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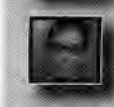

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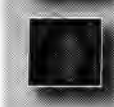

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the next story meeting for *the projector* is:
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Jan. 6,
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news briefs

Holiday Shopping Safety

The holiday season is a time when criminals try to increase their net worth.

Criminals target shoppers who return to stores after putting purchases in their vehicle, so place valuables in the trunk.

Don't leave your vehicle idling unattended. A cold car is more comfortable than walking.

The projector wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.

New Deans for College

RRC announces new deans: Louise Gordon in applied sciences, and Marti Ford in the Aboriginal education program.

Gordon, previous executive director of the Council on Post-Secondary Education, worked for Manitoba Education teaching Aboriginal adults in the New Careers program and was a former head-mistress of an elementary school in Botswana.

Ford, past chair of Aboriginal education at RRC, has worked in a variety of positions in aboriginal adult ecuation.

Both women have worked in a urban and rural schools.

Restored Vehicle for Needy Family

Students and staff from RRC's automotive technician certificate program have refurbished a previously written off '98 Windstar, to be given away as part of The Benevolence Program.

Chase Auto Body Supplies Ltd. donated the vehicle and replacement parts.

Restoration, which began Sept. 13 and was completed late October, passed a Manitoba Vehicle Safety Inspection before being donated to the Multicultural Family Centre, a division of the Salvation Army. The centre works with families of war-torn countries in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East and will give the van to a family in need.

more funds for med tech

BY JILLIAN BROWN

The two medical technology programs at Red River College are receiving $1.5 million from the province to increase the number of seats for students, and hopefully, in turn, decrease medical waiting lists.

The laboratory sciences program will add 15 spaces by the 2006-07 school year, increasing enrollment to 40, while radiologic technology has increased seats from 28 to 40.

Gillian Rimmer, medical laboratory program co-ordinator, says that with the retiring baby-boomer generation, the province is in desperate need of trained med-lab and med-rad technologists.

"There's a huge shortage. With this funding, we're able to put more staff into the system. You hear a lot about nursing shortages, but allied health is short as well."

She says the college is using part of the money to build more labs and purchase state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment.

Trisha VanDenakker, from Diagnostic Services of Manitoba which co-manages the province's laboratory services, says the government has done a lot for diagnostic equipment and lab upgrading, but it's time to work with the college to train more technologists.

"You can put (in) all the instruments you want, but the human element is a big way to reducing the wait list. Instead of running a 9-5 day, they can offer appointments 24/7 if they have the staff."

VanDenakker says the importance of certified technologists is grossly underestimated in the health field.

"It's a critical service. Without lab or X-ray services, emergency service departments will close."

Irene Chaudhary, program co-ordinator for medical radiologic technology, says the need for certified technologists is particularly critical in areas outside Winnipeg and Brandon.

She says the college is giving incentives to students from rural and northern areas by reserving some of the new spaces for them, hoping they will return home to work after they graduate.

According to Advanced Education and Training Minister Diane McGifford, the government is providing $250,000 per year over four years to the college, along with $588,700 from the Department of Health's wait-time reduction strategy.

Unveiled at the end of October, Manitoba's five-point plan to reduce wait times includes doing more diagnostic testing and providing more health professionals.

McGifford adds that the program funding is more than a health announcement.

"This is just as much a post-secondary announcement. People are now in position to lead rich, personal lives."

Rimmer agrees, "Graduates of our program are pretty well guaranteed they'll get jobs."

correction notices

Nov. 21 issue
RE: 'inward eye signs with major label' by Melissa Martin
In an editorial error, a statement made by a protected and anonymous source was attributed to Canadian booking agent Ralph James. The text should have read: "A veteran industry source close to Inward Eye agent Ralph James was overheard saying that Davis was going to be attending the band's June showcase at the Osborne Village Inn…"

RE: 'rrc promotes fitness' by Sean Best
In an editorial error, the name of Charity Barker was misspelled after one of her quotes.

RE: 'millennium library opens doors' by Michelle Melanson
The photo credit belongs to Brook Jones, not Grant Burr.

the projector apologizes for any misunderstanding.

Got something to say? We want to here from you.
Email your letter to editor@theprojector.ca

food for thought

rrc helps students with groceries

BY SWANI LINDSAY

There's a reason the starving student cliché gets used, and it isn't as much of an overstatement as some may think.

By the time tuition, books, rent, transportation, utility bills, and sometimes daycare costs are paid, there isn't much left in a student's budget to fill the cupboards with groceries.

Jason Permanand, 27, is a full-time Red River College student. He says he and his wife, also a full-time student, face financial difficulties during the school year, when working is less of an option, and student loans don't cover the basic cost of living and tuition fees.

"It's definitely hard to make ends meet when you're on student loans. The government only gives you the bare minimum, and it's not enough to get by," he says.

Enter the Red River College Students' Association sponsored campus food bank.

The food bank is available to all students who cannot afford groceries. It is located at the Notre Dame campus in Trailer L, next to the west parking lot.

Carmen Barnett, 31, a full-time student and single mother, says she's glad the campus food bank is there and she would fall back on if she had to.

"In an emergency, I wouldn't bat an eye at using the food bank to feed my son" Barnett says.

"It's definitely hard to make ends meet when you're on student loans."

JASON PERMANAND

Students who need groceries on a regular or casual basis can fill out a request form to receive a hamper. Hampers are available every two weeks and contain non-perishable goods such as, pasta, rice, soup, and canned vegetables. Food bank recipients are kept confidential.

Food bank request forms are available at the SA office located in P110 (Princess Street campus) and CM20 (Notre Dame campus). Forms must be submitted by the Tuesday prior to every food bank day. Missing the deadline or submitting an incomplete form, does not mean students go without, but it does put them at the back of the line, not being served until 2:30 p.m.

When picking up food, students must bring their medical card, student card, and bags to carry the food away. The last date for pick-up this term is Dec. 9.

If students need emergency food over the holiday break, they can call the Winnipeg Harvest food bank appointment line at 982-3660, Monday to Friday from 9:15 am to 3:30 pm.

The RRCSA food bank is supported by Winnipeg Harvest. If you would like to donate, non-perishable goods may be deposited in the big wooden bin outside the Notre Dame SA office at CM20, or in the SA Princess Street office.

Food donations are always welcome, but you may also contribute money to purchase food. Coin boxes can be found throughout both RRC campuses – in the SA offices, bookstores, and The Ox and The Mercantile stores. Other cash donations are accepted in the SA offices.

Of Winnipeg Harvest clients:

- 19% attend university or college
- 8% have completed college or university
- 16.5% work full or part-time

You can access the food bank once every two weeks.

The amount of food you receive depends on how many people are in your household. One individual food kit lasts 2-3 days.

(Source: Winnipeg Harvest Inc.)

Next RRCSA food bank date:

December 9, 2005

In the New Year:

January 6, 2006

Red River College

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Make it yours!

Feel Free to contact us at:

Rex Masesar
President
(204) 632-2474

Adam Rogocki
VP Academic
(204) 632-2477

Matt DiUbaldo
VP Princess
(204) 949-8466

Helena Herrera
VP Support Services
(204) 632-2480

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CM20 - 2055 Notre Dame Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2H 0J9
(204) 632-2375

Princess Street Campus
P110-160 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 1K9
(204) 949-8466

Up & Coming Events

December

15- Mayhem in Mazatlan, Mexico Deadline

17 - Academic X-Mas Break Begins

January

02- X-Mas Break Ends

To find more out about the SA events. Join the SA Events Email List. Email saevents@rrc.mb.ca with "add me to the list" in the subject line.

CHECK OUT THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION WEB SITE WWW.RRCSA.COM

Message from the Executive

To further improve on the services the SA provides for the students of Red River College, we have started Strategic Planning. From this planning process will come a strong vision with clear objectives for the future of the SA and the students we serve. For students who are interested in becoming a part of the process, come to our office at CM20 at Notre Dame Campus or P110 at Princess Street Campus to find out how to get involved.

From November 12th-18th, Rex Masesar and Adam Rogocki were in Ottawa to participate in a Lobby Conference held by the Canadian Alliance of Students' Associations (CASA). Delegates tabled student issues with the federal government concerning the quality and accessibility of Post Secondary Education for students across Canada. If you wish to see the conference report and related material, please contact Rex for more information.

On behalf of the SA, we would like to wish you all good luck on your final exams and projects.

Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!!!

Proud Members of CASA ACAE

Rex Masesar, President
Adam Rogocki, VP – Academics
Helena Herrera, VP – Support Services
Matt DiUbaldo, VP – Princess St. Campus

A Food Bank Christmas Wish List

The Food Bank is asking staff and students to help in preparing special Christmas hampers for those students in need. As well as the traditional non-perishable items, we would like to include some special treats for the holiday season. The following items would be welcome:

* *Baking ingredients*
* *Crackers & cookies*
* *Pickled foods*
* *Mayonnaise & mustard*
* *Jello & pudding mixes*
* *Canned meats*
* *Chocolate*
* *Coffee/teas/hot Choc.*
* *Beans*
* *Canned soups/chili*
* *Jams & honey*
* *Nuts*

Our last food bank day of semester will be **December 23, 2005**. Those needing a hamper must have their request forms submitted by

December 20, 2005. Forms are available at either of the SA offices—CM20 at Notre Dame, or P110 at the Princess Street campus.

Pizza Days!!!

Notre Dame
Wednesdays
December 7, January 11

Princess Street
Thursday
January 12

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international students challenge obstacles

rrc programs help students adapt

PHOTO | CARMEN BARNETT

BY HAIDE SEGURA

International student Gillian Chang arrived in Canada four months ago without a friend or home. Like many other international students, Chang felt most people didn't understand the challenges she faced.

Most newcomers to Winnipeg deal with culture shock, and for international students, it is no different. Chang, who is from Taiwan, finds it difficult to make close friends in Canada, and says most people seem scared to ask where she is from.

"Foreigners are not aliens," she says.

Cultural differences can be a communication barrier, and Chang says it is really hard to break the ice.

The situation was different for Kanwal Sengh, a business administration student who had relatives already living in Winnipeg when he arrived from India one year ago.

However, he says that at the beginning it was hard to get used to a new country, and to find a job to pay for rent and food.

"I pay $10,000 alone for tuition fees per year," says Sengh. "If I want a co-op program I have to pay $2,500 more for the four months."

Last year, he applied for a work permit that allowed international students to work 20 hours per week while studying.

"That's not enough, we need more hours," he says.

Language is also a barrier that can be very challenging for first timers in a new country.

Jing Ling, a computer accounting technician who arrived recently from China, says that her English is not perfect and feels she needs to improve it.

"It's hard for me to meet people because I need to practice more, and I am shy," JING LING

"It's hard for me to meet people because I need to practice more, and I am shy," says Ling.

The RRC diversity and immigrant student support office offers programs to help international students in the adaptation process, such as the cultural and language mentor program, which involves a social exchange between an immigrant or second-language student with a Canadian-born student. Advising and ESL workshops are also part of the programs offered by the department.

"International students are great, motivated, full of knowledge, have different values and new ways to look at the world," says Lauren Phillips, the immigrant student advisor at the college. "I was living in Japan for a while, and I understand how it feels to be isolated. When I was there, I missed the multiculturalism that makes Canada a great country."

"We need to be more aware of the multiculturalism of this campus," says Chang, who thinks that the best way to reach a big community is through a radio show.

A new radio show will launch soon on 92.9 KICK FM, called Global Warning. The show's content will consist of world music, international news, and travel tips. Chang is very excited about the possibilities the program holds.

"This is a great project that could help to build a bridge between us and Canadian students - a way to inspire them to know us."

cell usage interrupts student learning

BY SEID AHMED

With present day society's reliance on technology, it seems impossible to escape the annoyance of cell phones and the rudeness of their users.

Have you ever been in the college library and heard someone's cell phone ring?

What about in the classroom, inside an elevator, or in a public washroom?

You may wonder why people just can't remember to turn off their ringers. As a result of the increased inappropriate usage of cell phones, some Red River College students say they get irritated with people who use cell phones in public places, such as the lecture theatre or library.

"Use your cell when you need to and where you need to. If a boy is chatting with a friend in an elevator or toilet it never bothers me, but if someone is receiving or answering calls while she or he is either in lecture or library, it's impolite and rude," says Catherine Mckee, a first year library and information technology student.

An informal survey conducted at the Princess Street campus found that 9 of 10 students say that using cell phones in a lecture or the library is disruptive and irritating.

Pat Bozyk, dean of student services says, "Students should turn off cell phones when they are in a library or in a lecture."

The college expects that students will conduct themselves properly and wisely in accordance with college principles.

"In order to protect personal space, I wish jammers (cell phone frequency neutralizers) would be legalized to eliminate the practice of bad cell phone etiquette in public," says Lisa Asrat, a business administration student.

"Students should turn off cell phones when they are in a library or in a lecture." PAT BOZYK

Most importantly, students say the person you are talking to isn't the only one who can hear your words; everyone else around you is getting an earful too. Some people have no awareness of those around them and seem uncaring about how their actions impact others.

The problems using cell phones in public places merely mirror the overall problems in society. If we all tried to be a little cognitive of the needs and rights of other people, we certainly would all be a lot better off.

hot water for sale

students boiling mad

PHOTO | JAMES WASYLUK

BY MICHELLE DOBROVOLNY

Hot water is no longer a free commodity for students at the Princess Street campus.

