

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

THE **UNITER**

2009/12 / 03 **ISSUE**
14
VOLUME 64



The legend and the legacy

After a decade on the scene,
local rockers Hot Live Guys disband

ARTS & CULTURE ➔ page 12

Tireless advocate, vibrant performer and a really good friend

Remembering Asher Webb **NEWS** ➔ page 4

You think, therefore philosophy is important

CAMPUS NEWS ↻ page 6

COMMENTS ↻ page 9

Kills, digs and blocks, oh my!

Wesmen volleyball teams dominate

CAMPUS NEWS ↻ page 8

LOOKING FOR LISTINGS?

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY LISTINGS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ↻ page 7
MUSIC ↻ page 14, FILM, THEATRE, DANCE AND COMEDY ↻ page 15
GALLERIES AND LITERATURE ↻ page 16
AWARDS AND FINANCIAL AID ↻ page 18

*COVER IMAGE

"Untitled No. 2"

by Ted Barker

Graphite on paper

See story on page 16

News

Southern Manitoba to get midwifery program

Expanded program will help fulfill need, university college president says

JULIAN WARD
VOLUNTEER

Southern Manitobans interested in becoming midwives will get a helping hand from the provincial government.

With an additional \$400,000 per year, the midwifery program at the University College of the North (UCN) in The Pas, Man., is set to expand its program to southern Manitoba starting later next year.

"There is a great need for midwives and for midwifery to be taught in Manitoba and throughout Canada," said Dr. Denise K. Henning, president and vice-chancellor of UCN.

Although all details aren't yet clear, the program will run along similar lines to the one in the north and will allow for eight new students next year, said Henning.

"The midwifery program is very intensive, so it can only be taught with small groups of people. The midwives are working on the front line, face-to-face with pregnant women."

Prior to the expanded program, anyone interested in becoming a midwife would either have to leave the province and study abroad or, if they were Aboriginal, apply to



UCN's expanded midwifery program will hopefully reduce the intense demand for midwives in the province.

"The hope is that this program will strengthen rural and aboriginal communities."

-MEGAN WILTON, INCOMING PRESIDENT, MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA

the program at UCN in The Pas or Norway House. The new southern program allows anyone to apply and will most likely be in Winnipeg or Brandon.

This comes as good news to Elise D'Awson, a fine arts student at the University of Manitoba.

"I've been looking into the various programs across the country and am very interested in applying, but until now have been put off by having to leave the prov-

ince," she said.

When asked why she is interested in becoming a midwife, D'Awson explained: "It's important for me to be able to give back to the community. Midwifery is important because it reconnects women with childbirth, which for so long in the West has been taken away and institutionalized."

Midwives provide primary care to low-risk women throughout their pregnancy, labour and birth. They also provide care to both mother and baby for the six weeks following the birth.

Megan Wilton, incoming president of the Midwives Association of Manitoba, said midwifery is especially important in rural areas.

In rural Manitoba areas where birthing facilities do not exist, a woman without a midwife would normally be flown to Winnipeg five

WHAT DOES A MIDWIFE DO?

◆ Provide primary care for healthy pregnant women during pregnancy, labour, birth and postpartum.

◆ Foster informed decision-making. Allow moms-to-be to make choices for themselves about their pregnancy, including where to deliver the child and which drugs to use (if any).

◆ Provide continuity of care to women throughout and after pregnancy.

◆ Prescribe specific drugs and order and interpret various medical tests.

◆ Provide care up to six weeks after birth to assess the emotional and physical health of the mother and baby and to assist with breastfeeding.

◆ Consult with other professionals and transfer care when complications arise.

to six weeks before her due date. She would be completely separated from her support structure until she returns home after the birth.

"Birth is an important part of the social fabric. Removing people during this time is detrimental to the community," said Wilton. "The hope is that this program will strengthen rural and aboriginal communities."

UNITER STAFF

MANAGING EDITOR

Aaron Epp » editor@uniter.ca

BUSINESS MANAGER

Maggi Robinson » maggi@uniter.ca

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Melody Morrisette » designer@uniter.ca

COPY AND STYLE EDITOR

Chris Campbell » style@uniter.ca

PHOTO EDITOR

Cindy Titus » photo@uniter.ca

NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Andrew McMonagle » news@uniter.ca

NEWS PRODUCTION EDITOR

Cameron MacLean » newsprod@uniter.ca

ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

Sam Hagenlocher » arts@uniter.ca

COMMENTS EDITOR

Andrew Tod » comments@uniter.ca

LISTINGS COORDINATOR

J.P. Perron » listings@uniter.ca

CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

Courtney Schwegel » courtney@uniter.ca

BEAT REPORTER

Caitlin Laird » caitlin@uniter.ca

BEAT REPORTER

Ethan Cabel » ethan@uniter.ca

BEAT REPORTER

Samuel Swanson » samuel@uniter.ca

CULTURE REPORTER

Vacant

CONTRIBUTORS:

Julian Ward, Sheldean Lawrence, Jihan Muhamad, Jon Sorokowski, John Gaudes, Ryan Bergen, Brooke Dmytriw, Karlene Ooto-Stubbs, Mark Reimer, C. Jordan Crosthwaite, Janessa Nayler, Sarah Reilly, Alexander Kavanagh, Jill Brown, Craig Heinrich, Nick Ternette, Marc Kruse, Liam Scott, Jonathan Dyck, James Culleton, Melanie Murchison, Aranda Adams, Matt Austman, Elke Werchonwoicz, Mike Duerksen, Ian McAmmond, Justin Luschnski, Courtney Brecht, Adam Klascen, J. Williams, Sagan Morrow, Lynnette McLarty, Kathleen Cerrer.

The Uniter is the official student newspaper of the University of Winnipeg and is published by Mouseland Press Inc. Mouseland Press Inc. is a membership based organization in which students and community members are invited to participate. For more information on how to become a member go to www.uniter.ca, or call the office at 786-9790. The Uniter is a member of the Canadian University Press and Campus Plus Media Services.

SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES, LETTERS, GRAPHICS AND PHOTOS ARE WELCOME. Articles must be submitted in text (.rtf) or Microsoft Word (.doc) format to editor@uniter.ca, or the relevant section editor. Deadline for submissions is 6:00 p.m. Thursday, one week before publication. Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. The Uniter reserves the right to refuse to print submitted material. The Uniter will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, racist, or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length and/or style.

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



MOUSELAND PRESS

MOUSELAND PRESS BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Michael Rac (chair), Shawn Coates, Courtney Berthelette, Clayton Winter, Devin King, Alex Freedman, Shannon Sampert, Rob Nay, Brian Gagnon, Meg McGimpsey, Kelly Ross (UWSA representative).
For inquiries e-mail: board@uniter.ca

STREETER

BY SAMUEL SWANSON

Q: IF YOU WERE TO HAVE A CHILD, WOULD YOU USE A MIDWIFE?



Stephen Klatt
YMCA employee
"I think that would be up to the mother of my child - accidental or not."



Zafar Sacranie
sales associate, Bootlegger
"I wouldn't have an objection with using a midwife. It might be a good way to avoid the doctors' god complex."



Holly Kehler
second-year, biology
"Babies are not my style."



Eduardo Regier
waiter, The Keg
"Yes, because I want someone with experience so things don't go wrong."



Maria Laureano
fifth-year, politics
"No, because I think it's conventional to be born in a hospital."



Rita Katsanos
first-year student
"No. I definitely want to be in a hospital with as many drugs as possible."

New programs bridge divide

Programs build dialogue, create safe havens for immigrants and refugees

JIHAN MUHAMAD
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba (IRCOM) recently announced two new programs to address the differences newcomers face and raise awareness through discussion.

The IRCOM Ambassadors Program, which was launched this spring, works to build dialogue for newcomers to tell their stories to the public through discussions and presentations. Faiza Hargaaya, an IRCOM ambassador, said the program helps "give people an idea of what it's like being a newcomer [in Canada]."

The Safe Harbor Program, which originated in British Columbia and was launched in Manitoba this past October, works to educate companies and businesses about diversity and inclusion.

Hargaaya is also a Safe Harbor facilitator. She said the program works to train businesses to be more open to newcomers and to create a safe place where newcomers can go if they feel in danger.

"We try to open the doors for inclusion," she said. "Once [the businesses] complete the training they get a sticker [which lets] people know they will be safe in that building."

Safe Harbor's first meeting is set for January.

On Nov. 25, the IRCOM Ambassadors Program held their first discussion called



IRCOM ambassador Faiza Hargaaya hopes the new programs will build awareness among people not already familiar with newcomer experiences.

"Give Voice, Open Your Ears," during which ambassadors shared their stories with the public. Hargaaya was one of the ambassadors to share her stories. She said she thinks the launch had a good affect on those who attended.

"Everyone really responded to what we were saying," she said.

Muuxi Adam, a newcomer who attended the IRCOM Ambassadors launch, said the stories told were inspiring.

"Most people believe that immigrant and refugee people are helpless ... [that] we came

"This type of project empowers [newcomers] that no matter where we're from ... we need to collaborate ... to build and help this country."

—MUUXI ADAM, NEWCOMER

here to take over their jobs. That's not why we're here," he said. "This type of project empowers [newcomers] that no matter where we're from ... we need to collaborate ... to build and help this country."

According to Hargaaya, many of the people who attended the event were already aware of newcomer experiences. She said the ambassadors would like to reach out to people who aren't as familiar with issues faced by newcomers.

"We would like to ... spread the word as wide as we can so we're not limited to who we're sharing our stories with," she said.

Erin Anderson, volunteer and communications co-ordinator at IRCOM, said these programs are important for people to hear different stories about new Canadians and to break the negative stereotype newcomers often face.

"People might be getting the same negative message on newcomers," she said. "[These programs are] really important for exposing people to different stories and different views on things."

Adam said the only thing he wishes is that these programs were launched sooner.

"I wish we had something like that before, that's how much I liked it," he said.

Flavoured tobacco ban may not be the end

Legislation could be expanded to cover menthol cigarettes, sheesha

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

The federal government recently passed Bill C-32, a move to ban flavoured tobacco products they believe are increasing smoking rates among youth. But as anti-tobacco advocates lobby for stricter smoking laws, many are wondering what's next on the agenda.

"The tobacco industry is very resilient," said Joe Larsen, an employee at Urban Bakery, a Winnipeg store that will be affected by the ban.

The bill bans candy and fruit-flavoured cigarettes, little cigars or cigarillos and blunt wraps. Blunt wraps are cigar rolling papers made of homogenized tobacco that burn slowly and often include flavour additives.

Some claim that an outright ban on these products doesn't signify the end of flavour additives for tobacco.

"Even though there will be no flavoured blunt wraps [or little cigars] there will still be ways to flavour your tobacco," said Larsen.



Who smokes the blunts? No one, once the federal government's newly passed anti-flavoured tobacco bill comes into effect.

"There are flavour drops and glue on the market."

Many of these products can be bought online, he said.

Tasty Puff, an American company, boasts their ability to supplement flavoured papers and blunt wraps with 25 liquid flavours. The user drops the liquid on to the paper or tobacco, changing it into a strawberry or piña colada-flavoured cigarette.

"If these products become specifically designed by tobacco companies, that's something that no one saw coming," said Judy Wasylcia-Leis, a Winnipeg MP who tabled the bill.

Lobbyists believe the fact these products were ever manufactured and marketed is a testament to the cunning of the tobacco industry.

"Ten years ago this market category [flavoured tobacco] simply didn't exist," said Rob Cunningham, senior policy analyst for the Canadian Cancer Society. "[The category] is due to the market creativity of the tobacco industry and these products have now taken off."

Bill C-32 does not include sheesha (flavoured tobacco smoked out of a hookah water pipe), flavoured rolling papers and menthol cigarettes.

C-32 may be expanded to include menthol cigarettes, which represent only two per cent of the Canadian tobacco market. It may also come to include flavoured sheesha or other flavoured products at some point down the line.

"We will revisit the use of menthol cigarettes among younger age groups and update the legislation if needed," said Wasylcia-Leis, who wanted to include menthol in the original bill but was met by opposition from Conservatives and Liberals.

Wasylcia-Leis maintains that C-32 has limitations but is a big step forward.

According to unit sales released by Health Canada, the prevalence of little cigars, or cigarillos, has increased substantially in the last eight years. In 2001, unit sales were reported at 53 million. By 2008, that number had reached 469 million. Additionally, the Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey conducted in 2008 found that 49 per cent of youth ages 18 to 24 had reported smoking a little cigar at least once, with 13 per cent admitting to smoking them at some point in the last month.

For information on Manitoba's "lax" tobacco regulations, visit Ethan Cabel's blog at www.uniter.ca/blogs.

Local News Briefs

Compiled by John Gaudes



MENTORS FOR HOMELESS WILL CONNECT STREET PEOPLE WITH RESOURCES

The Manitoba government has committed \$357,000 in funding to seven outreach mentors in Winnipeg, Thompson, The Pas and Brandon. They will work collaboratively to connect homeless individuals with support and resources in the community. Local partners include the Spence Neighbourhood Association, Resource Assistance for Youth (RaY), Main Street Project and the Salvation Army. Housing and community development minister Kerri Irvin-Ross hopes this will help move hundreds of people off the streets and into transitional or long-term housing. "By partnering with community resources, we can have a real impact on the daily lives of Manitobans struggling with homelessness," she said in a release.

CAR THIEVES FOILED BY STICK-SHIFT

Two potential car thieves in Winnipeg had their recent attempts foiled not once, but twice in one night, according to *CBC News*. In their first attempt, they approached a 39-year-old woman, threatening her with a gun. When she warned them that her car was standard, however, they became frustrated and threw the car keys back at the woman. The two approached another woman 20 minutes later. This time they were scared away by two men coming out of a nearby house. Both incidents took place in Winnipeg's North End. The would-be thieves are still at large.

FAKE CASH CIRCULATING IN WINNIPEG

Winnipeg police are warning merchants and consumers around the city of a recent trend in counterfeit cash. As *CBC News* reported, the police have noticed an increase in fake currency in the past few months, particularly \$100 bills. Merchants and consumers are being urged to check their banknotes before accepting them. The police advise to be on the lookout for common security features, including raised printing that can be felt to the touch and watermark portraits visible when held to light.

Anyone who thinks they have received a counterfeit note is urged to call Crime Stoppers at 786-TIPS.

NEW GADGET TO MAKE PARKING METERS OBSOLETE

The Winnipeg Parking Authority has begun testing a new line of devices that can be placed in Winnipeggers' vehicles to track their parking times, according to a report by *CBC News*. These devices, called Skymeters, can be powered by plugging it into a vehicle's cigarette lighter outlet and will report parking times to Skymeter Corp., who will bill drivers based on their parking habits in paid areas. The tracker will be placed on dashboards to be visible to parking officials. The Skymeter could be ready for use by fall 2010.

A DRAMATIC PROPOSAL

At a recent Prairie Theatre Exchange performance, audience member Kris Robinson purposely left his phone on as the show began, despite the typical theatre warning. As *CBC News* reported, he was then called by PTE artistic director Bob Metcalfe from onstage as part of a pre-arranged plan and dragged up with his girlfriend for "punishment." Once on stage, he got down on one knee and proposed to her, prompting her to reply with "Yes!" as the audience applauded. "Let that be a lesson to you all. If you leave your cellphone on, you'll end up married," Metcalfe warned the audience.

CORRECTIONS:

In the Nov. 19 issue of *The Uniter*, the Little Girls band member pictured on page 17 is Josh McIntyre. The photo was taken by Brittany Shepherd. Incorrect information appeared in that issue.

Also, Jane Forsey is not the chair of the philosophy department at the University of Winnipeg. Incorrect information appeared in the Nov. 26 issue.

We regret the errors.

Local gay activist remembered as a 'founding father'

Asher Webb led Osborne revitalization, fought against HIV/AIDS

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

Local community organizer and gay activist Richard "Asher" Webb took his own life on Nov. 10, 2009. He was 49 years old.

"No one saw it coming," said his brother, Ken Webb.

Among his many gifts, he possessed a strong sense of social justice that helped his family understand the plight of an entire community, his brother said.

By all accounts, Webb was a tireless advocate for cultural and business development in Osborne Village, a warrior against HIV/AIDS, an overworked campaign strategist and a vibrant drag performer.

"Asher became a role model at a time when he needed to put himself on the line to create change," said Glen Murray, former Winnipeg mayor.

"He was the very first person I met when I moved to Winnipeg ... he played a very significant role in bringing people together and was politically active on all my mayoral campaigns."

Webb was born in Winnipeg on July 12, 1960 but spent a large part of his young adulthood outside of the city. After graduating from high school in the Yukon in 1978, he studied linguistics at the University of Ottawa. He also worked as a Parliamentary page before moving to Vancouver in 1980, where he became an openly gay drag performer under the moniker "Jacqueline L'Hiver."

In Vancouver, he helped open a hospice



Man about town: Asher Webb left his mark on the city, helping to organize the first Gay Pride Parade and working on ex-Mayor Glen Murray's campaigns.

care home to help support victims of an HIV epidemic within the gay community. He moved back to Winnipeg in the mid-1980s.

"Asher was quite an entertainer," said Murray. "A lot of what he did may not seem that extraordinary now, but at that time in Canada it was extremely controversial."

Webb earned a computer programming certificate from Red River College in 1986 and began working at the Village Clinic, a local clinic dedicated to HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness. The clinic amalgamated with several other organizations in 1998 to create the current Nine Circles Community Health Centre, a larger HIV/AIDS awareness and reduction clinic.

"Asher was a gay man who chose to be out in a community where that was very hard," said John Stinson, a former Village Clinic employee.

Webb was involved in organizing

Winnipeg's first gay pride marches in 1987 and 1988, at a time when people were afraid to even show up for the marches, let alone organize them, Murray said.

While Webb worked at the clinic, he tended bar at Gio's Club and Bar from 1988 to 1993. Chris Vogel, former president of the Oscar Wilde Memorial Society, Gio's board, remembers Webb from his days at the club.

"Asher came to work for us when we needed to distribute safe sex information in the club and the Village Clinic was refusing to give out brochures," he said, with a laugh. "[I remember Asher] smuggling safe sex brochures from the clinic so we could have something to give out."

Webb is also celebrated for his work as president of the Osborne Village Business Improvement Zone (BIZ) from 1996 to 2007. He worked to make the new Corydon development complimentary, rather than detrimental, to Osborne Village and worked to make the Canada Day celebration an annual event that closed off Osborne Street for a pedestrian mall.

According to Stinson, as the Village became one of the most densely populated neighbourhoods in the city, Webb advocated for more service development, like the Safeway and Liquor Mart stores.

Webb was his father's primary caregiver during a struggle with prostate cancer between 2003 to 2006. Shortly after his father's death, he left the BIZ and had recently returned to school, studying business at Red River College.

"I think he will be remembered by many as almost a founding father," said Glen Sanderson, a long-time friend and Toronto hairstylist. "For myself, I'm just going to miss a really good friend."

For more stories about Asher and his work in the community, visit Ethan Cabel's blog at www.uniter.ca/blogs.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The University of Winnipeg's weekly urban journal is looking for a hardworking individual who possesses superior writing and interviewing skills to take the position of beat reporter.

The beat reporter will 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 candidate will demonstrate a critical eye for news content and work well under the pressure of deadlines. Beat reporters must be able to work in collaboration with others as well as independently.

Staff members are expected to attend weekly staff meetings and actively engage in the development of their position throughout the course of their employment.

This position is based on a 13-week term running Jan. 4, 2010 to Apr. 2, 2010. Payment is \$60 per week.

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 this position is Friday, Dec. 4 at 12 p.m. Interviews will take place during the week of Dec. 7.

