Blizzard buries bus

Photo by: Winnipeg Free Press

Santa's elves scouting department stores

by Brenda Fleming

Snow. It's certainly nothing new to Manitobans. Or to Winnipeggers.

People shovelling driveways, stalled cars, and runny noses are a familiar sight. And while many Winnipeggers love to complain about the frosty weather, there is still the fun of making snow angels and snowmen. And what would Christmas be without a crisp white snowfall?

But sometimes the snowflurries get out of hand. Such was the blizzard of 1986.

During the blizzard, which began late Friday, Nov. 7, 1986, the city of Winnipeg was virtually closed down. Businesses did not open the following Saturday. Many people, both Winnipeggers and out of towners, were stranded. The airport closed. All schools were closed the following Monday. Many vehicles, including transit buses, became stuck in the deep snow. According to The Winnipeg Free Press, the accumulated snowfall totalled 35 centimeters.

One of those stranded in the blizzard was Winnipeg Transit driver Bob Sawatsky.

A driver for 11 months, Sawatsky's Charleswood bus became stuck near Dale Boulevard and Rannock Avenue at about 1:30 a.m. Saturday. "It was just a case of 'excess snow'," Sawatsky said.

When he talked to the transit control centre around 4:00 a.m., he was told he wasn't even on the monitor. Several other transit drivers were also stuck.

And how did Sawatsky keep himself amused during this time? "I read newspapers, paced the floor." He says he didn't want to sleep because he thought someone would be coming to pick him up soon. Several people stopped by to check on him. "At least 20 people came by — lots of kids — and dropped off sandwiches, cake. . ." A police officer on snowmobile also checked in on him.

Sawatsky stayed with the bus while the storm raged on. However, by mid afternoon Saturday the bus ran out of fuel, terminating any heat. Sawatsky secured the bus and then trekked through the snow to a fellow driver's home, where Winnipeg Transit had advised him he could spend the night.

By Sunday the winds had subsided but travel was impossible for most people. Late that afternoon a snowmobile was dispatched to return Sawatsky to the transit garage. He was finally on his way home.

The worst part of his experience was "not having any idea how long it was going to be".

The best part was that "everybody cared so much".

Many Winnipeggers, stuck inside, did not have experiences quite as exciting as Sawatsky's.

Salesperson Bridie Dewar says she "read, talked on the phone about the storm, and got caught up on my housecleaning."

Charleswood resident Jim Woo says "I watched TV and played with the kids."

Following the blizzard, almost all Winnipeggers spent their time shovelling snow. And shovelling. And shovelling.

Photo by: Winnipeg Free Press

Cat-astrophe.

Photo by: Winnipeg Free Press

Pull over, buddy.

Photo by: Winnipeg Free Press

Which way to the beach?

The Projector

Unity in Common Cause

By Kelly Taylor

Students awaiting word on lower bus fares will have to wait a little longer.

For the past four years the four major institutions, U of W, U of M, RRCC, and St. Boniface College, have presented proposals to city transit to gain lower bus fares for students. This year another proposal has just been tendered. If, as they have in the past, the proposals are turned down, it will mean the fifth consecutive year that students have been neglected.

Transit argues that students are already receiving a discount because the average fare per ride for students who use passes is between 54 cents and 62 cents. They also say that a saving of $8 a month will only mean $2 per week. Eight dollars per month would mean an extra $96 per year that the student would save. Adults who use a bus pass regularly use it about as much as the average student so they would receive the same discount.

The Student Associations fighting for the lower fares say that a high school student, who does receive discounts, has fewer expenses than the post secondary student. The high school student does not have to pay for tuition, books, student fees, and so on.

A recent survey conducted by the four institutions pins total yearly expenses of an average student at $5,340. This does not include transportation costs.

The alternatives presented to the city include reduced monthly bus pass fare, reduced ticket prices, semester passes, or a freeze in transit fares for two years.

Transit is now advertising for more riders, saying that the average adult can save up to as much as $1,000 using transit only half of the time. Students using transit usually have to use it full time and do not have or cannot afford, a car — which transit bases the $1,000 savings on.

Caroline Krebs, president of the U of W Students' Association, says she has never before seen such co-operation between the students of the four institutions. She says she would like to see a monthly meeting of the S.A.s to discuss problems common to the institutions.

In 1981, the RRCC S.A. and the UWSA were at odds and eventually broke ties with each other. This new idea by Krebs will mean increased participation between the schools. "It will be another couple of months before anything is heard about the (transit) proposal," Krebs says.

Election balloting to begin again.

Too Many Elections

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Learning Resources Centre

By Annette Martin

Student council by-laws are toppling in on its bureaucrats.

One provision of these by-laws is that any council member who misses two consecutive meetings shall be removed from the board.

When such an individual is removed, the vacant position must be filled by an elected representative of that same division. Consequently, another election is held.

S.A. Business Director Don Hillman, however, points out that in order to drum up participation, everything short of breaking arms is required in some divisions.

Individuals who are coerced into running, rapidly lose interest in meetings, attendance dwindles, they are ousted, another election is earmarked and yet another candidate collared.

This chicken-egg theme is apparent as ballot day draws near once again. For the third time this year, student council is suffering from absenteeism. A member from Applied Arts is needed to replace John Coates who, upon quitting school also quit council.

Both Hillman and S.A. president Barb Rodger favored the old by-laws. These permitted candidates who lost in a given division to substitute themselves as representatives for another division which had no nominees.

The tick to all this is that council might, for the most part, be comprised of representatives from the same division.

Rodger disagrees with that notion. "There's not that much apathy."

Hillman wishes to see the by-law changed back again. "Why not? They've been changed five times in the time I've been here." He's been with Students' Association for eight years.

Director of Student Services at the University of Manitoba is faced with similar problems but the solution is different.

David Blair says vacancies will remain just that until school opens again for a new season.

Blair does not agree with Hillman and Rodger's view of substituting a nominee from one division to replace vacancies in another. "A student from a different faculty can't justify the opinions of people from another faculty."

Hillman said that nothing in the by-laws instructs that vacancies must be filled. Vice-president Chris Choptain, however points out that the by-election ruling is in the election policy handbook.

The election itself poses tandem problems. The November election drew in a total of 12 ballots.

Grades Shaved

By H.O. Ax

At a recent meeting of the Acandemic Standing Committee, the topic of nationwide grades scores in community colleges was discussed. It seems that certain colleges have in the recent past been giving out rather high grades to their students compared to nationwide scores.

This unevenness in the grades of certain schools was considered to be an unwanted occurence and action was recommended to remedy the situation.

Effective immediately and retroactive to September 1 of 1983, all letter and grade point averages for all students in all courses will be dropped one full grade.

By taking this action, RRCC rather high scores will be put in line with all other community colleges in Canada.

So, if you managed to score a "B" on any particular course, your new grade will now be "C". Likewise, if your grade point average was 3.5 it will now be 2.5.

These new scores will better reflect the actual knowledge in your head and not give you an unearned grade instead.

This decision by the Academic Standing Committee is final and there can be no appeals to it or the Red River Community College Administration.

Check It Out

By Donna Carreiro

A transcript of marks is simply that. A record of a student's final marks and nothing more.

But, says Ray Newman, vice president of student services, the student is entitled to more. "We do have a ruling that students have a right to see their exams after they've been marked. but not necessarily returned to them."

This ruling, enforced since 1978, is documented in the Listing of Policies, a manual of campus policies agreed to by the college.

However, the manual is only a guideline, Newman says. 'And the 450 college instructors may interpret it 450 different ways. This is simply my interpretation."

Barb Mekelberg, a Creative Communications instructor, says this ruling is sometimes impractical.

"It's time that becomes the issue. How much time does an instructor have to go over exams with every student? I can understand them wanting to see them but it becomes very hectic for us."

Jack Rink, an instructor in the Economics department, disagrees with Mekelberg. "That's what office hours are for."

Rink agrees with the ruling. "Any student is welcome at any time to look at their exam. That's their paper they wrote. They can look at it, ask any questions."

