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*COVER IMAGE

DEMETRA PENNER
Photo by Jared Falk
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Open for business

University of Winnipeg AnX opens

AMY GROENING
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

After delays and extended deadlines, the University of Winnipeg AnX is open and operational.

While the University of Winnipeg Bookstore and English Language Program (ELP) classes have operated out of the building since last summer, the rest of the AnX, which boasts a Starbucks and Garbonzo's Pizza Pub, opened for the first time this past Monday, Jan. 16.

The AnX was first slated to open in September 2010. The date of opening was then pushed back to September 2011, according to press releases.

Bill Balan, vice-president finance and administration at the U of W, attributed the delays to issues with identifying tenants.

"When we took over the Greyhound space, we thought it would be a lot shorter and faster. We opened the ELP faster, but the process of identifying tenants took a lot longer," Balan said.

In addition to Garbonzo's and Starbucks, which are both run by Canad Inns, the AnX will also house the University College of the North (UCN) Midwifery Program, and will be a rapid transit hub, said Balan.

According to Balan, the cost of the period for the university to negotiate leases and construct space was calculated into the overall process, with no money lost over the delayed opening. Canad Inns has now signed a 20-year lease with the university.

Balan said the university remains true to its commitment to support local businesses.

"I don't think anyone can argue Canad Inns isn't a local company," he said. "It's become a major hotelier in the past 20 years, and we are extremely proud we are able to negotiate arrangements with them."

Linda Ross, director of the bachelor of midwifery program (BMW) at UCN, said delays to the AnX's opening have not affected the progress of relocating of her program.

The BMW will be moving to the AnX in June, Ross said.

The program is currently based in a temporary space on the University of Manitoba's Ban-



DYLAN HEWLETT

Starbucks and Garbonzo's Pizza Pub opened up in the AnX on Monday.

natyne Avenue campus.

"We're really looking forward to moving over there, I think it's going to be a really nice space," Ross said.

Kathryn Huebert and Mohammed Alyahya, two students who decided to check out the AnX for themselves on opening day, were both positive about the new space.

"It's nicer than I thought it would be," said Huebert. "It's nice and modern in here. Garbonzo's is different from the other restaurants in the

university. Here you can sit down, it's more of a lounge-type thing. I'm just excited that Starbucks is here."

Alyahya said he was happy with having both a lounge and a Starbucks so close to campus, and was confident both businesses would do well.

"We have our own Starbucks, we have a good place to hang out. I don't think we have anything like Garbonzo's on campus," said Alyahya. "It's the first day and look at all the people coming in."

STREETER

BY ETHAN CABEL

Q: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEW ANX DEVELOPMENT? HOW WILL IT CHANGE THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG?



Liyana Fauzi, employee, Soma Cafe

"I think that the AnX building shows the entrenchment of corporations in universities. This is obvious because of a bunch of buildings being worked on so I'm not sure how that will affect the University of Winnipeg because we're still a liberal arts school."



Tesia Rhind, employee, Soma Cafe

"I don't like that Starbucks is there, largely because I work at Soma Cafe. I don't like that they are bringing in a bunch of corporations when there are still small, local options."



Darryl Reilly, manager, Duckworth Cafe and Eatery

"I like that the campus is evolving and growing since I've been here for the last 10 years, but it seems like we've added a lot of stuff in the last few years and I wonder if we've been stretched too thin."



Gregory Furmaniuk, Canadian Federation of Students liaison, University of Winnipeg Students' Association

"The AnX building, while offering new opportunities for the university, has the potential to undermine local and student-run businesses because of the sheer size of those businesses."



Andy Lee, history major, fifth year

"I honestly don't see a lot of students using that facility. It's too far away and it's not essential to student life--no one is going to venture over there for a \$3.00 coffee when they can get a \$2.00 coffee here (at Soma)."



Mylene Cooney, double major in film and english, second year

"I'm neutral. I think it'll be neither good nor bad for the University."

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News

Occupiers carry on despite being shut down

'We need to make sure we have this presence in the city,' says protester

PEYTON VEITCH
VOLUNTEER

After the controversial dismantling of their camp in late December, members of Occupy Winnipeg are utilizing new ways to spread their message and attempt to influence public policy.

Although the occupiers have not disbanded, they have been keeping a low profile. Rather than boasting a fixed calendar of activities for the coming months, the group's plans are in a state of flux.

Currently, the group has been holding small demonstrations at the Shops of Winnipeg Square and handing out leaflets, something Kristaps Balodis, one of three remaining campers present when the camp was shut down Dec. 21, says will continue for the foreseeable future.

"Even to this day, I will come across someone who has not even heard of the Occupy Wall Street movement ... which is why we need to make sure we have this presence in the city," said Balodis.

The camp, established outside of the Legislature on the grounds of Memorial Park in mid-October, was one of the longest-running occupations in Canada.

However, the province shut down the camp for safety and security reasons.

Still, the dismantling is a contentious topic.

Although Balodis acknowledged the safety risks (most notably a mysterious tent fire he suggests was an act of arson), Balodis expressed regret the province did not "work with us."

He also stated that the officials carrying out the dismantling acted "disrespectfully," damaging the main yurt that stood at the camp's centre.

While acknowledging the protester's frustrations, provincial cabinet press secretary



TRAVIS ROSS/UNITER ARCHIVES

Members of Occupy Winnipeg say they will protest even though their encampment has been shut down. "To this day, I will come across someone who has not even heard of the Occupy Wall Street movement," says member Kristaps Balodis.

Rachel Morgan dismisses claims of heavy-handedness by police and provincial security officials stating that "the officers were respectful of the protesters and they left without incident."

In addition to criticizing Canada's widening economic inequality, the group took on a distinctly local flavour.

One recent new goal of the movement is to voice opposition to the recent transit fare hike, although no specific activities have been planned.

The group also calls for action to combat urban child and family poverty.

Dr. Ian Hudson, an economics professor at the University of Manitoba, believes the central issue of income inequality requires a two-fold approach.

"Governments can address inequality at two stages - in the labour market and redistribution using taxes and transfers," he said.

The latter involves implementing a robust progressive taxation system while the former

rests on reducing unemployment and ensuring the presence of a strong, unionized workforce, Hudson said.

Despite the tension created by the camp's dismantling, Morgan praised the "number of important issues" the group raised.

Morgan said the provincial government has responded to Occupy's call for the province to "keep moving in the direction of more fairness for all Manitobans."

Morgan noted a number of anti-poverty initiatives that were unveiled last June.

Two of these initiatives include job training for welfare recipients and help for college students on social assistance, both of which could serve to reduce unemployment and improve income inequality.

In addition, the government created a new Department of Children and Youth Opportunities last week, a development specifically aimed at combating the child poverty.

Rookie MLA Kevin Chief (Point Douglas) was given that portfolio.

Prototype airship ready for testing

ANNE THOMAS
BEAT REPORTER

A University of Manitoba professor wants to see Manitoba's skies filled with "Skywhales," hybrid airships powered by airplane engines and helium, that deliver goods to remote communities.

In December, an 80-foot prototype was shown off at a press conference at the U of M. Barry Prentice, a professor of supply chain management and former director of the university's Transport Institute, leads the U of M's airship research.

His hope is that larger airships could be used to transport supplies to northern communities, which are now only accessible when it's cold enough for winter roads.

"Climate change means that the ice roads have become unreliable, and we have been left, a number of years, doing emergency airlifts," he said. "At some point we have to recognize that this trend is not going to suddenly reverse."

Airships travel more slowly than airplanes, but use less fuel and don't require a runway to land.

The prototype airship will be used to research cold weather operations, ballast exchange, robotic flight, and electrical propulsion and fuel cells. But to build an airship large enough to carry freight would require building a very large hangar, to shelter the ship from wind while it's inflated.

Prentice believes such hangars should be considered public infrastructure supported by government funding, like airports.

"If the governments would get behind this idea, we could do it in three years," he said. "The technology exists and people are ready to go, it's just a matter of where is the political will to help."

A spokesperson for Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation has not received a



SUPPLIED

Pilot Dale George sits inside a Skywhale, a hybrid airship powered by airplane engines and helium. A U of M professor hopes Skywhales will be used to deliver goods to remote communities.

proposal for funding.

"Manitoba has not received a specific, detailed proposal for provincial funding of a 'supply' of airships," the province said. "Manitoba would be pleased to receive and provide consideration to any such proposal."

"As airships evolve, it is possible such a mode of transport to remote communities could be added to the current range of transportation options," the statement said.

The statement also stated Manitoba monitors progress of the industry and research "with interest."

The existing airship was built by Prentice's company, Buoyant Aircraft Systems International, and the not-for-profit airship research institute ISO Polar.

Jay Michno is operations manager for one of ISO Polar's sponsors, the BBE Group, which manages transportation services for northern mining companies.

Michno said Discovery Air in Yellowknife is expecting delivery of its first airships from England within the next couple of years. He sees potential for hybrid airships as a slower, more reliable and cheaper form of freight transport.

"Fuel prices are constantly climbing, the truck transport is getting more expensive, and if you look at a year like this year, the winter roads in the north are pretty much unusable yet as of this year," Michno said. "It's time that something changed."

Manitoba Hydro helped with the purchase of helium for the prototype airship, according to the university.

"We are interested in the potential of airships to transport supplies and materials to our northern facilities and also to service construction projects in remote areas," Manitoba Hydro president Bob Brennan said in a statement.

Local News Briefs

Compiled by Chloe Ross-Rogerson

WANT A BEER WITH YOUR MOVIE?

Let the good times roll. Alcohol will now be sold in some Manitoba movie theatres. A new entertainment enterprise with plans to establish a theatre in Winnipeg prompted the changes to the Liquor Control Act, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported. In order to acquire the Spectator Activities Licence necessary to sell booze, theatres are required to have a minimum of two theatres with at least 75 seats in each complex. Only a portion of the theatre can be licensed.

CITY WATER AGREEMENTS UNDER REVIEW

The Ontario government is reviewing whether Winnipeg's plan to extend water and sewer pipes to rural communities violates any prior agreements, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reports. At the same time, Iskatewizaagegan No. 39 First Nation is in talks over suing the city. They wish for the city to resolve previous claims over the lake water before they're allowed to sell it. Iskatewizaagegan No. 39, on the east end of Shoal Lake, has sent the city an invoice for \$8 million every month since October. Winnipeg has a formal agreement with only one First Nation regarding the lake water - Shoal Lake No. 40. The city's aqueduct system is located at the west end of Shoal Lake by Shoal Lake No. 40. Ontario gave Winnipeg permission to draw water from Shoal Lake for municipal purposes in 1913.

STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED OVER WINTER ROADS

Manitoba First Nations have declared a state of emergency over delays in opening winter roads and the inability to receive supplies, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported. Aboriginal leaders said the government's failure to build an all-weather road system for the north continues to threaten the health and safety of northern First Nations communities. "Without being able to get the supplies to retrofit our homes to receive clean running water, we are left fully exposed to the next pandemic," said St. Theresa Point First Nation Chief David McDougall. The province said a portion of the roads - that do not cross rivers or lakes - have been prepared. A state of emergency was also declared in 2010.

POLICE REVISE CRIME STATISTICS

The Winnipeg Police Service has revised its 2010 annual report after learning its monthly crime statistics were not accurate, the *Winnipeg Sun* reported. The error in the report was that the grand total data showed a month-to-month change instead of the year-over-year change. The WPS believes the error arose because of the introduction of a new category - "not district specific" - into the data. In turn, it resulted in an abnormally high number of theft crimes to be filled in the new category. "Not district specific" encompasses crimes that happened in multiple districts, city-wide incidents or data entry errors. Police are still investigating how the error occurred.

PLANE CRASH LEAVES ONE SURVIVOR

The third Keystone plane crash in 12 years has left only one survivor, while the pilot and three other passengers perished in the crash, reports the *Winnipeg Sun*. Brian Shead, 36, managed to escape the burning plane after it crashed on a frozen Ontario lake. The plane was less than a kilometre from the runway at the North Spirit Lake reserve before it crashed. The crash remains under investigation by the Transportation Safety Board. Its cause is still unknown.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Eva Wasney

ETHNIC VIOLENCE RAGES IN SOUTH SUDAN

SOUTH SUDAN: Six months after becoming an independent nation, it is estimated approximately 1,000 South Sudanese residents have been killed in brutal attacks stemming from ethnic tensions in the area. According to the *New York Times*, the killings are the work of Nuer warriors as a form of revenge against the people of the Murle tribe for previous injustices. The UN had been tracking the almost 8,000 warriors as they approached Murleland, but peacekeeping efforts were ineffective as UN troops were largely outnumbered. The Nuer warriors have burned and slaughtered entire villages and stolen more than 300,000 cows.

RACIST ISREALI LAW DENIES THOUSANDS CITIZENSHIP

ISREAL: In the face of controversy, Israel's Supreme Court has voted to uphold a 2003 law that bans most Palestinians who marry Israelis from obtaining citizenship or residency in the country. The law affects thousands of families who are separated because of racial differences and it is feared that this ruling may legitimize other racist laws in Israel, Al Jazeera reports. Advocacy groups argue the law is undemocratic and in conflict with basic human rights. The Israel government is calling the law a security measure to prevent Palestinians from infiltrating the country through marriages of convenience.

