYWOOD INDIANS, J.C. CAMPBELL and TRACY BONE.

SUNDAY, NOV. 6

ALL THE KING'S MEN play their weekly gig at the King's Head Pub.

BIG DAVE MCLEAN'S blues jam is at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

MONDAY, NOV. 7

Brooding Vancouver rocker MATTHEW GOOD plays the Burton Cummings Theatre.

NATHAN ROGERS plays Shannon's.

NINJA PARADE and SLOW MOTION VICTORY play the Zoo.

TUESDAY, NOV. 8

HONHEE HONHEE plays the Lo pub with HAUNTER and ENJOY YOUR PUMAS.

ENTER SHIKARI, FOR TODAY, THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA, and WHITECHAPEL play the Garrick Centre.

BROCK ZEMAN plays the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9

Canadian roots-rock badass TOM WILSON returns to the West End Cultural Centre, playing tunes of the Lee Harvey Osmond variety.

JAMIE RUMPLEY, THRIFT STORE LOVE and ELECTRIC SOUL play Ozzy's.

DEFLATED EGOS play Shannon's.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BIG SUGAR is back and is playing a concert at the Burton Cummings Theatre on Thursday, Nov. 10.

Seductive songstress SARAH SLEAN plays the West End Cultural Centre on Nov. 10.

Local surf-rockers THE LONELY VULCANS release their second album on Friday, Nov. 11 at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

The must-see live act of the fall THE WEBER BROTHERS are performing at the Park Theatre Nov. 11.

HAPPILY DYSFUNCTIONAL, a documentary on the Transistor 66 music label, will be showing along with label artists THE CROOKED BROTHERS and THE VIBRATING BEDS for a free show on Sunday, Nov. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Park Theatre.

The much-hyped TUNE-YARDS play the West End Cultural Centre on Monday, Nov. 14.

The St. John's six-piece HEY ROSETTA are playing the Garrick Centre on Thursday, Nov. 17.

CHAD VANGAALAN is playing the West End Cultural Centre on Friday, Nov. 18.

This year's Rainbow Trout Festival was unexpectedly cancelled, but on Nov. 18 at the Lo Pub local bands will unite to keep the festival alive.

Manitoba Roots Trio SWEET ALIBI releases their self-titled debut album at the Park Theatre on Sunday, Nov. 20.

C.R. AVERY & WIL play the WECC on Friday, Nov. 25.

Stoner rockers KYUSS are playing the Garrick Centre on Tuesday, Nov. 29.

THE AMAZING KRESKIN attempts to read our thoughts and blow our minds on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the West End Cultural Centre.

The MAGNIFICENT 7S long, long, long awaited album release is finally happening on Thursday, Dec. 15 at the West End Cultural Centre.

FRED PENNER does another rowdy show for adults that just want to be kids on Friday, Dec. 16 at the West End Cultural Centre.

Ex-Can front man DAMO SUZUKI is coming back to Winnipeg! But you'll have to wait until Thursday, March 22. He'll be performing until your mind is goo at the WECC.

Want to see your event in *The Uniter*?

E-mail your listing to listings@uniter.ca. The deadline for all listings is Tuesday. *The Uniter* is published every Thursday, so send your listings 9 days prior to the issue you want your listing to appear in. It's free. It's easy.



MORE MUSIC THIS WEEK



VALERIE JUNE

If you missed Valerie June at the Winnipeg Folk Festival this summer, you missed out on one of the most charming girls from Memphis, Tennessee that you'll ever see. Thankfully, she's coming back to town for an incredibly performance at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

Her honey-soaked vocals captured the heart of every audience member, whether it was one of her own tunes or a cover of the traditional favourite *You Are My Sunshine*.

Miss June even went on to win over workshop mate Naomi Shelton - and if you caught the closing night sing-along (involving June and gospel queen Shelton swaying arm in arm together like long-lost kin) you'd know she's the real deal.

Her sound, a mix of delta blues and vintage country, could easily be mistaken for something from another time, and if you don't catch her in the flesh, you'll be hard pressed to believe that her banjo and guitar-laced tunes are not from a time when reel to reels were in common use.

Mostly though, it's her southern charm and storytelling that will win you over.

So unless you're a doctor on call, come on out to the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club on Friday, Nov. 4 and Saturday, Nov. 5 to catch her in the act with Winnipeg's own Perpetrators.

Visit www.valeriejune.com.

- NICHOLAS FRIESEN

MATTHEW GOOD

Love him or hate him, Matthew Good came back this spring in an interesting way.

After his last few discs, the brilliant and raw confessional that was 2007's *Hospital Music* and the '90s re-hash of 2009's *Vancouver*, Good delivered a stellar and moving disc this past May, *Lights of Endangered Species*.

A relatively drastic yet totally natural shift, it included woodwinds, piano and horns and was produced by longtime collaborator Warne Livesey.

After getting remarried and having a son this past February (after the album was recorded, mind you), you'd think that the notoriously outspoken Vancouverite might have started to mellow, but no. He's back and ready for the road, armed with an arsenal of hits and his hired gun backing band.

Exactly a decade ago, Good was putting the final nails in the Matthew Good Band coffin with the release of *The Audio of Being*.

Since that rather public breakup, he's released a book, a greatest hits collection, battled an Ativan addiction after divorcing his first wife, toured solo and continued to speak his mind fully and completely.

At the end of the day, that's all we really want from Good - to be honest and direct, to get us discussing politics and to even entertain us with everything from epic rockers to intricate ballads.

See him at the Burton Cummings Theatre on Monday, Nov. 7 at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$25-\$39.50 at Ticketmaster.

Visit www.matthewgood.org.

- NICHOLAS FRIESEN

BIG SUGAR

In 2003, Big Sugar went out with a bang - a greatest hits record and a tour with up-and-comers The Trews (BS main man Gordie Johnson had produced their debut). It was a passing-the-torch moment, but now Johnson has come back to reclaim what is rightfully his - the crown of Canrock and blues.

Since the breakup, Johnson has been living in Texas and fronting Grady, as well as producing a record or two, including Joel Plaskett's brilliant *Ashtray Rock*.

Despite the fact that Grady has always been a success, Johnson decided the time was right to get mouth harpist Mr. Chill, bassist Garry Lowe, key man Friendliness and drummer Stephane "Bodean" Beaudin to re-form the classic BS lineup - not to rehash the rock radio hits of the '90s, but to make some brand new noise.

The result: *Revolution Per Minute*, a stunning return to form for Johnson and co., which was released this past June.

What, that's not enough of a reason to come check out Big Sugar when they detonate the Burton Cummings Theatre on Thursday, Nov. 10? How about the fact that blues pop heroes Wide Mouth Mason will be opening the night, a band that Johnson now plays bass in?

The show starts at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$19.50 - \$35.

Visit www.bigsugar.com.

- NICHOLAS FRIESEN



CD REVIEWS

FENG SHUI*Under My Sweater*
Independent

★★★★☆

Recorded at Private Ear Studios with John Paul Peters, local group Feng Shui's first EP, *Under My Sweater*, is a diverse record of rock 'n' roll styles. The record starts with *Gasoline*, a protest song with strong vocals and great guitar presence - both of which are hard to miss in this eclectic album. *Sunny Afternoon* is an upbeat tune with a ska flavour. *Lonely* is simply a poignant ballad, while *Robobaby* has a jazzy yet Doors-ish flavour with killer vocals. *Shift to First* gives you that blues feel. *Sly Jim in Abm* takes that vibe one step further with a serene piano intro and guitar licks that remind you of the Tragically Hip. Feng Shui is no doubt a tight band; they would rock any venue and the vocals are phenomenal. Keep your ears to the ground - they are on the up and up.