Newman says if a student is not allowed to see his/her exam, he can challenge it through the proper channels. This means approaching the department head, then the dean, if action is not taken. "You can go right up the ladder. That's where I step in."

Though Newman says withholding exams isn't a serious problem on campus, if it occurs, he is willing to help.

"It's the student's right. How else do you know where you went wrong?"

Pelletier Fired

Hillman says no written policy to terminate employees.

By C.R. Procyk

There was dismay and bewilderment when the Projector staff returned from mid-term break to find that the production co-ordinator, Brian Pelletier, had been fired in their absence.

Pelletier was mainly responsible for a variety of student association publications including the Survival Handbook, the Projector, the Yearbook, and the student telephone directory.

"I was shocked," professed Mireille Dacquay, entertainment editor for the Projector. "I knew Brian through the Projector and I had no complaints about him."

Karen Murray, news editor, said, "I couldn't believe it. Brian won't be easy to replace."

Bruce Benson, former news editor and sports editor, was similarly colloquial. "Holy ---, what's going on?" He added that Pelletier's "idiosyncracies don't come close to his good points" and the firing was "too drastic".

Public Relations Director for the S.A., Tim Deighton, said he found the situation upsetting and hoped it would be resolved with a reconciliation.

All of the editors denied being consulted regarding the decision to fire Pelletier.

Editor-in-chief of the Projector, Annette Martin, said "I was floored of course" and, though she was aware of complaints about Pelletier's punctuality, he did so many things well that "he is virtually irreplaceable. I'm struggling without him."

Pelletier received a letter of warning Friday, Nov. 22 and responded with a letter of his own — stating his concerns and requesting clarification — dated Nov. 24 (Sunday). The following day, Nov. 25, he was sent a letter of dismissal. Pelletier had been a full-time employee of the S.A. for about a year and a half.

The warning letter, signed by Executive Director, Don Hillman, cited "tardiness" as the major complaint and requested that Pelletier use the "in and out board as do the rest of the staff." The in and out board is located at the S.A. office. Pelletier worked at an office in a trailer by the west parking lot, about a five minute walk from the S.A. office. Pelletier's letter stated that it would "be a waste of time to come on the campus and head off again when a simple phone call will do."

Student Association president, Barb Rodger, refused to say why Pelletier was fired. "It's personal between employer and employee and is nobody's business."

She was unable to confirm, at first, whether there was written policy for terminating an employee but later said there was. She said that the executive director was acting within his authority to fire an employee. When asked whether there was an appeal mechanism Roger responded, "What's the problem? The Projector shouldn't be appealing, Brian should."

In a telephone interview, Hillman said there was "no written policy" for terminating an employee but commented, "If they commit murder you're going to fire them." Asked if it was true that Pelletier was working without a contract, Hillman said that this was "not unusual". Hillman terminated the interview by hanging up.

When told that there was a search on for a new production co-ordinator Benson said, "I think the S.A. will be hard put to find someone who is as good in as many capacities as Brian was." Commenting on the charge of tardiness he added, "Maybe he didn't work regular hours but he worked a lot of them."

Pelletier had recorded 234.5 hours in overtime in the past five months and says he has received no compensation for these.

Language Barriers

By Jim Timlick

Red River Community College is helping immigrants overcome one of their biggest obstacles, the language barrier.

The help comes in the form of two programs administered by the college's developmental education department, a branch of college affairs and extension services. 'English as a Second Language' gives immigrants classroom instruction about our language. Volunteers who assist students help immigrants learn English, but with a twist. Students are paired with a volunteer who helps them practice English as well as learn some of the basics of life here in Winnipeg.

Barbara Dixon, volunteer program manager of V.E.S.L.S. said the program was initiated three years ago to compliment the E.S.L. program.

She said there are certain things you can't teach about Winnipeg to someone new here. You have to show them.

Many of the things we take for granted here are totally unknown to someone who has just arrived. Imagine being lost and not being able to ask where you are or how to get to where you want to go.

Dixon said there are many other common problems immigrants face when they first come to Winnipeg to live. She said that in one case a student thought there was actually a chicken in a box of Shake and Bake. She said some people come to Winnipeg from countries in which they are used to shopping at an open market. Going to a supermarket can be just as much of a problem for a new immigrant as trying to speak the language.

Pam, a teacher in the E.S.L. program echoed Dixon's sentiments about the need of V.E.S.L.S.

"It helps get them into the community and do things they might not normally do. Like go to a movie," she said.

Another E.S.L. instructor said V.E.S.L.S. volunteers help form a bridge between the student and the community.

Guillermo Lopez, 27, and his wife Lucy moved to Canada from El Salvador seven months ago. They both said their volunteer has been an invaluable aid to them.

"She helps with problems we don't know where to go to for help," Mr. Lopez said.

"It's good to have someone to count on," Mrs. Lopez said.

Chris Gryga, 27, and his wife Reneta, 22, moved to Winnipeg from Poland eight months ago. They said they both hope to be able to attend university or college someday and their volunteer has helped them to get the information they needed.

Another way volunteers help immigrants is with role playing. The volunteer and student act out real life situations so the student will be more confident when he or she actually faces the situation. The situations can involve anything from asking for a library card to asking for a job application form.

Dixon said that before V.E.S.L.S., she noticed many students in E.S.L. were only using English in the classroom. As soon as they got home they reverted to using their native language.

V.E.S.L.S. gives students opportunity to practise English with someone from outside their own ethnic community. Dixon said the benefit of this type of interaction is that volunteers may be more patient with the students than other people and the students gain greater confidence using English.

Many of the volunteers with V.E.S.L.S. find they also get something out of the program.

Kate Harrison, 30, is a freelance writer and photographer as well as a V.E.S.L.S. volunteer.

She first became involved with the program in 1984. She said it has been as much a learning experience for her as it has been for the people she's helped.

"I think I'm a better listener now. My listening skills have improved immensely."

Harrison said one of the reasons she joined the program was because she noticed it's often difficult for people who speak the same language to communicate. "It would be impossible to communicate here if you didn't know English."

The V.E.S.L.S. tutor said she gets encouragement from the effort her students put into their work.

"They put a 100 per cent effort into it. They're so dedicated it's easy for me to be, too."

Dixon said there are no rigid requirements for volunteers. She often has to make a judgement call in deciding if a volunteer is suitable or not. Knowledge of another language or culture is a definite asset.

Volunteers go through an intensive training program in order for them to understand the needs of the students they'll be matched with. Most of the activities the two will do is left to them to decide upon.

Dixon said that it's frustrating when a student leaves E.S.L. and V.E.S.L.S. with only a basic knowledge of English.

Students often leave the Canada Manpower-sponsored programs because the government finds them a job. They aren't on equal footing with Canadians when applying for other jobs later on, Dixon said. Many return to the programs when they have been laid off in order to upgrade their learning level.

The results of the V.E.S.L.S. could be seen in the student lounge at 294 William Avenue, home of the two language programs, a few weeks ago. Two young Asian men were talking. One of the two couldn't immediately find the word he was looking for in English. But when he did, a big ear-to-ear grin covered his face.

"Intermittent," he said smiling to his friend.

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News

Council Recap

By Karen Murray

Quenching Relief

Students suffering from dehydration between classes on the fourth floor of Building A can rest assured relief is on the way.

S.A. president Barb Rodger told council members at the meeting on Dec. 3 that cold drink machines will be installed.

Don Hillman, executive director of S.A., said they are looking at the amount of available space and the possibility of putting in a combination cold and hot drink machine.

Otto's Hours

The beef about Otto's hours resurfaced at the meeting and council member Mike Miglione (Piping/Trades) said the grill in this cafeteria still closes during a morning break.

Miglione brought it up at the previous council meeting that Otto's cafeteria closed down their grill in the morning at the same time as the break between classes, so people couldn't get breakfast.

"I really don't know what can be done about that," Rodger said.

One council member suggested seeing if they could close down half the grill so people would be able to get breakfast.

