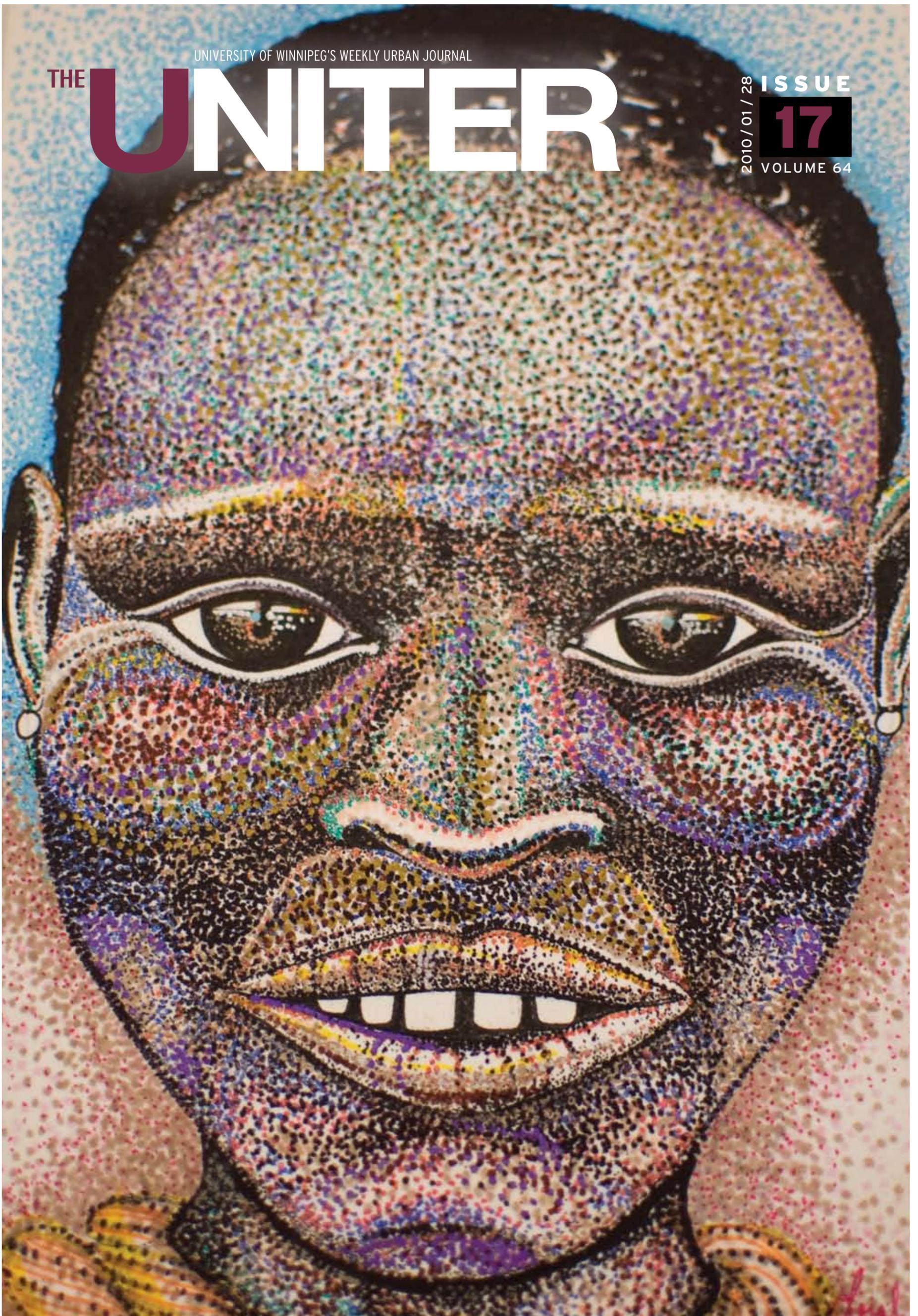


UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

# THE **UNITER**

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**Help for Haiti**  
Manitobans get involved

**NEWS** → page 2

**Hangin' out with Kenny G**  
Two local musicians make  
the move to L.A.

**ARTS & CULTURE** → page 11

**This one's for you, Coco**  
Leno a lacklustre letdown

**COMMENTS** → page 9

**Read all about it**  
**Aboriginal newspaper**  
**shuts down**

NEWS ⇨ page 5

**"I didn't set out to make**  
**a controversial film."**

Sean Garrity on  
*Zoey and Adam*

ARTS & CULTURE ⇨ page 14

**LOOKING FOR LISTINGS?**

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY LISTINGS AND  
 VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ⇨ page 6,  
 MUSIC ⇨ page 12, FILM & LIT ⇨ page  
 15, THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY ⇨ page  
 16, GALLERIES & MUSEUMS ⇨ page 16,  
 AWARDS AND FINANCIAL AID ⇨ page 18

**\*COVER IMAGE**

Sudan

by Loral Hildebrand

2009, pen and ink

from the Artbeat Studio fifth anniversary  
 exhibition *Blackbird, Fly*, on display at  
 4-62 Albert St. until Jan. 30

## News

# Manitobans open their hearts and wallets for Haitian relief

Earthquake sheds  
 light on problems  
 in impoverished  
 country

KRISTY RYDZ  
 BEAT REPORTER



Through efforts like these collection jars, the Manitoba chapter of Mennonite Central Committee has raised more than \$1 million for relief efforts in Haiti.

With an estimated 200,000 dead and up to 1.5 million homeless and hungry after Haiti's devastating 7.0 earthquake and subsequent aftershocks, Manitobans have stepped up to help in a big way.

Provincial, national and international organizations have been collecting donations for emergency crews working on the ground in the decimated country in an effort to save and shelter survivors. One of the groups is the provincial chapter of the internationally active Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), which has raised more than \$1 million for relief efforts so far.

"It's at these moments that as an organization, we are just humbled," resource generation and constituency relations leader Brad Reimer said.

Donations of all sizes have been mailed, dropped off and taken in by collection jars all over the city, including all three Diversity Food Services locations on the University of Winnipeg campus.

MCC, which has been participating in relief efforts in Haiti since 1968, has announced the need for 20,000 relief kits and 10,000 heavy comforters and bed sheets.

"Cash is always appreciated, but I think that a lot of people make this a family venture. A university group might make it an event or a social gathering to try and make as many [relief kits] as they can," said Reimer. His group will be accepting donations until Sunday, Feb. 28.

Local businesses around Winnipeg are pitching in their profits to help Haitians as well.

Vertical Adventures, an indoor rock climbing facility, held "Climb for Haiti" on Jan. 21 at their 77 Paramount Rd. location. Organizer Brittney Jones drummed up around 100 people to climb in support of the Canadian Red Cross's relief efforts, giving every \$10 admission fee collected between 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. to the organization, raising \$1,130.

"It's not like you're just donating money, which a lot of people do, but you actually get something

out of it," said the Grade 12 student from Garden City Collegiate.

While emergency relief is critical, those who have seen the horrors in Haiti know that a long-term plan for the country is desperately needed. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

Karen Jones, an environmental activist and a technologist in the U of W's biology department, visited the country in 1996. More than a decade after her three-week trip to preserve a tract of land with environmental groups, Jones is still shaken by what she experienced.

From having her life threatened by a militia, to having a voodoo curse placed on her, to meeting a 12-year-old boy whose life goal was to learn math, Jones stresses the need for help existed before the recent natural disaster.

"Now it's an earthquake, so it's front page news. What if there

TEXT THESE NUMBERS TO  
 DONATE TO HAITIAN RELIEF:

⇨ Canada for Haiti: Text "AID" to 45678 (\$5)

⇨ The Salvation Army of Canada: Text "HAITI" to 45678 (\$5), or text "ASTRAL" to 45678 (\$10)

⇨ Plan Canada: Text "HAITI" to 30333 (\$5)

⇨ World Vision Canada: Text "WORLD" to 45678 (\$5)

⇨ Clinton Giustra Sustainable Growth Initiative: Text "HAITI" to 20222 (\$5), or text "QUAKE" to 20222 (\$5)

⇨ UNICEF Canada: Text "GIVE" to 45678 (\$5)

⇨ The Canadian Red Cross Society: Text "REDCROSS" to 30333 (\$5)

⇨ UN World Food Programme: Text "RELIEF" to 45678 to donate (\$5)

Source: www.cbc.ca

was no earthquake? There's tremendous environmental degradation. Illiteracy like crazy," she said. "These people are condemned to die young and to live a really hard life in the time that they're alive."

Jones knows that after emergency relief has been completed, Haiti may fall off our radar because of its deeply embedded issues.

"This is an opportunity to look at the problems that Haiti has," she said. "After it's not on our front page, it's still going to be there in Haiti. It's just not going to be in our face, so we can forget about it."

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## STREETEER

BY COURTNEY SCHWEGEL

Q: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF CANADA'S AID EFFORTS FOR HAITI?



**Richel Korpesho**  
 Makeup Artist  
 "So far I think it is great. I think it is really great that our government is helping."



**Jerry Beernaerts**  
 Transit Driver  
 "I think they're out there with the other nations helping as much as they can."



**Eric Mahamba**  
 University of Manitoba  
 Nursing student  
 "They have shortened immigration time ... that is one thing that is good but they should extend it to all brothers and sisters, not just husband and wife and parent and child."



**Ariel Nash**  
 first year, rhetoric  
 and communications  
 "I don't think money is the problem, it is getting the people down there to help. Money can only get you so far."



**Manny Sharma**  
 first year, film  
 "I don't know how much we are helping ... if I were the government and we had \$20 billion to spare I would have given it to Haiti."



**Aviya Perl**  
 fourth year, psychology  
 "I don't really know that much about what they are doing. I know what George Clooney was doing."

# A home away from home

Expanding women's centre gives hope and opportunity to women in need

KRISTY RYDZ  
BEAT REPORTER

In a cramped basement beneath the Justice Resource Centre at 583 Ellice Ave., a warm, safe, educational space sees at least 50 women come through its doors every month. But thanks to two years of fundraising and collecting donations, the West Central Women's Resource Centre (WCWRC) is looking to move down the street to its very own larger, street-front location at 640 Ellice Ave.

With nearly two-thirds of their \$950,000 goal already raised from a mix of individual and corporate donors like Great West Life, a fundraising concert is planned for Friday, Feb. 5 at the West End Cultural Centre, featuring musical acts Nathan and Nova.

The WCWRC, founded in 2001, is an organization that gives women of all walks of life, socio-economic statuses and familial responsibilities an opportunity to connect with and learn from those around them.

"With all the women that come through the door, there's so much shared knowledge, and there's no



A group of women gather at the West Central Women's Resource Centre. The WCWRC is currently in the process of moving to a larger, street-front location.

need to reinvent the wheel," said community mentor Katherine McGregor. "If you took all the experiences of all the people in that room out there, you would have an encyclopedia of knowledge."

A single mother, McGregor began as a participant at the centre, coming for advice on housing, childcare and community services, and to interact with others while sharing a cup of coffee during drop-in times. But in December of last year she became one of the nearly 30 women who not only use the centre's resources but volunteer to help others in the close-knit group.

"Coming here is the first step in empowering yourself to change," said McGregor. "You might not be strong enough to do it by yourself right now, but we'll hold your hand

until you can."

The WCWRC has suffered due to its small space and reduced visibility created by the windowless lower-level location, despite success from operating multiple programs simultaneously, including Childminding, which provides child-care training and placements in paying short-term services.

"We're hidden here," said executive director Jackie Hogue.

For the centre, the outpouring of support from donors both large and small sends a message of support for what the centre brings to the community.

"To some funders we've said, 'Thank you for your gift of \$40,000,' and they've said, 'Thank you for existing,'" said Hogue.

That appreciation isn't always at

**"Coming here is the first step in empowering yourself to change. You might not be strong enough to do it by yourself right now, but we'll hold your hand until you can."**

—KATHERINE MCGREGOR, COMMUNITY MENTOR, WCWRC

the forefront of society, according to Fiona Green, who is chair of the University of Winnipeg's women and gender studies department and co-director of the Institute for Women and Gender Studies.

"Women's resource centres are definitely filling a need, but I don't think there's necessarily an awareness of the need for them," she said.

Green believes that aside from those who need and use community-based services like the WCWRC, centres are vastly under-appreciated for the front-line work they do in critical areas like violence against women and single-parenting skills.

"There's a whole feeling that feminism isn't needed," said Green. "People think that women have equal rights, but the needs of the people that are using the services these centres provide have been marginalized."

# When the water mains break

Local businesses demand compensation for thousands of dollars in damages

ETHAN CABEL  
BEAT REPORTER

Forget about Winnipeg's roads. Many local businesses are now calling for the city to take a closer look underground.

Water mains — large underground pipes that deliver water to a resident's service pipe — burst up to 700 times a year. That's about two breaks a day in Winnipeg.

The breaks are caused by soil erosion underground and can flood whole streets and adjacent



This restaurant on Ellice Avenue was closed for over three months as a result of the damage a broken water main caused in 2004.

residences. Several Winnipeg restaurants have been forced to close entirely or have paid thousands in renovations because of the breaks.

Basil's, a 32-year-old Osborne Village restaurant, had its interior severely damaged by a break in February 2008.

"Suddenly a huge explosion of water started gushing out of Osborne Street and seeping two feet high out of Basil's doors," recalled Ken Morissette, a bartender at Billabong, another Osborne Street restaurant.

"The city's negligence caused that break and [the owner] wasn't compensated in any way."

In a 2008 report by the CBC, owner Basil Lagopoulos estimated damages at close to \$1 million. He said the city should be held responsible.

The city, however, is not liable for damages. According to the City of Winnipeg Charter Act, it has no

obligation to compensate for damages caused by water main breaks or any other malfunction of city infrastructure, unless damages are determined to be caused by the city's negligence.

"Water main breaks are deemed to be an act of God," said Bill Clement, city councillor for Charleswood-Tuxedo. "There is no way to predict them."

Spokespeople from the city's water and waste department maintain that water main breaks are unpredictable and regular repairs to them are permanent. Others remain skeptical, however.

"The fix is temporary because we [the city] simply don't have the funds to completely renew the pipes," said Harry Lazarenko, city councillor for the Mynarski Ward. "They break because of water mains built in the 1920s."

Of Winnipeg's 2,466 km of water mains, approximately 250

km were installed before 1920. Most of these pipes are in older areas of the inner city or the south of Winnipeg.

While Basil's remains closed for renovations, it isn't the first inner-city or downtown restaurant to be hit by a water main break.

Sorrento's Pizza was damaged by a break in 2004 that closed the Ellice Avenue restaurant for over three months. The break flooded the whole basement and part of the dining room. Damages were only partially covered by owner Brigida D'Ottavio's insurance, costing her an estimated \$60-70,000 in renovations.

"We got our business back eventually, but it did take a while," said D'Ottavio.

A few doors down, Homer's, another Ellice Avenue restaurant, was hit by the same break. Owner George Katsabanis was forced to close his doors for three months, with damages costing \$50-60,000.

"No one from the city paid for the damage, and no one approached me about the damage," he said, adding that no one seems to be accountable for any of the breaks or the damages from them.

Michelle Bailey, a communications officer from the City of Winnipeg speaking on behalf of the water and waste department, admitted inner-city pipes are more prone to rupture, but added that water mains with the largest frequency of breaks are targeted for complete replacement.

The city spends \$4 million on water main repairs in a typical year. An average repair costs \$4,000.

## Local News Briefs

Compiled by Charmaine Jennings

### DOWNTOWN SECURITY NETWORK ENABLES ARREST OF ROBBERY SUSPECT

Downtown Security Network and Downtown Watch teamed up when a robbery suspect was apprehended. Police issued a description of the suspect of a Jan. 17 robbery. Participating businesses in the Downtown Security Network scanned their security cameras for information. The Convention Centre caught the suspect on tape. That evening, Downtown Watch ambassadors recognized the suspect and alerted the police. The Downtown Security Network allows members to immediately communicate so that extra precautions are taken to prevent crimes. Downtown Watch ambassadors patrol downtown in red and black outfits and offer SafeWalks to help people feel more comfortable.

### NEW BIRTH CENTRE TO BE DEVELOPED IN SOUTH WINNIPEG

Health minister Theresa Oswald announced that Manitoba will invest over \$3.5 million to develop a birth centre on the corner of St. Mary's and St. Anne's roads. It's expected to be constructed by spring 2011. This new centre will provide women with access to a range of services throughout pregnancy and into early parenting. The free-standing birth centre will provide an environment to support natural childbirth outside of a hospital or the home, and will include a primary-care clinic, four birthing rooms and education, counselling and administrative areas.

### MS SOCIETY SUPPORTERS STREAK (THEIR HAIR)

The Manitoba chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada is hosting "Streak for MS" to boost interest in the Manitoba Lotteries MS Walk. For a minimum \$5 donation, streakers will get a red clip-in streak to put in their hair to generate awareness. Streaking will take place at Polo Park Shopping Centre Bay court on Friday, Jan. 29 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday, Jan. 30 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Manitoba Lotteries MS Walk will be held on April 18 and 25 and May 16 and 31. Registration for the walk is free. The MS Society provides services to people with Multiple Sclerosis and funds research to find the cause and cure.

### PROVINCE LAUNCHES NEW PROJECT TO HELP MANITOBBANS QUIT SMOKING

Manitoba is launching a new stop-smoking project to help people kick the addiction as part of the province's tobacco-control strategy. This new strategy gives the information and support needed to make choices on tobacco use. The new two-year, \$280,000 project will give resources and training to four agencies working to help smokers quit, and will be coordinated by the Manitoba Tobacco Reduction Alliance (MANTRA). The province is also developing a teaching resource called *Back Off Tobacco* that will help teachers include age-appropriate lessons about tobacco use. This resource will help students develop the skills they need to say no to tobacco.