U.S. APPALLED BY VIDEO OF MARINES URINATING ON TALIBAN

AFGHANISTAN: A video posted on YouTube showing four United States Marines urinating on the bodies of three dead Taliban fighters has triggered outrage and disgust around the world. The video surfaced at a delicate time when the U.S. is withdrawing from Afghanistan and opening communi-

tion with the Taliban. According to the *New York Times*, both Afghan president Hamid Karzai and an official statement from the Taliban condemn the act as deplorable and asked that those involved be severely punished. U.S. officials have reacted in similar dismay calling the video "inconsistent with American values" and have stated the identified soldiers will be disciplined.

CONSERVATIVES PROMISE TO RESOLVE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE CONFUSION

OTTAWA: Same-sex marriages have been legal in Canada since 2004, yet confusion has erupted with a recent divorce case involving a woman from Florida and her wife from Britain who were married in Toronto in 2005. According to the *Globe and Mail*, the Department of Justice has intervened in the couple's divorce proceedings claiming that because the union was not legal in their respective home countries it cannot be legally dissolved in Canada. The Conservative government has promised to make legal changes to mitigate this issue and have no intention of reopening the same-sex marriage debate.

U.S. MOVE TO CUT IRANIAN OIL EXPORTS GAINING SUPPORT

WASHINGTON: The United States is gaining support for a plan to drastically cut Iran's oil exports and consequently shut down Iran's central bank. According to the *New York Times*, this move is a way of pressuring the country to discontinue possible nuclear weapon development, although Iran argues the nuclear program is for peaceful intentions. The U.S. has been urging major importers like Japan, South Korea, China and India to cut off Iran and start finding other sources for oil. Oil producers in the Persian Gulf have guaranteed to supplement these countries with oil if they agree to the terms.

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Campus

Supporting independent political film on campus

Cinema Politica offers broad menu of food for thought

ANNE THOMAS
BEAT REPORTER

At the University of Winnipeg, independent film reaches audiences in a way that is unique in Manitoba.

The campus is home to Manitoba's only chapter of the Montreal-based Cinema Politica, a non-profit network of community and campus groups screening independent political film and video by Canadian and international artists.

Cinema Politica at the University of Winnipeg is a partnership between the U of W's Gallery 1C03 and the University of Winnipeg Students' Association.

Jennifer Gibson, curator of Gallery 1C03, said the gallery aims to provide the campus community and the larger Winnipeg community with opportunities to view and contemplate visual art in its many forms.

That includes supporting film as a media and visual art, she said.

"Cinema Politica, one of its main motives is to promote the work of independent filmmakers - and of course filmmakers are artists as well," she said.

Funded by the Canada Council for the Arts, Cinema Politica emphasizes Canadian works - especially those that tell stories underrepresented in mainstream media, including stories involving political struggles, oppression or identity politics within Canada.

For a small membership fee, member groups can choose from more than 300 films available for loan from the Cinema Politica collection. This saves members not only rental fees, but also the cost and hassle of getting public performance licensing, because CP's films are pre-cleared for public screening.

The first series of screenings at the U of W ran in the 2009-2010 school year. A film was chosen by each of the six largest and most active student groups on campus. Last year, more student groups wanted to get involved.

"It's a really unique opportunity for students and faculty and community members to come together and talk about a political issue from their very different backgrounds, so you have students from all different departments, and from all different interests," said Lana Hastings, UWSA's vice-president for student services.



Jennifer Gibson (left), curator of Gallery 1C03, and Lana Hastings of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association, hope Cinema Politica will provoke discussion on campus.

For example, film students may comment on the film qualities of a documentary, while environmental studies students pick up on the film's environmental implications.

"I think that's what's really exciting, and it can facilitate very interesting dialogue and especially just to get students more engaged in topics that they might not have thought of before," Hastings said.

The latest screening, in November, was *Crude Sacrifice*, directed by Lawrence Carota.

Selected by the university's Aboriginal Students' Council, the film looks at how the northern Alberta community of Fort Chipewyan is affected by tar sands development.

Aboriginal people in the community can no longer drink the water or eat fish and other game they have relied on for thousands of years.

Dr. Julie Pelletier, chair of the indigenous studies department, led a post-screening discussion.

Gibson said after the first year of CP films on campus, she saw a need for facilitators at the screenings, to better serve Cinema Politica's goal of provoking discussion.

"(The) goal is to get people talking about these films as well, not just to show them and then off you go," she said. "I thought it would be appropriate to invite either a faculty member or a community member who's really engaged in the issues around which the film deals."

Gibson said facilitators also add to the audience base and allow CP to reach out to more people. She emphasized that anyone can attend the screenings for free.

"We're certainly grateful for any donations ... but they are free and open to everyone, not just students," she said. "We do want to encourage members of the inner city community to attend as well."

The next showing, on Feb. 16, will be *Girl Inside*, directed by Maya Gallus. Gallus won the 2008 Gemini Award for Best Direction in a Documentary Program for this film, which follows the journey of a young man's transition to become female over a three-year period.

The LGBT* Centre chose the film to coincide with gender week.

Nicole Dyregrov, a co-coordinator of the centre, said the film was chosen because it is uplifting, while other films on the topic can be important but painful to watch.

On March 13, the screening will be *Dive! Living Off America's Waste*, directed by Jeremy Seifert and chosen by EcoPIA as part of the Grass Routes Sustainability Festival on campus.

Dive! examines the vast amount of good food going into America's garbage bins, and the people who salvage it. EcoPIA's Kaeligh Ayre said the film was chosen to fit this year's festival theme of waste and consumer culture.

Both films screen at 6:30 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall.

Indigenous Advisory Circle established at U of W

AMY GROENING
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

James Wilson, commissioner of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, has been involved in indigenous-based advisory boards and circles before, but says the university's new Indigenous Advisory Circle is the first one he's seen in an academic setting.

"There's a whole gamut of ways right from the bottom up and the top down that really need to incorporate indigenous knowledge into the system. This is one of the ways that indigenous perspective gets heard at the senior level."

- JAMES WILSON, COMMISSIONER, TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Initially, the university developed an advisory circle for the Master's in Development Program (MDP), said Wilson. Now, the board of regents has approved an advisory circle for the entire university, according to a December press release.

"There's a whole gamut of ways right from the bottom up and the top down that really need to incorporate indigenous knowledge into the system," said Wilson. "This is one of the ways that indigenous perspective gets heard at the senior level."

Wilson said university president Lloyd Axworthy governs the university with a cultural understanding that the university is on Treaty One territory, and the work the university does affects the relationship between aboriginal and non-aboriginal Canadians.

"When you administer based on this understanding, it ideally changes how you're interacting with First Nations people on all levels," he said. "It's not just a token elder saying an opening prayer and then going to the back of the room and not contributing."

The advisory circle is an education-focused relationship-building initiative and has no formal decision making power, said Wilson.

The circle has 15 members, including Chief David Crate of the Fisher River Cree Nation, Tobasonakwut Kinew, elder and instructor in the indigenous studies department, and Leah Laplante, education director of the Manitoba Métis Federation, also have roles.

The circle is led by Dr. Phil Fontaine, former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

Jennifer Rattray, associate vice-president of indigenous, government and community

affairs, said the new circle met for the first time in November.

Its creation was strongly encouraged by the board of regents. It came after years of research into ways of breaking down the barriers for cultural groups under-represented at the university, said Rattray.

"Education really is one of the keys to eliminating poverty. Once you have an education you are able to make the best choices for you and your family," Rattray said.

The circle will be consulted in matters pertinent to academic programming, student support, financial barriers and community outreach programs such as the Eco-Kids science program for inner city youth, said Rattray.

Miriam Sainnawap, a U of W student who is currently taking a year off from the English literature program, said she expects the advisory circle will be an effective communication outlet.

"It is important, especially for indigenous students, to have some sort of circle at the university, just for people to feel like they can connect to something within the institution," said Sainnawap.

Sainnawap hopes the advisory circle will be a way to improve equality at the university.

"It's important for people to have a voice in the institution," said Sainnawap. "The institution has to change at some point, right?"

Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Clara Buelow

BUSINESS STUDENTS PLACE SECOND AT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

University of Winnipeg marketing students came in second place at the 30th annual Manitoba International Marketing Competition held in Winnipeg the weekend of Jan. 6. In the competition, teams compete in a three-month Internet-based business simulation and present their results to a panel of judges drawn from the local business and academic communities. U of W has reached the championship round four times in the last five years. This student-run competition hosts teams that range from the hometown base to Brazil, Ghana and Africa, with Mexico coming in first place.

WORK OUT FROM HOME WITH CKUW

Your radio is about to make you break a sweat. CKUW has launched Work It Out, a "fun, simple, and concise workout routine" every Tuesday and Thursday at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. The station's new 10-minute exercise program was launched on Jan. 3. Hosted by Stefani Rempel and Brent Lohmer (both have kinesiology degrees), the show offers a guided exercise routine and tips on healthy living and nutrition backed by music from different local labels. Visit www.workitout.ckuw.ca for video demos, expert advice, contests, neon spandex, fake mullets and more.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM ADDS TOP PROSPECT

Manitoba's number one ranked men's volleyball high school player is coming to the Wesmen. This September, the men's volleyball team will gain Casey Schouten. Schouten's resumé includes the MHSAA Boy's Volleyball Player of the Year and helping lead the Miles Macdonnell Buckeyes to the provincial volleyball championships last November. Standing tall at six foot five, Schouten has been noted as a "top university prospect" for his frame, passion for the game, and a constant desire to improve, the team said. Head coach Larry McKay believes Schouten will add to the "rich history" of men's volleyball at the university. After Schouten graduates in June, he plans to study kinesiology.

ASSOCIATE VP OLYMPICS BOUND

Dr. Sandra Kirby, the University of Winnipeg's associate vice-president and dean of graduate studies, is heading to the 2012 Paralympic Games in London. Kirby is the only Canadian selected to umpire at the 2012 games, a selection that examines the candidates' experience and skill and is done by FISA (Federation Internationale des Societes Aviron). Kirby is no stranger to the Olympics. In the 1976 games, she participated as an athlete in rowing, was a torchbearer in the 2010 Winter Olympic games and has used her research and advocacy to promote gender and sport equity, protection of children in sport and much more.

U OF W LAUNCHES MOBILE WEBSITE

Anyone on campus with a smartphone will now be able to access quick university-oriented information. The new website was launched on Jan. 9 and offers easy access to transit schedules, campus maps, professors' email addresses, emergency information, campus news and more. UWSA president Lauren Bosc believes the "new mobile website is a fantastic tool towards making the U of W more accessible to students" and will work to connect and make students aware of the services on campus. A free iPhone app called Mobile-U is now available and can be downloaded free of charge at <http://dce.UWinnipegCourses.ca/mobile>.

THE UWSA PRESENTS:



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Comments

A permanent loss

Selling city golf courses to developers is a waste of green space



DAVE HALL
VOLUNTEER

Oct. 26, 2011 was the deadline for developers to make proposals for seven large pieces of prime real estate scattered across Winnipeg.

Unsurprisingly there were lots of proposals, although the city won't let us see them yet.

The potential sale of so much public space should be of great concern to Winnipeggers. Why sell it off at all? Who wins and who loses? What alternatives might there be to selling these properties?

We deserve some answers.

The lands under the hammer are seven city-owned golf courses: Windsor Park on the Seine River; Crescent Drive, Canoe Club and Kildonan Park on the Red River; and John Blumberg on the Assiniboine River, as well as Harbourview in North Kildonan and Tuxedo across from Assiniboine Park.

Taken together, they are the most attractive opportunities Winnipeg developers have seen in decades.

It doesn't take a property developer to imagine the upmarket condos on the riverfront lots, or the suburban housing across from Assiniboine Park, or even the new strip malls or shopping centres.

There's clearly a lot of money to be made.

The decision to sell off these urban green spaces we have collectively owned for decades, and in some cases almost a century, flows from a consultant's report commissioned by this administration.

The report concluded that "Winnipeg has a surplus of open park space ..." and that "... surplus property can ... be sold for commercial or residential development."

It's not clear what "surplus" green space means, but it is easy to know what "sold for commercial or residential development" means. And it won't be low-income housing or rental accommodations for the working poor.

Our current mayor and council were eager to hear this song. They responded by putting out requests for "expressions of interest" for the use and development of these seven properties.

In various statements in council and to the media, the city's leading politicians and administrators have made clear that they have in mind the sale of the properties for commercial and residential development.

Little more than a month to put together proposals and a \$50,000 deposit requirement ensured that the process didn't get cluttered up by proposals from sports associations, golfers, community clubs or naturalists.

In fact, it appears that only the Nordic Ski Association, which currently operates out of



AYAME ULRICH

the Windsor Park Golf Course, made a non-commercial proposal.

Mayor Sam Katz and Chief Administrative Officer Phil Sheegl have argued that selling the property would bring in cash that could be used for other good purposes as well as increase the tax base.

Both are doubtless true, at least in the short term. The same could be said for selling every inch of green space in Winnipeg.

The question is, why sell these properties and why now?

For residents, these properties are priceless community resources, and there is no doubt that any decision to sell and develop these lands will be permanent. Once they have been built on, there is no way future generations will be able to afford to buy them back for recreational use.

But there is another approach.

Instead of asking who we should sell them to, we could ask some different questions first. And instead of limiting the discussion to developers and city hall, we could involve the community in finding answers.

Are golf courses the best use of these lands?

If they are to remain golf courses, can we find more imaginative mixed uses - such as the Nordic Ski Club's use of the Windsor Park course in the winter? Could the courses be modified to make them friendlier to wildlife, hikers and riparian ecosystems?