Rodger said she would go down and talk to Otto Kirzinger (food service supervisor) on Monday to see what could be done.

Copiers Coming

Photocopiers and Xerox machines are on order to go into the basement of Building A in front of the elevators, Rodger informed council members.

She said the copiers will probably be operated on the card system which should reduce break downs, caused when dirt from change gets clogged in machines.

Instead of change, students will purchase a card, resembling a credit card, to operate the machine.

Missing Members

Two new council members failed to make an appearance at what would have been their first council meeting.

"Stand up, state your name, and who you represent," Rodger said, as council members looked around in anticipation, but to no avail. "Not here."

Bruce Simpson (Applied Arts) and Colleen Zobol (Architectural Drafting) were the absent members who were elected to council on Nov. 14.

Cults on-Campus

Rodger cautioned council members to keep an eye out for Korean cults which have reportedly been frequenting the two universities in the city.

"If you see anything or anyone having to do with a cult, let us know," she said.

Photo by Ian McCausland.

New library to have extended study space.

Architect Pegged

By Jackie Shymanski

The firm Haid Marshall Associates has been chosen to design the new library for Red River Community College. The decision was announced Dec. 3.

Frank LeClair, project manager with Manitoba Government Services said the decision was made Nov. 18, but no announcement was made.

Meetings between the architects, college staff and Manitoba Government Services will be the first step in creating a design suitable for RRCC, he added. "We will read the program, digest it and understand it in conjunction with the people at the college."

Bruce Rasmussen, an architect with Haid Marshall Associates said these meetings will determine the design the building will have. "It's too early to say anything about the design. We'll spend most of December and January listening to the needs of the college. Design plans should commence late January."

Haid Marshall Associates has designed libraries in the past, though most have been incorporated in legal offices or small commercial projects.

While $80,000 has been budgeted for the design in this fiscal year, the total cost of the new library has yet to be determined. That will depend on when construction begins and inflation, said LeClair.

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Money in Limbo

The Rebels hockey team got Red River banned from C.C.A.A. varsity sports for two years.

By Lindsay Vanstone

Conflicts and a breakdown in communications between Red River's Students' Association and physical education instructor Jack Rutherford have placed approximately $16,000 of college money in limbo.

The money represents the balance of the college's contribution to the joint fund used by Red River, Assiniboine and Keewatin community colleges for varsity sports. The provincial government also contributes to the fund.

The S.A., through student fees, provided about 80 per cent of the total monies contributed to the fund by the three colleges. The non-tax deductible fees were, and still are, compulsory and charged on top of tuition.

Also entering the picture is the Canadian College Athletic Association. At their annual general meeting in Brandon last June, the CCAA suspended all RRCC varsity teams for one year. The suspension was the result of alleged vandalism by the college's hockey team at the national championships last March in Kamloops, B.C. and is being appealed by Ray Newman, vice-president of student services

At that same meeting, the Manitoba Colleges Athletic Association's bid to host the 1987 national curling bonspiel at Assiniboine in Brandon was accepted. This is where the breakdown occurred — the culmination of a series of actions by CCAA, the S.A. and Jack Rutherford.

About January of this year, the S.A. decided to withdraw its contribution — $84,460, about 80% of the total amount — from the varsity athletics fund. As executive director of the S.A., Don Hillman, put it, "Students weren't getting their money's worth."

The S.A. had to wait until June 30, the end of the academic year, before it could withdraw its share of the remaining funds.

The monies withdrawn were to go back to S.A. accounts and were earmarked for the proposed S.A. building to be erected within the next few years.

When the provincial government learned of the S.A.'s intention to back out of the fund, it decided that there was no longer enough interest in varsity athletics to justify its contribution to the '86-'87 fund.

The S.A. and the provincial government had both known for about two years that Manitoba was slated to host the 1987 CCAAnational championships for all sports. When both parties withdrew their financial support from the varsity anthletics fund, the MCAA was put in an embarassing position.

The MCAA, a 10 member board made up of staff and students from three colleges, informed the CCAA that Manitoba would be unable to host all of the 1987 national finals because of the lack of funds.

The CCAA then asked for bids from the other provinces for each sport and awarded them at their annual general meeting last June.

The MCAA, in an effort to save face with the CCAA over its cancellation, sent bids to have the curling bonspiel at ACC and the badminton championships at RRCC.

But because of the varsity teams' suspension, Red River's bid was rejected. The curling bonspiel was awarded to ACC.

This is where the funds begin to wander away.

Don Hillman and Jack Rutherford disagree on how the curling bid came about. According to Rutherford, who at the time was varsity athletic director for the three colleges, "No one person had put in a bid."

According to Hillman, "We can't go if we don't get invitations."

They also disagree on the timing of the curling bid's budget.

It is Hillman's view that a budget would not have been prepared until after the CCAA had awarded the bid last June.

Rutherford said a bid would not have been presented by the MCAA without an accompanying budget. He also said that the S.A. had seen and agreed upon the bid sent to the CCAA.

At the time the bids were made, ita appeared that the fund had already been overspent. Only two months ago, did accounting show that the balance of the fund was approximately $20,000.

This money was to be returned to the three colleges based on the amount of their contributions. But as Ray Newman said, "What had happened was Jack Rutherford, who was the varsity athletics director for the three colleges, took it upon himself to suggest that from this money left over — because Brandon was hosting curling — that some help be given to them and he had a figure of $7,000 on it."

"He also suggested that because Keewatin was going to send a team . . . that some assistance be given to them — $3,750 — before the split (of the remaining funds) took place," Newman added.

Rutherford said that ACC "deserved the funding to honour the commitment Manitoba made."

The S.A., until informed last week by Newman, was unaware that a part of their share of the fund was to go towards a bonspiel from which RRCC was banned.

The S.A. has sent a letter to Jerry Storie, minister of education, requesting the full amount of Red River's share be returned to S.A. accounts.

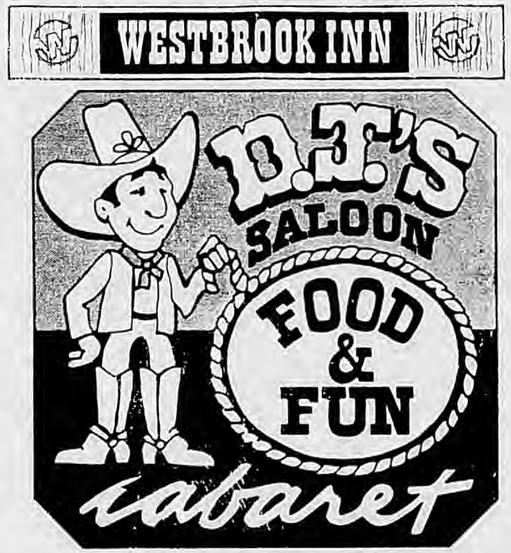
"That's their right . . . they're acting presumably on behalf of the students . . . if that's how they feel. Council had supported gonging varsity athletics earlier in the year, and that's the way it goes. The democratic voice has spoken," said Newman on S.A.'s requesting the money be returned in full.

But Pat Josephson, business manager of ACC's S.A., had this to say, "I can understand your (RRCC's SA) position, I'd probably do the same thing. I would also hope that RRCC can sympathize with our position."

She added that, in addition to Red River's suspension, she doesn't want Manitoba to lose face with the CCAA by hosting a national championship with insufficient funds.

If RRCC's S.A. gets all of the money back, the college will still be banned from the CCAA and will also have an even worse reputation for leaving the ACC out on a limb. Also, KCC will not have their travel expenses paid for.

No matter where the money goes, everybody loses



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Campus Christians

By Lorraine Heinrichs

Few people in the college know what the posters with a bright gold star and the abbreviation I.V.C.P. in the corner are all about.

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship and its local chapter of Red River Christian Fellowship is a small and unheard of group within the college. It allows students and staff to meet with other Christian believers.

"Our attendance goes up and down like a yo-yo," says Al Heinrichs staff advisor, "The group is small."