- John Van Leer



LOCAL

TRIO BEMBE*Oh My Soul*
Independent

★★★★☆

Released this past April, Trio Bembe's third album is the definition of smooth. *Oh My Soul* features Latin jazz standards such as Antonio Fuentes's *La Murcura*, allowing singer Amber Epp to ensnare listeners with her technical prowess and accentuated diction. Her scatting on *Inolvidable/ Open Eyes* is virtuosic but also conveys strong emotion. Epp is backed by guitarist Rodrigo Muñoz whose jazzy accompaniment is beautifully enigmatic. He gets his chance to shine in *Drume Negrita* which provides a sleek solo akin to the late great Wes Montgomery. Scott Senior provides solid percussion that sounds like it's coming at the listener from every angle. The title track is written by Epp and features the popular jazz pianist George Colligan, and it's the perfect culmination for the album as a whole with its funky Brazilian-esque beat infused with Stevie Wonder-influenced passion. For its smooth feel and joyful spirit, Trio Bembe's *Oh My Soul* is the perfect album for your next hot date.

- Derek Loewen



LOCAL

OX*tUCo*

Cosmic Dave's Record Factory

★★★★☆

An "original soundtrack" by seminal alt-country group Ox, *tUCo* is a great album to chill out to after a long day. Each song flows seamlessly into the next on the group's fifth album, keeping a fairly steady tempo and maintaining the mood of a cross-country trip. This "late night playlist for all night prairie drives" opens perfectly with a cover of Neil Young's *Out On The Weekend*. Mark Browning's vocals share a quality with Young's, and this ode to road trips starts off with an easy melodic line while we "buy a pickup and take it down to L.A." The album continues east-bound down the Trans Canada (from Ox's original home of Vancouver, or so I imagine), just as Browning made his own trip from the west coast to Ox's current home of Sudbury, Ont. Like every soundtrack there are instrumentals, but my favourite cut is *What I Love About Cars*, with its amusing lyrics and great guitar riffs.

- Kaeleigh Ayre

**SSRIS***Effeminate Godzilla-Sized Wind Chimes*
Creative Recording

★★★★☆

Describing their genre on Facebook as "noisy, poppy, punky, proggy, spazzy, dancing times," SSRIs are certainly all of the above and so much more. Fronted by guitarists/vocalists Elliot Langford and Joseph Hirabayashi, these B.C. rockers have seen their fair share of success and tragedy - they recently lost their drummer, Tommy Milburn. After a four-month hiatus after his passing, they are regaining momentum and have a new drummer, Anthony Dallas. They have revamped their sound even more for their debut full-length. With upbeat and intricately orchestrated tunes like *Rows* and *Certain Set Configuration*, this disc is sure to keep your ears glued to the speakers.

- Jared Gauthier

**SWEETHEART***XOXOX*

Independent

★★★★☆

Vancouver band Sweetheart's second release is a pop rock assault in six easy pieces. With songs averaging three minutes each, it's clean, crisp and easily digestible. *Perfect* would make Butch Walker proud, while *David Bowie is Dead?* feels like Queen covering Green Day for a benefit compilation. The self-produced EP never gets out of the relationship theme, but it doesn't really need to. *Love Disaster* is Nerf Herder light (on both snark and rock) while *Name and Numbers* is a sweet mid-tempo popper. If you're stoked about Blink 182's reunion, this is likely your new favourite group - but not in a bad way. And, if you dig this EP (and pay the well-worth-it \$6) then you should download Sweetheart's *Map of the Human Heart* album on Bandcamp for free, as well. Download *XOXOX* at <http://sweetheart.bandcamp.com/album/xoxox>.

- Nicholas Friesen



DOWNLOAD OF THE WEEK

The Mountain Man comes to the Prairies

Rodeo King Tom Wilson keeps things going on solo tour



NICHOLAS FRIESEN

Tom Wilson of Lee Harvey Osmond and Blackie and the Rodeo Kings performs at the Winnipeg Folk Festival this past July.

ADAM PETRASH
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Fresh off the Blackie & the Rodeo Kings tour for their latest album, *Kings and Queens*, Canrock mainstay Tom Wilson shows no signs of slowing down.

But this time he's heading out on tour - solo.

"I've been considering myself a solo guy for 35 years but I've been in bands for about 30 of those years," Wilson says over the phone from his home in Hamilton. "So these solo shows are a welcomed addition to my work schedule."

"I'm just a busy fucker. My time is divided quite thinly, but I've accomplished a lot."

- TOM WILSON

Having released a trio of solo records in the 2000s, Wilson has kept his name off the album titles recently. This tour sees Wilson stop in Winnipeg, a stop he says he's looking forward to.

"I kind of think of Hamilton as a Winnipeg south. There are a lot of the same sensibilities, the artistic community, there's an awareness of ourselves that's not the same as big cities," he says. "I dig Winnipeg a lot."

And those who are fans of Wilson's solo efforts as well as his entire musical catalogue won't be disappointed.

"There's complete freedom in a solo show," he says. "I'm fortunate enough to work in bands that, as the old saying goes, can turn on a dime - you know, as far as changing arrangements ... to make it solo and spin it a little bit faster."

Even though Wilson is heading out solo, he confirms he will never release a solo album under

his own name. The Lee Harvey Osmond project is essentially solo, though.

"My solo work was kind of similar to the work I do with Blackie & the Rodeo Kings, so the reason for Lee Harvey Osmond was to separate the creative worlds of music for me," he explains.

"It's a concentrated effort to strictly write for Lee Harvey Osmond," he adds. "Blackie & the Rodeo Kings writing falls in what I do naturally. I'd rather be extending myself with other players."

Wilson hasn't just been keeping busy with his music - he's no stranger to the world of art, either. He currently has an exhibit in New York City running until the New Year.

"I did an (art show) with Michael Stipe, Daniel Lanois and the late 'Long John' Baldry and that was the first art show I ever did and it was a huge success. I sold everything," Wilson says. "So I kept on painting."

"The art is more like therapy to me and I think that people recognize that in the art and recognize the personal struggle and the personal endeavours that go into creating it. It's become a bigger part of my life than I expected it to be."

If that wasn't enough, Wilson has two records in the can waiting to come out with Lee Harvey Osmond. He's recently released a children's book titled *The Mighty Moon King*, sung the theme song for the new cartoon *Crash Canyon* and acted in the film *Please Kill Mr. Know It All* alongside Canadian comic Colin Mochrie.

"I'm just a busy fucker," he laughs. "My time is divided quite thinly, but I've accomplished a lot."

⇒ See Tom Wilson perform at the West End Cultural Centre on Wednesday, Nov. 9

⇒ Doors at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

⇒ Tickets are \$22 at the WECC, Ticketmaster, the Folk Festival Music Store and Music Trader and \$26 at the door

⇒ Visit www.tomwilson.net

FILM

THE GLOBAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL 2011 is Friday, Nov. 4 until Saturday, Nov. 5. The festival shows films and documentaries that bring attention to social and environmental justice issues from around the globe. The festival begins with a Friday screening of OAPIRANGAJUQ: INUIT KNOWLEDGE AND CLIMATE CHANGE at 7 p.m. with directors Zacharias Kunuk and Ian Mauro joining by Skype for a Q&A session at the Winnipeg Art Gallery, 300 Memorial Blvd. All Saturday showings are at the University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Highlights include of the Global Justice Film Festival 2011 include Gemini award-winning director Robert Cornillier's BLACK WAVE: LEGACY OF EXXON, Bill Guttentag and Dan Sturman's SOUNDTRACK TO A REVOLUTION, and FORCE OF NATURE: THE DAVID SUZUKI MOVIE. Visit www.globaljusticefilmfestival.ca for a schedule and detailed film descriptions or contact Marilee at info@mcic.ca or 987-6420.

Winnipeggers are being treated to a feast of free animation screenings and activities until Nov. 6, with the fifth edition of the National Film Board of Canada's GET ANIMATED! program. The screenings will be presented in English at the Winnipeg Film Group's Cinematheque and in French at the Centre culturel franco-manitobain, 340 Provencher Blvd. For the complete schedule of screenings, visit nfb.ca/getanimated.

The Park Theatre is showing SIGUR RÓ'S INNI on Monday, Nov. 7 at 3 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. and Tuesday, Nov. 8 at 3 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Maria Popova's HAPPY: A DOCUMENTARY shows at the Park Theatre on Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m.