### WINNIPEGGERS AN HONEST BUNCH, STUDY FINDS

Winnipeggers refuse to bend the rules — even if it would go unnoticed, a study suggests. Probe Research, a Manitoba firm, conducted a survey with 600 city dwellers about integrity. They found that the majority of Winnipeggers would try to return a lost wallet to its owner. "The fact that over 95 per cent of people say that they would try to contact the owner of a lost wallet really speaks to people's sense of honesty and fair play," Probe researcher Curtis Brown told *CBC News*. However, according to their research, when it comes to padding a résumé or running a red light, people aged 18-34 would be more likely to bend the rules.

#### CORRECTIONS:

An incorrect byline appeared alongside the campus news briefs on page seven of *The Uniter's* Jan. 14 issue. They were written by Courtney Schwegel.

Incorrect information also appeared in our Jan. 21 issue.

Page eight should have noted that the Wesmen Men's Basketball team lost to the University of Saskatchewan Huskies 71 to 55 on Friday, Jan. 15.

Meanwhile, an incorrect photo credit appeared alongside the Fashion Streeter on page 20. Brittany Hildebrandt took the photo. We regret the errors.

# Transit fares discriminate against people with disabilities, students argue

## Higher Handi-Transit costs mean higher fares: Winnipeg Transit

SAMUEL SWANSON  
BEAT REPORTER

Students at the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) at the University of Winnipeg are not happy with the state of the city's Handi-Transit system. The two major concerns of the students are the fare and scheduling structure.

Danielle Otto, a student who uses Handi-Transit in the winter, believes the fare structure is discriminatory. She points to the monthly Handi-Transit pass, which costs \$74, yet the student bus pass for regular transit costs \$59.

People with disabilities can apply to Winnipeg Transit for a free pass to pre-determined bus routes. Some students with disabilities are not able to make it to the bus stop in certain months of the year, however, and opt for the Handi-Transit pass.

"You're not supposed to take the [power] wheelchair outside below -20. The joystick freezes," said Otto. "I use regular buses when I'm able



Running the Handi-Transit program in Winnipeg is more than 10 times the cost of operating the city's bus transit. Still, some believe the Handi-Transit fare structure is discriminatory.

to do so."

Otto added that people with some disabilities, such as legal blindness, aren't able to use regular transit, even in the summer months.

Winnipeg Transit has refuted the

claims of discrimination because regular transit and Handi-Transit are two different programs with different costs and organizational structures.

The price difference between a Handi-Transit pass and a student

regular bus pass is \$15, whereas running the Handi-Transit program is more than 10 times the cost of operating the city's bus transit, according to Catherine Caldwell, manager of client services at Winnipeg Transit.

"Everyone is told about [the free bus pass]," said Caldwell. "Whatever level they utilize the regular transit is up to them."

The other major issue brought up by students at the DRC is the way Handi-Transit is scheduled. Otto said there is not much flexibility in terms of pickup times.

"Sometimes, if classes end at three and they're not able to come until six, I'm stuck at school for three hours," she said.

The other side of the coin is the policy on cancellations, according to the DRC. If someone cancels their trip after 11 a.m. on the day before pickup, they are considered a no-show. Penalties include no charge the first time, a charge of one fare the second, two fares the third, three for the fourth and a \$15 charge for the fifth and all subsequent no-shows.

"The only way we can make it work is by making a predetermined schedule," said Caldwell, adding that Handi-Transit does accept late bookings and has a three-tier priority system, which means the person going to a medical appointment will receive consideration over the person going bowling.

"If we could have a system that could perfectly accommodate everybody, that's what we'd like to do," Caldwell said.

## Changes to libel law help well-meaning journalists

### Reasonable belief in the facts now an acceptable defense

RORY MACLEAN  
THE SHEAF

SASKATOON (CUP) – The Supreme Court of Canada has introduced a new defence against libel that could have a profound effect on bloggers and journalists.

A new defence of "responsible communication on matters of public interest" can be used against charges of libel following a December supreme court ruling.

"It's a really big deal," said Mary Agnes Welch, *Winnipeg Free Press* reporter and president of the Canadian Association of Journalists, who explained that Canada's libel laws are significantly more conservative than in other countries.

The strongest defence against libel is truth, but proving facts to be true in a court of law has been a challenge for many journalists.

"It used to be that you had to have an honest belief in the truth of the facts that you were basing your comment on," said Reynold Robertson, a lawyer who handles

defamation suits for the *Saskatoon StarPhoenix*.

"Previously, most people couldn't say they had an honest belief in the facts because they just accepted what they had been told," he said.

With the new defence, "We can say that the story is substantially accurate," said Welch. "We don't have to say it's completely accurate. As long as we've done what all good journalists should do, which is check our sources.

"You can go and say, 'Here's everything I did to make sure the story was right and fair.' . . . This is a pretty radical departure from what it said before, which was basically that you had to prove everything you said."

Welch feels requiring journalists to be able to prove the truth of everything they print has led to a chilling effect in Canada, where some stories don't even get printed despite being in the public interest.

Most journalists cannot afford to hire a lawyer to defend against a charge of libel – especially freelancers and bloggers, who are increasingly becoming a source of citizen journalism.

The new responsible communication defence could help reduce the chilling effect and allow more stories of pressing public interest to be published, said Welch.

"All papers have lawyers . . . and on all the awesome juicy stories we get them lawyered, right? And when it comes back, it's often all the juicy parts that get red-penned right out of there."

Gibb doesn't think the new defence will cause a "field day" for investigative journalism, though.

"Sometimes seemingly very innocent-type stories can get you problems just as much," he said. "It's sometimes easier for something to slip through if it's a less complicated story."

Responsible communication may not reduce the threat of legal action, but it does enshrine ethical reporting practices by asking journalists to account for their reporting process.

The effect of this new defence has potential implications for bloggers, but it has yet to be felt in that realm.

"Not many bloggers have been sued for libel," said Welch. "Everybody's kind of waiting for the one big case."

Blogs may have had a profound effect on public discourse, but they are still a long way from doing well-sourced journalism, said Welch.

#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### The University of Winnipeg's weekly urban journal is looking for a hardworking individual who possesses superior editing and writing skills to take the position of news production editor

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

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 an eight-week term running Feb. 8, 2010 to Apr. 2, 2010. Payment is \$110 per week.

For further information, call 786-9790 or e-mail [editor@uniter.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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, Jan. 29 at 12 p.m.** Interviews will take place during the week of Feb. 1.

THE UNITER

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[WWW.UNITER.CA/BLOGS](http://WWW.UNITER.CA/BLOGS)  
UPDATED DAILY

# Plummeting ad sales silence local aboriginal voice

*Urban NDN* refused to take ad money in exchange for favourable coverage

SAMUEL SWANSON  
BEAT REPORTER

Local aboriginal newspaper *Urban NDN* announced recently that it would be shutting down due to the cliff-dropping availability of advertising dollars for print media.

*Urban NDN* was the brainchild of editor and publisher Colleen Simard. She believes this funding problem is not just an issue for small media.

"What happened with *Urban NDN* is a microcosm for print media," said Simard, who felt the financial squeeze more intimately and immediately due to the relatively low profile of the paper.

In a Jan. 9 *Winnipeg Free Press* comments piece, Simard said, "It's been a tough battle these last few years, and I tried a lot of different tactics to keep the newspaper going."

Simard said *Urban NDN* received lots of advertising offers from area chiefs in return for favourable articles. Simard wasn't willing to do that, something she said made *Urban NDN* different from other aboriginal-focused papers in Manitoba.

"They have political connections and they're run by people that don't understand journalism," Simard said.

The refusal to take sides, which ultimately led to the paper's demise, also allowed for vibrant and free debate in the paper, according to Niigonwedom James Sinclair, a former volunteer writer and Ph.D. candidate in indigenous literature at University of British Columbia.

"It was fantastic. It allowed me the freedom to write what I wanted to," he said. "We'd often disagree within the same paper."

Circulation of *Urban NDN* included Winnipeg as well as many reserves across



*Urban NDN*, a publication that explored aboriginal issues in Canada, occupied an office on the second floor of this building before shutting down recently.

**"I think that aboriginals [on reserves] are behind 10 years [in technology]. A lot of people there don't have Internet, and when they do, it's usually dial-up."**

—COLLEEN SIMARD, FORMER EDITOR OF URBAN NDN

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and occasionally Ontario, in communities where print media is more important.

"I think that aboriginals [on reserves] are behind 10 years [in technology]," said Simard. "A lot of people there don't have Internet, and when they do, it's usually dial-up."

Simard attributed poverty and isolation to the disconnect from technology.

Cherie Burns, an aboriginal governance student at the University of Winnipeg, said the closing of *Urban NDN* is a hit to the community, although she said she didn't

often read the publication.

"I read most of my stuff [regarding aboriginal issues] on the Internet," she said.

Burns said that although she didn't read the paper cover-to-cover, she would pick it up for listings, "to see what's going on, like native artists and musicians."

Simard said the paper would have had a better chance of survival if she had started it earlier.

"I could have started five or ten years ago to have a stronger customer base and loyalty."

At this point, Simard is dealing with the loans she took out to start the paper.

"I was risking my house and my savings," she said, adding that she doesn't regret the project. "I'd regret it if I didn't try."

Simard's advice to young writers, editors and publishers that want to begin a paper is to get on the Internet.

"Start online. It's the future," she said.

## International News Briefs

Compiled by Brooke Dmytriv

### AIR NEW ZEALAND USES COUGARS TO SELL TICKETS

WELLINGTON, New Zealand: National airline Air New Zealand abruptly pulled its most recent advertising campaign promoting discount airfares because it offended rape activists and feminist groups. The advertising involved Air New Zealand's Grabaseat website and offered rugby tickets to "cougars," middle-aged women who seek out younger male partners. The campaign asked for cougars to submit photos from holidays/vacations with their male counterparts. The concept of the adverts was intended to make the women appear very predatory in nature. According to *First Post*, Air New Zealand was criticized by Rape Prevention Education, a group representing male rape victims. The airline defended the campaign as comical but closed the Grabaseat site, citing it could not handle all the entries.

### GET YOUR GOD OFF OUR GUNS

WASHINGTON, D.C.: The U.S. Marine Corps is reconsidering its contract with Trijicon even though the company has agreed to stop engraving Biblical references on its guns. The company, based out of Wixom, Michigan, has been manufacturing guns for the U.S. military for the last 20 years. The scripture references could be found inscribed following the stock numbers found on the scope. *BBC News* reported military chief Gen. David Petraeus said he found announcement of the inscriptions disturbing and a serious concern. Additional concerns have been raised since the guns are predominantly used in Muslim countries, notably Iraq and Afghanistan, and goes against the prohibition of troops proselytising abroad, while drawing connotations of crusade-like conflict. Interfaith Alliance wrote an open letter to President Obama saying the inscriptions on guns clearly violates the army rule. English, Australian and New Zealand militaries are also re-evaluating their contracts with Trijicon.

### MORE SUPPORT GIVEN TO LEMURS RAFTING TO MADAGASCAR

ANTANARIVO, Madagascar: The rare lemurs of Madagascar, an African island off the coast of Mozambique, are believed to have floated there 20 to 60 million years ago on natural rafts. Two scientists' research on the currents of ancient oceans lend credence to the theory that the ancestors of lemurs, mongooses and flying foxes arrived there by mats of vegetation or debris. Madagascar has been an island for over 120 million years, with the first signs of mammal life appearing 65 million years ago. According to *CBC News*, two dominant theories for Madagascar's mammal arrivals are the land bridge theory and the natural raft hypothesis. Scientists Matthew Huber and Jason Ali's research indicates there is no geological evidence of a land bridge between the continent and the island. The researchers support the theory that small animals came to Madagascar via fallen trees from storms or large pieces of vegetation that carried them out to sea.

### MONET RECOVERED AFTER DECADE-LONG DISAPPEARANCE

OLKUSZ, Poland: A Claude Monet painting stolen 10 years ago from a museum in western Poland was retrieved last week. *Beach in Pourville*, a painting valued to be over \$1 million, was cut from its frame and replaced with a copy painted on cardboard. *The Canadian Press* reported a 41-year-old man was arrested for the theft. The police did have fingerprints from the crime scene but were unable to identify a suspect until recently. The National Museum in Poznan is currently appraising and assessing the discovered painting.

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

D'Arcy's Animal Rescue Centre is holding its annual "PAW"STA DINNER at Deer Lodge Community Centre on Saturday, Feb. 6. Call 888-2266 or visit [www.darcysarc.ca](http://www.darcysarc.ca) for more information.

The Costume Museum of Canada, Mitchell's Fabrics Ltd. and the T-shirt Connection are holding a MAKE IT YOUR OWN: T-SHIRT RECONSTRUCTION COMPETITION with cash prizes. Head on down to the Costume Museum at 109 Pacific Ave. and receive your shirt and supplies. Submit your entry by Friday, Feb. 12. Anything goes, as long as the original shirt is still in the design. For more information visit [www.costumemuseum.com](http://www.costumemuseum.com).

There will be a fundraising event for Ronald McDonald House on Saturday, Jan. 23 at the O.C. (1792 Pembina Hwy.). Wear your pajamas and enjoy entertainment from DJ Cassanova and MC Escalade.

**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

Author Richard Littlemore will present a free lecture on climate change entitled WHO KILLED COPENHAGEN. Monday, Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall.

On Tuesday, Feb. 2 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. there will be a climate change learning and sharing event in Convocation Hall.

The University of Winnipeg's Aboriginal Students Council is hosting a dodgeball tournament on Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. To register, contact [jerrykdaniels@hotmail.com](mailto:jerrykdaniels@hotmail.com).

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

The 27th ANNUAL VOLUNTEER AWARDS will take place on Tuesday, April 20 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. For nomination forms and more information visit [www.volunteermanitoba.ca/awards2010](http://www.volunteermanitoba.ca/awards2010).



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## Campus News

## A new coach, a new start

Wesmen men's basketball team hopes to find new energy in season's second half

SARAH REILLY  
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Veteran coach and University of Winnipeg graduate Grant Richter has taken over as interim head coach for U of W Wesmen men's basketball team.

On Jan. 12, head coach Dave Crook resigned after almost 10 years with the Wesmen. The team, although quite veteran, is struggling this season with a record of 0-16.

"It's been a long, hard struggle, and hopefully things will just turn out for the kids. That's my No. 1 concern," Crook said, in the Jan. 15 *Winnipeg Sun*.

Richter began coaching basketball in 1984 and coached the Murdoch MacKay Collegiate team for 14 years. In 1992, he returned to the U of W and assisted Bill Wedlake, head coach of the men's team, until 1998.

Richter remembers those years fondly.

"Those were good times. For three years we were No. 1 in the country."

In 1997, while still assisting the



Wesmen Men's Basketball head coach Dave Crook resigned on Jan. 12 after almost 10 years with the Wesmen. The team is struggling this season with a record of no wins and 16 losses.

Wesmen and Murdoch MacKay, Richter became an assistant to Bill Klucas, head coach of the semi-pro Winnipeg Cyclone. Richter stayed on when Darryl Dawkins took over and became head coach in 2000 for the team's final season.

He said working with the Cyclone was a very different coaching experience. The players were incredibly skilled, and the style of the program was new, he said.

"It was a lot less practices and a lot more games ... A lot of travel, much more than university."

Now back with the Wesmen, Richter is ready to make some changes.

In the first half of the season, Richter noticed a few glaring stats that needed to be improved, like

low shooting percentages and few assists.

"The ball has to move more" for the team to succeed, he said.

In his first week, Richter introduced a new strategy and new systems. He knows it's not easy for the players to have a new coach halfway through the season but is happy to be with the team.

After one week with their new coach, the players found that much had changed.

"It's definitely a different style to adapt to, just like any coaching change," said forward Mike James.

James said the team is adjusting well, but also spoke fondly of Crook.

"We all had a good relationship with him, but it is probably

**"We want someone that is a highly qualified and capable basketball coach but we also want someone that is going to be able to work well with the community and inner-city programming."**

-DORAN REID, U OF W ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

a greater adjustment for the veterans because we were together for so long."

The Wesmen are hoping that with their new coach will come new energy. The team has only five regular season games left this year and is looking to steal two wins this weekend (Jan. 29-30) when they host the Lethbridge Pronghorns.

U of W's athletic director Doran Reid said the search for a new head coach for next year has begun. He said the program will search locally as well as nationally.

"We want someone that is a highly qualified and capable basketball coach but we also want someone that is going to be able to work well with the community and inner-city programming," said Reid. "They should be able to deliver that all-round great student-athlete experience that includes excellence in the classroom and in team activities."

## PROROGATION PROTESTATION



Concerned citizens waved banners and flags at an anti-prorogation rally that took place on Saturday, Jan. 23. The group met at the University of Winnipeg and then marched to the Manitoba Legislative Building. Prime Minister Stephen Harper prorogued Parliament in December.

# Bergen is back on campus

Award-winning author and alumnus returns to U of W as writer-in-residence

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL  
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

Best-selling author and University of Winnipeg alumnus David Bergen is offering his expertise to aspiring young writers. At the beginning of January, Bergen became U of W's fifth Carol Shields Writer in Residence.

Bergen became a student at the U of W at the age of 23. While one would assume English to be the focus of such a renowned author's studies, this was not the case for Bergen. Although he did minor in English, he received his bachelor of education degree with a major in French.

"You almost wonder what I am doing claiming I am a writer," Bergen joked.