Approximately 18 or 19 people attend the weekly meetings, depending on what other school activities are scheduled. The attendence is up from the average of 13 last year.

Heinrichs says his goals for Red River Christian Fellowship are in conjunction with those of I.V.C.P. He wants to have a "cohesive group" where friendships are developing and where staff and students attending are growing spiritually. He also wants those involved to be able to sense the personal needs of others and to "reach out to meet those needs."

The group is holding a weekly bible study called "The Struggle for Inner Peace". So far some of the topics looked at are: guilt, truth, mental stress, the emotions and what they tell you.

Gym parties held once a month, barbeques, weekend retreats are other activities in which the group engages in.

Red River Christian Fellowship is an interdenominational group and is not attached to any of the local churches. Costs for the activities are covered by private donations of interested parties and by the members themselves.

Many "in Motion"

By Richard Allan Ratte

The CPA (Canadian Paraplegic Association), estimates that 35 to 40 Manitobans per year suffer injuries or spinal diseases, leaving them permanently paralyzed.

Across Canada the estimate is equally disturbing — three people suffer permanent paralysis every day.

As a rule, statistics are highly indigestible. However the implications carried by these statistics are truly horrendous.

Each statistical figure represents one more individual who is likely to spend the rest of his life in a wheelchair. Each number represents one more person who must relearn most of what an able-bodied person takes for granted.

For example, when was the last time you had to think twice about stepping on or off a curb? When was the last time you had to consider — before going to the bathroom — whether or not you could even fit into the bathroom? Or, when was the last time it took you two to ten minutes to sit yourself at the wheel of your car (barring any Saturday night excursions, of course)?

For approximately 8,000 Manitobans these are considerations that must be made on a daily basis.

A person who is paralyzed loses more than the use of their limbs. Handicapped people lose the ease of accessibility to jobs, buildings, recreational facilities, public transportation and, generally, everything we take for granted.

In all, it sounds like a pretty bleak and totally insufferable existence. A situation wherein the only hope you have is the proverbial "no-hope".

Of course this is totally inaccurate — not to mention a tad melodramatic. Handicapped people tend to possess all the virtues — or lack of — that able-bodied people possess. And once architectural boundaries and public misconceptions concerning handicapped people are lifted, they are more than capable of attaining any goal they may choose.

John Lane, Executive Director, CPA, says attitudes towards handicapped people are changing and cities are now incorporating wheelchair accessibility into their architecture as a rule, rather than as an exception.

"We've come from a situation where, among superstitious people, a person's handicap was seen as a curse from God or that a handicapped person was being punished for something he may have done," said Lane.

"It is not that long ago that these situations were common, — now they're uncommon. True, they still exist . . . but not nearly to the extent they once did. People are now aware that a handicapped person is capable of doing a lot more than what they're generally given credit for."

Lane says the change of public attitudes are due partially to the increased exposure the handicapped now receive. Shows like the old TV series Ironside and the current television coverage of Rick Hansen's world tour have had a profound effect on public attitudes.

Other contributions were the civil rights movement in the U.S. during the late 60's and 70's and the 1981 Year of the Disabled.

Possibly the biggest influence, however, was the Vietnam War, says Lane. "The Vietnam War led to a lot of interest and visibility of handicapped people. You couldn't say that they (the veterans) were a curse from God or that they were something that people had to be ashamed of."

"Nobody could argue with disabled veterans. You had a war going on and you had disabled veterans coming back, and as a result of the nation trying to come to grips with this thing you had movies like Coming Home. You had disabled veterans taking part in public demonstrations and chaining themselves to fences. You had angry veterans saying that they had fought for their country and that they should now at least have access to public subways."

All of these events have played a major role in shifting public attitudes, says Lane. "Now people — especially young people — are much more accepting and don't shy away from or shun the fact that a person may be handicapped."

Lane says that in tandem with the shift in public awareness, there have been positive governmental advances as well. For example, cities in Ontario, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan are more receptive to the special needs of the handicapped. They provide curbed ramps and public transportation, designed exclusively for the handicapped, in addition to funding for education, job training and any renovations to buildings that are necessary to accomodate new or existing employees.

Lane says in Winnipeg we have all these support systems, ranking Winnipeg as one of the leaders in recognizing special needs of the handicapped.

"There are problems that remain," noted Lane. "The transportation system is not as good as some other cities. Funding is not as great as we would like to see — but this is a problem for everyone. And there haven't been that many solid advances in recent years. But, by and large, Winnipeg is recognized as a leader in meeting the needs of the handicapped.

One positive point Lane was quick to mention was the North Portage Development project currently in the works. Lane says the development will be completely accessible to the handicapped.

Overall, Lane feels that there have been many positive changes in favour of handicapped people. However, on a more somber note, he added that recognition of the needs of the handicapped seem to arrive in cycles.

"It seems that recognition cycles through a number of different stages," said Lane. "At one point you've got no recognition at all — the Dark-Ages type of thing. Then you get a kind of patronizing 'That's Incredible' type of approach where you have feature stories on individuals that say 'Isn't it amazing that this person can live by himself or that this woman works'. And then you get into what I would consider a more mature phase where you have more positive, constructive attitudes."

Lane says the CPA receives many inquiries, ranging from information about personal needs and job placement counselling to advice for home and business renovations.

"We get called more for our support and how to solve or get around problems," Lane said light-heartedly, "rather than the cutesy type of calls we used to get. They were the ones where people would phone and say 'I wanna do a public service and help the handicapped — is there any way you can help me?"

Lane says there has been a lot of improvement, however, he feels there is definitely room for a lot more.

The good news for now, says Lane, is that Winnipeg is in the mature phase.

In the words of one great writer, "Hope Springs Eternal."

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Canada THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

Letters to the Editor

The Projector's recent coverage of the November 13 inservice failed to mention the staff members who volunteered their time and talents. Students may be interested in the names of staff who worked on the in-service committee, namely: D. Derksen, F. Martin, S. Bartley, N. Restall, T. Davies, D. Pokrant, L. Edwards, J. Graeb, D. Reid, L. Tessier, R. Hayes, G. Dakshinamurti, J. Redston, J. Grant, R. Pollock, I. Karasick, R. Manwaring, G. McBean.

In addition to members of the committee, there were numerous college staff members from instructional as well as support services who helped conduct workshops. I regret that I do not have a list of all who contributed, but I feel that they deserve to be recognized.

David Leland

Dear Editor,

In reply to the new Winnipeg smoking bylaw, stating that smoking is only allowed in the parking lots.

We respect a non-smoker's rights but where are ours? Couldn't a few places be designated indoors for the smokers?

For a long time non-smokers rights were violated but we've met them half way, designating non-smoking areas in restaurants, planes, and buses. Why must a few influential people determine our lifestyle. Is this not a free country?

Nicotine Normals

(Editor's Note: They say that nicotine dulls the senses. We think it may affect brain cells. Check the byline, Nic.)

Maitland in Profile

Steve Maitland won't be deterred from trying new things at the college.

By Bruce Benson

The man behind the Alumni Association is not to be deterred.

"Everybody that's tried to do something with it has given up. I think that gives me the incentive to really want to do something. I'm not a quitter."

So says Steve Maitland, program coordinator for the Students' Association.

Maitland, who has a B.A. with a major in recreational technology, has been program director for four years.

He began work on the formation of an Alumni Association last year by compiling a list of former S.A. executives and meeting with them.

From those meetings and others, a reunion is tentatively scheduled for late April or early May of this academic year.

"Any person who graduated from a certificate or diploma program is welcome. In fact you don't have to be a graduate as long as you want to have something to do with the Alumni Association," says Maitland, adding that former staff are also welcome.

The purpose of the reunion is to let people know about the future Student Union building and it's contents, says Maitland, who is optimistically looking at June as the date for construction to begin.

Though the formation of such an Association could be a full time job, it is only an off-shoot of Maitland's actual position.