As of last week, Aramark will no longer allow free access to hot water from the cafeteria's tea tower. Only customers purchasing tea or hot chocolate will be allowed to use cafeteria water. Customers who bring in tea bags from home will nonetheless have to buy a cup from Aramark at a cost of five to ten cents.

Travel mugs with tea bags from home or Mr. Noodles bowls are prohibited.

"If they ask me, I'll just say that I buy something every day. So technically, I'm a customer," says electronics engineering technology student Kevin Shale, who often buys "ridiculously overpriced" chicken burgers from the cafeteria.

Lorna Hildebrandt is the Aramark manager for the cafeteria, and the Tim Hortons at Princess Street. She says placing a restriction on the amount of hot water being used was necessary because there was often not enough left for paying customers.

"The tea tower only holds so much hot water," she says. "Our customers were coming in here and purchasing hot chocolate or tea and the water was cold."

Hildebrandt says the amount of tea and hot chocolate actually being sold doesn't warrant Aramark investing in another tea tower. She believes the Students' Association should be providing hot water to the students.

"What I think would be a very good idea would be for the Students' Association to put a tea tower next to the microwaves," she says. "I would be willing to talk to the SA. That would be something we could discuss with them."

SA Vice-President Matt DiUbaldo says he has already heard complaints from students about the water issue.

"It's definitely something we're going to look into," he says. "The day it came out, I had 15 to 20 students in here very upset. Students already feel like they pay too much for the stuff the cafeteria has."

Oddly enough, the tea tower at the Notre Dame Campus cafeteria is free for everyone. SA President Rex Masesar says access to hot water has not been an issue, though the SA office does get regular complaints about the overall cost of cafeteria food. The SA, however, has little to no control over which company provides food service to the campuses, though that is something he would like to see changed.

"We want to set a plan for the executive in the future," says Masesar. "We want to have student representation at the table when the negotiations do come up."

Until then, it seems Princess Street students looking for an afternoon tea break have no choice but to buy water from Aramark.

moxie's feels violated

BY SIMONE GILLIES

A Winnipeg restaurant operator who failed to air-dry restaurant utensils is not pleased about being listed along with major offenders for health code violations.

Two weeks ago, a CBC I-Team report listed food establishments that have been closed and fined for infractions under the city of Winnipeg Community Services Environmental Health Services Division. A supplementary article on cbc.ca reported that several places, including Golden Apple Chinese Restaurant, were fined for having mice and filthy conditions, and KUB Bakery, was cited for having pigeons in the production area.

"We want to minimize the risk to the public by ensuring food safety," says Don Kasianchuk, EHS program coordinator."We are trying to confront poor operators."

However, the cbc.ca story links to the EHS report, which details all restaurants and their violations, including some that may be considered lesser infractions.

Moxie's restaurant at the MTS Centre is included with six violations, ranging from failing to air-dry utensils to maintaining dishwashers improperly.

Paul Randle, regional director of operations for Moxie's, is unhappy about being grouped with the more serious offenders.

"In 12 years in Winnipeg, our restaurants have never received an offence," says Randle. "I admit we had violations, but I think it's a bit unfair we were included on that list."

Randle is concerned about being attached to a story that found "tubs of raw chicken sitting uncovered and un-refrigerated in a hallway" at the Marigold Chinese restaurant on King Street.

I-Team reporter Allison Crawford feels it's her right and responsibility to give people information.

"I respect his feelings, but it's just like a court sheet when you're charged with running red lights and the next person is charged with murder," says Crawford. "It's clear on the report what the offences are. I think the public are smart enough, when you provide them with information, to figure which are more serious."

"I admit we had violations, but I think it's a bit unfair we were included on that list."

PAUL RANDLE

The report is a public document listing establishments that have been closed due to health violations on one sheet, and fined offenders on a separate sheet.

Kasianchuk says it's up to the media to decide how to present it.

"They decided how they would depict this establishment and slant the story."

Kasianchuk says the EHS has not yet considered changing their system.

"It's just a matter of providing chronological data."

Randle says he feels the EHS is a good service for restaurant patrons, but posting the report on a website is not fair representation.

"It's fair as long as the offence is clear, but people might just look at our name and not read the rest."

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media influences public view of war

BY CHRIS TEKPETEY

The news media continues to ice bruises left from painful blows to its credibility.

In the Second World War, "there was a clear division between the good guys (the Allied Forces) and the bad guys (the Nazi Party)," says Duncan McMonagle, a 55 year-old journalism instructor at Red River College.

McMonagle suggests this led to favourable news coverage of our troops and the governments who supported them. However, wartime news coverage since the Second World War has driven an increased skepticism of news reporting.

During the Vietnam War, governments used all forms of media to gain approval for participation in the battle. Communications from western governments suggested all was well, and people were being saved, while video, radio, and print footage from Vietnam showed the opposite.

These conflicting third party views indicate that both "military and civilian masters were clearly lying about what they were doing," says McMonagle.

Little has changed to improve the negative view of media news reporting. The tragic events of 9/11were spun by the U.S. government to garner support for the war on terror in Iraq.

Yes, Saddam Hussein was a ruthless dictator who deserved to be ousted from his throne, but was he an immediate threat to the U.S.?

Why would the U.S. shift their primary focus from Osama Bin Laden despite his acceptance of responsibility for 9/11?

"There are always three sides to any story," says 52 year-old convoy protection specialist, Bill Ward.

"Honest men become elected then learn to lie," says Ward, leaving much to be speculated on the true purpose for the war on terror in Iraq. What is clear is the government's use of news media outlets to push their political agenda. Some argue this fact has never changed.

News coverage presented in a propagandist format will tarnish the integrity of any news media firm.

"Four hundred years ago, newspapers expressed the views of political parties," says McMonagle. As the former executive editor of the *Winnipeg Free Press*, McMonagle acknowledges that "news coverage sometimes reflects the ownership of news media."

Partial or not, media coverage of war and conflict will serve us all. Citizens of a country learn to debate actions their government is taking in their name, and feedback from alternative viewpoints allow citizens of a country to know their nation's reputation in the global community.

pork plant sees potential

BY LIZZ BOTTRELL

Winnipeg city councillors approved a package allowing OlyWest to advance its proposal to build a pork processing plant in Winnipeg's east St. Boniface, despite concerns about odour, increased traffic, and environmental impact.

The plant will create 1,100 jobs and bring economic activity to Winnipeg and surrounding area farmers; however, some people are concerned it will come at a cost to the environment.

The package gives OlyWest tax breaks, training grant funds, infrastructure support, and the proposed land.

OlyWest, a partnership between Olymel, Hytek, and Big Sky Farms - Canada's largest pork processors - announced plans for the $200 million packaging plant on Nov. 14.

"The huge amount of waste-water that will be generated will need a high level of treatment," says Dr. Eva Pip, professor of water and toxicology at the University of Winnipeg. She says some city water treatment plants are out of date.

Since some residents of south Transcona still have wells, "OlyWest needs to assure 100 per cent against water contamination, as even an insignificant portion of contamination can harm the users," says Bidhu Jha, Radisson MLA.

"If water is poisonously contaminated, a very small per cent of poison may cause death," he says.

Dr. Pip says the city also needs to consider the exhaust emissions that the trucks delivering the 8000 hogs a day will generate.

Jha and Transcona MLA, Daryl Reid, also voiced their constituents' concerns regarding the extra traffic.

"We want to keep traffic out of residential areas," Reid says.

Reid and Jha both support the plant coming to Manitoba. They want to ensure the environmental concerns of their constituents are heard.

"We sent a letter to the mayor and city council asking them to defer the decision about the land give-away," says Reid.

Since Winnipeg residents received no notice about the plant's proposal to come to the city, this would allow area residents to understand the situation and voice their concerns.

If the environmental concerns cannot be resolved at OlyWest's proposed site, Reid has other locations in mind, including 119 acres of land northwest of the original area and land southwest of Winnipeg just outside the perimeter, which would include a water treatment plant.

Some constituents say that they are also concerned about the potential odour.

"We do already have a mushroom plant that stinks, so it would suck to have a hog barn added to that," says area resident Jason Bergthorson.

In early January, OlyWest is supposed to hold open meetings to address concerns.

"The meeting announcement is a positive step," says Reid. "It will give [the community members] a chance to ask questions."

rrc grad lounges on corydon

graduate opens urban bar

BY BLAIR LEE

Tearing down the boarded up windows of 757 Corydon Ave. dominates the thoughts of Jerry Kwong, an RRC business administration graduate.

In early January, a new lounge called Rizo, featuring a contemporary atmosphere and Asian tapas, is expected to open. Rizo will be managed by Kwong and his business partner, Steven Hua.

Rizo is directly across from Shell and next to Fino Clothing Co., and the bar's overdue renovations are finally nearing completion.

Kwong explains that initial cost projections have gone over budget at least 125 per cent, but adds that costs always go over, and you just have to expect it.

"We were going to do something simple, but then we decided to be more elaborate," he says.

Rizo will have a modern-urban feel. Kwong says the overall lines of the bar, along with its booths and tables, will be sharp. Surrounded by red floodlights, with an exposed stainless steel bulkhead hanging overhead, the bar will seat 20 people and have two bar wells to prepare drinks from.

For more intimate parties, six booths will be nestled against the lounge's walls. The booth tables will be dark grey, and feature cushions appealing to stamina-challenged patrons. To create an intimate setting, Kwong says lighting will be kept low.

"Our goal is to offer the best from various regions of Asia,"

STEVEN HUA

Graham Spencer, of Bar Italia fame, has been procured to manage both the lounge and dining room. The total capacity for Rizo will be 150.

Chef Andrew Strong will consult and help develop Rizo's menu. Strong has been a part of notable restaurants such as, Brass Monkey, Mondetta, and Storm.

The menu's theme will emphasize tapas (little plates) from various Asian regions. Cantonese shrimp/pork dumplings, Vietnamese salad rolls, Thai basil rolls, and Japanese sushi are just a small sample of Rizo's appetizers.

"Our goal is to offer the best from various regions of Asia," says Hua. "This allows people to try different food in our restaurant. The weekly specials Rizo will offer will keep the menu fresh and flexible, and allow our kitchen to take chances with exotic dishes."

Full meals like chow mein and fried rice will be offered, but Kwong says other dishes are still being developed and considered.

Rizo's owners hope to attract professionals and people 25 years of age and older.

free press expands on education

BY MATEA TUHTAR

The *Winnipeg Free Press* may become a more interesting read to students, as reporter Leah Janzen joins the education beat to cover post-secondary education stories and issues.

"The paper has decided to dedicate more resources to education coverage. It was simply too much for one person to handle," Janzen says. She adds that having two people on the job offers more time and flexibility to do in-depth stories of different calibers.

Janzen will cover a wide range of issues and stories concerning universities and colleges, paying particular attention to funding. Last year, all three of Manitoba's main post-secondary schools threatened fee hikes in response to a lack of funding from the government.

"I am interested to see how colleges and universities contribute to our economy, and how our government contributes to them," says Janzen. "Funding is a big issue; the schools are always asking for more money. The tuition freeze has been the hallmark of our government. It will be interesting to see what happens this year."

By covering issues that students deal with or are affected by, the *Free Press* will likely expand its coverage of education to obtain a larger percentage of student readers. The younger a person starts reading the paper, the more likely it will become a habit.

"Education is something that affects all of us. It's something we can all relate to," says Janzen.

"Education is something that affects all of us. It's something we can all relate to."

LEAH JANZEN

Davina Pessagno, a second year student at Red River College says that she would be more likely to read the *Free Press* if they featured articles that dealt with education.

"As a college student, if they would reflect the needs, wants and interests of post-secondary students, I would be more inclined to read it," she says.

In addition to being a creative communications grad, Janzen also has a degree from the University of Manitoba, and has attended the University of Winnipeg. She has been working for *the Free Press* since 1997, and before this assignment she worked as a court and legislature reporter, in addition to covering the Winnipeg Police Service.

annual safe drive program begins

Operation Red Nose™

BY JEN ZORATTI

If your holiday party starts to include impromptu karaoke, tabletop dancing, and bathroom confessionals of undying love to random people, perhaps it's time to lay off the nog.

It's also a good time to give Operation Red Nose a call.

Operation Red Nose is an innovative approach to keeping impaired drivers off the streets. When you call 947-NOSE, three volunteers are sent to retrieve you and your car. Two volunteers ride in your car, one of whom will drive; therefore, you must have a vehicle to use the service. The third, drives the follow-up car to pick up the volunteers.

The service is free, but donations are welcome. All proceeds go to the Manta Swim club.

Since it's inception in 1984 in Quebec City, Operation Red Nose has expanded to include over 90 dispatch locations in Canada, 20 in Switzerland, two in France and one in Portugal. Operation Red Nose started in Winnipeg in 1994, spearheaded by the Manta Swim Club, who has offered the service every weekend in December for the past 11 years.

According to Manta's website, about 1.2 million rides have been given to impaired drivers across Canada since 1984. In Winnipeg, 11,500 have used Operation Red Nose, and nearly 500 people have volunteered for the service.

Manitoba Public Insurance spokesman Brian Smiley says the program has been extremely successful in keeping Winnipeg streets safe during the holidays.

"Nearly 1,000 rides were given last year," Smiley says. "That means there were 1,000 people who made the right decision not to drink and drive."

According to MPI, one person is killed every 10 days by impaired drivers. Smiley says the rate would be even higher during the holidays if not for programs such as Operation Red Nose and the Checkstop program, a Winnipeg Police Service initiative that conducts random checks at various points across the city.