When asked about his seemingly unconventional choice of studies, Bergen said his motivation was strictly practical.

"I knew that I needed a job and I knew that that was where the jobs were," he said, explaining that at the time, his French degree gave him an advantage as a teacher, a profession he maintained for 15 years.

Bergen went on to write four highly celebrated novels, including *The Time in Between*, winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize, as well



Award-winning local author David Bergen will release a new novel, *The Matter with Morris*, in September. The main character in the book is a U of W student.

as a collection of short fiction.

Although the university has changed substantially since he was a student in the '80s, Bergen said it has managed to retain its charm.

"It still has the intimacy that I recall and it's very fine to be back," he said.

Evidently, Bergen's experience as a student at the U of W has worked its way into his writing. In his latest novel, *The Matter with Morris*, which is set for release in September, the main character was a student at the U of W.

"In some ways [it is] perhaps more auto-

biographical than my previous work," Bergen said, adding that he borrowed heavily from personal experience to create Morris, the middle-aged protagonist of the tale.

Catherine Hunter, chair of the U of W English department, thinks U of W students will likely have a deeper connection with Bergen's work because of the familiar setting.

"I think that it is important for students to hear work that is really based at the place they are," she said.

Marika Prokosh, aspiring poet and honours English student at the U of W, attended Bergen's on-campus reading on Jan. 13. She said she enjoyed hearing references to the U of W in his work.

"One of the characters ... is based on a professor that used to teach at the U of W," she said. "It was really neat to talk to people afterwards because people at the university knew who that was."

Prokosh said she is looking forward to sharing some of her own work with Bergen.

Both students and community members are encouraged to submit their writing to Bergen for one-on-one critique. Bergen hopes that by offering his feedback, he can give aspiring writers what he felt he lacked as a young writer.

"I wish I had known better writers earlier in my life," he said.

Bergen will be available for consultation until his term ends on April 30, 2010. He can be reached by phone at 786-9203, or in person in office 2M69.

## Paying back \$10K snowboarding debt no easy trick

UWSA funds used to bail out annual snowboarding trips

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL  
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

The Snowboard and Ski Students' Association (SSA) at the University of Winnipeg is currently trying to shovel their way out of a \$10,000 debt owed to the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA).

The debt, which has been accumulating for the past six years, skyrocketed when last year's ski trip lost \$5,000.

Allan Wallace, former U of W stu-

dent and one of the four co-ordinators for this year's trips, said this was largely due to poor planning efforts by last year's co-ordinators. According to Wallace, the co-ordinators overestimated the number of students interested in the trip and overbooked transportation and accommodations. Once they realized the shortage of students, it was too late to cancel bookings in order to recoup some of the funds.

"You ... have to know when to cancel trips, when to make a certain amount of rooms, when to make certain deposit payments," said Wallace. "It's a juggling act."

Courtney Maddock, UWSA vice-president internal, said that in past years the UWSA has bailed the SSA out when their trips have landed them in the red. This year, the UWSA executives are finally cracking down on the SSA to ensure they are repaid.

Maddock said that together, the UWSA and the SSA have worked out a payment plan.

"We are working very closely with them," she said.

The UWSA is currently helping SSA plan a fundraising social in March which Wallace hopes will bring in at least \$1,000.

"[The UWSA] are very helpful and they are trying their best to help us out," he said.



**"We believe [the \$10,000] will be paid back within the next year or year-and-a-half."**

-COURTNEY MADDOCK,  
UWSA VP INTERNAL

Wallace also said that the SSA has the potential to earn \$2,000 if the upcoming ski trip planned for reading week sells out. But considering the turnout of this year's New Year's ski trip to Banff, which just managed to break even, that may be a difficult task.

Although the SSA has several plans in the works to help pay off their debt, Wallace expects that it may take a while for the SSA to pay back the entire \$10,000.

"It's sort of a guessing game," he said, adding that the profit is completely contingent on the success of the events.

But Maddock said the UWSA is expecting the payment to come in the near future.

"We believe it will be paid back within the next year or year-and-a-half," she said.

For information on the reading week ski trip, e-mail [uwsnowboard@gmail.com](mailto:uwsnowboard@gmail.com).

ILLUSTRATION BY MELODY MORRISSETTE

## Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Chris Hunter and Anne Thomas

### U OF W STUDENTS RECEIVE ROWING SCHOLARSHIPS

On Jan. 21, the Winnipeg Rowing Club announced that the Peter Nykoluk Rowing Scholarship would go to University of Winnipeg students Nia Perron and Natasha Tersigni. Each year the scholarship is awarded to students who display outstanding commitment, determination and sportsmanship in rowing. The award, established in 1995, is given in honour of Peter Nykoluk who died on Oct. 12, 1990 while aiding teammates involved in an accident. Both Perron and Tersigni have competed in the Canada Summer Games and plan to continue rowing while pursuing degrees at U of W.

### FIGHT CLUB AT U OF M

Reports of the existence of a fight club at the University of Manitoba have recently reached public ear. Last year an internal investigation of the campus was held after two men were reported to have left the school's recreational facility with bloody faces. The investigation led to the discovery of a Facebook group used for organizing fights. The group, consisting of 87 members, has been removed from the website. Five of the group's members, four students and one staff, were disciplined and suspended from the campus recreational facilities. Police did not have any hand in the investigation.

### CORRELATION BETWEEN VLT'S AND FEMALE GAMBLING PROBLEMS

A new study from University of Manitoba's community health science and psychiatry department reveals that video lottery terminals are the number one cause of gambling addiction for females. To correct this, researchers suggest the hours of operation of VLTs be reduced, awareness campaigns that specifically target women gamblers be created and more self-help programs directed at this specific problem be developed. This is the first study to use a population health model to understand the relation between type and frequency of gambling activities.

### DODGEBALL EXTRAVAGANZA AT U OF W

University of Winnipeg professor Fred Gutoski and students Hanna Stafford and Sheena Graham will be organizing a series of intramural events this semester starting with a dodgeball tournament. The tournament will take place on Friday, Feb. 5 in the Duckworth Centre. Future events may include a soccer game in the snow, street hockey, a snow sculpture competition and team skiing races. Stafford and Graham believe more intramural events will help build a better sense of community at the U of W while reducing stress and having fun.

### TALKING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

The University of Winnipeg will host a climate change "teach-in" on Tuesday, Feb. 2 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Convocation Hall. The event aims to stir up dialogue about what climate change means and how to address it as individuals and as a community. In concurrent workshops, participants will discuss recent science, international negotiations, social justice, energy options, alternatives to consumerism, community resources and innovation, and activist roles, skills and networking. Participants' ideas and interests will help to shape a second event later in the month. Both events are free and open to all students, staff and the general public.

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# Wesmen Men's Volleyball team continues winning streak

Two wins for the men, two losses for the women as Wesmen take on Trinity Western University Spartans

CASANDRA ANDERSON  
VOLUNTEER

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times as the Wesmen volleyball teams faced off against the Trinity Western University Spartans at the Duckworth Centre last weekend.

On Friday, Jan. 22, the women played a competitive game against the fifth-ranked Spartans but unfortunately lost the fifth set, 15-8. The Spartans beat the Wesmen 3-2.

Kim Klassen was Trinity's leader with 16 kills. The Wesmen showed some advantages, though. They had seven aces and six blocks.

Saturday, Jan. 23 saw the Wesmen Women's team shut out completely, allowing the Spartans to walk home with a 3-0 win.

Winnipeg's Alix Krahn served a hat trick of aces and Ariel Smith's lucky 13 kills did deal some damage, but not as much as Spartans Kara Jansen Van Doorn and Carmen Dyck, who had a combined 20 kills.

The tale of the Wesmen Men's team was the opposite. The men faced a five set, high-energy game against the Spartans Jan. 22.

Justin Duff led the Wesmen with 23 kills, while Steven Marshall led Trinity with 15. It was a high impact game, during which the Spartans didn't let their guard down for one moment. Trinity forced a fifth set which Winnipeg had the advantage over.

Winnipeg aces two serves while the away team perfected six, but in the end, Winnipeg won 3-2 (25-18, 19-25, 25-21, 19-25, 15-12). This raised their winning streak

## WESMEN VOLLEYBALL AT HOME

MEN	WOMEN
Jan. 22 Wesmen <b>3</b> Spartans <b>2</b>	Jan. 22 Spartans <b>3</b> Wesmen <b>2</b>
Jan. 23 Wesmen <b>3</b> Spartans <b>2</b>	Jan. 23 Spartans <b>3</b> Wesmen <b>0</b>

to five matches in a row.

Saturday, Jan. 23, another five sets took place and it was another intense game. Steven Marshall was the star player for the Spartans, leading his team with 15 kills, two aces and seven digs.

Wesmen setter Dan Lothar showed incredible endurance throughout the entire game. Lothar led the Wesmen to 11 digs and delivered eight kills.

The highlight of the night was the spider monkey moves exhibited during the third set. Marc Howatson of the Spartans jumped on the officials' table to retrieve the volleyball that was out of his reach. It shook up the media crew.

During the fourth set he also jumped over his own teammates, with one leap into the stand to retrieve another volleyball out of his reach. No one was harmed.

In the fifth set, the Wesmen proved to be the stronger team and beat the Spartans. Final game score: 3-2.

The Wesmen Men are now up to seven game wins in a row, putting their record to a new 8-5.

They'll get a few weeks off and won't be playing again until Wednesday, Feb. 3 at 8 p.m. at the University of Manitoba. Meanwhile, the Wesmen Women's team will head off on the road to play against Simon Fraser University on Friday, Jan. 29 and Saturday, Jan. 30.



Wesmen #6 Justin Duff goes in for the kill against the Trinity Western University Spartans last weekend.

## Wesmen basketball teams win one of four in B.C.

CASANDRA ANDERSON  
VOLUNTEER

The University of Winnipeg women's record went up and the men were demolished in one of their games as the Wesmen faced off two teams last weekend in B.C.

The Wesmen Women's record stood at 7-7 after their 85-50 loss on Friday, Jan. 22 to the Simon Fraser University Clan. The Clan took a 17-point lead in the first quarter, and nothing changed it.

Wesmen Amy Ogidan and Danielle Baril shot 12 points each, earning most of the team's points. Meanwhile, the Clan's Robyn Buna took lead of her team's scoring with 23 points, including seven three-pointers.

The Wesmen Men had a tighter score than the women. With their 0-14, they were in need of some guidance. They played a competitive second quarter with a 40-32 outscoring of the Clan. Ultimately, though, the Clan beat the Wesmen 70-60.

On Saturday, Jan. 23, the Trinity Western University Spartans demolished the Wesmen Men, 99-63.

There is no denying that it's been a hard season for the Wesmen Men, perhaps harder than any other team in the league has faced. They wouldn't give up without a fight, though.

Nick Lothar took the lead over Winnipeg's scoring for the evening with 28 points and Ben Kingdon added another 10. Calvin Westbrook was the leader for the Spartans, with 23 points.

Saturday went well for the Wesmen Women, whose outcome was an opposite result of the Men's team. The Wesmen

Women's new record is 8-7 thanks to Randie Gibson, Kaitlin Rempel, Mackenzie Prasek, Jessica Stromberg and their combined 65 points. Winnipeg beat the Spartans 81-68.

Both Wesmen basketball teams will be playing at home this weekend (Jan. 29-30) at the Duckworth Centre. The women play at 6 p.m., with the men following at 8 p.m. Both teams will be fighting against the Lethbridge Pronghorns on Friday and Saturday Night.

## WESMEN BASKETBALL AWAY IN B.C.

### WOMEN

Jan. 22  
Clan **85**  
Wesmen **50**  
Jan. 23  
Wesmen **81**  
Spartans **68**

### MEN

Jan. 22  
Clan **70**  
Wesmen **60**  
Jan. 23  
Spartans **99**  
Wesmen **63**



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## Comments

### When power trumps justice

As long as Bashir rules Sudan, genocide in Darfur will continue



**BRENDAN FORSYTH**  
VOLUNTEER

Darfur, an area in western Sudan, is the site of the first genocide of the 21st century.

As in other genocides of the past, little was done in a timely manner to aid the innocent victims.

In 2003, the government of Sudan began to arm a militia group called the Janjaweed to attack the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), a rebel movement responsible for attacking government military targets and soldiers.

Shortly afterwards, and upon the government's insistence, the Janjaweed ceased targeting the SPLA specifically and instead started direct attacks on civilian villages. Genocidal practices were encouraged from all levels of the government against the defenseless population.

Men, women and children were slaughtered, while women and girls would be fortunate to escape without being violently raped.

The international community gradually became aware of the violence, and in October 2003, the government of Sudan stated that they had reached a ceasefire, and that it would be respected.

Humanitarian aid was put in place and waiting to be forwarded to the increasing numbers of refugees.

However, in November 2003, the Sudanese government blocked American aid, charging that the wheat and sorghum to be provided had been genetically modified. The government of Sudan was now implementing new means to kill its victims. Starvation became an inescapable outcome for those displaced from the conflict.

In April 2004, the United Nations began an intensive fact-finding mission. The government of Sudan requested "time to prepare," utilizing that time to dig up and incinerate the bodies from the mass graves that they had been dumped in.

The government began issuing army identity numbers to the Janjaweed militia members in an attempt to legitimize them as official soldiers. By the time of the UN arrival, the cover-up by the Sudanese government was strengthened as they began to block access to particular areas where massive atrocities had occurred.

Though the UN was aware of the scope of the violence, it was also completely powerless to do anything about it.

In September 2004, the situation in Darfur was described by the European Union to be "tantamount to a genocide." Despite all the rhetoric, very little was done to aid the people of Darfur.

Finally, in March of 2009 the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Omar Al-Bashir, the current president of Sudan and commander-in-chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces. He was indicted on two counts of war crimes and five counts of crimes against humanity, but the warrant notably refrains from indicting Bashir with the more serious charge of genocide.

Bashir has refused to give himself up, continuing to rule Sudan as an international fugitive. He views the ICC's indictment as a tool by Western nations to remove the current Sudanese government from power.

As long as he remains in power, justice will never be served for his crimes in Darfur.

*Brendan Forsyth is a sociology student at the University of Winnipeg.*

## Late-night letdown

Leno just can't let go, Conan comes off smelling like a rose



**MATTY RYGIEL**  
VOLUNTEER STAFF

I have to say that I'm one of the many people who are saddened that Conan O'Brien is leaving his *Tonight Show* post on NBC. I do not understand what NBC is doing. Forcing out the popular O'Brien is certainly not the solution that will lead back to successful ratings for the battered network.

Jay Leno and his lacklustre show have no support. Leno is hurting himself by wanting to go back in the way he's going back. Not only is he going back with bad publicity, he's going back on bad momentum with his dismal ratings. He only has the support of NBC for as long as he can deliver on the ratings.

If he doesn't deliver, why would a corporation such as NBC suddenly start supporting an entertainer out of loyalty? Leno is taking just as big a risk for himself as NBC is taking on him. He'll have to reinvent himself for a second time, which is a difficult task.

Conan O'Brien has the support of his peers, not to mention the support on the show from his guests and in the press, and the support of his friends. Leno has the support of his company, which is tentative support at best.

O'Brien's material is also much funnier now because he has the benefit of not worrying about pissing off his employers. Not only is Conan's own material hilarious because he's insulting NBC, his guests aren't holding anything back either. All last week, guests such as Ricky Gervais, Adam Sandler and Robin Williams were insulting NBC on his show.

I'm confused as to why Leno feels he still needs to be on television as a late night talk show host. He truly does good work out-



JONATHAN DYCK

side the late night as an automotive expert. I've seen him on the Discovery Channel talking about various types of cars and motorcycles. He could easily do very well hosting a car show and, at this point in time, he would probably do better as a car expert than a comedian.

Everyone has quickly forgotten that before the transition of the *Tonight Show*, O'Brien and Leno were complimenting and thanking each other at the end of their finales. Their friendship was publicly destroyed so quickly that it doesn't matter anymore.

If NBC wants to boost its ratings, then they have chosen the worst possible scenario

to do so. O'Brien is leaving due to bad circumstances, but he's exiting in the most positive manner he can muster, while Leno's return is portrayed as all bad. Instead of accepting the fact that his *Jay Leno Show* tanked and walking away quietly, he has chosen to rob O'Brien of the opportunity to fulfill a lifelong dream as host of the *Tonight Show*.

If I were a betting man, I would say that Leno won't last a year when he returns with all that negativity surrounding him.

*Matty Rygiel is a member of Team Coco.*

## Haitian history lesson

Site of recent earthquake was once the land of the Taino people



**BRIAN RICE**  
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The earthquake in Haiti is not the first calamity that has befallen the people of this beautiful Caribbean island of Hispaniola. The first was a man-made one.

The people who originally resided on the island were an Arawak-speaking people called the Taino. They came to be known as Indians, from the Spanish word *in-dios* meaning "People of God," because of the paradise-like existence they lived in. Eventually, all indigenous people in the Americas would be given that name.

"Taino" itself refers to being a good and peaceful person. Some estimates of the Taino population in the 15th century are as high as several million. The Taino were a productive society who grew many types of plants and vegetables, including corn, tomatoes, beans and cassava, that have helped feed our world. Fruit orchards were said to cover whole valleys. Cotton, a material not used by European peoples in the 15th century, was woven into cloth.

With abundant marine resources to live off of, the Taino world was a thriving one. The arrival of Christopher Columbus in 1492 changed all of that. Some of his men were

criminals, given the opportunity of freedom if they sailed to the New World, others were soldiers and surveyors who sailed in order to make their fortune, and most were searching for gold.

In the beginning, the relations between the Spanish and the Taino were favourable. However, they would soon turn for the worse.