In conjunction with Gallery 1C03's The Ephemerals: Trending project, there will be a free film screening of THE STORY OF THE COAST SALISH KNITTERS, directed by Christine Welsh on Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. at aceartinc.com, 290 McDermot Ave. Admission is free.

PROJECT NIM is a riveting story based on a true incident from the 1970s about an experiment to see if a chimpanzee could learn to communicate if nurtured and raised as a human being. The film shows at the Cinematheque until Friday, Nov. 11 at 7 p.m.

Hot Docs has partnered with the National Screen Institute, On Screen Manitoba and DOC Winnipeg to bring the world's best documentaries to Cinematheque. THE BEST OF HOT DOCS will celebrate five unforgettable stories, each a sold-out hit from the Hot Docs Festival. Films include HELL & BACK AGAIN which shows Friday, Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. UNSPEAKABLE playing Saturday, Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. followed by YOU'VE BEEN TRUMPED at 8 p.m. The heartwarming BEING ELMO: A PUPPETEER'S JOURNEY plays on Sunday, Nov. 13 at 2 p.m. and is followed by the heart-breaking GUANTANAMO TRAP at 8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at On Screen Manitoba. For more info, contact OSM at 927-5897.

LITERATURE

DAVID ANNANDALE's book signing for THE VALEDICTORIANS will be on Saturday, Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. at McNally Robinson. David Annandale is the author of the Jen Blaylock thrillers. His horror fiction has appeared in multiple anthologies, as has his writings on film and video games. Annandale teaches film, literature and creative writing at the University of Manitoba. His first horror novel, *Gethsemane Hall*, is forthcoming from Dundurn Press in 2012.

Former Governor General ADRIENNE CLARKSON will be in Winnipeg at 2 p.m. at the West End Cultural Centre on Sunday, Nov. 6 for a speaking appearance in support of her latest book, ROOM FOR ALL OF US: SURPRISING STORIES OF LOSS AND TRANSFORMATION. Tickets are available at McNally Robinson Booksellers in person, or by calling 475-0483.

MARTINE LEAVITT and CHRIS RUTKOWSKI will be reading as part of IN DIALOGUE, the Manitoba Writers' Guild reading series, on Monday, Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Winnipeg Free Press News Café. Martine Leavitt has written seven award-winning novels for young adults and Chris Rutkowski is a Canadian science writer and educator with a background in astronomy and a passion for teaching science concepts to children and adults. For more info, visit <http://tinyurl.com/InDialogueMB>. Tickets are \$10 at the door and can be reserved through the Manitoba Writers' Guild at info@mbwriter.mb.ca.

Former MP BILL BLAIKIE will launch THE BLAIKIE REPORT: AN INSIDER'S LOOK AT FAITH AND POLITICS on Wednesday Nov. 9, at 7 p.m. at McNally Robinson.

University of Manitoba history department professor HENRY HELLER launches his new book BIRTH OF CAPITALISM on Thursday, Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Mondragon.

Attention local writers! Prairie Fire Press and McNally Robinson Booksellers are presenting the 2011 ANNUAL WRITING CONTEST with awards for poetry, short fiction, creative non-fiction and more. For full contest rules check out www.prairiefire.ca. The deadline is Nov. 30.

Aqua Books is hosting the venerable poetry series SPEAKING CROW. The Crow is on every Tuesday and starts at 7 p.m. with a featured writer and is followed by two open mic sets and short breaks in between.

Adorable chimpanzee caught in a very human world in new documentary

Project Nim

Directed by James Marsh, 2011

93 minutes

Plays at Cinematheque, Nov. 2 and Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.; Nov. 4 and Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.; Nov. 6, Nov. 9 and Nov. 10 at 7 p.m.; and Nov. 11 at 9 p.m.

★★★★☆

JOHN VAN LAAR
VOLUNTEER

James Marsh's anticipated follow up to his 2008 Academy Award-winning documentary, *Man on Wire*, is the extraordinary and riveting tale of a special chimpanzee named Nim.

The documentary profiles a 1970s social experiment and the social impact that researchers and a chimpanzee had with each other after prolonged interaction.

Project Nim was the brainchild of Herbert Terrace, professor at Columbia University, who wanted to know if it was possible for humans and chimpanzees to communicate with each other and if they could articulate what they were thinking.

The project aimed to expand human communication and to see how and where human language came from and how it evolved.

The film uses lots of archival footage that Columbia University made during the project.

In an interview-type style, each person involved with Project NIM was interviewed and gave their point of view about the experiment during the time they were involved.

As the film begins, we see how a chimp is taken away from its own mother; Nim is placed with a former student's family and treated like a two-year-old human baby.

The whole point was to immerse Nim in human life and to have him to learn sign language. An incredible bond was formed between the family and Nim.

However, after time, the relationship became strained.

Having her own family and the madness of a primate running rampant quickly dissolved the



SUPPLIED

It's not secret, this project was questionable at best. But who doesn't love an adorable chimp?

relationship and the experiment was taken over by another student - a younger, more able student of Terrace's.

With a new pet student and location, the professor was able to set up house.

Great gains were made, and Nim was able to learn sign language and interact with humans.

However, as Nim grew older and more physically unpredictable, it became more and more apparent that the chimp's future was uncertain in human care.

Professor Terrace decision to end the project and find a new home for Nim was met with

animosity and anger. Two sides were formed - those that had real interest and love for Nim and those that only had a professional interest.

Ultimately, Nim, the adorable chimpanzee, is caught in a very human world; a world of love, hate, anger, lust, greed and personal advancement.

It is no wonder that he mimics all of these traits, and for that he is locked up.

Watching *Project Nim* made me think about how far we have come from looking like monkeys - but there sure are a lot of us that still act like them.

From firearms to filmmaking, he's no chump

Dave Brown screens his debut film, *Chump Change*

NICHOLAS FRIESEN
ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

Dave Brown has been the only name in firearms safety on Manitoba film sets for about 20 years, but last year he switched gears to direct his first short film, the 12-minute romantic comedy *Chump Change*.

"I didn't really go in with the idea that I'd like to be a good director or it was going to be a career or anything else," Brown says. "I just wanted to do it just to do it, period."

Co-written and executive produced with actress Amy Simoes, the duo financed the entire flick on their credit cards.

"Probably the hardest job was hers, because a day or two before we shot she had to drop the executive producer role and put on the acting role, which is a hard thing to do because there's still lots of work to be done and things to be paid for and arrangements to be made," he says. "She had to let all of that go and concentrate on her acting. She's really good at it."

Also starring Daryl Dorge, Ron Verwymen, Andrew Cecon, Heather Ada McKenzie and Darren Felbel, the film was mostly shot in a single day at one location on a prosumer camera, a camera that is near professional quality, but not as expensive.

"We were not going to use a DSLR because it's trendy and everyone knows about shallow depth of field," Brown says. "I wanted to film on a \$2,000 prosumer camera in HD and prove to people that you don't need a DSLR to tell a good story. We used the lighting to control the exposure instead of the other way around."

Helping out with the lighting and photography were two of the best men in the city, Alf Kollinger (director of photography) and Rob Rowan (lights).

"One of the things I told Alf at the very beginning was 'I'm going to want to be behind the camera, but don't let me behind the camera,' like just kick me out of there," he says.

"Rob Rowan is obviously one of the most experienced lighting technicians in town. I gave



RAHIM THE PHOTOGRAPHER

The cast of Dave Brown's short film, *Chump Change*. Brown makes his directorial debut after working in other aspects of the film industry for 20 years.

him all of these lights that we borrowed and rented or bought and said, 'This is your kit, you gotta work with it.' He's used to working out of the back of two semi-trailers."

When some people set out to make their first flick, many make the mistake of being too ambitious. Brown is adamant that a three- to 12-minute short is ideal, and can definitely tell a complete story.

"You can do the three act structure. You eliminate stuff that is fun, but it's fluff. Why would you have an establishing shot?" he says. "Any scene that doesn't move the story forward, it's gone."