"Basically my job is to run all the special events on-campus. All the noon-hour entertainment, beer bashes and such. I hire an assistant programmer, who's a student, I hire a bar manager, and the bar manager and I hire bar staff."

Since taking the position of program director, Maitland has been responsible for many new events at the college. His suitcase bash, where the winner of a draw is taken by limo straight to the airport and flown to Vancouver for the weekend, is in its fourth year.

"It kicked off and now everybody's doing it (other colleges and universities)," says Maitland.

A former amateur swimmer who competed in the 1967 Pan-am games, Maitland was three-tenths of a second shy of making it to the 1972 Olympics when he was sixteen.

He says he likes to try new things at the college. "If you're not adventurous enough, or you haven't got the balls to go out and do something new, then you shouldn't be doing this job."

Maitland admits that not all of his 'new' programs or talent have worked out. One band actually had their equipment unplugged, while another had ice cubes thrown at them during a performance at a beer bash.

Of these obvious failures to please the student body, Maitland just shrugs. "If you have things that don't go, you're not doing your job."

Sixteen beer bashes are normally held each year. There is a potential for trouble, because many people tend to overdrink. However, this rarely occurs, says Maitland.

"You always get your rambunctious types, and you may have to bar a few people, but we rarely have problems," says Maitland. "Except for the Blues Brothers stealing the bus (at this year's Halloween beer bash). It was kind of a bad thing that happened, but it was funny. It's amazing what people will do."

Another security measure at beer bashes is the S.A.'s taxi-cab service.

"If the bar staff feel some guy is too drunk to drive, a cab will take him home and bring him back the next day, all paid for by the S.A.

"We don't want any accidents or anybody getting hurt," says Maitland.

Besides serving the student body at the college by providing entertainment, Maitland sees his job as a means to serve the community.

Every Valentine's Day, the S.A. invites all people from Lion's Manor to the College and serves them dinner and drinks.

"That always make you feel good inside," says Maitland.

Last year, $900 in profits from the Casino Rouge went to the Variety Telethon.

Also last year, in conjunction with the U of M and the U of W, Maitland helped organize Student Aid for Africa which raised $5,000 to fight apartheid.

Maitland's hours are 8:30 to 4:30, but he rarely keeps those hours. At beer bashes he stays till seven or eight. At wine and cheese parties for night school students, he stays till one in the morning. Now he plans to start holding socials on Saturday nights, so he'll have to work on weekends.

"The pay is the shits!" he says.

Why does he do it?

"It's a trade off. Before coming here I was working in a business making good money but I hated it. Now I love my job. And working in a college, not that I'm very old, kinda keeps you young."

Giving Credit

By Brenda Fleming

If you are a R.R.C.C. graduate, it is now possible for you to receive credit at university for work done at Red River.

The policy was finalized in the spring with unanimous approval by the University of Winnipeg senate and admissions committees.

Depending on your course, you may receive up to two credits for a ten month or one year course, and a maximum of five credits for a two year course.

Myrtle Nichols, vice president academic, says those who have achieved at least a C^3 on their work and at least a C on their individual courses are eligible for credits.

This new policy is akin to the R.R.C.C. Experiencial Learning policy developed in 1978, wherein anyone who had gained knowledge through jobs or institutions not recognized by the college could, for a fee, challenge for credit at R.R.C.C. It involves theory and practical testing of the student.

Now students may receive full or partial credit at the university for their work at R.R.C.C., depending on the similarity of the courses.

Nichols, who notes the importance of maintaining standards, is enthusiastic about the policy, saying: "If you're educated in a field it doesn't make sense to spend time studying something you already know." She adds: "It really encourages people to continue learning. That's what education's all about."

Glen Hermanson, dean of technology at R.R.C.C. says students must have a B average, or a C plus two years of experience.

Technological students have the opportunity to obtain a degree in much less than the usual required time at university.

The University of North Dakota has some similar programs to those of Red River. Technological students may receive around one and a half years of credit, and their further studies would entail another two and a half years. Hermanson notes that not many of the students go to North Dakota due to the expense.

Lakehead University and the University of Calgary also have some similar programs.

Gary Polonsky, president of R.R.C.C., feels it is justified that R.R.C.C.'s qualifications are being recognized, however he says he doesn't feel it should become the most important focus for our programs. "The most important focus should continue to be getting our students good jobs in their chosen field." He adds that, overall, he feels very positive about the policy.

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Entertainment

Sweatshop a Swinging Gig

By Tina Quiring

It was like cool. I mean, really happening. Dig it . . . a smoke-filled room . . . twenty poets huddling over a table with pen and paper in hand desperately trying to write THE poem. There's a cat with a black beret sitting at the end of the bar. Sko-ba-dee . . . Sko-ba-da . . . bang those congas man.

The second Poetry Sweatshop, held at the Royal Albert Arms last Tuesday, failed to generate any goovin' vibrations until late into the evening. This certainly didn't happen during the first sweatshop on November 4 say sweatshop groupies. According to one of the contest organizers — Jamie Hutchison of the Manitoba Writers' Guild — last month's audience was sparked by the bright lights and the television cameras brought in by both the local and national media.

But signs of life, well O.K., groans could occasionally be heard from the floor everytime M.C. Alethea Lahofer opened her mouth to ad lib. Fortunately, she had Suzi Schledwitz, creative communications student and card holder extraordinaire to initiate the appropriate responses from approximately 120 crowd members.

The rules were the same as last time. Twenty-five wordmongers were instructed to write a poem within 30 minutes. Of the twenty-five contestants, five dropped out of the contest. Each poet selected one word from a page torn out of Roget's Thesaurus. Judge John Oleksiuk (filling in at the last minute for Leslie Hughes) chose ten finalists to perform their poem, then selected three winners to share a $75 cash prize — donated by Mary Scorer Books.

Two time winner, Laurie 'Don't call me a househusband' Block got the judge's nod for his poem entitled, A Letter from Frog Hollow.

Katherine Szadkowski picked the word 'idea', reached deep down and submerged into a tangled web of . . . uh . . meaningful prose. Once she came up for air, Szadkowski acknowledged her win and accepted her prize.

Maurice Mierau was undoubtedly the crowd favorite. While his arms flailed over his head, he read his poem — Love Song of an Illicit Yuppie with unbridled passion.

The Poetry Sweatshop was well represented by three contestants from Creative Communications; instructor John Harding and students Del Margolis and Roger Procyk. Although both Harding and Margolis wrote their way to the finals, Harding failed in his attempt to wrap up a second big win. But all three poets are considering giving the happening, Poetry Sweatshop another try on January 13. Be there or be square.

Traditional Christmas Fare

by Mireille Dacquay

"Bah! Humbug!" These are the immortal words of Ebenezer Scrooge, brought to life in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

The opening performance of the Manitoba Theatre Centre's production of this old favorite on Nov. 27 seemed to herald the coming of Christmas to Winnipeg in a way the street lights and malls have missed. It plays until Dec. 20.

With a production that has been done over so many times in radio, film, and television there is always the danger that just another variation could become tedious. Innovations in set design, costumes and special effects add the finishing touch to a production such as A Christmas Carol. However, the characters are so well known that the most original work must come from the cast.

Such was the case of MTC's production. At the head of the cast was Robert Clothier as Ebenezer Scrooge. He is better known as crabby old Relic from The Beachcombers.

Clothier was perfect as the miserly grouch who is haunted by the ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future. It is undoubtedly the most difficult and most important role. Without a truly crabby performance by Clothier the audience would have been cheated out of feeling the joy and delight of his reformation.

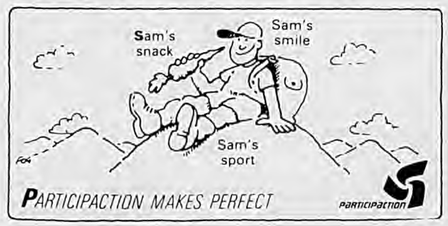
The sheer number of characters required that most performers play more than one part. Several had to play two to four parts.