Just thinking about these questions shows how outrageous the city's plans for these urban gems are. It's good to periodically review our common possessions, such as these golf courses and rethink how we use them. But that is the discussion we should be having as a community.

Let's have some real consultation, where all of us have a chance to put forward suggestions, so we can be proud when we pass these lands on to future generations.

Let's look at ways to make them the focus of healthy communities, where people want higher densities, because it allows easy access to such wonderful green spaces.

And let's look at how to create opportunities for new housing through developing some of the decaying or abandoned commercial and industrial areas of the city, even - dare we dream it - the Weston Rail Yards.

A local group has been formed to fight for just such a public discussion.

Outdoor Urban Recreational Spaces (OURS) is fighting this attempt to sell off these urban jewels on the quiet. They are gathering signatures calling for a halt to these sales until a proper community discussion can take place.

Anyone interested in OURS or their petition can find them at: www.ours-winnipeg.com.

This proposed sell-off will not survive a public debate. Only slipping it through quickly and quietly will work. It's up to Winnipeggers to react fast enough to stop to it.

Dave Hall is a University of Winnipeg alumnus who has retired to a life of gardening, travel and playing with his life partner Barb and his grandchildren. Passing on a beautiful and prosperous city to future generations is his greatest dream.

There will be an OURS petition at the U of W on Jan. 19 and Jan. 20. Visit their website or Facebook page for more information.

LISTINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre presents a JOURNALING WORKSHOP on Tuesday, Jan. 24 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 104-3100 Pembina Hwy. Call 204-477-1123 to register. Childcare is available.

TAZ STUART, the city's entomologist, will be discussing bugs at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 24, as a part of the 2012 Music 'N' Mavens community event series at the Rady JCC. Tickets are \$10 for non-members.

BOARD GOVERNANCE TRAINING FOR NON-PROFITS with David Hartley is on Wednesday, Jan. 25 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at The United Way of Winnipeg, 580 Main St. This session promises to be a fun, practical, comprehensive and interactive way to improve your non-profit board. To register, or for more information, contact Delores Jansen at 204-477-5180 ext. 221 or delores.jansen@volunteermanitoba.ca.

The aboriginal drumming group LOUD THUNDER is performing on Wednesday, Jan. 25 at Gwen Selter Creative Living Centre, 1588 Main St. at 1:30 p.m. as a part of the Rady JCC's 2012 Music 'N' Mavens community event series.

As a part of the University of Manitoba's annual Festival of Life and Learning, Kim Yves, co-founder and editor of the weekly newspaper Haiti Liberté (based in Port-au-Prince and Brooklyn), will be speaking on the topic of WIKILEAKS AND HAITI: HOW THE U.S. WORKS TO KEEP HAITI POOR at the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR), second floor of University Centre at the U of M, noon to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 26.

ON CAMPUS

Virtuosi Concerts present TRIO MICHELETTI at Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall on Saturday, Jan. 21.

THE TOMORROW'S EDUCATORS BUILDING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES (TEBLO) fundraiser is on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 2 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. The fundraiser will feature a concert featuring Hugo Torres, Trio Bembe, Melvin Gonzalez Barrantes and the Duncan McGregor Project. Tickets are \$15 each and are available at the

Info Booth.

The University of Winnipeg Students' Association presents SNOWEEK 2012 from Monday, Jan. 23 until Friday, Jan. 27. Come on down to the Bulman Students' Centre snow lodge for some cool beverages, performances and people. Make new friends, network and get ready for a great time. Live performances by Smoky Tiger, Crumbs, Cannon Bros, Phlegm Fatale and New Slang.

Menno Simons College present British economist DR. MILFORD BATEMAN on Jan. 24 at 5:30 p.m. in Convocation Hall. Dr. Milford Bateman, an expert in microfinance programs of large organizations has published several articles and books that critique excessive reliance on microcredit as an economic development strategy. His presentation is entitled MICROFINANCE - THE ILLUSION OF DEVELOPMENT.

The Aboriginal Women Reclaiming Our Power Project and the U of W Institute for Women's and Gender Studies present MOON VOICES SPEAK! RECLAIMING OUR POWER: INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVES ON EDUCATION on Wednesday, Jan. 25, from noon until 2 p.m. in Convocation Hall. For more information please contact Kim Hunter at 204-786-9921 (iwgs@uwinnipeg.ca) or Shannon Cormier at 204-918-2501 (scormier@kanikanichik.ca).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The UWSA BIKE LAB is open! Pop by between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday to Friday, to say hello or get involved. Email bikelab@theuwsa.ca for more information, or join the Facebook group at www.facebook.com/uwsabikelab.

The UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION WOMYN'S CENTRE provides a space where womyn can build community with other womyn. To volunteer phone 204-786-9788 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, or grab an application from the UWSA.

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@uwinnipeg.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 204-774-0451 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 204-783-5000 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 204-223-5160 or email gmallett@habitat.mb.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 204-946-9490 or email youthworker@mymts.net.

RUPERT'S LAND CAREGIVER SERVICES RING A RIDE program needs drivers to take clients residing in Southwest Winnipeg to appointments, shopping and social outings. Compensation for gasoline and parking is provided. For more information please call 204-452-9491 or email us at rlcs_vol@mts.net.

January is ALZHEIMER AWARENESS MONTH. Please give generously when a volunteer canvasser comes to knock on your door. For more information or to register as a volunteer canvasser, visit our website at www.alzheimer.mb.ca or call 204-943-6622.

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Vincent Ho,
composer-in-residence

FEATURED COMPOSERS:
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Tim Hecker
Jóhann Jóhannsson
Alexina Louie
Nico Muhly
Valgeir Sigurdsson
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SOLD OUT

WAG EVENT: DOUBLE FEATURE GROUNDSWELL AND THE BEDROOM COMMUNITY

BEDROOM COMMUNITY
GROUNDSWELL AND THE
WAG EVENT: DOUBLE FEATURE

**Tuesday, January 31 | 7:30 pm
Winnipeg Art Gallery**

GroundSwell New Music returns to bring you a night of new music and theatre at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Hear wonderful new works by many of Manitoba's illustrious composers – Michael Matthews, Jim Hiscott, Gordon Fitzell and musical artist Diana McIntosh, who will present the world premiere of her one-woman piece, *You, Me and The Tree*. Also featured this evening is a special performance by Iceland's own Bedroom Community (Daniel Bjarnason, Nico Muhly and Valgeir Sigurdsson). Be part of an evening to remember at the WAG.

ARTISTS:

David Betz
Heidi Ouellette
David Storen
Jan Kocman, flute
Karl Stobbe, violin
Anne Elise Lavallée, viola

Emma Quackenbush, cello
Diana McIntosh, performer
Bedroom Community:
Daniel Bjarnason
Nico Muhly
Valgeir Sigurdsson

PROGRAM:

PART 1:

:spin Gordon Fitzell (CAN)
Vertical Garden Michael Matthews (CAN)
After Sorrow (World premiere) Jim Hiscott (CAN)
You, Me and The Tree (World premiere)* Diana McIntosh (CAN)

PART 2:

Bedroom Community

*Commissioned by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra with the assistance of the Winnipeg Arts Council



Karl Stobbe



Diana McIntosh



Gordon Fitzell



Nico Muhly

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Now is the time

The plight of Manitoban children in care needs to be dealt with



JON GERRARD
VOLUNTEER

The number of children in care in Manitoba rose to 9,432 in 2011.

This is far too high.

On a per capita basis, we have about 10 times as many children in care as Western Australia and Sweden and about five times as many children in care as the United States, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

Shockingly, by seven years of age, 7.5 per cent of Manitoba children have been placed in care. It is a picture of who we are as Manitobans - and we need to change.

A recent article by Ruth Gilbert and others in *The Lancet*, the world's leading medical journal, makes it clear that high rates of children in care are being pursued "despite no policy advocating this option and little evidence for its effectiveness."

The lack of evidence that Manitoba's approach is providing more optimum development opportunities for children is very concerning.

All too many children in care are moved too often from home to home. As Laura Eggertson and others have pointed out in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, government as a parent does not have an outstanding track record.

The thorough investigation undertaken to produce the article in *The Lancet* suggests that Sweden has a better model.

Their model has a primary focus on improving support for children and fam-

ilies, on reducing poverty, and ensuring there is adequate support for early years development of children.

In spite of high blown rhetoric to the contrary, the NDP have failed to adequately support children and families in the early years in Manitoba.

The extraordinarily high number of children in care is a testament to this fact.

In our office, we see and hear of too many cases where children are taken away from their families at great expense to the public, and often to the court system, when an effort focused on supporting the family at less cost could provide a better in-family support environment for the development of the child.

It is heartbreaking to see families torn apart and children taken away from their parents and put in less optimal circumstances, occasionally still in hotels, when understanding and supporting the family could have superior results.

It is time to put the primary focus on supporting children and families rather than breaking families apart.

We need to do this by focusing on the critical financial and social supports for families. For example, support for low-income families needs to be adjusted so that we have fewer families depending on food banks.

As Winnipeg Harvest executive coordinator David Northcott has pointed out, the number of kids using food banks is going up (from 5,500 10 years ago to 29,000 today) instead of going down. It

needs to be reversed.

Too many low-income families are having their finances squeezed because support for housing is far below what the real cost is, and they have to use their food budgets to get housing.

The result contributes to the stress and break up of families.

David Northcott has repeatedly said the government should do two things to lift people out of poverty: finally raise the welfare rates after more than a decade, and ensure there is more affordable housing.

Manitoba Liberals also call upon the NDP to act on these measures combined with giving intensive home support to at-risk children, and following policies that recommend against out-of-home care for most cases unless other interventions have failed.

By providing families with the basics of enough food to eat (with welfare rates adjusted for inflation), a safe home to live in and focused additional support, the number of children in care will decrease.

All Manitobans will benefit when children can be healthier and safer in their home environments - instead of almost 10,000 (a city of children) being in "care."

Dr. Jon Gerrard, a former pediatrician, is the leader of the Manitoba Liberal Party and MLA for River Heights. His blog can be found at <http://manitobaliberals.blogspot.com>.

Safe and sound?

Winnipeg has set a new homicide record



DALLAS KITCHEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

I feel safe in Winnipeg; it's where I grew up.

I even spent two years working outdoors in downtown Winnipeg and never encountered any trouble.

That's not to say there weren't others who did.

I'm aware there are 700,000 other people in this city. This past year, 39 of them didn't have the worry-free experience I did.

In 2004, Winnipeg set a new record for the most murders it has ever had in one year. That number was 34.

In 2011 we broke that record with 39 homicides. Unfortunately, as our city grows in business and sports, so does our homicide rate.

This past year, Winnipeg was the violent crime capital of Canada. This is not a title to be proud of.

How about the story that came out at the end of 2011 about the man who had his truck robbed by five men who shot him twice as they drove off in his vehicle? You're probably asking how the hell I still feel safe in a city that has lost its mind.

Well, a lot of the violence is drug- and gang-related.

I am involved in neither, though that doesn't exclude me from risk. A lot of our 2011 victims weren't involved in gangs or

drugs either and yet, now they're a statistic.

"Homicide generally is correlated with poverty so if you look in Winnipeg, most of our homicides happen in the poorer areas of the city," Michael Weinrath, professor of criminology at the University of Winnipeg, told the CBC this past November.

I don't walk up Portage Avenue looking over my shoulder. I don't drive down Selkirk Avenue and lock my doors at the red light - I feel safe in my city.

There's no question that poverty is an issue in Winnipeg.

We have an obvious homelessness problem and according to the Hunger Count, a report put out by Food Banks Canada that details Food Bank use in our country, in March 2011 alone, 55,575 people in Manitoba used a food bank.

Not only that, but 50.4 per cent of those people were under the age of 18.

That's a lot of kids potentially living in poverty.

And, food bank use is 26 per cent higher nationally than it was before the recession.

Homicide correlated with poverty?

I guess it's no surprise then that in 2011 there were 11 young offenders charged, five of whom had gang ties. Only one had no previous involvement with the law.

With our in-and-out justice system, what do you expect? These kids barely get a slap on the wrist and gangs know this.

Street gangs will recruit underage kids to do the rough work because they know their sentences consist of some community service - a few months at the most.

The teen that murdered David Michael Vincett in September 2011 had only done six months for shooting at a Canada Post worker with a sawed-off shotgun a year earlier.

Is it a civic issue we need to address, or is it our justice system that needs fixing?

I think it's both.

What more can we do? I don't want to see guards holding semi-automatic weapons on every second street when I walk through my city.

I don't walk up Portage Avenue looking over my shoulder. I don't drive down Selkirk Avenue and lock my doors at the red light - I feel safe in my city.

However, I am aware, and I think that's all we can be.

Dallas Kitchen was born and raised in Winnipeg. Check out www.dallaskitchen.ca to read more.

The way of the future

Who will replace Lloyd Axworthy as president of the University of Winnipeg?



DAVID JACKS
VOLUNTEER

Who will lead the University of Winnipeg beyond 2012?

Dr. Lloyd Axworthy has transformed the University of Winnipeg from an inner-city undergraduate university into an international centre for human rights, global justice studies and global citizenry, while at the same time expanding its impact on the local community.

This is no surprise, considering Dr. Axworthy's long career in governance from provincial to federal to international affairs.

His second term as president, however, is nearing an end.

Some have asked who will replace Dr. Axworthy when his term as president expires, should he choose not to take on a third term.