"As a director that's helping out with the editing, a lot of editors see each scene as their baby and they don't want to get rid of it. I'm not like

that. If we spent three hours on a scene and it didn't work, it's gone."

See *Chump Change* Sunday, Nov. 6 at the Park Theatre. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the door. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the evening starts at 7 p.m. Two other shorts will be screened: *Cougars of Winnipeg* from Alf Kollinger and Adriana O'Neil, plus the Manitoba premiere of *Pick* from Calgary filmmaker Benjamin Ross Hayden. There will also be a Q&A featuring the filmmakers and cast, plus a special presentation.

⇒ For more with Dave Brown, including how he got his start in film, visit Nicholas Friesen's blog at www.uniter.ca.

Sweet bandmates, sweet tour and some sweet nostalgia

Oh My Darling tours across Canada and the States for new album

JARED GAUTHIER
VOLUNTEER STAFF

In a city that embraces its folk roots, it's easy to see how inspiration came out of four women interested in making music that people could embrace as their own.

Formed in 2008 by banjo player Allison De Groot with friends Marie-Josée Dandeneau, Vanessa Kuzina and fiddler Rosalyn Dennett, Oh My Darling seemingly exploded onto the scene after its first performance at Festival du Voyageur, under the name Fill'd'Riel (daughters of Riel). However, shortly after their first performance, Oh My Darling was born.

"We're like a little family, and with every family comes those little fights that make it more and more challenging, but our music is what keeps us close."

- VANESSA KUZINA, OH MY DARLING

Starting off with a bang, their self-titled EP from 2009 got a Western Canadian Music Award nomination for best roots album, boasting the same nomination at the WCMA's a year later for their first full-length album, *In the Lonesome Hour*.

OMD's latest album, *Sweet Nostalgia*, aims to deliver just what the title suggests.

"This album we aimed to capture more of a live feel," guitarist/vocalist Kuzina says about the blending of the new songs with old favorites. "We've found a balance between both to create something completely unique".

Performing at Canadian festivals such as the



Local roots quartet Oh My Darling is releasing its second full-length album, *Sweet Nostalgia*, on Nov. 5.

Winnipeg Folk Festival, Festival du Voyageur and receiving regular plays on CMT and CBC radio, the folk rockers have had their plate full with much deserved promotional gigs to showcase their bluegrass, rootsy sound.

Constant touring would make most people lose it, but Kuzina is quick to point out how they avoid those exhausting squabbles.

"We're like a little family, and with every family comes those little fights that make it more and more challenging, but our music is what keeps us close," she says.

Oh My Darling has a fan base that reaches from coast to coast sending everyone in its path into a dancing frenzy.

"Winnipeg is definitely our favourite place to play," she says. "Ottawa is one of the best - the

hardest folk rockers."

OMD has plenty of places to compare to its beloved Winnipeg, as the band kicked off a cross Canada tour in September, making stops in the United States for shows in New York and Oregon, and eventually finding their way home on Nov. 5 when they will be playing at the West End Cultural Centre in promotion of their new album.

⇒ See Oh My Darling at the West End Cultural Centre on Saturday, Nov. 5

⇒ Doors at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

⇒ Tickets are \$17.50 in advance at the WECC, Ticketmaster and the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store

⇒ Visit www.ohmydarling.ca

Theatre looking alive and well this season

Winnipeg's vibrant scene to include Shakespeare, Shaw and a vibrator play or two

DEREK LOEWEN
VOLUNTEER

It looks to be an exciting year for the Winnipeg theatre scene. Last year saw some real gems take the stage, but now both big and small companies seem excited to continue their current theatrical form into the 2011-2012 season.

Each company is also progressively exploring the art form, including the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre (MTC) and Merlyn Productions who will both be adapting classics for modern audiences.

Stephen Schipper, the artistic director for MTC, is directing William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, but is making a slight location change.

Instead of the Victorian drama being set in traditional Verona, the two star-crossed lovers will meet their fate in modern-day Jerusalem.

"The Capulets are Muslim, the Montagues are Jewish and the Friars are Christian," Schipper tells *The Uniter*.

MTC is entering its 57th season and second under the helm of new general manager Camilla Holland. Schipper perceives the transition from Zaz Bajon's 30-year tenure as "going from strength to strength. (Camilla) will no doubt lead us to even greater heights."

Grumpy Old Men, directed by Jeff Gardner, is MTC's first production of the season and will run until Nov. 5, followed by *Romeo and Juliet* which will occupy the John Hirsch Mainstage from Nov. 24 to Dec. 7.

Another notable production is Sarah Ruhl's *In the Next Room or the Vibrator Play* which will be premiered at the Tom Hendry Warehouse on Nov. 3. One review calls the play "a fanciful but compassionate consideration of the treatment, and the mistreatment, of women in the late 19th century."

Smaller, independent theatre companies are also excited for the upcoming year.

John Chase's brainchild Merlyn Productions, who are known for their terrific presentations of one-act plays, is already in the middle of its season. The recent production of three morality plays (naturally entitled *Morality Plays*) gave true insight into human intuitiveness and ethics.

Having broken its previous attendance



Instead of taking place in Verona, MTC's production of *Romeo and Juliet* will be set in modern-day Jerusalem.

record with *Sunday Costs Five Pesos*, the group's next presentation will be an adaptation of Lewis Carroll's classic *Through the Looking Glass* which will run from Dec. 7 to Dec. 10 at MP's main stage, The Ellice Theatre.

"(It will) be the company's first official foray into theatre for young audiences," Chase says of the *Alice and Wonderland* sequel. "We've also expanded to include training and a theatre school."

Manitoba Theatre For Young People also has a variety of upcoming attractions. MTYP's rendition of Tolkien's *The Hobbit* is showing now until Nov. 13 and will be followed by another

child hero, Winnie the Pooh in *The House at Pooh Corner*, showing from Dec. 7 to Dec. 26.

The best opportunity to catch almost all the main Winnipeg theatre companies this season will be at the 2012 Master Playwright Festival in January.

"The featured dramatist is one of my all-time favourite playwrights - George Bernard Shaw, who I've been waiting for them to select for over 10 years," says Chase.

Visit *The Manitoba Association of Playwrights* at www.mbplays.ca for all your theatre information.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

FORGETTING REMEMBERING: FILM AND MEMORY, a closing lecture by Dr. Jens Brockmeier is on Nov. 5, at 2 p.m. at the Manitoba Historical Society Dalnavert Museum, 61 Carlton St.

PHANTASMAGORIA is an exhibition at the Dalnavert Museum that explores history and memory through film, photography, projection and interdisciplinary media art practice and engages audiences through art installation in the context of a historical, Victorian home. The exhibition will be held at the Manitoba Historical Society Dalnavert Museum until Nov. 6 and will be open Wednesday to Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

SURFACE WOUND, FRACTURED THOUGHT by KAREN ROBB and BRONWYN THORNDYCRAFT SHOWS at the Cre8ery, 125 Adelaide St. from Friday, Nov. 4 until Tuesday, Nov. 8. The exhibition begins with an opening reception on Nov. 4 from 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Also showing at the Cre8ery is BUILDING PERSPECTIVES, SRI LANKA, which tells the story of 12 U of M design students working and living with a rural Sri Lankan community. The opening reception is on Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m. The exhibition closes on Nov. 8 at 6 p.m.

DEAD AIR by Montreal artist STEVE BATES is showing at aceartinc., 290 McDermot Ave. until Nov. 10. In his latest work Bates explores Walter Benjamin's silent radio broadcast conjuring an all-encompassing void.

ANOMALIA by CAROLINE MONNET is showing at Golden City Fine Art, 211 Pacific Ave. through until Nov. 18.

DOUGLAS SMITH's AD ARBITRIUM is showing until Nov. 19 at the Semai Gallery, 264 McDermot Ave.