"If these programs keep one person off the road, then it's a success."

Around 500 people have volunteered for Operation Red Nose. Jennifer Dubienski used to be a driver when her kids belonged to Manta.

"My husband and I drove for three years when my kids were swimmers," says Dubienski. "It's fun, and it's great fundraising for the club. It was the common sense thing to do."

Dubienski encourages more people to get involved.

"It's great because at the end of the night, you know you helped a lot of people," says Dubienski. "Actually, you saved a lot of people's lives."

For more information about rides and volunteering, call 947-NOSE.

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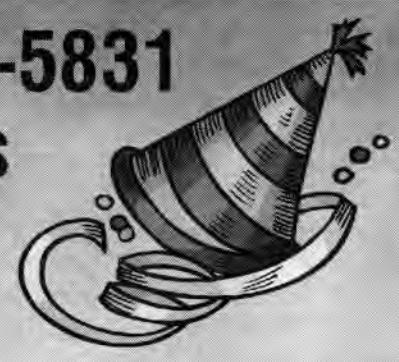

your health matters

keeping in line during holidays

LAURA RUDDOCK, COLUMNIST

It's easy to get carried away with partying over the holidays; between the mixers, socials, work parties, family gatherings and, let's not forget, New Year's Eve, there are more than a few opportunities to let loose.

And for anyone who frequents holiday parties, your probably just as familiar with the hangover that greets you the next morning. Is the occasional drink that bad for you? What about a weekend of uninhibited "I emptied my bank account and spent all the money on cocktails," fun?

According to *Don't Be Dumb About Drinking*, by Dawn Weiner, which appeared in the May 2005 issue of *Cosmopolitan*, alcohol makes you feel good because it releases the chemical dopamine, that boosts activity in the pleasure seeking area of your brain. Your brain associates the mild euphoria with alcohol, so one drink often leads to another and another and another...

The American Council of Drug Education says alcohol initially serves as a stimulant, then induces feelings of relaxation and reduced anxiety. Consuming two or three drinks in an hour can impair your judgment and lower inhibitions. Five drinks consumed in two hours may raise your blood alcohol level to 0.10 percent. Once a drinker stops drinking, his blood alcohol level decreases by about 0.01 percent per hour. Meaning, it can take some people quite a while to sober up.

Jeff Wiese, MD, associate professor of medicine at Tulane University Health Sciences told Dawn Wiener that drinking impairs your motor skills, reaction time, speech and thinking. The ACDE adds, irritability, inappropriate or violent behavior, depression, loss of consciousness and impaired short term memory to that list.

Drinking can also be bad for your waistline. According to a study published in the May 2005 issue of *Glamour* magazine, 40 per cent of extra weekend calories comes from alcohol. You can reduce the number of calories in your drink by asking for diet soda, instead of regular soda or high calorie juices.

With so many pitfalls to drinking, why do so many people do it? Simple. Before crossing the line and becoming an incoherent mess, drinking makes many people feel good. When drinking, you may feel less reserved, more conversational, happy and affectionate. But Wiese warns this is when you should stop drinking or at the very least, slow down.

Like all good things in life, the experts say moderation is key. ACDE believes a drink a day can have positive health benefits, such as reduced risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes and improved digestion. However, drinking too much can actually cause osteoporosis, cirrhosis, and high blood pressure.

One drink is equal to five ounces of wine, 12 ounces of beer or an ounce and a half of liquor. Don't trust that your bartender is only pouring you one drink; studies suggest drinks are larger today than 30 years ago. One martini is now around seven ounces, not three, and a balloon wine glass holds 10 ounces, not six.

To avoid drinking too much during your holiday celebrations, try pacing yourself; rotate between a glass of water and an alcoholic beverage. Wiener also suggests eating before and while you drink. Foods heavy with starch will help absorb some of the alcohol.

If you have had too much to drink and aren't sure how you and your car are going to get home (put down those keys!), call Operation Red Nose, at 947-NOSE. Volunteers will make sure you get home safely.

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FOOTBALL FIELD NO PLACE FOR SOLDIERS

KYLE BAKX, COLUMNIST

Hundreds of people die or are murdered every year in Canada, but they aren't remembered in the spotlight like Pte. Scott Braun Woodfield.

During the 93rd Grey Cup in Vancouver last week, soldiers killed in action were honoured with a moment of silence. Pte. Woodfield, who died serving in Afghanistan on Nov. 24, 2005, was specifically mentioned.

Honouring a fallen soldier during a championship game makes as much sense as the Eskimos starting Martha Stewart at QB.

The moment of silence began before the game with cameras focused on coaches and players on the field, the majority of whom aren't even Canadian.

Canada is not the military-obsessed country in North America, and we shouldn't act like it. If we are going to honour people who recently died before the start of a football game, why don't we at least honour former athletes, coaches, or other relevant football-related people.

People die all the time, what makes this one soldier so special? Soldiers enroll in the military knowing they risk the chance of being killed. Members of the armed forces aren't forced into action, especially those who serve overseas. Soldiers usually apply to fight in hot spots like the Middle East.

All season long in the CFL there have been no connections to the Armed Forces, yet come the championship game in Vancouver, the Armed Forces are everywhere. They were seen constantly in Vancouver participating in Grey Cup festivities, and on the CBC during the game.

The CBC showed footage of soldiers overseas sending good wishes to the players and of course, the CBC mentioned how members of the Armed Forces were able to watch the game in many parts of the world. I didn't know the government was paying people to go overseas to watch football and be on TV. Good to know our tax money is being put to good use.

In Vancouver, 'the military was over-represented, especially during the Grey Cup Parade. A flypast of four CF-18 fighter jets kicked things off.

According to the National Defense website, marching in the parade was the Naden Band of Maritime Forces Pacific, a 50-man guard from HMCS Vancouver, and equipment and soldiers from 39 Canadian Brigade Groups. About 1,000 members of Royal Canadian Sea, Army and Air Cadets from lower mainland corps and squadrons represented the Canadian youth.

The Grey Cup itself arrived on the deck of HMCS Vancouver, a naval warship with a crew of 225 sailors.

Sending all of those soldiers and military personnel to Vancouver cost all of us money, and for what reason?

That's right, none.

I thought Remembrance Day was for remembering fallen soldiers, not Grey Cup Sunday.

Comments?
Email backtobakx@theprojector.ca

face off

sick of health debate

BY KRISTA SIMONSON

This entire private/public MRI hoopla is another classic example of our inept government. If our leaders were truly accountable and duly serving their citizens, waiting lists would be an acceptable length of time. There would be no need for the debate at all.

Advocates of privatized services swear that all Canadians will benefit: if the wealthy are willing to pay, everyone gets the necessary care faster. In other words, those scraping by get to live as tapeworms off the affluent. Gee thanks, Canada. It's almost like universal access to health care!

Clinics like the Maples Surgical Centre pull technicians away from the public sector and over to the privatized dark side. The Health Sciences Centre has already lost three technicians, lured away by newer equipment, shiny facilities, and richer clients.

Here's the ridiculous part. The new MRI machine at the Maples clinic only scans limbs. The specialists who spend their days running life-saving scans on public heads and torsos are being lured away to scan rich yuppies for tennis elbow.

Our provincial Conservatives complain that the NDP are clinging to an ideology, instead of looking at our health care problems realistically. If the opposition chooses to whittle our universal health care system down to big dreams, so be it. It's a dream worth having.

Would Tommy Douglas, our Greatest Canadian, be waiting in line?

Universal health care is the last great Canadian equalizer. The debate shouldn't be public or private, but why the hell our government isn't making it work.

BY MIKE UHRICH

Tim Sale is upset because employees of the Health Sciences Centre have left their jobs to go work someplace that will pay them more to do the exact same job. He's also upset because the Maples Surgical Centre is offering a service that will help reduce hospital wait times.

Judging by the rationale that Mr. Sale is using, he must also want puppies banned because they bring happiness to small children.

The real issue behind this quandary is that Canadians have free Medicare and this is starting to become a big problem for everyone.

The Maples Surgical Centre is trying to alleviate some of the stress on the entire Medicare system by offering a second option for people who need to get an MRI. The catch is that those who want an MRI from the Centre will have to pay for it, which in turn starts bringing up the idea of us Canadians paying for our health care.

Now I'm not taking free health care for granted, but let's be realistic. Canadians who can afford to pay for health services should be allowed to exercise that option if they so desire. Not only will this get them what they want, but it will also start to knock those upper-class Canadians out of the waiting room, opening up spaces for the people who need an MRI, but can't afford it.

Ultimately, Canada needs to adopt a hybrid Medicare system where you can choose to pay for health care if you can afford it. Hospitals would remain free, but private clinics could potentially offer everything from MRI's to surgery for a price.

By rewarding people who have money and giving them a second option, you are also helping out people who can't afford it by speeding up their wait times.

Let's face it, free Medicare sounds great in principle, but the proof why it doesn't work is growing faster than the waiting room lineups and the amount of hospital beds stuck in the hallway.

PRAYER ROOM AT NOTRE DAME CAMPUS

We are pleased to announce that the Notre Dame Campus has a new **"PRAYER ROOM"** in Room **A2-33**. This prayer room has been in process for quite some time and is now open and available to both staff and students. It is open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. People of all spiritual paths, cultures and traditions are welcome.

The **PRAYER ROOM** will be used for "silent prayer, meditation and stillness". It is a place of **PEACE AND SERENITY**, amidst the busyness and many activities of college life. Our hope is that all those who enter there will find renewal and tranquility.

A **"Grand Opening"** of the prayer room will be hosted later this fall and will be announced as soon as it is scheduled . . . so be on the lookout for this upcoming event.

Everyone is invited to use the prayer room whenever there is a need for some "quiet time" and we hope you will enjoy this **"OASIS"** that we have been gifted with.

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aboriginal students search for a home

BY RENATA MARSDEN

This month, four people in my very close circle of family and friends will be moving; two are elderly, one is a professor, and the other is a student. They may be at different stages in their life, but they have one thing in common; they are all Aboriginal without a home or land.

This is just one month out of the year; you should hear about this past July.

I thought about this moving frenzy as I was helping my best friend, Cheryle (the student). We joked about how nomadic we were and how it would be nice to own a home. She mentioned an Aboriginal real estate agent's ad she had read in the paper, and I said that if I wasn't in my program at RRC, I would probably go into real estate too. We laughed. I'm not a sales person, but it got me thinking about land-ownership. Just like anyone else, Aboriginal people would like to own land. Ironic, I know.

The other night, I met a woman at a pre-festive gathering, and she said she made $150,000 a year selling homes. I sure could handle making that kind of money, and maybe even buying some real estate of my own along the way.

Renata Trump, yeah, I like the sound of that.

Okay, okay, now back to reality.

Winnipeg has the largest population of Aboriginal people in Canada, many of who are young adults. There could be a potentially huge untapped market there. For many students such as Cheryle and I, who are tired of paying rent, as soon as we're finished our education and have jobs, we'll want to buy a home instead of renting.

This is the case with many aboriginals, including students, the elderly and young families. There is a struggle to find affordable housing. Waiting lists at housing co-ops are years long, and at decent $650-a-suite apartment blocks, some building managers just don't want students or Aboriginal people.

I remember when I was eight months pregnant and the lady showing an apartment to my husband and me called us partiers after we left.

Needless to say, our references confirmed we were "good clean people," and we got the place for $775 per month.

I never had a party, I paid my rent on time, and I loved my home for at least a year-and-a-half.

Many people might wonder why Aboriginal students might be a little habitat-challenged, and it's for many reasons. Many come from up North, so they can't stay at their parents to save on costs. They might strike out on their own and many are without the financial support of their parents. Those students who go back to their home communities during the summer find it difficult to lease apartments for 12 months, while others have families of their own.

Any way you look at it, many Aboriginal students, whether single or with families, struggle to find a place to call home. I do, too.

Once I'm done school, I hope to buy my own home, and maybe even own a building that rents to students.

It can happen, I can see it.

The Ranada on the Red... fully furnished suites, cafeteria with healthy and junky choices...

speak out!

By Brook Jones

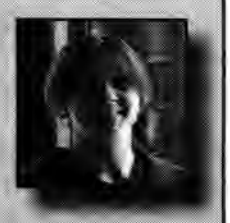
According to the *CanWest* news service, at the turn of the century Canadians were electric with excitement at a future of opportunity and prosperity. That was five years ago and now great expectations are met with disappointment, and the bloom of hope has withered into cynicism.

So, *the projector* asks: "Is cynicism and uncertainty taking the place of hope?"

Kirsten Whitehill, 23
creative communications

"There's always the concern that you might not have a job when you graduate, however, I am confident that I'll get a job. I'll have to work hard to get the job that I want because it's not going to be handed to be."

Janelle Mailhot, 24
business administration



"I'm particularly concerned and cynical about the upcoming federal election. I'm also concerned about the environment because what is going to happen when we don't have a planet to talk about these political issues."

Natalie Patterson, 24
college preparation for nursing

"I'm very optimistic about getting a job after I graduate. There is a demand for nurses in North America."

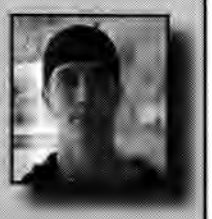
Jocelyn Dedios, 24
college preparation for nursing

"I'm optimistic about getting a job after I graduate. It's a great program that I am in."