Columbus set up the small colony of La Navidad. The Spanish men at La Navidad began to brutalize the Taino, with each Spanish male taking as many as five Taino women for his pleasure. One Spanish soldier would eventually brag about having a hundred Taino women.

The Taino rebelled and destroyed the Spanish colony. Upon their return to La

Navidad, the Spanish began to hunt down the Taino with their superior weapons. Eventually, it was decided by the Spanish that every Taino male, female and child would have to supply the Spanish with gold or have a hand cut off. Taino were also used by the Spanish for sword practice.

Those who survived would eventually mix with the African slaves. Some remained in the mountains, fighting on, but eventually they would capitulate to the Spanish.

Today, there are no more Taino left to suffer in the aftermath of the recent earthquake.

*Brian Rice is an associate professor of education at the University of Winnipeg.*

**Taino were also used by the Spanish for sword practice. The colony of Isabella near present day Santa Domingo, on the Dominican Republic side of Hispaniola, became so full of abuses that it was said to be haunted.**

The colony of Isabella near present day Santa Domingo, on the Dominican Republic side of Hispaniola, became so full of abuses that it was said to be haunted. The Taino re-

# Negotiations on climate change must include more than governments

Give the private sector the place it deserves



MATT AUSTMAN  
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Another international climate change conference, another failure. The trend is holding steady, and the willingness to counteract global climate change seems to be at an ultimate standstill.

Few political pundits were surprised when the Copenhagen Conference failed last month. The left was left disillusioned and the skeptics were left to brew in their apathetic illusions. *Adbusters* published their self-deprecating articles, and much of the Western world's right wing smirked and said, "I told you so."

Despite the optimistic tone used by U.S. President Barack Obama to garner hope about the "unprecedented multilateralism" that was achieved through the deal, the result was very similar to mainstream expectations. There wasn't enough time, there wasn't enough planning, there wasn't enough political will power and there was an over-

dose of "realism," *realpolitik* having ruled again.

If substantial change is ever going to happen, new approaches must be constantly developed by the progressives of this world. The hourglass of the time humanity has to address the issue is rapidly draining.

Perhaps the first point to address is the acceptance that realism dominates almost all of the rhetoric of the international political arena. The fastest-growing nations on the planet employ this political philosophy in their strategy in nearly every aspect of their foreign policy and have been very successful in preventing a global climate deal. Industrialized nations, such as Canada and America, use realism constantly to defend their pathetic emission targets. Realism has an iron-fisted grip in international relations and is here to stay.

Realizing this, personally, I would like to see this "blind realism" turned against itself. I want Big Oil to have a seat with the major world leaders at the next Copenhagen equivalent. Since multinational oil corporations play an integral role in climate change, let's allow them a seat at the table with the countries of the world.

As absurd as it sounds to give them that much bargaining power,



RYAN JANZ

the fact is that they already have it. The public needs to see the enormous influence they have over government.

Then the facts and figures on their profits can be displayed as governments negotiate how the private sector should be investing in counteracting climate change. We talk about accountability for government, but what about the most profitable corporations in the world? Do we need to limit our international negotiations to the

public sector?

Exxon Mobil made a *profit* of \$45.22 billion this year, a record year for them. The company is also responsible for nearly five per cent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. I want to see them defend themselves to the public. Let's pressure our world leaders to make that happen.

The people that believe that enormous amounts of verified scientific evidence mean something are tired of seeing politicians' quotes about

the need for multilateralism and the urgency of action on climate change. Millions of caring individuals around this beautiful world want to see clear numerical targets being set for emission reductions, and legally binding international documents that enforce accountability. The future is disappearing too fast for us to only listen to inspirational quotes and chant the "Yes We Can" slogan yet again.

On Feb. 1 and 2, there are activities going on at the University of Winnipeg that address these issues. On Monday, Feb. 1, there will be a lecture by David Littlemore entitled "Who Killed Copenhagen?" at Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. On Tuesday, Feb. 2, there will be a day-long teach-in discussion at Convocation Hall. Both are free and open to students and the public.

Since education and discussion of new ideas is central to finding new ways to address climate change, I encourage all to attend and bring their own opinions and knowledge forward.

*Matt Austman is a politics student at the University of Winnipeg.*

## RCMP were part of the Canadian colonial project

Benevolent history a common lie we tell ourselves



FADI ENNAB  
VOLUNTEER

Recently, from their abuse of power, there has been increased debate regarding the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). Unfortunately, what is focused on reflects the dearth of critical material on the history of Western Canada and the role of the Mounties in colonizing it.

The official story goes that Canada wanted to establish "law and order" in Western Canada and "protect" it, so they sent the police.

But to establish order the antithesis of law, pure violence, is needed. I say "violence" because the opposite of law is not lawlessness; law presupposes a level of lawlessness in

itself. To impose a British law on a population that did not even speak the language and discipline them if they resist was lawful lawlessness, which was utilized to obtain more land.

In simple words, the land was "valuable" for the Canadian government because it allowed them to gain a monopoly on power and resources in the region. They wanted the West to be able to finish the imperialist puzzle and expand from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific, east to west.

History is always written in blood. States, particularly colonial ones, are established by violence and a will to power that buttresses other indigenous populations. With the end goal being domination, the means can alternate between physical violence and more subtle forms that go unnoticed.

For instance, it is a form of symbolic subtle violence when the history of the police up to this day is portrayed as something inherently good, when in reality the

RCMP, like other British police forces in other colonies, were created to establish and further colonial sovereignty.

Sovereignty does not rise from a vacuum. It is forcefully instilled in texts and actions, which are based on the denial of indigenous peoples' history and actions. Violence creates a space for law.

In theory, Western Canada came to be included within Canada illegally. But through biased history and complete denial of the other, the colonization of Canada was made to seem legal by relying on fake treaties and broken promises. Canada's native people were told, if you sign, you will prosper. Arguably, those who signed, forcefully or willfully, and those who didn't are in the same boat today, ravished by colonization.

This brings me to my second point. By putting violence against Aboriginals

in the forefront, one can understand how the Mounties were able to pave the western Canadian frontier for settlement. The RCMP were part of a colonialist project, not human charity.

The fact remains that on the wide and open frontier, far from the eyes of the people, the RCMP had the power not only to prosecute someone they suspected, but also charge them. While this might seem horrific from a democratic perspective today, this is how they dealt with crime on the frontier. It is enough to say here that having such unique power raises the capability to abuse it.

However, there is hope. Within this challenge lies great opportunity, but this does not involve building a better RCMP for the future.

Given the history and present realities of colonial policing, the Mounties, like other federal police/military forces, must be disbanded. Canadians today can do away with the Mountie.

This is the genuinely "just" and fair approach for aboriginal peoples. It is a shame to colonize people. It is a double shame to continue colonizing them in denial.

The only reason the RCMP continues to exist, despite the recent criticisms, is because of the deep investment the Canadian government continues to put into this false history.

*Fadi Ennab is a Master's student in sociology at the University of Manitoba.*

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## Arts & Culture

# Entering the fold in Los Angeles

Winnipeg-born songstress Diana Pops talks about living in L.A., writing songs for Miley Cyrus and her own upcoming releases

AARON EPP  
MANAGING EDITOR

Working with the guy who produced *My Heart Will Go On*, living next door to the lead singer of Paramore, pitching songs to Josh Groban – Diana Pops' stories might sound like they're made up, but they're very real.

After three years of dividing her time between Winnipeg, Nashville and Los Angeles, the local singer-songwriter settled in L.A. this past July to further her music career.

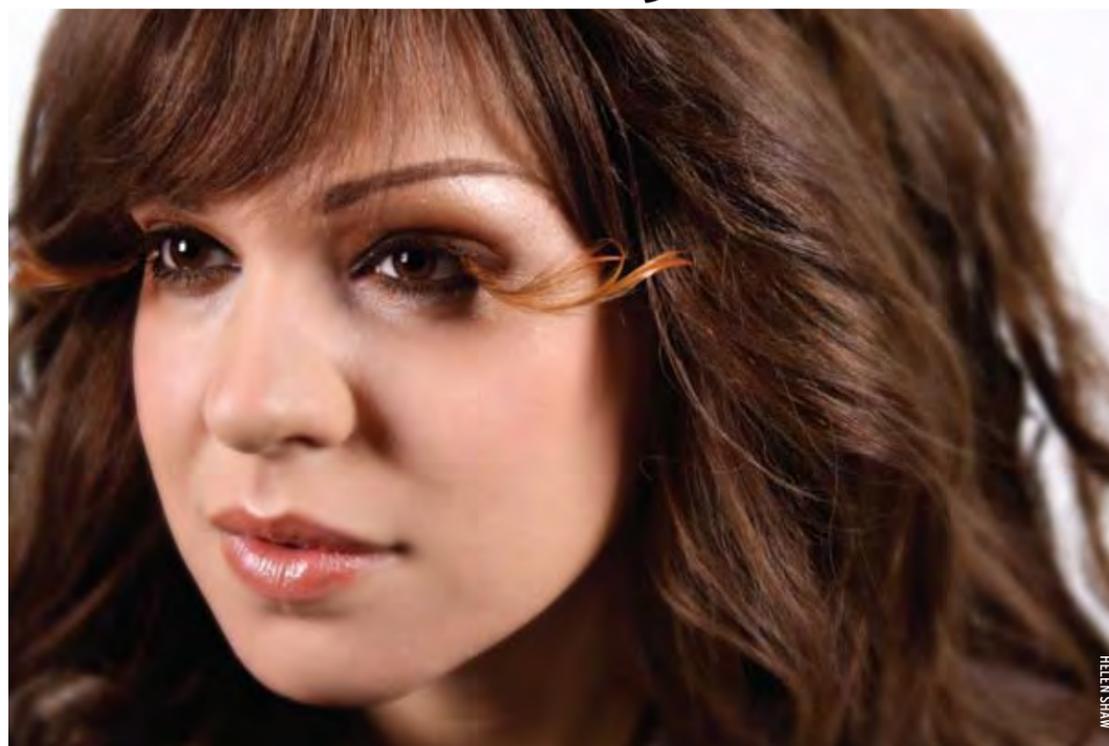
"It's like night and day," the 24-year-old said by phone from her parents' North End home last week while packing up to go back to California after an extended Christmas visit.

"I feel like when I'm here I check out of life there, and when I'm there, I check out of life here. There's not a lot of overlap."

The latest development in Pops' career is her decision to form a production team with another Winnipeg expat, producer Adrian Bradford, and a Kansas-born singer-songwriter named Chris Mann.

Working under the tutelage of Grammy-winning producer Walter Afanasieff, whose credits include work with Mariah Carey and Celine Dion, the musicians – who have dubbed themselves The Fold – are busy writing and pitching songs to the likes of Miley Cyrus, Il Divo and the aforementioned Groban.

"Depending on the project, you get pitch lists," Pops explained. "For example, [a label] will send us a list of songs artists are looking for, like 'Britney Spears needs a new song



HELEN SHAW

Diana Pops will release three EPs over the course of seven months. The first will come out in March.

about egos, and it has to be upbeat and it has to be humorous in the second verse.' There are all these specs."

The trio then writes a song accordingly. The writing-on-demand style has been an adjustment for Pops, who says the process is different when she's writing her own material.

With a taste for the melancholy, Pops writes piano-based pop songs in the vein of Sarah McLachlan. What really stands out is her voice, a rich alto that's always been mature beyond her years.

Her self-titled debut came out in March 2006, which quickly led to a development deal with Aware, the Chicago-based record label that discovered John Mayer.

Pops began working on her second CD with Bradford, but ultimately decided to part ways with Aware – a split she describes as amicable.

"It was one of those situations I never

**"[A label] will send us a list of songs artists are looking for, like 'Britney Spears needs a new song about egos, and it has to be upbeat and it has to be humorous in the second verse.'"**

–DIANA POPS, SONGWRITER

thought I'd be in, where we both realized it was not the best fit," Pops said. "I think I wanted to be a little more off-kilter than what they were looking for."

Now she's working with a manager named Mike Savage and getting ready to independently release three digital EPs. The first, ti-

tled *The Good Time Had By All*, will come out in March.

In the seven months that follow its release, she'll put out *The Multitude of Sins* and *The Touch and Go*. If all goes according to plan, a box set of all three EPs, accompanied by a collection of B-sides, will follow.

While adjusting to life in L.A. hasn't been the easiest, Pops says it's been nice to meet people her age who have also come from different parts of North America to L.A. to try and make it as musicians.

"You can instantly make friends because everyone's away from their family, they're away from home where they have security – everyone's living in apartments as starving artists," Pops said.

"There's an instant camaraderie, which is really cool."

Visit [www.dianapops.com](http://www.dianapops.com).

## Producing at a higher level

For musician Adrian Bradford, rubbing shoulders with Cher is all in a day's work

SAM HAGENLOCHER  
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Adrian Bradford isn't concerned about perception – just read his bio.

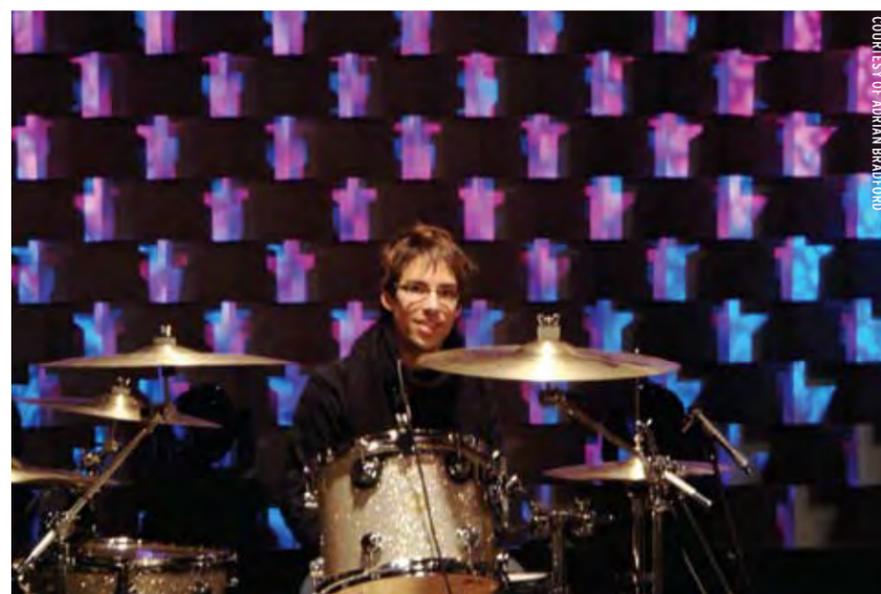
"It probably hasn't been updated in a couple years," the 28-year-old Winnipeg expat said over the phone with a laugh last week from his home in Los Angeles.

For Bradford, a seasoned producer and the man responsible for recordings by Winnipeg Juno winners Amanda Falk, Jill Paquette and Greg Sczebel, as well as Grammy nominee Fresh I.E., it's about product, first and foremost.

"As a producer, the most important thing is the music. Part of it has do with the fact that I've never been that concerned about the marketing side, though now I'm having to get serious with it; but the other part is that I've always believed that I want my work to go before me, before I start saying a bunch of stuff."

Bradford made the move south after Starfield, a local band he played drums for, got a major recording contract and moved to Nashville in 2003. It was in Nashville that Bradford's work as a producer changed indefinitely.

"[In Nashville] I got a taste of this new level of studio work that I hadn't ever seen



Producer and Winnipeg expat Adrian Bradford tests out his drum kit on the set of *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*.

before. Seeing it for the first time, it just blew me away, the level of musicianship that existed," Bradford explained.

But for a producer accustomed to work in a market like Winnipeg, competing in Nashville, a town which made its name from music, is a daunting task.

"There's a lot more producers, so it's tough to get started and convince people to pay you money to do work. I did a lot of demos and producing for people for free, trying to get my name out there."

After nearly seven years in the market,

eventually moving from Nashville to his current home in L.A., Bradford's Rolodex of musicians and collaborators has become one that would make any producer jealous.

A few of his current projects on the go include an upcoming EP for L.A. singer/songwriter Chris Mann, an album with friend and saxophonist extraordinaire Kenny G, and a collaboration with Cher on a song for her upcoming feature film with Christina Aguilera.

Working on a song for such a large feature film may sound like a very intimidating pros-

pect for any producer, but Bradford said he doesn't really think about it that way.

"In my mind it's like, 'She's coming in to record vocals, it's crazy. This is crazy,' but on the other hand, it's like, 'Well, we're programming and we're doing the same thing as always.' I mean, it's a different kind of music we're working on, sure, but it's really just going to work on another song. The magnitude hasn't struck me yet, I guess."

One particular project that has been close to Bradford's heart is his collaborative work with Winnipeg songstress Diana Pops, whose album he has been working on for years now.

"I think that there's something really special about the work that the two of us have been able to do. There's definitely an understanding and a sort of creative spark that's unique to that relationship, I feel."

"In the end though, it just really comes down to [the fact] that she's just really talented and gifted and so I feel privileged to work on it," Bradford beamed.

Though Bradford returns to his Winnipeg roots regularly, he has no regrets about his decision to move away – at least as far as his business is concerned.

"I play drums myself and I could conceivably play on an album that I was working on, but in Nashville there a thousand drummers within a two mile radius that are all a thousand times better than I am. The drums come dialed in, they sound great already, and I can just focus on the creative stuff. It's a different level of producing. Being out here has helped me realize how high the bar really is."

Visit [www.adrianbradford.com](http://www.adrianbradford.com).