The 2011 ART FROM THE HEART SALE planning has begun. They are looking for artists who live in the inner city or are low-income to participate. There is no entry fee and artists make 100 per cent of the sale proceeds. Registrations are available at artfromtheheart.ca, artfromtheheart@hotmail.com and at 823 Ellice Ave. The sale will be held at Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre (MERC, 430 Langside St.) on Nov. 18 and 19. For more info call Joanie at 781-6556.

Negative Space presents BODY RUINS, a solo exhibition of prints, drawings and sculpture by ANDREA ROBERTS. It shows from Nov. 17 until Nov. 26 at Negative Space, 253 Princess St.

The Urban Shaman presents CROSSROADS by ROLANDE SOULIERE. The exhibition goes until Saturday, Nov. 26.

TRICKLE DOWN is showing at the Mennonite Heritage Centre Gallery, 600 Shaftsbury Blvd, until Nov. 30.

Gallery 1C03 at The University of Winnipeg, is presenting THE EPHEMERALS: TRENDING. The Ephemerals are an all-female collective of aboriginal artists and curators. With TRENDING the collective aims to examine the trend of indigenous-influenced clothing and accessories, encouraging a critical reading of fashion and highlighting the need for a deeper awareness of its cultural implications. The installation shows in the Anthropology Museum, fourth floor, Centennial Hall until Dec. 3. Check out <http://theephemerals.wordpress.com> for more information.

Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art is presenting HER RAIN by Canadian artist Lani Maestro. The exhibition shows until Jan. 8.

The Manitoba Museum presents CIRCUS! SCIENCE UNDER THE BIG TOP. The exhibition demystifies the daring and death-defying feats of the greatest show on earth, and puts you in the centre of the action. The exhibition runs until April 9.

THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

GRUMPY OLD MEN: THE MUSICAL is at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, 174 Market Ave. until Nov. 5.

Marketplace Players present Denis Thornton's NOTHING EVER HAPPENS ON OUR STREET at Aqua Books until Nov. 5 at 8 p.m. Is murder afoot on a quiet street? Find out.

THE JUST FOR LAUGHS COMEDY TOUR hits Winnipeg on Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m. The tour features comedians from the U.K. including Matt Kirshen, Stephen K. Amos, Sean Meo and Terry Alderton.

Adhere and Deny is presenting an adaptation of Vladimir Mayakovsky's play THE BEDBUG from Nov. 3 to Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. nightly in its pocket theatre at 315-70 Albert St. For reservations phone 774-6334.

IN THE NEXT ROOM, or the vibrator play, is the first show of the season at the Tom Hendry Theatre at the MTC Warehouse, 140 Rupert. It plays Thursday, Nov. 3 until Saturday, Nov. 19. In the twilight of the Victorian age, the respectable Dr. Givings generates a buzz when he uses a new-fangled electrical device to cure his patients of hysteria.

OPEN MIC NIGHTS at Mondragon are every Tuesday night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Come down and show off your musical, poetic or comedic talents.

These buns are sticky, baby

Small shop with big buns the perfect coffee break getaway

AARON SNIDER
CULTURE REPORTER

Jonnies Sticky Buns

941 Portage Ave.

You've probably seen the signs for Jonnies Sticky Buns around town. They're stapled to telephone poles and say cheeky things about buns and where this shop wants to put them.

But the true nature of this beast cannot be contained in a cute graphic or a witty pun. It's far too delicious for images or words.

Nestled comfortably between a flower shop and a nail salon on Portage Avenue, just a short walk from the University of Winnipeg, Jonnies is among the smallest shops you'll ever set foot in.

The whole experience just feels like sitting in your friend's mom's kitchen. Or at least it would if your friend's mom listened to Herbie Hancock cassettes and happened to be an unbelievable baker.

As it turns out, you don't need much space to create sticky bun magic.

A friend and I recently stopped in on a Wednesday afternoon. We were quickly and warmly welcomed by a cheerful, apron-clad employee who admitted that the selection was lacking after a busy morning.

With some helpful suggestions we eventually settled on a pair of buns, one poppyseed and one classic, with some coffee.

As we settled into one of the two available tables we took in the scene.

An acoustic guitar leans in one corner of the seating area, which could reasonably hold four or five people if they didn't mind squishing. A stack of CDs and a few books



NICHOLAS FRIESEN

Enjoy a deliciously sticky Monkey Brain or Dharma only at Johnnies Sticky Buns. Delicious food and a great atmosphere combine to make the place a welcome addition to Portage Avenue.

rest on the windowsill next to a flower pot and a small statue.

The whole experience just feels like sitting in your friend's mom's kitchen. Or at least it would if your friend's mom listened to Herbie Hancock cassettes and happened to be an unbelievable baker.

The café lacks the conformity of other establishments and flourishes because of it. The plates, cutlery and coffee mugs are

an eclectic mix of styles that appear to have been raided from local thrift shops.

And what's probably most important, the cinnamon buns are delicious. The poppyseed (Wednesday's special) is vegan and tasty, drizzled with icing and boasting a perfect degree of chewiness. The classic is not vegan, but is made with whole wheat flour and a healthy amount of cinnamon.

The coffee, from local bean roasters at

Black Pearl, is organic and fair trade. And considering refills are free, it's one hell of a good deal.

Two cinnamon buns with two coffees came to almost exactly \$10. Even your friend's mom would find it hard to compete with these guys.

Visit www.jonniesstickybuns.com.

A new twist on an old tale

Adhere and Deny transport *The Bedbug* into modern times

NICHOLAS FRIESEN
ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

Vladimir Mayakovsky's *The Bedbug*, a satire of 1929 soviet bureaucracy and abandonment of the revolution to New Economic Policy men and five-year plans, has been adapted by Adhere and Deny to take place in 1990s North America and eventually, 2042 (after its hero, Bobby Markowski's body is frozen and thawed in the future).

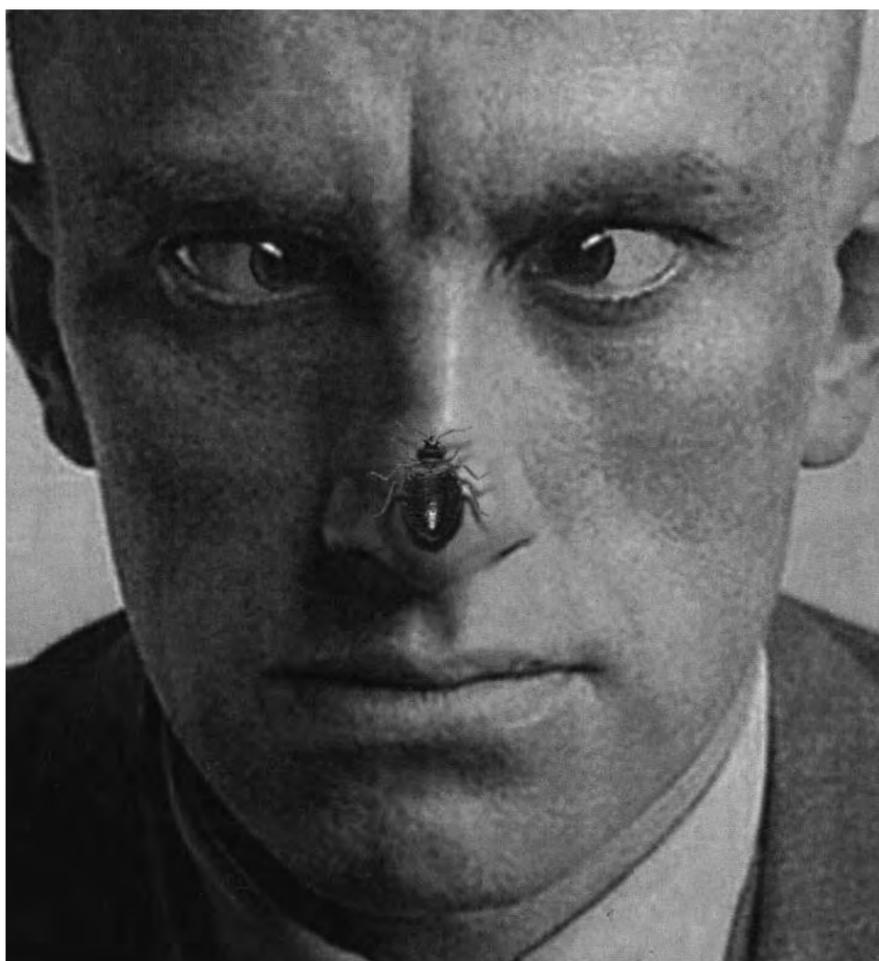
"Besides offering the audience a good theatrical experience, I feel it would be a pleasure to have them join us in our transformation from what was to what is."

