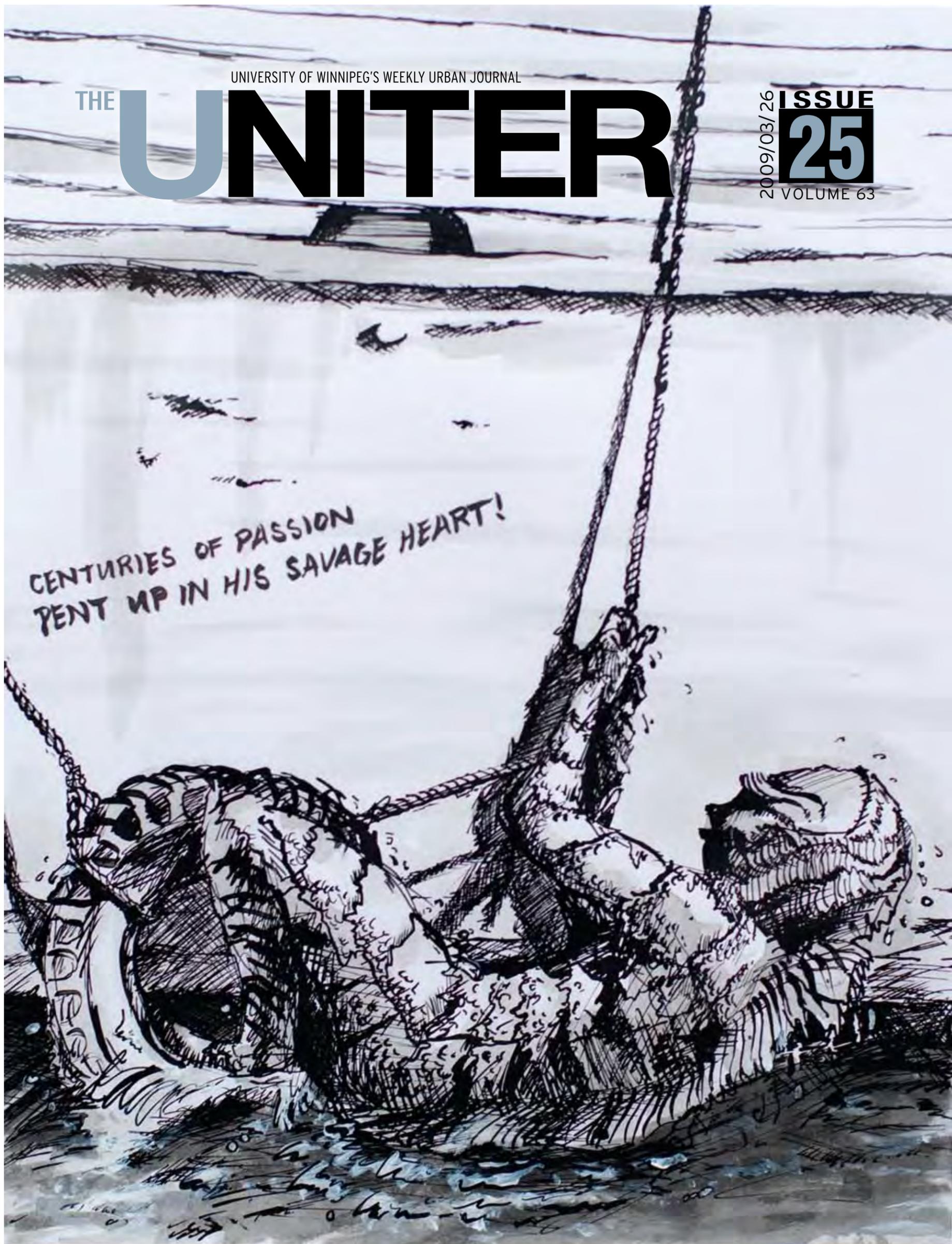


UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

THE **UNITER**

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Putting the kibosh on academic freedom?

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Despite what food manufacturers tell you, **health food isn't healthy**

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I have long hair and am running into people while listening to loud music.
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*COVER IMAGE

Steven Loft's
"Savage Heart,"

from ...welcome...a history in two parts.
Now showing at the
Urban Shaman Gallery

News

Turning plant waste into fuel

Ethanol out of wood chips may be Manitoba's best solution, experts say

SANDY KLOWAK
BEAT REPORTER

Amid growing concern with the feasibility of conventional ethanol, a new type of biofuel is emerging onto the Canadian scene – and sweeping prairie provinces by storm.

Cellulosic ethanol is produced from the otherwise throw-away parts of plants, including wood chip waste from the logging industry, grass and the stocks of food-producing agricultural plants.

But Canada is only in the preliminary stages of exploring this new option.

"It hasn't been invented yet, that's how new it is," said Ernest Nycz, president and CEO of Prairie Green Renewable Energy Inc.

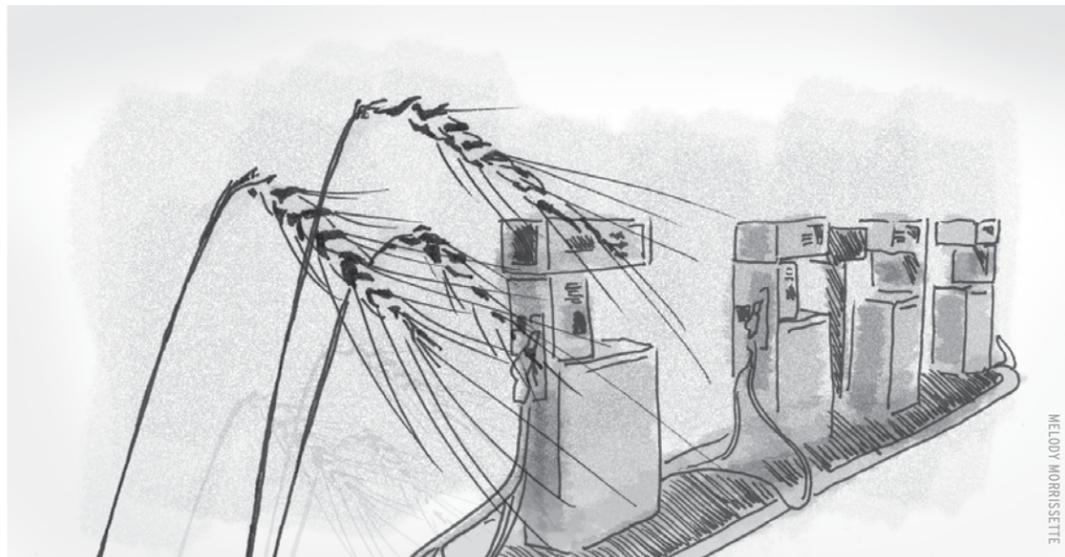
Prairie Green, a Saskatchewan-based company, is entering into an agreement with the South Dakota-based K.L. Energy to create Canada's first cellulose ethanol plant.

The University of Manitoba is in the early research stages of cellulosic ethanol, said Gary Johnson, professor in the department of agribusiness and agriculture economics at the University of Manitoba.

"Nobody's very far along," although some institutions are working on small-scale pilot projects to produce cellulosic ethanol, he said.

There may be several benefits to this new type of ethanol.

"Cellulose has advantages in that



MELODY MORRISSETTE

"We really don't have much choice... if we want to replace petroleum."

—Adrian Tsang,
Concordia University

it's not using the grain, therefore it isn't competing with the food value of the crop," Johnson said.

Because the edible part of plants is not needed to create this type of fuel, plants could be harvested for food, while remaining bailed straw can be used for cellulosic material.

This could ease the crisis of growing food prices worldwide, said Adrian Tsang, director of Concordia University's Centre for Structural and Functional Genomics.

The Centre has been chosen as the lead academic institution in the Cellulosic Biofuels Network, a federal government-funded research initiative into cellulose-based ethanol.

Using plants' organic leftovers to create fuel is also more energy efficient than current ethanol practices.

Its production uses significantly less resources than corn-based ethanol, which requires a significant amount of water and nitrogen.

Yet the full environmental benefits of cellulosic ethanol cannot be determined without large-scale implementation, Tsang said.

"The prediction looks great, but we need to go into practice," he said. "It's not a simple equation."

Success will depend on a number of variables such as location, method of production and efficiency of individual plants.

Implementation should therefore be carefully devised and not rushed into, Tsang added.

"We don't know what all the ramifications are... We need to think carefully before we move ahead."

Johnson warns there may in fact be negative environmental results to cellulosic ethanol.

Harvesting an entire grain plant for cellulosic ethanol means clear-

ing it from the field, where it would otherwise stay for a longer period, removing carbon from the environment.

But Tsang said we need to look past the many unknowns around cellulose-based biofuel. We don't have any other options in terms of creating a sustainable transportation fuel, he said.

The infrastructure for electric cars does not exist, while energy cannot realistically fuel vehicles – a liquid fuel is needed, Tsang said.

"We really don't have much choice... if we want to replace petroleum."

Last week in our campus briefs, we mistakenly named LGBT* students' director Jonathan Niemczak as the organizer of the protest at the Canadian Blood Services' campus blood drive. In fact, Niemczak was not the organizer, but rather a participant. We regret the error.

CONTRIBUTORS:

Megan Turnbull, Ryan Janz, Robert Huynh, James Culleton, Cindy Titus, Brooke Dmytriw, Steve Currie, Craig Heinrich, Andrew Tod, J. Williams, James Janzen, Sagan Morrow, Marina Koslock, Jonathan Dyck, James Hawboldt, Samuel Swanson, Graham Blicq, Kate-Lyn Danyluk, Gaëlle Engelberts, Chris Hunter, Adam Johnson, Marko Bilandzija, Brad Pennington, Kevin Chaves, Jess Chapman, Dave Hollier, Trevor Hagan.

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CONTACT US ⇨
General Inquiries: 204.786.9790
Advertising: 204.786.9790
Editors: 204.786.9497
Fax: 204.783.7080
E-mail: uniter@uniter.ca
Web: www.uniter.ca

LOCATION ⇨
Room ORM14
University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9



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STREETER

BY JOE KORNELSEN

Q: DO YOU THINK BIOFUELS ARE A GOOD ALTERNATIVE TO PETROLEUM?



Cecil Prince
Support worker
"Absolutely. Biofuels are more earth friendly and other fuels are being used up. In the long run biofuels are the only way to go. The government should make laws encouraging their use."



Lisa Marchant
Second year student, anthropology
"Yeah I think biofuels are good. We need to do anything we can to better the Earth."



Denis Orr
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority worker
"The technology has a ways to go. It will be a good alternative, but at this point I don't think it's cost effective. Ultimately I think it will be a good replacement."



Stephen Ross
Fourth year student, history
"I think biofuels would be better. There are plenty of plants, not as much oil."



Mina Mayel
Second year student, science
"I think biofuels are a good alternative, because they are made from organic matter and biomass; they're renewable, plus I think they are better for the environment."



Sarah Semmler
Fourth year student, biology
"No, I think the best alternative is green electric energy. I would rather go to solar than biofuels. We should reserve the crops for food rather than fuel."

Hydro dam has mixed benefits for community

Residents torn on the project's implications

ANDREW MCMONAGLE
BEAT REPORTER

Residents of a northern Manitoba community are divided on the idea of Manitoba Hydro building a dam in their area.

Solange Garson, a former Split Lake resident now living in Winnipeg, feels the Keeyask dam will bring more harm than good to her remote Cree community, located about 143 kilometres west of Thompson.

The Tataskweyak Cree Nation in Split Lake was greatly affected by the Churchill River diversion in 1977, making residents wary of further Hydro developments.

"Split Lake was a beautiful place with six beautiful beaches," she said. "Now it's gone."

The Keeyask Generating Station is still in its planning stages. When built, it will be located in the Split Lake Resource Management Area on the lower Nelson River. It will be one of Hydro's largest dam projects in northern Manitoba.

The people of Split Lake voted the proposal in on Feb. 6.

But Marcus Rempel, spokesperson for the Interfaith Task Force on North Hydro Development (ITF), a group of church members from across Manitoba who are concerned with the public consultations around Hydro developments, noted that voter turnout was slim, and that the vote was won by a small majority.

According to *CTV Winnipeg*, over 60 per cent of voters voted yes on the project.

It still needs to be voted in by three other First Nations communities: Fox Lake, York Factory and War Lake, reported the *Canadian Press*. The dates for these votes have yet to be determined.

"It's a difficult marriage," Rempel said. "By supporting these foreign energy interests, the local issues are ignored."

But for Larry Beardy, the Anglican priest in Split Lake, there is nothing difficult about the decision to partner with Hydro.

Bardey is a member of the Tataskweyak Cree Nation who is involved in the promotion of the Keeyask project.

"The church leaders in Tataskweyak were asked to tell the story of the partnership with Manitoba Hydro," he said. "We're looking at business and employment opportunities."

Bardey said the Keeyask dam project is just another step in a long history of First Nations communities partnering with industry, which stretches from the fur trade to working on the Canada railway.

"It's a natural process," Beardy said. "Our people have voted in favour of the partnership. It's one way of improving the community."

In an effort to minimize the negative effects of the Keeyask dam, Manitoba Hydro has generated Adverse Effects Agreements (AEAs) with the affected four nations.

The AEA proposes several "offsetting programs" that try to even out any problems that Keeyask may produce in the area.

These offsetting programs include profit sharing and funding for community development. This includes compensation in the form of satellite phones, leased vehicles, and more (see box for more info).

It also provides Tataskweyak with over \$2 million a year for every year of the project after 2013,

THE ADVERSE EFFECTS ACT

Manitoba Hydro is attempting to minimize the damage their dams have on surrounding ecosystems. Here is what's involved in the Adverse Effects Act (AEA) for the Tataskweyak people.

The Keeyask Dam project has unavoidable negative effects on the Tataskweyak people's traditional way of life, including:

- ⇒ Food gathering by hunting, trapping and fishing
- ⇒ Traditional learning methods
- ⇒ Natural and spiritual relationship with the land

Offsetting programs seek to counterbalance those effects. Hydro will provide \$2 million on March 31, 2009 and again on March 31, 2010 to manage the programs. The Tataskweyak Cree Nation is solely responsible for administering the offsetting programs, including:

- ⇒ **Access Program** - Provides hunters and fishermen access to other areas to practice in, compensating for the loss of viability on the Nelson River and on land in Split Lake.
- ⇒ **Traditional Lifestyle Experience Program** - Provides funding, supplies and mentors to give young adults opportunities to learn about and experience traditional lifestyles.
- ⇒ **Cree Language Program** - Provides instructors and materials for the teaching of the Cree language.

Source: Cree Nation Partners



Former Split Lake resident Solange Garson is worried the Keeyask dam will continue the destruction Manitoba Hydro caused in her community.

facts of the dam.

The extent and timeline of this study have not yet been developed.

Bardey is also encouraged by Manitoba Hydro's promise to build a culture centre in Split Lake, and by their support of a Fall Access Program.

This program will help fund traditional hunting and fishing expeditions away from the Split Lake area for the area's Cree people.

These activities were displaced from Split Lake due to environmental damage in the area from previous Hydro projects, like the Churchill River diversion.

"The erosion of the shorelines is a major concern," Garson said. "I've seen deformed fish which I never used to."

Garson also has issues with the way the money is being distributed in the community.

"We've not seen any financial transparencies. I've been bugging them for this since 2000," she said.

Construction dates have yet to be announced.

Manitoba Hydro was not available for comment as of press time.

Controlling the force

City march against police brutality garners low turnout, strong emotional responses

JOE KORNELSEN
BEAT REPORTER

Protestors took to Winnipeg's streets to mark the 13th annual International Day Against Police Brutality recently.

About 50 people walked from Old Market Square to the Manitoba Law Courts Building on Mar. 15.

Along the way, they stopped in Central Park to hear a personal story from Roanna Hepburn, administrative assistant at the University of Manitoba's faculty of Social Work at the North End's William Norrie Centre.

Hepburn talked about her granddaughter, whom she alleges was beaten by police officers in the North End in early March.

Hepburn told the assembled crowd that when police came to investigate an argument that her granddaughter was involved in, she was arrested and violently put into a police car.

Hepburn's granddaughter was then allegedly repeatedly kicked at the police station before being sent to Winnipeg Remand Centre (WRC), a pre-trial holding facility.

Hepburn sent a letter describing the events to city councillors and to Manitoba's Law Enforcement Review Agency (LERA), and demanded an investigation of the

matter. She said she received a response from St. Boniface councillor Dan Vandal and Mynarski councillor Harry Lazarenko, both of whom said they were concerned with what happened. Winnipeg chief of police Keith McCaskill also called her and said that police will look into the situation, and that he will send her complaint to the Professional Standards Unit, which is part of the Winnipeg Police Service, she said.

The family is now considering a civil suit.

In an interview following her speech, Hepburn said that despite its relatively small turnout, the march was an important opportunity to raise awareness of what her family and others have experienced.

"This group of people is bringing attention to what is really going on out there," she said.

The march was planned by Copwatch, a group of citizens that monitor police activity.

Alex Stearns, a volunteer with Copwatch, said marches like this are significant because police straddle an important line in society.

"People have rights, rights to speech and assembly, but the truth is that these rights are only paper and the police have the power to take away these rights," she said.

Constable Jason Michalysen, public information officer with the Winnipeg Police Service, declined comment on issues related to Copwatch or the march.

He added there are institutions in place for people who want to file a complaint against the police.



About 50 people took part in the rally in support of the 13th annual International Day Against Police Brutality on Mar. 15.

"If there are complaints that are made then, there is a process that we encourage people to take," he said.

Currently, citizens should address the provincially-run LERA with any complaints they may have against the police.

The Doer government is expected to make changes to the police act this spring and Stearns said that Copwatch is working on making recommendations for the act.

Stearns said the group also plans to hold Know your Rights training sessions in schools and in prisons, to inform people of their rights when dealing with law enforcement officials.

Copwatch currently holds bi-monthly patrols with video cameras to monitor police activity.

Rachelle Diddens and University of Manitoba student Stacy Boone came along for the march, with placards at the ready.

"I believe we have a problem in this city," Diddens said. "I think the police are not getting enough training."

KEEPING OUR COPS IN CHECK

Making a claim to LERA

⇒ Manitoba's Law Enforcement Review Agency (LERA) applies to all municipal police officers in Manitoba. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is under federal jurisdiction and complaints must be made to the Commission of Public Complaints Against the RCMP.

⇒ Complaints must be filed within 30 days of the incident.

⇒ Complaints must be made in writing and can be submitted to LERA, a police chief or a member of a municipal police department.

⇒ Complaints can be resolved through informal resolution, admission by police officer, or through a hearing with a judge.

⇒ If officer is found at fault, penalties can range from admonition to dismissal.

Source: LERA

Both Boone and Diddens believe that police mistreatment is an important issue that needs to be talked about more in the city.

For more information on the proposed changes to the Provincial Police Act and Copwatch's suggestions, check out Sandy Klowak's story in issue 22 of *The Uniter*, <http://uniter.ca/view/499>.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Brooke Dmytriw

IT'S ALL DOWNHILL AFTER AGE 27

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Virginia: A recent study on mental ability concluded the brain's mental power peaks at age 22 and begins to fade thereafter, making 27 the start of old age.

Researchers at the University of Virginia, headed by professor Timothy Salthouse, tested 2,000 subjects and found reasoning, speed of thought and spatial visualization declined in the late 20s.

The subjects, aged 18 to 60, underwent the same tests doctors use to identify dementia and Alzheimer's.

According to the *BBC*, the age for top mental performance was 22.

The seven-year study also concluded memory was sound until the average age of 37; abilities involving accumulated knowledge, vocabulary and general knowledge increased until age 60.

KEEPING MEMORIES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

HELSINKI, Finland: A computer programmer who lost his finger in a motorcycle accident has developed a prosthetic fingertip containing a USB drive.

Jerry Jalava can now hold two gigabytes of memory in his fingertip, accessible simply by peeling back his nail.

The tip is removable, so Jalava can leave his finger plugged into a computer when necessary.

BBC News reported Jalava is planning to upgrade his finger with more storage and wireless technology.

Jerry lost his finger last year after crashing his motorcycle into a deer. He developed the idea for the fingertip after his doctors joked he should have a "finger drive" when discussing what Jalava did for a living.

A CHANGE OF IMAGE

ABUJA, Nigeria: Africa's most populous country is trying to improve its international reputation by announcing a new patriotic slogan and marketing campaign.

Despite its abundance of oil, Nigeria is known for its corruption and poverty, drug-transit routes and numerous e-mail and online scams. It is hoping a new slogan, "Nigeria: Good People, Great Nation" will improve people's impressions of the West African nation.

President Umaru Yar'Adua publicly said he hopes the phrase will improve the country's international image and strengthen citizens' spirits, reported *Reuters*.

The slogan will be printed on t-shirts and baseball caps for sale in the country.

Conversely, *Reuters* reported Nigerians view their resilience in the face of chaos with pride, saying if they can survive Nigeria, they can survive anywhere.

IRANIAN BLOGGER DIES IN PRISON

TEHRAN, Iran: A blogger arrested for insulting Ayatollah Ali Khamenei died in prison.