THE **UNITER**

The World Relies On Humanitarian Efforts



Carpe Diem 88 Inc. - a foundation created in memory of Cpl. James Hayward Arnal - is now accepting applications from students aged 14 to 25, who are interested in receiving grants for funding humanitarian work.

Carpe Diem 88's goal is to help young adults perform humanitarian work with other organizations by funding the effort, so the individual doesn't have to.

If helping the world or your community to become a better place is something you would like to be a part of, we'd love to hear from you. Visit our website at www.carpediem88.ca for more information, and for an application form.

CARPE DIEM 88 INC.

WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE AND

Happy Holiday Season



ROB ALTEMEYER
MLA for Wolseley
775-8575



SHARON BLADY
MLA for Kirkfield Park
832-2318



DAVE CHOMIAK
MLA for Kildonan
334-5060



JENNIFER HOWARD
MLA for Fort Rouge
946-0272



BONNIE KORZENIOWSKI
MLA for St. James
889-8073



RON LEMIEUX
MLA for La Verendrye
878-4644



GORD MACKINTOSH
MLA for St. Johns
582-1550



THERESA OSWALD
MLA for Seine River
255-7840



ANDREW SWAN
MLA for Minto
783-9860

Military pensions not as sweet as most think, survey shows

Only 30 per cent of vets retire with pension

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

Many Canadians falsely believe that most Canadian Forces (CF) veterans retire with full pensions after 20 years of service, a new survey reveals. The survey was conducted by the Commissionaires, a government-funded security organization committed to employing Canadian Forces veterans.

The reality is that only 30 per cent of Canadian Forces retire with pensions, while a strong majority of survey respondents believed that at least half retire with full pension eligibility.

"In order to be eligible for a military pension, individuals must stay with the Canadian Forces for a minimum of 20 years and a maximum of 35," said Tom Reimer, chief executive officer for Commissionaires Manitoba.

Reimer maintains that Canadian Forces often leave the service before eligibility due to the stress of multiple tours in volatile places like Afghanistan.

"Looking at a career in the Canadian Forces there is always another half of the equation," he said. "And that's the personal and family side."

The Commissionaires employ over 8,000 veterans across the country.

Some Canadian Forces believe the survey demonstrates that not only are more Canadian Forces retiring without a pension, but that veterans aren't provided with adequate funds after retirement.

"In order to maintain quality of life after retirement, or make the same income when serving, I will have to get another means of employment," said Daniel Donaldson, a military fire inspector stationed in Winnipeg.

The survey results come as a recent NDP private members bill (C-201) tabled by MP Peter Stoffer was defeated at the committee level in the House of Commons.

The bill was meant to address a long-standing pension issue for



Many veterans have to find employment after retirement because they don't qualify for a pension.

veterans and retired RCMP. To ease the financial burden, Canadian Forces have their existing pension contribution split between the Canada Pension Plan and their military pension plan. After retirement but before reaching 65, retirees receive their full pension along with a bridge benefit to ease the transition into full retirement.

Upon turning 65, however, the

bridge benefit ends and their pension is reduced by the amount of Canadian Pension Plan they had been receiving.

"As it stands right now, as soon as I reach 65, my pension will be 'clawed back' \$454 a month," said Donaldson. "I think that Canadians aren't informed by the federal government on a lot of our [Canadian Forces] issues."

C-201 was tabled to eliminate the "claw back."

According to the *Winnipeg Free Press*, the federal government has defended the defeat of C-201 by pointing to numbers that indicate \$7 million for implementation along with \$110 million in annual operating costs. Reimer supports these claims.

"My impression is that there are a lot of veterans that believe they should receive both a military and CPP pension," Reimer said. "But the reality is that veterans ultimately don't suffer a net loss because the 'claw back' reconciles prior bookkeeping... I feel that the federal government is doing a good job in providing employment for these veterans [whether they are receiving a pension or not]."

Development along the Seine threatens old-growth forest

Community group seeks help from City of Winnipeg specialists

CAITLIN LAIRD
BEAT REPORTER

Development in Waverley West along the banks of the Seine River may have encroached on city property and destroyed old-growth forest.

The city trail proposed in south St. Vital between Southglen and Creek Bend Road is located behind a grouping of condominiums. No stakes were placed to indicate a divide between the developer's land and the city-owned scenic trail.

David Watson, president of Save Our Seine – a community environmental organization seeking to preserve the Seine – asked the City naturalist to investigate.

"When any environmentalist sees oak trees being bulldozed, you feel an emotional response. The questions begin when you have to ask where the city property ends and the developer's begins, especially when there are no markers and flags to tell you which is which. Trees were being cut right up to the community path and on the other side," said Watson.

According to Watson, there is little recourse even if the developers crossed the city property line. Usually a fine is all that gets handed down.

"Some developers act first and explain later," he added.

This is confirmed by Rodney Penner from the City of Winnipeg Naturalist Services, who is con-

ducting the investigation. This process involves determining property lines, which he said is "too close to call with a simple walk-through."

"We don't take a very heavy-handed approach in these sorts of situations. The penalty depends on exactly what is involved and what is outlined in the bylaw. It can sometimes be restoration that we require, especially if a mistake was made," said Penner.

Bev Sawchuk, former president of Save Our Seine, sees the detrimental consequences of development as being akin to our own self-destruction.

"The point I want to emphasize is that all life forms, human beings included, are intimately and intricately linked to the life support system we call earth. And the fact that we continue to 'spoil our own nest' boggles my mind," Sawchuk wrote in an e-mail. "While some developers have realized the benefits of

"When any environmentalist sees oak trees being bulldozed, you feel an emotional response."

—DAVID WATSON,
PRESIDENT, SAVE OUR SEINE

'building green' others choose to remain oblivious to how their actions negatively impact all life forms."

For now, Watson said he is content to wait until the city has completed its investigation.

"Our goal is to take the edge off development. We want to make the best of the situation. We want people to be aware and speak out when they see these things going on. Often, you have to go through several layers to find out what is really happening."

Big Canadian names accept dares for charity

Stephen Lewis Foundation invites people to dare or be dared to raise money for HIV/AIDS research

SAMUEL SWANSON
BEAT REPORTER

If double-dog dares were the bane of your childhood existence, it's time to take them back – on your own terms. The Dare To Remember (DTR) campaign is an effort to raise funds for the issue of AIDS in Africa.

Many familiar names are taking part in the campaign, including George Stroumboulopoulos, host of CBC's *The Hour*, who hopes to raise \$3,000 by figure skating with Kurt Browning. Rapper K-OS

has the same financial goal, but he will be working in a toy store. NDP leader Jack Layton played music on the street in his riding in Toronto on Oct. 24.

The campaign comes from the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF), a non-profit organization focused on the countries in Africa hardest hit by AIDS.

"We work with 15 countries," said Felicity Heyworth, SLF communications officer.

The money raised by the Stephen Lewis Foundation will go toward issues in Africa that are a result of the AIDS pandemic. These include providing counseling for women with AIDS, addressing the accessibility of medication and also looking at the issue of child-headed households – where children are forced to provide for their younger siblings in place of their parents.

The DTR offers suggestions of dares to take as well as featured dares to inspire. Some participants have goals to raise \$500 through a variety of means – one person sug-

gested holding a masquerade dinner. A self-proclaimed coffee fiend has vowed a five-day moratorium on coffee, and one participant has said they will perform a 24-hour-long stand-up comedy show.

Some have opted for group dares to relieve the personal pressure.

"There are some university campuses taking part," said Susan Mazza, SLF community events liaison. Some participating student groups include ones from McGill University, Simon Fraser University and the Dalhousie University Women's and Gender Studies Society which will do a sex-themed fund raiser with the Halifax Slam Poetry Team.

The foundation considers funding proposals for services helping AIDS victims and support workers. Priority funding goes toward campaigns for grandmothers caring for the grandchildren with parents sick or deceased from AIDS.

For more information, visit www.daretoremember.com.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Brooke Dmytriw

\$150K DARWIN READ IN THE LOO

LONDON, Great Britain: A first-edition copy of Charles Darwin's *On the Origins of the Species* sold for \$174,000 at auction two weeks ago. The copy had been kept in a toilet bookcase for years. The book was initially bought for a few shillings 40 to 50 years ago. *CBC News* reported Christie's auction house sold the book to an anonymous telephone bidder. The sale of the book also marks the 150th anniversary of the *Origins*' publication. The seller's family became aware of the valuable manuscript after the seller visited a Darwin exhibit and saw a similar copy of the book on display.

BREAKING AND ENTERING IN GINGERBREAD TOWN

OSLO, Norway: Police are trying to track down the vandals who destroyed the city of Bergen's Christmas gingerbread town. Two weeks ago, vandals entered the tent sheltering the massive cookie city and crushed its buildings, spraying foam and paint. The gingerbread houses are a Christmas tradition in Bergen, boasted to be the largest and greatest gingerbread town. According to Reuters, police figured the culprits would be covered in cookie dust and smell of ginger.

APPLE INC. VOIDS WARRANTIES OF SMOKERS

CUPERTINO, California: Apple Inc. is warning its warranties for Apple products may be void if owners are smokers. *Consumerist Magazine* reported customers were surprised to be told their warranties would not be honoured after Apple technicians found those products were in the presence of smoke. Recently, companies have been tightening up warranties and denying claims associated with owner damage. Apple Inc. has already stipulated it will not cover warranties where there is evidence of water or moisture damage in an Apple product.

NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE'S MEDAL HELD FOR TAX EVASION

TEHRAN, Iran: Nobel Peace laureate Shirin Ebadi was robbed of her award when Iranian authorities confiscated her medal last week. Ebadi won the peace prize in 2003 for her contribution to promoting democracy. The medal was seized from Ebadi's safe deposit box at a bank in Iran. Her husband's accounts were also frozen in the process, accompanied by the demand that the Ebadis pay \$410,000 US in taxes for the monetary award, reported *CBC News*. A Nobel committee spokesperson criticized the government's actions, deeming them unacceptable. Ebadi left Iran the day of the elections in June for a conference in Spain. She has not returned to her native country since. Ebadi was the first Muslim woman awarded a Nobel Peace Prize and the first female judge in Iran.

MISSING GALILEO FINGERS RETURNED

FLORENCE, Italy: Two fingers cut from astronomer Galileo's cadaver were donated to the Museum of the History of Science in Florence to accompany the other digit they already possess. The fingers were cut off the body in 1737 when Galileo's body was relocated from a temporary monument to its final resting place. A tooth was also removed. The fingers and tooth were placed in a glass jar and had not been seen since 1905. CNN reported the fingers were purchased at auction by a seller wishing to remain anonymous. The removal of body parts, particularly fingers, was a common practice by worshippers of saints. Galileo was persecuted by the Vatican, claiming he was a heretic for publishing his scientific discoveries.

VISIT US ONLINE AT
WWW.UNITER.CA

**LSAT MCAT
GMAT GRE
Preparation Seminars**

- Complete 30-Hour Seminars
- Convenient Weekend Schedule
- Proven Test-Taking Strategies
- Experienced Course Instructors
- Comprehensive Study Materials
- Simulated Practice Exams
- Limited Class Size
- Free Repeat Policy
- Personal Tutoring Available
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

OXFORD SEMINARS
1-800-269-6719
604-683-3430
www.oxfordseminars.ca

Campus News

Future of philosophy department uncertain

Loss of faculty means department can't offer enough courses to graduate

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

Dean of Arts David Fitzpatrick says the proposed amalgamation of the classics, philosophy and religious studies departments at the University of Winnipeg is off the table. But this news does little to lift the department of philosophy's suffering.

Since 2008, the department of philosophy has lost half of its faculty. It has no departmental chair and has not seen a tenure track hire since 2003. The department currently has only six professors, including four tenured faculty and two sessional instructors.

According to Jane Forsey, professor of philosophy at the U of W, the number of faculty will likely be reduced further to four next year. She said administration told the two sessional instructors they will not likely be rehired for the next academic year due to financial pressures. Forsey is concerned that given the lack of professors, the department will only be able to offer seven-and-a-half courses next year.

"We just don't have the staff right now to offer a degree program," she said. "We are afraid that the administration is effectively shutting us down."

But Fitzpatrick said this is not the case. "No departments are being eliminated," he said. "That is not a question."

Fitzpatrick said decisions regarding the hiring of sessional instructors have not yet been made for any department, as the administration is still working through the budget for next year.

In the meantime, philosophy students are concerned they won't be able to get the



With no department chair to lobby for them, Marc Kruse and rest of the Philosophy Students' Association are meeting frequently and have expressed their concerns to the administration.

courses they need to complete their studies.

Marc Kruse, co-ordinator of the Philosophy Students' Association, said he feels the administration is leaving students in the dark.

"We need a plan," he said. "We need to understand how the university is going to help students reach the requirements for their degree."

Kruse said some students are considering going to other institutions in order to ensure they get the courses they need to graduate and to obtain a well-rounded philosophy degree.

While limited course offerings will affect philosophy students most directly, students from other departments may suffer as well.

Certain academic programs on campus, such as environmental ethics and pre-law, have philosophy requirements.

Fitzpatrick said students need not worry that their degrees are at risk.

"We will find a way to deliver the courses so that [students] get their degrees," he said.

Kruse explained that the Philosophy Students' Association has had to take matters into their own hands as there is no departmental chair to lobby for them. They are holding frequent meetings to decide how to move forward and have already expressed their concerns to administration.

"We are afraid that the administration is effectively shutting us down."

—JANE FORSEY, PHILOSOPHY PROFESSOR

Fitzpatrick said the budget must be in place before anything can be resolved.

In an e-mail sent to students on Friday, Nov. 27, Associate Dean of Arts Elizabeth Dawes wrote that Colin Russell, registrar, has agreed to provide advising to all philosophy majors and honours students on an individual basis in order to assist students in planning their degree program. Philosophy students should contact him directly at c.russell@uwinnipeg.ca or 786-9337 in order to set up an appointment.

"The philosophy courses to be offered in 2010-11 have been carefully selected in order to meet the needs of the greatest number of students," she added.

Kruse said that as a result of the e-mail, some of the anger students were feeling has dissipated. They're still unsure of the situation, though.

"We're still a little skeptical and afraid of what it means for our degrees – if we're going to get a degree that's meaningful [or] something that's been hammered through [by administration]," he said.

Student voices quiet at campus radio station

Busy schedules mean student volunteers often have to quit

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

The University of Winnipeg's campus and community radio station CKUW is having trouble retaining its student volunteers.

Volunteer co-ordinator Kent Davies said the station has been faced with this issue for several years.

"It's a constant struggle," said Davies. "It is basically a commitment problem. Usually students get overly stressed and they just have to quit."

Davies said current U of W students make up approximately one third of the station's 150 volunteers. But CKUW station manager Rob Schmidt said many of the non-student volunteers are former U of W students or alumni.

In an effort to increase and retain student volunteers, Davies is working to develop more opportunities that accommodate students' schedules.

"We are trying to get students more into collaborative efforts and just giving them smaller roles," he said.

This way, students only have to commit themselves to one or two shows a month rather than one or two a week.

Davies also said there are several other volunteer roles at the station, such as CD cataloging and production work, which in-



Keeping volunteers has always been a problem at CKUW, says volunteer co-ordinator Kent Davies.

volves less time commitment.

Kelly Nickie, an English student at the U of W, has been a volunteer at CKUW for three years. She said CKUW staff have been extremely accommodating to her busy schedule.

"It is super flexible. They are really supportive about what you can give for your time," she said.

Since CKUW receives much of its funding from a student levy, Davies said it is important that the station cater to students and give them the opportunity to get involved.

"If we are not involving students, then we are doing them a disservice," Davies said.

Schmidt said student volunteers also bring a unique perspective to the station.

"Students tend to be really into new music ... and really into politics and have lots of good things to say about world events and issues," he explained.

Schmidt said volunteering at the station can give infinite opportunities to students, as many have gone on to successful jobs in the media.

"We've had volunteers from CKUW go on to places like MuchMusic and the *Free Press*," he said.

Nickie credits her experience at the station for helping develop her career plans.

"It has given me the confidence to pursue a career direction I would have never thought about."

Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Karlene Ooto-Stubbs

U OF W AND U OF M CO-ORDINATE HOMELESS STUDY

Over 500 homeless Winnipeggers living with mental illnesses are being enlisted to aid in a nation-wide study on homelessness. Paying particular attention to the aboriginal population, the Winnipeg At Home project will use a grant of \$3.75 million from the Mental Health Commission of Canada to provide the homeless with long-term housing and support. The research team includes The University of Winnipeg's Institute of Urban Studies and the University of Manitoba's psychiatry and community health sciences departments. Toronto, Moncton, Vancouver and Montreal also recently launched their versions of the project.

U OF W RECEIVES DOWNTOWN BIZ AWARD

Winnipeg's Downtown BIZ presented its "Outstanding Long-term Growth and Commitment" award to The University of Winnipeg at a ceremony last week. The university was highlighted for its initiatives to transform the west side of downtown and for demonstrating "leadership, creativity and integrity" in operating a successful urban institution. "With its continued vision and expansion, the university is instrumental in creating the vibrant core all Winnipeggers want to see. We've honoured them with this award because of their commitment and dedication to the heart of our city," BIZ executive director Stefano Grande said in a release.

U OF M STUDENT AWARDED RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

Fourth-year engineering student Tyler Grant has been chosen to receive a 2010 Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University in England. Grant hopes to become a biomedical researcher and an orthopedic surgeon. Originally from Oakbank, Grant was the athlete of the year six years in a row at his junior high and high school and is a proficient classical guitarist. Winning numerous awards for his undergraduate research, presenting papers at international conferences, volunteering at food banks, playing on volleyball teams and being a teacher's assistant have all contributed to Grant's success. The U of M has had 93 Rhodes Scholars, more than any other university in Western Canada.

THIRTY-THREE U OF W STUDENTS RECEIVE ABORIGINAL AWARD

The Business Council of Manitoba awarded its Aboriginal Award for 2009/2010 to 33 University of Winnipeg students for academic achievement. The award, which is in its ninth year, comes with a scholarship for \$3,000. The council acts in partnership with the federal and provincial governments to ensure aboriginal youth take advantage of their full academic potential. Recipients come from a wide array of disciplines.

To apply for next year's awards visit <http://www.businesscouncilmb.ca>.

ASPER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS LAUNCHES 2010 MANITOBA VENTURE CHALLENGE

Launched in 2008 to wide acclaim, the Manitoba Venture Challenge is a province-wide competition for businesses seeking outside investment or advice to launch or expand. Last year's winners ranged from ideas on GPS tracking devices to organic food. "The Manitoba Venture Challenge is an excellent way for managers and entrepreneurs to look at their business in a new light," said Robert Warren, I.H. Asper Executive Director for Entrepreneurship. Advice from previous competitions has been used to help businesses at all stages of development.

For more information visit <http://www.umanitoba.ca/entrepreneur>.

LISTINGS: COMMUNITY EVENTS

CKUW presents the 10TH ANNUAL JUNTO DINNER AND SPELLING BEE on Sunday, Dec. 6 at Mondragon at 6 p.m.

Youth aged 16 to 19 are invited to take part in a creative-profession workshop in either writing fiction, music management, marketing and promotion, filmmaking or playwriting. The deadline to apply is Friday, Jan. 8. For more information visit www.creativemanitoba.ca.

The Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre is holding a number of workshops on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout the month.

Go to the Bike Dump for a workshop on Fixed-Gear Conversions and Troubleshooting on Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Young Canadians are invited to participate in the MATHIEU DA COSTA CHALLENGE, a national writing and artwork contest that promotes a greater understanding of Canadian history and diversity. For more information visit www.mathieudacosta.gc.ca.

FREE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CLASS. An opportunity to meet with other students and Canadian friends while learning English and the Bible. Takes place on Sundays from noon until 1:30 p.m. at Elim Chapel, 546 Portage Ave. For more information call Val & Veda Chacko at 257-1670.