Who will have the same international recognition and respect to lead the U of W as a leader in human rights and global studies at a time when Winnipeg will be opening a major international human rights centre, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR), in 2014?

Axworthy, former minister of foreign affairs, was instrumental in creating the International Criminal Court (ICC), the global treaty against anti-personnel landmines, and was UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's special envoy for Ethiopia-Eritrea, among many, many other highly important international positions.

Axworthy put Canada on the map as a "peace-loving" nation throughout the 1990s and early 2000s, before Stephen Harper began to erode our international reputation.

I have thought long and hard about who would be able to maintain and expand on Axworthy's momentum; and my own (and plentiful) criticisms of Axworthy aside, the clear answer to me is the former Lieutenant-General and current Senator Romeo Dallaire.

Dallaire, most widely known for his role as Commander of the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Rwanda (UNMIR) during the 1994 genocide, has since become an accomplished writer, scholar and public speaker.

His book, *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda* received a Governor General's Literacy Award, and he has been awarded honorary doctorates from universities across Canada.

Dallaire, voted the 16th Greatest Canadian by the CBC, is one of the highest-decorated military figures in Canadian history, receiving the Order of Canada, National Order of Quebec, the Vimy Award and the US Legion of Merit - the highest military decoration for foreigners.

Outside of his military record, he has contributed substantially to global efforts against genocide.

Dallaire is currently sitting in the Canadian Senate as a Liberal for Quebec, and has contributed commentary to journals across the country, including most recently an insightful and honest piece supporting the global Occupy movement.

As Senator, he worked with his colleagues against the Conservative Omnibus Crime Bill (Bill C-10), has supported the Kyoto Protocol, served a motion in Senate to repatriate Omar Khadr, and voted against the abolition of the Canadian Wheat Board.

Naturally, all this cannot put existing academic departments, Senate and broader academia at risk - this is still a university.

The University of Winnipeg certainly needs mechanisms in place to ensure that the needs of students, faculty and staff are safeguarded - perhaps a Senate-appointed vice-president academic, and greater governance roles provided to faculty and students would balance the more external role of president.

We are moving into a crucial period for Winnipeg with the coming of the CMHR, and we need a leader for the U of W who is considered with the same high esteem and credibility by the international and domestic communities alike as Dr. Axworthy has been.

Lt. General Senator Romeo Dallaire is that person.

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.

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Capitaine **CLAUDINE LEE**

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Arts & Culture

Migrating from Winnipeg to Churchill to Italy and back again

Demetra Penner is a musician, filmmaker and visual artist like no other



JARED FALK

Originally from Altona, Man., Demetra Penner's "lone migration" has taken her all over the world. The time she has spent in Churchill, Man. was a significant influence on her album.

JOHN VAN LAAR
VOLUNTEER STAFF

"Everything I do, I have no choice," says local musician and visual artist Demetra Penner, 26. "I've just needed to create ever since I was 15."

The artist has studied filmmaking in Florence, Italy (via the New York Film Academy) and has travelled the world non-stop since she finished high school.

It all began with something simple: she found it difficult to bring her paint on the road, so she explored photography instead - and it evolved into what it is today.

"When I started singing and recording four years ago, I did it for the necessity," she says. "It is a life force inside of me, I just start

creating."

Her debut disc, entitled *Lone Migration*, finds Penner displaying her inspired work and lone travels of the North. Penner will officially release the album with a multimedia concert at Cinematheque on Wednesday, Jan. 25.

"Lone migration is a personal journey that we all have," she says. "The theme is about following your heart, that calling that you have deep inside you."

"Animals have a migration route that they follow, it is in them, instinctual, and so we as humans have that as well. Following what our heart is telling us, emotionally, physically and spiritually, we all have that calling, to give us that maximum growth of the soul."

A collection of projected documentary style videos and 16mm film will accompany

the musical component of Penner's show.

"They are clips of my travels to Churchill where I have been going during the polar bear season these last six years and as well as Repulse Bay," she says. "I wanted to capture the inspiration of the North and its people, the landscape and the solitude."

There is pioneering sense about Penner, a one-of-a-kind artist that is rare in her originality.

She has no formal musical training, but has an in-depth intuition about her work, be it the experimental film or the haunting tunes. In all her songs, you feel a notion of belonging, an understanding - a sense that the subject she sings about is finally able to have the truth heard.

"Truth. Everyone has truth. You go inside yourself, and it is like a perfect peace, no

worry and fear," she says. "In addition, when you access that you can channel that, and that is why my work looks the way it is. That magic, so to speak, that place where that comes from, when it is accessed, it is like breathing."

⇒ See Demetra perform at Cinematheque on Wednesday, Jan. 25

⇒ Keri Latimer will also perform

⇒ Doors at 7 p.m., music at 8 p.m.

⇒ Arrive early to see Demetra's artwork at a wine and cheese event in the foyer of the Artspace building

⇒ Tickets are \$15 in advance at Into the Music and Music Trader, or \$18 at the door

⇒ Visit www.headinthesand.ca/demetra

Local rock act Salinas set to release *All These Choices* EP

ADAM PETRASH
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Recorded at MCM Studios with Mike Petkau Falk (Les Jupes, Record of the Week Club), the new EP from local four-piece Salinas showcases a new direction and musical growth from their 2010 self-titled effort and its power pop punk.

"This EP is a lot more open," says guitarist and lead vocalist Matt Austman over coffee.

The singer is joined in the band by bassist Darcy Penner, drummer Matt Morison and guitarist/keyboardist Dan Kazuk.

"This one is a little more atmospheric. It breathes a little more."

While there are bands who put out atmospheric records that don't translate well live, Austman and Morison show no concerns leading up to the release.

"We're fleshing out our sound for the show with seven musicians, even though that's still 13 less than in the studio," says Morison.

It's safe to say that the band is dedicated to staying true to recreating the sound of the record, and putting on a big show.

"The energy in the live show makes up for the missing elements," Austman adds. "I think it comes across as a little more raw, but I think that also adds a certain excitement that you can't always capture in the studio."



DAVID VAN DEN BOSSCHE

Tubthumping: Darcy Penner, Matt Morison and Matt Austman are three-quarters of local rock band Salinas.

With a solidified and unified lineup and all of its members starting new chapters in

their lives, the band insists that this is just the beginning of a more focused approach.

"Instead of just throwing it out to the world and saying, 'Take it!' we're really going to be focusing on who we want to hear this," Morison says. "It's the time to really grab that horse and ride it."

This includes plans to tour Canada and an album tentatively scheduled for an August release.

"We're always thinking years in advance," Austman explains. "There are innumerable things that we're trying to plan for right now. But I'm thrilled to be with these guys that want to work hard, tour hard and make music."

Until then their main focus and excitement is on the EP release.

"I think it's the optimal time to see us live," Austman says. "We're well-rehearsed. It's going to be huge."

"It's going to be a freight train," Morison concludes.

⇒ See Salinas perform at the West End Cultural Centre on Friday, Jan. 20

⇒ Heartbeat City will also perform

⇒ Doors at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

⇒ Advance tickets are \$10 at Music Trader, Into the Music and the University of Winnipeg Info Booth, and \$12 at the door

⇒ Visit www.salinasmusic.ca

MUSIC LISTINGS



JIMMY GREENE

THURSDAY, JAN. 19

Jazz Saxman JIMMY GREENE blows minds at the Park Theatre.

FRIDAY, JAN. 20

Indie rockers SALINAS release their new EP at the West End Cultural Centre with HEARTBEAT CITY. See story on page 11.

Singer-songwriter LYZIE BURT releases her debut album *Cigarettes and You* with MISE EN SCENE and CLAIRE MORRISON

(Fire and Smoke) at the Lo Pub.

Blue Rodeo's JIM CUDDY performs at the Pantages Playhouse with DOUG PAISLEY.

Oh My Darling's DENNETT & DE GROOT play the Folk Exchange.

Rock out with 2MSU, MEDICATED GURUS, SIXTEEN EYES and SPLIT LIP GRIN at the Zoo.

Folk act FEW WHO DO and THE CRAIG AND ASH BAND perform at Pop Soda's Coffeehouse & Gallery.

DUST RHINOS are at the King's Head Pub.

THE STURGEONS plays the Standard.

THE F-HOLES are at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

HILLBILLY BURLESQUE plays the Windsor Hotel.

Rap artist LYRICAL MILITANT's album launch for *Prelude to Revolution* is at RASOI, 645 Corydon Ave.

THE DIRTY CATFISH BIG BRASS BAND plays the Cavern.

SATURDAY, JAN. 21

Celebrate Scène Manitobaine with MARIJOSEE, OH MY DARLING, LES SEXY and NAMWIZA FOLKS at Le Garage Café.

Punk at Pop's with THE AFTERLIFE, THE FANTASTIC and THE MANIC SHAKES at Pop Soda's Coffeehouse & Gallery.

The Graffiti Gallery hosts a rag tag group of art-punk acts 2TAILZ, PHILIA, MARY JANE STOLE MY GIRL and SOFTCORE.

Come as you are to SMOKY TIGER's tribute to The Doors and Nirvana at the Standard.

CHEERING FOR THE BAD GUY return to the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome stage with REVEREND RAMBLER.

Winnipeg's best live cover band THE WIND-UPS wind up the crowd at the King's Head Pub.

Death-metal act LAIKA plays the Zoo.

Local funk act MAS HEADSPACE & THE BENDERENOS play the Cavern.

SUNDAY, JAN. 22

NU SOUNDS FESTIVAL presents REACTIVE with MURRAY TOEWS and RANDOM INTERFERENCE at the Park Theatre.

BELLE PLAINE performs at Pop Soda's Coffeehouse & Gallery.

KATHY KENNEDY plays the Bella Vista on Maryland.

MONDAY, JAN. 23

The University of Winnipeg Students' Association's SNOWWEEK 2012 kicks off with a free afternoon show with Winnipeg's lounge shaman SMOKY TIGER in the Bulman Centre at the U of W.

NATHAN ROGERS plays Shannon's.

TUESDAY, JAN. 24

DR. HOTBOTTOM & THE SOUL PRESCRIPTION are at the Cavern.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 25

Swedish metal marauders IN FLAMES play the Burton Cummings Theatre with KYNG, TRIVIUM and VEIL OF MAYA.

UWSA SNOWWEEK 2012 continues with a free afternoon show with swell indie rockers CANNON BROS in the Bulman Students' Centre at the U of W.

DEMETRA's *Lone Migration* multimedia CD release party is at the Cinematheque with KERI LATIMER. See story on page 11.

ARIEL POSEN, SOL JAMES, JULIAN BRADFORD and EMMET VANETTEN perform at Spin Martini Bar, 720 Corydon.

Latin-jazz guitar act RAUL MIDON performs at the West End Cultural Centre.

You want TROUBLE & STRIFE? They're playing at Pop Soda's Coffeehouse & Gallery.

Hang out with jazz group THE HANG, featuring JIMMY GREENE, STEVE KIRBY, DAVE RESITVO, DERRICK GARDENER, LARRY ROY and QUINCY DAVIS at the Orbit Room.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BIG FUN FESTIVAL kicks off with POP CRIMES, MAHOGANY FROG and THIS HISSES at Negative Space on Thursday, Jan. 26.

The last noble artist, KIPP KOCAJ, releases his CD *Knowledge of Love* at the Folk Exchange on Jan. 26.

CLAIRE BESTLAND AND BILL BOURNE play the 'Peg on Sunday, Feb. 12 at the West End Cultural Centre.

MAGIC SLIM & THE TEARDROPS play the Pyramid Cabaret on Saturday, Feb. 25.

Two punk rock legends for the price of one: HUGH CORNWELL of the STRANGLERS and GLEN MATLOCK of the SEX PISTOLS play the Pyramid on March 3.

ELECTRIC SIX returns on March 13 at the Pyramid. You have been warned.

Ex-Can front man DAMO SUZUKI is coming back to Winnipeg on March 22.

Folk Fest favourite THE CAT EMPIRE plays the Garrick Centre on Wednesday, April 4.

JOEL PLASKETT and FRANK TURNER play the Garrick Centre on Saturday, April 21.

**LYZIE BURT**

At just 19, Selkirk's Lyzie Burt is the newest in a long line of singer-songwriters to tackle the craft in Winnipeg's music scene, as well as contributing vocals to incredible buzz-worthy bands such as Blisters, Zoppa and Little House.

So what sets her apart from the rest?

For starters, *Cigarettes and You* is her second album, and on it she has switched from guitar to the instrument she actually grew up playing - the piano.

Her jagged, staggered wordplay is peppered over sparse and simplistic piano arrangements throughout the disc - from opener *Lay Me Down* to the beauty and spite of *Find You In Your Sleep*.

The newest addition to the I'm Trying Records roster may sound ultra-serious at first, but her disc closes with a pair of tunes that will make the listener chuckle a little - the meditative *Zombifying* and the pensive *Burritos*.

A lot more Emily Haines or Nicole Byblow than Ben Folds or Elton John, she doesn't quite rock out, but *Cigarettes and You* does rock. That, and the singer has come a long way since she was 16, when Burt released the moody *Out of Your Hair*.

It will be interesting to see if Burt becomes Winnipeg's long-awaited female Tom Waits, and if in 20 years she will evolve into an experimental genius.

Check out Burt at the Lo Pub on Friday, Jan. 20, where she will unveil the new disc. *Mise en Scene* and *Claire Morrison* will also perform. Get your tickets for just \$7 at the door, which opens at 9 p.m. (show at 10 p.m.).