## MUSIC LISTINGS

**Ladies of Winnipeg Ska and Reggae Festival**

DJ LADY SPICE describes Winnipeg's reggae and dancehall scene as strongly underground and frequented by a larger ratio of males. Enter the LADIES OF WINNIPEG SKA AND REGGAE FESTIVAL, a chance for local DJs to meet and rock steady. "I'm sure that this show will help us unite and realize that Winnipeg does have some very talented female DJs," explains Lady Spice, who will be joined by fellow DJs SISTER J, GIRL CHERISE and PENNY LANE.

With cover being a mere \$3 and the proceeds going to the Winnipeg Ska and Reggae Festival in September, a lot of people from both sexes better show up to J. Fox's on Saturday, Jan. 30.

**Tyrants of evil**

Swedish death-metal band ARCH ENEMY blaze into Winnipeg in support of the release of *The Root of All Evil*, a collection of re-imagined songs from the group's early career. The guttural vocals of Angela Gossow, guitar wizardry of Christopher and Michael Amott, Sharlee D'Angelo's fresh bass lines and the apocalyptic kicks of drummer Daniel Erlandsson make this quite possibly the most impressive Arch Enemy lineup. On Sunday, Jan. 31 they will be joined by MUTINY WITHIN and EXODUS at the Garrick Theatre.

**Matterhorn**

Taking a break from their usual stools at the Cavern, MATTERHORN will head down the street to join Dead Ranch at the Osborne Village Zoo. Originally playing together in Effector, ol' chums Rob Neal, Dirk Blouw, Andrew Donen and Stephen Chesnut reformed as Matterhorn. The have a beautifully noisy sound that will take you back to the classic days of Canadian math-rock utopia. Wednesday, Feb. 3.

**THURSDAY, JAN. 28**

SIT DOWN TRACY, ENJOY YOUR PUMAS and FIREBONFIRE play at the Academy.

THE BUSHTITS chirp up at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club along with rowdies CHEERING FOR THE BAD GUY.

BILLY THE KID and WILLIAM PRINCE perform at the Park Theatre.

KICK AXE and THE QUEEN CITY KIDS are playing their classics at Silverado's.

Join the packed floor of the Lo Pub at GOODFORM.

BILLY JOE GREEN and SISTER DOROTHY sing the blues at the Millennium Library. 12:10 p.m.

A HISTORY OF NIGHT, INGRID GATIN, THE DUSTY ROADS BAND, THE SWEET ALIBI and JD EDWARDS will play a fundraiser for humanitarian efforts in Haiti at the Pyramid Cabaret.

CRUNK FOR THE QUAKE: HAITI FUNDRAISER at the Republic Nightclub.

MOONBEAM JAZZ at the King's Head.

BUBBA B THE MC, M60 and COCKTAIL HOSTAGES play in Band Warz at the Osborne Village Zoo.

JONATHAN ALEXIUK is at the Current Lounge.

MYLES PALMQUIST plays at Shannon's Irish Pub.

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, JAN. 29**

STEVE EARLE is playing solo acoustic tunes at the Burton Cummings Theatre. HAYES CARLL opens.

MOTLEY CRUE, THE JOE PERRY PROJECT and AIRBOURNE rock the MTS Centre.

EVIL SURVIVES, PUTRESCENCE, GRAND MASTER, PROPHET and Saskatoon's UNTIMELY DEMISE shower you in sweaty metal at the Royal Albert Arms.

JAMES KEELAGHAN releases his newest album at the West End Cultural Centre.

THE ENGLISH MOCCASINS and THE TELEPATHIC BUTTERFLIES are performing at the Cavern.

The Cyrk presents SALON: ACT III, featuring a night of film, poetry, photography, paintings, drawings, science and discussion on the beauty and devastation of Lake Winnipeg.

OH MY DARLING plays at the Folk Exchange. 8 p.m.

THE F-HOLES take to the stage at the Park Theatre.

TABLE TWENTY-ONE and BUSINESS CASUAL are at Ozzy's.

THE CROOKED BROTHERS and LES SURVEILLANTES are performing at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

SIXTEEN EYES, SOUL KILLING FEMALE and THE RUINED are playing at the Zoo.

DERIC RUTTAN is performing at the McPhillips Street Casino.

DR. RAGE plays at Shannon's Irish Pub.

VINCE ANDRUSHKO is at the Standard.

DJ BE FREE is spinning at the Academy.

**SATURDAY, JAN. 30**

SLATTERN, FANNY, JAYMEZ and KRAM RAN explore your ear canals at the Royal Albert Arms.

Local hip-hop group GRAND ANALOG performs at the Cavern with NESTOR WYNRUSH opening.

The Ladies of Winnipeg Ska and Reggae Festival features DJs LADY SPICE, SISTER J GIRL CHERISE and PENNY LANE.

Menofolk presents WOMEN IN PSALM, featuring KERRI WOELKE, JENNY BERKEL and REBECCA HILL at Sam's Place.

GEOFF BERNER and RAE SPOON will be at the West End Cultural Centre.

CHRIS CARMICHAEL and THE WINDUPS are playing at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

FILTHY ANIMALS take over the Pyramid.

MORTAL RUINS, BLACKOUT BRIGADE, THE SAVANTS and MURDER SCENE MEMORIES rock Ozzy's.

Join the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's BAROQUE STRING QUARTET and MARIA LUIZ ALVAREZ to hear the baroque music of Spain at 8 p.m. in the University of Winnipeg's Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall.

PENNICOOK and NOAH play the Standard.

THE RIVER SIDE SINNERS play at Shannon's Irish Pub.

SECONDS FROM DISASTER, AMID VALHALLA and TINNITUS play at the Zoo.

GRANT DAVIDSON and SYMPTOMTECH DJs will be at the Academy.

THE OMEGAMEN are at the King's Head.

**SUNDAY, JAN. 31**

MANITOBA FILM AND MUSIC is having its second annual showcase with too many acts to list here (see article on page 13), but it's all free! The doors of the Centennial Concert Hall open at 1 p.m.

ARCH ENEMY, EXODUS and MUTINY WITHIN are playing at the Garrick Theatre.

MELISSA PLETT, ANGEL CALNEK, SONJA MILLER, KIM SEGAL, SUSS, JAN SMITH and VANESSA KUZINA perform at the Academy.

Saddle up to the bar and listen to BAD COUNTRY at the Standard.

Blues jam with BIG DAVE MCLEAN at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

MUSICBAROCK at the Crescent Fort Rouge United Church presents the music of Telemann, Handel, Scarlatti and Avison. 7:30 p.m.

ALL THE KING'S MEN at the King's Head.

**MONDAY, FEB. 1**

KEITH DYCK and BEN HADALLER play the Downtown Coffee Ground in the Red Road Lodge. 7:30 p.m.

JOHN BERRY and RITCHIE MCDONALD are at Club Regent Casino.

THORNLEY and MINI MANSIONS play at Silverado's.

LINDSEY WHITE and DAN KOSUB appear at the Yellow Dog Tavern.

The incomparable JWILLIAMEZ performs at Shannon's Irish Pub.

Watch James Brown run from the bar to the turntable at the VINYL DRIP in the Cavern.

Karaoke at the Standard.

NEIL PINTO at Shannon's Irish Pub.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 2**

Soul-nite with THE SOLUTIONS at the Cavern.

THE EXPERIENCES take the stage at the Royal George Hotel.

Open-mic night at the Academy.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3**

The Melodies on Mercredi series presents BRETT NELSON and KIPP KOCAJ, as well as photography by F/Action at the West End Cultural Centre.

MATTERHORN and DEAD RANCH are at the Osborne Village Zoo.

ANDREW NEVILLE AND THE POOR CHOICES at the Standard.

LEANNE PEARSON will perform at the Academy.

THE WELCOME MATS play the King's Head Pub.

TRIVIAOKE at the Cavern.

WILD AND WICKED WEDNESDAYS at Ozzy's.

**THURSDAY, FEB. 4**

Vancouver's THE FRESHEST are joined by the LYTICS at the Pyramid Cabaret.

Join the packed floor of the Lo Pub at GOODFORM.

MOONBEAM JAZZ at the King's Head.

ROUTE 59 Jam Night at the Cavern.

VINCE ANDRUSHKO is playing at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

JOEL NICKEL releases his album *Searching For Lethe* at the King's Head.

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

GREYMAN and KEITH DYCK are at the Academy.

PAPA MAMBO will move you at the Current Lounge.

DAVID BART Celtic night at Shannon's Irish Pub.

NEIL PINTO plays at Saffron's.


**UPCOMING SHOWS**

NATHAN with guests NOVA at the West End Cultural Centre, Feb. 5

RAEKWON at the Pyramid Cabaret, Wednesday, Feb. 10.

YACHT and BOBBY BIRDMAN at the Pyramid Cabaret, Thursday, Feb. 25.

JULY BLACK and BIRDS OF WALES at the Garrick Theatre, Tuesday, March 2.

ELECTRIC SIX at the Royal Albert Arms, Wednesday, March 17.

BABY DEE at the West End Cultural Centre, Tuesday, April 20.

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

NOFX at the Burton Cummings Theatre, Monday, April 26.

CHARLEY PRIDE at the Centennial Concert Hall, Saturday, May 1.

GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS at the Centennial Concert Hall, Saturday, May 22.

## CD REVIEWS

**SOUL KILLING FEMALE**

*Utopia Mine*

Independent

★★★★☆

This album is an illustrious debut by newcomers Soul Killing Female. Written over four years ago, *Utopia Mine* was finally recorded and released to the general public late last year. Sole member Michael Lewis (who has since expanded the band into a full live line-up) bares his very soul on this album, a tribute to heart-break, broken promises and devastation. Ethereal, tense vocals wisp around over doomy riffs as the synth drones out long, somber funerary passages. This album is surprising both in its complexity and subtlety considering that one man is behind all of it. If you're a fan of Tool or Neurosis, don't miss the boat and check these guys out live Jan. 29 at the Zoo.

-Ryan Suche



LOCAL

**ILLUSIVE MIND GYPSY CREW**

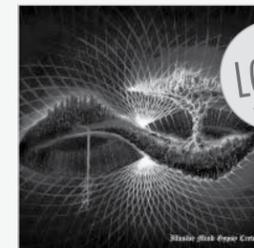
*Vagrant Moth Three: A Place of No Echoes*

Independent

★★★★☆

*Vagrant Moth Three: A Place of No Echoes* is the final chapter in the *Vagrant Moth* trilogy and Illusive Mind Gypsy Crew's fourth effort to date. *Three* is a sprawling album, and features over 20 guest musicians who contribute everything from didgeridoos to a trained opera singer. The album has a fair number of shorter, more experimental tracks and they serve as stepping-stones to and from the main foci of this album: a trio of three gargantuan songs ranging anywhere from 8 to 12-plus minutes in length. These three epics are the show stealers and have the band pulling all the stops in a majestic tour-de-force of experimental, folk-infused heavy metal. A must-have from the Winnipeg scene.

-Ryan Suche



LOCAL

**STEVE BASHAM**

*Thicker*

Independent

★★★★☆

When Steve Basham had to choose a name for the follow-up to his previous recording, *Thick*, the choice must have been obvious. Thus we have *Thicker*, an album which shows that Mr. Basham's sound has certainly congealed somewhat in the past year. The songwriting is similar - rife with apparent inside jokes and amusing story-telling lyrics - but this time he's fleshed the sound out with a drum kit and more of a full-band sound. It is definitely an improvement in this listener's opinion. The feel for the album is set by the opening track, and it pleasantly doesn't veer far from this sound through the album's 10 songs. It's upbeat, simple and catchy. Comparisons to The Dead Milkmen or even Pavement could be made. Twenty minutes of fun from one of Winnipeg's more unique musicians. I'm eagerly awaiting *Thickest*, which I fully expect to contain a string quartet and four-part harmonies.

-Marshall Birch



LOCAL

**DAVID MURRAY AND THE GWO KA MASTERS**

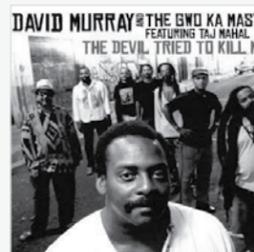
*The Devil Tried to Kill Me*

Justin Time Records

★★★★☆

*The Devil Tried to Kill Me* sounds like a giant Folk Fest jam, if at least half the participants were talented jazz musicians. It's a fun, mainly instrumental album that can be listened to for pleasure or played while studying. There are many songs about Obama out there. *Kiama for Obama* is catchy, but not nearly as funny as *Obama is Beautiful World* or epic as *Barack OBollywood*. Nevertheless it's a good album opener. The lyrics to *Africa* are a little on the ridiculous side and this can be seen in Taj Mahal's deliverance. He sounds great, but "Africa, if I were a hospice worker . . . I would remove the flies from your eyes" feels forced. In the end *The Devil Tried to Kill Me* goes beyond its idiosyncratic lyrics and is worth a listen.

-Ian McAmmond

**COURTNEY FARQUHAR**

*Nowhere I'd Rather Be*

Independent

★★★★☆

Unobtrusive, pretty and natural, Courtney Farquhar's first full-length album *Nowhere I'd Rather Be* has an elegant simplicity to it. Despite a couple of tracks that verge on the Pier 1 (i.e. the music that constantly plays there), the songwriting and arranging works quite well. Although it's not the kind of record I would play every day, listening to is pleasant and relaxing. This country-folk girl knows how to craft a variety of songs and *Nowhere I'd Rather Be* doesn't get boring as many a singer/songwriter's album does. Farquhar's voice can be heard powerfully and clearly throughout the album, but *Man Like You* is certainly a standout track with mandolin and drums gently moving the song forward. If you're looking for an album for your car as you drive to and from the suburbs, this is the disc for you.

-Ian McAmmond



# Backpacking is in Billy's blood

B.C.'s Billy the Kid discusses life on the road, songwriting and acting like everyone else

IAN MCAMMOND  
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Young, sweet and personable, B.C. musician Billy the Kid (a.k.a. Billy Pettinger) kicked off her four-month tour in Edmonton last week and is currently making her way east. A veteran of the road, the former runaway realizes this lifestyle isn't for everyone.

"Living out of a backpack is in my blood. I guess that's why I'm doing the solo thing. It's not for everyone. Once you get out there, being dirty ... I wouldn't have it any other way," Pettinger said.

Having produced three previous albums with her band, The Lost Boys, the 27-year-old released her solo debut, *The Lost Cause*, two years ago under the moniker Billy The Kid.

Produced by Our Lady Peace's Raine



Is today the best day ever? Western Canadian singer/songwriter Billy the Kid seems to think so. She'll perform at the Park Theatre Jan 28.

Maida, the five-song EP even boasts the likes of Garth Hudson (of The Band fame) on one particular track.

Pettinger may have no plans for a new album at the moment, but the indie folk-rock is constantly crafting new material.

"Until then I'm always making little demos and putting them online. So there's

never a stop of creative output. I try to do a lot of online stuff that's free so people don't get bored," she said.

The prolific singer-songwriter writes from experience about the human condition. She prides herself on being able to extract from the broad to the intricately specific, crafting empathic songs from others' perspectives.

## Manitoba Film & Music Showcase



Winnipeg/Toronto hip hop collective Grand Analog will perform as part of the Manitoba Film and Music Showcase at the Centennial Concert Hall.

Manitoba Film & Music is hosting its 2nd annual showcase, featuring multiple genres of music, film and television from Manitoba's vibrant arts community on Sunday, Jan. 31.

The free public event will feature local music acts The Weakerthans, Grand Analog, Romi Mayes, Fred Penner, Nathan, JP Hoe, Harlequin, Billy Joe Green, Quinzy, Daniel ROA, Domenica, Paper Moon and the Record of the Week Club with Mike Petkau.

The showcase will feature an up close and personal interview with director Gary Yates (*High Life, Seven Times Lucky*); screenings of the animated short *Runaway* (directed by Cordell Barker in conjunction

with the National Film Board of Canada), *Cubicle Land*, (Original Pictures), *Live at the West End* (Low Budget Productions); spotlights on Farpoint Films, Frantic Films, the National Screen Institute, the National Film Board of Canada and a live aerial silks performance from filmmaker/aerial artist Talia Pura, whose short film, *Aerial Artistry*, has been chosen to represent Manitoba in the upcoming 2010 Olympics in Vancouver next month.

The event takes place at the Centennial Concert Hall and doors open at 1:00 p.m.

For more information visit [www.mbfilm-music.ca](http://www.mbfilm-music.ca).

-SAM HAGENLOCHER

## Women in Psalm



With two CDs under her belt, local folk/roots singer-songwriter Kerri Woelke has the most experience of the three performers at Mennofolk's Women in Psalm event.

Mennofolk Manitoba, an annual festival showcasing art and music stemming from Manitoba's Mennonite community, is hosting its first event of the year this Saturday, Jan. 30.

Under the theme "Women in Psalm," the evening will feature performances by three female singer-songwriters. Newcomer Rebecca Hill will be joined by award-winning folk/roots artist Kerri Woelke and Jenny Berkel, whose two previous bands – The Wandering Goose and Lady O'Lakes – toured across Canada and Ireland.

The event happens at Sam's Place on 159 Henderson Hwy. at 7 p.m. Admission is free with donations in the boot.

Mennofolk's goal is to encourage arts in people associated with Mennonite communities – however loosely or tightly – and to provide a platform for emerging artists in all media and genres.

Saturday's show marks the first of a series of events this year, which will also include an art opening on Saturday, Feb. 27.

For more information, visit [www.myspace.com/mennofolkmanitoba](http://www.myspace.com/mennofolkmanitoba).