ON CAMPUS

Students who are on wait lists for winter term courses should regularly check their e-mail in order to claim their seat. After three days your seat will be offered to the next student in line.

SMART START, a study skills workshop series, helps students improve their study skills and succeed in university-level courses. Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. in room 1L04. Register in advance by calling 786-9863 or e-mailing a.weir@uwinnipeg.ca.

The UWSA SAFEWALK PROGRAM is looking for volunteers to walk students, faculty and staff to their cars, bus stops or residences within a reasonable distance. Each four-hour shift will receive an \$18 honorarium.

Every Wednesday from 12:30 to 1 p.m. there is an interfaith university chapel service in the Carl Ridd Sanctuary in Bryce Hall. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

For International Volunteer Day on Saturday, Dec. 5, the Canadian Diabetes Association would like to thank its many volunteers.

Winnipeg Children's Access Agency is looking for volunteers to act as visitation monitors to facilitate visits in a supervisory role three to four times a month. Training begins in January 2010. Centrally located in Osborne Village. For information visit www.wcaa.ca or contact Donna at 284-4170.

The Community Education Development Association is looking for volunteer tutors for their Youth Opportunity Programs in St. John's High School and Children of the Earth High School. For more information please contact Ashley at 589-4374 ext. 257 or ashley@cedawpg.org.

Help inner-city school children through CHOICES YOUTH PROGRAM. Just call Kasia Buchman at 470-5651.

The Daniel McIntyre / St. Matthew's Community Association is looking for volunteers to provide recreational opportunities for kids six to 18 at the Valour Community Centre - Orioles Site.

The Canadian Red Cross is looking for volunteers in their Humanitarian Issues Program to organize events and facilitate workshops. For more information contact Jennifer at 982-6737 or jennifer.montebruno@redcross.ca.

LAST UNITER OF 2009

THE ISSUE OF *THE UNITER* YOU'RE HOLDING IN YOUR HANDS IS THE LAST ONE OF 2009. WE RESUME OUR USUAL, WEEKLY PUBLISHING SCHEDULE ON THURSDAY, JAN. 14, 2010.

New librarian taking the books to where students live and work – and walk

New technology means students no longer confined to the stacks

C. JORDAN CROSTHWAITE
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Libraries are changing faster than you can Google "e-book," and the University of Winnipeg library is trying to keep up. Some school libraries have sold off their print collections in favour of online-libraries. The U of W library isn't there yet, but new library dean Jane Duffy plans to shake up how students hit the books.

"For every young person that comes into the University of Winnipeg library, and this is a conservative estimate, there are 10 more that aren't there. They are at home or in their dorm room or at their part-time job ... and they are using library materials as well," said Duffy, who joined the university in time for the beginning of the current school year.

Duffy sees the physical space of the library as an archaic view of a library's jurisdiction. Online information is the way of the future and the library's domain is growing to encompass it.

Duffy sees the new library website at the centre of the library, with its new design and user-oriented interface. The website, a project led by Michael Hohner, allows users to interact with library material on their own terms, using keywords and simple functions, instead of relying on technological jargon.

Duffy is also pushing podcasting. She sees portable audio information as a way for students to



Don't worry about shutting off your iPhone or BlackBerry: U of W librarian Jane Duffy says they have their place in the library.

learn and use the library in a way that isn't restricted by the physical space of the library or the hours of operation.

"We [at the U of W Library] are very concerned about signs and comfort of seating and ease of use, physically, but we have to think in those exact same terms, even more so, in the web environment," she said.

Students might think their iPhone or BlackBerry should be switched off in the library, but Duffy thinks the opposite. She sees this new kind of technology as an innovative way of accessing information.

"We need to make those [digital] materials as accessible, as logical, as easy to navigate as if users were in the library," said Duffy. "It's finding the user where the user is and helping to allow the user to get to what she or he needs without having to jump through a whole bunch of hoops."

Linwood DeLong, the U of W collections librarian and long-time librarian at the U of W, sees the future of libraries in collaboration be-

"We need to make those [digital] materials as accessible, as logical, as easy to navigate as if users were in the library."

– JANE DUFFY, U OF W LIBRARY DEAN

tween institutions. The nature of digital information is that it's hard to keep track of online and lots of information gets lost in the cyber-mix.

Malcolm McPherson, a fourth-year English student at the U of W, agrees.

"We take virtual data for granted. It can be very fragile. It is a huge gamble to use virtual information," he said. "You always wonder why some articles have full online access – who is the power behind that? People have an interest in having things published."

DeLong said the challenge often lies with publishers who sell online access to information as packages, "like cable TV."

Health Sciences Centre
Winnipeg



ULTRASOUND TRAINING PROGRAM

The Ultrasound Training Program at the Health Sciences Centre is a 12 month full-time post-diploma program to train in the exciting field of **DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY**. The program starts at the end of August. Current intake is 13 students. Applicant selection begins in January 2010. Program details are available in the Program Information Booklet (.pdf) which is available online at:

www.hsc.mb.ca/ultrasound/training_program.htm

Application forms are also available online or from the program office at (204) 787-7846

Ultrasound Training Program
NA547, 820 Sherbrook Street
Winnipeg, MB
R3A 1R9
(204) 787-7846
(204) 787-1811 (fax)
www.hsc.mb.ca/ultrasound

JOHNSON-SHOYAMA
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC POLICY

Move to Change

"When I started to consider working in government, I realized that I would need graduate-level training in public policy to pursue my career goals. The Master of Public Administration program in the Johnson-Shoyama School has given me a strong foundation in theory and a chance to hear from and connect with professionals in the public sector. The school's areas of focus were of particular importance given my interest in health and social policy."

With programming on two campuses, the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School prepares practitioners and scholars for innovative policy analysis and public management by offering:

- Graduate degrees in public administration (MPA), international trade (MIT), and public policy (MPP, PhD);
- Master's certificate programs;
- Full- or part-time study options;
- Innovative course offerings;
- Internship opportunities;
- Opportunities to hear from and engage with senior policy makers;
- Competitive funding for master's and doctoral students; and
- Opportunities to work with world-renowned scholars in the areas of health and social policy; science, technology and innovation; trade and transnational regulation; and governance and leadership.

For more information about the school's programs, please visit: www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
University of Regina

Wesmen volleyball teams sweep Thompson Rivers

SARAH REILLY
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The University of Winnipeg Wesmen volleyball teams swept their at-home series against the Thompson Rivers University WolfPack Nov. 28 and 29.

The teams met on Saturday afternoon for the first matches, with the women starting off the winning streak. After two hard-fought matches in Brandon the weekend before, the Wesmen came out against the WolfPack determined to do whatever it would take to win.

In the first set, the Wesmen won 25-20. The second set was much the same, with the Wesmen defeating the WolfPack 25-16. An aggressive WolfPack stole the third set and overpowered the Wesmen, 25-15, which pushed the match into a fourth set.

The Wesmen came back with vengeance in the fourth and won the set, 25-23.

The Wesmen men fed women's energy and defeated Thompson Rivers in four sets. The Wesmen won the first set, 27-25; the second set, 25-19; and dropped the third set, 21-25.

The Wesmen fought back and won the fourth and final set, 25-18.

On Sunday afternoon, the Wesmen volleyball teams finished out the first half of their seasons on a high note. The men felt confident going into the last match of the first half of season.

"We had broken our little slump and had played a great match Saturday. I knew that if we put that effort together again we would be in a good situation to win Sunday," said Justin Duff.

The team took the match convincingly in three sets: 25-19, 25-21, 25-23.

The women finished off the sweep in the last match of the weekend. They won the first two sets. After dropping the third set to the Wolfpack, the Wesmen were

WOMEN
NOV. 28 ⇨ **Wesmen 3**
WolfPack **1**

NOV. 29 ⇨ **Wesmen 3**
WolfPack **1**

MEN
NOV. 28 ⇨ **Wesmen 3**
WolfPack **1**

NOV. 29 ⇨ **Wesmen 3**
WolfPack **0**

fired up to finish the match in the fourth set.

"There was no excuse to lose the third set. Mentally we just let the wheels fall off. In the fourth set there was no way we weren't winning," said Alix Krahn, whose final two hits sealed the win, 25-21.

WESMEN VOLLEYBALL PLAYER HIGHLIGHTS

WOMEN

SATURDAY, NOV. 28
Lauren Sears
12 kills
Alix Krahn
12 kills
Sonia Rossy
11 kills, 19 digs

SUNDAY, NOV. 29

Sonia Rossy
19 digs
Lauren Sears
13 kills
Ariel Smith
13 kills
Carleen Kruschel
13 kills

MEN

SATURDAY, NOV. 28
Andrew Town
17 kills
Justin Duff
12 kills
Marc Ross
10 kills

SUNDAY, NOV. 29

Andrew Town
11 kills, two blocks
Justin Duff
16 kills, three blocks
Matt Schriemer
10 kills



An uneven weekend for the Wesmen basketball teams

ALEXANDER KAVANAGH
VOLUNTEER STAFF

It was two very different stories for the Wesmen men's and women's basketball teams Nov. 27-28.

The women had an impressive performance, splitting their games with a win and a loss, while the men couldn't gather any momentum against the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds or the University of Victoria Vikings.

In the Friday, Nov. 27 game, starting forward and co-captain Jessica Stromberg led the women to a 67-63 win over the Thunderbirds. She scored 16 points and earned an impressive 10 rebound recoveries, including one in the final minutes of the game, ending a UBC attempt at a fourth-quarter comeback. Stromberg sank two free-throws that put the game out of reach.

Saturday night's game against Victoria ended with opposite results. The Wesmen kept the game within reach until the last minute of the fourth quarter when they

WOMEN
NOV. 27 ⇨ **Wesmen 67**
Thunderbirds **63**

NOV. 28 ⇨ **Vikings 60**
Wesmen **50**

MEN
NOV. 27 ⇨ **Thunderbirds 45**
Wesmen **28**

NOV. 28 ⇨ **Vikings 43**
Wesmen **20**

failed to make a comeback, losing 60-50 to the Vikes. Alex MacIver made her presence known on the court with 12 points and 8 rebound recoveries in the game.

Fans got a bit of a scare as Wesmen weekend-MVP Caitlin Gooch took a nasty spill in the second half. Not to worry though. Gooch said after the game that we can look forward to seeing her in their next game at the end of December.

Gooch led her team on the weekend with a combined total of 25 points, including four three-pointers and 12 rebound recoveries.

It was a very different story for the men's team, who lost both games: 45-28 to UBC and 43-20 against Victoria.

The Wesmen found themselves in a very tough spot for Friday night's game. Post Adam Dobriensky was taken out of the game due to injury with 3:08 left in the fourth. He did not return to the lineup Saturday.

Head coach Dave Crook said Dobriensky has some severe swelling in his leg, but preliminary reports of his injury "look very positive."

Fourth-year wing Peter Lomuro led the men this weekend with a total of 24 points and 6 rebound recoveries.

The Wesmen women fared better than the men on the weekend, pulling off a win against the UBC Thunderbirds. ⇨



U of W Collegiate girls volleyball team exits provincials early

CRAIG HEINRICH
VOLUNTEER

The University of Winnipeg Collegiate Wesmen girls' volleyball team have finished their season after being knocked out early during the Nov. 27-28 provincial tournament at Balmoral Hall.

The MHSAA 'AAA' Varsity Volleyball Championships went to the Sanford Sabres, who claimed a narrow win over Calvin Christian (25-13, 25-23). The Wesmen girls lost just two games overall, once early on to the Sanford Sabres (25-17, 15-25, 6-25) and finally to Calvin Christian (24-26, 14-25) on Saturday, knocking them from the tournament. Ozana Nikolic, # 19, of the U of W Collegiate received an All-Star award.

This defeat is particularly disappointing considering the ease with which the team dispatched their earlier competition during round robin game play on Thursday, Nov. 26. The girls steamrolled both the Flin Flon Collegiate Kweens (25-19 and 25-13) and the

wildcard Winnipeg Wings (25-13 and 25-17), earning them the second-place seed in the provincial match-up and warranting the team some optimism.

"The girls have done awesome, they've had a great season so far," said head coach Mike Lodewyck as Thursday's game play reached its conclusion.

The first day of tournament play was just as inspiring, with the team slamming its way through the Linden Christian Wings (25-13, 25-17), the Swan Valley Tigers (25-17, 25-8), and a second round with the Kweens (25-19, 25-13).

However, the tournament ended for them early day two, and with it, their season.

"The tournament didn't turn out how we had hoped, but it was a good experience," said Veronica Izydorczyk. "Next year, we're definitely going to come back looking for revenge."

On the boys' side, the Neelin Spartans were crowned AAA Champions, with Linden Christian in second place. Chloe Reimer of Sanford and Blake Majcher of the Neelin Spartans were the tournament MVPs.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

SUMMER SESSION

Fresh

Make it Summer Session 2010!

Call (204) 474-6963/8008 for information

May • June • July • August

The Preliminary Course Schedule is available at umanitoba.ca/summer

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA | Extended Education

LAST UNITER OF 2009

The issue of *The Uniter* you're holding in your hands is the last one of 2009. We resume our usual, weekly publishing schedule on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2010.

Comments

The MTS Centre has not revitalized downtown

People need reasons to stay in the area beyond a few hours of music



NICK TERNETTE
VOLUNTEER

You might have noticed a glossy brochure in the *Winnipeg Free Press* recently promoting the success of the MTS Centre during the five years it has been in operation.

It is no question that it has been a success, especially in attracting top-notch rock groups, as well as specialty groups such as Cirque du Soleil, which would never have come to Winnipeg otherwise.

However, I still remember when the Eaton's building was to be destroyed to make way for the MTS Centre. Opposition to the destruc-

tion of the building gave rise to the "Save the Eaton's Coalition." Both municipal and provincial government officials railed against the group, stating that if significant taxpayers' money were put into building the MTS Centre, it would significantly revitalize the downtown.

The fact is that the MTS Centre would have been just as successful elsewhere as it is downtown. A new arena was obviously necessary, but it could have replaced the old Winnipeg Arena at the original St. James site.

The suggestion that the Eaton's building would be empty today had the MTS Centre not been built is nonsense! Save the Eaton's Coalition had entertained realistic plans for both retail and condominiums in that building, which would have been a step in the right direction for revitalizing the downtown, specifically by building up the business sector in the downtown and consistently bringing people to the area.

Standing outside the MTS Centre during nights that events are put on

there, you see thousands of people – in their cars – attending. People eat at the MTS Centre, see the shows, then get back in their cars and get out of the downtown as quickly as possible.

Why? Because people still see the downtown as crime-ridden and full of vagrants and beggars.

The real reason that downtown revitalization has failed is urban sprawl, the lack of people living downtown (13,000 as compared to 45,000 just 15 years ago) and the closing of businesses after 6 p.m. Just look at how empty the area is after business hours.

The downtown was successful in the 1950s, '60s and early '70s when everybody went downtown to shop at The Bay and Eaton's, the two major retail stores. Today, strip malls are everywhere in suburbia and people can do all of their shopping without ever having to go downtown.

Developments like Waverley West have created a "doughnut effect" – that is, the emptying of the centre of the city with development all around



Open for the past five years, the MTS Centre cost \$133.5 million to build. \$40.5 million of that came from taxpayers.

the centre.

People have left the downtown because of the lack of schools and the

closure of Eaton's, which leaves only The Bay (and, perhaps, Giant Tiger) for people to shop for food and clothing.

Just look at businesses in the downtown that are open after 6 p.m., like Second Cup on Graham Avenue. They're packed with people. If more businesses were open after 6 p.m., there would be greater attraction for people to come downtown.

Until the provincial government takes urban sprawl seriously and establishes an urban limit line, people will continue to view the downtown as crime-ridden, businesses will stay closed and people will not want to live in the area.

But, if lots of people live in the downtown area, crime will go down, businesses will stay open and be more successful, and people will want to live and do business there.

Nick Ternette is a community and political activist, freelance writer and broadcaster.

The state of philosophy at the U of W



We should all be concerned

MARC KRUSE
VOLUNTEER

It is inevitable that, at some point, every philosophy student must answer this question: "Why study philosophy?" This is usually followed by a second common question: "What kind of job does that degree get you?"

Well, in response to the first question, it seems to me that everyone is a philosopher.

Everyone has at one time asked questions like: "Who am I?" "Is there a God?" "What is fair or just?" "Am I a good person?" These are all questions that philosophy takes very seriously. They are questions that some of the greatest thinkers of all time have tried to answer.

I cannot understand why studying philosophy seems so mysterious when the questions philosophy wrestles with are the same questions everyone has asked themselves.

There is a perception that philosophers just sit within their ivory towers talking about things no one really cares about. To some extent I think this may be a fair criticism.

But I do not think that philosophy is unique in this regard. The academy in general can be quite a closed and guarded place.

However, philosophy is hampered by the public perception that a philosophy degree will not get you a job, that it teaches you no practical skills. This perception is partly the fault of philosophers who just engage in the types of ivory-tower disputes that give rise to the public perception.

It is up to philosophers to show that the things which philosophy deals with are practical skills. Critical thinking, being able to produce and analyze reasonable arguments, critical reading and an understanding of the history of ideas are all skills which aid people in understanding the world around them.

The skills that philosophy teaches are not

only useful to everyday life, but of benefit in law, mitigation, crisis resolution, journalism, politics, the commercial sector and countless other professions. Philosophy students – and liberal arts majors in general – need an education in marketing themselves. The idea that a lack of career options somehow cheapens the liberal arts is one that we must do away with.

Philosophy is important, not just within a university course, but for everyone. It is an integral part in most areas of study. An understanding of ethics, justice and other philosophical categories are invaluable assets for any student to have.

That being said, our philosophy department at the University of Winnipeg is in danger.

The department will only have four tenured faculty members next year, one of whom will be away on sabbatical. With so few professors, the department will not be able to offer the courses needed for students to receive a full education in philosophy. A liberal arts university needs a strong humanities component, and philosophy is an integral part of the humanities.

U of W's dean of arts, David Fitzpatrick, made it clear to me that he feels the same. According to him, there is a plan to rebuild the philosophy department so it can once again be vibrant and strong. Hopefully, this plan includes retaining the department's two sessional professors, David Borman and Michael Hickson, who at this time are scheduled to be let go. To create a strong and vibrant department in any discipline, young, capable and enthusiastic professors are a necessity.

Philosophy is a diverse field. In order for students to receive a well-rounded education, the department needs more faculty members, not less. At the very least, the university should retain the two sessional professors which it plans not to rehire next year.

Marc Kruse is co-ordinator for the Philosophy Students' Association at the University of Winnipeg.

Disputing the legitimacy of 'enhanced interrogation'



LIAM SCOTT
VOLUNTEER

Recently, *The Uniter* ran a comment article asserting that enhanced interrogation does not qualify as torture and should therefore be used as a legitimate method of forcing information from detainees. While it was not written by a student at the University of Winnipeg, I still felt compelled to write a response to such a downright ignorant assertion.

For those who are not familiar, enhanced interrogation refers to techniques most notably used in the "war on terror" to illicit information from those suspected to have ties to terrorist organizations. The Guantanamo Bay detention facility is a prime example of a place where these techniques are used.

There are many similar facilities which are operated by the CIA in the Middle East. The prisoners in these facilities are often arrested without warrant or charge, and are held indefinitely, most never receiving trial.

To suggest that these techniques are necessary to illicit vital information assumes that those conducting the interrogation have reason to believe that the victim possesses such information. By this I mean objective proof, admissible in a court of law, which proves the victim's ties to a terrorist organization. Most commonly, these interrogation techniques are administered to anybody perceived as a threat for any reason. Most who are subjected to torture have just been cases of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Many CIA officials have shed doubts on the effectiveness of doing so. One such official was quoted anonymously by ABC News as saying "[the detainees] get so desperate that they begin telling you what they think you want to hear." This sums up the inherent flaw of enhanced interrogation: people under extreme duress will say anything to make the pain stop. Other than hearsay from the infamous liars of the Bush administration, the technique has never been shown to produce any important, useful

information.