Omid Mir Sayafi, reported to be in his late 20s, was first arrested in April 2008, released 41 days later and then re-arrested and sentenced to two-and-a-half years for comments he made about the Ayatollah on his blog.

A fellow inmate, Hessam Firouzi, called Sayafi's lawyer saying Sayafi was not receiving proper care from the prison doctor.

Firouzi alleged that Sayafi, who suffered from depression, had overdosed on anti-depression medication without medical attention, the International Campaign for Human Rights (ICHR) in Iran reported on its website.

CNN reported the ICHR is accusing the government of failing to improve prison conditions and hold prison officials accountable for Sayafi's death.

Sayafi's lawyer has inquired about his client's death with the prison, but has received no response.

Canadian newcomers have bleak pension prospects

Immigrants unaware of their pension entitlements

DAN HUYGHEBAERT
BEAT REPORTER

When Mary (not real name) moved here from El Salvador 11 years ago with her daughter, she did not know she would be eligible for Old Age Security (OAS).

Speaking through a translator, Mary, 75, said she found out when the government sent her a letter in the mail telling her she was eligible.

"I was very happy to know," Mary said.

Linda Lalande, executive director of the International Centre of Winnipeg, said she highly doubts newly arrived immigrants know they are eligible for OAS.

"We had seniors who attended a language class who didn't know they could collect it," Lalande said. "We helped them apply."

The International Centre is an agency that provides programming and support to help newly arrived Canadians integrate into Winnipeg life.

Lalande pointed out most immigrants have no financial planning skills.

To be eligible for OAS and the Canadian Pension Plan (CPP), a person must be a Canadian citizen and must have resided in Canada for at least 10 years after the age of 18.

The OAS is financed from federal tax revenues and employment history is not a factor. Workers themselves make contributions to the CPP through ongoing employment.

Yet both plans must be applied for – a fact many immigrants are unaware of.

Lalande thinks there should be



Many new Canadians are uninformed about their Canada Pension Plan rights and the jobs that get them, which results in smaller pension earnings.

a program to educate newly arrived Canadians about such programs, as well as provide ongoing information.

CPP government representatives could not be reached for comment

before press time.

John Doyle, communications co-ordinator at the Manitoba Federation of Labour, said very few new Canadians have a good pension as a lot of them enter the

Canadian workforce late.

"It would help if Canada got its act together of recognition of foreign credentials," Doyle said, adding it would put new Canadians in a higher income bracket while in the workplace.

Doyle also sees a problem with the jobs new Canadians get.

"New residents usually take up non-union low paying jobs while they try to secure training to get into unionized work," he said.

Unions include pensions in their collective agreements.

Only 35 per cent of the non-agricultural workforce is unionized, Doyle said.

In the meantime, Mary's financial situation is not dire, because she lives with her daughter, who works at a school café.

She hopes her daughter will have a decent pension after paying into the CPP for 11 years – but it probably will not be as much as the pension of someone born in Canada.

Biking for change

International biking tour draws Winnipeggers, but never makes it to town

KSENIA PRINTS
NEWS PRODUCTION EDITOR



Otesha Project bike tours cross Canada and spread a message of sustainability.

University of Winnipeg urban and inner city studies student Andrea Derbecker spent last fall biking along Canada's east coast, trying to teach the residents of small, back-water towns about fair trade coffee and water conservation.

"We focused on the things they already had and did in these communities," she said. "We were in rural Newfoundland, there's not a lot of [sustainability activism] there."

For two months Derbecker, 21, lived in a collective community, where all decisions were made by consensus based on a strong ethical message.

"We once spent half-an-hour arguing on whether to buy molasses because it wasn't fair trade," she recalls.

This wasn't just some nutcase experiment in collective living. Derbecker was a part of the Otesha Project – an international bike tour that has youth cycling across various regions of Canada, teaching others how to live a sustainable lifestyle.

Between September and October 2008, Derbecker biked with Otesha from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to St. John's, Newfoundland.

"It just put life into perspective in a really great way," she said. "I was really able to de-clutter my mind and just bike for the day."

Derbecker participated in Otesha's fourth run. The Project began in 2003, after sustainable development students Jocelyn Land-Murphy and Jessica Lax returned from Kenya.

Overwhelmed by the Canadian life of excess, the two decided to bring some simplicity back home – and formed the country's first sustainable theatre troupe on bicycles.

"It was this idea they could be empowered agents of positive

change in the world," said Kelly Bowden, Otesha's current program co-ordinator.

She cites Otesha's slogan, "Be the change you wish to see."

Otesha is now an annual bike tour and travelling sustainability show. It goes through up to six different routes across the country, with tours lasting between one and two months.

The destinations change every year, in attempt to expose as many people as possible to Otesha's message of sustainability.

But Manitoba hasn't been on Otesha's tour list in three years. Winnipeggers like Derbecker have joined tours in other areas.

Bowden cites organizational reasons, saying it was impossible to squeeze Manitoba into the Prairies tour, going from Alberta to Saskatchewan over the span of two months.

This is a problem for local cycling organizations, who insist Winnipeg's vibrant cycling scene is often overlooked.

"I feel there would be a vast array of people and resources in the city they (Otesha) could interact with here," said Geoff Heath, volunteer co-ordinator for the Bike Dump, a bicycle collective and do-it-yourself repair shop in Winnipeg.

"It would really make sense if the Otesha project came through [Winnipeg] and through the Bike Dump, get a tune up and even learn some skills," he said.

According to Bowden, Otesha needs local organizational support to go through an area.

But Heath said Otesha never approached the Bike Dump for potential collaboration.

"Maybe they think Winnipeg has enough info on these themes," Heath said, referring to Otesha's

HOW TO JOIN IN?

Otesha is still accepting people for its summer and autumn 2009 tours. The tours are:

Sunshine Coast Tour - May 25 to July 19 - A tour across B.C. Marked as physically challenging.

Great Lakes Tour - Sept. 1 to Oct. 26 - A tour of three of North America's Great Lakes: Huron, Erie and Ontario.

Rising Tide Tour - Aug. 1 to Aug. 28 - A coalition-building tour that allows youth to meet prominent activists in Halifax. Emphasis on learning and not performing.

⇒ To participate, you have to be between 18 and 30 and have some riding experience. Advice on physical fitness training will be provided before the tour.

For more information, or to sign up, go to www.otesha.ca/bike+tours/.

Source: The Otesha Project

sustainability message.

Otesha's message is slowly making its way into Winnipeg. Derbecker took lessons from Otesha back to her community economic development studies and her work with inner city youth at the Turtle Island Neighbourhood Centre.

"I was really inspired to build that sense of community I felt in the program in my own home."

For more information on the Otesha project or to sign up for a tour, check out www.otesha.ca. For information on the Bike Dump, check out bike-dump.ca. ■

Culture of fear

Does a 'good faith' warning policy have service workers acting as vigilantes?

ANDREW MCMONAGLE
BEAT REPORTER

A Winnipeg resident was recently reminded of the sensitivity to public safety when police raided his home in search of weapons – on account of a toy gun.

David Leckie was getting an Internet connection installed by Manitoba Telecom Services (MTS) on Feb. 19.

An hour after the technician left, members of the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) came to his door armed with rifles and wearing intimidating black outfits.

Leckie had no idea what was going on.

The police handcuffed him and searched his West Broadway apartment. They said they had a report of weapons on the premises.

The search turned up the culprit, a toy gun that Leckie had used as a prop in a movie.

The entire incident took about 15 minutes, Leckie said.

Leckie still didn't understand the reason behind the incident, but he had an idea; so he went to the MTS head office to try and figure it out.

MTS security services informed Leckie the technician who visited his home had called the police in response to seeing the gun in the apartment.

This response is routine for MTS, which has a policy on reporting suspicious incidents based on the judgment of its service workers, Jill Gibson from MTS communications wrote in an e-mail.

"MTS Allstream is regretful for any inconvenience caused by this incident. MTS Allstream's obligation to the public and the safety of its contractors and their employees is to report incidents like this to the proper authority to investigate and act appropriately."

This policy is no problem for the police. WPS Constable Jason Michalysen said the police do get false incidents occasionally, but it's a case of better safe than sorry.

Michalysen wrote that Leckie



West Broadway resident David Leckie discovered that even a toy gun is enough to get MTS workers worried about public safety.

has to understand the police were acting on good faith.

For Leckie, this is no matter to be taken lightly. He is upset not only because the gun was a toy, but because he denies holding or using it in any way while the technician was in his home.

Leckie said the gun was behind a bar counter where the technician was working, far from where he was standing.

"There's only room for one person behind the bar," he said.

Leckie admits the gun was painted entirely black, which could make it seem real, but that "if you looked at it up close, it would not look realistic at all."

"Decisions have to be made when we're aware of a situation where a gun is involved," Michalysen said. "We have to take that info as being factual."

No charges were laid against Leckie.

Leckie is not concerned about the police response, but is instead upset by MTS's apparent unwillingness to take responsibility.

"I'm expecting nothing from them at this point," Leckie said. "But I would like to hear them say sorry."

Leckie has cancelled his service with MTS. They have since sent him a bill for the installation, which he does not plan on paying.

"What if this happened to someone with children or [who] were elderly?" asked Leckie. "They (MTS) would probably be more serious about it." ■

Local News Briefs

Compiled by Steve Currie

A CRIMINAL DAY OFF

It may not be a holiday for most of us, but Winnipeg's car thieves took a day off early this month.

Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) reported that the first Tuesday of this month, Mar. 3, was the first zero-theft day in decades.

MPI president, Marilyn McLaren, told *CBC* this shows Winnipeg is growing out of its reputation as an auto theft capital.

Car theft has dropped 62 per cent in Manitoba in the last two years. Over that time, the province initiated several anti-theft programs, such as the immobilizer subsidy.

PROVINCE IN THE CLEAR

Manitoba's third quarter financial update came bearing good news: The province is beating back the recession with a \$316 million surplus, \$220 million more than expected.

The surplus will speed up a \$40 million payment for infrastructure to the City of Winnipeg. The money is earmarked for road repair and rapid transit funding.

A government press release quoted Finance Minister Gary Selinger as saying the surplus, as well as a continued focus on stability, will ensure the government's good luck remains.

BETTER MEDICARE, THE GRIT WAY

Jon Gerrard, the leader of the Liberal Party of Manitoba, has a new vision for provincial health spending.

Gerrard told *CBC* he sees the current system as top-heavy and allowing regional authorities too much discretionary control of the budget.

He also accused Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) administration of guzzling up a substantial portion of all funds before they reach patients.

Gerrard envisions a system akin to what cataract surgery currently uses, wherein a flat rate is paid for the procedure regardless of where it is done.

Gerrard hopes changes to WRHA regulations will ensure public funds are actually going to the delivery of services, thus improving the system's overall accountability.

BIODIESEL? NOT FOR MANITOBA

Manitoba has licensed its first bio-diesel plant, but our neighbours south of the border will reap all the benefits.

The Greenway Bio-diesel plant in St. Boniface will export all of its output to Minnesota, where consumers receive a \$1-per-gallon subsidy for blending biofuel and petroleum.

Royce Rostecki, Greenway's owner, called this an "insurmountable disadvantage" in an interview with the *Winnipeg Free Press*.

Manitoba's Biofuels Act mandates a five per cent blend of biofuels in petroleum diesel to create local demand. The establishment of a local bio-diesel producer was a legislative prerequisite for this mandate.

CALLING ALL LIBERALS

Leader of the Opposition Michael Ignatieff visited Winnipeg on Mar. 20, his first official visit since taking over the federal liberal party.

At a speech to local business leaders, Ignatieff called for increased federal education, training and infrastructure funding for the provinces.

He also called for investment in an east-west Canadian power grid, a potential boom for the energy-rich Western provinces.

The Winnipeg speech is a part of a Liberal Party of Canada's attempt to awaken party support in the Western provinces through a series of speeches, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported.

The following evening Ignatieff spoke at the annual general meeting of the provincial liberals.

Campus News

Visiting speaker accused of anti-Semitism

Confrontation sparks academic freedom debate

SANDY KLOWAK
BEAT REPORTER

A professor invited to speak at the University of Winnipeg earlier this month was accused of anti-Semitism after his lecture, sparking a debate on the limits of academic free speech.

Anthony Hall, professor in the department of globalization studies at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta, was invited to speak by the U of W's sociology department as their annual distinguished lecturer on March 6.

He presented a paper called *Bush League Justice: Should George W. Bush be Arrested in Calgary Alberta to be Tried for International Crimes?*

After his lecture, Hall was confronted by a group including Rhonda Spivak, editor of local publication *The Jewish Post and News*, and U of W psychology professor Evelyn Schaefer.

The group accused Hall of anti-Semitism based on an unrelated article, in which he suggested Israeli intelligence services, among many others, had prior knowledge of the 9-11 terrorist attacks. The article appears on mt911truth.org, a website that also features a swastika.

The 9-11 Truth movement believes the infamous terrorist attacks were an inside job orchestrated by the American government, possibly in conjunction with other nations.

"It was almost like they were conducting a trial," Hall said of the confrontation.

Hall said the group physically blocked his exit from the classroom.

"It was very clear that the intention was to hurt me professionally," he said.

In the Mar. 11 issue of *The Jewish Post and News*, Spivak wrote, "the Department of



Academic freedom was recently challenged at the U of W, when a visiting professor was cornered and accused of anti-Semitism following a lecture.

Sociology at U of W ought to be reproached for its very dismal choice of bringing in Dr. Anthony Hall to deliver its 'distinguished' annual lecture."

Spivak and Schaefer both refused comment on the incident.

Michael Dudley, a research associate and library co-ordinator at the U of W's Institute of Urban Studies who attended Hall's lecture, said the treatment Hall experienced on campus is unacceptable as it discourages free speech in academia.

"That's what an academic institution ought to do, to invite people who are controversial."

According to Dudley, Hall's statements to the effect that Israel's intelligence agency Mossad had foreknowledge of the 9-11 attacks are based on well-known reports from the mainstream media, including the Sunday

Telegraph and Fox News, and not on fringe websites.

"These reports have been part of the public record for years. To say that he's anti-Semitic for citing these mainstream news stories, and then to imply that our sociology department who invited him is also anti-Semitic – it's so wrong."

Hall said his views are not anti-Semitic. "I've done my homework on this subject and I really resent any suggestion that I am a Nazi," he said.

"That is not a Nazi site," he said about the 9-11 Truth website that posted his article.

Patrick Biron, the website's administrator, said the swastika image on his site, which is made of bullets and features the American, British, Israeli and NATO flags, is not a sign of Nazi affiliation but an image that he posted to raise awareness for a specific movie on his website.

"The image is meant to be eye-catching and provocative," Biron said.

The symbol references an alliance of western countries allegedly engaged in a terrorist operation against their own nations, he said.

"Hitler was the worst evil ever. Well, this is another kind of evil and we have to watch out for it," Biron said.

But Bob Freedman, chief executive officer of the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg, said this long-winded explanation is irrelevant.

"If you go to the website, would you understand that?"

It's what you see that counts, he said.

Freedman said Hall uses his status as an academic as a get-out-of-jail-free card for his controversial views.

"This is a guy walking under the guise of an academic, and at the end of the day he was challenged and he didn't like it," he said.

Hall said the incident reflects poorly on the U of W and how they treat guests in their institution.

He feels the U of W should have provided security staff for his lecture due to the heightened sensitivity of anti-apartheid week, during which it took place.

In the meantime, U of W administration is taking its time mulling over the case.

"The University will be interviewing all relevant witnesses and those involved in the incident," Diane Poulin, communications officer for the U of W, wrote in an e-mail. "Our goal of the process is to ensure that we clearly understand what occurred and determine whether there has been any violation of university policy on anyone's part."

Poulin stated the university will determine its "course of action, if any, based on the results of the investigation."

The sociology department could not release a comment before press time.

Dudley hopes the U of W will apologize to Hall for the treatment he experienced on campus.

"I worry that by remaining silent about these accusations the university is giving credence to them," he said.

BANNING BUSH

Professor Anthony Hall's lecture at the University of Winnipeg was sparked by former United States President George W. Bush's visit to Calgary, the first since the end of his presidency, on Tuesday, Mar. 17.

Hall also attended a protest outside the Telus Convention Centre in downtown Calgary, where Bush addressed an invitation-only crowd. Four protesters were arrested.

Hall, along with several groups including Lawyers Against the War (LAW), argues Bush should be banned from Canada for being guilty of war crimes by allegedly sanctioning torture in U.S. prisons in Iraq and at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Canadian law prohibits anyone suspected of war crimes from entering the country. Once over the border, Canada has a legal obligation to investigate the case.

Hall's lecture can be found at www.peacealliancewinnipeg.ca/2009/03/bush-league-justice.

Pick up your copy of the Summer Session Calendar at the Admissions Office, or call (204) 474-8008 to order a copy.

The Class Schedule is online at umanitoba.ca/summer

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Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Craig Heinrich

MAYOR REBUILDS ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz released the names of the councillors who will comprise the new Mayor's Environmental Advisory Committee.

The appointed committee offers the mayor advice about sustainability practices. The last incarnation of the committee disbanded six weeks ago over a dispute regarding the group's mandate.

New members on the council include students, the new principal at the University of Winnipeg's Richardson College for the Environment, a cycling activist and a collection of environmental consultants, co-ordinators and lawyers, reported the *Winnipeg Free Press*.

The new committee will hold its first meeting Mar. 31.

NATIONAL CHIEF TO SPEAK AT U OF W

The national chief of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), Phil Fontaine, has big ideas about the role indigenous people will play in the struggling economy.

Fontaine will speak on the issue at the University of Winnipeg's Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall, Mar. 30 at 7 p.m.

Phil Fontaine has been the national chief of AFN for an unprecedented three terms; he is a highly respected leader for First Nations communities across Canada.

STEREOTYPES CAN IMPACT YOUR BRAIN

A recent study done by two university professors suggests negative stereotypes may negatively affect the grades students receive on specialized tests.

According to Steven Spencer, one of the co-authors of the study, students worried about playing into negative stereotypes with their test answers exercise over-excessive caution when answering questions - which eventually leads to poor results, *Maclean's OnCampus* reported.

Based on these results, the professors claim that women and ethnic groups who seem to perform poorly - or even just as well as their privileged counterparts - on tests contain an untapped potential in all fields.

COLLEAGUE OF THE KING COMES TO U OF W

For the second try in a month, a distinguished civil rights activist and historian, not to mention speechwriter for the late Martin Luther King Jr., will be coming to speak at the University of Winnipeg.

Vincent Harding will present his lecture, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Barack Obama's Other Ancestors, free of charge on Apr. 2 at 7 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall.

Harding was first set to speak at the U of W on Mar. 5, but the talk got postponed for unknown reasons.

FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION FUNDS SQUANDERED BY THE FEDS

A new government audit suggests the Conservative government failed remarkably in its efforts to track post-secondary educational funding for First Nations youths across the nation.

The report found that over 10,000 qualified students are stuck on waiting lists despite being ready to go to school after the government failed to allocate any funds for them, *Canadian Press* reported.

Yet the government has no ideas, as it failed to trace its spending of \$300 million on aboriginal tuition this year.

The government claimed that higher education is one of its primary ways to improve First Nations' living standards.

The audit called on the government to develop checks in the system to ensure the proper allocation of funds.

Voter turnout way up in UWSA election

New president wins by a hair; environmental projects embraced

TOBAN DYCK
NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

SANDY KLOWAK
BEAT REPORTER

Democracy is on a good path at the University of Winnipeg.

This year's University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) general election saw a six per cent hike in voter turnout from last year. The election brought in 13.3 per cent of the total university population, the highest voter turnout since 2003, according to chief elections commissioner Michael Rac.

The 1,338 ballots cast made some wins decisive, while others made it in by the skin of their teeth.

With four candidates vying for the presidency, the race was tight. Jason Syvixay defeated Jason Robillard by 23 votes.

"Jason Syvixay was a surprise. I would say he was the underdog,"

said Rac.

And that's just the way Syvixay liked it.

"I feel like I had a very sneak-attack campaign strategy," he said. "Kind of like a non-strategy strategy."

Syvixay said he chose to keep a low profile, talking to students one on one, especially groups who don't usually engage in student politics.

"I didn't focus on the regular campaigning, I didn't attack anybody else."

In a recent letter to the editor, one voter expressed concern over the possible confusion of having two Jasons run for president (see letters on page 10). Rac acknowledged this could have been an issue, but said it was not brought to his attention during the weeks preceding the election.

Syvixay said he introduced himself simply as 'Jason' to many students during the campaign, which may have increased confusion at the ballot.

And Syvixay's luck is not solitary. He ran in a successful three person slate with Brent Gali, next year's science director, and Jazmin Villalta, incoming environmental ethics director.

The slate was called 'Come Together,' and focused on being a voice for a united student body.

Of the contested executive positions, Kelly Ross won back her seat as vice president student services, and David EisBrenner will be next year's vice president advocate.

This year's election is sure to make waves beyond the university with the passing of two progressive referendum questions. The proposal to make the U of W the first Canadian university to eliminate bottled water sales passed with 976 'yes' votes and 328 'no' votes.

President and vice-chancellor Lloyd Axworthy expressed the university administration's support of this student-led initiative at a press conference on Monday, Mar. 23.

UWSA environmental ethics director Stephanie Chartrand is pleased the referendum passed, but expected more support.