Andy "Handy" Todman, 21
collision repair

"I'm hopeful as I already have a job placement for my upcoming internship. Everything is swizzle for me as the course that I'm taking is good and so are the teachers."

Sean Murray, 21
business administration



"I'm cool and fine with everything as I am not a cynical guy. I'm confident that I'll be able to get a job after graduation but my one question is when are we going to get an National Hockey League team back in Winnipeg."

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Photo | Paul Grigaitis

rrc gets back in the game

BY ERIN CARTER

Winnipeg is known as Canada's hotbed of volleyball, and this fall, Red River College joined in the heat.

RRC entered both men's and women's varsity volleyball teams in the Central Plains Athletic Conference (CPAC) after a 20-year volleyball drought and had unexpected success. Both teams finished second at the league championships in Brandon, Nov.18-19, in what can only be described as an exciting, edge-of-your-seat set of final games.

"I almost started running on the court," says Ryan Ratushniak, the varsity volleyball coordinator and coach of the men's team, who thought his team had won on several occasions.

"The last game could've gone either way," he says. "They played the best they've played all year."

In the men's final, RRC faced St. Boniface, who won the championship last year.

Point-for-point, both teams tried to out-volley, slam, and block each other, but it was an even match. Two points shy of an RRC victory, Curtis Brown sprained his ankle, stopping the rhythm of the game. St. Boniface went on to win the last match 18-16, and the championships, with a 3-2 lead.

The women's final featured the RRC Rebel's against Canadian Mennonite University (CMU). The game stretched into four even matches; in the end, CMU was the better team, 3-1.

Ratushniak spoke enthusiastically about the emotion and focus both teams demonstrated in the championships and says that he couldn't have asked for more. He praised the women's team for being undefeated in league play, under coach Mike Maidment's leadership, and acknowledged the potential for their future.

"It was a special year," he says. "None of the players knew they'd be playing, so there were no expectations."

He describes the unique experience of watching 13 guys, who didn't know each other before the year, come together and bond as a team.

Ratushniak was hired in July to lead the volleyball program, sparking a new initiative under the leadership of RRC president Jeff Zabudsky.

The program is designed to increase student activity, build school spirit, and attract younger students. Ratushniak feels that sport is a great way to help build life skills, such as time-management, team play, and perseverance.

Ratushniak's sports background has benefited him as coach and coordinator at the RRC. His volleyball credentials include playing on the University of Manitoba volleyball team for five years- where he was the assistant coach for one season- competing on the Canadian National Volleyball Team for three years, taking part in volleyball tours of New Zealand and Australia, and playing in five National Beach Volleyball Championships.

"This season was a success," he says. "Both teams made the finals; they were competitive, committed, and they represented the college."

CPAC LEAGUE STANDINGS

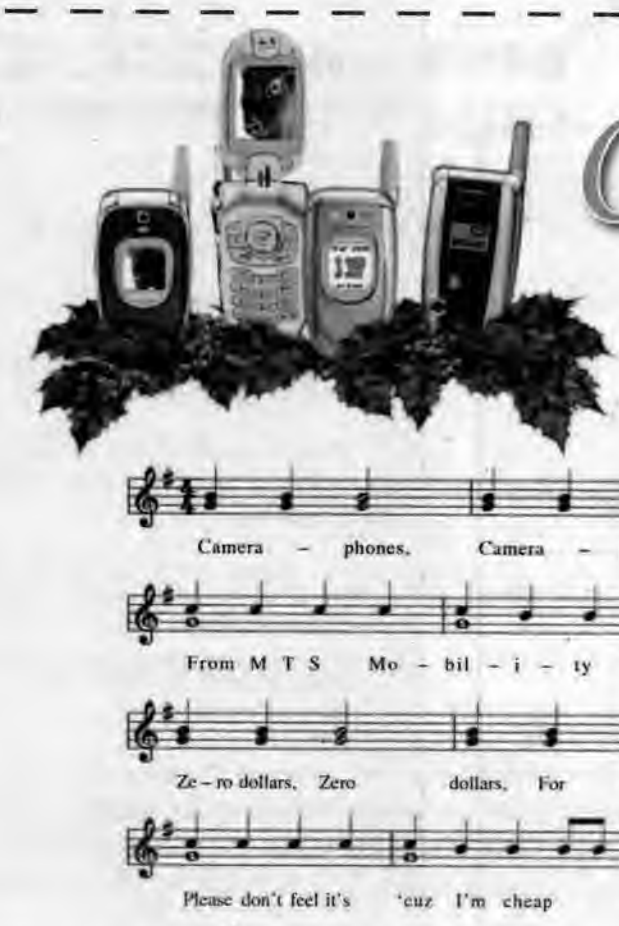
The men's team finished 3rd, 3 - 3.
The women's team finished 1st, 6 - 0.

CPAC VOLLEYBALL FINAL FOUR PLAYOFFS
(NOV. 18-19 AT ACC IN BRANDON)

The women's team defeated St. Boniface College (ranked 4th) 3-0 in their semi-final. In the final, the women lost a very close match to the Canadian Mennonite University (ranked 2nd) 3-1.

Tannys Miller, Chantal Dufault, and Dayna Jamieson were selected to the CPAC All-Star Team.

The men's team defeated the Canadian Mennonite University (ranked 2nd) in their semi-final 3-1. In the final, the men lost an extremely close and competitive match to St. Boniface College (ranked 1st) 3-2.

Dave Pundyk and Brian Hrehirchuk were selected CPAC League All-Stars.

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hall of heroes

BY BROOK JONES

The Winnipeg Jets began and ended their presence in the World Hockey Association (WHA) as a winning team.

The Jets made news in the WHL from day one when the team selected the Chicago Blackhawks' Bobby Hull in the general player draft in 1972. On the last day of the WHA, the Jets made headlines when they won the final AVCO CUP awarded.

Hull, who earned the nickname "The Golden Jet," led the Winnipeg Jets of the WHA to their first AVCO Cup championship in 1976. The team would go on to win two more AVCO Cup Championships during the league's tenure.

Manitoba is fortunate to have many outstanding athletes, coaches, teams, builders, and administrators, who have contributed to the growth of sport in the province.

The Winnipeg Jets of 1976, 1978, and 1979 joined honoured hall of fame member teams, such as the Winnipeg Victorias of 1886 and 1901, and the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of 1958, at a gala ceremony at Canad Inns Polo Park.

This era of the Winnipeg Jets were inducted into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame in front of 740 hall of fame members, family, friends, and supporters at the 2005 Annual Induction Dinner.

Rick Brownly, executive director of the Manitoba Sport Hall of Fame and Museum has been working for the hall of fame for the past 16 years. Brownly says that working there is definitely a labour of love.

"I like the reactions I see from the inductees and their family on the night of their particular induction to the hall of fame."

Brownly, 43, says that it was an easy decision for the selection committee to induct the Winnipeg Jets' of 1976, 1978, and 1979 because they all accomplished the same thing; they all won the AVCO Cup.

The Winnipeg Jets won the last AVCO Cup in the WHA when they beat Edmonton 7 to 3 in game 6 of the championship series in May of 1979. Shortly after the championship, Winnipeg, Quebec, New England, and Edmonton were admitted into the NHL for the 1979-1980 season.

The Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum continued its tradition of preserving the rich sport heritage in Manitoba by also honouring four athletes and three builders at this year's induction ceremony.

The membership of the Manitoba Hall of Fame consists of 186 athletes, 99 builders, and 65 teams.

Manitobans and visitors to the province are welcome to visit the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame museum located on the fifth floor of the Bay downtown, Tues. - Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Sun. - Mon. Admission is by donation.

quebec city sans nhl

BY KYLE BAKX

Bluffing, plainly put, is when you're misleading and trying to throw off your competitors.

For Quebecers, a bluff cost them their beloved Nordiques.

In the early '90s, the Quebec Nordiques definitely weren't the class of the National Hockey League, yet season after season fans filled the Colisée for every home game. The Nordiques faithful would be rewarded and in 1992-93, the Nordiques set a NHL record for best single-season turnaround, as they posted a record of 47-27-10 for 104 points- a rebound from the past season when they could only muster 20 wins.

During the lockout-shortened season of 1995, the Nordiques success continued. Rising star Peter Forsberg captured the Calder Trophy, and head coach Marc Crawford was awarded the Jack Adams trophy as coach of the year.

Despite the refusal by first round draft pick Eric Lindros to play for the Nordiques, Quebec had assembled a character team with superstars, including Joe Sakic, Owen Nolan, Adam Deadmarsh, Uwe Krupp and Wendell Clark.

But regardless of the product on the ice, the team faced serious financial woes. Fighting the low Canadian dollar and below average sponsorship deals, owner Marcel Aubut believed replacing the Colisée with a new barn would bring the team into the black. To convince various levels of government, Aubut gave COMSAT Entertainment Group (CEG) a phone call.

CEG owns and operates the Denver Nuggets and wanted to expand their arsenal of franchises in Denver with a NHL club. Setting up the transaction of the Nordiques to Denver would benefit both sides. Aubut could use the partnership to pressure governments north of the border to build his new ice palace, and CEG could do the same only with the NHL, to bolster their hopes of landing an expansion team.

So CEJ made an offer to buy the Nordiques for $70 million, and both parties winked and laughed on how the deal would never go through.

Until it did.

The Quebec government in particular was cash-strapped and had no intention of replacing a sports venue they deemed adequate, although some taxpayers would disagree. Aubut's dreams and intense planning schemes had been destroyed, as was his popularity in Quebec. Although $70 million padded Aubut's landing, the only padding for Quebecers was the concrete of an empty arena.

In Denver, people awoke to great news in the morning paper. Not only did they get an NHL club a few years before they even anticipated being awarded an expansion team, but they had acquired a very, very good Nordiques club.

Packing their bags for Denver, the Nordiques dawned the purple and maroon, and became the Colorado Avalanche. Before the tears had dried in Quebec City, the Avalanche had captured the holy grail of hockey and won the Stanley Cup in their first season south of the border.

No more fleur-de-lis, no more Nordiques/Habs rivalries, no more Quebec in the NHL.

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guerrero: a legend dies

BY GRANT BURR

In a business that often thrives on outrageous storylines, sometimes the real life stories are just too unbelievable. Such was the case last month with the news that heart failure had claimed the life of World Wrestling Entertainment superstar Eddie Guerrero, 38.

"I didn't believe it at first," says Jon Cutler, who wrestles with Winnipeg's Action Wrestling Entertainment (AWE). He quickly realized this was no storyline.

"Didn't matter if you put him in the ring with the Giant…in with Rey Mysterio…he could put on a five star match," Cutler says, praising Guerrero's adaptability in the ring.

92 CITI-FM's Joe Aiello, who has been involved in the local wrestling scene for a long time, had the chance to meet Guerrero on a few occasions.

"I was shocked," Aiello says. "He was just an awesome guy, pretty low key, really modest. If you complimented him, he'd say thank you but not necessarily believe you."

Aiello recalls one of his favorite memories from 1994, when Guerrero and Art Barr were teamed as La Pareja del Terror at the *When Worlds Collide* Pay-Per-View broadcast by Mexican promotion AAA.

"It was tremendous… one of the most successful pay-per-views ever. So why didn't they do it again? Nobody wanted to see the little guys succeed."

"It really showed that the little guys can make it."

- JON CUTLER

Guerrero finally managed to overcome that lack of support for smaller wrestlers late in his career. Cutler believes Guerrero's finest moment was his run with the WWE Championship at 2004's *No Way Out* Pay-Per-View, which he won.

"It really showed that the little guys can make it," says Cutler.

Guerrero became an inspiration after beating substance abuse problems. While some have commented that the wear and tear of Guerrero's past lifestyle played a part in his death, the constant pressure the industry places on performers to stay healthy has also come under scrutiny.

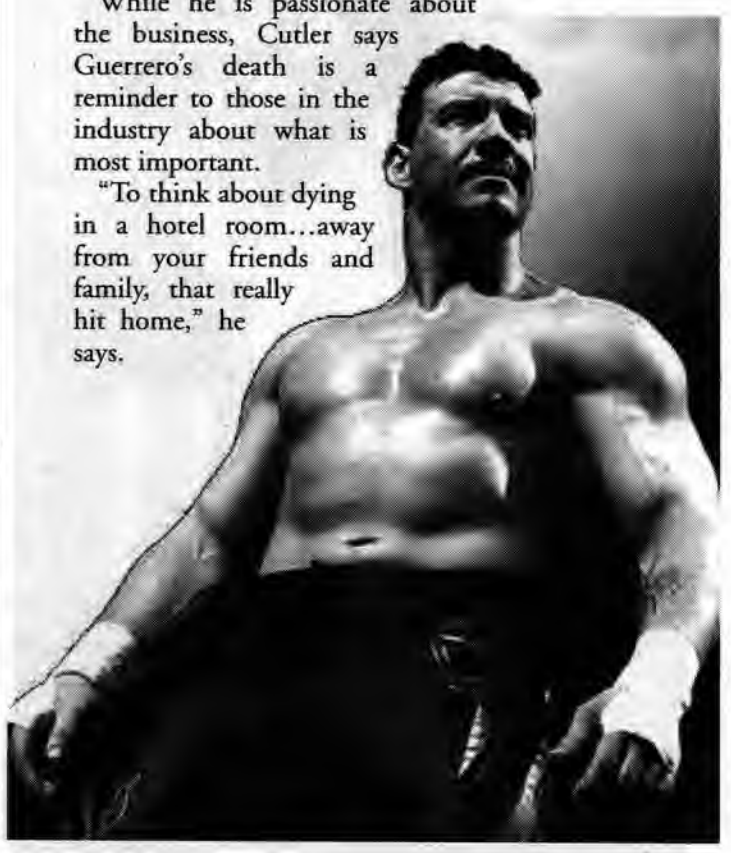
"If you're not in the game, it's pretty easy to be forgotten," says Cutler.