- NICHOLAS FRIESEN

**THE JIM CUDDY BAND**

It's easy enough to put Canadian musical icon Jim Cuddy in the "one band man" category, what with the 25 years he's been fronting Blue Rodeo, but he wants you to know he's got much more up his sleeve.

Most recently, and on and off for the last 14 years, The Jim Cuddy Band has defined him as someone other than "that guy from Blue Rodeo."

"I did the first solo record out of self-preservation. (Blue Rodeo bandmate) Greg (Keelor) was so unhappy and I wasn't sure he was going to come around," Cuddy explains.

"The second album became more evident it was a separate band. (On) this record, we have created some different songs, some different sounds. The greatest success for me is for nobody to yell out a Blue Rodeo song. People understand they are coming out to see something that is not Blue Rodeo."

Besides the successful separation between the two groups and the three albums Cuddy has released thus far, he also remains a favourite among Canadian radio listeners, landing at number five on CBC Radio 2's Top 50 Artists of 2011.

However, does the artist still get a rush from an honour like this?

"I hate to admit it, but I do," Cuddy says with a laugh. "You could have a top record on rock radio in Calgary and nobody hears it, but everybody has at least tuned in partially to the CBC. ... It's a nice gesture."

To see the humble artist live, check out The Jim Cuddy Band on Friday, Jan. 20 at the Pantages Playhouse Theatre. Doug Paisley kicks things off at 8 p.m. with tickets ranging from \$40 to \$74.50 through Ticketmaster.

- PAMELA ROZ

**MORE MUSIC THIS WEEK****MARY JANE STOLE MY GIRL**

"I've been in a crap load of bands over the years, none of them played more than a handful of shows," says David Skene, 29. "The bands I'm in now are definitely the best I've ever been in."

Right now, Skene is a member in at least four bands, including the Manic Shakes, Merch Table Delite and Ex Modern Teen.

His newest band, Mary Jane Stole My Girl, is a lo-fi duo featuring Jimmy Shand (Kato Destroy) on drums.

Skene recorded MJSMG's self-titled debut album over the last six years with friends and family while he spent some time drifting from one city to the next.

"The songs are an attempt to capture the feeling of having no home, sleeping on couches and slowly losing touch with the person you thought you were," he says.

"I can't play solos or lead guitar of any kind - I can only strum along," he adds. "I'm actually not that good at guitar."

So how does the singer make up for it? At recent shows, he's been known to spout a rousing rendition of Madonna's *Like a Prayer*, backed only by Shand's rhythmic beats.

"The only way to do the songs justice is to have no idea what you are doing."

Check out Mary Jane Stole My Girl with Softcore, Philia and 2 Tailz on Saturday, Jan. 21 at the Graffiti Gallery. Admission is \$5 or \$3 with a non-perishable food item. Show stars at 9:30 p.m.

- MELANIE DAHLING AND NICHOLAS FRIESEN



WSO New Music Festival brings Iceland to Winnipeg

Sigur Rós pianist and Björk collaborator two of the special guests set to appear at festival



KEITH LEVIT



HANS ARNOLD

WSO conductor Alexander Mickelthwate (left) and composer-in-residence Vincent Ho (right) are excited about exposing Winnipeg audiences to the music of Iceland.

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

Alexander Mickelthwate has a lot to do these days.

"Right now, it's always the busiest time of the year—I have 12 big scores to study," says the conductor of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, who is currently preparing for the 21st annual New Music Festival.

That's a lot of paper to look through. "I have this humongous sucker from (Kaija) Saariaho, a Finnish composer, and we have to kind of build an extension for my music stand," Mickelthwate adds with a laugh.

This year's festival, which takes place Saturday, Jan. 28 until Friday, Feb. 3, has been dubbed The Nordic Edition. Over the course of seven concerts in three venues, the WSO will present new works by some of Iceland's most celebrated composers.

Kjartan Sveinsson, pianist for Icelandic post-rock darlings Sigur Rós, will make an appearance, as well as famed cellist Shauna

Rolston. The festival will also feature works by Nordic composers like Björk collaborator Valgeir Sigurdsson, Daniel Bjarnason, Atli Heimir Sveinsson and Jóhan Jóhannsson.

Mickelthwate says local composer Matthew Patton, the festival's artistic associate, turned him on to the music coming out of Iceland.

Mickelthwate was fascinated by what he heard, and since Manitoba has an Icelandic community, he thought it only made sense that this year's festival should showcase the island country's music.

"We had several listening sessions where it became apparent that this is absolutely stunning stuff," Mickelthwate says.

Vincent Ho, the WSO's composer-in-residence, agrees.

"In Iceland, everybody knows everybody—the music community is a very tight-knit community and there is really no barrier that divides musical styles," Ho says. "You'll have classical composers working together with pop musicians, working together with film musicians—all sorts of styles. So there's this fusion of all these styles of music that's

being made there collectively."

The festival will include a performance of *Credo* by Sigur Rós' Sveinsson, which Ho says is a good example of what he's talking about.

"We have this musician who's part of the multi-million dollar, *major* rock band, and he's also writing contemporary classical music that incorporates a lot of the things he knows of the pop/rock world, but presented in a classical contemporary context," Ho says. "That's just one example of the thing that represents what the whole Icelandic New Music theme is all about."

Ho says that in addition to the world premiere of his new cello concerto, *City Suites* (see article below), two of the things he's most looking forward to at the festival are having Kaija Saariaho present, as well as internationally acclaimed dance group La La La Human Steps.

"Kaija Saariaho is one of the biggest major composers that's out there today," Ho says. "She's renowned all over the world, so to have someone of that calibre, of that stature, here in Winnipeg is a major deal."

"And La La La Human Steps, to have a dance component, especially considering the calibre and recognition of this kind of group, is a big deal for the New Music Festival and for Winnipeg as well," he adds.

So while the two have a lot of work to do over the next few weeks, both Mickelthwate and Ho are excited to present Winnipeggers with a variety of unique musical experiences at this year's festival.

"A lot of heart really went into this festival to make it something really special," Ho concludes.

Festival passes for the 2012 WSO New Music Festival: The Nordic Edition are available at the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and all Ticketmaster outlets for \$99 for adults, or \$59 for students. Individual tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students. Visit www.newmusicfestival.ca for more information.

ENTER TO WIN TICKETS!

THE UNITER IS GIVING AWAY THREE FULL NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL PASSES, AS WELL AS EIGHT PAIRS OF TICKETS TO THE SOLD OUT WAG DOUBLE FEATURE EVENT FEATURING GROUNDSWELL.

ONE ENTRY PER PERSON. EMAIL CONTESTS@UNITER.CA FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN. INCLUDE YOUR FULL NAME AND PHONE NUMBER.

DEADLINE TO ENTER THE DRAW IS FRIDAY, JAN. 27 AT 5 P.M. WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY PHONE.

New Music Festival to feature world premiere of new work by WSO composer-in-residence

Since 1992, the New Music Festival has presented 680 works by 266 composers and it has been the site of 222 world-premieres.

This year, one of the world-premieres will be *City Suites: Concerto for Cello and Orchestra* by WSO composer-in-residence Vincent Ho. Superstar Canadian cellist Shauna Rolston will join the WSO on Monday, Jan. 30 at the Centennial Concert Hall to perform the work, which Ho says is a musical interpretation of Winnipeg.

Ho was initially inspired to write the piece after reading the book *The Cello Suites* by Canadian journalist Eric Siblein,

which explores Bach's cello suites.

"I thought, why don't I write a piece that's in a similar vein as a suite, where it's a collection of pieces of very individual characters that can stand on their own, that reflects my musical interpretation of what the city is to me," Ho says. "So, each movement captures an emotional sentiment or a particular scenario of a city scene or city context."

It's a project Ho says he's wanted to work with Rolston on since 1999.

"She's been a major force in the contemporary music scene, and her family also has played a huge role in my development

as a composer," Ho explains. "Her parents were directors of the Banff Centre for the Arts and I had been there many times, so they played a very important role during the development of me being a composer. So you could say that this piece represents the product of their nurturing and encouragement."

The premiere also falls on the eve of Rolston's birthday.

"It also marks her return to the NMF after over a 10-year absence," Ho says. "So it's great to have her back, especially to premiere a new work dedicated to her and her family."

CD REVIEWS



QUINZY
The Flats
Independent

★★★★☆



Opening with a trio of tunes about Winnipeg (which, in turn, each open with the line "I dress for the weather") Quinzy's latest in a long line of EPs is a direct love letter to our fair city. The aforementioned trio is a concept suite, with characters based in the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike. The self-recorded disc is refreshing, including the dancey *Just Passing Through*, the simple *Slow Down* and the closer - the stomping, nearly retro *And Now We Know*. The real stand-out here though is bassist Jason Pankratz's recorded lead vocal debut in *Built a Machine*, a revved up pop rocker that acts as the centrepiece to *The Flats*. Will Quinzy's next offerings be four solo discs in the tradition of the 1978 KISS solo albums?

- Nicholas Friesen



THE STURGEONS
Wood Shop
Independent

★★★★☆



The Sturgeons play an old style of music, though they keep it fresh and unique. With throwbacks to Bob Dylan and Neil Young, identical twin brothers Calan and Lucas Hamilton show an appreciation for traditional folk music and a love of songwriting and harmonies. Their tunes are honest and thoughtful, immediately captivating by the emotions conveyed through both their lyrics and harmonies. These boys show a good deal of range: the emotionally charged number *Jay Bird* is beautifully constructed to convey hope and longing, while *Ocean Cries* utilizes the haunting melody of the harmonica to echo the sadness in the lyrics. Through their talent at the guitar, mandolin, banjo and lyrics, The Sturgeons are definitely a band to watch as their star rises in Manitoba.

- Katelyn Friesen



THE FORBIDDEN DIMENSION
The Golden Age Of Lasers
Saved by Vinyl

★★★☆☆

A horror rock band from Calgary, The Forbidden Dimension has been rocking out their music since the 1980s. Its tasteless cover is only an indication of what is inside: a series of melodramatic songs that have been ripped off from somewhere (though this writer just can't put his finger on where). It's definitely a hard rock album, so if you are looking for Feist-like tunes, please move along - they ate her before they recorded this album. Yes, there are catchy guitar riffs, whiskey-soaked vocals and all the other ingredients of an '80s rock band. This album is, well, not a forbidden dimension, but a lost-and-never-found-again dimension.

- John Van Laar

It's all in the writing

Theatre-goers get a taste of George Bernard Shaw at this year's Master Playwright Festival



Tracy Penner and Graham Ashmore in zone41's take on George Bernard Shaw's *Village Wooing* at this year's Master Playwright Festival.

MAIREN KOPS

DEREK LOEWEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

It could be argued that to reverse the ills that plague a society people need to realize the things that they're doing wrong. This was the goal of George Bernard Shaw, the featured author of this year's Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre Master Playwright Festival.

His ability to poke fun at his audience and the society of his day is widely respected within theatre circles. Though his plays are not presented all that often, they are held dearly by anyone who has studied theatre.

Even though Shaw's pieces were written more 70 years ago, festival producer Chuck McEwen says he's sure audiences will enjoy them.

"Because Shaw is so well known and considered one of the pre-eminent playwrights

of all time ... most people who attend theatre on a casual basis are aware of Shaw," McEwen says. "We've got an excellent chance of setting a new festival record."

McEwen is Winnipeg's theatre guru who also produces the Winnipeg Fringe Festival, which is known as one of the best in the world. McEwen works closely with his director Rob Ring and the MTC to produce both the Fringe and the Master Playwright Festival.

According to McEwen, the choice of playwright is up to the MTC's artistic director, Stephen Shipper.

"We've got a great list of playwrights to choose from, it's quite a challenge," McEwen says. "We've done 12 festivals so far and really it comes down to who's more deserving. Do we choose a contemporary playwright? Do we go back a few years?"

Many of Shaw's plays were written in the early 1900s, including *Augustus Does His Bit*

which will be produced by Merlyn Theatres from Jan. 31 until Feb. 4.

Director John Chase began reading Shaw after an actress he was working with suggested he read the play *Pygmalion*.

"I was absolutely enthralled by the quality of the writing," Chase says.

The one-act play *Augustus* pokes fun at the perception of classes during the First World War. In it, the nobleman Augustus finds himself with a blue-collar worker as his only staff since the others are on the front lines.

"The comedy comes from the pairing of these two. Augustus has his high castle knowledge but lacks knowing the situation of the common people, which is a perpetual issue in society," Chase says.

The University of Manitoba's Blackhole Theatre Company will be putting on one of Shaw's lighter plays, *Arms and the Man*, on selected dates between Jan. 20 and Jan. 29.

University professor Margaret Groome

will be directing the play. According to her director notes, the play deals "less with the crimes of society, and more with its romantic follies and with the struggles of individuals against those follies."

The play tells the story of star-crossed lovers Raina and Bluntschli who meet during inconceivable circumstances of war.

Whether the play is satirical or not, McEwen claims that Shaw writes magnificent dialogue.

"There's a lot of meaning behind some of the language," he says. "He wanted to entertain, but while you were laughing, he wanted you to question why you were laughing."

Single tickets for Shawfest range from \$7 to \$40. There is also a \$75 all-access pass. More information at www.masterplaywrightfest.com.

Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers aims to raise funds and creativity with Derring DO!