"I know there was a lot of controversy around the issue because people think it's a recycling issue rather than a paying for water issue," Chartrand said. "We need water to live and it's just a human right to have access to it."

The university plans to conduct a water audit and infrastructure upgrades to ensure that drinking fountains are in optimal condition.

The referendum question proposing a \$2 student levy for an on-campus cycling repair, education and advocacy facility also passed.

"This program could raise the bar nationally for campus sustainable transportation," said Robin Bryan, a U of W student who has been working to raise support for the initiative.

THE WINNERS

Who will be representing you next year:

President: **Jason Syvixay**

Vice president academic (VPA): **David EisBrenner**

Vice president internal (VPI): **Courtney Maddock**

Vice president student services (VPSS): **Kelly Ross**

Adaptive services students' director: **Jesse Turner**

Business and economics director: **Nick Zawadski**

Canadian federation of students' (CFS) liaison director: **Vinay Iyer**

Community liaison director: **Tyler Blashko**

Environmental ethics director: **Jazmin Villalta**

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and *(LGBT*) students' director: **Geoff Brown**

Science director: **Brent Gali**

U of W seeks students

Despite initial high enrolment rates, U of W concerned about last year's drop; looks to student services and expansion as solutions

DAN HUYGHEBAERT
BEAT REPORTER

Even though the University of Winnipeg's enrolment growth has outpaced the national average in the past, the university's administration still thinks there's room for improvement.

Statistics Canada recently reported the national enrolment growth rate for the 2006-2007 year was only 0.9 per cent.

In contrast, the U of W saw its enrolment rate increase by 4.2 per cent during the same period.

While university enrolment stagnated during the 1990s, rates have jumped up significantly since then.

But it went downhill in 2007-2008.

"We took a big hit last year," said Neil Besner, associate vice president international for the U of W.

That year saw the university's numbers drop 5.3 per cent.

"We are more dependant on revenue from tuition than other universities," Besner said, citing funding as one of the reasons.

This year, enrolment increased by 2.1 per cent from last year's low. But at 9,036, it is still less than the 2006-2007 numbers.

Besner said the key to raising enrolment is improving student services. He pointed to a redesigned website and improvements in advising and admissions, which he hopes will make a difference.

"We're not perfect, but we're im-



Associate vice president international Neil Besner said U of W enrolment has been drastically changing in the last three years.

proving," he said.

In addition, Besner pointed to the U of W's expansion projects as only helping enrolment.

Besner said it will be the first time in 50 years that the university will have new science labs.

"We'll have one of the best science buildings in the country," he said.

The faculty of science, which has seen its enrolment wane over the last couple of years, saw its 2008-

2009 numbers jump 43.9 per cent from last year.

Rod Hanley, the dean of science at the U of W, thinks the new science building will be a factor in attracting students.

"At the career fair, we had a fair number of students asking about [the new building]," Hanley said.

He said the faculty tries to respond to demographic trends, pointing to a decline in the humanities.

"Kids want to be immediately employable upon graduation," he said. "I think that helps us in the sciences."

John Danakas, public affairs director for the University of Manitoba, said it's tougher to meet enrolment numbers today.

He said the University of Manitoba also experienced a decrease in enrolment this year, mainly due to demographics. Total enrolment was down 0.6 per cent for the winter 2009 term, dropping from 25,518 in 2008 to 25,364.

"Fewer students are graduating, so there are less people in that age group," he said.

"Traditionally, Manitoba students have stayed in the province to go to university."

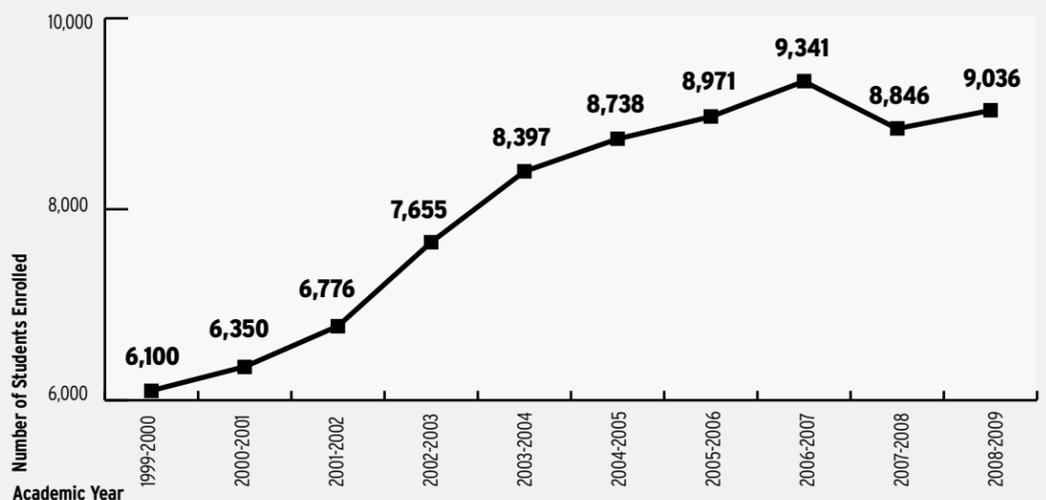
Furthermore, the pool of available international students may be drying up. Danakas said China increased investment in its post-secondary infrastructure, which has led to less international students here.

Besner disagreed, pointing to a stronger Chinese economy as a reason for students to leave.

"It would still be cheaper for them to come to North America to go school," Besner said.

THE NUMBERS

University of Winnipeg student enrolment since 1999-2000:



Comments

No progress here

Science minister's evolution comments expose Canada's backwardness



STEVE CURRIE
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Imagine a minister of justice who believed in stoning adulteresses or a minister of health who prescribed exorcism.

It is impossible to believe that any of Canada's portfolios could be headed by a minister whose views on the subject hadn't changed since the book of Genesis.

Or at least it was impossible until Mar. 17, when MP Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology), refused to comment on evolution in an interview with the *Globe and Mail* on the basis of it being irrelevant.

"I'm not going to answer that question. I am a Christian, and I don't think anybody asking a question about my religion is appropriate," he said.

Evolution, in the eyes of the nation's executive agent who funds scientific initiatives, is a religious question – impossible for a Christian to discuss without conflict of interest.

He covered himself the next day in a re-active interview with CTV, reassuring voters outside of the Fundamentalist Christian Right that he believed in evolution, or at least his definition of it:

"We are evolving every year, every decade. That's a fact, whether it is to the intensity of the sun, whether it is to, as a chiropractor, walking on cement versus anything else, whether it is running shoes or high heels."

Let's hope that voters and critics can pressure Goodyear enough to put down his Genesis and pick up a high school biology textbook

This is a man's grasp of the powerful, verified and applicable theory in the whole of the natural sciences is limited to a nearly illiterate commentary on footwear. The question is whether we, as Canadians, are content to allow this man to judge which scientific endeavours are worthy of federal funding.

Strangely, frighteningly, impossibly, the answer may be yes.

Liberal science critic Marc Garneau made no bones about it. The *Globe and Mail* quotes him saying that believing in evolution is not in the job description of the science minister.

How about believing in the automobile for the minister of industry?

Or believing in a round earth for the minister of foreign affairs?

Canadians seem willing to accept this insult to the secular state. We are not in any way a fundamentalist nation, yet we are posed to allow our science policy to be dictated to us by a holder of the most backwards and divisive viewpoints in modern science: creationism.

Perhaps it is our love of plurality, our innate 'nice guy' feelings that any idea popular with enough people must be taken seriously. I teach biology classes on Saturdays – the number one excuse I hear made for creationists during my struggle against their irascible influence is "everyone is entitled to their own opinion."

It is difficult to imagine a more dangerous mindset in evaluating the executive branch of our government.

And if you are as naive as Marc Garneau, and think that Goodyear's inability to differentiate science and hocus-pocus is private and separate from his work, cast your eye over the science spending for the year: cuts to history, cuts to critical theory, and an unprecedented elimination of funding for Genome Canada, cornerstone of evolutionary biology in Canada.

Let's hope that voters and critics can pressure Goodyear enough to put down his Genesis and pick up a high school biology textbook.

Otherwise who knows where the next cuts will fall. Apples? Snakes? Or on those crazy folks who don't think maternal mortality comes from original sin?

Gary Goodyear has been an MP since 2004, and has been endorsed by the anti-gay marriage group Vote Marriages Canada.

Steve Currie is president of the DUI debate club, and blogs at internet-arguments.blogspot.com.



Growing up is tough, unless you're a gynecologist

Hi Gang. It's me, J. Williamez. I'm back for yet another edition of my weekly column "Good and Evil with J. Williamez" (because there are clearly not enough people complaining about it to make the editors force me to stop).

Today I'd like to talk to you all about the virtues and evils of employment. I'm choosing this topic because, this past week, I finally got a job. This is something I've been talking about doing (while secretly promising myself I would never do) since the last time I had a job which was about three years ago. Since then I've made a living playing what I like to call "cock and ball music," but what could also be called offensive musical comedy, every Monday night at Shannon's Irish Pub. Don't get me wrong, it's a pretty sweet deal. I get to have a lot of fun doing that stuff. For example, next Monday (March 30), I'm having a Projectile Party, which means I'll be bringing my crappy guitar and I'll be encouraging people to throw foodstuffs at me while I play. It should be a lot of fun.

But the time has finally come for me to start thinking about acting like a grown up - for me to really buckle down and become a productive member of society. Maybe I'll buy a car, and get myself a nice mortgage on a little house with a white picket fence and then have a couple of kids. Or I guess I could always start an expensive heroin habit with the money I'll be making. Who knows? Anyway, my point is that it's time for me to grow up, and by that, of course I mean make a ton of money.

When I was young, I thought that having a job was just something grown up people did because they had finally grown weary of running around playing all day and was therefore none of my business. Whenever someone asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up I always said that I didn't know, but secretly I knew that this was a silly question due to the fact that I was never going to grow up. As it turns out however, I was wrong. I clearly did grow up. I grew up into a big mature man with a moustache who plays songs about pee pees and wee wees who still giggles when he farts, even while completely alone.

That's why I got a job. Now I can do grown-up things like commute to and from work, buy groceries and complain about my job. I know there are some people who don't complain about their jobs, because they actually like their jobs, but these people are called gynecologists, and we can't all be gynecologists because there is only so much gynecologizing that needs to be done. So the rest of us will just have to suffer through. I know I will. I start my new job tomorrow. It won't be that bad, though. I'm sure I'll get used to the working life. Plus, the pay is pretty decent. I just never thought that I, J. Williamez, would ever end up as an assistant gynecologist. Life can be surprising, I guess.

J. Williamez is a local musician. You can catch him every Monday at Shannon's Irish Pub where he complains about his job, or, at your local gynecologist's office.

Two-faced Harper can't decide

Losing integrity or just losing face?



ANDREW TOD
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Stephen Harper does not seem himself lately. Gone are the days of the fiscally responsible hardliner, with his dogmatic adherence to the government bottom line. That persona seems to have died the day that the ill-behaved trio of opposition party leaders raised

their collective voice in outrage at the timid Conservative government response to the country's economic plummet.

Harper was left with a choice, and he decided to sacrifice the basic principle of minimal government spending he's preached since the old Reform Party days, instead initiating a massive government deficit. The prime minister who never compromised, who never backed down from decimating the lamb that is his Liberal Party opposition, now finds himself devoid of the macho posturing of last October's election. Where there once stood a man fresh on the heels of a "strengthened minority" now stands a humbled quasi-statesman. In fact, he now seems to stand for nothing other than what is needed to remain prime minister.

It is almost as if the sweater-vested Harper of early fall was finally made whole. Now, he must not only look the part of a kinder, gentler prime minister, but he has to act like one too. And in Parliament that involves playing nice with others, no matter how much hatred one has for dissent.

Even his once near obsessive penchant for blaming everything on the Liberals has dissipated somewhat, replaced with talk of working together with the opposition. It seems as though Harper finally looked into the meaning and functioning of a minority Parliament.

Unfortunately, Harper's equally appalling tendency to take credit where it is not due remains as much a part of his prime ministerial reign as that half-crooked smile he is photographed with so often.

And so there he was last month, on CNN no less, espousing the virtues of government stimulus spending in times of economic crisis. He even said he believes in the practice of bailouts, deficits and genuine government intervention. All this coming from a man who in early December refused to even entertain the coalition's dangerous talk of a stimulus package.

By far though, the most surprising char-



JAMES COULLETON

acteristic of the new Harper is his grasp of just how hopeless the future is for Canada's military in Afghanistan. On the same CNN program, Harper admitted to reading Afghanistan's history – a task apparently overlooked by Jean Chrétien and Paul Martin – and deducing from this history that the country has always had some sort of insurgency.

Perhaps in a time without such economic turmoil, this statement would have become a massive story. The man whose patented government response to the questioning of Canada's military mission in Afghanistan was to equate the questioner with Taliban collusion now admits that the insurgency cannot be overcome by military might. The Harper of old derided all those who believed Canada's Afghan excursion should end as cowards and terrorist sympathizers. But now he agrees at least in principle.

While most politicians come off looking like two-faced jackals when they recant their political views in lieu of looming defeat, Harper has so far managed to find success by negotiating between positions of convenience in order to placate his deluded opposition. It should be kept in mind however, that a politician who stands only for matters of convenience, in fact stands for nothing at all.

Andrew Tod is a University of Winnipeg student.

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Nowhere to stay

Government fails newcomers to Canada



DEVIN MORROW
COMMENTS EDITOR

Refugees living in Winnipeg face a huge obstacle to their settlement: a serious lack of adequate housing. The plight of new refugees and immigrants is hidden behind the cracks of government bureaucracy, but cannot be ignored.

Many new refugees and immigrants arrive through the Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council's settlement centre known as Welcome Place, located in Central Park. The government provides 20 days of free housing before refugees must find a permanent home. And though Welcome Place does its best to provide people with the means and ability to find homes and settle in Winnipeg (often allowing them to stay months longer than the government-prescribed 20 days), many get caught in an ongoing search for suitable housing that can last years.

The problem is not at Welcome Place, but located through the inadequacies of Winnipeg's general housing market and the lack of support refugees and immigrants receive from the government.

I cannot imagine having to find a clean and safe place to live in this city on a government stipend that may only be, at most, \$400 a month. And many newcomers are provided much less than that. Agencies such as Manitoba Housing Authority refuse to even consider the applications of refugee

claimants.

The main problem though is our prejudice against newcomers to Winnipeg. Landlords turn a cold shoulder to many immigrants' predicament, citing that these families (which are often large) are loud or don't take proper care of the property. Furthermore, it is rare to find an apartment or rental house for less than \$700 or \$800 that is a suitable home for a family of eight or nine.

Somehow, the government expects new families to feel welcome in this country of refuge, despite that between small budgets, shabby housing options and dangerous neighbourhoods, they are really given little incentive to stay.

Kids who have little to do and feel ostracized at school are pulled into gangs. Landlords threaten eviction with any minor complaint of

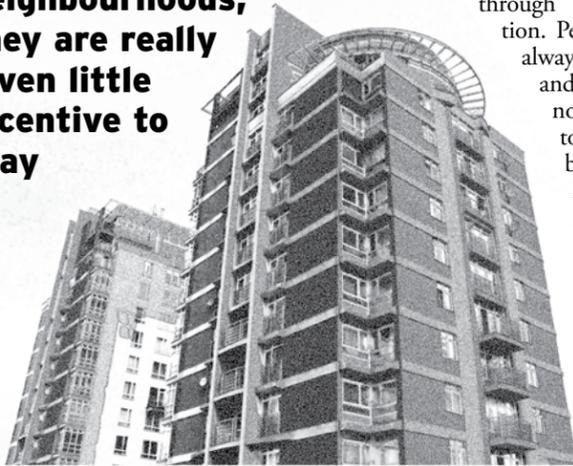
noise. Employers cite language difficulties or lack of qualifications resulting in them often providing only minimum wage jobs.

Refugee families come from some of the most violent and desperate parts of the world. Canada is a new, hopeful option as somewhere safe that can finally be considered home. Instead we consign them to the only places available – the places that no one else wants.

The government's serious failure to help these people is reflected in their lives every day. How can we suggest that this is a good place for them to be when we offer them so little? But any review of the program could take years and would probably only result in the degradation of services, either narrowing the scope of what is provided, or severely limiting the number of people Canada takes in every year. Neither of these is a satisfactory solution.

There may not be a cut and dry answer to this problem. In fact, just realizing that these issues exist is the first step towards a brighter future. Canada is a multinational country, and one that was created through immigration. People will always arrive, and they cannot hope to begin a better life here if we refuse to help.

Between small budgets, shabby housing options and dangerous neighbourhoods, they are really given little incentive to stay



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- **For your Canada Student Loan**, contact the National Student Loans Service Centre at 1-888-815-4514 (TTY for the hearing impaired: 1-888-815-4556).
- **For your provincial student loan**, contact your provincial student financial aid office at 1-800-204-1685.

If you think you might have trouble paying back your student loans, there are federal and provincial programs available to help you stay on track.

Ask about the repayment options available to you. For example, the new Repayment Assistance Plan will ensure your Canada Student Loan payments will never be higher than what you can reasonably afford.

Visit the **Spotlight On** section of CanLearn.ca for details.

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- **En ce qui concerne ton prêt d'études canadien**, communique avec le Centre de services national de prêts aux étudiants, au 1-888-815-4514 (téléimprimeur pour malentendants : 1-888-815-4556).
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Canada

There are no slumdog millionaires here

But **don't feel guilty** about it



JAMES JANZEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

KAMPALA, UGANDA – After spending the last two months working in one of Kampala's largest and poorest slums I can't say I've seen much I didn't expect. It has been a personally rewarding, emotionally taxing and incredibly human experience – but that was anticipated.

Even the guilt factor, an inevitable part of anyone's first-time experience working in such an environment, has been manageable. I've been aware of it but it has not consumed me. Here is how it comes about and why you shouldn't feel guilty.

As a relatively affluent human being it's easy to start harbouring feelings of shame, as if it is somehow your fault that poverty exists. The guilt trip starts before you even leave home to whatever impoverished destination you are headed to, with people saying things with a wry smirk, like, "So you think you can go there and help those people?"

It's like they're implying that you consider yourself as some hybrid Robert Chambers-Muhammad Yunus-Jesus Christ that is going to free the oppressed, microfinance the poor and heal the crippled. And if you do, you should probably stay home. But if you don't, then brush the comments off with a smile and ask your inquisitor where they got that great new G-unit flat-brim.

Then fly halfway around the world, burning buckets of dollars and carbon along the way, and get yourself settled into your new temporary home where you wish you could



A young boy in Uganda's Namuwongo slum in the City of Kampala.

take pictures of everything because, *Oh, the people are just so beautiful.*

But you don't because that would probably be exploitive, right?

The real kicker might not even come when you meet someone and you realize that your shoes are worth more money than they see in six months. The most overpowering, heart dropping, guilt inducing moment for me comes when meeting people twice my age with one-hundredth the education. Even with an efficient translator you can't com-

municate very well because your minds plod along at two completely different altitudes. Try explaining profit margins to someone who can't read, write or count.

It's strange but don't feel guilty. Having been exposed to the social justice grinder that is Menno Simons College, my ideas about what poverty is and how it affects people were pretty accurate. Over the last few months I've seen several visitors come to our project and take a walk through the slum. They often leave emotionally drained and in disbelief that human beings actually live in such conditions.

Well, they do. Nearly half of us do, actually. But you should be aware of that before you even think about booking your flights.

The fact that these conditions exist should make you cringe and wonder why. But you shouldn't apologize for having a comfortable life, being educated and wanting to understand the world you live in. You should want those privileges for everybody.

Anyone interested in the field of development should look for the underlying causes, social ills and societal structures that make poverty possible. The best way to do this is to talk with impoverished people and build relationships with them. Of course it is impossible to escape some ethnocentrism, no matter how long you spend abroad. You may become locally accepted but you will never

be an accepted local so don't kid yourself.

Don't try to pretend you understand what "those people" have been through but rather try and understand why "those people" have been forced to go through it in the first place.

In *Slumdog Millionaire*, young Jamil believes in destiny – that life will fall into place just because it is so written. In real slum life there is very little talk about destiny, or even any plans past where the money for the next rent payment is going to come from. At least, that's the way it is in Kampala's Namuwongo slum and I doubt Mumbai slums are any different. The lack of forward thinking about the future is one of the most depressing byproducts of poverty. How can you have dreams or goals when you go to bed hungry three days out of four?

So stop feeling guilty about how well off you are. You're not doing anyone any good and at the end of the day that kind of thinking is self-indulgent at best. Start thinking in terms of future opportunities for the organization you're working with and for those that maybe don't have the privilege to think about the future themselves. Then we can start making progress.

James Janzen is a former Uniter beat reporter and a University of Winnipeg student currently on hiatus. More correspondence at lucy-opensfire.blogspot.com.



Scenes from Kampala.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES JANZEN

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Letters

First off, congrats on a great new site and bumping up your news content. It reminds me of the original *Uptown* many, many years ago.