As his own promotion begins presenting more events, he says that it can be a pretty hectic lifestyle.

"I can only see it getting busier and busier."

While he is passionate about the business, Cutler says Guerrero's death is a reminder to those in the industry about what is most important.

"To think about dying in a hotel room…away from your friends and family, that really hit home," he says.



AWE back in the ring

BY MIKE UHRICH

Action Wrestling Entertainment (AWE) returns to the University of Manitoba's Investors Group Athletic Centre, Dec. 6-7.

AWE will do two days of tapings, the first for their second Pay-Per-View, *Harsh Reality*. The show comes eight months after the filming of their first double pay-per-view, *Larger than Life*, in March.

Although 2005 was the year of the first PPV, the company actually dates back to 2003.

"It was a concept born in the summer/fall of 2003," says Mike Davidson, AWE's director of wrestling operations. "We did a pilot in November at Coyote's; It was done to show that we could put together a show."

A life-long wrestling fan, Davidson put the show and the company together with the help of Jeff Dyck.

"Mike takes care of the wrestling operations, and I take care of all the business," says Dyck, the CEO of AWE. "I don't step on his toes, and he doesn't step on mine."

In addition to PPV, AWE also obtained a national television deal by securing a slot on the Fight Network, now in eastern Canada, and hopes to be broadcasting across the country in three months.

The weekly 30-minute program will be called AWE Overload, and it will begin airing in December. AWE's second round of tapings will take place Dec. 7.

The product, based out of Winnipeg and with offices in Alberta, is looking into expansion into the U.S. in 2006.

"We don't want to be known as a Winnipeg promotion or as a Canadian independent promotion," says Dyck. "We want to compete in North America and on an international level."

"It was done to show that we could put together a show."

- Mike Davidson

Offering top import talent like the Steiner Brothers, Lex Luger, Buff Bagwell, and Rikishi Fatu, AWE is doing just that.

"We get phone calls on a weekly basis for big name guys who want to come and work for us," says Dyck.

AWE has also been going after the services of big name talents such as Bill Goldberg and Sting, while still offering up a host of great Canadian independent stars that AWE has worked with since the beginning.

"Being involved with the business for 10 years, I had a network of guys I wanted to work with," says Davidson.

That network includes AWE trainer Hotshot Johnny Devine, Shane Madison, Adam Knight, Chi Chi Cruz, and the newly signed Sarah Stock.

Fans can expect to see all of these stars and a few big name surprises on Dec. 6-7.

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notes

why seth cohen saved our lives

JEN ZORATTI,
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Sometimes, really great music comes from really lame places.

I remember when I first found out about music. Like every female who was 13 in 1998, I went through the inevitable Spice Girls phase. But I never felt like any of that was my music, and the felt like something was missing as a result. It was almost like I didn't have an identity because I didn't have a CD collection.

Ok, maybe that's a little extreme. But music has always been a defining force for me, and to not have any that spoke to me was a little distressing.

But that all changed one day.

Whilst searching in my basement, I came across a large box of cassettes. Like, literally, a fridge box of music. I knew my dad was a big music geek, but I never really knew to the extent. That day, I found The Talking Heads. I found The Jam. I found Soundgarden and Pearl Jam. I found Elvis Costello, The Smiths, and David Bowie.

And in a way, I found myself.

Now, seven years later, I still enjoy discovering new music. I love the epiphany that I felt that day when I was 13. And the places I find new stuff to listen to are just as surprising as a fridge box in the basement.

Obscure radio stations, flyers that wallpaper the streets and random music mags that you can only get at Chapters (go Swedish music rags!) are all great sources of new tunes to listen to.

But it's the lame sources that are the most fun.

Take the O.C. for example. Sure it's a superficial show about a bunch of rich Californian kids who all speak like they attended the Dawson's Creek School of Realistic Dialogue.

But look deeper. Believe it or not, this little 90210 rip off has a man who quite possibly saved our lives.

That man is one Seth Cohen.

Now, sure, the guy likes comics and has a lisp. He's into Japanese movies. He's kind of that quintessential cool guy whose job is to just be cool. And I realize that this may largely be because he's a fictitious person

But the most important thing about Seth Cohen is not just his inherent coolness, but the fact that he digs really good music.

Look at the musical guests on the O.C. TheWalkmen, Death Cab for Cutie, Modest Mouse, The Subways, The Killers and Rooney have all rocked The Bait Shop. These are bands that have received the Seth Cohen stamp of approval. It felt like Death Cab was everywhere the day after they were on the show. And it's interesting when mainstream pop culture fluff has actually done wonders for the not-so-mainstream indie music scene.

Sure, purists may worry their little hipster heads about the fact that a fixture of American pop culture is digging up their underground, but I actually see this as a good thing. Kids are finally getting exposed to good music.

Maybe kids are cooler now-a-days. Maybe they like better music. I don't know. But I'll tell you this. I sure wish that Seth Cohen was there when I was 13 to save me from The Spice Girls.

prozzak encounters cruel world

BY CARA LYTWYN

"Hey, where are we?"

This is the greeting of Prozzak's new website, offering fans a chance to post their comments about where they think the hopeless romantic Simon has been looking for love, and why Milo has stopped lifting weights.

The cartooned duo is probably doing glamorous press conferences and parties in anticipation of their Nov. 29 album release for *Cruel Cruel World*.

Where have charming James Bryan and fellow bandmate Jay Levine been hiding since their multi-platinum releases *Hotshow* and *Saturday People*?

The guys spent a year developing a cartoon show with Disney, featuring Simon and Milo. But the characters did not end up how Prozzak envisioned, halting production, and leading Bryan and Levine to a much needed break.

"We were on a Prozzak depression," Bryan says. "At that point, we had just met Fefe Dobson and started working with her on her record."

The creation of Prozzak and contributions to The Philosopher Kings are only part of this pair's musical ambitions. They produce artists' albums in their respective cities: Levine in New York, and Bryan, with his production company UMI Entertainment, in Toronto.

"There's a lot of talent, which is keeping us busy."

In fact, Levine is so busy with other artists, he didn't participate in The Philosopher Kings upcoming release, *Castles*.

"Artistically, I guess Prozzak is satisfying him," Bryan says. "For me, I'm a little schizophrenic musically, so I just love doing many different things."

The new album's title track *Cruel Cruel World* signifies some of Simon's heartbreak and encountered vindictiveness in its many forms.

"It's (about) how the world sometimes seems cruel to all of us," he says. "Whether it's a relationship thing or whatever we're going through."

Prozzak's new sound has a sense of spontaneity and realism.

"Obviously, it sounds a little different a few years later," Bryan says. "I mean, the music is a little darker and edgier."

A change to the sound resulted in modifications to Simon and Milo, now sketched with trendy collared jackets and mod haircuts.

"It was just a product of the music that we made," Bryan says.

Influences for the new album came from The Strokes, The Arcade Fire, and some older '80s music.

"Stuff I listened to in high school," Bryan says. "Like New Order and The Cure."

Bryan's top three choices for albums to have on a deserted island include, David Bowie's *Let's Dance*, the Violent Femmes' self titled record, and The Beatles' *Rubber Soul*.

After Prozzak came on the scene, another animated group soon appeared, Gorillaz: the brain child of Blur's Damon Albarn.

"It's a pretty cool concept, and I have to say I really love their albums. It's just a little unfortunate for us. Although we came up with it a bit earlier, they definitely got all the exposure," Bryan says. "But you know that happens."

Bryan comments on the weird timing of how both bands have an album being released.

"I think our fates are cosmically linked."

Although Prozzak won't be touring right away, they have plans to do a very unique live show.

"Maybe it will be more of a theatrical thing, like The Blue Man Group, where we can have a show happening in ten cities simultaneously," Bryan says. "Whatever happens, it will be something totally unexpected."

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toronto band a bust

C

Broken Social Scene
w/ The Most Serene Republic
Le Rendez-vous
Nov. 19

BY JEN ZORATTI

When most bands crank their amps to 11, you expect them to rock. For Broken Social Scene, it was quite the opposite.

The 10-piece Toronto indie rockers graced the stage of Le Rendezvous, playing to a completely sold out crowd. But the hype-band didn't exactly live up to the hype.

After battling numerous sound difficulties and a fatal back wall echo, the band looked baffled at how to deal with problems that a simple sound check would have caught.

Somewhere in between bitching and moaning about their venue and making their fans feel decidedly unwelcome, they decided that it would be a fabulous idea to make everything louder. The result was a jumbled wall of music, with 10 people trying to be heard over each other. And for a band that is as intricate as Broken Social Scene, it made it hard to even pick out what they were playing.

Even though it sounded like one, the show wasn't a complete wash. In gravity-defying pigtails and a granola-girl brown dress, the demure songstress Lisa Lobsinger lent her sweet, soft spoken vocal talents on *Anthems for a Seventeen-Year-Old Girl*. Although her mic occasionally failed, she was a bright spot in the show.

Other standouts were faves such as *Lover's Spit* and *Almost Crimes*, on which Winnipegger and soundman Marty Kinack joined the band on guitar. In fact, the band lovingly told us that Kinack is the only reason they came here.

But credit must be given where it was due. The band played for an exceptionally long time, and the set, which nearly hit the 2-hour mark, drew primarily from the beautifully bold *Your Forgot it in People*. But that made the show even more disheartening because you knew it could be so much better. Especially since Broken Social Scene is the incestuous love child of so many great indie bands.

One such band is Arts & Crafts labelmate, The Most Serene Republic, who opened the show (and sounded just fine, by the way). Adrian Jewett, at the tender age of 20, has great stage presence and a great set of pipes, though he was self conscious about his awful stage banter.

It's a shame that a band as great as Broken Social Scene made such a bad second impression on their Winnipeg fans. Maybe next time they come, they'll be as happy to see us as we were to see them.

stefani style not so stellar

B-

Gwen Stefani
MTS Centre
Nov. 16

BY CARLY THOMPSON

The best let down of my whole life: that's what I call my Gwen Stefani experience at the MTS Centre, Nov 16. Stefani's Harajuko Lovers Tour changed my opinion of her forever with one word: it that starts with 'f' and rhymes with luck.

Stefani rose up from underneath the stage in a throne surrounded by her army of Harajuko girls, who promptly removed her crown so that she could let her vivacious white-blond hair whip around the stage like a kite.

I might have poked fun at the amount of hair-flipping, if she wasn't so unbelievably and unrealistically beautiful. Every snapshot, every movement, and every facial expression was stunning. I have no doubt that Stefani is among the most attractive women in the world.

After the first couple of tunes, I was ready to settle in for a night of energetic dancing, pre-teen screaming, and ultimately, the chance to spell bananas back at Stefani.

Then, during her Winnipeg welcome wagon spiel, an unexpected word widened the eyes of many a Gwennie fan. Some parents of the youthful audience had to rush to cover small ears when Gwen told the crowd that she, "didn't want to f-ing go on tour, but you kept buying the record!"

After a short, stunned silence, the crowd erupted into cheers, followed by Sefani's greeting to the cute boys in the audience and a very sincere thank-you to her Canadian female fans, who she said she f-ing loved.

Stefani's performance was a whirlwind of set changes - after almost every song!-, with songs off her new album *Love. Angel. Music. Baby.*, and many wardrobe switches.

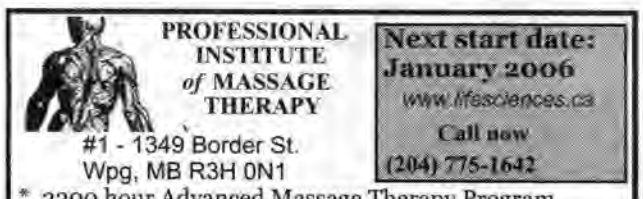
Although her voice and band were stellar, her outfits were not. Perhaps clothing plays a minor role, but for a fashion icon with her own line, wardrobe was sure to be a highlight.

Unfortunately, Stefani seemed to be caught somewhere between her old, sporty No Doubt-style and her newer, more revealing threads. The black-and-white parachute pant-suit, her own design, as well as the spandex booth shorts, would have been best left in the back of the Harajuko Lovers bus.

However, there were some borderline-impressive ensembles. The cream of the failed crop included the head-to-toe sequined dress she wore during *Cool*, matching an oceanic background, the baby-doll dress she debuted the evening with, and the almost-like-the-video marching band costume for Hollaback Girl at the end.

And yes, *Hollaback Girl* had every screamer screaming - times 50. Other tracks much adored by the audience included, *What You Waiting For*, *Rich Girl*, and *Cool*. But to many fan's dismay, there was not a No Doubt tune heard.

Although I was let down by wardrobe and the lack of No Doubt songs, Stefani's concert was certainly a spectacle that changed my outlook on who she is as a person: not the sweet-as-candy blonde I thought she was, but a strong -yet-cute blonde, who knows how to use the f-word to win over thousands of fans.



cd reviews

B

Jay Burns
Letters::Vol.1

If you have any memory of singer-songwriter Jay Burns' previous band, Winnipeg-based Fleshtone Rockets, his first solo album, *Letters: Vol.1,* will make you forget it, and that's a good thing.