The United Nations defines torture as "any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him ... information or a confession, punishing him for an act ... or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind."

Under international law, enhanced interrogation techniques undoubtedly constitute torture. While an individual's definition of torture may vary, the definition set forth by an international governing body such as the UN is the most reliable.

Not only does enhanced interrogation constitute torture, it leads to murder in many cases. Detainees have died of exhaustion after being forced to stand for three days straight with no food or water. Others suffer infections or bleed to death from cuts and scrapes.

Even if the techniques do not kill the detainee directly, they inflict lasting physical and psychological damage.

One such method, waterboarding, simulates drowning, cutting off oxygen to the brain in the process. There is one recorded case of permanent nerve damage resulting in partial paralysis from waterboarding.

I understand that moral boundaries are blurred during a time of war, but at what point do we start to question such brutality?

Enhanced interrogation is torture, regardless of the original meaning of the word. It is carried out on a guilty-until-proven-innocent basis and has never been proven to save lives. The damage to the victim lasts well beyond the interrogation process, if they survive it at all.

It is time that people stop making excuses for these policies and start holding those responsible accountable for the damage they've done.

Liam Scott is a first year arts student at the University of Winnipeg.

Corrupted Christmas

Holiday no longer a Christian holiday - not even close



MELANIE MURCHISON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

I'm not sure about you, but I think it's a little strange that most people, regardless of religious affiliation or lack thereof, have adopted Christmas as their own personal gift-giving holiday.

I understand that people like giving and receiving gifts, but if you're choosing to celebrate it as "the holiday to keep retail businesses in the black," then please call it Gift-Giving Day or Present Day or just about anything else, rather than Christmas.

Christmas has little to do with presents. I know this may come as a shock. Christmas is all about celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, just like some of you heard in Sunday school all those years ago.

Two thousand-odd years ago it was not as common to give gifts for birthdays, and please don't give me the "but the wise men brought gifts to Jesus when he was born so we can exchange presents too" line. Yes, the wise men brought gifts for Jesus, but they only brought them for him. As the story goes, there was no exchanges of gifts, just presents for Jesus.

No evidence exists of gifts being given to Mary or Joseph or anyone else in the stable. Actually, according to most biblical scholars, the wise men arrived between the second or third year after Christ was born, not at his birth. So really, the wise men argument for pro-gift exchanging doesn't make sense logically.

It also doesn't help that all the malls and retail stores market Christmas like it's some sort of commodity. "Come here, get your Christmas! Buy the Christmas spirit!" Christmas really isn't about any of that.

And just how did a big, fat, white man in a red suit come to symbolize Christmas? While it may be a convenient fit, there is no real logical or ra-



ARANDA ADAMS

tional tie between the good cheer of an imaginary man from the North Pole and the celebration of the Messiah, which is what Christians believe Christmas is actually about.

In order to celebrate Christmas, one should at least recognize the reason for its existence as a holiday. Understand, at least, that it is foremost a religious occasion.

Christmas really is a special day,

just as any holy day is special in other religions, such as Ramadan for Muslims and Hanukkah for Jews.

It seems odd that people tend not to celebrate the holidays of other religions they aren't affiliated with, yet still choose to "celebrate" Christmas. Perhaps this has something to do with Canada being a predominately Christian country at the time it was settled. This probably explains why winter break is called "Christmas holidays" and the city is full of decorations for Christmas. Seriously, just look down Portage Avenue.

I'm not one of those people that says nonsense like "you can't call it a Christmas tree; you have to call it a 'multicultural tree.'" That's not me. I love Christmas. I still hang stockings on my parents' fireplace. And yes, I do exchange gifts. But I also go to church services, as is common with any other Christian holiday.

So this Christmas, if you celebrate it, please remember what - and who - it is you are truly celebrating.

Melanie Murchison is a criminal justice student at the University of Winnipeg.

'Tis the season for conspicuous consumption

Inspired protest got people thinking



MATT AUSTMAN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Last Christmas, I witnessed a random but inspiring political protest at the Polo Park mall. It happened on Dec. 23, the busiest shopping day of the year.

I was buying a book when my friend pointed out to me what was in the middle of the mall, overlooking the Santa station. Hanging there was a huge drawing of Jesus on a crucifix. In his hands there were two shopping bags and underneath read an altered quote from the Bible: "For God so loved corporate America, he gave his one and only son."

I didn't know what to think about it at first. On one hand, it made a powerful statement about how obsessed North America has become with consumption. However, on the other hand, people don't like to be guilt-tripped about shopping at Christmas, especially by some arrogant Marxist asshole.

But whoever dropped the banner probably realized that. Although they obviously didn't support the consumerism-based Christmas of today, I doubt they were out to ruin peoples' holidays.

Now, consumerism is not inherently evil, nor does it singularly lead to the destruction of the earth. It is a complicated process and it's necessary for the welfare of every nation on the planet. It allows business to boom, goods to be traded, information to be shared and it plays a part in the joy to be had during the holiday season.

Nevertheless, the negative impacts which are unleashed upon the planet by blind consumerism are not equally considered by most people during Christmas, despite the major increases in transportation usage and greenhouse gas emissions that the holiday entails. The small things about Christmas add up too.

For example, buying \$30 worth of confectioneries adds up to the consumption of roughly 20 kilograms of materials, 940 litres of water and the emission of 16 kilograms of greenhouse gases.

Moreover, the strategies which corporations use to brand the holiday is beyond shameful. Gifts are marketed to make us believe that they correlate with happiness. Corporate branding is successful in making people believe that we will be happier or that we will make somebody's Christmas better if we buy a product.

I believe the holiday was started for very different reasons. Still, I will yield to this consumer-based, corporatized holiday when I go shopping for my family and friends. Many others will too.

So considering this depressing socialist liberal arts student rant, regardless of what those protesters' goals were, they succeeded at least in drawing attention to the corporatism of Christmas on a busy shopping day.

My friend and I took some pictures of the event, and shoppers were pointing, conversing and taking pictures with their cellphones. These reactions made us hopeful that people went home that day and talked about it. Even if they mocked the cause, conversations were being sparked, debate was happening and individuals had to justify themselves if they argued for or against it.

The protest I witnessed last Dec. 23 was inspiring. It showed that people out there do care about the vapid consumerism which now drives Christmas. Seeing the banner was a lot like getting a high-five from a like-minded soul, without slapping their hand.

Matt Austman wishes you a happy holiday season.

Unlimited texting and a \$0* QWERTY phone.
Talk your thumbs off.



GET A
\$0*
PHONE
WITH A QWERTY VALUE PAK & MTS
CALLING PLAN (AFTER BILL CREDIT)

QWERTY Value Pak

- Unlimited Text
- Unlimited Mobile Web service
- Call Display
- Enhanced Voice Mail

ADD THE VALUE PAK FOR

\$16
A MONTH
WITH A QWERTY PHONE

Visit mts.ca or your nearest
MTS Connect store or Dealer for details.

MTS

*\$0 phone offer: available with a min. commitment of one year QWERTY Value Pak plus a min. 36-month and min. \$19.99 Calling Plan. Purchase the phone at regular price (plus tax), and receive an equivalent bill credit on your first bill. Customers must commit to one year of the QWERTY Value Pak or they will be charged back the bill credit of the phone. \$16 QWERTY Value Pak: Min. 36-month contract with purchase of a QWERTY phone (PCD TXTM8, LG Rumour or Motorola HINT) and a min. \$19.99 Calling Plan. Hardware subject to availability. Limited time offers, other conditions apply, see Dealer for details. Trade-mark: MTS design mark is a registered trade-mark of Manitoba Telecom Services Inc., used under license. All other trade-marks are property of their respective owners.

Arts & Culture

Said the electro-pop band to the hipster boy: Do you hear what I hear?

Local musicians help the indie Christmas music scene stay vibrant

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

Do they know it's Christmas? If you're asking Winnipeg musicians, the answer is yes.

Don Amero, Jodi King, Grand Analog, JP Hoe, House of Doc, The Liptonians, Oldfolks Home, Quinzy and From the Moon are amongst the handful of local artists releasing new Christmas recordings this holiday season.

"I thought it would be funny, 'cause Christmas is an easy target," Lyndon Froese of From the Moon said when asked why he first recorded Christmas music in 2006.

Each Christmas since then, Froese has gathered with his friends to write and record new Christmas music. This year he'll record and release five or six more for free via a website he set up with his friends in pop-rock quintet The Liptonians: www.christmasatliptonia.com.

He admits that there's an element of cheesiness to a lot of Christmas music, but embraces that when writing his own.

"I have no problem with writing terrible Christmas songs, whereas I have a problem with that at any other time of the year," Froese said.

"Seeing how Christmas [has] changed into this celebration of consumption and, in general, a lot of things I dislike – that's really what inspires me to make Christmas music. I don't think you'd expect anything other than music that's cheesy garbage to accompany that."

Ricardo Lopez-Aguilar of Winnipeg electro art-pop outfit Oldfolks Home feels differently. When he wrote his first Christmas song earlier this year, *We Won't Cry at Christmas*, he aimed to create something that would stand up with the rest of his recorded output.

"To me it's kind of a big deal writing a Christmas song, 'cause you grow up with so many of them," he said. "You don't want to



"Is there Christmas in space?" Brothers Lyndon (top) and Terrell Froese of From the Moon prepare some homespun Christmas songs.

write [a] bad Christmas song."

Each week in December, Oldfolks Home will be releasing one Christmas song for free download to people who sign up for its e-mail newsletter – an original and three covers. Each song is coupled with an original work of art by a Canadian artist. (Send an e-mail to oldfolkshomemusic@gmail.com to sign up.)

"I really like Christmas, so it was pretty fun recording all these songs," Lopez-Aguilar said. "I might do it again."

For the guys in pop-rock four-piece Quinzy, a new Christmas song is pretty much expected of them every December. Each year since starting its annual Quinzmas concert in 2003, the group has written and recorded at least one new Christmas song.

Quinzy singer-guitarist Sandy Taronno says that while he's not religious, he's fascinated by what Christmas has become – a weird amalgamation of pagan rituals, a Christian holiday and the winter solstice.

He's used Quinzy Christmas songs like *The Decemberwolf*, *What*

Did We Do Wrong and *Feast* to explore some of those themes.

"I think some of our best songs are our Christmas songs, actually, and we're going to get around to releasing a Christmas EP," Taronno said.

From the Moon, meanwhile, will be doing something different this year. Froese has taken the Christmas music he's written and recorded in the past and used it to create a Christmas pageant. The pageant will be presented on Sunday, Dec. 13 at the Ellice Theatre.

"It's the story of what Christmas would be like without Santa, and it's dismal," Froese explained. "It's told from the perspective of a character who [later] becomes the 'jolly man' to save Christmas for everyone."

"There's dialogue, there's narration, there's several characters, a full band, back-up singers and costumes – everything you typically expect from a pageant," he added. "There's romance, robots, camels, rock 'n' roll guitars and a truly touching storyline."

CHRISTMAS LIST

Here's a guide to some of the local Christmas music coming out in December.

Jodi King

Listen to the Angels

An original song recorded this past August is available for free download to anyone who joins her mailing list at www.jodiking.com.

Oldfolks Home

Christmas at the Old Folks Home

Four songs are available for free download to anyone who joins the electro art-pop band's mailing list. One song is available each week of December, starting Tuesday, Dec. 1. Visit www.myspace.com/oldfolkshomemusic.

House of Doc

Coventry Carol

A new a capella six-song EP by the local roots band features madrigals, '30s style flare and a German classic. Visit www.houseofdoc.com.

Hot 103 FM

The Twelve Days of Winnipeg Christmas

The local radio station releases a CD in support of the Christmas Cheer Board and the Winnipeg Humane Society. It features seasonal originals and covers by The Shouting Ground, Keith and Renee, Jaylene Johnson, Pushing Daisies, Don Amero & Jason Gordon, Flo, Paper Moon, James Struthers, The Details, Fenom, Mike Burnard, Sierra Noble, Troy Westwood, Ace Burpee and Chrissy Troy.

On sale Friday, Dec. 4 at One Big Day for Christmas at the Safeway on Ness Avenue by Polo Park in Madison Square for just \$10. Following that day the CD will be available at HOT 103 Studios - 3rd floor 177 Lombard Ave.

Oh My Darling

Ho Ho H'Oh My Darling Holiday Spectacular and CD Fundraiser

The all-girl roots quartet raises funds for its second CD with a holiday show at the Park Theatre on Thursday, Dec. 10. Visit www.myspace.com/ohmydarlingmusic.

Quinzy

Quinzmas 2009

The pop-rock act hosts its sixth annual Christmas celebration at the West End Cultural Centre on Friday, Dec. 11 and Saturday, Dec. 12. They'll no doubt perform their new Christmas song, *This is Not a Circle*. Also features House of Doc. Visit www.quinzy.ca.

From the Moon

From the Moon Christmas Pageant

Sunday, Dec. 13 at the Ellice Theatre. Also includes performances by the CMU Classical Guitar Ensemble; the Krause Brothers' whistling choir, accompanied by their beer-bottle choir; and the Guitar Gods of Christmas Past, Present and Future. Visit www.fromthemoon.net/pageant.

JP Hoe

The Fourth Annual JP Hoe Holiday Show

The pop singer-songwriter releases a free Christmas song, *The Shopping Mall Santa*, and holds his annual holiday bash at the Park Theatre on Friday, Dec. 18 and Saturday, Dec. 19. Includes an appearance by Fred Penner, gifts and more. Visit www.jpheo.com.





contiki
HOLIDAYS for 18-35's

204-985-9200



OUT'N ABOUT TRAVEL INC.
207 - 100 OSBORNE STREET S
WINNIPEG, MB R3L 1Y5
1-800-254-5552
204-985-9200
www.outnabouttravel.com



\$100

GIFT CERTIFICATE

Valid for ANY tour 14 days or longer!

207 - 100 Osborne Street S
Winnipeg, MB R3L 1Y5

Book your Contiki Holidays 14 days or longer exclusively through Out'N'About Travel on 207- 100 Osborne Street S and save \$100. Must be booked and paid in full by Dec. 31, 2009 for travel anytime before August 31st, 2010. New Bookings only and not combinable with any other offer or discount. Please quote promo code CRD0503 at time of booking.

The legend, the legacy

After 10 years of irreverent rock 'n' roll, Hot Live Guys call it a day

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

Winnipeg's Hot Live Guys are breaking up after more than 10 years of writing and recording raucous rock 'n' roll, and playing live shows so intense they more than once left band members bleeding – but not before they release one more album.

Named in 2005 by the *Winnipeg Sun* as one of the 30 greatest local bands of all time, HLG will play its final show on Wednesday, Dec. 23 at the Royal Albert.

In spite of all the good times, HLG decided to call it a day when singer-guitarist Julian Bergen, 27, grew tired of being in the band and quit.

"The last tour we did [this past August], it was eye-opening for me how impoverishing it was," Bergen says over beers on an unusually quiet Thursday evening at the Albert. "We came back after doing all this work, and that's not even the end of the work – there's still more to do when you get back to Winnipeg. ... I'm looking forward to not focusing on a band."

HLG's guitarist Joe Warkentin, 26; bassist Kurtis Wittmier, 28; and drummer Sterling Shanski, 33; were surprised by Bergen's decision.

"I was pretty bummed about it, but I understand," Wittmier says. "It's good to break up while we're still good and people still enjoy our music."

NEW ALBUM, BEST TO DATE

Dec. 23 will mark not only the band's last show, but also the release of its fourth CD, *External Culture for Internal Barbarians*.

Recorded in six months with producer/engineer Rock Trembath, the disc is HLG's best to date. It's heavier and more dynamic than its predecessor, 2006's *Robbin' a Bank*, and better captures the band's live intensity.

Warkentin and Bergen credit the addition of a new drummer, acquiring distortion pedals, spending more time working on guitar and bass tones while recording, and Bergen's growth as a singer for the evolution between discs.

"The singing was getting better and lyrics became more of a priority, so there was more reason to write good melodies for the songs," Warkentin says.

Bergen says the recording was initially intended to be a concept album on authoritarianism. That didn't work out in the end, but the idea that bands dictate culture to their audiences inspired some of the lyrics.

"Rock 'n' roll is all about being cocksure. It gets tiring, but it's hard to make convincing rock music without being cocksure," Bergen says. "There's room for uncertainty, but for the most part, it's about selling that you're the sexiest motherfuckers in the room."

For Warkentin, being cocksure is less of a dilemma.

"When you're in a rock band, it's your job to be cooler than the people you're playing for."

THE LEGEND

Warkentin and Bergen formed HLG in 1999 with a handful of friends. Initially, the group's instrumentation included saxophone, trumpet and trombone, and they played something akin to ska and funk.

At that point, Bergen says, the band's music was about being abrasive and deliberately turning people off.

The band released one CD of ska/funk, 1999's *The Legend, The Legacy*. But when Warkentin and Bergen discovered Tricky Woo, things changed.

After seeing the Montreal band perform its brand of straight-ahead rock 'n' roll, the duo decided to change directions and start what they now refer to – possibly joking, possibly not – as "the phase-out period." One by one, they simply stopped calling the horn players to let them know when practice was happening.



Valhalla, they are coming: After 10 years on the scene, Winnipeg's Hot Live Guys (left to right: Sterling Shanski, Joe Warkentin, Julian Bergen and Kurtis Wittmier) are playing their last show this month.

HOT LIVE DISCOGRAPHY

The Legend, The Legacy - 1999

Self-released

More ska and funk than straight-forward rock, HLG's debut includes a track about the size of Bergen's manhood as well as a song that features the simple refrain, "Joe is a stud." Including the horn players, the band had eight members at this point.

Serve Pipin' Hot - 2002

Self-released

After scrapping the results of two other recording sessions, the band – now a four-piece rock act – recorded *Serve Pipin' Hot* at a cabin over four or five alcohol-fueled days. The first song, *H2K*, was inspired by a Hooters poster on the wall of then-drummer Kevin Kornelsen's jam space.

Robbin' a Bank - 2006

Transistor 66

The band's breakthrough release earned four-star reviews from both the *Sun* and *Free Press*. Recorded during two days at Private Ear Recording, the eight-song disc features *Sock It To Me*, at that point a staple of their live show, and *Light of Love*, a reworked *Serve Pipin' Hot* track.

C'mon/Hot Live Guys 7" - 2008

Transistor 66/War on Music

Rawer and faster than anything on *Robbin' a Bank*, the two tracks HLG used for their side of this split 7" were taken from a 2006 recording session. On the other side? Two songs by C'mon, the Toronto rock act fronted by Weakerthans producer and HLG fan Ian Blurton.

External Culture for Internal Barbarians - 2009

Transistor 66

Deriving its name from something Nietzsche said, HLG's swan song was recorded over a six-month period starting last December. It's heavier and more dynamic than *Robbin' a Bank*, something the band credits in part to the addition of new drummer Sterling Shanski, formerly of The Fabulous Kildonans. Standout track: *Creamy Illusion*.

"Julian was largely pushing to play rock all the time, and then we saw Tricky Woo and it was like, holy shit – that was it for us," Warkentin says, referencing a poorly-attended show Tricky Woo played in Winnipeg. "I was really into how hard they went off for nobody."

In 2002 the band recorded and released its second CD, *Serve Pipin' Hot*. By then, it was notorious for Warkentin's stage antics. The *Winnipeg Free Press* described him as "a younger version of Angus Young with

FORMER HOT LIVE GUYS

HLG saw its share of line-up changes after the members pared down into a four-piece rock act.