I am writing with regards to "The move from the west" in your last issue (issue 24). Stating "businesses are leaving the west end in droves" is way off the mark. I live and work in the West End and, if anything, have noticed the opposite over the years. New diners, ethnic shops have filled up most empty storefronts from Central Park to Arlington. The U of W, West End Cultural Centre, HI Hostels, etc. have made major investments in the area of late. Sargent has become a great hangout spot for coffee and snacks.

The stores that have left are larger ones: Safeway, Bargain Shop and Budget, but I don't think they left because of any problem with the West End. Safeway closed the two stores nearest it's new megastore at Madison Square but renovated the one at Sherbrook and Sargent. The Bargain Shop has two stores a few minutes from each other. The days of the friendly neighbourhood car rental lot were gone years ago.

As the Polo Park area continues to sprawl and areas of Portage Avenue see new retail, like mega-drugstores, larger neighbourhood stores will continue to close down. The West End, though, seems to be responding to it quite well.

C. Cassidy
The West End

I would like to take this opportunity to share my opinion about the winning of the new UWSA President Jason...?

In my opinion, the recent

UWSA election had an electoral conundrum placed before the student voters – two candidates with the same name, Jason.

Even though the final count yielded approximately 30 votes between them, I feel that this conundrum could have been served due process if the surnames were placed first. I honestly find it peculiar that I only witnessed one Jason (Robillard) sincerely campaigning, in and out of classrooms, and informing the student body of his genuine intentions. Whereas the other Jason, I was informed anonymously, was backed 'supposedly' by the "Science students." Did you know that Jason R. is a Geography student?

Additionally, I believe that pictures speak volumes and while there were monitors showcasing the candidates, pictures on ballots or in the voting cubicles would have ensured a more accurate representation of the true winner of this election.

In conclusion, I think the study body will be sorely disappointed to see the face of their new UWSA President, Jason S.

In retaliation, I am asking the student body to create a petition to rectify this case of mistaken identity.

La Donna Ogungbemi-Jackson
University of Winnipeg student
Part-Time/Mature Students' Centre
co-co-ordinator

Editor's note: *La Donna Ogungbemi-Jackson also sent the above letter to the UWSA's chief elections commissioner Michael Rac, which elicited the response which follows.*

I appreciate La Donna Ogungbemi-Jackson's letter, because it shows that this election has brought out a lot of excitement and passion in people.

As Chief Elections Commissioner, it is my job to remain impartial during the election process. Part of this impartiality, as well as in fairness to all the candidates, meant that different ballots were rotated throughout the voting period. This was done to ensure that in contested positions, candidates do not receive any unfair advantage of having their name appear first. This is also set out in the UWSA Election Policy, which is available to be viewed online at www.theuwsa.ca

"The names of candidates should be rotated so that for any given position, each candidate's name shall appear first an equal number of times."

Large TV screens with the candidates' names and pictures, as well as copies of the Candidates' bios, were also at the polling station to ensure that every voter was an informed voter.

I feel that the candidates and the election team have run a very successful campaign this year, which is evident that voter turnout nearly doubled from last year.

Michael Rac
Chief Elections Commissioner

History marches on: an ode to Professor Keenan

Come spring, the University of Winnipeg will bid farewell to yet another veteran professor. After 36 years of teaching, professor Brian Keenan will give his last lecture as a representative of the U of W. Dr. Keenan, who aptly holds the posi-

tion of student/major advisor for the philosophy department, maintains an interesting and authentic rapport with his students. Jestful and at times provocative, Keenan is recognized for his unique manner of eliciting responses from his students and his willingness to extend discussions beyond the classroom.

Despite the pressures of modernity, and with it, the technological advancements, Keenan has managed to inject his lectures with entertaining lessons using eccentric mannerisms and a piece of simple white chalk. His teaching style not only encourages students to actively engage the material, but to also partake in the art of self-criticism.

Keenan's approach transcends the mere transmission of information. His interactive mode of lecturing facilitates the ever unfolding process of self examination and critical reflectivity. This dialogical practice seeks to erode the contradictions that often envelop students' philosophical presuppositions, ultimately exposing the malaise of its partial underlying perspective.

For those of us who see the value

in this eternal dance we call philosophy, Keenan acts as a guide to facilitate a clearer and accessible understanding of all its interpretations. Philosophy can be likened to a constant awakening, reconstituting itself as it moves through history.

I believe it was Keenan's mission to draw our awareness to this process, allowing for an appreciation of the value embedded within. If this is so, I know Keenan has succeeded in at least one case. He has revitalized my academic career, deepened my quest for knowledge and called forth the audacity it takes to question the status quo. Inspiring me to investigate the boundaries of my own conceptual limitations, I graduate this year with a sense of richness not previously realized; a *telos* not previously envisioned. To Professor Keenan I give thanks, and to all the dedicated educators who share in his passion for wisdom.

Tristan Dreilich
University of Winnipeg student



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Features

Who says health food is healthy?

MISLEADING CLAIMS ON FOOD PRODUCTS ARE PUTTING OUR HEALTH IN DANGER

SAGAN MORROW
VOLUNTEER STAFF

As rates of illness and disease rise all over the country, the health of Canadians everywhere is an issue we must address. What we eat strongly influences our improving or deteriorating health, but with so many food products to choose from, it can be difficult to know which ones are healthy.

Food companies like Kraft and PepsiCo, as well as organizations like the Heart and Stroke Foundation, understand this problem. They offer a wide range of products that they tout as healthier options and they give these products their stamp of approval with special programs. Kraft has the Sensible Solutions flag, PepsiCo has the Smart Spot label, and the Heart and Stroke Foundation has the Health Check.

But are the foods these companies approve of really healthy for us?

On most food products there are four key aspects to the packaging: the name of the product and its brand; the claims on the front label; the nutrition facts table; and the ingredients list.

When faced with dozens of different types of peanut butter, most people don't know where to begin. This is why consumers gravitate towards brands they recognize and labels that promise health benefits.

This presents food companies

Mary Pan, assistant marketing manager for the Health and Wellness Program of PepsiCo Canada, said that Smart Spot is "not intended to improve people's health"

with the opportunity to strategically splash health claims across packaging. Everything from "0 Trans Fat" and "With Added Vitamin C" to "Reduced Sodium" and "Only 100 Calories" grab consumers' attention, and these statements are often incentive enough to make people buy the product.

Consumers rely on these companies and much of the food we eat is either endorsed by PepsiCo or Kraft.

But food companies are an industry, and this fact leads to the question: is consumer health as important as promoting products and making money?

Mary Pan, assistant marketing manager for the Health and Wellness Program of PepsiCo Canada, said that Smart Spot is "not intended to improve people's health."

Rather it is a tool that should be utilized to help people in their busy lifestyles, she said.

But even if the companies are making note of this, consumers might not realize there is a distinction between "healthy" and "healthier."

Kerry McLeod, a sports nutrition certified instructor, knows first-hand that consumers often do not make this distinction.

McLeod took an interest in eating nutritiously after becoming pregnant. Before her pregnancy she was a self-described "junk food junkie." She started examining food labels and wrote a book to share her findings with others. *The Last Diet Book Standing* was written with the consultation of nutrition professionals.

McLeod actively works to teach consumers how to sift through the claims and understand which brands are both tasty and healthy through her website, eBrandAid.com.

Because it is a non-profit program without any political parties, governmental organizations or food companies backing it, eBrandAid.com presents consumers with the objective truth behind health claims. It works to debunk the myths that major food companies support and reminds consumers that just because a food company is well-known and has a supposedly "healthier" line of products, it doesn't mean that these products are in fact healthy.

This issue is even prevalent in the non-profit Heart and Stroke Foundation's Health Check program.

A study conducted in March 2008 showed that "90 per cent of consumers understand the Health Check logo to mean 'healthy,' 'good for you' and 'approved by the Heart and Stroke Foundation.'"

Although high amounts of sodium are associated with increased health risks leading to strokes and high blood pressure, the Health Check can be found on food products with extremely high levels of sodium. Canned soups with 650mg of sodium per serving still bear the Health Check symbol even though they account for a quarter of our recommended amount of daily sodium.

Dinner entrées are allowed to bear the Health Check symbol with 960mg of sodium per serving.

The Health Check program is updating their nutrition criteria as of November 2010. Soups will soon have to contain less than 480mg of sodium; and dinner entrees, less than 720mg.

Whether or not other organizations follow suit remains to be seen.

SUGAR:

TRULY TOO GOOD TO BE HEALTHY

Another major problem with the nutrition information on food products is that consumers lack an understanding of the very important distinction between natural and added sugars. Although consumers pay attention to the nutrition facts table on packages, they often overlook the ingredients list. This is the one place on the package that indicates the type of sugar that is in the product.

McLeod notes that "more than 700 Kraft products carry the [Sensible Solutions] flag, and no where in their criteria does it talk about what the ingredients must contain."

This means that artificial sweeteners can be used to lower the sugar count and consequently lead consumers to believe an unhealthy product is actually healthy, she said.

Some artificial sweeteners have been linked to cancer, thus making them dangerous to our health. Kraft is by no means the only food manufacturer that incorporates this marketing device; nearly every food industry operates in this manner.

The Heart and Stroke Foundation is one organization that does distinguish between natural and added sugars with Health Check. Their guidelines require products like cereal to have six grams of sugar or less per serving, excluding sugar from pieces of real fruit.

But when you take into consideration that a teaspoon of sugar equals four grams, and that a serving is sometimes a small half-cup, consumers are likely to have two or more servings in one sitting without realizing it. That is a lot of added sugar!

TRANS FAT:

YOUR BACKSTABBING EX-FRIEND

As with natural and added sugars, there is also confusion about trans fat.

Trans fat occurs naturally in products such as butter and this is not the kind of trans fat that we need to avoid. It is the synthetically produced trans fat, also known as hydrogenated or partially hydrogenated oil, that we should eliminate from our diet.

Trans fat is related to elevated risks of heart disease and Type 2 Diabetes.

A Nurses' Health Study determined that men who increase their trans fat consumption by just two per cent increase their risk of heart disease by a colossal 25 per cent.

Trans fat is highly dangerous to our health and food manufacturers frequently attempt to cover up

their use of it.

eBrandAid.com's McLeod said it's dangerous that regulations on trans fat can allow for companies to claim their product is "trans fat free," when in fact the product has a very small amount of trans fat.

In accordance with Health Canada's regulations, a food product must contain less than 0.2g of trans fat to be classified "trans fat free." In the United States there are similar regulations.

McLeod said this should be illegal because we often eat far more than just one serving at a time.

trans fats.

However upon closer inspection of the ingredients in many of their food products, both hydrogenated oil and partially hydrogenated oil were listed. As the Nurses' Association's study illustrates, these tiny amounts of trans fats most certainly do not contribute to a food product as being a "healthier option."

LEADING US ASTRAY

While food manufacturers make ethically questionable choices in their marketing strategies, we also must look to the regulations that government places on these food manufacturers.

Why has the government given their consent for these food manufacturers to have such misleading claims on their packaging? To ensure better health for all Canadians it is necessary to take proactive measures.

Carol Dombrow, a registered dietitian working with the Heart and Stroke Foundation, said it would be better for consumers if there was only one program with a definitive set of nutrition guidelines. This would clear up confusion about food labeling.

Dombrow sees the future of health products as positive and said food manufacturers are moving in the right direction.

"We are seeing [these companies take] an interest in nutrition. There is also a significant per cent of manufacturers that reformulate their products to meet the Health Check criteria."

Some food manufacturers might be interested in reformulating their products to meet the guidelines recommended by Health Canada and the Heart and Stroke Foundation, but the motives behind this interest are important.

It can be easy to find ways around some of the guidelines. For example, it's easy to make the serving size much smaller than what we normally eat.

The obesity epidemic across North America is forcing people to look for ways to improve their health. Recognizing this, food manufacturers attempt to appeal to consumers, but if we do not understand how to read nutrition labels, we can easily be duped by the loopholes of marketing.

We can increase our own awareness by speaking with registered dietitians and making use of resources such as eBrandAid.com.

We can enhance our understanding and be better informed by reading nutrition labels and ingredients lists.

These resources enable us to take the necessary steps to improve our health and the health of our families, in spite of the deceptive marketing strategies lurking in the grocery store.

AVOIDING THE TRAPS

How can we as consumers avoid the marketing traps that mislead our understanding of nutrition information?

⇒ Bypass the front label and nutrition facts table and read the ingredients list first.

⇒ Look for terms such as hydrogenated oil and do your research into any ingredients that you cannot pronounce - chances are, if they sound like the ingredients you would find in household cleaners, you don't want to eat 'em.

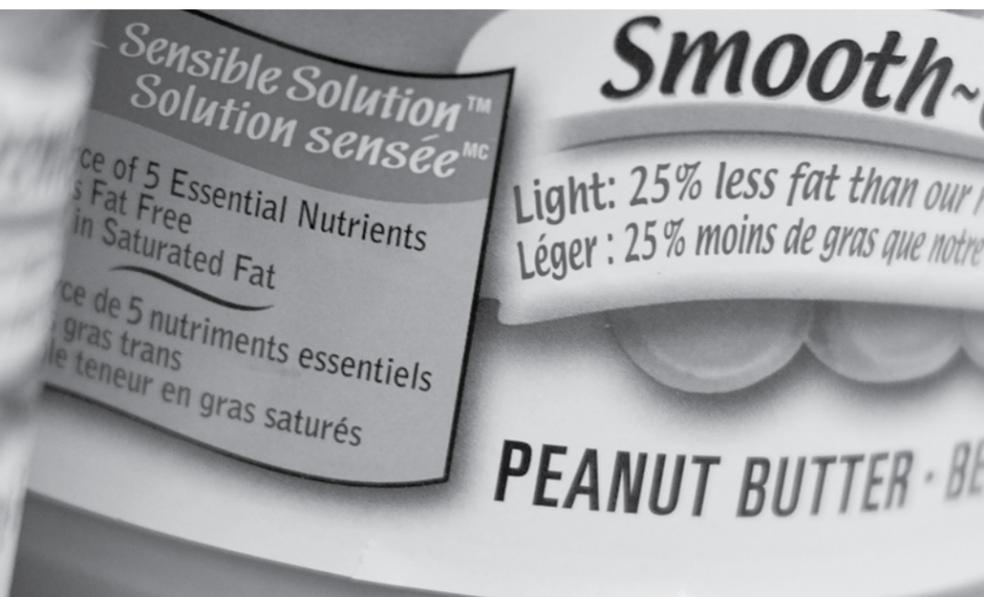
⇒ Find out how your food is made at restaurants and ask for healthier substitutions. Most restaurants will be happy to provide an ingredients list if you can't find one on their website.

⇒ New York established a trans fat ban in July 2007, and British Columbia has become the first province in Canada to take action and it is working to ban trans fats in time for the 2010 Olympics. Bans increase awareness about what we eat and motivate a change in our diet habits. Encourage your city and province to follow others' examples in regulating trans fat by banning it.

"You walk away not even realizing you just ingested one gram of trans fat. The FDA [U.S. Food and Drug Administration] made the claim that there are no safe levels of trans fats, so why would they allow food manufacturers to mislead people by putting that on their package?"

For example, a box of cookies could list the serving size as one cookie. If it is represented as being trans fat free but actually has 0.2g of trans fat, and you consistently have three cookies at a time every day, in a month you will have consumed roughly 14g of trans fat without realizing it. And who eats just one cookie every few weeks?

PepsiCo's Pan said that for a product to be deemed worthy of Smart Spot it must contain no



Arts & Culture

ART REVIEW

Revive, archive and survive

Aceartinc showcases the work of **two local, emerging artists** with *Revival* and *Archive*

MARINA KOSLOCK
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Upon entering Aceartinc, you hear a barrage of sounds coming from behind a black curtain. There is a steady bass sound accompanied by jumbled up voices and sounds that put you in a dreamland. As you walk across the gallery and walk into the dark area in the back, the video reel starts and the room comes alive, screaming at you.

Winnipeg's Heidi Phillips is known for her dream-like artistic style and her latest exhibit, *Revival*, is no exception. The sound for her videos comes from the movie *Little Dieter Needs To Fly*.

She took the conversations and voices and made them work with the footage she has for her solo exhibit, *Revival* — footage lifted from old films that Phillips recycled into her own layered, loosely structured narrative works.

The feeling you get when walking into the gallery is one of being completely encompassed. The

hands reaching up on the back wall give the illusion that they are crying for salvation. The planes on the adjacent wall are that salvation, and as the helicopters repeatedly flutter onto the landing pad, you are filled with relief.

The only light in the room is from the projectors and you cannot help but feel isolated. These images become you and you're waiting for your savior. It makes you think about who or what in your life has saved you. You can only imagine how you may have ended up had they not been there. The film stops and everything goes black; you leave the room shaky and revived.

Collin Zipp's solo exhibit, *Archive*, also currently showing at Aceartinc, ventures into the ever-debatable topic of nature versus technology. Which is more important — advancing ourselves to a super species or preserving the Earth?

A stuffed Rouen duck is positioned squarely on a shelving unit. As big as a medium-sized dog, this duck was fed growth hormones to grow to this grotesque size and be stuffed and put on display.

While people may find it disgusting, Zipp is making the point that it's exactly what humans do to chickens, pigs and cows. Pumping animals full of hormones to make them larger is the norm now and we, as consumers, should be questioning this.

The exhibit includes arrow-headed spears wrapped in cloth and



cell phone towers made of wire. As well, there are jars of honey around the display and a large wooden beehive. The viewers' eyes, however, are drawn to the television screens. One shows a number of dots, depicting the Canadian geese flying patterns, and the other bees milling about, making honey.

All of these things combined tell us regardless of how terrible we treat the Earth, nature will keep finding a way to evolve and survive.

Revival and Archive are on at Aceartinc (290 McDermot Ave.) until Apr. 9. Visit www.aceart.org.



Top: An image from *Archive*, a new solo exhibit by local artist Collin Zipp, now showing at Aceartinc.

Left: Images from *Revival*, a new exhibit created by local artist Heidi Phillips using found footage and clips from old films.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ARTISTS

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Arts Briefs

Compiled by Jonathan Dyck

THE RETURN OF MACGYVER

A movie-version of *MacGyver*, the long-running TV series about an extremely resourceful secret agent, is in the works, CBC.ca reported Mar. 16.

Played by Richard Dean Anderson, the titular character is notorious for his ability to get out of any situation with things as common as matchsticks and a ballpoint pen. The show ran for seven seasons and gained popularity all over the world.

"We think we're a stick of chewing gum, a paper clip and an A-list writer away from a global franchise," New Line Studio's Richard Brenner said.

I hope *The Simpsons* picks up on this.

VIRGIN LOSES APPEAL

I could make so many bad jokes about this one, but I'll resist the temptation. I am of course referring to the planned closure of the Virgin Megastore chain, which, supposedly marks the end of the British music retail invasion.

HMV was the first to crossover to North America in 1990, but was soon followed by Virgin and W.H. Smith. Their fatal flaw, according to Ed Christman at Yahoo.com, was "a failure to understand the U.S. real estate market" for British music retailers "had a history of overpaying for locations, which meant both chains usually had more unprofitable stores than profitable ones."

At its peak, the Virgin Megastore chain had 23 stores and revenue of US\$280 million annually, but at least 12 of its stores continually lost money. Of course, it doesn't help that CD sales have continually declined for years.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON FOR STEVE MARTIN

After being banned from a high school due to parental concerns, Steve Martin's 1993 play, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, will be performed off-campus at Eastern Oregon University.

According to Yahoo.com, Martin wrote in a letter to a newspaper that he would like to protect the play "from acquiring a reputation it does not deserve."

Apparently, Martin first became aware of the controversy from reading about it online. The play explores a fictional meeting between Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein in a Parisian bar, before both figures achieve fame and success in the realms of art and science.

Martin has expressed frustration with the La Grande locals over the reigning conception of the play as a bunch of "people drinking in bars and treating women as sex objects."

Clearly, Martin has never lived in a small town.

MAKE YOUR OWN MAGAZINE

A customized magazine may be an act of desperation, but what choice does Time Inc. have? The Internet is crushing old-fashioned print across North America faster than you can say "obsolete."

"Time Inc. is experimenting with a customized magazine that combines reader-selected sections from eight publications as it tries to mimic in printed form the personalized news feeds that have become popular on the Internet," CBC.ca reported last week.

So how is this better than the Internet?

Readers can create their digest by choosing five out of the following eight titles: *Time*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Food & Wine*, *Real Simple*, *Money*, *In Style*, *Golf and Travel + Leisure*.

This five-issue, 10-week experiment goes by the name of "Mine." But wait, it's not as user-friendly as it sounds.

Editors will pre-select stories that make it into every biweekly issue and readers won't have the option of changing their selections from issue to issue.

This amounts to a mere 56 possible magazine combinations, which, compared to the infinite possibilities of the information super-highway, doesn't sound very impressive. Back to the drawing board!

MOVIE REVIEW

A tough sell

Michelle Williams evokes **pathos and sympathy** in bleak, brave film

JAMES HAWBOLDT
VOLUNTEER STAFF

WENDY AND LUCY

Directed by Kelly Reichardt
80 minutes
Plays at Cinematheque Mar. 27-29
and Apr. 1-5 at 7 p.m.

★★★★☆

For a film, bleak is a tough sell. Bleak kills parties, rains on picnics and hangs out at nursing homes. It's hard to convince people to go see bleak, especially when action, horror and comedy are playing next door.