KAELEIGH AYRE
ARTS REPORTER

Ever wanted to Bollywood dance or beat-box? How about perform live with a local folk band or create a piece of art? Now's your chance, with the 2012 Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers' (WCD) Derring DO!

"The term Derring DO! (and its unique spelling) originates from the 1300s," states WCD's website. "It was first a reference to 'ye olde swordplay and the like,' or the performance of heroic feats and brave actions."

At this fundraising event for the dance company, which is a registered non-profit charity, guests not only have the chance to win great raffle prizes, but they also have the opportunity to bid on one-of-a-kind artistic experiences.

"As far as we know, we're the only ones who've sort of ever done it," says James Botaitis, communications director for the WCD. "It is a fairly unique thing to the WCD and to Winnipeg."

"This year we have seven artistic opportunities, including learning a short Bollywood dance number, choreographing our dancers with a percussionist, writing and performing a song with Nathan Rogers and learning the tambourine to play along with Roslyn and Allison from *Oh My Darling*," Botaitis says.



The people at last year's Derring DO! had a blast - and you will this year, too!

SUPPLIED

"Multimedia artist Freya Björg Olafson, she's a dancer, she's a painter, she's a video

artist, she usually goes off with a canvas and encourages you to paint something."

Then the winning bidders get to make their painting, learn their drum bit and return after an hour to present what they've learned and/or created to an audience.

While Botaitis is unsure of the exact sum raised at last year's event, he estimates around \$1,500.

"We'd like to raise more, obviously, but if we can raise within the \$2,000 range, that'd be great."

He stresses that stage jitters shouldn't keep people from coming out to the event.

"Some people have said they don't want to come because they don't want to go on stage, well you don't have to participate. I would say half at most who come to the Derring DO! bother to bid on the art auction. They're coming for the event."

Entertainment will also be provided on the mainstage, with Mrs. Hoo-Hoo and singer-songwriter Christine Fellows keeping things rolling while the winning bidders go off for their experiences. The whole event is also '80s themed for some extra fun.

For more information on Derring DO! and to check out the promo videos and artistic opportunities, visit www.winnipegcontemporarydancers.ca. The event takes place on Saturday, Jan. 21 at the West End Cultural Centre and starts promptly at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and are available in advance at Ticketmaster. Cash-only at the door.

FILM REVIEWS

Never mind the music, it's all about the drugs

Creation Records doc lacks focus and depth

ADAM PETRASH
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Upside Down: The Creation Records Story

Directed by Danny O'Connor, 2010
101 minutes
Plays at Cinematheque, Jan. 18 to Jan. 21 at 9 p.m.

★★★★☆

Upside Down: The Creation Records Story showcases the British independent record label that was home to such great acts as The Jesus and The Mary Chain, Primal Scream, My Bloody Valentine, Teenage Fanclub and Oasis.

First-time director Danny O'Connor showcases Creation Records from its early beginnings until its demise over a decade ago in what feels like no definitive linear fashion.

Although it has interviews with the above-mentioned bands, as well as other signed acts, its main focus is Creation founder Alan McGee.

First-time director Danny O'Connor showcases Creation Records from its early beginnings until its demise over a decade ago in what feels like no definitive linear fashion

We are only given glimpses into the beating pulse of Creation as a whole, and herein lies the problem - it feels poorly patched together. As a result, it is confusing and leaves a lot of holes



SUPPLIED

Oasis and The Jesus & Mary Chain are just two of the many drugged out groups that helped Creation Records become one of the most popular labels of the 1990s.

and a lot of questions unanswered.

The film barely touches on the label's bankruptcy and financial struggles, and only briefly kisses on the relationships McGee had with the bands; nor does it explain the coming and going of bands on and off the label.

However, it does go into great detail about the chaos and attitude that surrounded all who were involved in the Creation family.

In short, it was all about the party - and maybe that's the message. Maybe that's how Creation survived all the years it did through that unrelenting fury.

Maybe I'm missing the point.

Regardless, I'm amazed Creation survived for as many years as it did given the circumstances.

But most of *Upside Down* feels like McGee and company are looking back on one gigantic drug-induced episode rather than focusing on the ins and outs of the record label itself or the bands' histories and their albums.

"I actually thought I was up there with Beethoven or Shakespeare ... that I was making history with Creation Records," McGee says, mockingly, at one point in the film. It's further proof of what McGee's mental state really was during those Creation years.

Overall, it's a film that seasoned and educated fans of Creation artists will still be able to appreciate, but for any newcomers: be sure to bring your tourist map because you're sure to get lost along the way.

Local film *Of Games and Escapes* is a genre-bending character piece

Of Games and Escapes

Directed by Bevan Klassen, 2011
76 minutes
Playing at Cinematheque, Jan. 18 to Jan. 22 at 7 p.m.

★★★★☆

KAELEIGH AYRE
ARTS REPORTER

"The planted man getting watered is perhaps the greatest shot in Winnipeg filmmaking history!" boasts the back of the *Of Games and Escapes* DVD case.

This quote comes from world-renowned Winnipeg filmmaker Guy Maddin, who sent a personal email to the director after he saw the trailer for the film.

You know things aren't going well when Patrick trades in his scooter for a car, and his complacency for road rage

Such high compliments from the award-winning director set the bar quite high for this debut feature, and audiences will not be disappointed with this story of struggle.

Finished in 2011, Bevan Klassen's *Of Games and Escapes* tells the story of Patrick, a man trapped in a dead-end sales job, peddling sub-par board games for kids.

Patrick, played by Lyle Morris, wants to change the world. Environmentally conscious, he drives a scooter to work, and at night he designs board games with meaning.

Patrick appears to have a happy life outside of work, spending time with his girlfriend Lisa (played by Kristen Harris) and her daughter, but he slowly spirals into a depression when he is unable to act upon his desires to "do good."

A great scene takes place when Lisa asks Patrick to spend some time with her daughter when she has to work late. The awkwardness between "the new boyfriend" and the young girl can be felt through the screen, as Patrick tries to reach out and connect with her.

Wanting to make a change, Patrick turns to pharmaceuticals, making a *Breaking Bad*-type 180 for the better, or so it seems. While



SUPPLIED

Local filmmaker Bevan Klassen (left) on the set of *Of Games and Escapes*.

things pick up at work, his personal life quickly crumbles, as Patrick is no longer the man Lisa thought he was.

You know things aren't going well when Patrick trades in his scooter for a car, and his complacency for road rage.

Split into four chapters, each chapter shows a different side of Patrick and a different part of his mental journey. Morris is a very natural actor, and he takes the audience along with Pat-

rick on his downward spiral.

This film is all about story, supported by some great visuals (for example, the aforementioned "planted man").

Klassen compared his film to other films following dark internal struggles, except his film is about an ordinary guy.

It is this ordinariness that makes the story relatable, and has the viewers rooting for Patrick to make the changes he needs to in his life.

FILM

UPSIDE DOWN: THE CREATION RECORDS STORY shows at Cinematheque until Saturday, Jan. 21 at 9 p.m. Winnipeg band HAUNTER will play an opening set of Creation covers prior to the Jan. 20 screening.

Local filmmaker BEVAN KLASSEN's debut film OF GAMES & ESCAPES shows at Cinematheque on Thursday, Jan. 19 until Sunday, Jan. 22 at 7 p.m.

LITERATURE

DOUGLAS SINCLAIR and GARTH PALANUK launch *Life & War: Poems by Alexander Sinclair* on Saturday, Jan. 21 at 2 p.m. at McNally Robinson.

CBC CANADA READS, MANITOBA STYLE returns to McNally Robinson on Wednesday, Jan. 25 at 8 p.m. with 5 WRITERS, 5 READERS, 5 MINUTES.

JOHN K. SAMSON is doing a book signing for *Lyrics and Poems, 1997-2012* on Saturday, Jan. 28 at 2 p.m. at McNally Robinson.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

The Winnipeg Art Gallery presents IN GLORIOUS TECHNICOLOUR on Tuesday, Jan. 24 at 8 p.m.

CreBery hosts GARDENS OF MOTHERS, BHAVNI BHAKOO until Tuesday, Jan. 24. All proceeds go to Children Without Mothers.

Wayne Arthur Gallery hosts MONA LISA AND FRIENDS, FIBRE ART BY BEV MORTON until Jan. 24.

Urban Shaman Main Gallery presents ELK DREAMER'S DREAM by LINUS WOODS. The opening reception is on Friday, Jan. 27 at 8 p.m. The exhibition goes until Saturday, March 10.

The Buhler Gallery in St. Boniface Hospital hosts OUR CANADA, work by MARY VALENTINE and DAVID OWEN LUCAS on Thursday, Feb. 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Platform Gallery presents ANDREW HARWOOD's latest exhibition, SEANCE, until Saturday, Feb. 25. Infamous in Toronto's Queen West scene as an artist and performer (under the stage name Madame Zsa Zsa), Harwood is crafting a new body of work confusing the internationally renowned history of Winnipeg seance photography circa 1900, and the contemporary queer bar dance circuit. Harwood will give a talk about his work on Saturday, Feb. 18 at 3 p.m.

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

As part of MTC's SHAWFEST, the Irish Association of Manitoba presents CANDIDA by Tara Players on Thursday, Jan. 19 at 8 p.m. at 654 Erin St.

As part of SnoWeek 2012, renowned improv group CRUMBS perform for free the afternoon of Tuesday, Jan. 24 at the Bulman Students' Centre snow lodge.

SHIRLEY VALENTINE is showing at the John Hirsch Mainstage until Jan. 28. A neglected housewife jumps at the chance to escape her "unused life" in this beloved play by Willy Russell.

WAG presents DOUBLE FEATURE: GROUNDSWELL & BEDROOM COMMUNITY on Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Groundswell New Music returns for a night of music and theatre at the WAG featuring works by Manitoba composers Gordon Fitzell, Michael Matthews as well as Jim Hiscott and Diana McIntosh, who both have world premieres that night.

The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra brings Iceland to Winnipeg with the NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL from Jan. 28 to Feb. 3. Concert highlights include SAARIAHO & KANCHELI on Saturday, Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. at the Centennial Concert Hall. RAVEDEATH FOR ORGAN on Sunday, Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at Westminster United Church. SHAUNA ROLSTON: CITY SUITES on Monday, Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Centennial Concert Hall.

SHAWFEST 2012 (Master Playwright Festival) begins Jan. 19 and goes until Feb. 5 at various venues throughout Winnipeg. The 2012 Master Playwright Festival celebrates the life and work of playwright and essayist George Bernard Shaw with performances of his plays by a variety of local theatre companies, readings, a film screening and a free lecture series.

As part of SHAWFEST, George Bernard Shaw's MRS. WARREN'S PROFESSION is showing at the Tom Hendry Warehouse from Jan. 19 until Feb. 4. Mrs. Warren has worked hard to provide a good life for her daughter, but when Vivie finds out the truth about her mother's profession, sparks fly between the two independent working women.

The Prairie Theatre Exchange presents LOST: A MEMOIR on Thursday, Jan. 19 until Feb. 5. Showing nightly at 8 p.m.

COMEDY OPEN MIC NIGHTS in the ?Peg are Sundays at The Cavern with JOHN B. DUFF, Tuesdays at The King's Head Pub and Mondragon, and Thursdays at the Standard Tavern.

Shaw TV's WEEK THUS FAR tapes in front of live studio audience at Finn's Pub at the Forks every Monday at 7:30 p.m.

So you want to be an artist?

Local experts provide tips and tricks for how to get going without the bank knowing

AARON SNIDER
CULTURE REPORTER

It's difficult at times to see popular or successful artists as everyday people. It's difficult to imagine the intervening stages between just another person on the street and a successful musician or a gallery-showing photographer or inspiring actor.

If you're interested but completely green, starting off can be the most difficult part - potentially confusing, nerve-wracking and expensive. While those first two things might be unavoidable for some, becoming a successful artist doesn't have to lead to bankruptcy.

Saving money on musical gear, to start, comes down to being willing to make do or learning to work on and upgrade your own instruments.

"The most important thing is to feel comfortable with your instrument," says JD Edwards, a local singer-songwriter and front man of the JD Edwards Band. "It's not necessary for you to go out and spend thousands of dollars on a new instrument. It's nice to have a really nice instrument, but it's not the most important thing."

Whatever you decide to do on the equipment front, Edwards says that the most important way to make your musical experience worthwhile is to put in the time.

"The more you practice, the better you'll be and ultimately the more money you'll make down the line, if that's the way you want to look at it," says Edwards. "It's an investment for the future."

If your band or group decides to take to the road, Edwards suggests setting realistic limits regarding what you are willing to do without. Sleeping in the van or on someone's floor will save you money, but might impede on your performance quality the next day.

"I know that if I have to play a show the next night, I need to be on my game," he says.

When the time comes to record, studio time is expensive and maybe even restrictive, though Edwards admits this will be less true for some styles of music.

"It's all about pre-production, the way I look at it," Edwards says. "The more that I record at home, the more I record outside of a major studio the better, because then you can really understand your songs."

More than anything else, Edwards says it is crucial to be part of the artistic community and aware of what's going on in the



DYLAN HEWLETT

Josh Ruth, managing director at Art City Inc., says that visual artists should visit places such as Ace Art, the CreBery and Artspace to get a sense of what other artists are doing and to get their own work seen.

city. This makes it much easier to receive support, both financial and otherwise.

This is an important part of other art forms as well.

