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The Projector

Red River Community College | February 24 - March 16, 1997 | Issue 15

Page 6
Page 8

E-day quickly approaching

By Kim Babij
News Editor

The feds aren't the only people gearing up for an election right now.

Nominations for SA positions officially closed Feb.14 at 4pm, with three nominees each for SA President and Treasurer, and one nominee for Vice President of Student Affairs.

Campaigning officially opens March 12, with debates taking place from March 17 to March 20, and closing speeches on March 25.

There will also be an Election Kegger on March 21.

Vice President of Student Affairs Corey Dalebozik said he's expecting this year's election period to run more smoothly than last year.

"Everything is much more organized this year. We're doing everything ahead of time so everyone knows when things are happepning," he said.

Controversy arose last year when some candidates accused members of the Elections Committee of being biased, as well as saying they weren't kept up to speed on dates and times of events they were required to attend as candidates.

Dalebozik said he thinks they've covered the bases with the current elections information package.

"We got comments from everyone who ran last year and everyone who was involved in the elections. From that, we rearranged the policy and rules of running so the candidates can't step on each others' toes the way they did last year."

He added that the Elections Committee is taking precautions to make sure everyone who is running would be qualified to take office if they were to be elected.

"We're conducting interviews to make sure the people who are running have a complete knowledge of the issues involved with taking the job," said Dalebozik.

"I'm not going to tell anyone they can't run, but we need to know the people who are possibly going into office will be able to do the job."

Voting takes place March 26 and 27 at various locations around the College.

German measles invade RRCC

By Kim Babij
News Editor

Rumors of a rubella outbreak at the College are one hundred per cent true.

Approximately 12 studetns have been confirmed to have Rubella, also known as German measles.

The good news is that most people at the College don't have to worry, according to Phyllis Arron at the Health Center.

"Unless you're pregnant, you probably don't have anything to worry about," said Arron.

"If you're not pregnant and you happen to get it, you'll basically just be out of commission for a week."

Rubella infections in pregnant women are dangerous because they can cause severe complications with the pregnancy including miscarriage or still birth.

Severe birth defects in the child are also possible.

Arron estimated the virus got to the school about three weeks to a month ago and so far all of the reported cases of the infection are in males.

"It's mostly males who are 19-years-old and into their 20's. All little girls were vaccinated but boys weren't vaccinated regularily until 1983," she said.

"If someone has already had it, they're probably immune."

For people who have never had German Measles and aren't sure if they had a vaccination, the health center is offering vaccinations.

"We're really just addressing females right now. In fact, it's probably almost a good thing if the males get it right now. That way they won't be susceptable to it again and won't run the risk of possibly infecting their pregnant wife later in life."

Photo by Christine Landry

A student gets a vaccinaion against Rubella. Most women born in Canada were vaccinated against the disease when they were young.

Symptoms of rubella may include a rash, slight fever, joint aches, headache, runny nose and reddened eyes.

A person with rubella is contagious from seven days before to seven days after the rash first appears, although an infected person may have no symptoms at all.

The disease is spread by direct contact with nose or throat secretions from infected individuals, including airborne droplets spread by coughing.

Arron is advising people who have the symptoms to stay home from school for about a week to prevent a mass spread of the virus.

"If you've had a shot for it, you likely won't get it. We just want to be careful," she said.

Newspaper in distress

By Lisa Glover
Editor-In-Chief

A referendum at the University of Manitoba will ask students to decide the fate of the university's 84-year-old newspaper.

"Everything hinges on the referendum. If it doesn't fly, then there may have to be some changes," said Trevor Lines, University of Manitoba Students' Union president.

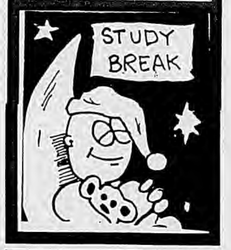
On March 11 and 12, students at the university are going to be asked whether they will accept an increase in the university paper's student levy.

Currently the $4 levy is included in the fees students pay to UMSU, but next year the student paper levy will be a separate fee and increase by $2 if students vote yes in the referendum.