Two actors who played only one character each were Richard Hurst as Bob Cratchit and Robert Haley as narrator Charles Dickens. Hurst gave an admirable performance coming out as the most endearing character. This honorary position usually goes to the character of Tiny Tim, the sweet little boy of Bob Cratchit who copes bravely with his crippled leg. In this particular production the character seemed to have been played down.

More than anything the character of Charles Dickens as narrator was distracting. Haley's voice did not carry to the balconies and the audience strained to hear his elaborations.

The set was obviously meant to impress spectators with its complicated design. It was basically a framework of different sets that shifted about on a revolving stage. However, the set creaked and rumbled along so much that it too became more of a distraction than a credit to the play.

Yet it is the people, and story that have made A Christmas Carol one of the best loved tales of the yuletide season. In this repect, the cast and director of MTC are a credit to this tradition in theatre.



Festivities Abound

By Mireille Dacquay

The college is decked out in holiday frills, mistletoe, Santas and snow on the sills. So here's to the joy and frolicing fun, buying gifts, getting blitzed and a sleigh ride to come.

On December 9 to 12 you can find all those special friends a little locker stuffer at the CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE. Come on out and do some of your Christmas shopping in the Tower Lounge from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Everyone's favorite Christmas 'hope fors' will abound including knitted items, ceramics, woodcrafts, eggery, stuffed toys and framed pictures.

Then tap your toes inside those brand new Christmas socks you just bought while listening to blues jazz guitarist, Marc Aptkeman. He'll be playing amidst the buying frenzy at the Tower Lounge on Wednesday December 10 and Thursday December 11 from 12:00 to 12:45.

Noon hour entertainment is at it's best on December 17 as D.J.'s Saloon presents The Churko Band. Catch them in the Tower Lounge from 12:00 to 12:45.

Don't blow all your holiday cash yet!

The XMAS Beer Bash is coming up on December 19. The party sound comes on at 3:30 to 7:00 in the South Gym. Tickets go on sale Tuesday December 16 in the A.T.O. booth at 4:00 p.m. so come out and get into the Christmas spirits. Tickets are only $5.00.

And for the college Christmas climax! The Red River Christmas Tally Ho!!!! Head out to the Birds Hill Riding Stable (Lazy H. Ranch in Birds Hill Park) for the sleigh ride of your life on Dec. 21.

The ride is from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. followed by a weiner roast and sing-a-long from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Bring your own wine skin for the fire pit. Tickets are $3.00. That's a great price for a great time so bring a friend, a touque, and some Christmas cheer.

Reply to Doren Roberts (632-2475) in CMOR or Steve Maitland (632-2478) in the S.A. office.

RED RIVER'S TOP 20

LW	TW	ARTIST	ALBUM
—	1	THE PRETENDERS	GET CLOSE
—	2	The Housemartins	London 0, Hull 4
12	3	Wang Chung	Mosiac
—	4	Eight Seconds	Almacantar
1	5	The Spoons	Bridges Over Borders
—	6	Berlin	Count Three and Pray
10	7	Iggy Pop	Blah Blah Blah
3	8	Idle Eyes	Love's Imperfection
—	9	The Lucy Show	Mania
—	10	Eurythmics	Revenge
—	11	Deborah Harry	Rock Bird
—	12	Daryl Hall	Three Hearts in a Happy Ending Machine
—	13	Chalk Circle	The Great Lake
—	14	Talking Heads	True Stories
—	15	Rick Ocasek	This Side of Paradise
—	16	R.E.M.	Life's Rich Pageant
8	17	Until December	Until December
1	18	Till Tuesday	Welcome Home
6	19	Strange Cruise	Strange Cruise
—	20	The Bolshoi	Friends

ALBUM OF THE WEEK. . . . . The Housemartins — LONDON 0, HULL 4

It Pays

By Mireille Dacquay

The intimacy of MTC's Warehouse theatre made it perfect for its latest production, We Can't Pay? We Won't Pay! which runs from December 3 to December 20.

The play was written in 1974 by Dario Fo and delves into the political circumstances and events of this time in Southern Italy. It was a time when the prices for food, electricity and public transport rose rapidly, biting deeply into the budgets of the working class.

Rather than striking, these people decided to fight back by paying only what they considered a fair price. If the bosses of free enterprise wouldn't accept this they would simply not pay at all!

And so begins the story of two couples as the women rush back to their apartments with the spoils of the neighborhood market after taking part in just such a demonstration. The play is hilarious and it is due greatly to the energetic and talented cast. It consists of Bibi Caspari as Antonia, Christina Collins as Margherita, Daniel J. Dellabio as Luigi, Eric Keenleyside as Giovanni and Stan Lesk as the Sargeant/Carabiniere/Undertaker and Old Man.

The pace is quick and packs every minute with amusing dialogue and all the fun of a three-ring circus. The spontaneity and humor often came through due to the casts improvizations. "We spent a third of rehearsal time working on improvizations. Most of the cast has also worked with Second City," says Lesk.

Even the audience is called upon for more than just it's laughter. Audience participation is characteristic of this genre of Italian theatre. Later on, Caspari commented on this element of the production. "After so many rehearsals it was almost like we couldn't hear what we were saying. It really needed an audience."

Although the play centered on the grass-roots movement in Italy, some parts were rewritten for the Warehouse production. Lesk added, "The wonderful part is that we were able to Canadianize it with local references."

The audience is warned that it may find the production offensive in some ways. The jokes were mainly political but there was some raw language and a running gag at the Pope's expense.

Mostly, the play provided insight into solidarity and the little guy's fight to keep his head above water. But there was an irresistable appeal to laugh along with the characters' desperate efforts to cope with increasingly funny complications.

Trekkies Board for Voyage Home

By Mireille Dacquay

Trekkies faithfully crowded into the theatre to see the Enterprise crew off on their latest voyage; The Voyage Home.

Their mission, to save the whole blessed Earth from the destructive force of a strange space probe. The signal it emits is quickly vaporizing the Earth's oceans and wreaking havoc with the atmosphere.

The probe comes from some unknown corner of the universe. Basically it looks like a volleyball suspended from a large, black piece of concrete.

Enter Admiral James T. Kirk and his aging crew. They were on their way back from the planet Vulcan to face court-martial after disobeying orders to rescue Spock, and intercept a desperate message from home base to avoid Earth at all costs.

Faster than you can say "Beam me up Scotty", Kirk figures out that the probe must be trying to communicate with some life form that once inhabited water. Uhura does her electronic wizardry and presto! Humpback whales! Well, stun me with a phaser.

The solution is so simple. Whip back in time to fetch up a mess of fish, or mammals to be exact. This point along with a poignant "save the whales" message is deftly thrown into the picture as a multi-million dollar public service announcement.

After a dangerous loop around the sun that looks much like a bubbling cheese fondu they break through the time barrier and into 1986. This is the funny part.

Blatant attempts at humor in a Star Trek movie are not very common, but director Leonard Nimoy decided to give it a whirl. The result was pretty good. The script plays up on their fumbling efforts to cope in our primitive culture. This includes our language and the use of our many colorful metaphores, otherwise known as swearing.

There is one new twist in characterization along with the usual love interest for Kirk and Scotty's desperate cries of "I can't do it Captain!"

Spock's human side peeks through now and then as a result of his hasty retraining in Vulcan ways after his rebirth on the planet Genesis. Forget the details unless you've seen the The Search for Spock. It is an intriguing development for many who have come to know him.

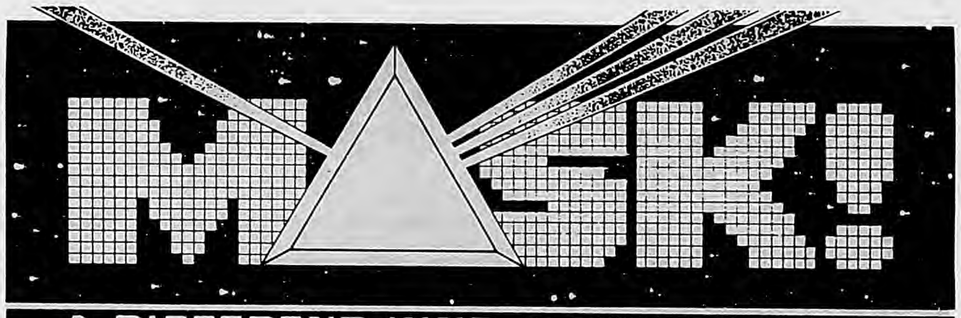
The movie didn't get the hype a lot of other pictures need because you can always count on the Star Trek junkies to come running in for another fix. It's true even at six dollars a shot.