Wendy and Lucy is one bleak film.

Running just 80 minutes, and with a budget on par with what an AIG executive tips his valet, director and co-screenwriter, Kelly Reichardt's latest film has little room for waste or extravagance.

This coincides with the plight of Wendy, played perfectly by



In *Wendy and Lucy*, Michelle Williams plays a 20-something, living in her car with her dog, en route from Indiana to Alaska in search of employment.

Michelle Williams. Wendy is a twenty-something, living in her car with her dog, en route from Indiana to Alaska. Her goal is to find decent employment at a fish cannery plant.

The film opens midway through Wendy's journey, when her car stalls in a parking lot in Oregon. This leads to a heartbreaking chain of events that subtly address themes of morality, kindness, survival and the dichotomy between love and ownership.

Applause deservedly goes to Reichardt, but the film belongs to Williams. Appearing in nearly every frame of the film, her performance saves an incredibly barren plot from what could have easily been a movie of self-indulgent claptrap. Looking unglamorous and androgynous, she evokes pathos and sympathy despite the relatively bland type of person many of us ignore on a daily basis, and all without resorting to cheap, maudlin, audience-baiting gimmickry.

With a spot-on example of minimalist acting, Williams can convey a greater emotional depth and insight into her character with just a blank stare than many of her better-paid contemporaries can do with a full script. Just consider the talent required to hold together

a cheerless story with a miniscule plot, little dialogue, no star-power, no music, no laughs and no romantic story lines. Oscars have been given for less, I assure you.

Considering the daily reminders of our society's current financial anxiety, the timing of *Wendy and Lucy* is incredibly apt. In keeping with the film's consistent unwillingness to offer easy answers, Reichardt has given the film an ambivalent ending, one that echoes the perils of our economic worry.

Now, arguably the cinema should be a place for escaping these problems as opposed to re-living them, but it also a place for inspiration. Is it a bleak film? Definitely. But it is also a brave one. What we take from it is up to us.

FASHION STREETER

The Uniter Fashion Streeter is an ongoing documentation of creative fashion in Winnipeg inspired by the Helsinki fashion blog www.hel-looks.com. Each week will feature a new look from our city's streets and bars in an attempt to encourage individual expression and celebrate that you are really, really good looking.



Janice
"I like to wear whatever is comfy."

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A ridiculous, goofy time

Local punks Under Pressure remember the good times as they prepare to call it quits

CURRAN FARIS
LISTING CO-ORDINATOR

Whether breaking toilets in recording studios, being hassled by Czech Republic border guards or playing shows in a rat-infested squat house in the deep south, Under Pressure have always maintained an obsessive work ethic and genuine passion for hardcore punk rock.

After six years of intense shows, seven releases and tours spanning across North America and Europe, the group is throwing in the towel. Over the odd combination of samosas and coffee, drummer Dan Ryckman and vocalist Cam Popham reflected on Under Pressure's impressive, prolific and colourful past.

The band decided to pack it in after founding member and bassist Jason Penner announced he was quitting the band. Although the split was amicable, Popham said that the band's intense writing and rehearsal schedule became increasingly difficult to maintain as band members began new careers and new side projects.



CANDICE GIESBRECHT

Good times, bad times: Winnipeg hardcore band Under Pressure will play two final shows before calling it quits.

"Maybe certain people's expectations were just frustrated by our inability to do things the way that we used to do them," he said.

Under Pressure arose from the break-up of Ryckman, Popham and Penner's speed-obsessed band, Guns, Liquor & Whores, in 2003. Upon meeting guitarist Pat Short, Under Pressure immediately began writing material for their first full-length record, 2003's *Still No Future*. At the time Ryckman was just 15, Popham only 18.

"The first record was just us excited about realizing that we could

be a band, we wrote the songs really fast...I feel like we had two or three songs after the first practice," Popham said.

"We wrote and recorded *Still No Future* in two or three months," Ryckman added.

The youthful excitement that fuelled Under Pressure's early recordings subsided and the band embarked on a grueling year-long recording session, culminating in their 2006 opus *Come Clean*.

Gone were the one-minute song blasts of their first record. In their place were dark, sprawling, linear

punk rock songs featuring a range of outside influences and instrumentation, including piano and saxophone. Despite the change in sound, Under Pressure maintained their punk ethos.

"I think punk is, in some respects, a launching pad right into whatever you want to do, it's just this transforming ethic that you can take with you wherever you go. But at the same time I don't think punk need exclude anything. I feel totally comfortable with that tag for everything we've done and everything musically we wanted to do

I think it was encapsulated under that umbrella, however adventurous it was," Popham said.

Popham and Ryckman agree that 2006 marked a highpoint in Under Pressure's career. With two new guitarists, Mike Requiema and Joe Warkentin, the band embarked on a six-week tour of Europe, visiting Scandinavia, Denmark, Germany, Austria, The Netherlands and The Czech Republic, where the band was nearly denied entry thanks to passport trouble.

"The Czech Republic took exception to Joe's passport because he kept it in his pants every night and [had] partied and played in his pants...it didn't even look like a document anymore," Popham said with a laugh.

"It looked like he had it in the ocean for, like, a week," Ryckman added.

It is moments like these that will remain among Ryckman's fondest memories.

"Mostly when I remember the band, it's just this ridiculous, goofy time," he said.

⇒ See Under Pressure play two final shows Friday, Mar. 27.

⇒ Early show at The Rudolph Rocker (91 Albert St.) at 7 p.m. with Regressives and Cross Rage. \$5 at the door.

⇒ Late show at War on Music (93 Albert St.) at 10:30 p.m. with Born Bad and Modern Problems. \$3 at the door.

⇒ Both shows are all ages.

⇒ Visit www.myspace.com/underpressure

Music for nothing and the hits for free

Kitchener rock band **gives away its latest album, *At the Command of the Blanket Sky*, online**

SAMUEL SWANSON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Remember when we all thought Radiohead had the shittiest business model ever when they decided to sell *In Rainbows* for, well, whatever you were willing to pay for it? Proving a good many people wrong, *In Rainbows* was surprisingly successful and profitable.

Now take the price Radiohead was charging, multiply it by zero and that's how much you'll be paying for *At the Command of the Blanket Sky*, the new album from Kitchener, Ont. rock four-piece Vacuity. You can download it now on their website, vacuity.net.

"It's more important that people hear it than that we make a few bucks off it," guitarist/keyboardist Greg Osborn said by phone last week. "There are philosophical reasons behind it, too. It costs almost nothing for me to copy the file and send it to you, or my grandma, or whoever."

Vacuity's sound is something like Radiohead meeting Sonic Youth with maybe a touch of The Doors. But really, they've got their own thing going on, and they're showcasing it on a cross-Canada tour with a Winnipeg date.

The band is using the free album as a way to get their name out, build a fan base and get people to their shows. "Kill the format" is the name of their promotional campaign.



Four guys in jeans
+ a school bus
+ a Stephen King novel
+ a rooster
= one awesome press photo.

"It's about the artists and the fans... and not the middle man keeping the business model," Osborn said.

Vacuity will also be releasing several free EPs online and eventually compiling those EPs into an LP. That too will likely be a free online download from their website.

"It looks like that's the way the industry is going," Osborn said. "The whole industry is based on record sales. You take the sales away and so much of it collapses, but at the same time, the artists have been getting ripped off for a really long time."

Vacuity is a band that is conscious of what's around them, and that's certainly reflected in the lyrical and compositional strength of the songs on *At the Command of the Blanket Sky*.

"Usually when people hear our music they like it, or when they see us at a show they enjoy themselves.

We don't often get booed off stage or have rotten fruit thrown at us," Osborn said, laughing.

"So the question was, how can we get more people to hear it? And the obvious answer is the Internet. We could put it up for a price, and I'm sure we'd still get some downloads, but we could spread it rapidly if it's, like, here it is for free, encourage other people to download it. Spread the word."

⇒ See Vacuity Saturday, Mar. 28 at The Cavern (112 Osborne St.)

⇒ Also playing that night is The Experiences

⇒ Admission is \$5

⇒ Doors open at 9 p.m.

⇒ Visit www.vacuity.net

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CD REVIEWS

ERIC NICHOLAS

Words and Sounds
Independent

★★★★☆

Eric Nicholas's first full-length solo album has the Winnipegger already sounding like a seasoned master. He makes straight up pop music, but Nicholas disguises it by adding just the right amount of extras to steer things from Dullsville. He layers on a slightly cheesy (in a good way) keyboard and then adds some unobtrusive dance beats along with his soft vocals. Throw in an excellent production job and you have a perfect mix for some subdued, fuzzy vibes. It's like going to the dance club in your slippers and pajama bottoms - loose, warm and comfy as heck. Even the worst songs on *Words and Sounds* are nice and welcoming while the best ones, *Baby Just Do What You Want To* and *Stranger in Tokyo*, are one A&R man's ears away from being this year's huge ubiquitous hits à la last year's MGMT.

- James Hawboldt



LOCAL

THE MINGLERS

Ca va bien, today?
Independent

★★★☆☆

Ca va bien, today?, the long awaited third album from Winnipeg-based country-roots outfit The Minglers, has arrived with a twang, but I couldn't help feeling a little confused. A far cry from the driven sound and firmly grounded country-rock tracks we heard on their successful 2003 album *Brokenhead*, the bizarre lyrics and recordings that sound like drunken jams present on this album left me feeling like I was being left out of a very complex inside joke. Unfortunately, the unique combination of frontman Knick Knackerson's lilting yet whiney vocals, and the inclusion of an array of well-played instruments from the kazoo to something called the "muckbucket guitar" isn't enough to keep the often-nonsensical lyrics afloat. Ultimately, *Ca va bien, today?* left this listener wondering if perhaps *Je ne sais quois* would have been a more apt album title.

- Graham Blicq



LOCAL

VARIOUS ARTISTS

War Child presents Heroes
Astralwerks

★★★★☆

Compassion, guilt or publicity - it doesn't matter why the artists on War Child's *Heroes* album agreed to do a cover of one of their favourite songs. What matters is that they did, and it's available to you. Standout tracks include (but are not limited to): Beck's cover of Bob Dylan's *Leopard-Skin Pill-Box Hat*, Franz Ferdinand's cover of *Call Me* (originally by Blondie), and The Kooks' cover of The Kinks' *Victoria*. Peaches had to do The Stooges justice for her cover of *Search and Destroy*; after all, we all know what Iggy Pop is willing to do with a broken glass bottle. Buy this album. It's worth it just for the line-up, not to mention the proceeds go toward children affected by the brutalities of war. So if you don't buy it, you're pretty much supporting war. You don't support war, do you?

- Samuel Swanson



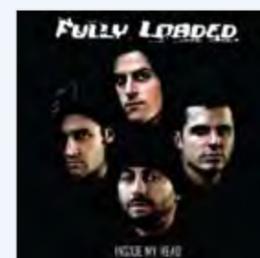
FULLY LOADED

Inside My Head
Fully Loaded Music

★★★☆☆

I've accidentally stumbled across an answer to a question many are too frightened to even ask: What could be worse than Nickelback? Well, imagine a band actually *trying to be* Nickelback. *shudder* To be fair, Vancouver's Fully Loaded (nice name, guys) may not sound exactly like Canada's multi-platinum equivalent to the colour beige, but they will certainly appeal to the same demographic: the tin-eared, easily manipulated, 12-year-olds who don't know any better, and those with a perverse sense of humour. This overproduced, formulaic style of soulless, faux-aggression arena rock and gut-wrenching ballads almost make Fully Loaded too easy to hate. Almost. *Inside My Head* showcases a band too unwilling or too unable to show even one original expression lyrically, sonically and judging by the album cover, visually either. It will probably sell millions.

- James Hawboldt



TIM HECKER

An Imaginary Country
Kranky

★★★★☆

Canada's purveyor of sonic dreamscapes returns with his proper follow-up to 2006's *Harmony in Ultraviolet*. On *An Imaginary Country*, dense layers of drones swirl amidst shimmering melodies and shifting tones. Where most drone-based artists revel in unflinching glacial murk, Hecker's wall of sound is much more dynamic and intentional. Beneath the drones lie gorgeous, slow-moving melodies that are nothing short of hypnotic, drawing the listener into a world of sound that is all encompassing, expansive and memorable. Headphones are a must.

- Curran Faris



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Caught in a mosh

Annual festival celebrates Winnipeg's diverse metal community

CHRIS HUNTER
VOLUNTEER

Ten years ago, there were maybe seven metal bands in Winnipeg, and there were only two big metal shows a year, where a crowd of 30 would be a blessing. In 2001, Cory Thomas and Chris Leskiw wanted to change that.

The duo created Manitoba Metalfest, which has since become an annual event. Last year, the festival sold out, bringing in an audience that included not just Manitobans, but metal fans from B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Minneapolis and Grand Forks as well.

Leskiw has since left the festival, leaving Thomas as its driving force. This year's edition includes 14 bands playing at two venues over three evenings (see sidebar).

Highlights of the festival include performances by Calgary death metal band Divinity, who are signed to Nuclear Blast, a widely respected record label that specializes in metal; and legendary Ontario thrash metal band Razor.

"Divinity is here for the kids, Razor is here for the old fans," Thomas said. "Razor makes [the festival] more special because they never play anymore. This will be the last chance many people have to see them."

Along with those special guests, headbangers can expect a healthy dose of bands from Winnipeg's now-thriving metal scene. It's a scene Thomas believes is more diverse than any other city in Canada.

"Montreal bands are primarily metalcore, Edmonton is death metal, Toronto is grindcore, but Winnipeg has everything," he said. He added that bands who tour through Winnipeg also often note the city's diverse fan base.

"There are a variety of people in the crowds. Bands from other places come here and say, 'Wow, there are actually cute girls at our shows,'" Thomas said.

Due to popular demand, this will be the first year since 2002 that Thomas has included an all-ages show as part of the festival. Although it will be over by the time



Local up-and-coming metal sextet Annex Theory are excited to be part of the 2009 line-up for Manitoba Metalfest.

you read this, musicians like Sam Jacobs, guitarist for participating metal band Annex Theory, couldn't be happier about the addition.

"In a way, the West End [Cultural Centre] and Park Theatre are the only all-ages venues for metal bands," the 17-year-old said. "There are a lot of younger fans that can't make it to shows because they are all 18-plus."

Thomas wants to start organizing more all-ages shows, but fears venues will have no interest in

being liable for kids. Venues like The Park Theatre refuse to host under-age shows on the weekends because of past instances of vandal-

Montreal bands are primarily metalcore, Edmonton is death metal, Toronto is grindcore, but Winnipeg has everything."

-Cory Thomas, Manitoba Metalfest organizer

ism. Thomas believes he could easily fill an all-ages venue with 1,000 or more people, and is considering moving the festival to The Garrick Centre next year for this reason.

Both Thomas and Jacobs believe that Winnipeg has some of the best metal in the country.

Part of what makes the scene thrive so well is the community musicians have formed with each other, Jacobs said.

"A lot of the bands you play with will be your best friends. It's sort of a brotherhood. I am originally from Nova Scotia and the scene is a lot more segregated there, whereas in Winnipeg everybody helps each other out." ■

METAL MADNESS

A look at Manitoba Metalfest's 2009 line-up

Manitoba Metalfest started last night at The Park Theatre with an all-ages show that featured Electro Quarterstaff, Port Amoral, Annex Theory and Legerdmain.

If you missed that show, it doesn't mean you can't still get in on the action. The festival continues this weekend, and includes appearances by Calgary's Divinity as well as Canadian thrash legends Razor.

Friday, Mar. 27

18+

The Zoo

160 Osborne St.

\$10 in advance, \$12 at the door

Divinity

Dreadnaut

Tyrants Demise

Bladelazer

Both Legs Broken

Saturday, Mar. 28

18+

The Zoo

160 Osborne St.

\$20 in advance, \$25 at the door

Razor

Evil Survives

KENmode

Psychotic Gardening

Besieged

Advance tickets are available at The Zoo, CDPlus Madison Square (1630 Ness Ave.), The Park Theatre (698 Osborne St.), War on Music (93 Albert St.) and online at www.ticketworkshop.com.



Revlon Professional Model Call

Friday, April 3

6-8 p.m.

Front Lobby, Delta Winnipeg
350 St. Mary Ave.

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TW	Artist	Recording	Label
1	!Various Artists	Uncovered	CKUW
2	!Propagandhi	Supporting Caste	Smallman
3	*Neko Case	Middle Cyclone	Anti
4	*Bicycles	Oh No It's Love	Fuzzy Logic
5	*Mother Mother	Oh My	Last Gang
6	Mavis Staples	Live	Anti
7	*Jeff Healey	Mess of Blues	Stony Plain
8	*Hawksley Workman	Los Manicious	Isadora
9	!Various Artists	Northern Faction 4	Balanced
10	Morrisey	Years of Refusal	Polydor

Exploring the unknown

Local filmmaker's experimental film to screen at popular U.S. festival

KATE-LYN DANYLUK
VOLUNTEER STAFF

A local filmmaker's latest project has been accepted to screen in competition at the prestigious Ann Arbor Film Festival.

Cam Woykin's experimental drama *My Life in Dreams* will be shown at the festival, which takes place in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Mar. 24 to 29. It is the second oldest film festival in North America.

Inspired in part by an episode of the TV series *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, *My Life in Dreams* is an eight-minute journey through a middle-aged man's subconscious. Woykin uses different forms of film, from the traditional and grainy 16 mm to the clarity of mini-DVD, to depict the man's different stages of sleep. A haunting score accompanies the black and white, dream-like imagery to create a dark atmosphere.

"It's dark in terms of the unknown. The unknown scares us," Woykin said by phone last week.

Born in Calgary, Woykin originally attended the University of Lethbridge to study fine arts and play baseball. It was not until he was midway through a BFA in photography and video that he realized he wanted to make films. In retrospect, Woykin says his segue into filmmaking made sense, even if it was not always his goal.

"I was always telling stories... I made comic books when I was younger [and] I told stories with photographs," he said.

Since graduating in 2003, Woykin has made 16 short films which have been screened in Canada as well as internationally. But the Ann Arbor Film Festival is the largest event he has been involved in. A festival of this magnitude gives artists the opportunity to screen their works to a large industry audience, but also provides them with a chance to create industry contacts and liaise with other filmmakers.

"It's important as a filmmaker



COURTESY OF SABRINA CARNEVALE

A scene from Cam Woykin's *My Life in Dreams*.

to have that exchange," Woykin said. "There is a lot of growth."

Even though he is not a native Winnipegger, Woykin has immersed himself in the local arts community. He is currently the training and outreach co-ordinator for The Winnipeg Film Group and works to organize the several workshops and seminars that the organization puts on.

He's also scheduled to teach a class for the Forum Art Institute this spring and has been nominated for the Winnipeg Arts Council's On the Rise Award – an award given to an emerging artist in any discipline

whose career span has not exceeded five years.

Currently, Woykin is working on a feature film and has been accepted to several Master of Fine Arts programs for the next school year. He is eager to return to the academic environment and focus on making films, confident about what his future has in store.

"If you are passionate about what you do, you'll be successful at what you do," he said.

A trailer of *My Life in Dreams* is available for viewing at www.tinyurl.com/woykin.

Book makes eco-living simpler

Even apartment dwellers can compost

GAËLLE ENGELBERTS
THE LINK (CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY)

MONTREAL (CUP) – Dreaming of going green but think you don't have the time and energy to do so? Scott Kellogg might have the answer.

His do-it-yourself guide *Toolbox for Sustainable City Living* is packed with advice on how to become a perfectly green urban dweller.

With topics like managing your own livestock, or building a wind turbine from recycled bicycle parts, Kellogg's book makes sustainability accessible to the masses.

"It means creating systems that are affordable, simple, and that utilize a lot of salvaged recyclable materials," Kellogg said.

Kellogg came up with some of these handy tips along with co-writer Stacy Pettigrew while serving as the co-founder of the educational and activist organization Rhizome Collective. Some of these tips are innovations that originated in the Collective itself, while others were adapted from already existing ideas and techniques.

"For instance the parabolic cooker; that's actually a design that dates back to ancient Greek times," said Kellogg. "It's Archimedes's death ray that we actually built using similar principles but we've taken it to this point where we're using recycled satellite dishes."

Greek scientist Archimedes was said to have repelled Roman warships with the use of a device that focused sunlight on the coming enemy fleet causing it to catch fire.

Inspired from this ancient myth, the Rhizome Collective created a low-cost and eco-friendly device that produces enough concentrated heat to cook and light fires.

Tips like these were developed in response to what the collective perceives as inevitable lifestyle changes

that will be forced upon society in the near future.

"We will need to do a pretty rapid transition into a society that consumes drastically less as we're faced with the converging trends of climate change and energy depletion," Kellogg said.

"We want this transition to be as peaceful and gentle as possible and not to have it result in suffering and in a [global] die-off."

In order to survive the transition from a fossil-fuel based economy to a self-sustainable society, Kellogg says we have to explore new methods of living now, while we still have the leisure to make mistakes and are not completely dependent on these alternative techniques.

So where should busy people start if they want to move towards a sustainable lifestyle? Kellogg suggests that a good way to make one's home a little greener is worm composting.