Mike Johnson - drums, 2004-2007

Kevin Kornelsen - drums, 2000-2004

Sandy Taronno - bass 1999-2003

David Pankratz - drums, 1999-2000

a death wish."

By the end of 2006, that publication had named them one of 10 local bands to watch, they had released *Robbin' a Bank* on local imprint Transistor 66, and they were sharing the stage with the likes of The Supersuckers, Von Zippers, C'mon and their inspiration, Tricky Woo.

They had played countless shows in Winnipeg, toured western Canada a number of times and earned a gig at South by Southwest in Austin, Texas in early 2007.

THE LEGACY

Ask the members of HLG what their favourite memories are of their 10-year career, and they don't talk about the praise from critics or the high-profile gigs at the Western Canadian Music Awards and 2004's JunoFest.

Instead, they reminisce about the good times they had together at practice and on tour: the time in Calgary when they binged on free beer and gourmet hot dogs; the show in Clear Lake when they almost stole a boat; playing to one person at a show in Kitchener, Ont.; facing off against Tie Domi's sister in a game of floor hockey; making a feature-length home movie called *The Barge*; and the countless games they would make up and play while driving from city to city.

"It's pretty bittersweet," Bergen says. "I'm excited for new opportunities, but certainly sad this one is ending."

All the members of the band are thankful for the friendships they've made and the good times they had.

"We played lots of shows and we wrote a lot of songs," Warkentin says. "I'm glad some people dug our albums and our shows. That's cool."

"I remember thinking, 'This is awesome,'" Wittmier adds. "I don't know if I [ever] considered making a living off this, but whatever it was – it was worth it."

⇒ See Hot Live Guys' last show Wednesday, Dec. 23 at the Royal Albert (48 Albert St.)

⇒ American Flamewhip, Hot Blood Bombers and Ditchpig will also perform

⇒ \$15 gets you into the show, plus a copy of *External Culture for Internal Barbarians*

⇒ Advance tickets are available at Into the Music, Music Trader and www.ticketworkshop.com

⇒ Visit www.hotliveguys.ca

⇒ For a blast from the past, visit HLG's old website: www.angelfire.com/mb/hotliveguys. No updates since 2002. Hilarious!

HOT LIVE MEMORIES

Friends, fans and former band members talk about Hot Live Guys.

"When we were 15 or 16, we would practice at Joe's mom's house in the basement. We would always do it on whatever night *Dawson's Creek* was on. So after thrashing about in the basement for a while, we would come out, these sweaty 15- and 16-year-olds, and get heavily, emotionally involved in the show. The switch from playing in a rock band to getting excited about what Pacey was up to that week was a highlight."

–David Pankratz, former drummer

"Every show that I have played, in my short time in the band, has been my favourite. Rockin' out with those cats on stage, helping to play their tunes has been a highlight of my musical career."

–Sterling Shanski, current drummer

"I approach [Transistor 66] as a family, and you're never supposed to have a favourite. But, Hot Live Guys were my favourite."

–Art MacIntyre, owner, Transistor 66 Record Company

"They're fuckin' great and I'm gonna say they're one of the most criminally underrated bands in Canada, if not the world. ... Every show I've ever played with them, I'd be in the van the next day driving to the next show and one of their songs would be in my head. A lot of bands that have a live show like that, they don't have the songs to back it up, so that combination in Hot Live Guys is just killer."

–Ian Blurton, singer-guitarist, C'mon

"If I had one thing to say about HLG, it would be: funnest band to play in."

–Kevin Kornelsen, former drummer

"There's some sincere rock n' roll that happens when HLG play. There's lots of bands in this city that ply a similar trade musically, but I can't really name one that compares when it comes to the energy they'd bring to any given performance. It's completely out of context as a lyrical citation, but Government Issue had a song called *Hole in the Scene* – and with Hot Live Guys breaking up, those are about the only words that come to mind. They're going to be dearly missed."

–Sam Smith, artistic director, The Royal Albert

"When we recorded *Serve Pipin' Hot* we spent about \$300 on booze and about \$200 on recording equipment, went to Julian's grandparents' cabin and basically had the best weekend of our lives. I remember standing on couches with mics and just screaming our asses off. Then we passed out and we kind of just woke up and there was this album in our laps. No one remembered recording it. It was like a present from our drunken selves. ...

"I think what a lot of people don't realize, because the live show takes over, is that those are fucking awesome songs that they're playing. Those are world-class riffs and incredibly interesting lyrics being hollered at you by a man who looks a lot like Robert Plant these days."

–Sandy Taronno, former bass player

"It's mostly just a blur of Joe sort of just throwing himself around stage."

–Curran Faris, guitarist for *Hide Your Daughters*, trying to describe his favourite HLG show and inadvertently describing every HLG show

Read more on Aaron Epp's blog at www.uniter.ca/blogs.

DISCOVER FORTY CREEK WHISKY



WORLD BELE CHAMPION
Rated #1

**Tonight,
 You Be The
 Judge.**

Double Gold Medal
 San Francisco World Spirits

Best Canadian Whisky
 New England Whisky Festival

Gold Medal
 World Selection, Brussels

Highest Award
 International Spirits Challenge,
 London, England

Highest Score
 Beverage Testing Institute,
 Chicago, 2007

FortyCreekWhisky.com

The long journey from anxiety to harmony



COURTESY OF SERENA POSTEL

Serena Postel began writing songs as a cathartic exploration of her struggles. She released her first album *Spare Change* in 2006.

Soulful musician Serena Postel finds her way out of the blues

MIKE DUERKSEN
 VOLUNTEER STAFF

Serena Postel is in a good place these days. The Winnipeg songstress has abandoned cigarettes, endured painful personal growth and started using her artistic abilities to help others. She is also working on a follow-up to her widely acclaimed 2006 debut *Spare Change*.

"I'm facing a really great direction. I'm not even close to scratching the surface in terms of having it all figured out, but I'm recognizing life doesn't have to be so hard," the cheery 31-year-old said last week at The Edge, the non-profit art gallery on Main Street that she runs. "It doesn't have to hurt as much as I thought it did."

But this wasn't always the case.

A tumultuous period in 2003 left Postel off work on disability for depression. Attempting to cope with feeling like a victim of the world, she picked up a brush and a guitar and started a journey she didn't see coming.

"It was a circumstance I needed to learn to deal with and at the time I didn't have the tools to do so. By doing art and music, I started to get to know myself better and recognize where I would function better," she said.

Postel's cathartic songwriting explorations soon led her to busk outside liquor

stores, engaging passersby with her honest stories and sharp wit.

What followed was *Spare Change* — a raw, soulful alt-folk EP bearing the personal mark of her experience.

"I'm trying really hard not to discount that recording, but I have trouble listening to it," Postel admitted.

That's because she has moved on. Once angst-laden and anxious, Postel is tranquil and harmonious. She talks about peace and kindness and is reaching out to at-risk youth in the community by organizing songwriting circles, open mic nights and art workshops at The Edge.

Her music has also changed.

"The new songs are more fun to listen to. The guitar work in itself is telling such a great story and can really take the listener on an adventure. It's about easier experiences," she said. "I'm totally in old age. Becoming softer and for lack of a better word, cheery and mushy."

Postel will debut the new songs Thursday, Dec. 3 at the Park Theatre and is quick to warn she may improvise onstage — a new habit of hers. Money raised supports her recording costs.

"If people think it's weird or kooky, fantastic — because we all are! I want to be the weirdo, 'cause maybe it will be inspire someone else to be a weirdo."

⇒ See Serena Postel perform Thursday, Dec. 3 at the Park Theatre (698 Osborne St.)

⇒ Evan Reeve will also perform

⇒ Tickets \$10 in advance at the Park Theatre, Music Trader / \$15 at the door

⇒ Visit www.serenapostel.com

wag

The Winnipeg Art Gallery presents

CANNES LIONS 09 PREMIERE

The World's Best Commercials

December 1–12

Winnipeg Art Gallery • 300 Memorial Blvd
 Muriel Richardson Auditorium

Dec 1-2 • 7pm
 Dec 3-4 • 7 and 9:30pm
 Dec 5 • 2, 7 and 9:30pm
 Dec 6 • 2 and 7pm
 Dec 8-9 • 7pm
 Dec 10-12 • 7 and 9:30pm

Member \$7 • Adult \$9 •
 Senior \$8 • Student \$8

Advance tickets available at the WAG Info Booth and all Ticketmaster outlets • Charge-by-phone: 204.780.3333 • Order online: ticketmaster.ca (additional fees for phone/internet orders) • Rating: 14A

The Free Press
 We're there for you



Winnipeg Art Gallery 300 Memorial Boulevard • Winnipeg, MB • 204.786.6641 • wag.ca



UNIVERSITY
 OF MANITOBA



SCHOOL OF
 Medical Rehabilitation

SCHOOL OF MEDICAL REHABILITATION

OPEN HOUSE

Date: Sunday, January 17, 2010

Time: 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Place: University of Manitoba

Bannatyne Campus

Brodie Centre, 727 McDermot Avenue
 Drop in and learn about Respiratory Therapy,
 Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy!!!

Parking available on some residential streets,
 The closest parkade is the Emily St. Parkade

LISTINGS: MUSIC

Element Circus on the Winter Solstice

It's a good thing that the 15th bi-annual Element Circus is on the longest night of the year, because it promises to be a sensory overload. Making over the Pyramid Cabaret (176 Fort St.) in a urban/rural winter landscape, attendees are encouraged to come decked out in costumes. Music will be provided by VAV JUNGLE, THE RE-RANGERS, VAMPIRES, [RACKET], TRIUNFO DO GATO, BREATH GRENADES, DJ ESAN and PB&J. There will be films, performance art duo 6 will don masks and entertain, the FIRE PYXIES will light up, MYNOR THE IRRATIONAL will do some daring stunts and SINCLAIR THE PUPPET will join in the festivities. Not enough fun yet? You could scramble for candy and other goodies under the huge piñata, visit the traders post to pick up some last minute Christmas gifts from local artisans, watch some live painting or just shake your rump. It all begins at 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 14.

The new weekly dance party

Lately, Thursday has been the big night on the club scene. Now Readymix and Goodform are joined by a new party at Pure (423 McMillan Ave.), featuring THE SHAKE, which consists of DJ LOTEK and MANALOGUE and visuals by MRGHOSTY. At their debut party on Thursday, Dec. 3, The Shake is joined by LUIS CARDONA, LSDAVE, NATHAN ZAHN, LIL' PHIL OXIDE, SW@T, OWEN, KRISCO, ENCODE, SPAM, VOULES and RANDOM.

Steve Basham gets thicker

Local musician Steve Basham releases *Thicker*, the follow-up to his debut album *Thick*, at Raggpickers on Saturday, Dec. 5 at 8:30 p.m. To play songs from the album, Steve will be joined by his band THE GIRTH, as well as RIGHT THROUGH and JOHNNY RIVERBOAT. Yay!

Happy New Year

Ghost Town, Manitoba and Big Smash! Music Scene presents a fun-filled night of movies and music on Thursday, Dec. 31, with local bands ROYAL CANOE, JICAH and DJ T.B.A. Beginning at Raggpickers Annex with short films at 9 p.m.

Dec. 3 to Dec. 17**THURSDAY, DEC. 3**

SERENA POSTEL and EVAN REEVE play at the Park Theatre.

The SHOUTING GROUND, THE FROWNERS and LIVING IN RED play at the Academy.

Join the packed floor of the Lo Pub at GOODFORM, with DJs MIKE B and ROB VILAR.

FAST-FLYING VIRGINIAN JAM NIGHT at the Standard.

MOONBEAM JAZZ at the King's Head.

ROUTE 59 Jam Night at the Cavern.

READYMIX with DJs DAN L and DIAL UP at Ozzy's.

DAVID BART Celtic night at Shannon's Irish Pub.

NEIL PINTO plays at Saffron's.

FRIDAY, DEC. 4

LINK DINGLE AND THE MOUSTACHE BERRIES are playing at the Pyramid Cabaret.

FIREBONFIRE and ALANADALE are playing at Sam's Place.

A benefit for Amnesty International will take place at the Park Theatre with performances by FUNNY BOX THEATRE, PAUL SAMBORSKI, HEATHER WITHERDEN, MISS LAMUSE, JEREMY WELLS, SUSS, BEN WYTINCK, GARTH RIEMER, NATHAN ROGERS and GRAY AREA OF COMEDY.

Haydn's The CREATION will be performed by the WINNIPEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA at the Centennial Concert Hall. 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 5

GWAR plays at the Garrick with JOB FOR A COWBOY and RED CHORD.

The WIND-UPS and ANDREW NEVILLE & THE POOR CHOICES play at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

The much adored FRED PENNER plays an afternoon show at the West End Cultural Centre.

Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men: Songs of Social Change and Justice featuring CARA LUFT, GREG MACPHERSON and SAM BAARDMAN at the Millennium Library. 1:30 p.m.

JICAH are playing at the Cavern.

STEVE BASHAM and THE GIRTH release *Thicker* at Raggpickers, with openers JOHNNY RIVERBOAT and RIGHT THROUGH.

Manitoba's premiere fetish event, THE BALL is at Ozzy's.

BRENT PARKIN and RICHARD MOODY play an early show at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club. 7 p.m.

Haydn's The CREATION will be performed by the WINNIPEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA at the Centennial Concert Hall. 8 p.m.

THREE DAYS GRACE at the MTS Centre.

SUNDAY, DEC. 6

DIG! MAGAZINE RENT PARTY helps the little jazz magazine pay the bills. With the U of M jazz faculty and the RETRO RHYTHM REVIEW. Park Theatre at 7:30 p.m.

WINNIPEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA does Sundays With The Family by playing along to classic holiday film THE SNOWMAN. 2 p.m.

THE SUNPARLOUR PLAYERS play at the Folk Exchange. 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 8

RITA MACNEIL sings at Club Regent Casino.

HATEBREED, CANNIBAL CORPSE, HATE ETERNAL, UNEARTH and BORN OF OSIRIS come to town with the Decimation of a Nation tour. Garrick Theatre at 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9

Canadian rock legend SLOAN is at the Pyramid with guests MAGNETA LANE.

BENNI BENASSI spins at the Tijuana Yacht Club with DJ HOLLYWOOD HYPE and DARIAN JAMES

HUGO TORRES-CERECEDA performs at Aqua Books. 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 10

HO HO H'OH MY DARLING HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR & CD FUNDRAISER at the Park Theatre. 8 p.m.

I SAW ZOMBIES KISSING SANTA CLAUS featuring the F-HOLES and the BEEKEEPERS at the Royal Albert.

Sex Pistols' bass player GLEN MATLOCK performs at the

Pyramid Cabaret.

FRIDAY, DEC. 11

THE PROSTITOTS, MCNASTIES, TERRIBLES, UNTALENTED and FLASH OUT all take the stage at the Royal Albert Arms.

SAMMY BANANAS, THE LYRICS and DJs FOOTWERK and MIKE B perform at the Pyramid Cabaret.

Celebrate QUINZMAS with QUINZY and the not-so-similarly named HOUSE OF DOC play at the West End Cultural Centre.

I've never heard of OH SO POPULAR, playing at the Academy.

JOHN MCDERMOTT performs a holiday special at the Centennial Concert Hall. 8 p.m.

THE PERMS, STIFF BISHOPS and the BEAT play at the Cavern.

SATURDAY, DEC. 12

LITTLE MISS HIGGINS and KERI LATIMER play a 7 p.m. show at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

CHILDREN OF INDIGO, THE STOGEYS and A BAND CALLED COUNTRY are playing at Raggpickers.

DENZAL SINCLAIRE plays at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. 4 p.m.

THROWING PAINT & THROWING SOUND with PROJECTORproject, CANTORDUST, AUNTIE DADA and SPAZZCAT.

Celebrate QUINZMAS with QUINZY and the not-so-similarly named HOUSE OF DOC play at the West End Cultural Centre.

The WINNIPEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA performs the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and Sons at the Eckhardt-Grammatté Hall on the University of Winnipeg campus. 8 p.m.

Blondie and Ramones tribute bands ATOMIC BLONDIE and THE MAROONS play at the Pyramid.

JOHN MCDERMOTT performs a holiday special at the Centennial Concert Hall. 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 13

JOHN MCDERMOTT performs a holiday special at the Centennial Concert Hall. 2 p.m.

The WINNIPEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA performs the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and Sons at the Eckhardt-Grammatté Hall on the University of Winnipeg campus. 2 p.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 14

WAYNE NEWTON sings at Club Regent Casino with the RON PALEY BIG BAND.

THURSDAY, DEC. 17

JODI KING and TELE play at the Academy.

DAVINPORT, LOCKOUT and M60 play at the Pyramid Cabaret.

Dec. 18 to Jan. 3**FRIDAY, DEC. 18**

The JP HOE HOE HOE HOLIDAY SHOW with FRED PENNER, THE TRULY RICHARDS, THE DANCING DREIDELS and more at the Park Theatre. 8 p.m.

END OF EXAMS BASH at Pyramid.

DANNY MICHEL is doing a live album recording at the West End Cultural Centre.

SATURDAY, DEC. 19

The CROOKED BROTHERS play at the Folk Exchange. 7 p.m.

DANNY MICHEL is doing a live album recording at the West End Cultural Centre.

The JP HOE HOE HOE HOLIDAY SHOW with FRED PENNER, THE TRULY RICHARDS, THE DANCING DREIDELS and more at the Park Theatre. 8 p.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 21

ELEMENT SIRCUS celebrates the solstice at the Pyramid Cabaret.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23

HOT LIVE GUYS release an album, but sadly play their last show at the Royal Albert Arms. With sets from AMERICAN FLAMEWHIP, DITCHPIG and HOT BLOOD BOMBERS.

SATURDAY, DEC. 26

GRANDMA HASH and THE THRASHERS play at Ozzy's.

MONDAY, DEC. 28

MOSES MAYES will funkify your legs at the Pyramid Cabaret.

TUESDAY, DEC. 29

THE WAKING EYES are resurrected at the Pyramid Cabaret.

THURSDAY, DEC. 31

ROYAL CANOE and JICAH ring in the new year at Raggpickers.

DJ CO-OP and HUNNICUTT spin at the Pyramid Cabaret.

READYMIX at Ozzy's.

THE SOLUTIONS play at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

PAPA MAMBO is at the Current Lounge.

DREADNAUT, THE CIVIL DISOBEDIENTS and LIVING IN RED play at the Zoo.

SATURDAY JAN. 2

2010: THE CONCERT, in honour of Winnipeg's designation as the Cultural Capital of Canada, will feature the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra performing along with such diverse local talent as Steve Bell, D.Rangers, Eagle & Hawk, Fubuki Daiko, Monica Huisman, James Keelaghan, Steve & Anna-Lisa Kirby Jazz Quintet, Momentum Aerial, Daniel ROA, Stacey Natrass, Sierra Noble, Camerata Nova, Fred Penner, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Rusalka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and the School of Contemporary Dancers.

KENMODE and HIDE YOUR DAUGHTERS play the Royal Albert.

BLUE RODEO at the MTS Centre. Sunday, Jan. 17.


UPCOMING SHOWS

JULIE DOIRON at the Albert. Monday, Jan. 18.

MOTLEY CRUE at the MTS Centre. Friday, Jan. 29

THE ARROGANT WORMS at the West End Cultural Centre. Sunday, April 25

GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTOYERS at the Centennial Concert Hall. Saturday, May 22.

CD REVIEWS

MATT EPP

Safe or Free

Independent

★★★★☆

On *Safe or Free*, local troubadour Matt Epp's fourth outing since 2005, he plays it free. Conceived in California, Newfoundland and everywhere in between, the beautiful collection of 12 road-worn tunes saturated with spiritual overtones display the uprootedness present in the pilgrim's lifestyle. Epp's outstanding songwriting and knack for warm, memorable melodies shine on songs like the vigorous time-signature changing *Working Holiday*, the soulful *Crying In Mexico*, the folkly *Travel By Ground* and the melancholic country tune *I Am The Wind*. The standout track, however, is *They Won't Find The Bodies* - a dark, haunting duet with Brandy Zdan cast over a brooding, oscillating noise track. With *Safe or Free*, Epp has not only realized his best work to date, but also secured a place as front runner for best local release of the year.