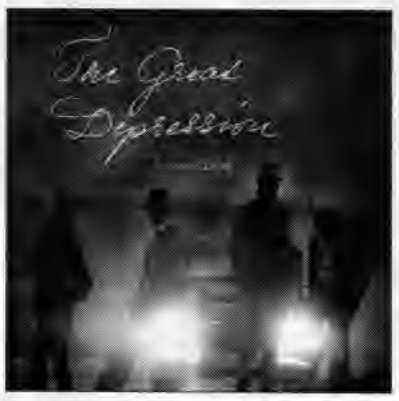
The 10-song album is solid in the material and production. Basically It is a handful of well written folk songs in an acoustic alt-rock style. It has dark moments, such as the opening track *Cadillac,* with Burns sounding similar to Leonard Cohen, but with a better vocal range.

Other tracks are more upbeat, and Burns' hooks and lyrics carry the songs. Several songs, including *Complicated Thing, Sad Thing,* and *One Hundred Fold* feature the piano as the prominent instrument. These songs have the feel of music similar to Five For Fighting. At other times, especially the last track *Everything Else,* Burns sounds like Lyndon Johnson from Rhymes With Orange - think of the song *The Taking of David.*)

A delicate alt-country tinge in some songs work at times, such as *Satisfied* (Blue Rodeo), but doesn't work on *New* (don't think of anything.)

Letters: Vol.1 is a good collection of songs, musically and technically. For the most part, Burns matches his vocals with meaningful words.

- TIM BIGELOW



B

Blindside
The Great Depression
Atlantic, 2005

Swedish rockers, Blindside, have gained a loyal following since their self-titled debut album in '97. Five albums later, the boisterous Blindside that fans are so mad about still exists, but sadly, the lacklustre production of the band's latest project, *The Great Depression,* lowers the excitement level down signficantly.

The previous album, *About a Burning Fire,* praised by both press and fans, was followed up by tours with Linkin Park and Hoobastank. Blindside's popularity was on the rise. But after Warner Music Group restructured, the band's label, Elektra, merged with Atlantic Records, leaving Blindside lost in land of corporate confusion.

The Great Depression is much more subdued than the intensity of *Silence* and *About a Burning Fire* (Elektra). Instead, the band returns to the sound of their first two albums, *Blindside* and *A Thought Crushed My Mind* (Tooth & Nail). If this concerns you, rest reassured: this music is not for the squeamish. The band still thrashes around as if they are possessed, as vocalist Christian Lindskog switches from melodic screaming to guttural shrieking at a moment's notice. Unfortunately, he sounds much better on previous records, where the band's experimentation with astounding time signature changes and tempo alterations boggles the mind.

This Is A Heart Attack is contagious, with a chorus that mixes harmonious singing with gut-wrenching screaming, aggressive guitars, and a rhythmically-bizarre elements. *Put Back the Stars* is a display of full-throttle emotion, demonstrating elegant transitions from hardcore carnage to melodious lullaby. *Fell in Love with the Game* is an infectious infiltration of metal. *Yemkela* was written out of Lindskog's experiences in Africa, where he witnessed AIDS and poverty destroying countless lives. *We Are To Follow* expresses blatant disgust of materialism and the media promoting it.

The Great Depression shows hints of the band's incredible talent, but is quite simply, under-produced. Blindside's music is supposed to be played loud, but I'll stick to specific tacks or previous efforts if I want to reap the full benefits of authentic headbanging mahem.

- RUDY A. ZACHARIAS

B-

Demon Hunter
The Tritych
Reprise, 2005

Demon Hunter's music was once described to me as the equivalent of a gigantic wrecking ball completely annihilating several small buildings amongst a barrage of shattered glass. More accurately, it is similar to having one's head smashed in with a sledgehammer, refusing to relinquish its fury.

Last year's video, *Not Ready to Die,* appeared on MTV2's Headbanger's Ball. *The Triptych,* occasionally reminiscent of previous albums, features superior production quality and improved songwriting; however, predictability overpowers the improvements.

Loaded with enough brutality to satisfy the stingiest of angry-music appetites, the CD begins with a 29-second operatic number; those unfamiliar with the band are blissfully unaware of the onslaught about to wreak havoc. *Not I* and *The Soldier's Song* are definitive Demonhunter, as pulsating rhythms and blistering guitars, lead listeners on a vast musical journey.

Singer Ryan Clark's signature growls are relentless, particularly showcased in *Relentless Intolerance* and *Ribcage;* however, in a musical universe chock-full of lung-busting vocalists, Clark is unique. His diversity ranges from harmonious singing to stentorian screaming; casting doubts it is the same person. *A Thousand Apologies,* an alt-metal song featuring beautiful, melodic vocals, is destined for radio. Surprises include piano-based *Tide Began to Rise* and haunting *Deteriorate;* however, the majority is typical Demonhunter: sizzling guitar riffs court Ryan's trademark roars.

Fans of the first two albums will find solace with *Fire to my Soul, Our Faces Fall Apart,* and *Beauty through the Eyes of a Predator.* Rarely do I think covers are successful; however, the remake of Prong's *Snap your Fingers, Snap your Neck* is a notable exception.

A *triptych* is "a work consisting of three painted or carved panels that are hinged together." Three limited edition art covers for the album have been released, making this definition apropos.

The Triptych has definite highlights. The predictability of some songs is unfortunate, but the sure magnitude of the band's songs will cause fans to overlook and forgive.

- RUDY A. ZACHARIAS

B+

Kate Rusby
A Girl Who couldn't Fly
Pure Records, 2005

Kate Rusby is a singer/songwriter from Yorkshire, England who has been bringing British folk music back to life for the last 10 years, demonstrating an elegance, charm, and admiration few can emulate.

The Girl Who Couldn't Fly is a conquest of contemporary music that makes new sound old, with a symphonic fusion of stringed and wind instruments, brass ensembles, acoustic guitars, and Rusby's gripping voice.

Listeners will discover much to love about this album. "A strong collection of traditional ballads and self-penned charmers that firmly establish Rusby as the Alison Krauss of British folk music," is how the album is defined by English media writers.

Rusby's songs are often presented in an erotic nature, such as the suggestive opener, *The Game on All Fours.*

Songs such as *Elfin King, Little Jack Frost,* and *The Lark* are wonders that will prevail to be timeless. A cover of Pee Wee King's, *You Belong to Me,* is brilliant. Traditional Yorkshire folk songs are included on the album along with a few beautiful lullabies and, surprisingly, a children's song.

The Girl Who Couldn't Fly is a blend of musical compositions, including Celtic rock and traditional Yorkshire folk. Rusby's quivering voice unveils an intimate relationship with the genres featured on this album, arouses listeners, beckoning them to move in for a seductive encounter with her music.

You will fly.

- RUDY A. ZACHARIAS

movie captures journalist's bravery

A-

Good Night, and Good Luck.
Now Playing
Globe Cinema

BY CARA LYTWYN

George Clooney has nailed it again with his second endeavor directing. *Good Night, and Good Luck* illustrates Senator Joseph McCarthy's frantic disregard for civility during the Communist search of the early '50s and his battles with the courageous CBS journalist, Edward R. Murrow.

Clooney brilliantly captures the vintage feel in black-and-white, using actual McCarthy footage lifted from film and television.

Murrow is compellingly played by David Strathairn (*L.A. Confidential, Paradise*).

Strathairn gives the perfect texture of soft charm juxtaposed against his rugged, intrepid, determination.

Fred Friendly, played by George Clooney, holds the delicate balance between friend and producer to Murrow.

Weak performances by both Robert Downey Jr. and Patricia Clarkson, in an unnecessary love affair, takes away from the film's relevant energy and design.

Even with its serious nature, the film includes necessary comic relief for the characters, as they hold their breath for phone calls to pile in after going to air.

This film is a poignant look at the bravery extending from a journalist who risked his job and freedom to bring Americans a little closer to the truth, the truth being that the process of naming communists in 1953 was completely ridiculous, using gossip and slander.

The government couldn't protect individual rights, let alone National Security. It was an abomination and a complete witch hunt, including allegations that hundreds of Communists were working as Soviet Spies within the government.

If someone attended a party or received a newsletter, they were considered to be a Communist. Literally anyone was named, including Murrow after he aired a segment directly calling out McCarthy for his unfair actions towards totalitarianism.

Murrow and everyone on the set of the CBS News Program, *See It Now*, aired actual cases of unjustified naming, earning a pilot's reinstatement and an investigation of McCarthy.

Through the smoke-filled newsroom, we are provoked to ask questions about society and what we attain from different mediums.

"The television can teach, illuminate, and inspire only what the public will take. Otherwise it's merely lights, wires, and a box," Murrow says.

Although it is a definite boost for all journalists, it is also a platform providing insight to anyone who believes justice prevails over corruption, especially in politics.

Murrow said it best.

"This is a topic to be argued endlessly. Good night, and good luck."

band branches out

BY MELISSA MARTIN

Presiding over the debut screening *Bullet In a Bible*, Green Day's new live DVD, played at IMAX, Nov. 14, Power 97 program director, Lochlin Cross, made a striking declaration.

"Green Day is rapidly becoming the biggest rock band in the world," he said to an audience of approximately 150 invitees. "Move over U2, these guys are on their way up."

Wait, back up a minute. Green Day became genre-defining superstars way back in 1994, with the release of their smash-hit sophomore album *Dookie*; how could they only be on their way up now?

Actually, Cross was correct. Green Day's popularity had been declining since 1996's Insomniac, and attempts at branching out creatively, such as '00s *Warning*, were met with a lukewarm reception.

It's hard for a veteran band to reverse a downward spiral, but that's exactly what the Californian punk-rock trio did. In '04, struggling with a career that was circling the drain, Green Day underwent a total makeover.

First, they traded their hoodies for sleek punk-rock business wear and sassy eyeliner. Then they recorded a staggeringly ambitious concept album, calling it a punk opera.

Finally, in case anyone still wasn't paying attention, they dubbed the record *American Idiot* and filmed a video of themselves ripping off lyrics such as "maybe I'm the faggot America / I'm not a part of a redneck agenda," while standing in front of a tattered American flag.

Green Day's stunning rebirth proved one thing: ambition sells. *American Idiot* went multi-platinum, earned a Best Rock Album Grammy, and was described as the defining album of a generation.

Against this backdrop comes *Bullet In a Bible*, Green Day's first DVD. More than merely a concert video, the film is a snapshot of a battle-scarred band at the height of its creative success.

Divided between candid interviews, an artsy promo video, and a film of a spectacular outdoor concert at England's Milton Keynes field, the DVD is visually sumptuous and breathlessly entertaining.

Fast-paced cuts and creative camerawork gives the concert footage a dynamic emotional immediacy. Sweeping shots of front-man Billie Joe Armstrong raising his fist in front of 40,000 screaming fans raises goose bumps, while video of bassist Mike Dirnt leaping and whirling across the stage captures the energy of Green Day's live show.

But even more fascinating than the live video, are the refreshingly unpretentious backstage shots and provocative interviews. Through those scenes,

the trio is exposed as the same puckish pranksters who rose to stardom in '94, only now hardened and jaded.

Scenes of the band on a promo visit to a British war museum neatly summarize *American Idiot*'s underlying themes of anti-militarism and social rebellion, while interviews with concert attendees add perspective of the band's influence.

With its sharp commentary, blistering live footage, and delicious aesthetic composition, *Bullet In a Bible* stands as a welcome companion to the emerging legacy that *American Idiot* is leaving on a turbulent culture. Green Day is on their way up; the only question is: when will they smash their way through the ceiling?

from the cutting room floor

Music Biopics

ALAN MACKENZIE, COLUMNIST

"Early one mornin' while makin' the rounds /

I took a shot of cocaine and I shot my woman down /

I went right home and I went to bed /

I stuck that lovin' .44 beneath my head,.."

The inclusion of Cocaine Blues in the new Johnny Cash biopic *Walk the Line* is a pretty good indication that James Magnold did a good job.

Film biographies can be tricky, especially when dealing with a well-known music figure with a loyal following. *Ray* was either loved or loathed by fans. So was *The Doors*. I'm sure the same can be said about *Walk the Line*. Was Johnny's first wife unsupportive? Did Elvis really get Johnny hooked on pills? Maybe not. However, a good movie is a good movie; it shouldn't really matter whether it is historically correct or not.

The first thing I think director / screenwriter Magnold did right was focus on one era of the Man in Black's life, the early years of his career and relationship with June Carter Cash. Too often thee kinds of films are a birth-to-death affairs, throwing too much information in the viewers' way to make a good story, but usually they are praised for the actors' uncanny portrayals.

Joaquin Phoenix was incredible in the role of Cash, but it wasn't a complete mimic of the original outlaw who "shot a man in Reno." The stage performances were pretty damn close, but Phoenix brought his own character to Cash, which along with Reese Witherspoon's performance of June make this film impossible to tear your eyes from. Even knowing the outcome, I've never rooted for a potential movie couple so strongly before. If at least one of these two doesn't receive an Oscar next year, there truly is something wrong with this world.

Walk the Line tells not the story of Johnny Cash, but the story of the relationship between Johnny and June. Together these soul mates (this is one of he few times in movies that I actually felt I could say this with a straight face) battle everything that threatens their lives .This isn't the best music film of the year—it's the year's best love story.