- GRANT GUY, DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER, ADHERE AND DENY

"I began this adaptation last November," says director/company founder Grant Guy. "To do the play in its original form would just make the production a historical oddity. In the play was the foundation to satire our current status. The emergence of the Occupy Wall Street movement gives strength to my thesis.

"Is it funny? The answer would have to be subjective. But I believe we have developed a good satire. I would like to think it would make (Italian satirist) Dario Fo happy."

The company has always been somewhat of an unconventional force in Winnipeg theatre, which has really been one of its strengths. From puppet theatre to col-



SUPPLIED

This one time-traveling bedbug changes everything in Adhere and Deny's *The Bedbug*.

laborations with Video Pool and accartinc., Adhere and Deny has never played by the

rules.

"Adhere and Deny does not conduct for-

mal auditions. Auditions are a phony environment," he says. "I prefer just to keep an eye open to what people are doing, seeing them in action. If someone makes me curious about them I will keep an eye on them, and if something arises that they would be suited for I will approach them. I did this with Freya Olafson and Chris Sabel, for example."

Though finding new players is always an adventure, there are a few familiar faces that will pop up in *The Bedbug*. Carolyn Gray has been with the company since the beginning, and Mia Van Leeuwen (of the Out of Line Theatre Co-op) makes her Adhere and Deny return, having appeared in *Paradise Lost* and *Still Walking*.

Newcomer Coral Maloney rounds out the cast, but there is another key collaborator involved. Multimedia artist James Jansen (a.k.a. jaymez) will provide a video montage component to the show.

This production is quite possibly the final play from the longtime local troupe, but one can never be sure.

"I am known to make sudden jags in my career, that might be why I have never been an art star," Guy says. "I feel the course I have been pursuing has dried up - not the object side of things, but the solemn nature Adhere and Deny has been known for the past decade.

"Besides offering the audience a good theatrical experience, I feel it would be a pleasure to have them join us in our transformation from what was to what is."

Adhere and Deny presents *The Bedbug* at 315-70 Albert St. until Saturday, Nov. 12. Tickets are \$10. To reserve by phone call 774-6334. Visit www.adhereanddeny.com.

The whole world's watching the camera girl

Local music photog Joey Senft rocks out the shots



JOEY SENFT

Comeback Kid (above) and The Ripperz (below left) are just two of the many bands Joey Senft (below right) has photographed.

PAMELA ROZ VOLUNTEER STAFF

A photographer, by one simple definition, is "a person whose creative work shows sensitivity and imagination." Local music-photographer Joey Senft, by definition, goes above and beyond this simplicity.

Many creative people claim they found their biggest passion at a very early age, but it wasn't until Joey Senft was in high school that taking photos really piqued her interest.

That isn't implying that the later start hindered her abilities; it just began as more of a friendly hobby than anything else.

"I met and befriended a lot of the people who ended up being in the bands and you always want to take pictures of your friends doing something great, right?" Senft explains. "Soon, they started to play shows at other venues and I followed; I became friends with other people in the scene and couldn't

get enough of it. Now I shoot at shows probably three or four times a week."

Senft, who shoots mainly digital on a Canon 5d Mark II and a Canon 7d, is the house photographer at the Garrick Centre as well as a regular shooter for Manitoba Music.

"Love what you do, try new things, keep your camera close and make great, long lasting friendships because it's all about who you know in this business."

- JOEY SENFT, PHOTOGRAPHER

She's also shot for the Winnipeg Folk Festival, the TD Winnipeg International Jazz Festival, Skate4Cancer and Kids Help Phone.

Senft has very good reason to promote her

work with Kids Help Phone a bit more seriously, besides the fact that it is a phenomenal cause.

"There is a book called *Call/Response* that is showing off Winnipeg's amazingly talented music scene as well as some great photos from other photographers," Senft says. "I was lucky enough to be a part of it. If you purchase the book, a good chunk of the money goes towards Kids Help Phone as well."

While the list of shows the shutterbug blesses with her photography magic constantly grows, it's still the music that is the main drive for her. And it isn't just music here at home - it has even taken her overseas.

"I recently was in Europe and it just so happened (Winnipeg's) Comeback Kid was also playing in Europe. I met up with them in a little town in Germany for the Summer Breezy Festival, which is a three-day long Metal Festival where there was about 40,000 metal heads," Senft says. "It was really amazing to get to see them play for a such a huge

crowd in a different country and being able to take pics of them from the stage was just a bonus!"

Though she's been shooting shows for years, Senft knows there's still a long way to go. She still dreams of the chance to someday shoot the Foo Fighters live in concert and to someday become a photographer for a big-time music magazine.

As she continues to get closer to those dreams while capturing countless musical experiences on film, what advice would Joey give to someone hoping to get their feet wet in the photography world?

"Love what you do, try new things, keep your camera close and make great, long lasting friendships because it's all about who you know in this business. Have fun with it!"

For more information about Senft, visit www.tinyurl.com/jsenftphoto. For more information or to purchase a copy of *Call/Response*, visit www.callresponsebook.com.



JOEY SENFT



SUPPLIED

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG AWARDS:

<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awards>

CAMPUS JOBS

Just a reminder that if you are interested in a part-time job on campus to please fill out the Work-Study application. There are numerous jobs to apply for. It can be found online at

<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awards-work-study-program>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Applications are still being assessed. Letters will be sent to successful recipients in the next two weeks. Opportunity Fund Bursary applicants should keep checking their webmail account through WebAdvisor for notification.

FEE DEFERRAL AND REGISTRATION CANCELLATION

Students have been advised by letter if they have outstanding balances on their accounts. Registration cancellation has begun. If you have been cancelled or received a letter, please see a representative in Student Central, or call Financial Services at 786-9244 or 786-9884.

MANITOBA STUDENT AID PROGRAM (MSAP)

Applications to Manitoba Student Aid for the Fall/Winter 2011-2012 or winter term only sessions are still being accepted. Students can apply online at www.manitobastudentaid.ca.

EXTERNAL AWARDS

The University is often notified by companies and organizations about awards they have for students in post-secondary education. Here are a few awards that are available right now.

THE GILL PURCELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Deadline: Nov. 15, 2011

The Gillis Purcell Memorial Journalism Scholarship for Native Canadians is offered annually by The Canadian Press. Scholarship recipients, who must be pursuing a career in journalism through studies at a post-secondary institution, receive \$4,000 and an offer of summer employment at The Canadian Press or one of its affiliated companies.

Contact Deborah McCartney by email (dmccartney@cp.org) or by phone (416-507-2132) for an application form.

THE UKRAINIAN RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE AWARDS

Deadline: Nov. 30, 2011

The Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre (URDC) is offering two award opportunities for students involved in Ukrainian arts or music (three awards for each).

For information on how to apply, contact the URDC by phone (780-497-5494) or email (haydukl@macewan.ca).

HOLSTEIN CANADA AWARD

Deadline: Nov. 30, 2011

A bursary of \$750 will be awarded one student in Western Canada who is a regular or junior member of Holstein Canada, or a son/daughter of a member,

has completed at least one year of university/college, and will be returning to school within the calendar year.

Visit: www.holstein.ca.

FRANK KNOX MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP

Deadline: Nov. 30, 2011

Up to three Frank Knox Memorial Fellowships will be awarded to students from Canada for graduate study at Harvard University in the academic year 2011-2012. The Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship program was established by Annie Reid Knox who sought to honour her late husband and his lifelong commitment to America. Mrs. Knox expressed the hope that the holders of the fellowships return to their homes and become leaders in their chosen field once they had gained knowledge and experience from their study away from Canada.