"It involves just having a little plastic bin that can be kept underneath the sink or on top of a refrigerator and that contains a species of worm called the red wiggler."

The red wigglers, or *Eisenia Foetida* as they are officially named, will eat your vegetable scraps and turn them into fertilizer that can be later used for gardens, houseplants, or even sold.

"It doesn't smell, it doesn't take up a lot of space, you don't have to have a back garden, and you don't have to have sunlight either."

Kellogg's message is simple: We shouldn't wait for governments or corporations to switch towards sustainability. As he writes in his guide, this transition should start as of today if we are to "survive the implosion of a society that has overextended its natural limitations in every capacity."

The future is in our hands, says Kellogg.

"We, as people, as communities, as neighbourhoods, as grassroots organizations need to begin this work now, to take it upon ourselves to re-design our communities and build a sustainable infrastructure."



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★ ★

Tacky, or just good old fashioned fun?

A look at the attitudes people have towards a longstanding Manitoba tradition – the wedding social

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Talk to anyone who hails from outside Manitoba and watch their brow wrinkle in confusion at the term “wedding social.” But while it’s a foreign idea to outsiders, we Manitobans are as familiar with wedding socials as we are with winter.

“I’ve only ever known one couple who [didn’t have] a wedding social,” said Tara, a 27-year-old who asked that her last name not be used. She added that she attends around 10 wedding socials per year.

“Everybody likes to go to a social,” she said. “I mean, I certainly do.”

Tara and her fiancé, Mark, are getting married in June. They decided to have a wedding social last Halloween primarily as a means of financing their wedding.

“For us... it was strictly that we needed to make money for our wedding. Having a wedding is very, very expensive.”

She explained that even though she and her fiancé are well established, they still needed a way to raise funds in order to have the wedding they wanted.

“We have our own house and our own furniture, but when you are talking about a 200-person wedding, you are looking at a cost of around \$20,000.”

With a trend towards marrying at a later age, some feel that wedding socials are unnecessary and just another way for couples to sink



their hands into the pockets of anyone and everyone they can. And on top of wedding shower gifts and wedding gifts, things can really add up for family and friends of the couple.

A local business owner who asked not to be identified, feels exactly this way.

“I wish I could say ‘You already have everything you want. You found the love of your life – what else do you want?’” she said.

While many Manitobans, like Tara and Mark, have a special place in their hearts for wedding socials and would gladly help couples out with their wedding expenses in exchange for a night of cold ones, KUB bread and cold cuts, others like the business owner refuse to embrace them.

“I think [wedding socials] are tacky,” she said. “Especially in this day and age. We are adults and we can take care of ourselves.”

The young entrepreneur explained that her negative views towards wedding socials stems partially from the incessant requests she receives for wedding social silent auction donations.

“We get... probably at least two or three [requests] a week. I don’t understand why [a local business] should pay for your wedding.”

She explained that she has a hard time wrapping her head around raising money for the “personal gain” of two people.

“If you are raising money for a real reason... like for cancer... [socials] are a good way for the community to support something together. I would rather help a cause.”

Though some love ‘em and some hate ‘em, there are also those who are altogether indifferent to the idea of wedding socials. Newlyweds Ang and Luke Enns didn’t even consider having a social.

“It was just not in our traditions to do that,” Ang said. “People in our families who get married don’t have socials.”

Ang explained that they were lucky enough to have their parents cover the costs of their wedding, so raising money wasn’t an issue.

When asked if the couple would have considered having a social had they been in financial need, Ang responded that they would have made do with the money they had.

“We would have had a cheaper wedding.”

While there are mixed attitudes towards this Manitoba tradition, one thing about the wedding social cannot be denied – it is a sure way to make a nice chunk of cash.

Let’s face it, there is something about the combination of loud music, rec centers, cheese cubes, silent auctions and excessive amounts of liquor that never fails to attract a crowd of Manitobans.

And unless that changes, this longstanding social tradition isn’t likely to wane.

NOT YOUR AVERAGE WEDDING SOCIAL

Winnipeg couple’s family-friendly event inspires others

Who says a wedding social has to have booze, deli meats, loud music and more booze? Newlyweds Rachele and Jerin Valel sure don’t.

“We’re kinda a quirky couple to begin with,” Jerin said.

The couple channeled their quirkiness into hosting a very unique wedding social – a gym riot. Complete with organized games, sumo suits, a giant bouncer and a dunk tank, the social was an event for kids and adults alike.

Since the couple had a “small” wedding of 170 people, holding this event was a way to include all their friends and family in celebrating their marriage, Jerin explained. The social, which ran from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., turned out to be a major attraction with about 300 people in attendance.

When asked if this impressive turnout supplied the young couple with a nice chunk of cash for their wedding, Rachele explained that raising money for their wedding wasn’t their primary aim.

“We didn’t really care if we came out ahead... as long as we broke even,” she said.

Rather than using all the money for their wedding, the Valels put together bins for Winnipeg Harvest, and made a small donation to The Manitoba Theatre for Young People.

Turns out, the event was such a hit that the couple’s distinctive twist on the traditional Manitoba wedding social inspired other couples planning socials to change things up as well.

“Overall we have heard of three or four people who are planning on doing something similar,” Jerin said.

THE UNITER Job postings

The following positions are based on a 30-week term running Aug. 10, 2009 to Dec. 4, 2009 and Jan. 4, 2010 to Apr. 2, 2010. Successful applicants will be expected to spend volunteer hours during the summer familiarizing themselves with the position, attending a mini-journalism conference organized by The Uniter, and planning for the year ahead. Staff members are expected to attend weekly staff meetings and actively engage in the development of their position throughout the course of their employment. For further information, call 786-9790 or e-mail editor@uniter.ca. References and at least three writing samples must be attached to resumes. Mail, or deliver resumes in person, to The Uniter, ORM14 Bulman Centre, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9, or e-mail your application package to editor@uniter.ca.

Only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. Applications are encouraged from all interested parties. Application deadline for all positions is Apr. 22 at 12 p.m. Interviews will take place during the week of Apr. 27.

News assignment editor (\$110 per week)

The Uniter is looking for an organized individual with excellent leadership skills to co-ordinate a comprehensive eight to nine-page news section that examines university, local, national and international issues relevant to The Uniter’s diverse and knowledgeable readership. In addition to demonstrating a critical eye for news content, the news assignment editor assigns, researches and writes news stories and blog entries; coordinates photographs with the photo editor and the production manager; and provides volunteer and staff writers with support, story development and story ideas. The news assignment editor works as a team with the news production editor.

News production editor (\$110 per week)

The news production editor edits all content for an eight to nine page news section. Working closely with the news assignment editor, the news production editor aids in generating story ideas and helps writers to develop and write news stories. A strong understanding of journalistic style is mandatory. The news production editor is also responsible for researching and writing news stories and blog entries. Weekend work is required.

Campus reporter (\$60 per week)

The campus reporter ensures the goings on at the University of Winnipeg are covered in The Uniter. The successful candidate must have a keen eye for news and a knack for knowing what matters to readers. Liaising with students, the UWSA

and faculty and departments is a necessity. The campus reporter generates story ideas and works closely with the news assignment editor to ensure coverage for a two to three-page section. They also research and write weekly stories and blog entries, and co-ordinate compelling visuals with the photo editor and production manager.

Beat reporter x 3 (\$60 per week)

Beat reporters work closely with the news team to write two assigned stories per week and arrange for corresponding visual content. They must also regularly write blog entries on The Uniter’s website. The chosen candidates will demonstrate a critical eye for news content, possess superior writing and interviewing skills, and work well under the pressure of deadlines. Beat reporters must be able to work in collaboration with others and well as independently.

Comments editor (\$85 per week)

The comments editor co-ordinates a weekly two to three-page section full of well-written and compelling arguments and opinions on a variety of current events and issues. The comments editor must be familiar with a wide variety of campus, local, national and international issues of relevance to Uniter readers. They ensure all commentary is fair and balanced, and edit all content. They work with the managing editor to develop a healthy dialogue between The Uniter and its readers.

Culture reporter (\$80 per week)

Are you a pop culture junkie? The culture reporter works

closely with the arts and culture editor to develop story ideas that examine cultural trends of relevance to readers of The Uniter. Along with the arts and culture editor, the culture reporter ensures sufficient content to fill four to five-pages. They also work closely with volunteer writers to develop story ideas and provide support when needed. In addition, the culture reporter writes and researches at least one story per week, and regularly contributes to the online blog.

Listings co-ordinator (\$85 per week)

The listings co-ordinator collects and compiles on and off campus event listings for The Uniter’s comprehensive listings section. They are also responsible for writing brief descriptions of the events The Uniter chooses to highlight each week. The listings co-ordinator is also responsible for familiarizing faculty, student groups or other interested parties on and off campus with the procedures for submitting listings. In addition, they coordinate photos related to events to supplement the listings section. The successful candidate must be highly organized.

Copy and style editor (\$100 per week)

The Uniter is looking for an individual who demonstrates exceptional editing skills. The successful applicant assists the managing editor in final edits for the newspaper. The copy and style editor checks the entire copy for stylistic and grammatical errors. They are also responsible for compiling stylistic resources for staff. The successful applicant must be available to edit copy on weekends.

The hunt for Winnipeg's best veggie burger

A veggie burger lover tastes what a few local eateries have to offer

JONATHAN DYCK
 VOLUNTEER STAFF

Once a bland alternative to North America's fast-food favourite, the veggie burger has become a well-loved meal in its own right.

Gone are the days of stale tofu patties and predictable trimmings. The seven veggie burgers evaluated in this article are all worth sampling and, unlike most burger joints, the restaurants that make them are all worth visiting. Let the hunt begin!

THE LO PUB
 330 Kennedy St.
Veggie Burger, \$6.99

The Lo Pub may be a great place to have a drink and check out awesome music, but I can't recommend its veggie burgers. Thickly sliced cucumbers, alfalfa sprouts, tomato and mayonnaise top a relatively bland patty. Apart from Cousins's, the Lo Pub is the only place I've reviewed that doesn't make their own patties. It's not that it tastes bad, but if it wasn't for the mayonnaise this burger wouldn't taste like much of anything. And at \$7 a pop (!), I can't help but feel a little cheated by The Lo Pub's uninspiring rendition.

Value: 2/5
 Taste: 2/5
 Innovation: 1.5/5
Total: 1.8/5

TUBBY'S
 164 Stafford St.
Tubby's Famous Veggie Burger, \$4.75

If you can look past all the Burton Cummings glamour shots covering the walls, Tubby's offers a veggie burger for those who like their napkins translucent. It features a patty made with chickpeas, carrots, onions and a bunch of undisclosed spices. The burger comes dressed with your choice of sundried tomato mayonnaise or spicy Thai sauce. Neither sauce is remarkable, but, as far as I'm concerned, some mayonnaise is better than no mayonnaise.

Value: 3/5
 Taste: 2.5/5
 Innovation: 2.5/5
Total: 2.6/5

ELLICE CAFÉ
 587 Ellice Ave.
Yam Burger, \$5.00

With a patty made of yam, vegetable protein, rice and seeds, I was expecting a bit more from this burger. Though the patty has a wonderful crunch and a nice sweet flavour, the burger as a whole is pretty unexciting. Apart from tomato and onion, the yam burger just doesn't have much pizzazz. With the right sauce, it could be a surefire hit, but

as it stands you'll have to depend on ketchup or mustard for flavour.

Value: 3.5/5
 Taste: 2.5/5
 Innovation: 2/5
Total: 2.6/5

STELLA'S CAFÉ
 116 Sherbrook St.
Garden Burger, \$6.95

It may be small, but the Garden Burger is plainly and simply delicious. All the complimentary parts of this burger work together for a taste that's sweet and subtle. Chutney, a creamy cilantro sauce and crunchy deep fried onions top a patty made of flax seed, chickpeas, lentils and sunflower seeds. The burger comes on a whole wheat bun that is so satisfying, it almost outshines its contents. Shame about that price.

Value: 2.5/5
 Taste: 4/5
 Innovation: 3.5/5
Total: 3.3/5

BLACK SHEEP DINER
 540 Ellice Ave.
Nut Burger, \$8.50 (comes with hashbrowns, soup or salad)

When they say nut burger, they aren't kidding around. Unfortunately, I'm not a huge fan of nuts. It comes topped with mango chutney, lettuce and tomato and your choice between a slice of Bothwell cheese, a slab of avocado or a healthy por-



Food critic Natalie Dyck enjoys a veggie burger at Cousins Deli on Sherbrook Street.

tion of goat cheese. I just couldn't get past the nutty bitterness of the patty and I'm left feeling like the burger was less than the sum of its parts. Still, I know quite a few people go nuts (ha!) for this burger. The hashbrowns were stellar (as is pretty much everything else at the Black Sheep), but the burger is definitely an acquired taste.

Value: 3.5/5
 Taste: 3/5
 Innovation: 4.5/5
Total: 3.6/5

COUSINS DELI
 55 Sherbrook St.
Veggie Burger, \$4.25

A definite favourite among regulars, Cousins's veggie burger, which contains bhujia, tamarind chut-

ney, banana peppers, sweet pickles and onions spread over two golden, curry-flavoured patties, is the perfect balance of sweet and spicy. I've heard complaints that the patties taste too much like samosas (which isn't surprising given that they're made by neighbouring Indian restaurant Charisma), but I'm not about to complain.

Value: 3.5/5
 Taste: 4/5
 Innovation: 4/5
Total: 3.8/5

THE UNDERGROUND CAFÉ
 70 Arthur St.
Sun Burger, \$5.75

If you can manage to find it, one of the Exchange District's best kept secrets offers a unique and healthy take on the veggie burger. Served on a toasted whole wheat bagel, this patty is made of rice, eggs, cheese, sesame and sunflower seeds. It's also smothered with a savory lime-dill sauce and topped with lettuce, tomato and green pepper. Though it's a little on the expensive side, this is a dense burger that will leave you feeling energized – unless, of course, you give in and order another one.

Value: 3.5/5
 Taste: 4/5
 Innovation: 4.5/5
Total: 4/5

– With files from Natalie Dyck.



Welcome your Newly Elected

'09 - '10 UWSA Student Representatives

Your President



Jason Syvixay

Your Vice President Advocate



David Eisbrenner

Your Vice President Student Services



Kelly Ross

Your Vice President Internal



Courtney Maddock

Environmental Ethics Director - Jazmin Villalta

Adaptive Services Director - Jesse Turner

Canadian Federation of Students Liaison Director - Vinay Iyer

Community Liaison Director - Tyler Blashko

Science Director - Brent Gali

These directors are accountable to all y'all students! To get involved & learn more: email uwsa@theuwsa.ca & visit OR30 Bulman Students' Centre

Concert? Art show? Volunteer opportunity? Community event? Want to see your event in The Uniter? E-mail your listing to listings@uniter.ca. The deadline for all listings is Wednesday. The Uniter is published every Thursday, so send your listings 8 days prior to the issue you want your listing to appear in. It's free. It's easy.

LISTINGS CO-ORDINATOR: CURRAN FARIS
E-MAIL: LISTINGS@UNITER.CA
PHONE: 786-9497
FAX: 783-7080

CONCERTS

UNDER PRESSURE Farewell shows with Cross Rage and The Regressives, Mar. 27 at the Rudolf Rocker, and with Modern Problems and Born Bad at War On Music. The Rudolf Rocker show starts at 8 p.m. and is \$5 at the door. The War On Music show starts at 11 p.m. and is \$3.

METALFEST Mar. 27 and 28 at the Zoo. The Mar. 27 line-up features: Divinity, Dreadnaught, Tyrant's Demise, Bladelazer and Both Legs Broken, Tickets are \$12 at the door. Mar. 28 features Razor, Evil Survives, KEN Mode, Psychotic Gardening and Besieged and tickets are \$25 at the door.

WORLDSTAR With Cantordust and Poortree, Mar. 27 at Lo Pub. Tickets are \$5 at the door and the show starts at 10 p.m.

PATRICK ALEXANDRE AND THE F-HOLES CD release, Mar. 27 and 28 at Times Change(d). The band will play two sets, one at 7 and the other at 11 p.m. Tickets are available at the door.

SO HOLY HEAD CASE With Kram Ran, Dynamo, Better Homes for Meaner People, Pierre Freynet and a free art sale and exhibit, Mar. 27 at the Albert. Admission is \$5 at the door. Door open at 8:30 and the music starts at 9 p.m.

RAINER HERSCH Musician, comedian and conductor Hersch returns to Winnipeg to perform Last Night of the Proms...ever with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Mar. 27 (8 p.m.), 28 (8 p.m.) and 29 (2 p.m.). Tickets range from \$28.50 to \$65 and are available from the WSO box office, www.wso.mb.ca and Ticketmaster.

AFTER ALL THESE YEARS With Hospital, Mar. 28 at The Connection Showroom. Tickets are \$8 in advance from 943-0297, Music Trader and Into The Music or \$10 at the door.

HEBRAIC INSPIRATION With Alexandre da Costa, Denise Djokic and Wonny Song, Mar. 28 at Eckhardt-Grammate Hall in the University of Winnipeg. Tickets are \$29 for adults, \$27 for seniors and \$10 for students. The concerts start at 8 p.m.

GZA Mar. 30 at the Pyramid. Tickets are \$25 from Ticketmaster and the show starts at 9 p.m.

MUSIC

Pop, Rock & Indie

ACADEMY FOOD DRINKS MUSIC 437 Stradbrook. Mar. 26: Systemique; Mar. 27: Eye to Eye; Mar. 28: Wood Holler Trio, Eye to Eye; Mar. 31: Open Mike with Melissa Plett; Apr. 1: The Ministers of Cool; Apr. 2: Nathan, Patrick Keenan.

THE CAVERN 112 Osborne. Mar. 26: Jam Nite with Route 59; Mar. 27: The Sheepdogs, The Nods; Mar. 28: Vacuity, The Experiences, Rude Dale; Mar. 29: The Mad Cowboys; Mar. 30: The Vinyl Drip with James Brown; Mar. 31: Soul Nite with Dr. Hotbottom & The Soul Prescriptions.

KING'S HEAD PUB & EATERY 120 King. Sunday: All The King's Men; Monday: The Magician; Tuesday: Comedy Night; Wednesday: Little Boy Boom; Thursday: Joey Landreth Band.

LO PUB 330 Kennedy. Mar. 26: Goodform; Mar. 27: Greg Hanec; Mar. 28: Slow Down Mollasses; Mar. 31: Whitsundays.

PYRAMID CABARET 176 Fort. Mar. 27: JD Edwards Band, DJ D-Lo; Mar. 28 Morgan and Damon's Wedding Social with The New Meanies and The Weber Brothers; Mar. 31: Emma-Lee.

SIERRA NOBLE CD release, Mar. 26, 8 p.m., at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

Country, Folk & Indie

GORDIE'S COFFEE HOUSE 127 Coburg. Mar. 26: Stewart Porteous.

MCNALLY ROBINSON GRANT PARK Mar. 27: Mira Black; Mar. 28: Sheer Joy.

MCNALLY ROBINSON POLO PARK Mar. 27: Starlight Jazz.

TIMES CHANGE(d) HIGH & LONESOME CLUB Main & St. Mary. Mar. 27 - 28: Patrick Alexandre and the F-Holes CD Release.

Dance & Hip Hop

HIFI CLUB 108 Osborne. Mar. 28: Red Bull Canada presents Team Canada and EH Team DJs.

OZZY'S 160 Osborne. Wednesdays: Soho Trash DJs: Punk, Glam, New Wave, Power Pop; Thursdays: Readymix Dance Party: Indie-Dance, Electro, Brit-Pop, New Wave, Mash-Ups, '80s/'90s and more; Saturdays: Modernized.

PYRAMID CABARET 176 Fort. Mar. 30: GZA.

Punk & Metal

THE ROYAL ALBERT 91 Albert. Mar. 27: So Holy Headcase, Dynamo, Kram Ran, Better Homes for Meaner People, Pierre Freynet; Mar. 28: Kato Destroy, The Monty Yanks, The Road Trips.

THE ZOO 160 Osborne. Mar. 27: Divinity, Dreadnaught, Tyrant's Demise, Bladelazer, Both Legs Broken; Mar. 28: Razor, KEN Mode, Evil Survives, Psychotic Gardening, Besieged; Apr. 2: The Not, Fire Hunter.

THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

MONSIEUR D'EON The University of Winnipeg's Department of Theatre and Films closes its 2008/2009 season with Monsieur d'Eon. The play runs from Mar. 31 to Apr. 4 and is directed by Robert Metcalfe and performed by the

Acting IV: Honours - Style & Genre class. Performances will take place at 8 p.m. at the Gas Station Theatre. For tickets contact 786-9152 or visit <http://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca>.

AGE OF AROUSAL Presented by Theatre Projects Manitoba and written by Linda Griffiths, Mar. 19 to 29 at Rachel Browne Theatre. Tickets range from \$15 to \$20 and are available from 989-2400 or www.theatreprojectsmanitoba.ca. Evening shows start at 8 p.m. and matinees start at 2 p.m.

DOUBT, A PARABLE Presented by the Manitoba Theatre Centre and written by John Patrick Stanley, Doubt, A Parable runs until Apr. 4 at the MTC mainstage. Tickets range from \$17 to \$60 and are available from www.mtc.mb.ca and Ticketmaster.