And Cash's darker side was still explored as well, not just through trashing a hotel room and cheating on his wife (both of which happen), but through his lyrics. Anyone who sings about shooting a man "just to watch him die" and taking a shot of cocaine and shooting his woman down is probably a pretty interesting subject.

Of course, it helps that Cash is a musical legend. Newer films that feature rappers playing versions of themselves before they've become legends (yes, I'm referring to Eminem and 50 Cent) seem silly and contrived. I'd rather see an actor play a singer I love than the singer play someone with a different name who is clearly based on themselves. Unfortunately, I don't think we've seen the last of these rapper movies.

While the success of *Ray*, has brought several biopics have been into preproduction, including projects based on Janis Joplin, Phil Spector, and even Joy Division singer Ian Durtis, the success of *8 Mile* has probably opened the door for more living-hip-hop-legend movies.

flick crash lands at imax

D Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon
IMAX Portage Place

BY LYNSEY SABLE

On a screen the size of a small Nicaraguan village, with phenomenal audio, and half of Hollywood's hottest actors, you'd think I could leave IMAX's latest flick, *Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon,* with something a little more substantial than a cool craving for Baskin-Robbins. If that was walking on the moon, I'd rather just pocket the kazillion dollars it took to get there and watch the Smashing Pumpkins in their much cheaper lunar set, *Tonight Tonight.*

Directed, produced, and co-written by Mark Cowen, whose resent credits include producing such fine behind-the-scenes specials as *Everybody Loves Raymond: The Last Laugh* (2005) and *The Real Rosanne Show* (2003), it's hardly surprising this 40-minute foray into the vast emptiness of space delivered as much goods as the vast emptiness of his resume.

Not even the high profile cast, including producer/ writer/narrator/ Tom Hanks and guest vocalists Morgan Freeman, John Travolta, Matt Damon, and Matthew McConaughey (the list goes on), could save this too-short documentary.

Magnificently desolate were the attempts to entertain children and adults at the same time. The film, which sent the audience through space with no real destination in sight, eventually settled somewhere between planet Boring and its two-dozen rings of Blah. Quirky moments designed to entertain failed miserably, and scientific facts were non-existent.

The montage of squeaky-clean kids blabbering about going to the moon reeked of green cheese. About half -an-hour after seven-year-old Veronica Lugo holds up her cutesy drawing of a rocket ship, adult Veronica Lugo commands her own moon base in a real live scene. Launched upwards through a few 100,000 miles of space? If the resulting nausea's anything like seeing a sexed-up space woman telling 300 sq. miles of fantasyland to "power up" from a picturesque moon hill, I think I'll pass.

Expansive shots of a carefully rendered lunar surface were stunning, and real NASA audio transmissions played overtop re-enactments were unexpectedly enjoyable. On one Apollo mission, astronauts were frighteningly close to the edge of Hadley Rille, a 1,300 ft. valley rivaling the Grand Canyon, but didn't realize it. That's pretty cool.

Unfortunately, not a single astronaut appeared during the film - all quotes were voice-overs - and I wondered why a strange what-if scenario showed for 10 minutes, rather than any scenes of lift-offs or landings. Surely, hurtling towards Earth in a fireball, with an ocean for a landing pad, is more interesting than something that never happens.

In the '50s, there were a few monkeys strapped to rocket ships, blasted into space against their will. I'm pretty sure they enjoyed themselves more than I did.

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Princess Street Campus
P407

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Notre Dame Campus
Contact person:
Sara 204-632-2106

Website:
www.rrc.mb.ca/aboriginalcentre/
Email: sprouty@rrc.mb.ca

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Call Rhonda Klippenstein at 632-3773 for details

We are collecting Canadian Tire money, cash and toy donations at the following locations

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Development office D 115 Notre Dame Campus

gallery crawls with bug art

BY JOANNA FULTZ

As Winnipeggers head into the deep freeze of another harsh winter, Bug City, an art show currently featured at the Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG), is a vivid reminder of our summertime pals and had me checking for bites.

Greeted by a large television screen swarming with panicked brown beetles, I thought I knew what I was in for: a shudder-worthy display of cringe-inducing creepy crawlers in a variety of artistic genres; however, I was pleasantly surprised by an in-depth exploration that amalgamates the themes of technology and civic identity, with current issues of human-made-machines infringing on the natural environment of critters in a diverse mixture of mediums.

Winnipegger Bonnie Marin's mixed media collages are both thought provoking and beautiful. In a more lighthearted collection, using a creative combination of mostly '50s-era images, such as Vargas girls that are seemingly unaware of the presence of sinister looking bugs in their midst, Marin demonstrates the ignorance of humans towards insects.

Another collage, incorporating unsettling models of Ken dolls sandwiched between skinless human forms, an army of black spiders and figurines of pigs and cows, sends the mind to a dark place, transmitting the message of violence between humans and animals.

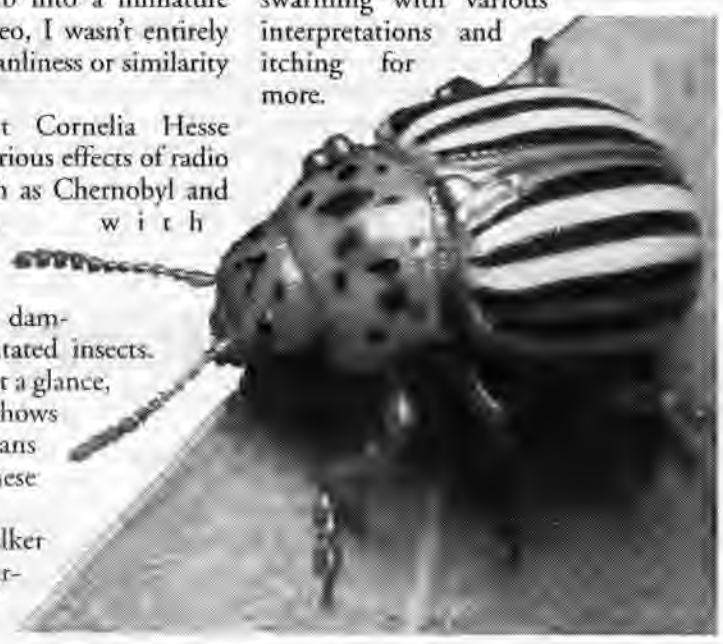
This violent relationship is also the focus of American artist Catherine Chalmers' video installations, *Burning at the Stake* and *Crawl Space*. She attempts to develop empathy for the cockroach by showing its vulnerability in a human-dominated world.

Although I witnessed a cockroach attempting to climb into a miniature bathtub in this video, I wasn't entirely convinced of its cleanliness or similarity to humans.

Swiss-born artist Cornelia Hesse demonstrates the serious effects of radio active disasters such as Chernobyl and Three Mile Island, with colourful and accurate watercolour depictions of damaged bugs and mutated insects. They are beautiful at a glance, but a closer look shows the damage humans have inflicted on these innocent creatures.

Douglas Walker translates his interpretation of the differences between animals and machines in his collection of photo drawings on paper. Industrial buildings and landscapes are shown in the background and are framed by crawling insects to represent the rapid progression and eventual end to technology in modern day.

Bug City offers a wide range of art, with something to please the artist, entomologist, or casual observer. Plan to be at the WAG for a while though; the number of exhibits may leave you swarming with various interpretations and itching for more.



weccc celebrates birthday

BY NICOLE SHANOWSKY

Turning 18 is a major milestone in life: you're officially all grown up, ready to take those first steps into adulthood. And what better way to celebrate than to crack a beer and get ready to party? That's exactly what the West End Cultural Centre decided to do for their coming of age: throw a party.

Nov. 25 marked the music venue's 18th birthday. For the special event, the WECC threw a sold out shindig, featuring musical artists Nathan, John K. Samson (of the Weakerthans), Christine Fellows, and The Western States.

"Same as the West End comes of age, we wanted to get people who have grown up coming to the West End and people who have grown up playing at the West End to be a part of this milestone," Dominic Lloyd, artistic director at the WECC, said.

Founded in 1987, this not-for-profit community arts organization takes pride in featuring music that's out of the mainstream.

"We're contributing to audience and artist development," Lloyd said.

In addition to a musical venue that features talent from local, national, and international performers, the WECC is also involved in community programs. The WECC organizes and provides musical experiences for those people who might not otherwise get the chance. They run after school concerts for youth groups and inner city schools, and are leaders of the Ellice Street Festival.

"We have a mandate to be a part of the community," Lloyd said.

The venue is largely run by volunteers, who unduly show their support for the place. At the show, volunteers could be seen wearing various costumes, an idea they came up with at a potluck dinner earlier that evening.

"It's an amazing place. I love it here a lot. I love the people that come to the shows, how much of a community the volunteer crew is," Eryn Maloney, a volunteer, said.

Nick Tanchuk, a University of Winnipeg student, has been coming to the WECC for years and likes the intimacy of the venue.

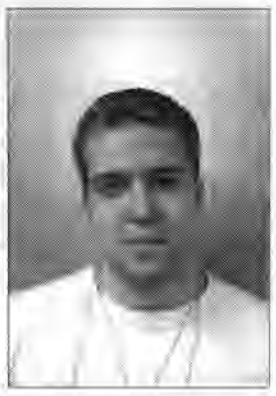
"It's fantastic that a live venue can sustain itself in our city for 18 years while remaining fairly accessible to the community," Tanchuk said.

The WECC takes pride in being a part of the growing experience for musicians and audiences alike, providing a spot where they can come of age musically.

The birthday bash was all about celebrating those, "who have made their mark here and who will continue to make a mark, all those who have a history at the WECC," Lloyd said.

PHOTO | BROOK JONES

view from the ridge



K-os cries the blues

DARREN RIDGLEY, COLUMNIST

I was flipping through channels the other day and stopped on MuchMusic. Rap City happened to be on, so I decided to see if they were playing anything good. This particular iteration was being hosted by K-os, and two minutes into his opening segment, I was reminded why I loathe the man to such a great degree.

Essentially, he was arguing that hip-hop music's artistic decisions are being made by "authorities" who suppress new and creative ideas in favor of conventional styles and images.

He seemed to be championing the underdog in this interview. I don't usually have a problem with that. But, frankly, how can he talk about innovation and new ideas when he can make a music video that doesn't involve break dancing and an acoustic guitar he isn't even playing? The man is so steeped in his *own* stereotypes, that it boggles the mind.

From someone of K-os' stature, it's unacceptable. He is not a down-and-out artist trying to scratch out a living. He's one of the premier hip-hop acts in Canada. He is in no way "independent" or struggling.

The man is signed to Virgin, of all labels. I am not sure what scale he is using to measure success, but I would say that positive recognition from Wyclef Jean moves you into the upper tier of hip-hop artists.

It is astounding how he pretends he is not the standard, the reigning king that current underground artists endeavor to unseat. He is attempting to be the guy who graduates from high school, picks up an office job, and then still tries to hang out in the parking lot with his stoner buddies.

He is clad in a suit-and-tie, but as long as he talks about the revolution, or whatever, he maintains their favour. There seems to be no middle ground for phenomenally popular artists. They either choose to start a clothing line or wax melancholy about problems that no longer apply to them. Frankly, I would much prefer the former. At least then I can get a decent hat out of his fame.

I'm sorry Big K, but if you didn't want to be part of the industry, you shouldn't have gotten in. Nobody made you sign the contract. Nobody made you press the albums. The great thing about hip-hop is that its artists are happy to be at the top. I like the idea of buying the CD of someone who seems to want me to listen to it. If you're not, K-os, then feel free to go back to the underground so that we can celebrate artists who genuinely want to be here.

Hey, maybe he's just mad because he knows the only reason he is on top is because Swollen Members didn't put any album out last year. I imagine he's just waiting for their spring album, so he can slink back into his preferred shadowy corner.

porn paper hits the 'peg

new mag spreads racy info

BY SIMON STRAUMAN

Sex, toys, and naughty joys are some of the nasty components featured in the new Winnipeg 18+ publication, *Adult Scene.*

Officially launched in October, this racy magazine caters to both men and women, with a distribution of over 1,000 copies.

Co-founder and marketing manager Tom Marshall, was first presented with the idea of starting the newspaper from his cousin and business partner, Jeff Marshall from Edmonton. He said that *Adult Scene* could be an excellent forum for the more grown up side of Winnipeggers.

"Jeff originally came to me with the idea for an adult newspaper publication here in Winnipeg," Marshall says. "He had already started-up the same kind of publication in Edmonton and thought that Winnipeg would be a great place for a paper as well.

"This isn't *Adult Scene's* newspaper; it's Winnipeg's paper, and I think Winnipeggers will embrace it once they give it a chance."

The Oct. edition of *Adult Scene* offered its readers a look at a variety of different subject matters, such as adult DVD reviews, establishment reviews, surveys and sex tips, as well as local adult news and events.

"Even though Winnipeg is a small city," said Marshall, "there is still a ton of adult activities going on here any given day of the week. Take the Black and Blue Ball for an example; it's a tremendous hit with Winnipeg's adult community, and most people haven't even heard of it. *Adult Scene* will in turn provide the medium for people who want to engage in alternative lifestyle choices."

Some local businesses have taken a chance at advertising in an adult-orientated newspaper. A spokeswoman for Simpli-Tantalizing (name withheld), a local Winnipeg tanning salon, chose to buy ad space.

"I am skeptical when it comes to new publications such as this, but I still hope they succeed," she said. "The reason I placed an ad is because I offer complete body sugaring for males and females at my location, and because the readers of the paper are adults, I thought it would help for business."