-MIKE DUERKSEN

## Musica Speciale - Collective Groove



U of M school of music graduate Laurelle Froese is one of the musicians taking part in Collective Groove's *Musica Speciale* event at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Collective Groove, an event where musicians from different ensembles get together to perform new creations, will be presenting *Musica Speciale* at the Winnipeg Art Gallery Saturday, Jan. 30.

The event will feature music by Andrea Hunt, The Musica Speciale Quartet, John Racaru, Cary Denby, Edvany da Silva, Natalie Dawe, Kurt Youngblood, Yari Pepper, Natalia Zielinski, Katherine Bonness and Daniel Koulack.

Compositions include John Racaru's "Renaissance II" for solo violin, based on Romanian Doina song style, Peter Knell's "Seven Last Words," inspired by seven paintings from German artist Rolf Stein, Ralph Von Williams' "Pastorale," as well as selections from Metallica, The Beatles and Nirvana, all performed by Celliamo, a quartet of cellos.

Tickets are \$17 in advance, available at McNally Robinson and Croft Music, or \$20 at the door. Students get in for \$10.

For more information visit <http://www.musicaspeciale.com>.

-SAM HAGENLOCHER

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TW	Artist	Recording	Label
1	!Various Artists	Buried Treasures	SuperOldies.com
2	!Paperbacks	Lit From Within	Parliament of Trees
3	Tom Waits	Glitter & Doom Live	Anti
4	*Bloodshot Bill	Git High Tonite	Transistor 66
5	*Little Girls	Concepts	Paper Bag
6	Weezer	Raditude	DGC
7	Flaming Lips	Embryonic	Warner
8	Joe Louis Walker	Between Rock and the Blues	Stony Plain
9	Raveonettes	In and Out of Control	Vice
10	!Various Artists	Best of Franklin	SuperOldies.com

# Controversial? Maybe. Unorthodox? Definitely.

Winnipeg filmmaker Sean Garrity may be courting controversy with his latest film, but he doesn't see it that way

SAM HAGENLOCHER  
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Sean Garrity is not a man averse to taking risks with his craft.

The Winnipeg-born filmmaker first made waves in 2001 when his feature debut, *Inertia*, won the award for Best First Canadian Feature at the Toronto International Film Festival.

In 2005 he made *Lucid*, a tale of an obsessive insomniac, and won the coveted Grand Jury Prize at Toronto's Hot Docs Film Festival, with critics comparing him to legendary filmmakers David Cronenberg and Luis Bunuel.

With his latest opus, *Zoey and Adam*, the filmmaker is tackling some pretty unsavory subject matter — not unlike his controversial contemporaries.

The film follows the story of a newlywed couple desperate to conceive a child until a tragic twist of fate grants their wish, giving the lovers much more than they bargained for. It has been dividing judges and critics across the nation's film festivals.

When the film's distributor, Kinosmith, heard of this, they immediately set about capitalizing on it, marketing the film as "the most controversial film you'll see this year."

But Garrity doesn't feel that way.

"I didn't set out to make a controversial film," he explained over coffee last week at one of his favorite haunts, the Fyxx on Broadway.

"I hate it when writers or directors do



COURTESY OF SEAN GARRITY

Acclaimed local filmmaker Sean Garrity is not afraid of taking risks, as evidenced by his latest opus, *Zoey and Adam*.

**"When you see Tom [Keenan] arguing with Daria [Puttaert], and she drops a bomb on him, the awkward pause, the shocked look on his face: those are real. Tom didn't know that was coming."**

-SEAN GARRITY, FILMMAKER

basis of the film with these people and try to change their minds, but I do get it. It's a film about a man whose wife gets raped in front of him, and instead of following her story afterwards, it follows his," Garrity said.

"I think it's a perspective people aren't used to, and it's clearly not something that these people are comfortable with."

In making such an emotional film like this, Garrity decided to take a rather unorthodox approach with his actors.

Instead of simply laying the story out for them, he chose to instead inform them individually of their motivations scene by scene, often providing them with conflicting motives, in order to capture the genuine pauses and emotions on camera.

"When you see Tom [Keenan] arguing with Daria [Puttaert], and she drops a bomb on him, the awkward pause, the shocked look on his face: those are real. Tom didn't know that was coming. I would tell him before the scene something completely different than Daria, and they would have no idea what the other person was going to do or say. For that reason, we rarely did any second takes," Garrity explained, smiling mischievously.

"I was so lucky to have such fearless actors who were willing to take risks like that."

that. I don't think that's a reason to make a film. To try and shock people without any real meaning to it, just so that critics can say 'I understand [the film] in a more profound way than everyone else.' The concept that there's some 'higher plane' of intellect that

we're just not getting, making it controversial. That's really just bullshit."

Though he disagrees with the label being put on the film, Garrity did admit that he understands why it's getting such a rap.

"I get it. I mean, I wish I could discuss the

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- Pulitzer Prize winning works by composers Steven Stucky and Steve Reich
- Distinguished guest ensemble performance by 2008 Grammy Award winner Eighth Blackbird
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Photo of Tanya Tagaq: Filippe Ligato

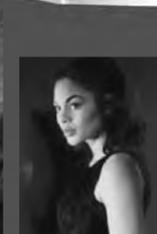
Canadian throat-singing superstar Tanya Tagaq



Greg Lowe, guitar



Eighth Blackbird Ensemble



Ndidi Onukwulu, singer



Aiyun Huang, percussion



Vincent Ho



Tim Brady, guitar



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# Bold, raw and unforgettable

Winnipeg filmmaker Sean Garrity's latest is a gritty, fearless, emotionally devastating experience

**SAM HAGENLOCHER**  
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

## Zoey & Adam

Dir. by Sean Garrity, 2009

85 minutes

Plays at the Cinematheque Friday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.,

Saturday, Jan. 30 - Thursday, Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.

★★★★☆

While *Zoey and Adam*, the latest by endlessly inventive Winnipeg filmmaker Sean Garrity, may not be the most controversial film I've seen this year, it could be the most raw.

Made on a shoestring budget of \$6,000, the film follows the lives of married couple Zoey (Daria Puttaert) and Adam (Tom Keenan) as their relationship is stretched beyond its breaking point. The film feels more like a documentary or a home video than a scripted production. The graininess of the overall picture, as well as the hand-held camera feel, along with the choppy zooms and awkward cuts, give the film a far more authentic atmosphere than if it had been crisp and smooth, like your average production.

Much of the emotional weight of the film rests on Garrity's ability to convince us that these are characters that are not only believable, but are worth investing in and caring about. It's here that he overwhelmingly succeeds.

In telling the couple's tragic tale, Garrity is certainly not afraid of taking risks, and it pays off handsomely.



Zoey (Daria Puttaert, left) and Adam (Tom Keenan) share a tense pause in Sean Garrity's emotional thriller *Zoey and Adam*, which opens this week at the Cinematheque.

The story begins with Zoey and Adam attempting, in a creative and always enjoyable manner, to conceive a child. This overwhelming desire for offspring of their own creates as much tension as it relieves, as Adam fears that he might be sterile, and Zoey worries that she might waste the child-bearing years she has left without ever having a baby to hold. All this comes to a screeching halt as the couple, while camping near West Hawk Lake, is assaulted by a group of men. Zoey is raped while Adam is held down, forced to watch in horror.

Garrity takes a careful approach to this shocking sequence, keeping its gravity intact, as all that is shown are shaken flashlights and unstable silhouettes, accompanied by horrifying sounds and helpless screams.

Local actors Puttaert and Keenan deserve profuse recognition for fearlessly taking on

these deeply disturbed characters and giving them their all. This is make-it or break-it filmmaking, and if either actor hadn't put in such outstanding and brave performances, then the film would have little to stand on.

As the couple's story unravels, the emotional weight of the film is draining.

Zoey becomes pregnant with what could be her attacker's child. Adam, meanwhile, struggles to cope and is haunted by his inability to prevent the attack as well as his frightening suspicion that Zoey's child isn't his. The couple are left with the choice of whether or not they keep a child that may not be their own.

This is bold and raw filmmaking, like a visceral punch in the chest that knocks you off your seat and leaves you breathless.

⇒ See interview with director Sean Garrity on page 14.

## A David and Goliath story made in Manitoba

Biopic of Manitoba politician Elijah Harper is adventurous and inspiring

## Elijah

Dir. by Paul Urwin, 2007

88 minutes

English and Cree with English subtitles

Now available on DVD

★★★★☆

**TIMOTHY PENNER**  
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Generally, the term made-for-TV-movie evokes in my mind a parade of images of melodramatic narratives presented with only the most banal of filmic techniques. Thankfully, this is not the case with *Elijah*, the story of Native political leader Elijah Harper.

The film is a refreshingly visceral portrayal



Billy Merasty stars as Aboriginal politician Elijah Harper in *Elijah*.

of one of the more controversial characters to appear on the Manitoban political scene in a long time.

The film, shot entirely on location in and around Winnipeg, is a highly stylized account of Harper's life from his time spent in the notorious residential school system, through his arrival in Winnipeg, following his ultimate rise from band chief to MLA for

the vast Rupertsland riding in Manitoba.

The crux of the film revolves around Harper's opposition to the Meech Lake Accord, Brian Mulroney's failed attempt (of sorts) at Canadian unification.

Although not a perfect film, I have to admire director Paul Urwin's audacity and sense of adventure. This could have been the duller of films, but Urwin's stylistic flairs not only help to push his thematic ideas in intelligent and interesting ways, but he also manages to make something as tiresome as explaining a treaty fun to watch.

Of particular note are the two actors who play Harper and Assembly of First Nations vice-chief Phil Fontaine – Bill Merasty and Glen Gould, respectively. It's not easy to play still living characters without devolving into caricature, a problem that occurs repeatedly throughout the film with other actors, but the pair pull off a daunting task and essentially carry the film on their shoulders.

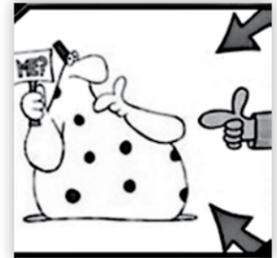
Ultimately, the film is a David and Goliath story, an encouraging reminder that sometimes the little guy can make some difference no matter how much control those in power think they may have.

It's a good message, especially given the current activity (or should I say inactivity) of another Harper.

## FILM



Big Smash! Productions presents the documentary screening of *DIARY OF A TIMES SQUARE THIEF*, a look into the seedy underbelly of the Big Apple. Thursday, Jan. 28 at the Ellice Theatre. 8 p.m.



The Cinematheque's Cabin Fever series presents *SUNDAY AFTERNOON FANTASY SHORTS*, featuring *Monster in a Coal Bin*, *I Wish* and *Gerald and the Genie*. Sunday, Jan. 31 at 2 p.m.

Winnipeg director Sean Garrity's film *ZOOEY & ADAM* plays nightly at Cinematheque at 7 p.m. from Friday, Jan. 29 until Thursday, Feb. 4.



MEMORIES OF A GENERATION: ALI SAEED AND OTHER VICTIMS OF ETHIOPIAN TORTURE will be introduced by Ali Saeed at Cinematheque. Thursday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m.

The MANITOBA FILM AND MUSIC SHOWCASE is on Sunday, Jan. 31 at the Centennial Concert Hall. This is a free public event so show up early. Doors open at 1 p.m.

The Millennium Library presents *ACROSS THE BOARD: AN NFB FILM SERIES* every Wednesday at 7 p.m. This week's program is presented by Caelum Vatnsdal.

The Aqua Books *TEENAGE RAMPAGE* screenings will play *CHRISTINE F.* on Saturday, Jan. 30 at 4 p.m.

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

## LITERATURE

Larry Verstraete launches his book *AT THE EDGE: DARING ACTS IN DESPERATE TIMES* on Thursday, Jan. 28 at McNally Robinson. 7 p.m.

On Thursday, Jan. 28, Aqua Books presents *ABSDUR ALCHEMY* with authors John Toone, James Rewucki, Mike Saunders, Susie Moloney and GMB Chomichuk. 7 p.m.

*KELLY HUGHES LIVE!* talk show series continues at Aqua Books on Friday, Jan. 29 with guests *TINA KEEPER* and *FRED PENNER*, with music by *ROLLIN PENNER* AND *THE TRAVELING MEDICINE SHOW*. 7 p.m.

Aqua Books' *Speaking Crow Open Mic* on Tuesday, Feb. 2 features *KEGAN MCFADDEN*. 7 p.m.

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## GALLERIES &amp; MUSEUMS

Ashley Perrier's solo exhibition **WHERE STRANGE THINGS MAY COME** opens Thursday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. The exhibition will be on display until Tuesday, Feb. 2.

Artbeat Studio is hosting **BLACKBIRD, FLY** its fifth anniversary celebration, with works by Daniel Clark, Candassy Cross, Loral Hildebrand, Andrea Moore, Ruth Schlick, Joyska Schmid and Terri Tena. The exhibition will be up until Saturday, Jan. 30.

Evan Tapper's latest multimedia exhibition **SWOON** is on display in Gallery 1C03 until Saturday, Feb. 20.

KAREN ASHER presents her photographic portraits **NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN** at the Platform Centre for Photographic Arts. The prints will be on display until Saturday, Feb. 27.

Artist TONY SCHERMAN's encaustic paintings will be on display at the Winnipeg Art Gallery until Sunday, March 14.

Break up your winter by walking into the Medea Gallery to see MABLE HUBER's floral photographic exhibition **BURSTING WITH COLOUR**. On display until Saturday, Jan. 30.

The Winnipeg Folk Festival presents **THE ART OF MUSIC 2**, an exhibition of drawings, paintings and photographs by artistic musicians. On display at the Folk Exchange until Tuesday, Feb. 2.

The Costume Museum of Canada will display bridal wear from the First and Second World Wars in their exhibition **WARTIME WEDDINGS**. Teaming up with the Urban Shaman Gallery and Jenny Western, the Museum will also display a collection of **NATIVE/AMERICAN APPAREL**. Both exhibits run until Sunday, April 4.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery displays **DELICATE BEAUTY: THE RUBY ASHDOWN PORCELAIN COLLECTION**. The decorative art pieces that were donated to the WAG come from 18th and 19th century Britain. The exhibition will display until Sunday, April 18.

**WHERE THE SENSES LIE**, an exhibition by CLINT ENNS and JEANETTE JOHNS is on display at Gallery 803 until Saturday, Jan. 30.

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

The Graffiti Gallery presents **LEGENDS, HEROES, MYTHS AND SUCH**, a collection from an assortment of local artists. On display until Saturday, Jan. 30.

**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](mailto:art-educator@wag.ca).

## THEATRE, DANCE &amp; COMEDY

The 2010 edition of the **MASTER PLAYWRIGHT FESTIVAL** honours the work of British dramatist CARYL CHURCHILL. Author of plays such as *Cloud 9*, *Top Girls*, *Fen*, *Drunk Enough to Say I Love You* and *Seven Jewish Children*. **CHURCHILLFEST** runs until Sunday, Feb. 7. For information on show times go to [www.masterplaywrightfest.com](http://www.masterplaywrightfest.com).

The Fantasia Affair presents **GENDER OUTLAWS** featuring KATE BORNSTEIN at the West End Cultural Centre. Saturday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Caryl Churchill's **VINEGAR TOM** is being performed by the University of Winnipeg's Theatre and Film Department from Friday, Jan. 29 until Saturday, Feb. 6 at 8 p.m., with only a matinee show on Sunday, Jan. 31 at 2:30 p.m. and no performance on Monday, Feb. 1.

Novelist Michael Redhill's critically acclaimed **GOODNESS** is onstage at the Prairie Theatre Exchange until Sunday, Jan. 31.

Caryl Churchill's **A MOUTHFUL OF BIRDS** is being performed by Theatre Anywhere at Studio Incarnate. Wednesday, Feb. 3 until Saturday, Feb. 6 at 7:30 p.m., then on Sunday, Feb. 7 at 2:30 p.m.

Harold Pinter's play **BETRAYAL** is being performed by the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre starting Thursday, Jan. 28 and running until Sunday, Feb. 7 at the Berney Theatre.

MTC's musical theatre journey **THE DROWSY CHAPERONE** is onstage at the John Hirsch Theatre until Saturday, Jan. 30.

Part of Churchillfest, **TOP GIRLS**, a production exploring what it means to be a modern successful woman, runs until Saturday, Feb. 6 at the MTC Warehouse.

Caryl Churchill's **FEN** is being performed by Sarasvati Productions until Sunday, Feb. 7 at the Rachel Browne Studio.

Comedy night with **SCOOTERS MCTAVISH** every Thursday at Shannon's Irish Pub.

Sunday night open mic comedy at the Cavern, featuring JOHN B. DUFF.

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

## THEATRE REVIEWS

Timeless classic makes for *Top-notch* theatreMTC's take on Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls* is a compelling experienceCOURTNEY SCHWEGEL  
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER**Top Girls**Directed by Ann Hodges  
Presented by MTC as part of Churchill Fest  
Playing at the Tom Hendry Theatre (Warehouse)  
until Saturday, Feb 6.

★★★★☆

Both charmingly humorous and startlingly disturbing, MTC's production of Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls* vividly illustrates the subjugation, struggles and successes of various women throughout history.

*Top Girls* is a socially conscious, feminist play set in the 1980s that depicts the life of Marlene, a professional who receives a lofty promotion at work.

The time-transcending, nonlinear play progresses from the fantastic to the realistic, with the first scene depicting a celebratory dinner Marlene holds to mark her promotion. In attendance are five remarkable women from various points in history, including Pope Joan, a female pope of the 850s who lived as a man to pursue religious studies, and Lady Nijo, a Japanese Buddhist nun who wrote about her experiences walking through Japan.