Visit: <http://www.frankknox.harvard.edu/welcome.html>.

WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY AWARDS

Deadline: Dec. 15, 2011

If you are a female head of a household with one or more dependents, are attending an undergraduate degree program or vocational training program as a mature student, and need financial assistance to complete your education, you are eligible for a Women's Opportunity Award offered by Soroptomist International of Winnipeg.

Contact: Heather Menzies at 475-2526 or email: hgm16@mts.net.

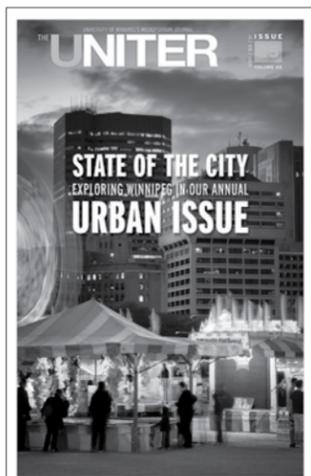
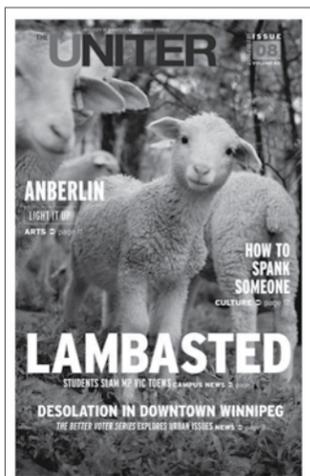
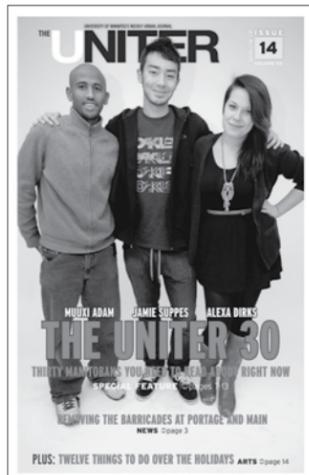
95.9 FM CKUW CAMPUS/COMMUNITY RADIO TOP 10 CD - ALBUMS

October 24-30, 2011

! = Local content * = Canadian Content



| TW | Artist | Recording | Label |
|----|------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 | !This Hisses | Surf Noir | Transistor 66 |
| 2 | *The Pack A.D. | Unpersons | Mint |
| 3 | Wilco | The Whole Love | Anti- |
| 4 | !Rock Lake | Rock Lake | Eat 'Em Up |
| 5 | !Trio Bembe | Oh My Soul | Self-Released |
| 6 | William Shatner | Seeking Major Tom | Cleopatra |
| 7 | !Big Dave McLean | Outside The Box | Floodland |
| 8 | *Feist | Metals | Arts & Crafts |
| 9 | !Bog River | Hands In The Ground | Self-Released |
| 10 | !Greg Macpherson | Disintegration Blues | Disintegration |



Extra, extra! Read all about it!

PICK UP A COPY OF THE UNITER EACH WEEK AT THESE FINE ESTABLISHMENTS:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| ARTSPACE BUILDING | YELLOW DOG TAVERN |
| MONDRAGON | WEST END CULTURAL CENTRE |
| INTO THE MUSIC | UNIVERSITE DE ST. BONIFACE |
| FOLK FESTIVAL MUSIC STORE | TIMES CHANGE(D) HIGH & LONESOME CLUB |
| PITA PIT (BANNATYNE) | GLOBE CINEMA |
| RED RIVER COLLEGE (PRINCESS STREET CAMPUS) | WINNIPEG ART GALLERY |
| THE FYXX (ALBERT, BROADWAY) | SAFEWAY (RIVER @ OSBORNE) |
| THE KING'S HEAD | MOVIE VILLAGE |
| THE LINEUP | GAS STATION THEATRE |
| WINNIPEG FREE PRESS CAFE | TOAD IN THE HOLE |
| THE UNDERGROUND CAFE | THE ZOO |
| PLUG IN ICA | MCNALLY ROBINSON |
| STELLA'S (BUHLER CENTRE, SHERBROOK AND OSBORNE) | COUSINS DELI |
| HI HOSTEL/LO PUB | THE NOOK |
| | UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA (UNIVERSITY CENTRE) |

YOU CAN FIND US ONLINE AS WELL:

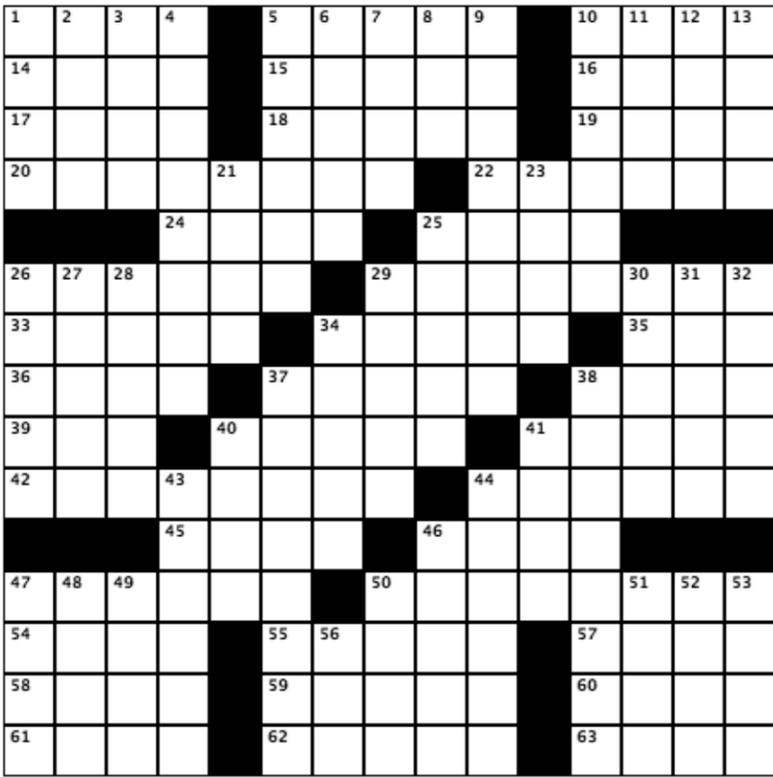
WEBSITE:
WWW.UNITER.CA

FACEBOOK:
WWW.TINYURL.COM/THEUNITER

TWITTER:
WWW.TWITTER.COM/THEUNITER

Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku 10

Solutions to this week's sudoku and crossword in next week's issue.



BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

- Across**
- 1- Cong. meeting
 - 5- Costume
 - 10- 24 hour periods
 - 14- Looking down from
 - 15- Oneness
 - 16- Borodin's prince
 - 17- Asian sea
 - 18- Do-nothing
 - 19- Star of the first mag-
 - nitude
 - 20- Witty reply
 - 22- Egyptian god
 - 24- Tailless amphibian
 - 25- Cornerstone abbr.
 - 26- Hindu incarnation
 - 29- Prestigious
 - 33- Bet
 - 34- Old Nick
 - 35- Turkish title
 - 36- Banned apple spray
 - 37- Man of many words
 - 38- Cat sound
 - 39- Furrow
 - 40- Singes
 - 41- Embankment
 - 42- Cervine
 - 44- Principles
 - 45- Ages and ages
 - 46- Horrors!
 - 47- The ear's "stirrup"
 - 50- Pure