GALLERIES

CREBERY 125 Adelaide. Video | Dance, by Natasha Torres-Garner, Freya Olafson and Andrew Milne, Apr. 1 to 4 at 8 p.m. and Apr. 3 and 4 at 10 p.m. To reserve a seat, call 774-9634.

FORUM ART INSTITUTE 120 Eugenie. To register for 15-and-up art classes call 235-1069 or visit www.forumartinstitute.ca.

GALLERY 1C03 University of Winnipeg. Everett Soop: Journalist, Cartoonist, Activist, open until Apr. 4.

GALLERY LACOSSE 169 Lilac. Kenneth Gordon's Canada: A Lifetime Journey and Enduring Legacy, on display until Mar. 28.

URBAN SHAMAN GALLERY 203-290 McDermot. Winnipeg Hydro, drawings by Ian August, open until Apr. 25. Also open is ...welcome...a history in two parts by Steven Loft, running from Mar. 13 to Apr. 25.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SIMPLICITY SESSIONS The Simplicity Practice and Resource Centre present a series of workshops promoting simple living: Simplicity Circle II, Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. beginning Mar. 24 at Mary Jane's Cooking School, 252 Arlington Street.

HEALTHY LIVING IN THE INNER CITY The Public Health Agency of Canada and Urban and Inner City Studies at the University of Winnipeg present the final installment "Healthy Living in the Inner City" Speakers Series, Mar. 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Millennium Library. Dr. Dennis Raphael will give a lecture titled, "Recession: Shrinking Paycheques, Failing Health." Admission is free to all. For more information contact Judith Harris at j.harris@uwinnipeg.ca or 786-9445.

VINYL SALE The Manitoba Chamber Orchestra is holding an open house vinyl and CD sale Mar. 28 in the Power Building basement from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CDs and LPs will be priced at \$2.

THE OTESHA PROJECT Is looking for people to participate in their Canada-wide Cycle for Sustainability tour. For more information visit www.otesha.ca.

THE UNITER'S TOP 5 EVENTS

BY CURRAN FARIS

1 **GZA** Mar. 30 at the **Pyramid**. Why? Because he's a member of the Wu Tang Clan, for starters. Plus, he recorded *Liquid Swords!* Don't argue. Just be there. Tickets are **\$25** from Ticketmaster and the show starts at **9 p.m.**

2 **RAZOR** With **Evil Survives**, **KEN Mode**, **Psychotic Gardening** and **Besieged**, **Mar. 28** at **The Zoo**. The maniacs behind Metalfest present Canadian thrash legends Razor. Don't miss out. Tickets are **\$25** at the door.

3 **UNDER PRESSURE** You have to chances to bid farewell to hardcore linchpins before they disappear into history, **Mar. 27** at the **Rudolf Rocker** at **8 p.m.** and **War On Music** at **11 p.m.**

4 **DOUBT, A PARABLE** Presented by the Manitoba Theatre Centre and written by John Patrick Stanley, Doubt, A Parable runs **until Apr. 4** at the **MTC mainstage**. The play that inspired the Oscar-winning film. Tickets range from **\$17 to \$60** and are available from www.mtc.mb.ca and Ticketmaster.

5 **GRAFFITI GALLERY** 109 Higgins. **Just For Kicks**, works by Canadian Tattoo artists on shoes, open until **Apr. 30**. It's art by tattooists on shoes, what's not to like?



KEN Mode pummel the Zoo Mar. 28.

GRAFFITI GALLERY 109 Higgins. Just For Kicks, works by Canadian Tattoo artists on shoes, open until Apr. 30.

PAVILLION GALLERY MUSEUM Assiniboine Park. Tides & Totems: Phillips in the West, watercolours and woodcuts by Walter J. Phillips. The exhibit is on display until May 3.

PLATFORM CENTRE FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC + DIGITAL ARTS 121-100 Arthur. Art and Cold Cash. This multimedia installation examines the introduction of capitalism into northern communities. The installation is open until Apr. 4.

SEMAI GALLERY 264 McDermot. Pom-Pom Grow Op by Natalie Ferguson, open until May 3. There will be an opening reception Mar. 27 from 7:30 to 10 p.m.

WAYNE ARTHUR GALLERY 186 Provencher. Night and Day/Norris Lake, paintings by Annette Lowe and photographs by Robert Lowe, on display until Apr. 1.

WINNIPEG ART GALLERY 300 Memorial. Marilyn Monroe: Life As Legend, on display until June 7. Angakkuq: Inuit Shaman is open until May 3. Fitzgerald In Context, open until May 17.

WOODLANDS GALLERY 535 Academy. Rumour Has It: New works by Angela Morgan, open until Mar. 28.

FINANCIAL FITNESS The Arts and Cultural Industries Association of Manitoba is hosting a workshop titled, Financial Fitness for the Self-Employed Arts Entrepreneurs, Mar. 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 250-240 Graham Avenue. Admission is free. To register contact 984-2272 or manitoba@canadabusiness.ca.

GRIEF RESOLUTION Beginning Experience presents Separated-Divorced-Widowed, a peer-support grief resolution program. The program helps deal with natural grief process and offers opportunity for turning the pain of loss into experience of positive growth. The 10-week adult program sessions begin Apr. 8, and there will be an adult weekend retreat held Apr. 17-19 as well as a young adult retreat May 29-31. For more information contact 275-3090 or visit www.winnipegbe.ca.

LITERARY

DIY COMICS WORKSHOP This workshop is an introduction to the basic concepts of character design, panel and page layout, and will be hosted by local artist Daniel Brandt. The workshop will take place Mar. 28 in the Mona Gray Program Room in the Millennium Library from 1 to 2:30

p.m. Ages 13 and up only. To register, call 986-6488.

SHORT FICTION CONTEST The Writers' Collective and the Winnipeg Free Press present the annual Short Fiction Contest. The contest has three divisions (junior student, senior student and adult) and over \$1,000 in cash prizes to be won. All entries must be postmarked no later than Apr. 7. For entry forms and contest rules, contact writerscollective@uwinnipeg.ca or visit www.thewriterscollective.wordpress.com for more information.

MARIE BARTON CONTEST The Writers' Collective presents the 2009 Marie Barton Postcard Fiction Contest. The contest is open to everyone. The entry fee is \$5 for non-members and free to Writers' Collective members. Submissions should be sent in on a postcard along with a story that relates to the image. Visit writerscollective@uwinnipeg.ca and www.thewriterscollective.wordpress.com for more information.

WRITING CONTEST Admissions are being accepted for the 2009 Prairie Fire Press/McNally Robinson writing contests. The Bliss Carman Poetry Award will be judged by Don Domanski; short fiction will be judged by Paul Quarington; and creative non-fiction will be judged by Charles Wilkins. \$6,000 in prizes will be awarded. The first prize in each category is \$1,250. The deadline for submissions is Nov. 30. For information contact: Prairie Fire Press, 423-100 Arthur Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1H3, (204) 943-9066, prfire@mts.net, or www.prairiefire.ca.

AQUA BOOKS Mar 26: Bons mots serie litteraire, 7 p.m.; Apr. 2 In Conversation with Ron Robinson with guest John Einarson, 7 p.m.

CAROL SZUMINSKY Signing of Penny Visits Oak Hammock Marsh, Mar. 28, 2 p.m., at McNally Robinson Polo Park.

PAT TERNOVETSKY AND ZANE BELTON Signing of Who Wants This Puppy? Mar. 29, 2 p.m. at McNally Robinson Polo Park.

STRURAN SINCLAIR Launch of Automatic World, Mar. 31, 8 p.m., at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

RICKI SEGAL Signing of My Zayde and Other Memories of Growing Up Jewish, Apr. 1, 6 p.m., at McNally Robinson Grant Park.

FILM

CINEMATHEQUE 100 Arthur. Mar. 26: RIP: A Remix Manifesto (7 p.m.), JCVD (9 p.m.); Mar. 27: Wendy and Lucy (7 p.m.), Edison and Leo (8:30 p.m.); Mar. 28: Wendy and Lucy (7 p.m.), Edison and Leo (8:30 p.m.); Mar. 29: Wendy and Lucy (7 p.m.); Apr. 1: Wendy and Lucy (7 p.m.), The Class (8:30 p.m.).

RONNIE LANE Big Smash! Productions presents The Passing Show: The Life and Music of Ronnie Lane, Apr. 1 at the Cyrk. Admission is \$7, includes beer or wine, and the film starts at 7:30 p.m.

CALL FOR ENTRIES The 8th Annual Winnipeg Aboriginal Film Festival (WAFF) invites artists to submit their work to one of North America's longest-running indigenous film and video festivals, happening this Nov. 18-22, 2009. Submissions are now being accepted in seven categories. The WAFF pays screening fees to artists and there is no submission fee for entries received on or before the June 19 deadline (with a \$25 late fee applying thereafter). For complete rules and entry forms, go to www.aboriginalfilmfest.org, or e-mail info@aboriginalfilmfest.org.

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG FILM FESTIVAL Admissions are being accepted by the University of Winnipeg Department of Theatre and Film for their annual Student Film Festival. To be eligible, the film must be made by students attending a post-secondary institution in Manitoba. The deadline is Apr. 6 and the festival runs from Apr. 22 to 24. For more information visit www.theatre.uwinnipeg.ca or contact j.kozak@uwinnipeg.ca.

ON CAMPUS

DISABILITY STUDIES The Disability Studies Advisory Committee presents What is Disability Studies? (And Why Do We Need it at UW?), a panel discussion and information session. The talk will take place Mar. 26 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. by the Info Booth, first floor centennial.

ECONOMY AND THE FIRST NATIONS National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations Phil Fontaine will deliver a public lecture titled The Economy and First Nations, Mar. 30, 7 p.m., in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall.

SAFEWALK Safewalk is a UWSA service for students and faculty who don't feel comfortable walking to their car/bus stop/home alone in the evening. Friendly safewalkers will accompany students and faculty to their destinations every evening throughout the week. Hours of operation are Monday-Thursday 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Fridays from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Safewalk office is located on the first floor by the escalators and next to the Security office.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION The Spence Neighbourhood Association is looking for volunteers to help staff their new Youth Resource Center at the M.E.R.C. The Center will be open after school hours/evenings. Please contact Jamil at 986-5467, youthcoordinator@spenceneighbourhood.org for more information.

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

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

AWARDS OFFERED BY EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

AUCC AWARDS

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada provides 150 scholarship programs on behalf of the federal government, domestic and foreign agencies, and private sector companies. Check out website <http://www.aucc.ca/> Look under the heading Scholarships and Internships for Canadian Students.

BUSINESS COUNCIL OF MANITOBA ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARD

If you are of Aboriginal ancestry, you are eligible for a Business Council of Manitoba Aboriginal Education Award provided you meet the following criteria: you are a citizen of Canada and permanent resident of Manitoba, having resided in Manitoba for the last 12 months; you plan to attend a Manitoba public post-secondary institution in any discipline in the 2009-10 academic year; you plan to maintain full-time status (at least a 60 per cent course load); you are in need of financial assistance

If you are receiving funding from other sources, including band funding, you may still apply for this award to cover additional costs.

Application forms are available in the Awards Office- main floor Graham Hall, and Student Central-main floor Centennial Hall. Please submit to the Awards & Financial Aid office by March 30.

ROTARY FOUNDATION AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Ambassadorial Scholarships program supports the vision of The Rotary Foundation to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace. During the study period, scholars are expected to be outstanding ambassadors of good will to the people of the host country through appearances before Rotary clubs and districts, schools, civic organizations and other forums. After study has been completed, scholars share their experiences with the people of their home countries and Rotarians who sponsored their scholarships. Three scholarship programs are available to apply for: Academic-Year Ambassadorial Scholarship - one regular academic year of full-time study at an institution assigned by The Rotary Foundation Trustees with the provision of a flat grant in the amount of \$25,000 US; Multi-Year Ambassadorial Scholarship - two years of full-time degree-oriented study at an institution assigned by The Rotary Foundation Trustees with the provision of a flat grant in the amount of \$12,500 US each year; Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship - three to six months of intensive language training and cultural immersion at a language school selected by The Rotary Foundation Trustees with the provision of a flat grant in the amount of \$12,000 US for a three-month scholarship and \$17,000 US for a six-month scholarship.

General eligibility requires applicants to have completed at least two years of university or college work, or must have a secondary school education and have been employed in a recognized vocation for at least two years when the scholarship begins. All applicants must be a citizen of a country in which there is a Rotary Club. Applicants must include with their application: a curriculum vitae, a written statement no more than two pages in length explaining applicant's plans to serve as a Rotary Foundation ambassador, two letters of recommendation, copies of relevant correspondence with intended host institution and summary of training and experience in language of host country.

Please visit the Awards & Financial Aid Office - main floor Graham Hall for application forms.

Deadline: Mar. 31

2009 DALTON CAMP AWARD

Established by Friends of Canadian Broadcasting in 2002, the Dalton Camp Award honours the memory of the late Dalton Camp, a distinguished commentator on Canadian public affairs. Each year up to two Canadians are selected to win a \$5,000 prize for excellence in essay-writing on the link between democratic values and the media in Canada.

Deadline: March 31.

To apply visit www.daltoncampaward.ca

PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN HONOUR OF STUART NESBITT WHITE

Public Safety Canada (PSC) is seeking to encourage graduate research in support of its mandate, which is to enhance the safety and security of Canadians in their physical and cyber environments. These awards are available for those students who are studying and conducting research in the area of Emergency Management (EM). This includes work in the areas of one or more of the four pillars of Emergency Management; mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Studies focused on the all hazards approach with regard to EM are encouraged, as are studies in cyber security, disaster management, and critical infrastructure protection and assurance*. Cross disciplinary / multi-disciplinary studies in these areas are preferred and encouraged. Preferred disciplines are regional planning, engineering, environmental studies, computer science, geography, sociology, economics and/or areas such as risk modeling and system science.

*For a definition of what PSC deems to be critical infrastructure see: <http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/prg/em/nciap/about-en.asp>

Number of Awards: eight (8)

Value: \$19,250 CDN

Deadline: March 31

Interested candidates will find the information needed to apply for this program in a PDF or Word format by visiting the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada's website <https://juno.aucc.ca/wes/hes.aspx?pg=934&oth=005052009>.

ROBERTA BONDAR GIRL GUIDES SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is available to any past member of the Girl Guides of Canada who is continuing her education in science, applied science, mathematics or technology at a Canadian institution. It is awarded to students entering third, fourth or a post-graduate year of studies. There are two \$2,000 scholarships to be awarded. Visit <http://forms.girlguides.ca/default.aspx#scholarship> for criteria and application forms. Application forms are to be sent regular mail or courier.

Note: Application forms will not be faxed. Faxed or email applications will not be accepted.

Deadline: Apr. 1.

RETAIL AS A CAREER SCHOLARSHIP

Retail Council of Canada, in partnership with industry sponsors, will award more than \$75,000 in scholarships and benefits to students entering or currently enrolled in a business, marketing or retail-related program at a Canadian post-secondary institution. There will be 26 scholarships available in 2009, one

\$5,000 Interac Scholarship and twenty-five \$1,000 Industry-Sponsored Scholarships.

Each scholarship winner will receive the following: financial assistance for their post-secondary education; hotel and travel expenses to attend STORE 2009, the Canadian retail industry's premier conference, June 1-2. Scholarship recipients will have the chance to attend educational sessions and network with top industry professionals before they are recognized at STORE 2009.

For application forms and more information on how to apply, please visit their website: <http://www.retaileducation.ca/cms/sitem.cfm/scholarship>

Applications must arrive at Retail Council of Canada on or before Apr. 3. Late applications will not be considered.

MANITOBA ROUND TABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Sustainable Development Scholarship assists post-secondary students who pursue studies or undertake research that embraces the spirit and principles of sustainable development. The scholarship is open to students in any field of study offered at an approved Manitoba post-secondary institution. These scholarships are not available to employees of the Province of Manitoba or their spouses, common law partners or dependants. The scholarship consists of single, non-renewable awards of \$6,000 for a graduate student and \$1,500 for an undergraduate or college student.

Deadline: May 1.

Application forms are available from the following website: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/susresmb/scholarship/apply.html>

LEGAL STUDIES FOR ABORIGINAL PEOPLES PROGRAM

The Legal Studies for Aboriginal Peoples (LSAP) Program is a bursary program designed to financially assist Canadian Métis and Non-Status Indian students who wish to pursue their studies in law in a Canadian institution. Financial assistance is provided to eligible students to offset some of the costs of attending a Canadian Law School in order to obtain a law degree (LLB) over a regular period of three years. Financial assistance may also be provided to eligible students who have received a conditional acceptance and are enrolled in a pre-law program.

To be considered for a bursary under the LSAP Program, an applicant must: be Métis or Non-Status Indian of Canadian citizenship, living in Canada, who has applied to a Canadian law school; attest to Métis or Non-Status Indian ancestry by signing the declaration in the application form; demonstrate financial need by providing financial information on income or other assistance received and expenses as required in the application form; and demonstrate that they possess the ability to succeed in law school by providing the necessary documentation as identified in the application.

Please visit their website for more information and to apply: <http://www.canada.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/pb-dgp/prog/lisap-aeda.html#pre>

Deadline: May 15

MILLENNIUM EXCELLENCE NATIONAL IN-COURSE AWARD

The Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation national in-course awards are exclusively available to upper-year students who have not previously received substantial merit

awards and who demonstrate commitment to community service, leadership, innovation and academic achievement.

An applicant must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply for a national in-course award: Canadian citizenship, permanent resident or protected person status within the meaning of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act; enrolment in a recognized undergraduate first-entry program leading to a degree, diploma or certificate at an eligible and approved Canadian post-secondary educational institution; by the end of the 2008-09 academic year, have completed Second year - but not the third year - of a current program leading to an associate bachelor or bachelor degree. You must also have been registered in at least 48 credit hours in total over those two academic years; cumulative post-secondary school Grade Point Average of at least 3.5 or B+; no previous receipt of substantial merit scholarship funding to support post-secondary education, regardless of the source of the scholarship (e.g., school, government, private source, etc.). Students applying after their second year may not have received more than \$3,500 in scholarship money based solely on merit in any one year, with a total of no more than \$5,000 to date. Note: Automatic provincial government scholarships granted to students after surpassing a marks threshold are exempt from this limit.

Deadline: May 25.

Please visit this website for more information or to apply: www.excellenceaward.ca

MANITOBA CATTLE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION BURSARIES

The Manitoba Cattle Producers Association is pleased to make available four \$500 bursaries annually for MCPA members or their children attending a university, college or other post-secondary institution or pursuing trades training. Preference will be given to those students pursuing a field of study related to agriculture or to those acquiring a skilled trade that would be beneficial to the rural economy.

Completed applications must be submitted by May 29, 2009. A selection committee will review the submissions. Winners will be notified by August 28th, 2009. The bursary criteria are as follows:

Eligibility: must be at least 17 years of age as of January 1, 2009; must be an active Manitoba beef producer or the child of an active Manitoba beef producer; must use the bursary within two years.

Requirements: must submit a 400 to 500 word (maximum) typed essay discussing "The importance of the beef industry in Manitoba"; must submit proof of enrolment in a recognized institution (e.g. transcript); must submit a list of community involvement (e.g. 4-H, community clubs, volunteer work, etc.); post-secondary program or trades training must be a minimum of one year in duration; provide the names of three references, including their addresses and telephone numbers.

Submissions must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 29 to: Manitoba Cattle Producers Association Bursary Committee, 222-530 Century Street, Winnipeg MB R3H 0Y4, Fax: (204) 774-3264, E-mail: mcpa.office@mts.net.

For more information or application forms, please contact the MCPA at (800) 772-0458 or mcpa.office@mts.net.

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES ASSIGNMENT: SAVING LIVES

The Manitoba Blue Cross is sponsoring Assignment: Saving Lives educational bursaries in the amount of either \$1000 or \$500. To be eligible, Grade 12 and University/College students in Manitoba are challenged to recruit a minimum of 25 blood donors who will donate between Thursday, July 1 and Saturday, August 30.

The educational bursaries will be awarded the second week of September at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. All registered students will be notified of the results. Students that register before June 1, will be invited to an Orientation Session at Canadian Blood Services.

For more information and application forms, contact:

Tracy Lamoureux, Canadian Blood Services, 777 William Ave. Winnipeg MB, R3E 3R4, 204-789-1023, tracy.lamoureux@blood.ca.

Deadline: July 31.

MANITOBA STUDENT AID PROGRAM

The following information is provided with regard to the second disbursement of your Manitoba Student Aid Program (MSAP) assistance (Manitoba Student Loan) for the 2008-09 academic year:

Missing information. If any documentation requested by the MSAP, such as summer income verification, has not yet been submitted, electronic confirmation of your loan document will not occur and your loan funds will not be in place at the beginning of the winter term.

Revision to your needs assessment. You should be aware that new information, such as verification of your summer income, may increase or decrease your MSAP needs assessment and the resulting loan amounts you are eligible to receive. Similarly, if your current course load is different from that on your Notice of Assistance letter, the amount of loan you are eligible to receive may change.