Unfortunately the starry rush doesn't hold to the ending. It was a classic "Act of God" finish. Kirk and his crew make it back just in time to crash into San Francisco harbour and release the whales. One question torments the audience. "What the heck are the stupid animals going to say to the hovering probe?"

That question is never answered. Not even a hint is given to substantiate what sort of conversation may have taken place for the probe to quietly pack up and leave as suddenly as it came.

On the bright side you could say the movie calls on the unbridled imagination of the audience. Maybe someone could start up a contest. "What did the whales say to save the Earth?" Come up with your own theory and send it in to Paramount Productions.

The best news comes last. The crew is absolved of previous charges. Kirk is demoted from Admiral back to Captain and assigned (who would have guessed) to a new super duper model Enterprise. Warp speed to a new sequel.



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Features

Win the 12 'Hits' of Christmas!

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Win the 12 'Hits' of Christmas!

Enter by filling out the attached ballot:
You have a chance to win the following 'Hits' of Christmas:

Idle Eyes — Love's Imperfection
Bad Company — Fame and Fortune
Rick Ocaskek — This Side of Paradise
Talking Heads — True Stories
Pretenders — Get Close
Steve Winwood — Back in the High Life
Paul Simon — Graceland
David Lee Roth — Eat'em and Smile
Georgia Satellites — Georgia Satellites
Benjamin Orr — The Lace
Wang Chung — Mosaic
Pete Townshend — Deep End Live!

Contest Rules

Only available to Red River Community College students.
One entry per person.
Must be able to answer skill testing question.
Must show student card or part-time registration form number.
Winners will be notified by telephone and announced on CMOR, Tuesday, December 16, 1986. The winner will be posted on the Students' Association door, Room DM-20, and mentioned on the TV monitors.
Entry deadline is December 16, 1986, at 11:00 a.m. in the Students' Association Office, Room DM-20.

FILL OUT ENTRY TO WIN
Drop entry form off at the Students' Association office, Room DM-20.

ENTRY FORM:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number _____

Student Number _____

Skill Testing Question:

Which two artists listed play in the same group. Name the artists and the group they play in.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

NOTE: Contest is not eligible to anyone in conjunction with Student Radio CMOR, Red River Community College Students' Association, or WEA Canada.

Red River Ramble

By C.R. Procyk

I'm sitting here in the La Salle Hotel, soaked to the knees, next to two buddies shooting the breeze about the finer points of Monty Python and Hill Street Blues. And I've got the blues.

Yessirree! I've got two Blues on the table in front of me to celebrate the fact I'm only soaked to the knees. Yes, I've got the LaBatts Blues and it's a darn sight better than having the Jack Frosty Blues; the deep down drowned in the Red River frosty blues; the early December human popsicle frosty blues.

Just moments ago as I stumbled into the hotel lobby, this sensitive elderly person notices me stamping the snow off my moccasins. My glasses are so fogged up I can hardly see to lean my snowshoes up against the Sun dispenser, the Winnipeg Sun dispenser, the dispenser of the local rag. This gentleman notices me and says, "Better not leave your snooshes there — they'll get stolen as sure as Santa hangs out on Christmas Eve with an old bag. You'd better give them to Lawrence here while you go in for your brew."

Well you can't refuse a kindness like that. I needed to cool off. The sweat was pouring down my back, under my parka, from my recent strenuous exertion. I felt like grabbing this good Samaritan and telling him, in an emotional outpouring, how I almost wasn't here this very minute. I felt like telling him how the blinkety-blank rackin-frap city had dumped 200 tons of snow onto the river bank; that they had bulldozed the huge pile onto the shore ice; that you could see wet slush at the bottom of this dirty, salty, snowy cliff.

I wanted to tell him how I had to decide whether to swing out into the middle of the river and go around the snow dump or to go ashore, take off my snowshoes, climb the embankment and walk the rest of the way by street. I wanted to tell him that I'd had to decide and that I'm a pretty cautious person.

Well, I decided to leave my snowshoes behind the desk with Lawrence and I decided not to pour out my soul to my beer-hall benefactor. I decided to let my natural shyness override the urge to disclose my recent lonely freak-out in the middle of a half million unknowing people. I decided that we'd had the coldest November in 100 years (the newspapers and radio had said so) and that I was always being over-cautious. Like the time I was afraid to drive the Datsun over the ice on the South Saskatchewan River. It was near Batoche and it was Valentine's Day and the local people had obviously been doing it for weeks.

So I left the shore and made a big arc into the middle of the river around the snow cliff. The arc would bring me back to shore at the foot of the Louise Bridge.

Well, take it from me, under-cautious is what you feel when your snowshoes suddenly stop going squeak-squawk in the snow and begin going squish-sqush!

I was shocked! In front of me the snow was white. I looked back and saw that each snowshoe track was rapidly filling with water.

I was frantically guaging the distance to shore — I looked towards the Louise Bridge for someone to yell to but there was only automobile traffic completely oblivious of my desperation.

Eegad! Should I squander precious moments and stop to take off these web-footed anchors? Will a hole the exact size of my body open up to drop me through like Jimmy Hoffa in cement muk-luks? Will a huge slab of ice, the size of the Friendly Giant's dinner platter, tilt slowly up and slide me into the river only to settle silently back over me like a gigantic plexiglass man-hole cover?

Holy Mother Nature! As long as the water stays behind me I'm still riding the crest like surfer Joe. Maybe I should head straight for shore? No, no. That would be suicide. But can I make it to the foot of the bridge? And what if there's current there and wafer thin ice? Good Lord in Heaven! What is there to expect from life? . . . grace? . . . mercy? . . . cold truth?

Hey Rose! Bring me another Blue.

Yes. Here I sit celebrating the fact that I'm soaked to the knees. One of the buddies at the next table is gone. The other is reading the Winnipeg Sun; the dispenser of local gossip, local success, local tragedy. Tomorrow's headlines could have been: LOCAL WRITER FINALLY MAKES BREAKTHROUGH.

Extending Our Goodwill

By Kelly Taylor

Third-World countries look to Red River for training.

Robert Goluch, vice president of college development and extension services, says that students from all over the world receive training from RRCC. Students from countries such as Granada, Kenya, and Zambia receive either correspondance or actual on-campus training in various fields.

Extension services is also investigating the possibility of developing utility management courses in co-operation with countries like Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Botswana.

Red River has also played host to visiting dignitaries from Kuwait and Malaysia.

Goluch says that extension services is also geared to meeting local area needs. The college hires out some of its services on a contract basis. The city has a number of students in technology courses MTS has paid for $100,000 of training in business analyst and computer related courses.

For people who need educational upgrading, extension services offers Adult Basic Education. ABE takes students and places them in either integrated or skills development courses depending on their needs.

Integrated courses take students through a two year course in three years. The student takes the regular courses, interspersed with support subjects. After three years, students receive the regular course diploma, providing all of the requirements are met.

The ABE program is geared towards a large portion of the Manitoba population. Goluch says that 23 per cent of the population are functionally illiterate. In Winnipeg, there are over 90,000 people with less than grade nine education. Although school is compulsory until age 16, there are no minimum grade levels.

Evening courses are also the responsibility of extension services. Many people in Winnipeg cannot take full-time courses because of work. The college offeres credit and non-credit courses in the evening program. A student can graduate from a certificate course taking only evening classes.