-Mike Duerksen



LOCAL

THE ROWDYMEN

Gas, Liquor and Fireworks

Transistor 66 Record Company

★★★★☆

"I went down to the High and Lonesome Club," Ken McMahon sings on The Rowdymen's latest CD, *Gas, Liquor and Fireworks*. And that's about right: The retro rockabilly you'll find on this 13-track disc from this 12-year-old band sounds like something you'd hear at either the Enchantment Under the Sea Dance or at the Times Change(d) on a Saturday night. Standout tracks include *Johnny Rumble*, an upbeat number about the legend of a boy "born with a guitar in his hands," and *Tear It Up*, a song so good it makes even a wallflower like me want to get up and dance. You may not be ready for this, but your kids are going to love it. Catch The Rowdymen live when they release *Gas, Liquor and Fireworks* on Saturday, Dec. 5 at - where else? - the Times Change(d).

-Aaron Epp



LOCAL

THE ALMOST

Monster Monster

Virgin Records

★★★★☆

Christian rockers The Almost have put together a consistent, radio-friendly album with *Monster Monster*. A little less sonic consistency would be nice, but at least standout tracks *Monster* and *Hand Grenade* (featuring Chris Scruggs - Earl's grandson) offer a departure from the rest of the tunes. Up-beat and rockin', The Almost seem to have a good thing going and should resonate well with mainstream music lovers. There's also enough edge for some (but not all) who shun popular music. The lead singer's voice (Aaron Gillespie of Underoath) isn't as grating as many on the radio, but hopefully the muted whiny quality will be left behind on their next outing. All in all, *Monster Monster* has a lot of catchy tunes, most of which I wouldn't mind hearing at a party or on the radio.

-Ian McAmmond

**SOLE AND THE SKYRIDER BAND**

Plastique

Anti-Con Records

★★★★☆

Sole and the Skyriider Band's latest album, *Plastique*, is an interesting experimental hip-hop album that is crippled by its own ambitions. That's not to say it's bad; each of the tracks feature a unique sound. Traditional low basslines are mixed with industrial notes and even acoustic instruments to give the album a catchy but dark tone. This compliments the lyrics, which are intellectual observations on culture and the music industry. It's just a shame you won't hear most of the words. Sole delivers his lyrics so quickly, with such a soft voice, that it's impossible to hear him over the music. This is really unfortunate because the album has some entrancing beats and is a treat to listen to otherwise. Check it out. Just make sure you have the lyrics nearby when you do.

-Justin Luschinski

**JASON GREELEY**

Jason Greeley

Royalty Records

★★★☆☆

Jason Greeley's self-titled country album gives the impression that he tried to combine elements of rock in with his standard country sound to give himself more of an edge. The keyword in that last sentence is "try." Although some of his songs feature rather enticing guitar instrumentals, they only come around the end of his songs, and the rest of it doesn't stem far from the norm. This keeps his album from being an interesting mix of rock and western and instead becomes a pretentious but bland country album. The songs contain the same one-two drum beat accompanied by acoustics, with lyrical storytelling that makes up the majority of his songs. It's not that he's atrocious - he does have a powerful voice and he can play his instruments well. But calling his album "genre-defying fantastic" is like calling a grilled cheese sandwich hot cuisine.

-Justin Luschinski



'Merry Christmas, you wonderful, old Building and Loan!'

MTC brings Bedford Falls to the stage - and the airwaves - with the heart and spirit that Capra would admire

COURTNEY BRECHT
VOLUNTEER STAFF

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A RADIO PLAY

Directed by Robb Paterson
Presented by Manitoba Theatre Centre
Plays at the John Hirsch Theatre (Mainstage) until Saturday, Dec. 19

★★★★☆

The first music video ever broadcast on MTV was for the song *Video Killed the Radio Star* by The Buggles. It reflected a nostalgia felt for the passing genre of radio and the lost stars whose careers ended with its demise.

MTC's production of Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life* paints a reflective picture of the glory days of radio production, bringing



"I want to live again!" Mike Shara as George Bailey in MTC's *It's a Wonderful Life: A Radio Play*.

the classic tale of gee-whiz-good-guy George Bailey and his guardian angel to life in the mind's eye.

Bailey is conveyed with iconic innocence and charm by Toronto-based actor Mike Shara. The audience and the angel follow Bailey's journey through adolescence, comprising classic moments like the Charleston competition at the school dance with his romantic interest (played by the adorable Mairi Babb), that may seem a little too on-

the-nose at times.

Through the magic of radio the audience is able to believably jump ahead many years to find a frustrated George Bailey seemingly stuck in the routine trap of his father's people-first business, constantly under threat by the devious Mr. Potter.

He learns, with the help of a dozen different characters, the value of community, friendship and the magic of Christmas.

The real star of the production comes in onstage foley artist John Gzowski, who is worth watching on his own. He narrates the scenes with sound by using ordinary objects to portray a Ford Model T, a train station and the crunching of footsteps on hard snow. His technique is so effective, it's easy to close ones eyes and feel like an old-timey family sittin' 'round the "ol' voice-box."

Live piano/keyboard accompaniment add the perfect touch of cheesy suspense or upbeat dance music.

This adaptation by Peter Grecian features a cast comprised almost entirely of Winnipeggers and is intimately adapted to identify with our town by cutting to '50s style commercial breaks during the production for local companies like Salisbury House and McNally Robinson. The constant nods to Winnipeg will be sure to emotionally involve the audience's Christmas spirit, despite an uncharacteristic lack of winter weather.

LISTINGS: THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET performed by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet is on stage Dec. 19, 20, 22, 23, 27, 28 and 29.

The Manitoba Theatre Centre will turn the John Hirsch Theatre into a radio station circa 1940 for *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A RADIO PLAY*. You can tune in until Saturday, Dec. 19.

The Manitoba Theatre Centre presents *EAST OF BERLIN* until Saturday, Dec. 5 in the Tom Hendry Theatre in the MTC Warehouse.

GOOD VIBRATIONS: The *SUMMER OF '68* will make you nostalgic at Celebrations Dinner Theatre until Saturday, Jan. 9.

Leave your legacy in the Canwest Centre for Theatre & Film by making a donation and receiving a plaque on your own chair in the theatre.

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

Sunday night open mic comedy, featuring John B. Duff at the Cavern.

Every Tuesday night head down to the King's Head Pub for a free comedy performance.

The comedic timing of the actors is impeccable, from the one-liners from the stereotypical aging secretary and tiny tot.

As soon as the red light and "On Air" lights turn on, *It's a Wonderful Life* will no doubt leave an impression of nostalgia for simpler times - but through cheesy, corny methods help us realize that personal worth is not always based on cash, doggone it!

MOVIE REVIEW

The absurd and whimsical world of Helen Hill

Late Canadian animator's short films are rough, experimental and often liberating

ADAM KLASSEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF



Helen Hill in her makeshift film studio in Halifax. Hill, a celebrated animator, educator and activist, was murdered in 2007.

THE HOUSE OF SWEET MAGIC: FILMS BY HELEN HILL

Directed by Helen Hill
10 short films, 43 minutes
Plays at Cinematheque Saturday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.
Free admission. Introduction by Winnipeg animator Leslie Supnet.

★★★★☆

Potbellied pigs, teapots, eggs with wings and a love letter to Halifax's little known bohemian underbelly: all are captured on 16mm in the absurd and whimsical animated works of Helen Hill.

Hill first began making movies when she was 11. She spent her life creating, teaching and advocating for experimental animation both in Canada and the United States. Hill was also a social activist involved in many grassroots movements.

Hill's film career was tragically cut short when she was killed Jan. 4, 2007 in New Orleans. Her death was part of a string of eight unsolved homicides which occurred that fateful night.

The House of Sweet Magic is a collection of 10 of her best films.

Each film is a world unto itself and different from the one before, yet all come from the same determined, artistic vision.

Hill uses a number of animation techniques, from stop-motion animation to silhouettes, and some live action footage.

Lovingly made, handcrafted characters populate Hill's playfully bizarre tales of the rain dancing with a lone cowboy and the tragedy at the world's smallest fair.

Mouseholes and *Madame Winger Makes a Film: A Survival Guide for the 21st Century* are certainly the two standout shorts.

Madame Winger is a documentary on do-it-yourself film making as seen through the lens of a '60s Disney special.

How should one make a film when the apocalypse comes?

Hill gives us the proper steps to follow, putting the power of cinema back in the people's hands in a way that would make filmmaker Michel Gondry proud.

Mouseholes is a moving film about the death of a grandfather from his granddaughter's perspective. From a child's point of view we see a man larger than life, someone who could walk on his hands and who ends up at a tea party in heaven. We are shown the beauty of this man, something seen in his life and his death.

Hill's work gives the sense of a film student playing around. The films are rough, experimental and sometimes fail to work as a cohesive piece. Often they are about an idea more than a story, and there is little narrative push. Just as often, though, they are a triumph of will and ingenuity over budget.

Hill was an animator who thought everyone should be able to make a movie.

She knew that everyday objects held a hidden magic and was interested in capturing the absurdity of humanity. ♦

LISTINGS: FILM

HABANA BLUES is playing as part of the Cuban Film Festival at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Saturday, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m.

Every Monday until Dec. 29 the Rudolf Rucker Cultural Centre will host a movie night curated by T.B., Thor and Macho. 7:30 p.m.

There will be a screening of a rare episode of *VEGAS* at Into The Music, starring Wayne Newton, who will also be playing the same day at Club Regent. Monday, Dec. 14 with 4:30 and 5 p.m. showings.

THE AGE OF STUPID is a film in which an old man living in the year 2055 wonders why we didn't stop climate change when we had the chance. The film will screen at the Millennium Library on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 12:10 p.m. Free admission. >

MOVIE REVIEW

All that you can't leave behind

Brothers tackles the States side of war, and the struggle to go home again

JUSTIN LUSCHINSKI
VOLUNTEER



"Hey bro, how was war?" "Horrible, man. How was sleeping with my wife?" Toby Maguire and Jake Gyllenhaal in *Brothers*.

BROTHERS

Directed by Jim Sheridan, 2009
110 minutes
Opens Friday, Dec. 4

★★★★☆

Films centering around the war on terror aren't exactly a new thing in Hollywood, and it's fair to say that the horse is nearly dead by now.

However, *Brothers* director Jim Sheridan bravely takes on this well-worn subject matter and comes out with an incredibly powerful film.

Sheridan's remake of the 2004 Danish film of the same name follows Sam (Toby Maguire), a marine corporal who leaves home for his third tour of duty in Afghanistan, and his relationship with his estranged brother Tommy (Jake Gyllenhaal), a recently released ex-convict.

After Sam's helicopter is shot down and he is presumed dead, his wife Grace (Natalie Portman) finds herself falling for Tommy, as he steps in to fill Sam's role as her children's father.

When Sam suddenly returns - now just a ghost of the man she married, having been mentally scarred after enduring captivity at the hands of his enemies - she is torn between him and Tommy.

Local filmmaker Mike Maryniuk is releasing a DVD on Thursday, Dec. 3 at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

IT MIGHT GET LOUD with guitar gods Jimmy Page, Jack White and The Edge, playing at Cinematheque until Sunday, Dec. 6.

CINEMATHEQUE will be CLOSED from Monday, Dec. 7 until January.

The Cannes Lions will screen their award-winning commercials from Tuesday, Dec. 1 to Saturday, Dec. 12 at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. >

The entire cast is near pitch-perfect and Sheridan's hard work of bringing out each member's best performances has clearly paid off.

Maguire may not seem entirely believable as a hardened marine at first, with his high-pitched voice and his subdued manner, but it only takes a short while for Sam's war-worn, crippled soldier to come to life. Maguire's performance cuts deep.

In one agonizing scene, Sam's daughter, having a birthday party, begins to rub a balloon, creating an annoying sound. The noise causes Sam to relive parts of his horrifying experience, specifically gunfire in Afghanistan, and he snaps under the psychological pressure.

This incident is a stirring reminder of the destructive effects of war, as Sam can no longer relate to his own family and reacts by going ballistic.

These actors carry much of the film. Combined with the beautiful cinematography and crisp sound, there are many tense moments. Audience members will be on the edge of their seats as they await the next shocking moment.

Brothers is an intensely moving film, showing the horrific psychological and relational abuse war inflicts; even though you may physically leave it behind, perhaps the most difficult battle is the one when you get home. ♦

A new monthly documentary series entitled *OUTSIDER ASYLUM* airs the last Thursday of every month at the Ellice Theatre. 8 p.m.

A group of creative students in the University of Winnipeg's theatre and film department has produced an irreverent video called *HINI SURVIVAL GUIDE* to demonstrate the dos and don'ts of HINI etiquette. It runs approximately two-and-a-half minutes and you can view it on YouTube. Visit www.tinyurl.com/hlnlvid. ♦

Arts Briefs

Compiled by Sam Hagenlocher

MAN'S BREAST FRIEND

Cosmetic surgery for dogs?

A group of retired rescue dogs recently underwent the canine equivalent of breast reduction surgery, reported the *Telegraph*.

The black Labradors, owned by kennel in Brentwood, England, needed to enhance their declining looks if they wanted to be adopted.

After years of over-breeding, the dogs were left with huge, sagging teats, which even touched the ground, and prevented them from finding a suitable home until now said Wallace Kennels.

"It didn't look very nice and people just could not see past that - you could see it in their faces," said shelter co-ordinator Teresa Bartholomew.

The surgery appeared to be a success, as the dogs found suitable homes mere weeks after the surgery was completed.

Dog lovers can be so fickle.

NOW IT'S OFFICIAL

What is the measure of a man? Thailand's Public Health Ministry intends to find out.

The ministry recently introduced its *Official Penis Measuring Device*, as part of its "Condom For All" campaign, reported *Asia One*.

The device, which is a disposable paper measuring tape, will allow men to know exactly what size of latex-based protection they require, in turn providing the best comfort and protection.

The tape can record widths between 49 and 56 millimetres, which Dr. Somyos Kittimankhong of the Department of Disease Control described as the "Thai penis size standard."

"Larger size condoms can slip off or deaden the pleasure during sex, while smaller ones will cause discomfort to wearers. These factors dissuade people from using condoms," said Somyos.

Unfortunately the good doctor failed to mention how someone with a smaller or larger member than "the standard" could participate.

BAD INVENTIONS

Life has recently compiled a list of the "30 dumbest inventions" to have graced their pages since the magazine was first printed in 1883.

The unfortunate entrepreneurs are featured along with their ridiculous inventions, such as Hollywood inventor Joe Gilpin.

Gilpin rides his motorized surfboard, while Robert L. Stern smokes with his "rainy day cigarette holder" - a miniature parasail mounted to keep the water away from the lit end.

Other idiotic inventions include John H T Rinfret's "anti-bandit bag" (if someone attempts to thwart this device, the contents of the bag will empty directly out the bottom - how this will prevent people from stealing is uncertain), the always popular "baby cage" (which is literally a cage to keep your baby in that hangs out your 10-storey window), and lastly, L. Ron Hubbard's "electrometer," which is, of course, used to determine whether tomatoes feel pain.

WATCH OUT, MANITOBAN

As anyone who's worked at a newspaper knows, feuds between editors can get ugly.

But when your way of getting back at a rival editor is to have a giant naked depiction of him on the side of your building, perhaps you've gone too far.

German left-wing newspaper *Die Tageszeitung* erected such an effigy last week, reported *The Local*.

The depiction was of rival right-wing newspaper *Bild* editor-in-chief Kai Diekmann, naked and sporting a 16-metre-long penis. The penis scales the entire building's facade and becomes a cobra at its tip.

The question of whether this is an insult or a compliment to Mr. Diekmann remains unanswered.

Drawing on the rules of the new age

Sketch artist's surreal *New World Aristocracy* explores identity, conflict and colonization

JAMES CULLETON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

"With every meeting of cultures there is struggle," reads Ted Barker's artist statement for his new exhibition, *New World Aristocracy*, at the Semai Gallery.

The struggle Barker's statement references is the conflict of man versus nature. Yet Barker's drawings don't portray any physical struggle. The figures in his drawings are calm and composed.

The staged quality of the portraits is hard to ignore. Barker feels that his drawings mimic the pieces they were derived from.

These men, who initially posed with such confidence, are now posing to prove they have tamed the wilderness. But clearly the wilderness has tamed them.

Barker's drawings investigate the dialogue between these two vastly different elements that are part of Canada's origins: European-looking men and the untamed wilderness.

Intriguingly, Baker has chosen to keep all his pieces untitled and his figures anonymous.

"By keeping the figures ambiguous, they become represen-

tatives of a greater whole," he stated.

Technically strong, Barker's drawings are visually engaging, with detailed depictions of hands, furniture, clothes, animals and faces full of character within each composition.

The most impressive drawings are the full-body portraits of figures sitting on ornate chairs.

Barker's drawings are able to communicate these unbelievable situations no matter how surreal they appear. He fabricates a new and believable history in this latest series of drawings despite their surrealistic nature.

Very serious looking men with feathers in their beards or birds on their heads sounds comical, but it actually looks incredibly believable.

Old world etchings and photographs inspired Barker's series of portraiture. In describing his process, Barker said he collages collected visual elements using Photoshop and then reworks these new images, rendering them in graphite. The transfer back to graphite is important because it brings the work back to looking like an old etching again.

This collection of 11 drawings is an evolution of Barker's thesis at the University of Manitoba (where he received his BFA in 2007), as his depictions of politicians in the wild began to take the form of painting.

Barker is currently working on a new collection of paintings.

With *New World Aristocracy*, Barker raises some interesting questions about identity, especially in reference to our history



I never forget a face, let alone a turkey face: One of Ted Barker's bizarre sketches.

as Canadians.

How much of a role does our Canadian wilderness play in who we are?

With these drawings he succeeds in his "desire to make sense of one's identity and the identity of one's home," not by offering solutions to who we are, but by

raising questions about who we think we were.

New World Aristocracy runs until Thursday, Dec. 17 at the Semai Gallery (264 McDermot Ave.).

LISTINGS: GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

HUMAN COMMUNICATION: ART is an exhibition by JOLANTA SOKALSKA and ZBIGNIEW SOKALSKI opening Friday, Dec. 4 and running until Tuesday, Dec. 8 at the CreBery.

ON THE ROAD is asking artists for submissions for their travelling art gallery. Visit www.urbanshaman.org for more information.

After a big success last year the Franco-Manitoban Cultural Centre is bringing back THE CHRISTMAS MARKET from Friday, Dec. 4 to Sunday, Dec. 6.

The Winnipeg Arts Council will have its holiday open house Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 4 to 7 p.m.

The Wayne Arthur Gallery presents its annual group show 50 MANITOBA STORIES until Wednesday, Dec. 30.

WRITE HANDED, a collection of recent works by CYRUS SMITH, will be on display at Golden City Fine Art until Saturday, Dec. 26.

THE ACE ART WINTER WARMER members' show and sale runs until Saturday, Dec. 12.

Find some holiday deals at the Forum Art Centre's AFFORDABLE ART SALE from Friday, Dec. 4 to Tuesday, Dec. 8.

PERSPECTIVES by ROBERT HOULE and TIM SCHOUTEN is at the Buhler Gallery until Sunday, Jan. 17.

From Thursday, Dec. 10 to Saturday, Dec. 19 the CreBery hosts IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR, new works by REETBOT. Wear your ugliest sweater to the opening.

Gallery 1C03 presents THE PINKY SHOW: CLASS TREASON STORIES until Saturday, Dec. 12.