Josh Ruth, managing director at Art City Inc., says that visual artists should visit places such as Ace Art Inc., the CreBery and Artspace, both to get a sense of what other artists are doing and to get their own work seen.

"If people start to apply for shows at these places to show their work in very informal, very grass-rootsy-style gallery settings, then they can at least start to accumulate an exhibition history and get themselves out there," says Ruth.

"More than anything else you can attach yourself to a network," he adds. "People are generally very happy to help."

Art City, a West Broadway community art centre, provides free arts programming for anyone interested in a wide range of arts,

from pottery to digital photography.

Ruth says that while some beginners may feel the need to attend an art school, it's not necessarily for everyone.

"It can be very, very helpful, but some people are under the impression that in order to be an artist you have to go to art school, and some of the most successful artists have not been formally educated," Ruth says. "For each individual it's important to weigh out the options and decide if that's the right thing for them."

When it comes to the more fundamental process of acquiring supplies, consider asking friends - or friends' parents - who may have abandoned their brief artistic careers. Ruth says that donations of basement art supply stashes are a valuable resource to Art City.

"There are a hell of a lot of people out there that have art supplies because they decided that they were going to get creative

one year and (then the supplies) just sat in the basement," Ruth says.

He also suggests scavenging at thrift stores such as Arts Junction, a volunteer-run arts depot where artists can search through various kinds of donations and take what they find for free.

Whatever your educational background or main medium, Ruth says the best way to be an effective artist is to always have your sketchbook handy.

"If you're at all serious about being a practicing artist, your sketchbook is like your idea journal," Ruth says. "It's so crucial to have that to go back to whenever it comes time to produce and create."

"Without documenting, ideas are fleeting," he says.

For more tips and suggestions from JD Edwards and Josh Ruth, visit www.uniter.ca/blogs.

Be the change

Free the Children encourages youth to advocate for social justice

JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Many people may know about Free the Children, the largest global network of children helping children through education, as a result of We Day.

More than 16,000 young Manitobans attended We Day, an FTC-based offshoot, at the MTS Centre last November. We Day 2011 was the first function of its kind to be held in Winnipeg. Past locales have included Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal.

Showcasing a variety of celebrity performers and speakers (Al Gore, Mia Farrow and Hedley, to name a few), the high-energy event's aim was to inspire a younger generation to realize their potential in advocating for human rights.

According to Free the Children's website, "with more than one million young people involved in programs in 45 countries," Free the Children focuses on four pillars of sustainability: education, health, water/sanitation and alternative income, in countries overseas.

Since the star-studded event in Winnipeg, many We Day attendees have taken action implementing Adopt-a-Village programs within their schools, or participating in 24-hour Vows of Silence in solidarity with

those that have been silenced by poverty.

Marianne Orlikow, a Grade 12 student at the University of Winnipeg Collegiate, created an FTC group at her school this past September. She was inspired by a volunteer trip she took with the organization to Kenya.

"What I think is so special about Free the Children is that, as opposed to charity, they give people the tools they need to help break themselves out of the cycle of poverty," Orlikow says.

Orlikow's group is fundraising towards building a school with FTC in Kenya. On Jan. 21, local acts Ferriswheels, A Waste Odyssey and Almost Birds headline a concert at the Park Theatre to benefit the cause. Tickets for the show are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door and are available at the venue.

Older students have also been inspired to "be the change." The recent addition of a Free the Children chapter at the University of Winnipeg this past October has been successful in its early stages.

Having raised about \$3,000 (towards a goal of \$25,000) to help with development projects in rural India, Matthew Parent is among the group of 30 members that are passionate about social justice.

"Here in Canada, we have enormous amounts of wealth and resources," Parent



SUPPLIED

The charity Free the Children focuses on four pillars of sustainability: education, health, water/sanitation and alternative income.

says. "If we say that we are all one human race, all unified as global citizens, then it is necessary that we share some of our wealth."

Free the Children proves that there are no age restrictions when one wants to make a difference. After all, a particularly philanthropic 12-year-old, Craig Kielburger, founded the charity back in 1995.

"It's all about empowering young people,

and showing them that they are capable of making sustainable change," Orlikow says.

To learn more about Free the Children, visit www.freethechildren.com. U of W's FTC chapter always welcomes new members, especially those with any graphic design experience. Email uofw.ftc@gmail.com for more information.

Something on the line

For some sports fans, watching the big game just isn't fun unless they're gambling on it

AARON SNIDER
CULTURE REPORTER

Randy Walker loves to gamble. By his own admission, he'll bet on anything that moves - it keeps things interesting.

"I love football, I love watching it," Walker says. "But if I don't have any money on the game - something on the line - it's just not the same."

That's why Walker organizes two different NFL betting pools each year - one for the regular season and another with higher stakes for the playoffs.

In the regular season, players bet \$5 each week, but are not obligated to play every week.

The Super Bowl pool is slightly different in that it lasts several weeks and players are slowly eliminated as their teams drop out of the running.

This year's playoff pool includes 36 participants each betting \$20. That means \$720 is waiting for someone after the big game on Feb. 5.

Walker says that's a small jackpot in the big scheme.

"The number of people that gamble on NFL games is huge, that's why they have such humongous TV ratings - because most people love to gamble on a game," he says.

Walker says that while he suspects there might be conflict for other members of his pool between nostalgia or loyalty for a particular team and the all-important football statistics, he only considers which team is most likely to win.

"There are some teams I'd like to see do well, but I just put my money on the teams that I think will win that particular game, so there's no true loyalty," he says.

Walker says the money is his main reason for gambling, though he admits that he's lost more than he's won over the years.

"Of course I want to win. If I can win a couple hundred dollars or a thousand dol-



DYLAN HEWLETT

lars or a couple grand, that's the reason why I gamble."

For those unfamiliar with the culture of gambling, it might seem like a shady business. The important thing about Walker's situation is that he makes no profit from the pool except for when he wins.

"Canadian law has basically said that we're more than happy to have people gamble with each other," says David Deutscher, a professor of law at the University of Manitoba specializing in criminal law. "You can have a

poker game in your basement, nobody cares, and it can be for very high stakes as long as no one makes a profit from it."

Problem gambling associated with sports pools also appears to be minimal.

According to a 2006 study conducted by the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM), slightly more than 12 per cent of Manitobans said they had participated in sports pool betting in that year.

While this suggests a large number of people participating, a 2008/2009 report

issued by the AFM notes that of those people admitted for gambling addiction rehabilitation, the percentage who identified sports pools as their biggest problem did not even register among VLTs or casino games.

Walker says the real potential for danger lies in another of his hobbies: Internet gambling.

"Internet gambling can be very dangerous," Walker says. "It's too convenient. Like they say: click of the mouse you can lose your house."

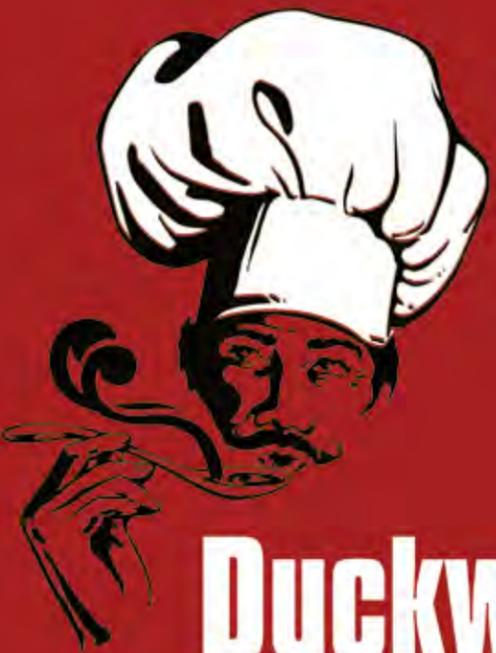
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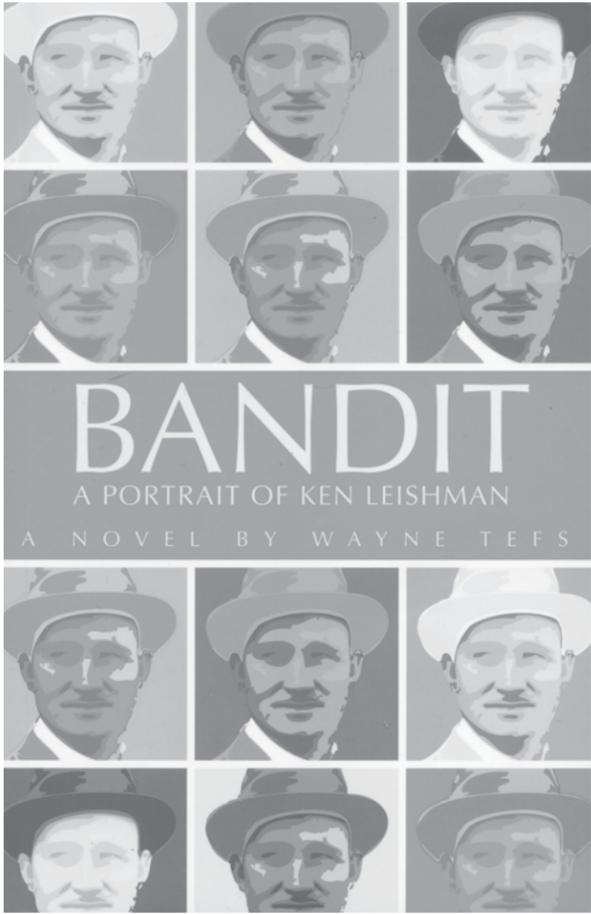
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BOOK REVIEW



JOHN VAN LAAR
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Bandit: A Portrait of Ken Leishman

Wayne Tefs
240 Pages, Turnstone Press, 2011

In the true crime novel *Bandit: A Portrait of Ken Leishman*, writer Wayne Tefs delves into the life of infamous criminal Ken Leishman.

Tefs explores Leishman's past, including his troubled youth, and weaves it into the latter years of his life.

Leishman is known for the astonishing 1966 gold heist that took not only the RCMP, but all of Canada, by surprise.

Tefs explains and opens the gentleman bandit's mind to us as to what he may have been thinking and trying to accomplish in his felonious career and, while doing this, Tefs blurs reality and fiction - not unlike Jerry Stahl's *I Fatty*, the fictionalized autobiography of Fatty Arbuckle.

Tefs takes a direct delineation of Ken Leishman's story and injects what he may be thinking at critical points in his life, from growing up in post-Second World War Canada to the abandonment of his father as a child and his subsequent return in Leishman's teenage years.

From growing up with tough-love grandparents to seeing opportunity and dreaming of the "big life," Leishman is constantly trying to do better than what he was left with.

The only role models he finds are the actors of the time, such as Humphrey Bogart and Gary Cooper. In all the movies he watches growing up he sees them as tough (but smart), sharply dressed and well groomed.

Ken finds redemption in these movies and Tefs gains insight as to perhaps why the thief was the way he was.

Sporting a fedora, the anti-hero was always well dressed and polite to everyone - a gentleman.

Leishman wanted prominence, prestige and wealth. This wasn't because he thought he was better than everybody else, it was about saving his family from the hardships he endured as a child (Leishman himself had a wife and seven kids). He wanted to pull off a heist that would take care of himself and his family and leave that life behind.

The gold heist from the Winnipeg airport in 1966 intended to do just that.

Unfortunately, Leishman's heist did not pan out and the people involved were caught, leaving Leishman to resort to desperate measures.

Throughout the book, I could not help but cheer for Ken Leishman.

Tefs's interpretation of events and his ability to mesh fiction with non-fiction left me wondering what was true and what was not, allowing my imagination to run with Leishman and feel like I had been there through it all.

WRITE FOR THE UNITER'S

ARTS SECTION

EMAIL ARTS@UNITER.CA
TO GET INVOLVED

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

If you are interested in a part-time job on campus, there are still Work-Study jobs available. The Work-Study application can be found online at

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

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

The Academic Proficiency Scholarships from the 2010-11 academic year will be awarded shortly. Only recipients will receive notification through the mail by the end of January.

The Louis Riel Bursaries will also be awarded shortly. Only recipients will receive notification through the mail by the end of January.

The General Bursary Program is available for application for students with financial need. The deadline is **Jan. 30** and application forms are available on our website: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awd-bursaries>.

MANITOBA STUDENT AID PROGRAM (MSAP):

Applications to Manitoba Student Aid for the Fall/Winter 2011-12 or Winter term only sessions are still being accepted. Students can apply online at: www.manitobastudentaid.ca, <http://www.manitobastudentaid.ca/> and <http://www.manitobastudentaid.ca/>.

TUITION FEE DEFERRAL

All fees for Winter 2011-12 courses must have been paid by **Jan. 4**. If you are relying on your Government Student Aid to pay your outstanding fees, please read the important instructions below.

Those who have been assessed and approved for Manitoba Student Aid as of Dec. 16 have automatically been deferred until **Feb. 4**. You would have received a web-mail notification stating this. No action is needed.

If you applied for Manitoba Student Aid after Dec. 16 or you are a recipient of out-of-province student aid, please send your name and student number to awards@uwinnipeg.ca. This will ensure you are added to our list of

deferrals. We will try our best to make sure you are captured, however it is not guaranteed.

WHAT DOES TUITION FEE DEFERRAL MEAN?

You have been given a one-month grace period so that:

- Your registration is not cancelled, and
- You are not charged late payment fees.