- 54- Della's creator
- 55- Alma ___
- 57- Writer Sarah ___ Jewett
- 58- Comic Rudner
- 59- Decorate
- 60- Midge
- 61- Stupid person
- 62- Forget it!
- 63- Indian exercise method
- 26- Give merit
- 27- Worth
- 28- Playing marble
- 29- Large wave caused by tidal flow
- 30- Pale bluish purple
- 31- Everglades bird
- 32- Challenges
- 34- Steeps
- 37- Harness driver
- 38- Study of the punish- ment of crime
- 40- Plumlike fruit
- 41- Fast time
- 43- Annul
- 44- Prickly
- 46- Musical drama
- 47- Slave
- 48- Small combo
- 49- Choir member
- 50- Pack away
- 51- Cube creator Rubik
- 52- Glitch
- 53- Bristle
- 56- "Much ___ About Noth- ing", play by Shakespeare

Down

- 1- River to the Moselle
- 2- French 101 verb
- 3- Work up lather
- 4- Deep-fryer's concern
- 5- Stringed musical instru- ment
- 6- Broke off
- 7- Mosaic piece
- 8- Salt Lake City athlete
- 9- High temperature thermostat
- 10- Separate
- 11- Antiquing agent
- 12- Meditator
- 13- Ladies of Sp.
- 21- Crowd sound
- 23- Type of gun
- 25- Adlai's running mate



An Open Relationship

WITH MELANIE DAHLING

My first marriage

"You're pretty, smart and funny. You've been really sweet to me and we have great chemistry. I like you a lot and spending time with you feels natural."
 A lot of girls get a ring after a guy says something like that to them, but I usually get dumped.
 Any number of my past lovers could be reading this thinking I am talking about them, but it's pretty standard. I can say without hesitation that I am a cool girl-friend, but for whatever reason men seem to like me better in theory than practice.
 In elementary school I was the kind of girl who had long pretty hair and wore cute dresses but also didn't mind rolling around in the dirt or playing with bugs.

We've all known "tower girls" who don't seem all that special, so who cast us in our roles and how do we break free?

Back in those days boys knew a good thing when they had it.
 I won a schoolyard beauty contest, I was routinely treated to jewelry from the treasure chest at Red Lobster, and I even got married in Grade 1.
 It was a small ceremony with a recep- tion on the play structure followed by a date where we watched *Drop Dead Fred* and drank Orange Crush.

We mutually decided to divorce about a week later and unfortunately, nothing's been as simple since.
 I used to figure it was just that guys my age were freaked out by the fact that I was easy to be with, and if I am easy to be with, that means they have no reason to dump me.
 If they have no reason to dump me, we are practically already fighting over some- thing mundane in our tasteful bungalow while Timmy runs around with the dog out back.

Now that I've been having the same experience with different guys for over a decade (there was a bit of a slump after my first marriage), I figured it was time to examine my part in all of this.

I was watching *500 Days of Summer* for maybe the 10th time the other day when I had something of an epiphany.
 The protagonists I identify with are all hopeless romantics who spend an entire narrative fighting for someone emo- tionally unavailable. I have always seen myself as the knight in shining armour and rarely let myself relax and grow my hair out in some tower.

Did I create an archetype for myself, and why this one?

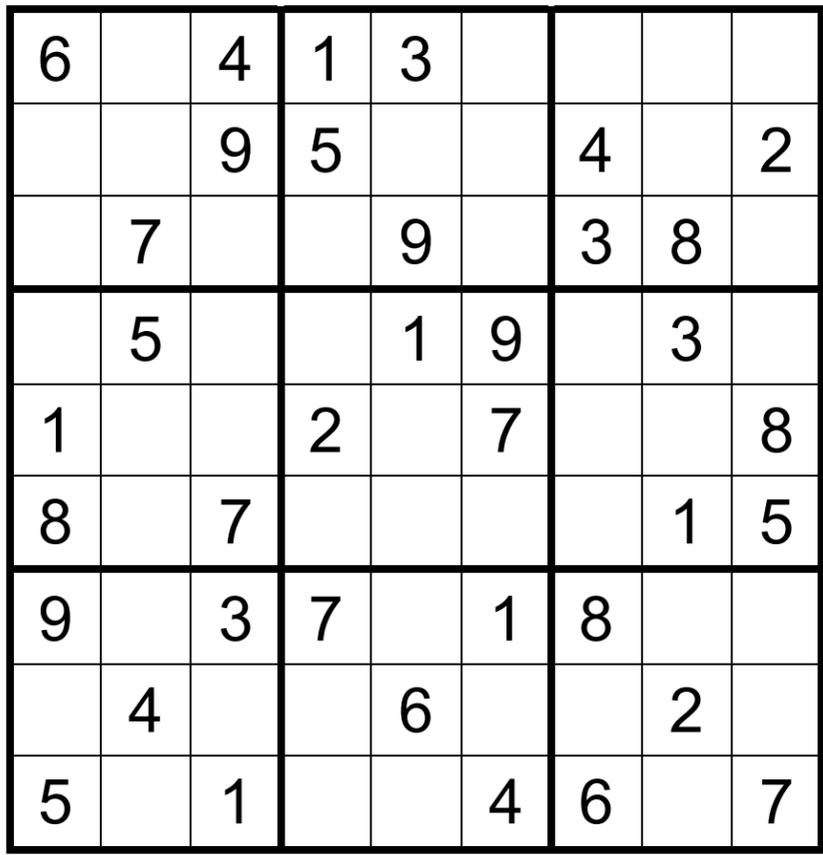
We've all known "tower girls" who don't seem all that special, so who cast us in our roles and how do we break free?

I've been told to "think positive" and I am trying not to be jaded.

I mean, I am sure that any moment now some Johnny is going to burst in with a boombox over his head say- ing that I'm "everything he never knew he always wanted" and I'll be all "you had me at hello," but until then I think Orange Crush for one sounds infinitely less exhausting.

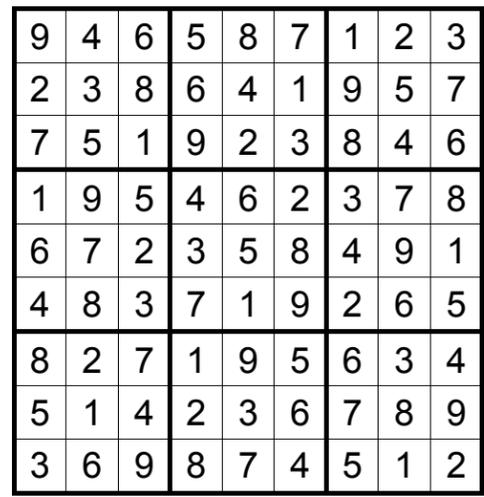
Any questions, concerns or marriage proposals can be directed at melanie_dahling@hotmail.com with "Open Relationship" in the subject line.

SUDOKU SKILL LEVEL: EASY



WWW.PDFPAD.COM/SUDOKU

Solutions to puzzles from the October 27, 2011 issue.



CHECK OUT THE UNITER ON FACEBOOK
 WWW.TINYURL.COM/THEUNITER

WRITE FOR THE UNITER'S NEWS SECTION

EMAIL NEWS@UNITER.CA TO GET INVOLVED



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG INDIGENOUS EXCELLENCE

The University of Winnipeg has been distinguished in the national 2011 *Maclean's* magazine University Rankings as one of Canada's most innovative and successful campuses in fostering Indigenous scholarship and providing a respectful and relevant place for Indigenous students to learn.

Maclean's notes that Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, UWinnipeg President & Vice-Chancellor, is deeply committed to closing the graduation gap for Indigenous students. He is getting results.

Jasmine Parisian, University of Winnipeg student and traditional singer, featured in the 2011 Maclean's magazine University Rankings.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The 2011 Annual *Maclean's* Ranking of Canadian Universities places UWinnipeg **1st in Western Canada** and **4th in Canada for reputation** among primarily undergraduate universities.

UWinnipeg nurtures "**Leaders of Tomorrow**" (3rd nationally) and is in the **Top 10** for **small class sizes**.

The *Globe and Mail* survey ranked us **1st in Western Canada** and in **5th in all of Canada** for diversity. UWinnipeg also ranks at the top in Canada for environmental commitment, quality of teaching and student-faculty interaction.



Join the innovators.

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where you matter most

Find out more at uwinnipeg.ca



visit us online at www.uniter.ca