The Urban Shaman Gallery will be holding its 6TH ANNUAL MEMBERS SHOW AND SALE until Saturday, Dec. 19.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery presents RICHARD HARRINGTON: ARCTIC EXPLORER until Sunday, March 14.

PRESSURE POINTS at the Outworks Gallery brings together a number of artists to explore the theme of pressure. The exhibition is on display until Sunday, Dec. 13.

The Graffiti Gallery presents LEGENDS, HEROES, MYTHS AND SUCH, a collection from an assortment of local artists until Friday, Jan. 15.

The Semai Gallery has on display the collection NEW WORLD

ARISTOCRACY by TED BARKER until Thursday, Dec. 17.

The Centennial Concert Hall will host its first artist exhibition in its huge mezzanine when KATHLEEN BLACK and LESLY DAWYDUK have their works on display until Friday, Dec. 11.

Platform Centre for Photographic and Digital Arts presents ADDED VALUE, artwork by STEPHANIE AITKEN, STEPHEN ANDREWS, CHRIS DOROSZ and JANET WERNER. The exhibition will be up until Saturday, Dec. 19.

On Friday, Dec. 11 the Urban Shaman Gallery will host HOLIDAY ROMP: JIMMIE BUFFET DAY at 8 p.m.

The Canadian premiere of CUBA AVANT GARDE is on display at the Winnipeg Art Gallery until Sunday, Jan. 10.

Until Sunday, Jan. 3 the WINNIPEG ART GALLERY has on display photographic portraits by YOUSUF KARSH. Some of the famous faces include Muhammad Ali, Winston Churchill, Audrey Hepburn, Grey Owl and Pierre Trudeau.

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

LISTINGS: LITERATURE

After throwing the best graveyard party in North America, McNally Robinson Polo Park has won an appearance by author NEIL GAIMAN. Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m.

RPM's MISCELLANEOUS BOOK by ROGER P. MOUFLIER is being released Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Osborne Village Zoo.

The deadline for the Manitoba Historical Society MARGARET MCWILLIAMS BOOK AWARDS is Tuesday, Dec. 15. Visit www.mhs.mb.ca for more information.

A dramatic reading of Charles Dickens' A CHRISTMAS CAROL featuring the vocal talents of RON ROBINSON, MARILYN MAKI, MARGAUX WATT, GORD LECLERC and CARSON NATTRASS will take place Friday, Dec. 11 at Crescent Fort Rouge United Church. 7:30 p.m.

Entries are now being accepted for the MANITOBA BOOK AWARDS. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, Dec. 9. Go to www.manitobabookawards.com for more information.

JUICE, the University of Winnipeg's Creative Writing Journal, is now looking for student and alumni submissions. Submit up to 10 pages maximum of prose, poetry, drama, fiction or creative non-fiction. Deadline for entry is Friday, Jan. 15.

CHOOSE FROM
OVER 55,000 DVDs

MOVIE
VILLAGE
BUY
SELL
TRADE
RENT

WE BUY
MOVIES & GAMES

57 OSBORNE ST ~ movievillage.ca ~ 477-5566

MOSMA | Mid-Ocean School of Media Arts



"Learn the Art of Audio Production Through A SOUND Education"

For more information or to Book a Tour:
1588 Erin Street, Winnipeg, MB
(204) 775-3308

info@midoceanschool.ca
www.midoceanschool.ca

Nothing to do over
the holiday break?

Everything we've published since
2005 is online at WWW.UNITER.CA

Pop musicians starting to pipe up

Bagpipe renaissance sparks renewed interest in old art form

CAITLIN LAIRD
BEAT REPORTER

In the First and Second World War, a massive regiment of bagpipers would play on the battlefields to rattle the enemy and advance military columns.

The wall of sound they created would drown out the bullets and sounds of war.

Some were shot.

There is also evidence of piping in a rudimentary form as early as ancient Egypt.

During British oppression in Scotland, the bagpipes were outlawed.

Today, bagpiping is perhaps the most competitive instrumental undertaking there is.

Pipers play competitively as individuals or in bands, led by a pipe major.

The paramilitary structure of bands and the nature of competition has remained, but that traditional element is now being combined with a more open and varied interpretation of the music itself.

"Bagpiping is experiencing a re-



naissance. There is renewed interest in learning the instrument as more people are exposed to bagpipes in different, less traditional ways," said Robyn McCombe, vice president of the Prairie Pipe Band Association and piper of 46 years.

"Technology has changed the music itself and the Internet allows people more opportunities to watch pipers play."

University of Winnipeg education student Graeme McCombe (Robyn McCombe's son) has played pipes in celtic rock band Banshees Wail and the traditional Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band, which tours Canada and Scotland competitively.

"Bands are now writing more modern music. I've noticed a shift from when I began playing nine years ago. There has been a movement away from the old school," explained McCombe.

Newer artists, like bagpiper Mark Saul, have combined bagpiping with techno, and have created an entirely new sub-genre of music.

While bagpipes are beginning

to appear in pop music more frequently, competition remains for some as intense and regimented as those pipers who were incorporated into the British army.

Especially competitive and ardent pipers can also now receive specialized instruction online via Skype.

The Olympic equivalent of bagpiping is held in Glasgow each year and is known as the World Pipe Band Championships.

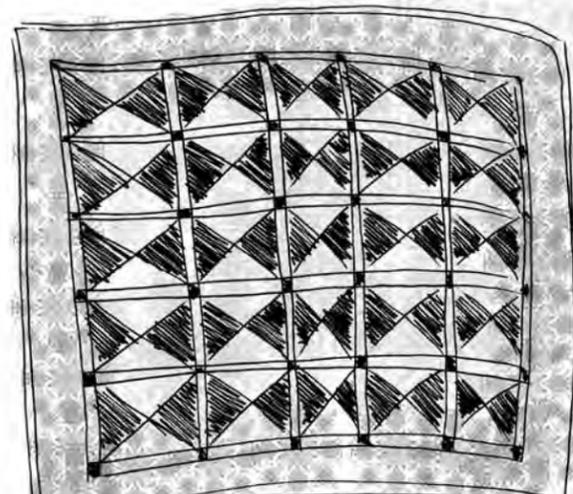
This year, Canadian pipe band Simon Fraser took the worlds for the second year in a row.

One outcome of the bagpipe resurgence means an evolution away from older tunes – the traditional marches and ceremonial melodies – and towards a more symphonic sound.

No longer a military staple, the focus for players has shifted towards performance and competition.

The popularization of the more orchestral side of pop music has yielded a much wider appeal for this ancient instrument, and it doesn't appear to be slowing down any time soon.

Addicted to the craft of crafts



The annual tradition of buying and selling homemade wares is a surprisingly young phenomenon

CAITLIN LAIRD
BEAT REPORTER

December may as well be designated craft-sale season.

Every weekend from now until the big day, churches, community centres and even private parties will be inundated with homemade, handcrafted wares courtesy of avid local crafters.

Craft sales first reared their crocheted heads around 15 years ago, according to Fay Thomas, co-owner of Dalcrafts.

"We opened when craft sales first began, and that's when I got my start in crafting. Since then, larger, non-local chains like Michael's and Dollarama set up shop here and because their price point is so efficient, crafting has waned a little," Thomas explained.

Thomas added that it's the recycling and revising of crafting trends that keeps the hobby fresh and ever-changing.

One such phenomenon occurred with the increasing popularity of scrapbooking about five years ago.

Thomas expanded her business to focus more exclusively on scrapbooking and began to offer scrapbooking lessons to individuals hoping to master the necessary skills to artfully re-imagine their lives and memories.

"For about two years scrapbook-

ing skyrocketed. Stores devoted to it were popping up everywhere. Now it has levelled off," said Thomas.

The new wave in crafting appears to be an off-shoot of the scrapbooking phenomenon: card making.

"Now 50 per cent of our business is scrapbooking, and the other 50 per cent is card making," Thomas said.

Aesthetic leanings in modern card making include the addition of ultra-fine glitter and the incorporation of 3D elements.

While it may seem antithetical to the process of crafting to receive instruction, many modern crafters go for the individualized experience lessons provide.

There is also a growing market for crafters skilled enough to turn a profit with their creations to individualize the shopping experience for purchasers interested in their one of a kind items.

"I make most of my money from private parties. I do craft shows and I also have a website, but sometimes you can't get a feel for what the item really looks like online. The people who attend private parties want to be there," said crafting entrepreneur Donna Goodman.

Goodman sells jewelry which she makes using lampwork beads, which can be made by the crafter themselves or purchased and then fashioned into a variety of accessories.

Goodman distills the crafting phenomenon to two elements: addiction and the search for authenticity.

"When you start crafting, it's addicting. Then you need an outlet for all of your creations. People who buy handmaid goods are looking for something one-of-a-kind; something that was made just for them."

Teach English Abroad



TESOL/TESL Teacher Training Certification Courses

- Intensive 60-Hour Program
- Classroom Management Techniques
- Detailed Lesson Planning
- ESL Skills Development
- Comprehensive Teaching Materials
- Interactive Teaching Practicum
- Internationally Recognized Certificate
- Teacher Placement Service
- Money-Back Guarantee Included
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

OXFORD SEMINARS
1-800-269-6719/604-683-3430
www.oxfordseminars.ca



Opening Dec 7th.

Coffee.

Lunch.



Mon-Fri (9:30 am - 3 pm)
vegetarian/vegan/carnivore friendly
48 Albert Street in the Albert (duh!)
* free wifi

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG AWARDS:

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

WORK STUDY PROGRAM

Project descriptions and applications for the 2009-10 Work Study Program are available in Student Services (located on the first floor of Graham Hall) or in Student Central (on the first floor of Centennial Hall). You can also obtain project descriptions and application forms from the Awards & Financial Aid website: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awards-work-study-program>.

To be eligible for the Work Study Program, you must:

- Be registered in a degree program at the University of Winnipeg in the 2009/10 academic year on a full-time basis as defined by the Manitoba Student Assistance Program (18 credit hour minimum)
- Have successfully completed 30 credit hours (GPA of 2.0 or higher)
- Be on Regular Status at the University of Winnipeg
- Receive a government student loan of at least \$1,000 for 2009/10 as a result of the financial need assessment done by the Manitoba Student Financial Assistance Program or another province's student aid office OR obtain a student line-of-credit or student bank loan for 2009/10 of at least \$1,000

Deadline: Oct. 16, 2009.

Late applications are being accepted for position numbers: 1, 4, 7, 13, 16, 17, 27, 28, 32 & 40.

Note: You can apply for a maximum of four positions and cannot be hired for more than one.

WINNIPEG EDUCATION CENTRE B.ED. PROGRAM BURSARIES FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

Two bursaries are available for aboriginal students in the B.Ed. program. Application forms are available from the Awards & Financial Aid Office in Student Services (first floor Graham Hall) or on our website.

Deadline: Dec. 11, 2009

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BURSARY PROGRAM

International students who are attending the University of Winnipeg and who have financial need may apply for bursary assistance. Application forms will be available in Student Services (first floor Graham Hall) or Student Central (first floor Centennial Hall) or on our website.

Deadline: Dec. 22, 2009

GENERAL BURSARY PROGRAM

Bursaries are supplementary financial assistance awards, normally \$300-\$750 in value. In order to be considered, you must prove financial need and you must be making satisfactory academic progress (i.e. maintaining a "C" average). Since funds are limited, not everyone who qualifies will receive a bursary. Application forms will be available in Student Services (first floor Graham Hall) or Student Central (first floor Centennial Hall) or on our website.

Deadline: Jan. 29, 2010

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES APPLICATION EXPENSES BURSARY

The purpose of this bursary fund is to provide some assistance to students with respect to the high costs associated with applying to Graduate and Professional Schools. Application forms are available from the Awards & Financial Aid Office in Student Services (first floor Graham Hall)

or on our website. Students may apply any time during the Fall/Winter academic year, provided that funding is available for this bursary. Applications will be evaluated on a first-come, first-serve basis.

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 their website www.aucc.ca and look under the heading Scholarships and Internships for Canadian Students.

Deadlines: Various

IDRC/CRDI AWARDS

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a Canadian crown corporation that works in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable and more prosperous societies. Various research and academic awards are available for application. Please visit their website for more information on their award programs: www.idrc.ca/awards.

BRIDGET WALSH SCHOLARSHIP

The Bridget Walsh Scholarship was created from the royalties of Sheelagh Conway's book *The Faraway Hill Are Green: Voices of Irish Women in Canada*. In recognition of the Canadian women whose stories are told in the book, Ms. Conway donates half the royalties to low-income, single-parent, Irish women in Canada wishing to pursue a university or college education.

Contact:

Chairperson, Bridget Walsh Scholarship
205 Mountainview Road North
Georgetown, ON L7G 4T8
Tel. (905) 873-0873

Deadline: Dec. 15, 2009

WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY AWARDS

If you are a female head of a household with one or more dependents, are attending an undergraduate degree program or vocational training program as a mature student, and are in need of financial assistance to complete your education, you are eligible for a Women's Opportunity Award offered by Soroptomist International of Winnipeg. For more information contact Heather Menzies at 475-2526 or email: hgm16@mts.net.

Deadline: Dec. 15, 2009

READING COUNCIL OF GREATER WINNIPEG 50TH ANNIVERSARY SCHOLARSHIP

Qualifications:

- enrolled in a Bachelor of Education Degree program in Winnipeg, Man.
- plans to teach in the Manitoba education system upon graduation
- resides in the province of Manitoba
- committed to furthering literacy and language arts skills of all students

Background:

Two scholarships (\$500 each) have been established to commemorate the charter of the Reading Council of Greater Winnipeg (RCGW) in 1956 and also recognize the visionary teachers from Winnipeg who formed the first council in Canada. RCGW is an affiliate of the International Reading Association which is made up of 90,000 literacy educators worldwide. This award is created to support tuition and material

costs. All applications will be given a fair and careful review by a standing committee.

Application Requirements:

- a personal statement of educational and career goals
- a short paper detailing your vision for and commitment to literacy education in Manitoba for children and youth (approx. 500 words)
- a short resume
- a letter of reference from a teacher or professor

- proof of continuing university studies (enrolment), standing and expected graduation date

Submit completed applications to: RCGW Scholarship Committee c/o Committee Chair, 320 Mountain Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R2W 1K1.

Deadline: Jan. 8, 2010

Note: Successful recipients will be notified by Feb. 1, 2010.

CEMF/FCGC SCHOLARSHIPS

1. The \$10,000 undergraduate CEMF 20th Anniversary National Scholarship for Women in Engineering is only available in 2010 to a Canadian woman in either their first, second or third year of study in an accredited engineering program in Canada. The winner will act as a mentor to other young women to encourage them to pursue a career in engineering.

2. The Foundation awards five \$5,000 Undergraduate Engineering Scholarships annually to women enrolled in an accredited engineering program in Canada. A scholarship is awarded in the British Columbia, Prairie, Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic regions.

3. The Vale Inco Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship annually awards three \$10,000 scholarships to women enrolled full-time in engineering at the undergraduate level. These scholarships may also come with a summer job opportunity at one of the numerous Vale Inco facilities across Canada. All applications and criteria are available on their website: www.cemf.ca.

Deadline: Jan. 15, 2010

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CANADA INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIPS

Export Development Canada (EDC) is offering as many as 30 scholarships, 25 of which recognize exceptional students in the field of international business or economics. The remaining five scholarships will be awarded to outstanding business students who combine these fields with a focus on sustainable management or environmental studies. The scholarship winners will receive \$3,000 cash award and, if eligible, a possible four-month work term for the summer of 2010 worth approximately \$10,000. The work term includes mentoring from leading industry experts at EDC's head office in Ottawa.

For more details or to apply, please visit their website: www.edc.ca/scholarships.

Deadline: Jan. 25, 2010

SCOLA ANNUAL STUDENT ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP 2009

SCOLA's mission is to help the people of the world learn more about one another: their cultures, their languages and their ideologies. SCOLA emphasizes the importance and effectiveness of modern information technology as a tool in overcoming barriers to global understanding and should remain at the forefront of its application.

ESSAY TOPIC: How has SCOLA positively impacted you in the learning of language and culture?

Submissions must be from students enrolled in a degree-granting program at a university or college, elementary or secondary school, or at language school which is a SCOLA affiliate in good standing at the time of the

submission. Each essay must be original work prepared by one author and only one essay may be submitted by each contestant. Each contestant must complete and attach a student entry form. A faculty member from the student's school must be willing to certify that to the best of their knowledge, the work is original. Entries must be typed in English; documents may be written in the body of the email or may be submitted as an attachment written in Microsoft Word, Text or PDF. The essay text must not exceed 500 words for students in grades K-12 or 1000 words for those in institutions of higher education. Each essay must include a title page, not considered text, with the following information: essay title, author's name, school name, school address and school telephone number. The title of the essay, but *not* the author's name, must appear on the top of the first page of essay text. References should be included and clearly identified. Failure to follow any of these rules may lead to disqualification from the contest. Entries may be submitted online to scola@scola.org with the subject line "Essay Contest," or by post to the address listed on the Student Entry Form, which are available from the Awards & Financial Aid office (located on the first floor of Graham Hall).

Deadline: Jan. 29, 2010

GENERAL ELECTRIC (GE) FOUNDATION SCHOLAR-LEADERS PROGRAM

A \$4,000 per year scholarship for second, third and fourth year students' undergraduate program is available to Aboriginal peoples, women in engineering programs and persons with disabilities who are Canadian residents, first-year full-time students at a Canadian university and studying engineering or business/management with high academic performance and who demonstrate financial need. Recipients will also have an opportunity to be mentored by a business leader at GE in Canada, be included in GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders activities and participate in community development projects. Go to their website at www.scholarshipandmore.org to complete and submit an application.

Deadline: Jan. 31, 2010

MANITOBA STUDENT AID PROGRAM (MSAP)

Manitoba Student Aid is now accepting applications for the 2010 Winter session. Students can apply online at www.manitobastudentaid.ca

New to the Student Aid program this year are a series of grants and bursaries:

- Canada Student Grant for Students from Low-income Families
- Canada Student Grant for Students from Middle-income Families
- Canada Student Grant for Students with Dependents
- Rural/Northern Bursary

These grants are the first money students will receive in their financial aid packages, before any loans are awarded. Many students may, in fact, receive the

majority of their financial assistance in the form of grants.

Be sure to apply early and to submit all requested documentation as soon as possible to ensure that you receive all the grant funds for which you are eligible.

PROCEDURES:

Confirmation of Enrolment & Release of Government Student Aid Documents

Approximately three weeks before classes begin, the Manitoba Student Aid Program (MSAP) will begin printing official assistance documents for students whose MSAP documentation and university course registration are in order. MSAP will mail the documents to students at the addresses they have provided on their MSAP applications. The document you receive already will have been electronically approved by the Awards & Financial Aid Office. It will indicate the fees you owe to the University of Winnipeg. These fees will be deducted from your student aid.

If the document is a Canada Student Financial Assistance document, you should take it to an approved Canada Post outlet for forwarding to the National Student Loan Centre.

If the document is a Manitoba Student Aid document, you should forward it to the MSAP Loan Administration Department.

The National Student Loan Centre of the MSAP Loan Administration Department will process the document, transferring the fee payment portion directly to the university and depositing any additional balance to your account. Instructions on these processes will be included in your student aid document package.

Course Load

The minimum course load for which you must register to be eligible for any form of government student assistance is 60 per cent of the maximum course load required for your study period:

- Fall/Winter academic year - 18 credit hours
- Fall Term or Winter Term only - 9 credit hours which begin and end within that term

You must maintain the appropriate minimum course load for your study period in order to retain your student assistance eligibility.