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

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

DID YOU KNOW That Manitoba Student Aid staff can be on campus on Fridays from 1 to 4 p.m. To meet with them, you need to set up an appointment time. Come to student services and book an appointment, or phone 786-9458 or 786-9984.

Other Award Websites:

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

Manitoba Student Aid Program www.manitobastudentaid.ca

Surfing for dollars? Try these two websites:

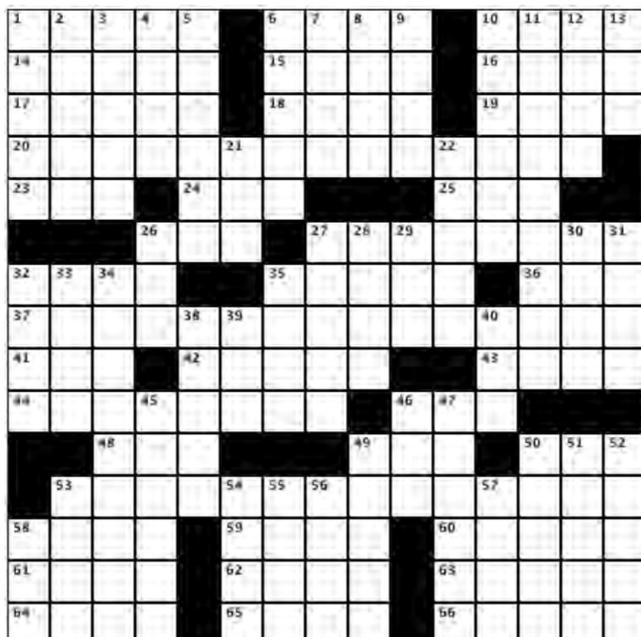
www.studentawards.com

www.scholarshipscanada.com

Please contact the awards office for information regarding external awards.

Crossword Puzzle #25

Solutions to puzzles will appear in the next issue.



Across

- 1- Overwhelming fear
- 6- Bill
- 10- Move off hastily
- 14- Dicembre follower
- 15- Tear down
- 16- Mata ___
- 17- Playwright Fugard
- 18- Riding
- 19- Sea eagle
- 20- Sail completely around
- 23- Euro forerunner
- 24- Vespa rider, perhaps
- 25- Biblical verb ending
- 26- Hill dweller
- 27- Chronic eye infection
- 32- Catalog
- 35- Express gratitude
- 36- Legal matter
- 37- Informally
- 41- Part of many e-mail addresses
- 42- Nicholas Gage book
- 43- Network of nerves
- 44- Infallible
- 46- Actor Chaney
- 48- Actor Stephen
- 49- McCartney title

- 50- Golfer Ernie
- 53- Tending to sleep walk
- 58- Nothing special
- 59- Actor Penn
- 60- Sweatbox
- 61- Single entity
- 62- The doctor ___
- 63- More mature
- 64- "___ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto)
- 65- Hammett hound
- 66- Food and water

Down

- 1- Freedom from war
- 2- Caper
- 3- First prime minister of India
- 4- Camaro model
- 5- Decorative pillar
- 6- Stigma
- 7- I could ___ horse!
- 8- Northern arm of the Black Sea
- 9- French military cap
- 10- Close-fitting dress
- 11- Clydesdale, e.g.
- 12- "Rule Britannia" composer

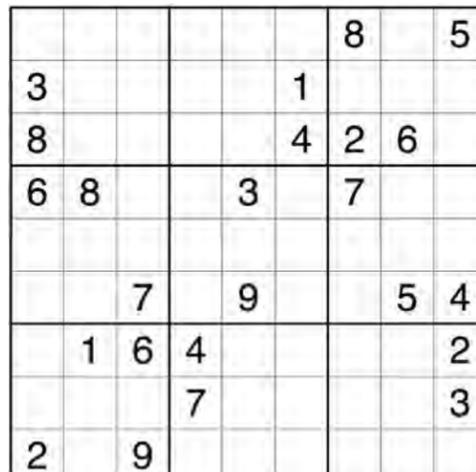
- 13- Overtime cause
- 21- Witty remark
- 22- Nocturnal tropical lizard
- 26- Dug in
- 27- Whiplash
- 28- Title bestowed upon the wife of a raja
- 29- Singer DiFranco
- 30- Dissolve
- 31- ___ sow, so shall...
- 32- Hawaiian outdoor feast

- 33- A party to body tissue
- 34- Hardening of
- 35- Revenuers, for short
- 38- Showed over
- 39- Samuel's teacher
- 40- Coffee dispenser
- 45- Distant
- 46- Like Abner
- 47- Prayer
- 49- Traditional portion of Muslim law

- 50- Musical study piece
- 51- Covered on the inside
- 52- Surgery souvenirs
- 53- Juniors, perhaps
- 54- Home to most people
- 55- Untidy condition
- 56- Enticement
- 57- Garage event
- 58- Bring civil action against

Sudoku Puzzle #21

Puzzle level: intermediate



Last week's puzzle solution (#20)

5	1	8	7	6	2	3	4	9
3	7	2	4	9	5	6	8	1
6	4	9	3	1	8	2	7	5
8	2	5	1	7	6	4	9	3
1	9	3	8	5	4	7	6	2
7	6	4	9	2	3	1	5	8
2	5	1	6	8	7	9	3	4
4	8	7	2	3	9	5	1	6
9	3	6	5	4	1	8	2	7

SUDOKU PROVIDED BY KRAZYDAD.COM

Last week's puzzle solution (#24)

A	S	T	A	O	B	O	L	R	O	W	E	L	
S	T	A	R	B	E	T	A	E	L	A	T	E	
S	A	L	E	S	S	L	I	P	M	E	L	E	
E	M	E	T	I	C	S	P	A	N	G			
R	E	N	E	G	E	S	E	P	A	T	O	R	
T	N	T	I	N	A	T	E	N	T	I	V	E	
			S	L	E	D	S	S	T	O	L	I	D
C	O	R	E	F	E	A	R	B	O	L	D	S	
A	N	O	R	A	K	R	A	B	A	T			
P	A	T	E	R	N	O	S	T	E	R	R	O	B
O	N	E	C	O	N	A	C	E	T	A	T	E	
			M	U	T	E	D	K	E	R	M	I	S
I	N	D	I	A	D	E	F	O	L	I	A	T	E
M	E	A	N	T	G	A	I	N	E	D	I	T	
P	A	Y	F	E	T	E	R	R	S	S	A	S	S

CROSSWORD PROVIDED BY BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

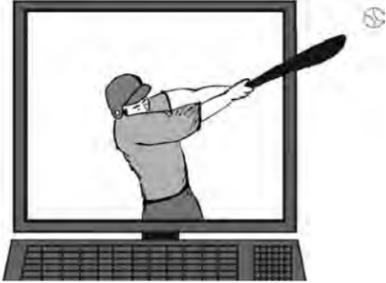
Sports & Fitness

The Internet and sports

Why the relationship may be in danger



ADAM JOHNSTON
VOLUNTEER STAFF



The Internet has become a bountiful source of riches for sports fans. However, recent Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) hearings on the potential regulation of new media, specifically for Canadian content on the Internet, may have effects for sport aficionados.

Currently, the Internet is under no regulation by the CRTC for content. This is in thanks to the 1999 decision by the CRTC to exempt all content on the Internet from regulation. This was otherwise known as the "hands off" rule to the Internet.

That decision allowed companies to produce innovative and exciting news to the standards of new media including podcasts and streaming video. The benefits were huge for both sports fans and producers alike.

Sports fans could leap frog conventional forms of media

like television to see their favourite sports teams. An example of this includes seeing over 100 Major League Soccer games live for just \$20 US on a streaming video site.

Improvements in technology have drastically reduced the cost of production, thus those who could not afford to show games live on conventional television 10 to 15 years ago can show games live on the Internet.

A great local example is our University of Winnipeg Wesmen, who show live streaming video of home games throughout the regular season.

Some arts and culture groups have been critical of the 1999 "hands off" approach because an unregulated Internet has drained out Canadian voices in a sea of international content.

Some of the proposals at the hearings involved the CRTC regulating the Internet, just like

conventional media outlets, to protect Canadian content.

One proposal was for all audio and visual works on the Internet to be put under the Canadian Broadcasting Act, which requires a license to produce live streaming video from Canada on the Web.

The impact of a regulated Internet could hurt sports fans. If Internet producers are required to be licensed like conventional broadcasters, their costs of production would go up.

It could potentially hurt those small producers because they may not be able to afford the licensing required. Specifically, the Wesmen would no longer be able to broadcast their games via streaming video.

"It is increasingly clear that the blossoming of new media is a threat to old business models, not to Canadian content," University of Ottawa law and e-commerce professor Micheal Geist wrote in a *Toronto Star* column in April 2007.

Perhaps the old business model does not work in the age of Internet. Rather, new media is thriving and has given sports fans the best coverage they have ever seen and it should be kept this way.

ILLUSTRATION BY RYAN JANZ

That's two for Canada and maybe more Vancouver awarded MLS team, but **what about Winnipeg?**



JO VILLAVERDE
SPORTS EDITOR



MARKO BILANDZIJA
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Canada's soccer image is about to expand.

Alongside the fairly young Toronto FC, the Vancouver Whitecaps of the United Soccer Leagues (USL) will join the other 16 Major League Soccer (MLS) franchises in the expansion year of 2011.

Ottawa might also join the MLS. But what are the odds that a Winnipeg soccer franchise would be able to survive?

Currently, there is no talk of a future Winnipeg MLS team but the possibility of it happening someday does seem very likely. We believe it's even more possible than even the Winnipeg Jets comeback.

The only thing really standing in Winnipeg's way is finances. Vancouver will have to dish out \$35 million to join the league in 2011. All other franchise entrances cost \$40 million. There appears to be no reports on why Vancouver's entrance fee was lowered, but Winnipeg would need a similar deal.

This is the same issue that prevents a Winnipeg Jets comeback. But the \$40 million fee is substantially less than the \$50 million the NHL requires, and Winnipeg simply cannot afford the high salaries of NHL players and coach-

ing staff.

One thing that is always brought up during a Jets discussion is Winnipeg's sports fans. We seem to support success but fail to support teams failing.

The argument is that Winnipeggers would embrace the Jets for the first few years, but once things start going bad, the support might wither away. That possibility has scared away the chances of a Jets return.

Perhaps that would not be the case for a soccer team. Soccer is an international sport and because of the city's multicultural make-up, there would be a lot of support for a soccer team.

Soccer fans, especially immigrants who grew up with soccer in their home countries, would love the opportunity to watch soccer live in Winnipeg.

Vancouver is also a victim of losing a major sports franchise in the Vancouver Grizzlies, but their soccer team will have a chance to succeed where a basketball team could not. They do have the advantage of having two-time National Basketball Association MVP Steve Nash as one of the owners of the Vancouver Whitecaps, but there should be no reason why Winnipeg could not find similar financial support.

If David Asper can make a \$65 million bid for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, why could he not be a potential owner of a Winnipeg soccer team? A soccer team would cost less than what he offered for the Blue Bombers, and would allow Winnipeg to become a part of the largest soccer league in North America.

Sorry Jets fans but maybe you should cheering "olay olay olay olay" instead of "go Jets go."



fontana swing, Vinaterta Lady #64, 2002

Inaugural Carol Shields Symposium
on Women's Writing:

FESTIVAL OF VOICES

Inaugural Carol Shields Symposium
on Women's Writing:

FESTIVAL OF VOICES

A new national literary event honouring Carol Shields
and exploring current trends in women's writing.

Highlights Includes

- Presentations celebrating Carol, her works and legacy, including a Random House Gala with tributes by CBC's Eleanor Wachtel and six well-known writers including Sandra Birdsell, Andrew Davidson and Jane Urquhart;
- Performance of a commissioned piece of choral music by Randolph Peters using Carol's written words;
- Unique opportunities for reading groups to be part of a CBC Book Club Registry and Rally and be eligible for a private hour session with a top Canadian writer;
- Readings, conversations and roundtable discussions featuring the *Dropped Threads* contributors and other established and emerging communities of writers;
- A ceremony of dedication at the Carol Shields Labyrinth in Kings Park

REGISTER at

(www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/festival-of-voices).

festivalofvoices@uwinnipeg.ca

The University of Winnipeg

May 8-10, 2009



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG



89.3
radio
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Wesmen volleyball wrap-up

Men's volleyball team **losing key players** while women look forward to future



BRAD PENNINGTON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The men's and women's Wesmen volleyball teams are perfect examples of the circle of life. All good things must come to an end, while new life brings exciting possibilities.

The men are losing three key players from their squad: Andrew Town, Alan Ahow, and Paul Kjos.

All three played integral roles in Winnipeg's record-tying 10th national championship in 2006-2007. The next year they made it to the championship game again and claimed silver in the 2007-2008 season.

This year, the team finished the regular season with a record of 10-8, and went 2-1 in the Canada West semi-finals qualifying for the CIS Nationals, in which they were defeated in both of their two games by Laval and Thompson Rivers.

"We have a lot of vacancies that need to be filled," said head coach Larry McKay.

The team is currently recruiting some high school players whose names have yet to be announced and there are also some red shirts that will be playing at the start of next season.



Ariel Smith is one of the Wesmen's young talented young players returning next year.

UNITER ARCHIVES, NOV. 2008.

"It will be an exciting year in that we have a lot of fresh young players," said McKay.

Two players received awards for

their play during the season. Town was chosen as a Canada West First Team All Star and Ahow won the CIS Dale Iwanoczko Award.

Polish those clubs

'Fore' weeks left until **first tee-off?**



KEVIN CHAVES
VOLUNTEER STAFF

That white stuff outside is finally melting and the wonderful green grass below is slowly becoming more and more visible. This means that the time to play the most relaxing, yet most frustrating sport, is

thankfully near.

Only in golf can you appreciate the view of the morning sun, the smell of the freshly cut greens, the enjoyment of friends with a few beers while at the same time hearing more swears in 18 holes than in a full Seth Rogan movie.

I know that I am not the only person who has started cleaning

out their golf bag and polishing those clubs with a fine toothbrush. I know this because I am not the only one who is getting excited for the golf season.

"Rossmere golfers are getting excited about the upcoming golf season," said Glenn Singleton of Rossmere Country Club. "We have received many calls regarding

opening date as well as membership inquiries."

"People have called to see what is new in (golf) technology and just to talk golf," said Jim Steep from Glendale Golf and Country Club.

Winnipeg is home to many avid golfers, which is surprising, since in Manitoba the golf season is limited to about five months - our biggest obstacle being late and heavy snowfalls.

"With a little cooperation from Mother Nature we will open by the April 18th weekend," Singleton said. "Possibly sooner."

Opening days vary from course to course but most courses hope to have us teeing off by the middle of April.

"Believe it or not, every year the opening day is almost the same regardless of the amount of snow," said Steep. "We usually open the driving range around April 15th and the course five to seven days later."

The driving range is often under utilized, but since it opens much earlier than the actual course, this is a perfect place to get rid of the initial golfers itch. This is a good time to get some blood flowing in those body joints that are never used during the winter season.

In golf, you are responsible for your own results and you sure can't blame someone else for what your scorecard says at the end of the round.

Golf should be simply enjoyed. In order to enjoy the sport, a recreational golfer should understand that they will never be a professional - and not take it too seriously.

Just remember that golf is simple math: 90 per cent mental and 10 per cent mental.



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"Lifting the spirits of children with cancer"
Camp Quality Manitoba, is a non-profit volunteer organization that provides a unique camping experience to children with cancer and provides support to their families. It is staffed entirely by volunteers in the community.

**We are looking for a few good people
Please consider joining our team!!!**

Applications are currently being received for volunteers for our one week camp, August 15-22th. We are also looking to fill positions for Camp Director, fundraising, media, programming, and secretary. Contact Cathy Ann @ 1-866-799-6103 or email winters@mts.net

VOLUNTEER FOR THE UNITER
E-MAIL EDITOR@UNITER.CA

SPORTS BRIEFS

JESS CHAPMAN
AND DAVE HOLLIER



A 'HAIRY' SITUATION FOR LANCE ARMSTRONG

You've heard of athletes getting tested for illegal substances using samples of their blood and urine, but now they are testing hair.

According to TSN.ca, while training for what is to become his comeback to the sport of cycling, Lance Armstrong was approached by a French anti-doping agency to give a sample of his hair for testing.

Doping accusations have plagued Lance Armstrong since he started his run to a record-setting seven straight Tour De France victories, though he has never tested positive.

A hair sample is especially effective at detecting a substance sometimes used called DHEA.

The only complaint Armstrong seemed to have was regarding his hairstyle.

"He didn't make my hair look very good," said Armstrong. "That's why I cut it after that, after he butchered it."

ROLLERCOASTER WEEK FOR BRODEUR

Yes, he broke the record. He has the most career season wins out of any goalie in the NHL. But, it wasn't all good news for New Jersey Devils goalie Martin Brodeur last week when he was asked to pay \$500,000 a year to his former wife as part of their alimony settlement.

According to ESPN.com, Brodeur was ordered to keep paying this annual fee until 2020, when his youngest should graduate from high school.

On top of the alimony, Brodeur's former wife Melanie DuBois was awarded \$132,000 a year for child support and more than \$9,000,000 in other assets.

The couple married in 1995 and divorced in 2003, after Brodeur admitted to having an affair with his sister-in-law.

BROTHER MIDNIGHT IS BACK, BAYBEH!

Much to the excitement of everyone at *The Uniter* sports department, famed local wrestler Brother Midnight will be returning to his old stomping grounds.

The black-and-blue-masked denizen of River City Wrestling will make a guest appearance at the "Vindication" event hosted by Action Wrestling Experience at Blush Ultraclub on Wednesday, April 15.

Doors are open at 8 p.m. and the opening bell will ring at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 at the door and \$10 beforehand.

MORGAN STATE'S ALI FLIPS OUT AT OKLAHOMA'S GRIFFIN

Oklahoma University rebounder Blake Griffin got flipped - literally - by Morgan State forward Ameer Ali in the opening South Regional game of March Madness.

Ali was benched after flipping Griffin over his shoulder and onto the hardwood. No provocation was evident.

No stranger to being the victim of unsportsmanlike conduct, Griffin scored a total of 28 points and 13 rebounds in the Sooners' 82-54 victory over the Bears.

OBAMA SHORES UP THE FOOTBALL VOTE

President Barack Obama has named Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney to be the U.S. ambassador to Ireland.

Obama, who chose the Steelers to win the 2009 Super Bowl and campaigned heavily in politically lucrative Pennsylvania, called Rooney "an unwavering supporter of Irish peace, culture and education" and "an outstanding representative."

Rooney had been a "lifelong Republican" before Obama's victory in the Iowa caucuses, at which point he encouraged his "fellow Pennsylvanians" to throw their support behind the then-senator.

McFeetors Hall:

Great-West Life Student Residence

New West Campus Student & Community Housing

McFeetors Hall provides a variety of living environments featuring dorm-style housing choices for 172 students and attractive townhome options for mature students with families or single-parent students.

This LEED silver certified building models a range of leading edge environmental technologies that foster sustainability and energy efficiency. Each new home is wired for telephone, cable TV and Internet. Student lounges and EnergyStar laundry facilities are available.

Single Dorms

These private, air-conditioned rooms have a full bathroom and come furnished with desk, chair, bed, lamp and wardrobe. Each room has access to the student lounge & common kitchen area. Enrollment in the meal plan is mandatory, as is signing a two-term lease (September – April).

Cost: \$2340 CAD per term
Meal Plan: Regular

Double Dorms

Each student has their own room furnished with desk, chair, bed, lamp and wardrobe but will share a kitchenette and bathroom with another student. These rooms are air-conditioned and require a two-term lease (September – April) as well as participation in the meal plan.

Cost: \$2340 CAD per term
Meal Plan: Regular, Light or Full

Family Housing

McFeetors Hall includes 25 townhouse-style homes that can accommodate 10 families from the community and 15 student families. Each unit has a full kitchen, walk-in closet, living room, bathroom (including bathtub with shower) and private entrance. Priority will be given to students with children and married/common-law couples. Prices range from \$589 - \$990 a month (including utilities). Units will require the signing of a year-long lease. Participation in the meal plan is not required.

Meal Plan Options

All students in McFeetors Hall dorms are required to participate in the meal plan and with three options to choose from, our new meal plan will be a balance between affordable, locally sourced, fresh, organic and culturally sensitive food that will satisfy the needs of the diverse student population living in residence. All meal plans are available for 16 weeks each term.

Plan A: Regular Meal Plan

This plan is required for the Single Dorm students and is available to students in the Double Dorms as well. It is based on a 19 meal per week menu.
Cost: \$2011 CAD per term

Plan B: Light Meal Plan

Designed for the Double Dorm students and is based on a 14 meal per week menu.
Cost: \$1687 CAD per term

Plan C: Full Meal Plan

Designed for athletes and students with hearty appetites and is based on a 21 meal per week menu.
Cost: \$2234 CAD per term

For more information please contact:
Housing & Student Life
Phone: 204-786-9900
Email: housing@uwinnipeg.ca
Web: <http://housing.uwinnipeg.ca>



Double Dorm Layout (416-470 sq. ft.)



Single Dorm Layout (152-167 sq. ft.)