Tim Storr, a representative for Union Video, an adult movie store, commented on what his clientele thought about the magazine.

"Because it says free on it, our customers are curious to know what it's all about," Storr said. "It's hard to say if it's going to work out, but I wish them the best of luck."

Some Winnipeggers aren't overly impressed with *Adult Scene.*

Jennifer Lepine, a 21 year-old University of Manitoba student, was quick to point out that there is far too much nudity in the magazine.

"Because there's so much nudity, I'm reluctant to want to read the stories," Lepine said. "This kind of paper might appeal to some people, but for me, it's too much in my face."

PTE explores small town identity

B+

Dogbarked
Prairie Theatre Exchange
Nov. 16 – Dec. 4

BY ROB MARRIOTT

Have you ever heard the phrase, "somewhere a dog barked" and wondered where that dog lived? Well, now there's a play that can answer that question.

When I sat down at the Prairie Theatre Exchange on opening night of James O'Shea's *Dogbarked*, I didn't know what to expect. I was somewhat grumpy, due to the thought of the amount of unfinished work that was weighing on my mind, and I was thinking that I would rather be sitting in a bar laughing with friends and drinking a beer. To my delight and astonishment, the play provided me with friends, beer, and laughter.

Dogbarked begins with two brothers somewhere in Saskatchewan: one wearing rubber boots, a yellow T-shirt, and overalls; the other, similarly dressed, is buckled into a car seat. They park in front of a gas station which is, unfortunately, situated miles from the nearest highway.

The brothers indulge in their favorite pass-time: renaming their isolated, small town with a name that will bring it notoriety and make it a tourist destination. In so doing, they had the audience howling in less than three minutes.

Before settling on the name *Dogbarked*, the brothers discarded New Yorkton, Gods Country, Elsewhere, and Remote Saskatchewan. One thing all the names have in common is their self-depreciating, derivative nature. What becomes strikingly apparent about the naming process, is that the brothers attempt to help the town, and themselves, to regain some pride-in-place. One of the brothers says, "I just want a little piece of it:" it being simple recognition.

The brothers come face-to-face with recognition of sorts, when two slick city producers come to town looking for a lost dog and a place to film a beer commercial. Sunglasses and Armani suits soon meet overalls and muddy boots, with unexpected results, when both come to the realization of their own identity crises.

The four characters in this play come to a better understanding of who they are and what they want out of life, under the watchful eyes of the audience, each other, and the occasional alien. So if you want an evening of hysterical identity exploration, don't hesitate to visit the town of *Dogbarked.*

winnipeg author defies rules

BY AMIE LESYK

Rising from mosquito and snow infested Winnipeg, comes a punk rock author who breaks rules on and off the page.

Chris Walter is a literary renegade of sorts. He started *Gofuckyerself* (GFY) press after being rejected by publishers, and began a successful writing career in the midst of a nearly-lethal drug addiction.

"I started [writing] when I felt that my death was imminent. It seemed like such a waste to die with no accomplishments, so I thought that if I wrote a book, at least I'd leave something behind."

His first (homemade) book, *Beer,* was well received, and Walter became hooked on writing.

In '02, Burn Books Ltd. took interest in Walter's writing and published *Punk Rules OK.* The experience proved ill-fated for the publisher, but provided a valuable lesson for Walter.

"Burn Books folded after publishing just one title: mine. I learned much from the experience however," Walter says. "I realized that if the big outlets were going to ignore me, I might as well publish and distribute my own books."

In '03, when GFY started using traditional binding and professionally designed covers, their sales improved, and GFY has printed nearly 5,000 books.

"Not even a flea fart in the Harry Potter scope of things, but not bad for a drug addict with a grade 7 education," Walter says.

From heroin addicts and high-rolling executives to insatiable punk-rock stars and train-hopping East Van bums, Walter's writing takes the viewpoints of many different characters, but maintains a gritty tone.

Walter has also completed an autobiographical trilogy that starts with his adolescence in Winnipeg. The trilogy follows Walter in Winnipeg's early days of punk scene, the trenches of his growing drug addiction, and his life-altering changes that take place in Vancouver.

"Finishing the trilogy was a big relief, and I'm glad to put the past to rest. There were many painful memories involved, along with some good ones…but I'm happy to be finished with that."

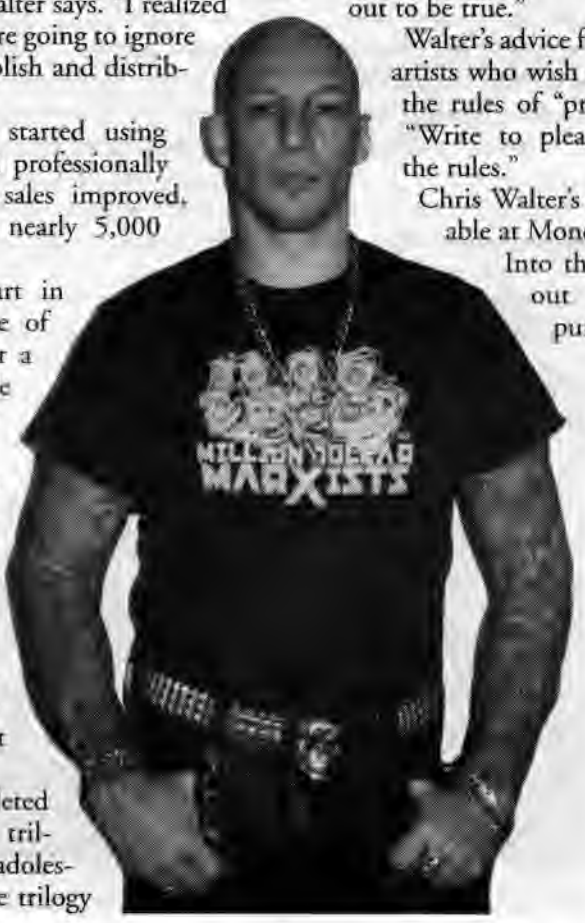
Walter is four-years sober and currently has 10 titles with GFY. He will release his newest book, *Langside,* in spring, when he'll journey to Winnipeg for the book launch. Langside is the street Walter used to lived on, as noted in his books, *I Was a Punk Before You Were a Punk* and *I'm on the Guest List.*

"For some reason, I used to be ashamed of being from Winnipeg, but now I'm proud of it," Walter says. "If you can survive in Winnipeg, you are truly strong."

Walter now spends his days writing, "far more than any sane person would," he says. "Average 10 to 12 hours a day, and perhaps a little less on weekends. At first, I worried that I would not be able to write without liquor and drugs, but the opposite turned out to be true."

Walter's advice for future literary artists who wish to write outside the rules of "proper" literature: "Write to please yourself. F-- the rules."

Chris Walter's books are available at Mondragon Café and Into the Music. Check out his website: punkbooks.com.



Not sure how to address that touchy situation? Maybe a PC response is just what you need.

E-MAIL: carlyandpaul@theprojector.ca

Hi Paul & Carly,

There's a ski trip coming up that I'd love to attend, but I'm a little apprehensive. This is because I keep having flashbacks to a bad accident I had a few years ago.

I had a rather violent tumble going down a run, landed on a stick, and ruptured my anal cavity. After surgery, I'm lucky enough to still have bowel movements.

I know this is a fluke accident, but I can't help but fear it happening again.

At the same time, I miss skiing, not to mention the boozing and hot, scantily clad women in hot-tubs.

How can I overcome these fears?

"Butt"er since surgery

PAUL SAYS:

You are the only person I know in Manitoba who actually admits to having something stuck up their ass, and acceptance is the first step to recovery.

The fear of being impaled in the bum by a stick is very real - Headinglyophobia - so I will answer this note with as much respect as I feel it deserves.

Which, in the end, amounts to very little.

I would suggest sucking it up, princess. Go on the trip and try to keep this little story between us. If you feel your bowels turn to ice with the idea of skiing, stay inside and camp the hot tub.

Just watch out for those nozzles.

CARLY SAYS:

I winced while reading your letter. Either you make the decision to go and have the best time you can (read: do not drag others down with your tale of ass woe, especially after a few beverages) or stay home. It's cold out there anyway.

Hi Paul & Carly,

My program is ending in about a month, and I'd like to try my luck at asking out a few ladies. What are some ways I can ask a girl without jeopardizing a friendship if things turn sour?

Aggressive Pursuer

PAUL SAYS:

I love getting the letters from you kids.

Junior, first I would stop referring to yourself as, 'Aggressive Pursuer,' as it's just plain creepy. Sorry to break this to you, but there is no way to avoid jeopardizing a friendship if or when your relationship goes sour.

But then again, you can always find new friends; sometimes the relationship is worth the risk. That being said, I predict that your chances with these lady friends are pretty slim.

Unless you live a sitcom life, the window of opportunity for cross-gender friendships turning to cross-gender relationships is pretty small.

However, who knows, right? Maybe Santa will stuff your stocking with improbability this Christmas.

At least that's what I'm banking on.

CARLY SAYS:

Lies! Paul fills this column with lies! Here's a secret for all boys: no matter the relationship, if you make a girl feel desired and attractive, you have struck gold.

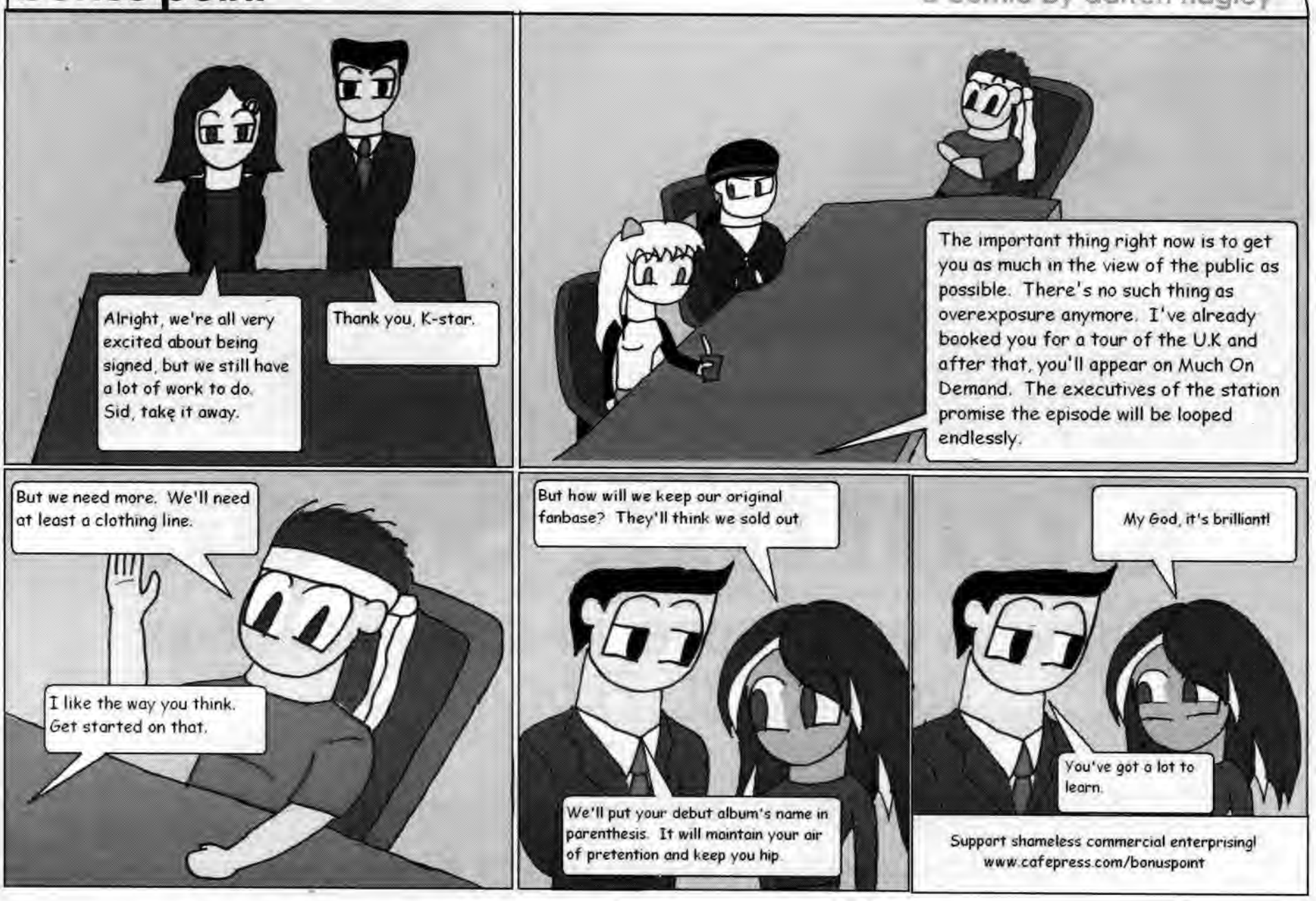
Unless you do something super creepy (examples include throwing rocks at, staring, or climbing into her window), you have a fighting chance at keeping some sort of relationship alive, even if it isn't a romantic one.

Feel it out- touch her hand a little longer than normal or something along those lines, and see what happens.

If there are smiles flying like they are going out of style, giver' buddy. Otherwise, bark up a new tree.

bonus point

a comic by darren ridgley



Coming Soon

Meltdown Week 2006, Red River College
January 30 - February 3

Check out Meltdown Guide
inside upcoming issue of the Projector