Registration at Another Post-Secondary Institution

If in addition to University of Winnipeg courses you are registered and taking courses elsewhere during the academic year for credit towards your University of Winnipeg degree, you must present proof of registration to the Awards & Financial Aid Office before your student assistance document can be authorized and released to you.

Fee Payment

Your fees will be deducted from the student assistance document when it is electronically approved by the university. Government Student Aid is used first to meet educational costs. All overdue fees and emergency loans as well as fees for

the current study period will be deducted from the student aid document. If your student assistance does not cover your required fee payment, you will have to make payment on your own by the fee payment deadline. Credits for scholarships you may be receiving will reduce the amount of fees deducted from the student aid document.

Fee Deferral

The Awards & Financial Aid Office can defer your fees if you have applied for Government Student Aid but have not received your confirmed assistance document by the fee payment deadline. Fee deferral means that your registration will not be cancelled because of your failure to pay by the deadline. However, you will be charged the late payment fee unless you have submitted your Student Aid application in sufficient time for it to be processed by the payment deadline.

If your name is on the Awards & Financial Aid Office fee deferral list but you withdraw from university courses, you will be responsible for the fees you owe until your actual date of withdrawal.

If you are out of funds before your next disbursement of Government Student Aid occurs, you can arrange for bridge financing from the university in the form of an emergency loan. Please call 786-9458 for an appointment.

DID YOU KNOW... That Manitoba Student Aid staff can be on campus on Fridays from 1 - 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.

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 online? Go to www.manitobastudentaid.ca and then 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, you can 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.

OTHER AWARD WEBSITES:

Canada Student Loan program & 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

Solutions to the puzzles on page 19.

9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
4	2	1	8	9	3	6	5	7
3	9	7	2	1	6	8	4	5
2	8	4	6	7	5	3	9	6
5	3	7	2	8	1	9	4	6
6	1	9	4	3	5	8	7	2
7	6	4	5	1	8	2	9	3
8	3	2	9	6	4	7	1	5
1	9	5	3	7	2	4	6	8

A	T	A	A	E	A	R	A	R	O	R	S
A	I	S	A	R	I	R	E	R	E	T	E
N	E	E	X	A	J	A	N	I	T	A	N
N	E	N	E	C	A	V	I	A	R	T	I
				T	N	T	P	T	A	C	C
A	R	A	A	S	M	A	E	R	O	E	F
D	H	A	A	N	D	I	Q	D	I	K	E
I	A	I	S	N	N	I	S	T	A	N	N
A	B	A	G	E	U	R	G	E	I	L	E
O	G	T	E	L	E	L	X	A	V	A	L
N	T	S	C	S	S	A	V	S	A	P	R
I	A	P	I	A	S	A	R	S	A	R	E
E	R	A	S	E	R	A	S	T	U	S	T
N	I	T	L	E	A	M	A	M	A	T	A



Harry Potter and the Scourge of Douchiness

For some reason, I've been getting a lot of e-mails recently, all asking me the same question.

So, I'd like to address this question and put it to rest so I can spend less time reading e-mails and more time complaining about the fact that no one e-mails me.

The question that so many people have been asking me is this: Why is Harry Potter so popular?

Let me start by saying that I'm not entirely sure why so many people are asking me this question. I'm certainly no expert on the subject, but I'll certainly take my best stab at answering it.

I think one of the main reasons that the Harry Potter books and films have enjoyed such immense success and popularity is that, for whatever reason, people tend to like douchey things.

Now, don't get me wrong, I certainly don't mean to imply that the Harry Potter books and films are douchey. I mean to flat-out, explicitly say that they are douchey; that douchiness is incorporated into every aspect of the stories.

Take setting for example. It's very difficult to imagine a setting more douchey than a finishing school for wizards, where students take classes in subjects like "Broom Ridership" and "Spell Casting." This kind of pure douchery is no accident. J.K. Rowling worked diligently to achieve the ultimate douchey setting for her douchey characters and their douchey adventures. This brings me to the next element: characters.

The characters in the Harry Potter series are insanely douchey, each in their own way.

Take Harry himself. We're supposed to just accept a dorky little protagonist who wears glasses? Everyone knows that heroes don't wear glasses. Did Kevin Bacon wear glasses in *Footloose*? No. Did Garfield wear glasses in *A Tale of Two Kitties*? No. Did Superman wear glasses? Well, admittedly yes, but only when he was trying to make people think he was a douche.

Finally, no really douchey book or film would be complete without a really douchey plot. The Harry Potter series has this in spades.

The plots in the series are always based around some problem that for some reason only Potter can solve. This is pretty common in this type of fiction.

The real douchiness occurs when we examine how these problems are solved. In my mind, the scene that sums up my point best is the one where Potter and his two douchey friends are forced to play a real-life game of chess to gain access to some chamber or something.

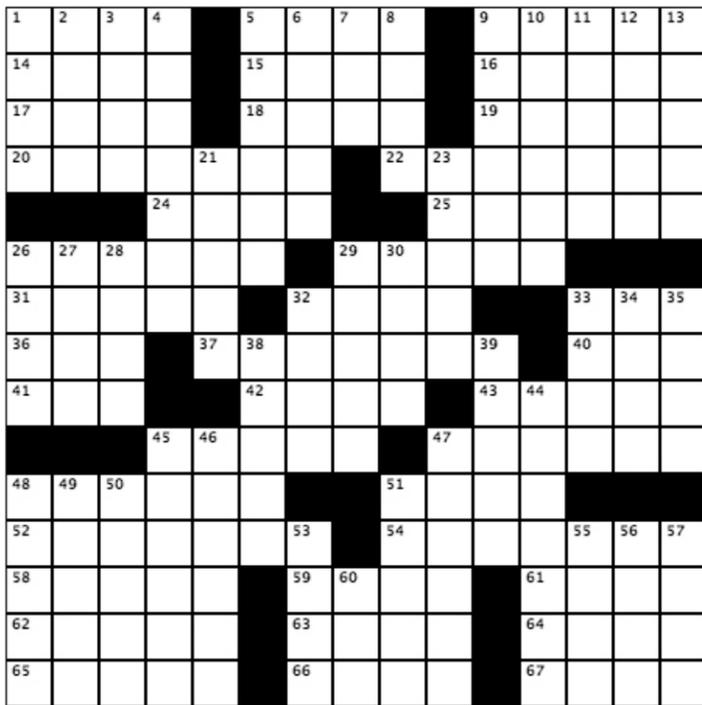
Each character ends up riding one of the pieces on the board until the game is won. How the hell can anyone take this shit seriously?

Maybe the reason that the Harry Potter series has become so popular is that it's like a dog with a big tumour on its butt hole. It's horrible, but no matter how hard you try, you just can't look away.

J. Williams will also reply to e-mails about things that matter, like fan mail. Check him out at Shannon's Irish Pub every Wednesday night.

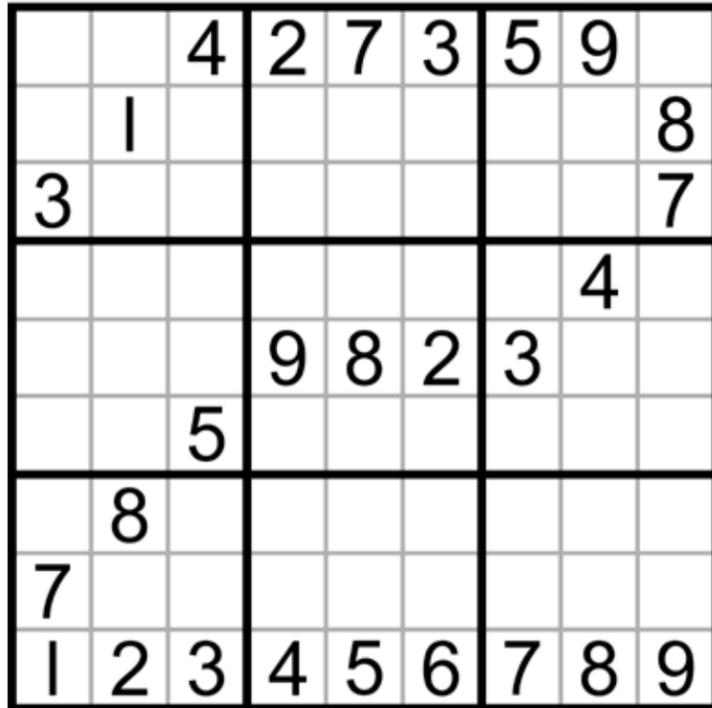
Crossword Puzzle 14

Solutions to crossword and sudoku appear on page 18. The next Uniter is published January 14th.



BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

Sudoku Octagon



will.octagon.gibson@gmail.com

Across

- 1- Cheerio!
- 5- Baby's cry
- 9- Admit
- 14- Norwegian king
- 15- Expel
- 16- Clear the board
- 17- Free from contamination
- 18- Bear in the sky
- 19- Photographic tone
- 20- Emblem
- 22- Decline
- 24- Jump on the ice
- 25- Releases
- 26- Lumberjack
- 29- Roof overhangs
- 31- Crude carrier
- 32- Exhort
- 33- Attorney's org.
- 36- Vane dir.
- 37- A little brown
- 40- Moo goo ___ pan
- 41- Tina's ex
- 42- Thor's father
- 43- Oohed and ___
- 45- N Atlantic archipelago
- 47- Capital of Eritrea
- 48- Take
- 51- Env. notation
- 52- Pertaining to Mars
- 54- Hot biting condiment
- 58- Writer Loos
- 59- Trojan War hero
- 61- Observed
- 62- Guide
- 63- Delhi wrap
- 64- Brit's exclamation
- 65- Grieved
- 66- Calculus calculation
- 67- Hammett hound

Down

- 1- Pith helmet
- 2- Grad
- 3- Diamond cover
- 4- Typical
- 5- Animal that catches mice
- 6- Otic
- 7- Ed.'s pile
- 8- Not much
- 9- Person with a flat, say
- 10- Builds
- 11- Ribbons
- 12- Of Thee ___
- 13- Cool!
- 21- Bring to bear
- 23- Santa's aides
- 26- Burt's ex
- 27- Hog sound
- 28- Elation
- 29- Bert's buddy
- 30- Not "fer"
- 32- Go back, in a way
- 33- Turkish honorific
- 34- Boxer Max
- 35- Verdi opera
- 38- Artery that feeds the trunk
- 39- Hurried
- 44- Loss of memory
- 45- Shackle
- 46- Place for beehives
- 47- Loss of muscle coordination
- 48- Collect
- 49- Division of a long poem
- 50- Old newsman
- 51- Without ___ in the world
- 53- American space agency
- 55- Capone's nemesis
- 56- Tidy, without fault
- 57- "Orinoco Flow" singer
- 60- Glass container

Eat, drink and be merry without adding notches to your belt



LIVING WELL



SAGAN MORROW
STAFF WRITER

Holidays signal a break from work, spending time with family and... food. What would the winter holidays be without bowls of butter-smothered vegetables, crispy turkey skin, creamy eggnog and decadently rich desserts?

The problem with all of these tasty foods is that they expand our waistlines substantially. To prevent yourself from falling into the trap of gaining excess weight this holiday season, make these guilt-free substitu-

tions. You won't notice a difference in the taste – and you won't notice your clothing size increase, either.

⇒ Reduce the amount of sugar the recipe calls for by ¼. Reducing it by this much won't change the texture or the taste.

⇒ Instead of using regular white sugar, use organic cane sugar. It isn't by any means "healthy," but it's much less processed than white sugar and that is *always* a good thing.

⇒ Agave nectar is an all-natural liquid sweetener that tastes very much like honey, but it has little effect on blood sugar levels. It also tastes much sweeter than regular sugar, which means that you don't need as much of it in the recipe. Use it any time you'd use regular sugar; just make sure that you reduce some of the liquid in the recipe to compensate, as well.

⇒ Exchange white flour for whole wheat, spelt or buckwheat. Experiment with different kinds of flour for a variety of nutrients and flavours. Whole-wheat pastry flour is a good choice for both pastries and cookies.

⇒ Browning bananas are incredibly sweet, so mash them and use them to replace some of the sugar in baked goods. Applesauce, dried dates blended in the food processor or any kind of fruit puree works well

too. Mashed beans and vegetables such as avocado or sweet potato can also be used to replace half the fat in a recipe.

⇒ Use yogurt, skim or 1% milk in recipes that call for fattier milk, sour cream or mayonnaise. Thicken it with either arrowroot or flour for creamy texture.

⇒ Herbs and spices have countless healing properties. Cinnamon is particularly rich in antioxidants and it also boosts metabolism and aids digestion. It adds tonnes of flavour to any recipe, so pile it and any other herbs and spices you enjoy into your cooking and baked goods!

⇒ Just as herbs and spices add plenty of flavour without the calories to your dishes, play around with lemon juice, vinegar and vanilla or almond extract for extra zest in any meal.

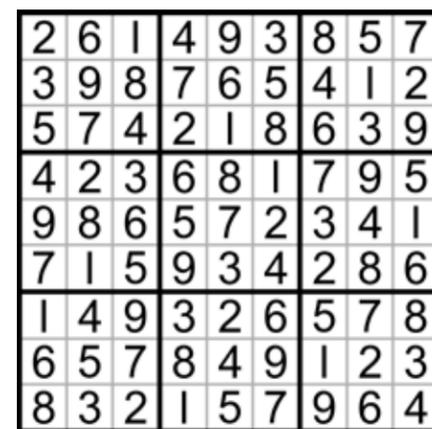
⇒ Instead of using large quantities of butter or oil in pans, put olive oil (or any oil of your choice) in a spray canister and spritz just a small amount instead. Or use non-stick pans.

⇒ Spread parchment paper across a baking sheet in place of greasing the sheet.

University of Winnipeg student Sagan Morrow writes a health and wellness blog. Check it out at <http://livingintherealworld.net/healthy/>.

Solutions to last issue's puzzles

(Nov 26) are below. This issue's solutions appear on page 18.



Holiday Gift Guide 101



KATHLEEN CERRER
STAFF WRITER

The holiday season is upon us and with that comes the stresses of preparing for functions and shopping for presents.

The last thing we need on top of studying for exams is added stress when it comes to finding gifts. That said, we also don't want to be left scrambling last minute with scraps and leftovers.

To make your gift giving easier, here are some ideas to get the ball rolling.

1. For the athletic member of your family or friends, stainless steel reusable water bottles or a pair of gloves will be put to good use. Brands such as SIGG or Klean Kanteen offer different sizes and styles with unique designs to suit everyone's taste. Gloves in leather, suede or an athletic style are a great gift in general. This can also be an option for that hard to buy for person, but is great for colder climates such as ours, and can be used daily and for outdoor sports and activities.

2. We all know that one person who is incredibly difficult to buy for who has everything. The season becomes increasingly challenging as the pressures to give something useful and unique grow. Warm slippers designed as various characters or animals are sure to get a laugh and will keep feet toasty at home. Pajama sets are easy and affordable. Or perhaps a book of recipes or drink mixes is more your style. Travel organizers which store your passport, boarding pass and travel documents in a sleek compact case is another smart idea.

3. The practical person on your list may enjoy a ceramic mug, a scarf or an organizer. This doesn't have to be an agenda-type organizer, but could include one for a desktop, one for magazines or stackable boxes to store miscellaneous items. Who wouldn't enjoy a hot cup of cocoa, java, or tea on a cold winter's day? A ceramic mug is a great gift which I'm sure would be greatly appreciated this winter and you can generally find them for under \$10. You can add individual packets of hot cocoa, apple cider or tea as an add-on.

4. Scarves are practical, functional yet fashionable and you don't have to worry about getting the wrong size. It's an easy gift solution, but ranges in price depending on what type of scarf. Cashmere is classic, but wool and knit scarves are definitely options to consider.

5. A luxurious gift can include glass jewelry or bath products. Relaxation with various bath beads, oils and soaps are a season favourite. An important factor to consider is any allergies to chemicals or ingredients used, as well as the type of fragrance. Try light fruity scents if you're undecided which way to go. Glass jewelry is a personal favourite and is truly a unique piece of wearable art. Ranging from rings, earrings, bracelets and pendants, glass art has become fabulous jewelry that makes a statement. This can be purchased at various boutiques on Corydon Avenue or at the Winnipeg Art Gallery gift shop.

6. Feeling crafty and creative? Construct your own gift basket by combining

smaller items into a fun compilation of the recipient's favourite things. Instead of splurging on one main item, combining smaller ones will not only save you money, but the personalized touch makes it even more thoughtful. Chocolates are a sweet addition and for the non-chocolate lovers, candies of all sorts (gummies, jube jubes, and lollipops) are sure to satisfy any sweet tooth.

Happy shopping!

Fashion from the very beginning

The evolution of Winnipeg-based independent clothing line Spirocreations

LYNNETTE MCLARTY
VOLUNTEER STAFF

'I like this coat,' we say, 'It's not expensive,' as if that were a fact about the coat and not the end of a story about all the people who made it and sold it.

—The Fever

Based in Winnipeg, *Spirocreations* is an international clothing line of hand-stitched leather apparel including designs of footwear, leather necklaces, shawls, belts, cowls and earrings.

"It's not really about shoes," explained independent artist and designer Barb Morton.

As co-ordinator of an inner-city art program for homeless and low-income adults, Morton began "playing with leather," learning to make moccasins from the advice of her participant-friends in the program.

Local and international interest came quite unexpectedly for Morton. Since launching an *Etsy* store online in mid-July, Morton has received orders from other provinces, the U.K., Australia, Dubai (United Arab Emirates), Ireland, Austria and the U.S.

Morton explained that *Spirocreations* was inspired by studying pre-historic cultures, indigenous and First Nations groups. An immense appreciation for artisanship resulted.

"I tried it for myself and realized how much hard work is put into making something by hand. The process gained my respect. Things



COURTESY OF BARB MORTON

Barb Morton, founder of independent fashion line *Spirocreations*, works in her studio.

have more meaning when effort is put into them," Morton explained.

One might think a sewing machine and perhaps a little help would come in handy.

"A factory line would defeat the purpose of *Spirocreations*. So much meaning is put in the process of creating each piece," said Morton. "In the past, clothing used to be tailored for people. But since the industrial revolution, sizes are more popular."

"If you don't fit a [certain] size then you're not normal."

Spirocreations tries to validate by making garments that fit people and their personality.

"I don't worry about being trendy. My pieces are so bizarre anyway."

Pressure comes more from the desire to make a livelihood out of designing.

"I'm not strategizing a way to be successful. I'm just making things and loving it," Morton explained.

Since First Nations design inspired much

of *Spirocreations*, Barb met with First Nations elders, as a respectful gesture and to ask permission before selling internationally.

"It's important to do things in the right order," Morton said.

"This couldn't have come at a better time," she added. "For a long time I've worked beside creative people, but was never 'the artist.' I was frustrated because I never found my thing."

Morton commented that the success of *Spirocreations* doesn't really sway her, though she's touched by the popularity.

"I'm happy and at peace with myself, without being defined or having this creative title," Morton concluded.

Morton will be selling Spirocreations at "This Ain't Your Grandma's Craft Sale" Sunday, Dec. 13 at the Park Theatre. Check out her Etsy store online www.spirocreations.etsy.com.

Economy Got You Down? We Can Get You Up!

OVER 5000 DVD'S NOW \$12.99

DISCREET BOUTIQUE
340 DONALD ST. AT ELLICE
947-1307
OPEN WEEK NIGHTS UNTIL 10 PM

The **Peacesign**
"Your Friendly Neighbourhood Head Shop"

904 Portage Avenue
One Block West of Arlington
Email: peacesign@mts.net
Phone: (204) 832-9574

- Head Gear
- Clothes
- Bongs
- Vaporizers
- Papers
- Books
- Games
- Jewelry

15% Discount with Student Card

Medical • Recreational • Political

FASHION STREETER

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



Kate
"I am mostly OK with fur."

CINDY TITUS