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:

EDC BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIPS

Deadline: Jan. 30, 2012

Export Development Canada (EDC) is offering as many as 30 scholarships, 25 of which recognize exceptional students in the field of international business, finance or economics. The remaining five scholarships will be awarded to outstanding business students with a focus on environment related studies. An EDC scholarship is worth a \$4,000 cash award. Scholarships will be awarded in spring 2012, and issued in autumn 2012 at the start of the academic year.

Visit: www.edc.ca/scholarships

SOROPTIMIST FOUNDATION OF CANADA GRANTS

Deadline: Jan. 31, 2012

The Soroptimist Foundation of Canada annually offers several \$7,500 for women graduate students in Canada to assist them with university studies which will qualify them for careers which will improve the quality of women's lives. The aim is to assist women with financial need to complete their studies leading to careers that will improve the quality of women's lives. Examples include but are not limited to: providing services, providing legal counseling and assistance, counseling mature women entering or re-entering the labour market, counseling women in crisis, counseling and training women for non-traditional employment, and positions in women's centres.

Visit <http://www.soroptimistfoundation.ca/application.html>

TERRY FOX HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Deadline: Feb. 1, 2012

As the name implies, the Terry Fox Humanitarian Award recognizes humanitarian volunteer work. There is no set discipline students must study in order to receive the award, but they must maintain their academic, voluntary and career performance to a satisfactory level.

Visit <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awd-external>

UNITED WAY YOUTH LEADERS IN ACTION SCHOLARSHIP

Deadline: Feb. 10, 2012

Designed to recognize the contributions of young community leaders and encourage them to keep up the great work. In 2012, four scholarships of \$500 each will be awarded to young people under the age of 25 who have made a difference in the community.

Visit <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awd-external>

ROBERT E. OLIVER SCHOLARSHIP

Deadline: Feb. 27, 2012

Each year, Advertising Standards Council awards one \$1,500 scholarship to a full-time post secondary student who is enrolled in an undergraduate advertising or marketing program at a Canadian university or college. Robert E. Oliver was ASC's first president and a pioneer of Canadian advertising self-regulation. He played a key role in developing the *Canadian Code of Advertising Standards*. To honour his contribution, this award recognizes students with a record of outstanding academic achievement and community service and who are committed to pursuing a career in advertising or marketing.

To apply for this year's award, the student is asked to contact the program chair or coordinator at your university or college as this award does not have an online app on their website.

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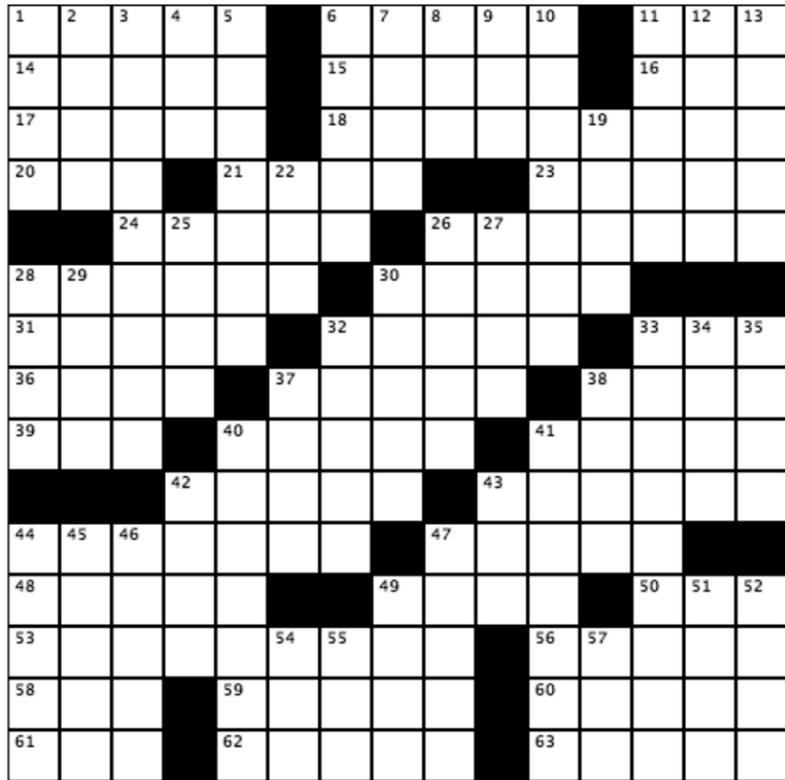
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TW	Artist	Recording	Label
1	!The Magnificent 7's	All Kinds Of Mean	Transistor 66
2	!The Noble Thiefs	Beyond The 11th Deck	Pipe & Hat
3	!Cannon Bros	Firecracker/Cloudglow	Disintegration
4	!Hatcher-Briggs	Getting There From Here	Self-Released
5	Wilco	The Whole Love	dBpm
6	!The Lonely Vulcans	Vulcan Cesspool	Transistor 66
7	!Rock Lake	Rock Lake	Eat 'Em Up
8	*Various	Have Not Been The Same	Zunior
9	William Shatner	Seeking Major Tom	Cleopatra
10	Bjork	Biophilia	Nonesuch

Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku 16

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



- Across**
- 1- Rotates
 - 6- Red as ___
 - 11- Director Lee
 - 14- Good point
 - 15- Puccini heroine
 - 16- Damage
 - 17- Rabbit-eared Bandicoot
 - 18- Produce illuviation
 - 20- Conductor ___-Pekka
 - Salonen
 - 21- Fish feature
 - 23- Cornerstone abbr.
 - 24- Damp
 - 26- Coiled
 - 28- Having only magnitude
 - 30- Device with 88 keys
 - 31- Father of Leah and Rachel
 - 32- ___ luck!
 - 33- Capp and Capone
 - 36- Now ___ me down...
 - 37- Flaw
 - 38- Minn. neighbor
 - 39- Accomplished
 - 40- Sesame plant
 - 41- New Zealand aboriginal
 - 42- Gave a measured amount
 - 43- Subordinate ruler

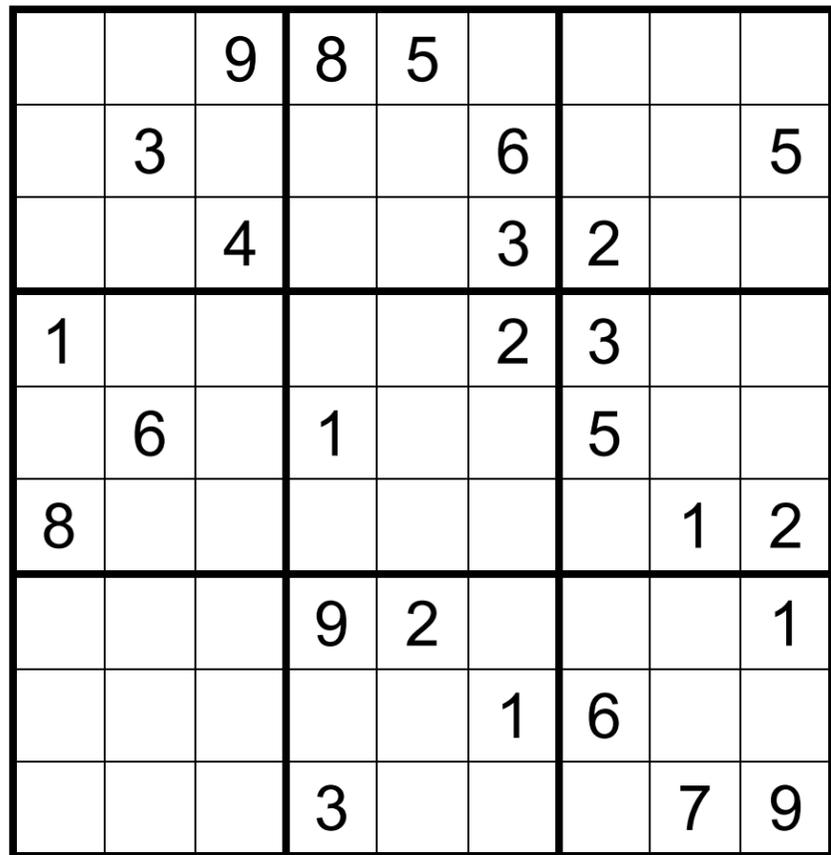
- 44- Absorb
- 47- Descendant
- 48- Jeter of the Yankees
- 49- Trompe l'___
- 50- Exec's degree
- 53- Turn inside out
- 56- Drunken
- 58- Adult males
- 59- Spanish Mister
- 60- "L.A. Law" lawyer
- 61- Gallery display
- 62- Can't stand
- 63- Entrances
- 22- Leb. neighbor
- 25- Oil of ___
- 26- Name
- 27- Kiln for drying hops
- 28- Lost traction
- 29- Colombian city
- 30- Strike repeatedly
- 32- Back streets
- 33- Accessory
- 34- Zhivago's love
- 35- Jump lightly
- 37- Own (up)
- 38- Defense grp. since 1949
- 40- Literary
- 41- Letter container
- 42- Remnant
- 43- Biol., e.g.
- 44- Accumulation of fluids
- 45- Not once
- 46- Give
- 47- Prophets
- 49- Plains native
- 51- Cracker topper
- 52- Affirmative votes
- 54- PBS benefactor
- 55- Aardvark morsel
- 57- Baseball stat

Down

- 1- Kemo ___
- 2- Pitchfork-shaped letters
- 3- Capital of Pakistan
- 4- Kan. neighbor
- 5- Infernal
- 6- Inclined
- 7- Cotton seed pod
- 8- Immigrant's subj.
- 9- Euro forerunner
- 10- Restaurant in Greece
- 11- Fine fiddle
- 12- Birth-related
- 13- Diving bird
- 19- Analogy words

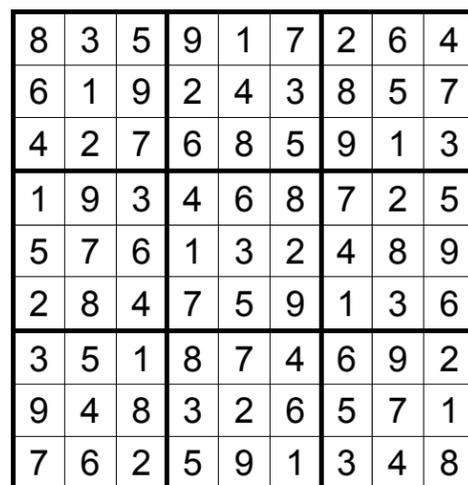
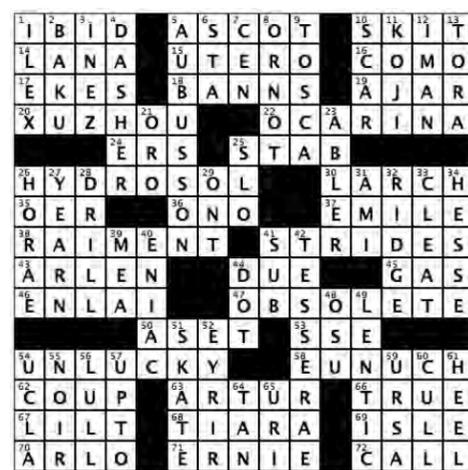
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Solutions to puzzles from the January 12, 2012 issue.



An Open Relationship

WITH MELANIE DAHLING

Spare the change

All right kids, it's resolution season. There are a lot of things I could probably change about myself to make my life tidier, but I've decided to dedicate this year to complete and unconditional self-love. If I'm going to achieve something, I want to know I did it as myself, and most of the incidences I've stayed up biting my nails over are the ones that lead me on the most exciting adventures.

This year, I propose we all say "fuck it" and stop trying to change the things that make us who we are

So here it is, dear reader - a list of qualities that I used to see as flaws, and how I am going to justify not doing anything about them starting... now.

1. I am completely self-centred

If you tell me a personal story, it will remind me of an experience I've had and I'll probably use that to relate to you rather than asking you a bunch of questions. If you want me to do something that I don't want to do, I probably won't do it. If I don't like you, I'll maintain a pleasant distance without ever making an effort to know anything about you.

When I want to leave a party, I say quick goodbyes and leave.

I'm sure this makes me unapproachable, un-dateable and just not very nice, but judging by the lovely people who know "the real me," and still choose to have me in their lives, I think being in your own corner can actually get you a long way.

2. I am not exactly "hard to get"

Look, buddy - if I like-like you, you're going to know about it. I'll probably give you lots of compliments, make out with you at every opportunity, buy you candy and develop a stutter anytime our hands brush up against each other.

I understand the "thrill of the chase" but in this Twitter-paced world we can hardly claim to be "hunter gatherers" anymore.

Call me crazy, but I find the real thrill is when two attractive people stop running and enjoy a nice bottle of wine together.

3. I am fickle

I've seen a handful of projects through from beginning to end while thousands of others lie on the cutting room floor of my life. Ask me about when I went to hair school, decided to open my own lingerie shop or how much my weight has fluctuated over the years.

I get excited about things but often run out of steam or get distracted by something newer and shinier before I can achieve anything substantial. I could call myself a flake, but I've decided I'm just the Kramer to your Seinfeld or the Six to your Blossom. You need me for the ratings.

I could also mention my messy room, but after years of romantic comedies I've already accepted this as a charmingly bohemian personal trait.

This year, I propose we all say "fuck it" and stop trying to change the things that make us who we are.

Unless those things are murderous rampages or making out in front of me. Not cool.

Melanie Dahling won't ever change, so you'll just have to deal with it. Visit her blog at <http://melaniedahling.wordpress.com>.



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