Each of the characters are strikingly vibrant. It's an impressive accomplishment of both the skilled actresses, most of whom play two different characters, and the costume and makeup crew who managed to create such distinctive looks for each of the characters. The actresses remained unrecognizable between their alternate roles.

Perhaps the most compelling character was Dull Gret, a primitive warrior woman



BRUCE MONK

This dinner party looks awkward: Tracy Penner (left) as Dull Gret and Jennifer Villaverde as Lady Nijo in *Top Girls*.

and dinner guest, played by Tracy Penner. Though she remained silent for most of the scene, the words she did speak were spoken with enough emotional intensity to change the energy in the theatre from warm and light-hearted to deeply tragic in a matter of seconds.

While the actresses meticulously mastered the overlapping dialogue, a feature which Churchill wrote into the script, it proved to be somewhat overwhelming, forcing one to frantically choose which woman to listen to.

Since each of the characters had such interesting tales to tell it was a shame to miss anything. However, this feature did bring an

authentic dinner-party feel to the stage.

Overall, *Top Girls* showcases the remarkable accomplishments of women not just within the script but at every level of the play's production and execution.

The attention to detail was remarkable, from the sharp, synchronized set changes to the ornate costumes, right down to the props – the food at the dinner even seemed to be wafting delicious aromas throughout the theatre.

Like most socially powerful plays, the ending of *Top Girls* was deeply ambiguous. Viewers will no doubt leave the theatre with a lot of mental material to digest.

Churchill double feature *Not Not Not Not* to be missed

Theatre Incarnate's adaptation of Churchill play is exceptionally performed, if a little clunky

SAGAN MORROW  
STAFF WRITER**Far Away / Not Not Not Not Not Enough Oxygen**Directed by Brenda McLean and Christopher Sobczak  
Presented by Theatre Incarnate as part of Churchill Fest  
Playing at Studio 320 (320-70 Albert St.) until Saturday, Jan. 31

★★★★☆

Performed in the intimate space of Studio 320, *Far Away / Not Not Not Not Not Enough Oxygen* is a chilling double feature that leaves the audience asking questions about their own position in society.

Caryl Churchill's beautiful writing comes to life as the audience is invited to reconsider their own motives behind everyday actions.

The story of a young girl growing up in a violent world where even the elephants and the weather are involved in war, *Far Away* examines "truth" and

our relation to it. It asks us how far we are willing to go in this pursuit of truth.

As the play indicates, we often believe in what we are told because it is easier and safer than questioning these viewpoints.

Divided into three parts, *Far Away* provides fascinating insights into human nature, but the transitions between scenes are often not as smooth as they could be.

In a particular scene in the second part, there is a lengthy silence intended to convey conflict in a relationship; this could have been demonstrated more poignantly without the uncomfortable silence.

*Not Not Not Not Not Enough Oxygen* was originally written in 1971, but it easily holds up in our modern world.

Exploring environmental issues and the dangers of selfishness and fear, Churchill's astute understanding of human distraction is depicted within her play.

Using simple sets that include just a couple chairs or a table, this double feature is supplemented by the additions of both music and smoke. *Far Away* also makes use of a screen on the back wall at one point to show a short video sequence that contributes to the disturbing ideas presented.

The acting is exquisite for both of these performances and, in particular, Brenda McLean demonstrates her skills as she literally gasps for air throughout the show.

## Still relevant after all these years

Shoestring's take on Churchill's humorous *The After-Dinner Joke* is sure to entertainSAGAN MORROW  
STAFF WRITER**The After-Dinner Joke**Directed by Maureen Taggart  
Presented by Shoestring as part of Churchill Fest  
Playing at PTE Colin Jackson Studio Theatre (3rd floor, 393 Portage Ave.) until Saturday, Jan. 31.

★★★★☆

With a full cast of 18 characters, *The After-Dinner Joke* is made up of busy interactions and shorter skits within the main story. The play is light-hearted and humorous, even as it identifies blatant contradictions in the way that we live our lives.

*The After-Dinner Joke* follows a young woman, Selby (Jennifer Gottwald), as she navigates her way through the world of politics. She is adamant that not everything is political, but she is increasingly proven wrong.

Selby works for a charity organization and is forced to recognize that people are only

interested in contributing to charity if it serves their own interests.

The overarching theme in this story is that it is beneficial to be "charitable," but only because it helps our own economy.

As Selby learns, advertisements that imply that the rich are generous will be more effective than advertisements that show the horror of reality in developing countries.

With so many characters moving on and off the stage frequently in this 60-minute performance, it could easily become confusing and chaotic. However, director Maureen Taggart adeptly sets the stage in an organized manner, eliminating any potential mishaps between scene changes.

The acting is carried out well, especially when the characters onstage have to freeze while a shorter skit is conducted off to the side.

A few lines were fumbled and there was a moment of awkwardness at the end when it appeared that there was a mistake with the lighting, but this is a lively performance that is sure to entertain.

Caryl Churchill wrote this play in the '70s and although some of the jokes might not be quite as accessible as they were back then, the ideas presented in *The After-Dinner Joke* are still applicable to today's global climate.

# Eating on Albert Street

More than just a legendary music venue, the Royal Albert Arms serves up delicious food in its diner

CAITLIN LAIRD  
CULTURE REPORTER

## The Albert Diner

48 Albert St.  
Open Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

From the outside, The Albert Diner at 48 Albert St. — an encased glass outgrowth of the Royal Albert Arms — looks like an oversized terrarium.

Once inside, the effect this brightly lit transparency has creates the illusion that one is actually eating on snowy Albert Street.

The diner reopened at the beginning of December with a new menu. On a Friday afternoon at around 1 p.m. the lunch rush is just dying down. The service is prompt and friendly.

However, if you want to be able to try the special, you may want to arrive sooner than that as they were sold out — it was a Thai coconut curry, along with the frequently blogged-about homemade veggie burger.

The abbreviated lunch menu is a combo of vegan and carnivorous fare, so self-conscious tofu lovers can dine without the shame of having to watch the expression on their companion's face when they explain that, "No, you cannot just simply order a burger," as is the case at some purely vegan eateries.

The beef burger is served with your choice of herb fries, yam fries, soup or mixed greens.

It is a quarter-pound naturally raised local beef, mayo, mustard, ketchup, lettuce tomato, onions and banana peppers.

Pulled chicken is also available in the form of a santa fe wrap or a barbecue chicken sandwich, which comes with the diners' signature bbq sauce.



The mock duck salad is one of the tasty meals available at The Albert Diner.



The diner's burger is served with carrot ginger soup.

Alternatively, one could opt for the TLT wrap, served with tofu bacon, lettuce, tomato, cheese and mayo.

Other vegan offerings include a mock duck spinach salad or a marinated tofu sandwich.

The server-endorsed harvest burrito was remarkably filling and jam-packed with black beans, peppers, tomato, roasted yam, lettuce, cheese, sour cream and fresh salsa.

If you decide to go with the spinach salad on the side you will not be disappointed.

Served with shredded carrots and a dress-

ing consisting primarily of pure maple syrup and dijon mustard, it will likely be one of the few occasions when you actually want to finish the salad first, rather than out of some obligation to eating healthy.

Desert options are sparse and light, including cookies and a brownie, but one doubts you would have room following your meal.

One could also go for a cappuccino if you are in the mood for something resembling dessert that is not overtly sweet.

# Welcome to the dark side

BDSM is needlessly reviled

MICHELLE GORDON  
THE PHOENIX

KELOWNA, B.C. (CUP) — There are many alternative lifestyles that range from mild to wild in our everyday lives. But are any of them as overlooked as BDSM? This is a multilevel lifestyle that encompasses all that a person is — whether they are a bedroom kinkster or a full-blown pervert.

The actual term BDSM is a layered acronym. The B and D stand for bondage and discipline, while D and S stand for dominance and submission. A commonly related acronym, S&M, stands for sadism and masochism.

Many people attach a bad stigma to the BDSM world and especially to the term S&M. The news continually points out misguided people who commit heinous crimes as being "sadistic." This is due to the fact that a sadist does enjoy watching their partner suffer whether it is through sensation or pain. Any reasonable sadist knows, however, that this must be done consensually. Hence, the BDSM catchphrase of "safe, sane and consensual."

Within the BDSM community there are a wide variety of subcultures. Every person who chooses to live in this lifestyle lives by a different dynamic. There are groups who choose to live as a "family" with a central head and

counterparts; some just like to throw some kink into their lives or into their bedroom scene. Others live by a 100 per cent slave and master dynamic.

Everything is done with understanding and acceptance on both sides — or every side — of the equation.

Often before a scene or play session is set up, limits and rules are agreed upon. The bottom (the person giving up control) is likely to have a "safe word" they can say to halt activities at any time. This is used when they feel their wishes are not being respected, or if they become uncomfortable with the direction that their session is going. A top

**Know that the BDSM community practices the art of "safe, sane and consensual" play. Most of us don't bite — unless asked to, of course.**

(the person taking complete control) is universally expected to respect their partner and their wishes.

Even when a couple decides that it is time for them to move into a master/slave dynamic, there are still some things that need to take place. Sometimes both parties sign contracts that clearly state what can and cannot happen during their BDSM activities. Often these contracts are held just as closely as wedding contracts, with couples feeling much

more bonded together than they would in any normal marriage. There are often ceremonies that can happen alone or with family and friends as the couple goes through their transitions as a BDSM couple together.

These ceremonies are often referred to as "collaring" or "roses" ceremonies.

Many people frown uncomfortably at the idea of BDSM lifestyles and insist that it just an excuse to abuse others with no penalties. For the most part, the BDSM community as a whole frowns strongly on the idea of non-consensual cruelty. The community wants to see no one harmed emotionally or physically. The main point of the BDSM lifestyle is for everyone to have a comfortable niche while still being an indulgent individual. Here is a fitting quote from an anonymous friend that explains this well:

"Have you ever felt the joy and affection of resting your head on a man's thigh with him stroking your hair? Or the peace and contentment or having the man sleep soundly with you in his arms? Or the excitement and thrill when he traps you between himself and a wall and looks at you with lust in his eyes? Or perhaps the safety and assurance of when he holds you tightly in an embrace? It is these feelings that make me glad that I am a slave."

BDSM is often a misunderstood subculture, but with awareness we can beat unwarranted stigmas and educate the world. Know that the BDSM community practices the art of "safe, sane and consensual" play. Most of us don't bite — unless asked to, of course.

## Arts Briefs

Compiled by Sam Hagenlocher

### POOR VISION

A British professor intends to put opticians out of business it seems.

Josh Silver, who teaches Physics at Oxford University, has developed an entirely new kind of optical lens, which could change the way glasses are made, reported *The Guardian*.

Silver, who began his revolutionary quest nearly 25 years ago, wanted to create a lens that could be "tuned" by the wearer to correct their vision, which could drastically reduce the cost of glasses, and allow millions of visually impaired people in impoverished countries to see clearly.

It appears he has succeeded, as his device, which relies upon the theory that the fatter the lens, the more powerful it becomes, has already had 30,000 pairs shipped to 15 countries.

The way that the lens works is that its tough plastic lenses are in fact two clear circular sacs filled with fluid. Each is connected to a small syringe attached to either arm of the spectacles and there is a dial where the wearer can either increase or reduce the amount of fluid, therefore increasing or decreasing the strength of the lens.

Silver intends up his production to a point that they can ship up to 100 million pairs annually, and hopes to conquer the world entirely by 2020.

It's unclear whether he chose that date realistically or just simply for its irony.

### WALRUS OF TOUGH LOVE

They say there's always more fish in the sea, but what about the aquarium?

Zorro, a six-year-old sex starved zebra shark at the London Aquarium, has apparently been having trouble wooing his latest conquest, fellow zebra shark Mazawabee, reported *The London Paper*.

Zorro's lack of luck with his tank mate has hurt his reputation as a 'ladies' shark', and the staff at the aquarium has had to call on the help of another womanizer, Barry White.

"Research suggests that fish can not only hear music but can appreciate different tunes and melodies, so we have decided to see if some good old-fashioned love songs will get them in the mood," explained curator Paul Hale.

Track selections include White's *Baby We Better Try To Get It Together* and *My First, My Last, My Everything*.

Perhaps Zorro just needs a better pick-up line.

### MOVING MURALS

A Boston visual artist is changing the way audiences look.

Artist Rufus B. Seder's "movies for a wall" artform, Lifetiles, with which he makes his drawings, paintings and pictures "move," has made him one of the most sought after artists working today, reported *CNN*.

His art, which doesn't actually move at all, uses optical tricks to convince the patron that the display is in fact moving, similar to a flip-book or early animation.

The process, which Seder jokingly described as "magic," is a simple, but painstaking one.

"It's like a flipbook. I've taken all the pages from a flipbook and scrambled them all together, and I've put them up on the wall and made them animate," Seder explained.

Seder has over 30 installations around the world of his Lifetiles, such as one in a Taiwan Aquarium, where an entire wall can convince its audience that the dolphins in his picture are, in fact, swimming beside them.

Why you would need a moving mural of dolphins in a national aquarium remains a mystery.

Check out the video: <http://tinyurl.com/lifetiles>.

# 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>

### 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). Because 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](http://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](http://www.idrc.ca/awards).

### GENERAL ELECTRIC (GE) FOUNDATION SCHOLAR-LEADERS PROGRAM

A \$4,000 per year scholarship for the second, third and fourth years of an undergraduate program is available to Aboriginal peoples, women in engineering programs and persons with disabilities who are Canadian residents, or to first-year full-time students at a Canadian university studying engineering or business/management with high academic performance 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](http://www.scholarshipandmore.org) to complete and submit an application.

**Deadline:** Jan. 31, 2010

### MARITIME DAIRY INDUSTRY SCHOLARSHIP

Two scholarships of \$2,000 each are available to students who have completed at least two years of post-secondary education and are currently enrolled in a program that is applicable to the dairy industry. Application forms are available from the Awards & Financial Aid Office (first floor Graham Hall), from their website: [www.dairynutrition.ca](http://www.dairynutrition.ca), or by contacting Dairy Farmers of Canada - Maritimes: phone (506) 855-8804, fax (506) 855-8500 or e-mail: [nathalie.roy@dfc-plc.ca](mailto:nathalie.roy@dfc-plc.ca).

**Deadline:** Jan. 31, 2010

### UNITED WAY YOUTH LEADERS IN ACTION SCHOLARSHIP

Four awards of \$500 each will be granted to students under the age of 25 who are connected with United Way funded organizations as participants, volunteers or staff members. Students must be accepted to or currently attending a post-secondary institution in Winnipeg and be able to demonstrate a commitment to their education. The United Way Youth Relations Council (YRC) will look for situations where students have challenged themselves in order to influence

others and address local community issues that are important to them. Recipients should be able to demonstrate genuine commitment and connection at a neighbourhood level. The YRC will make it their priority to select recipients who have demonstrated a need for financial support.

Complete applications must include the three-page application form, a completed reference form and an official copy of your latest transcript. Application and reference forms are available from the Awards & Financial Aid Office (first floor Graham Hall).

**Deadline:** Feb. 1, 2010

### TERRY FOX HUMANITARIAN AWARD PROGRAM

This program was established in 1982 through a grant by the Government of Canada to commemorate Terry's courage and tenacity in his efforts to find a cure for cancer. The Terry Fox Humanitarian Award recognizes the benevolence of young Canadians and encourages them to continue their humanitarian work while attending college or university in Canada. There is no set discipline students must study in order to receive the award, but they must continuously demonstrate a strong performance in academics, athletics and volunteerism. The program is open to graduating secondary school students and those currently studying towards their first university degree or diploma. For more information or to download an application form, please visit their website: [www.terryfoxawards.ca](http://www.terryfoxawards.ca).

**Deadline:** Feb. 1, 2010

### MACKENZIE KING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Open Scholarship is available to graduates of Canadian universities who pursue graduate studies in any discipline in Canada or elsewhere. One Open Scholarship is awarded each year. The value has recently been approximately \$10,000, but it is subject to change.

The Traveling Scholarship is available to graduates of Canadian universities who pursue graduate studies in the United States or the United Kingdom in the areas of international relations or industrial relations. Recently four scholarships of \$11,000 each have been awarded annually, but the number and the amount are subject to change.

Applications are available either in the U of W Awards Office located on the first floor of Graham Hall or online at [www.mkingscholarships.ca](http://www.mkingscholarships.ca). Application forms must be submitted to the Awards & Financial Aid Office (first floor Graham Hall).

**Deadline:** Feb. 1, 2010

### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Manitoba Legislative Assembly Internship Program is open to six Manitoba students in any discipline at a Manitoba university and to permanent Manitoba residents studying outside the province. Students must have graduated by September 2010. The program includes a 10-month internship from September through June with a bi-weekly salary of \$1,133.60 (before deductions), an expenses paid study tour to Ottawa and St. Paul, Minn., seminars with Manitoba business, political and cultural leaders, and an opportunity to produce a public academic paper or obtain a graduate level course credit. For more information, visit the Awards & Financial Aid Office (first floor Graham Hall). Application forms are available on the Legislative Assembly website: [www.manitoba.ca](http://www.manitoba.ca).

**Deadline:** Feb. 12, 2010

### COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION EXPLORE AND ODYSSEY PROGRAMS

ODYSSEY is a full-time language assistant employment opportunity offered in a rural or suburban area in another province. Language Assistants work 25hrs/week from September to May and receive a salary of \$18,500 for the nine months of the Odyssey work term. They also receive allowances for two return trips between their home province and their assigned community. Visit their website to apply: [www.myodyssey.ca](http://www.myodyssey.ca).