RRCC has about 16,000 part-time students per year in centres around the province. In Manitoba, there are 24 extension services locations. This includes rural centres in Portage la Prairie, Selkirk, and Winkler.

Study-at-home TV programs, such as The Growing Years, are produced with the co-operation of RRCC and Manitoba Educational Television. Students buy books from the college and follow along at home. Extension is planning to produce two new programs entitled Running Small Businesses, and Human Behaviour.

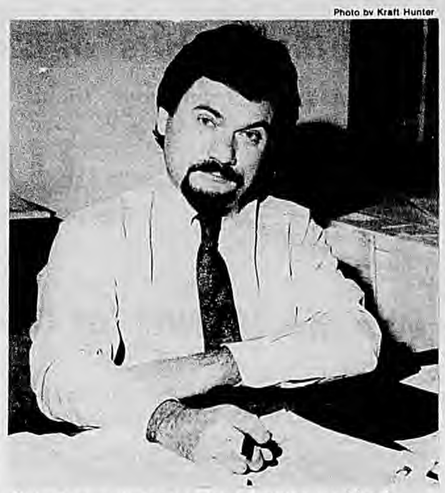
Growing Years educated 105 of the 350 correspondence students in Manitoba last year.

Other types of correspondence courses are the distant education courses. These have directors in business, applied arts, and health and technology divisions. The directors and daytime staff correlate day and evening courses to meet students' needs. Distant education serves students nationwide.

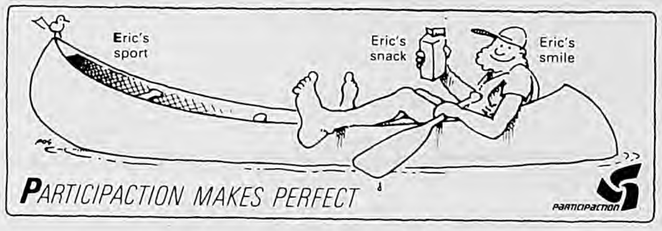
Goluch says extension services is just what the name suggests; an extension of the college's basic programs. Like the rest of the college, the department operates on a profit basis. In addition to the 16,000 part-time students, there are 1800 full-time students in developing education and 45 students in the pre-college prep course.

The department is staffed by 60 people and has an operating budget of 1.25 million dollars. Future plans for extension services include video interactive teleconferencing, more educational TV courses, and contract education to foreign governments.

Photo by Kraft Hunter



Goluch says students receive training worldwide from RRCC.



French Dips, Sink Ship

By Bill Macdonald

"It looked magnificent when it sailed into harbor. It was just an old trawler, but it was beautifully painted and had new sails."

When French security forces blew up the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbor, killing one man, it touched off an international controversy. It also cost Lynne Pointer her job.

"I was going to be the cook for the trip to French Polynesia," says Pointer. But they had to combine the crews onto the sister-ship, Vega, and seniority ruled."

Pointer, in her late thirties, stopped in Winnipeg last week, enroute to her native Britain, after spending 18 months in New Zealand. She has worked for Greenpeace, on and off, for 12 years.

"The Warrior had just finished resettling cancer victims in the Marshall Islands. There was a 70 per cent cancer rate there because of U.S. atomic tests, so they were moved to other islands."

The Greenpeace ship was to lead a floatilla of boats from New Zealand to French Polynesia, to protest French nuclear tests when it was blown up on July 19, 1985. A Portuguese photographer was killed in the explosion.

"There was a birthday party on board that night for Steve Sawyer, one of the captains. When the first bomb went off about midnight, most people had left. The people sleeping on the boat hurried on deck. Ferdinand went back down to get his photo equipment when the second bomb went off."

Pointer thinks the French meant to disable the ship, and not injure people.

"I personally don't think they were trying to kill Greenpeace activists. The party was no secret. They could have set the bomb earlier, when more people were there. That's why there was a time lag between bombs. So people could get out."

Despite the loss of life and sunken ship, Pointer thinks the incident helped Greenpeace. They received large donations, and help in salvaging the ship. The bombing also generated a lot of publicity for Greenpeace.

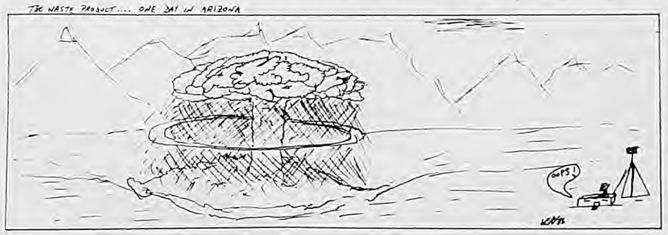
"The New Zealand people were annoyed that a foreign government would attack a political organization in their country," says Pointer. "The French probably thought New Zealand was a puny place, with a little policeman on a bicycle somewhere."

"The politicians' attitude is like little boys playing with toys. It's almost as if politicians see violence like kids do, on television. They don't think about the people they're sending into battle."

The French security agents pleaded guilty, were convicted, and sent to prison in New Zealand for a minimum of ten years. However an arbitrator later decided the sentence could be served elsewhere. The agents are serving their time on an island in French Polynesia.

Pointer, a former teacher, remained in New Zealand after the explosion and began working for a tour company on the South Island. After a short visit to Britain, she plans to return to New Zealand. She doesn't know if she'll work for Greenpeace again.

"I don't think Greenpeace does everything right. Seals (banning of the seal hunt) for example; on the face of it, it seems like a good thing. But it has harmed the Inuit people and changed the balance of fish. But Greenpeace does a lot of good too. They make people aware of dirty tricks countries will do."



Sports

Intramural Final Update

Volleyball champions: Above left, the Mixed Nuts. Above right, the RMD Consultants.

By Karen Jamer

Flag Football

Wow! What a season! There were sixteen men's teams this year with one team boasting a lady player who was,reportedly, quite a contender.

The teams were off to a slow start but by mid season, with some ingenious plays and a better understanding of the rules, the calibre of play greatly improved.

The Skinny Puppies and the Bad to the Bone teams played an emotional, hard-fought final with the Skinny Puppies emerging victorious.

Congratulations to the Skinny Puppies and thank you to all participants and referees. See you at our next intramural activity. See your college bulletin boards for more information on future activities.

Volleyball

Thanks to the '86 blizzard we had some difficulty arranging the finals this year. However, disregarding the chaotic conclusion, the 23 women's teams and the 21 men's teams were able to participate in an exciting volleyball season.

There were few defaults and most of the games got underway on time despite difficulties caused by rescheduling games due to exams and assignments.

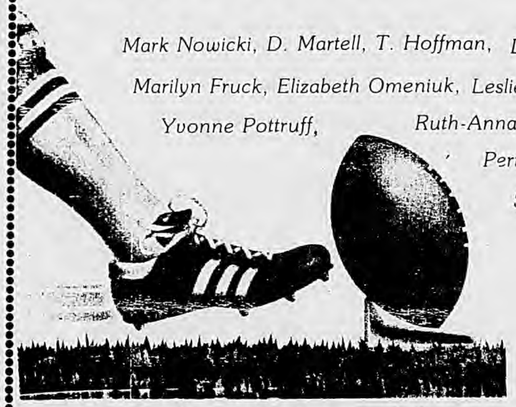
Many of the games provided thrilling entertainment during the noon hour since all the teams worked hard to earn a playoff spot.

After two hours of action-packed volleyball on November 12, one women's and one men's came out victorious. The winners were rewarded with beautiful stoneware mugs to add to their collection of college memorabilia.

Thank you to all participants and referees and congratulations to the Mixed Nuts (women's team) and the RMD Consultants (men's team). See you at our next intramural activity. Consult your college bulletin boards for more information on future activities.

Flag Football Champions: The Skinny Puppies.

Congratulations to the Grey Cup Pool Winners!



Mark Nowicki, D. Martell, T. Hoffman, Dawn Cuff, Marilyn Fruck, Elizabeth Omeniuk, Leslie Ross, Yvonne Pottruff, Ruth-Anna Hodgson, Pernell Sparks, S. Recknell

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