**Deadline:** Feb. 15, 2010

EXPLORE is a five-week intensive French as a second language program offered across Canada at various post-secondary institutions. Participants receive a \$2,000 bursary, which is paid directly to the institution they will be attending, to cover tuition fees for French language courses, instructional materials, meals, accommodations and activities. Visit their website to apply: [www.myexplore.ca](http://www.myexplore.ca).

**Deadline:** Feb. 28, 2010

### MARGARET MCNAMARA MEMORIAL FUND (MMMF)

The MMMF, an outreach program of the World Bank Family Network, was established in 1981 to honour the late Margaret McNamara and her commitment to the well-being of women and children in developing countries. The purpose of the grant is to support the education of women from developing countries who are committed to improving the lives of women and children in their home countries. The MMMF annually awards between six to ten grants of approximately \$12,000 each. For eligibility requirements or to complete an online application form, visit their website: [www.mmmf-grants.org](http://www.mmmf-grants.org). Supplementary required documents listed below must be submitted by mail to the MMMF Selection Committee:

-A copy of fall 2009 registration

-Official copy of transcript for fall 2009 in a sealed envelope from the registrar

-Official estimate of annual expenses for students published by your institution

-One passport-size photograph

-Copy of U.S./Canada Visa

-Copy of Study Permit

-Copy of curriculum vitae/resume (maximum two pages)

**Deadline:** Feb. 18, 2010

### KIWANIS CLUB OF WINNIPEG FOUNDATION INC.: MANITOBA CITIZENS' BURSARY FUND FOR NATIVE PEOPLES

Open to students currently enrolled at the Universities of Winnipeg, Manitoba or Brandon. Bursaries ranged from \$175 to \$450 each.

Criteria:

-Preference will be given to Native students (Indian, Métis and Inuit) who demonstrate financial need.

-Students must maintain satisfactory grades to retain their eligibility.

-Points will be given to students participating in extracurricular activities.

-The Bursary Fund is not designed to help applicants meet the financial cost of entering university. On the contrary, it is designed, subject to the above criteria, to help meet financial problems that arise subsequently.

Applications are available at the Awards & Financial Aid Office located on the first floor of Graham Hall, Aboriginal Student Services located on the second floor of Lockhart Hall or Student Central on the first floor of Centennial Hall. Applications should be submitted to the Awards & Financial Aid Office.

**Deadline:** Feb. 28, 2010

### THE ROBERT E. OLIVER AWARD

The Advertising Standards Canada (ASC) awards one \$1,500 scholarship annually to a full-time post-secondary student who is enrolled in an undergraduate Advertising and/or Marketing program at a Canadian university or community college and is committed to pursuing a career in advertising or marketing. Robert E. Oliver was ASC's first president and played a key role in developing the Canadian Code of Advertising Standards.

Evaluation Criteria:

-Academic results on most recent transcript (30 points)

-College/Faculty member recommendation (20 points)

-Summary of relevant community service/volunteer work (30 points)

-Essay on why you should receive the award (20 points)

Application forms are available from the Awards & Financial Aid office located on the first floor of Graham Hall.

**Deadline:** Feb. 26, 2010

### TOYOTA EARTH DAY SCHOLARSHIP

This year, the program will reward 20 graduating high school students across Canada with \$5,000 scholarships for their post-secondary education for any field of study, in recognition of their environmental

work and leadership through school and community initiatives. Information and application material is available at [www.earthday.ca/scholarship](http://www.earthday.ca/scholarship).

**Deadline:** Feb. 28, 2010

### CANADIAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS IN WATER RESOURCES

The Canadian Water Resources Association annually offers five scholarships. These scholarships are available to graduate students whose programs of study focus upon applied, natural or social science aspects of water resources. The scholarships are open either to Canadian citizens or landed immigrants attending a Canadian university or college, who are enrolled in full-time graduate studies in any discipline in both Fall and Winter terms of the 2010-2011 academic year. The Scholarship Committee will only accept one applicant from any department in a Canadian university or college. The scholarships are awarded primarily on the basis of academic excellence and project relevance to water management and development. Application forms and criteria are available from the Awards & Financial Aid office on first floor of Graham Hall.

**Deadline:** Feb. 28, 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](http://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.

### MISSING INFORMATION

If any documentation requested by the MSAP, such as summer income or study-period income verification, has not yet been submitted, electronic confirmation of your loan document will not occur and your loan funds will not be in place at the beginning of the Winter Term.

### REVISION TO YOUR NEEDS ASSESSMENT

You should be aware that new information, such as verification of your summer or study-period income, may increase or decrease your MSAP needs assessment and the resulting loan amounts you are eligible to receive. Similarly, if your current course load is different from that on your Notice of Assistance letter, the amount of loan you are eligible to receive may change.

### 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.

The Awards office will begin taking names for the fee deferral list for students registered for only the 2010 Winter term starting **Jan. 4, 2010**. If your name is on the Awards & Financial 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](http://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](http://www.canlearn.ca)

Manitoba Student Aid Program: [www.manitobastudentaid.ca](http://www.manitobastudentaid.ca)

### SURFING FOR DOLLARS? TRY THESE TWO WEBSITES:

[www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com)

[www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com)



## Good & Evil

with J. Williams

A people-powered solution to the gun control problem

Recently, I've been thinking a lot about how to properly protect myself from evildoers, and I realized that some time in the last few years, I've changed my mind completely on an important issue: gun control.

I used to think that guns were harmful to society and that not having strict regulations to control and track their ownership was a bad idea. As of late, I've come to see things in a different light.

According to the National Rifle Association, guns aren't dangerous at all. Like they've famously said for years, "Guns don't kill people; people kill people."

I've thought about this for a long time and determined that there is really only one reasonable conclusion that can be drawn: If we want to make the world a safer place for our children, instead of outlawing guns, we need to outlaw people. That way, with no people around to kill other people, people will finally be safe... from themselves!

So here's what I propose: We start rounding up all the people we can find and, one by one, we kill them with a gun. Not only will this solve the "people problem," but it will also provide a much needed boon to the bullet industry, which has been suffering some undeserved bad press in recent years because of the fact that their products have been used by ruffians and deviants to kill people.

Admittedly, to undertake a task as big as the one I propose - namely, to use bullets to kill all the people in the world - is somewhat daunting. That's why I think the effort should be spearheaded by a company from the private sector. Which company is chosen doesn't really matter, but some are better suited to the job than others.

For some reason the first one that springs to mind is Halliburton. Though, a company like Phillip Morris on the other hand, might be even better suited to the task, as they already have decades of experience in the field of killing people, albeit with cigarettes instead of bullets.

In order to avoid any funny business or lack of commitment on the part Phillip Morris's top executives (such as not killing themselves after they've killed everyone else), I propose that their CEO and other top executives be shot first to both set an example for others and to help people warm up to the idea of making the world a better and safer place by getting shot in the face.

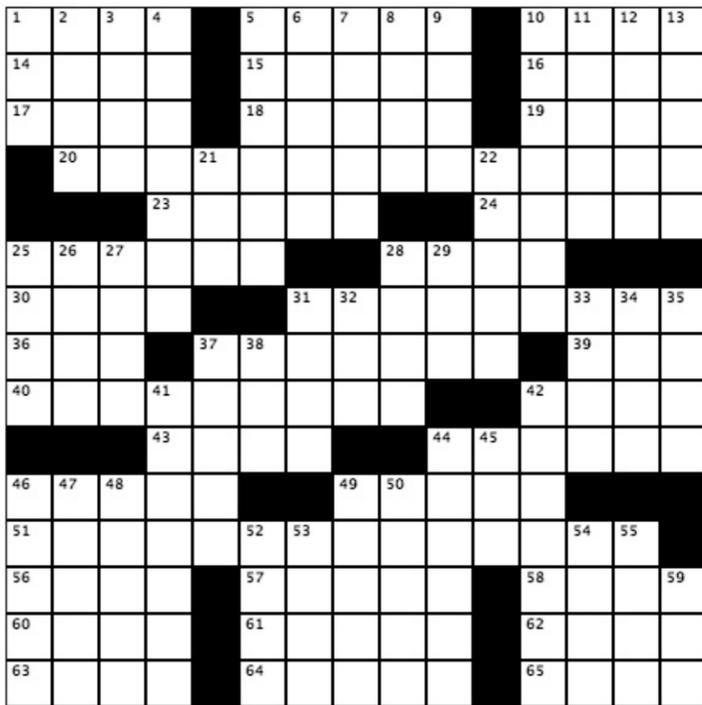
After all the people in the world have been shot to death, there will only be one thing left to do to make the world a safer place: Train a monkey to shoot the last surviving person, then have him finish the job.

So if you think, like I do, that safety is an issue in today's society, then grab a gun and help make the world a safer place for your children.

*J. Williams thinks that, somewhere, Charlton Heston is smiling.*

## Crossword Puzzle 17

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



BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

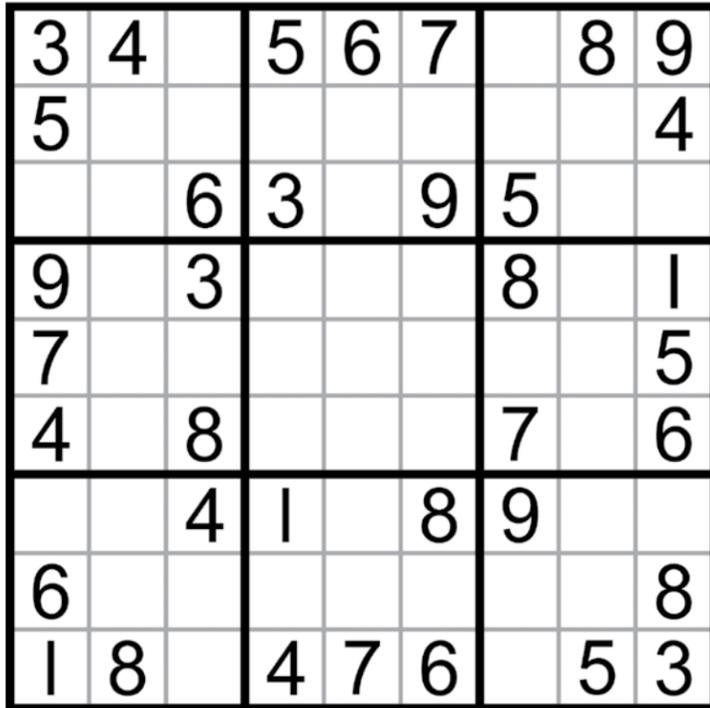
### Across

- 1- Public walk
- 5- Start of something big?
- 10- Camp beds
- 14- Bread spread
- 15- Diamond flaw?
- 16- Horne solo
- 17- Course list?
- 18- Hang
- 19- Suffragist Carrie
- 20- Disease of the heart muscle
- 23- Sketches
- 24- Facial expression used by Elvis Presley
- 25- Coarse sieve
- 28- Ollie's partner
- 30- Wimp
- 31- Type of chemical process
- 36- Illustrative craft
- 37- Radioactive, metallic element
- 39- Actress Merkel
- 40- Spoiler
- 42- Elevator man
- 43- Doing nothing
- 44- Sagacious
- 46- Clamp
- 49- Aquarium fish
- 51- Northern lights
- 56- Grounded fleet
- 57- Earth
- 58- Continue

### Down

- 60- Sewing case
- 61- Alleviates
- 62- Memo heading
- 63- Vega's constellation
- 64- Eat away
- 65- Hammett hound
- 1- May honoree
- 2- Novelist Waugh
- 3- Actress Olin
- 4- Roman Catholic shrine
- 5- Mode alternative
- 6- Shaft shot from a bow
- 7- Packs tightly
- 8- Fibrous
- 9- Hydrox rival
- 10- Slowdown by workers
- 11- Declaim
- 12- One tenth, usually
- 13- Lustful deity
- 21- Dr. of rap

## Sudoku Octagon



will.octagon.gibson@gmail.com

## Keeping things fresh



### LIVING WELL

**SAGAN MORROW**  
STAFF WRITER

One of the most common reasons why people do not buy fresh fruit and vegetables is that they say they cannot eat the fresh produce fast enough before it starts to go bad. If you try out the following tricks, you will never have to use that excuse again:

**1. Freeze it:** If your bananas are looking more black than yellow, don't toss them in the garbage. Instead, peel your bananas and break them into four to six pieces. Put them in a sealed ziplock bag in the freezer. Bananas can be difficult

to peel when they are frozen, so it makes life easier for yourself if you peel them *before* you freeze them. Use the frozen bananas in smoothies or baked goods. Mix them in the food processor with cocoa powder and cinnamon for a delicious and healthy faux "chocolate ice cream."

Chop up any other fruit or vegetable into smaller pieces before you freeze them to make prep work a breeze when you want to use them. Add the frozen produce to soups, yogurts, frittata, lasagna... You name it!

**2. Hide it:** Fruit and vegetables can be added to just about anything. This works especially well when the produce isn't looking its best. If you add a wrinkly vegetable to casseroles or spaghetti sauce, you won't be able to taste the difference.

**3. Dehydrate it:** Just like freezing produce, drying it is an excellent way to save it before it spoils. Drying times in the dehydrator vary, but typically if you slice up your fruit and vegetables and dehydrate them overnight, they will be ready when you wake up in the morning.

If you cannot eat your fresh produce fast enough, by all means buy the pre-frozen or canned versions. Frozen produce preserves the nutrients exceptionally well in food and can

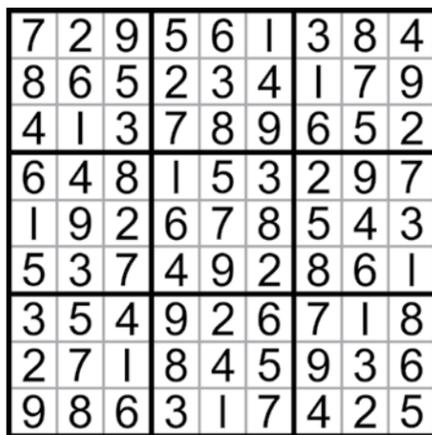
be kept in the freezer for months on end. However, read the ingredients list before you buy: sometimes frozen bags of produce include added salts or sugars. Make sure that the only ingredients in the bag are the fruits and vegetables themselves.

Canned fruit and vegetables are trickier because they almost always include added preservatives. Choose the kind with as few extra ingredients as possible. For canned vegetables that already have salt added, rinse them in a strainer when you open the can. Running water over them for a minute or two should remove most of the sodium content.

You can apply the above ideas to fruit and vegetables that you do not like the taste of, as well. The flavours can change drastically when the chemical composition of the food is altered, such as when it is dehydrated. Hiding the fruit or vegetable in another dish prevents you from being confronted with the full potency of that particular fruit or vegetable. This will give you the nutritional benefits of the food, pain free.

*University of Winnipeg student Sagan Morrow writes a health and wellness blog. Check it out at <http://www.livinginthereal-world.net/healthy>.*

Solutions to puzzles from Jan 21.



WWW.UNITER.CA

# Well-dressed for the workplace

Dressing appropriately for the workplace doesn't have to be dull and boring



**KATHLEEN CERRER**  
STAFF WRITER



2010 has just begun, and while not all our new year's resolutions have gone down the drain, they may be getting increasingly challenging to follow through on.

The one thing we can do now and get instant results is how we present ourselves. Everyday we make an effort to put clothes on our back and present ourselves. Fashion is an attitude, a lifestyle, and the freedom of expressing our personality.

"Fashion is not something that exists in dresses only. Fashion is in the sky, in the street, fashion has to do with ideas, the way we live, what is happening," as CoCo Chanel once said.

Arguably, fashion is the first step we need to take in accomplishing the rest of our goals in 2010. Perhaps you've started a new job this year already: work wear, especially office attire, has become drab and dull. If you want to freshen up your current wardrobe, here are a few ideas.

The suit is a staple when it comes to most professional workplaces. Although black dress pants and a black blazer are formal and functional, it can get boring.

Spice up your suit by swapping dress pants with a pencil skirt in gray or tweed fabric to add texture. If you want to take this look further, you can add some patterned nylons such as lace or stripes for a fashion-forward look.

Men's accessories go hand in hand with updating your work ensemble.

Pairing jeans with a corduroy blazer and patterned bow tie instantly updates the classic suit. It's about adding accessories which can be worn outside work and being able to transition from day to night, formal to casual and vice versa.

If your job calls for a casual look, skinny jeans in various washes are great to wear with a floral blouse or chunky cardigan.

If skinny jeans aren't your thing, opt for wide leg trousers in earth tones. Gray or navy are alternatives to black. These can be mixed and matched with layered tees and chunky jewelry.

Graphic tees are fun to wear but depending on how casual your work is you want to remain professional. For instance, worn under a blazer is a good option.

Jobs which require uniforms

are obviously difficult to alter. Thinking of what to wear the next day is eliminated, but that doesn't mean you don't have to put in any less effort.

Experimenting with various hair accessories, such as bejeweled or adorned headbands, and diversifying your hairstyle is excellent with the same uniform look day in and out. Playing up your make-up with colorful shades of eye shadow or lipstick keep you looking vibrant. I suggest pale pink or peach blush and face illuminator to keep a fresh-faced glow.

Switch plain stud earrings with flower studs available at most jewelry and accessory shops. Layering your own favorite pendants to a plain chain adds unique individuality to accessorizing. Exotic cuffs, bangles and bracelets are great to wear in bunches and can be purchased at various ethnic shops and festivals.

Remember that although there are crazy fashions you may want to try, not every trend suits everyone. Experimenting with different styles is great but keep in mind that sophistication and professionalism always works best in the workplace.

## 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](http://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.

**Nikki**  
"I read an article that said boys like colour."



BRIITANY HILDEBRANDT

# The University of WINNIPEG OPENHOUSE 2010

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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