Kelly VandenBerg, an Interior Design student at the U of M said

Continued on page 4

Little Cartoon by Darwin



Want to be a Projector editor? Applications for the 1997/1998 school year are available in the S.A. office.

Catch the **attention** of someone at RRCC.
Leave a **FREE** message in **the Projector**
(But make sure we can read your hand-writing so we get it right!)

MESSAGES

HEY YOU!! If anyone found a black 1 1/2 binder with gold lettering down the spine, please contact me immediately!! It has four subjects in it, including notes I need for exams in the beginning of March. There is also a student loan schedule taped to the inside cover. Call 487-3917. A reward is up for grabs and I'd be forever grateful!

I see you downstairs in the cafeteria...the only D.A. girl that wears a dress. I overheard that you like dentists. I'm not a dentist, but I'll give you a hint: I wear a white uniform, I'm tall, dark and handsome, and I am looking forward to meeting you. P.S.-Would you like fries with that?

If you'd like to make a few extra bucks every couple of weeks and only spend 1 to 2 hours working, call 632-2479.

When is Meltdown this year and when will wristbands be available??

P,
There's only one term left for this school year. Quit playing around. You know where to find me.
-SA Guy

Jenny,
I may not be as good looking as Forrest but I'd like to think you love me anyway.
-J. Gump

To the vivacious redhead in Ad Art 2,
You're as sweet as strawberry shortcake. Wanna share some one evening?
-From a Lonely Cowboy

In case you happen to read this paper...there is a message to someone very special from someone who has the power to put this message in the paper. I love you!!

Jay Whetter this is your space for the message you didn't have the guts to write! P.S. You're a stud.

Get ready everyone the summer is coming and so is graduation. Rock n' Roll!!!

Scott,
You know the dog belongs to me and my home is his home so don't get any funny ideas. Watch your back or you might never see the dog again!

Whenever you can put something off, do it!
Thanks for all of your time and efforts Cheryl H. RRCC will miss Commander Broccoli.

Use your democratic right at RRCC and vote for next year's SA positions on either March 26 or MArch 27.

Valentines Day may be over but he/she still deserves your attention.

FOR HIRE

Adult Entertainment Agency seeks model type figures for dancing and other bookings. No experience necessary. Will train. Flexible hours. Call 982-1700. If you'd like to make a few extra bucks every couple of weeks and only spend 1 to 2 hours working, call 632-2479.

FOR RENT

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Applications for Projector editors must be in by March 3, 1997.

Since 1973 Youth Employment Service has helped 1000's of young people find jobs, or get into upgrading and training programs. If you are 16 to 24-years-old and out of school call 987-861

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VOLUNTEERS

If you want more information about the following volunteer opportunities, call 477-5180:

Volunteer friends are needed by a family social agency to be a special friend to persons who have mental disabilities and are socially isolated.

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for RRCC Students + Staff
(WPG. Locations Only)
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420 Kensington	949-7600
112 Garry	949-7620
1430 Ellice	949-7622
2000 Wellington	949-7608

Thrifty Car Rental

How to place a classified:

To advertise in the classifieds drop off or mail your ad, complete with payment, to RRCC Students' Association, Room DM 20-2055 Notre Dame Ave. Wpg, MB R3H 0J9.

Note: Make cheques payable to the Students' Association.

If you are not a student, a classified or message will cost $2.00 per 20 words.

If you are a student classifieds are $1.00 per 20 words and the messaging section if free.

AD ART CD RAFFLE
OVER 25 CDs & GROWING
One ticket will be drawn for the whole grab bag of CDs on Friday Feb.28 at 1PM
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To place a classified, fill out this form and drop it of, along with payment, to the Students' Association.
Classifieds are *only* $1 per 20 words for students and $2 per 20 words for non-students.

If you would like to place a classified longer than 20 words, complete the message on a blank piece of paper using the same format as above.
Classified will not be published without payment.

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"CANADA'S LARGEST OUTDOOR STORE"

Aboriginal centre a reality in the future

By Jackie Pearase
Staff Writer

If you smell smoke coming from Building F next September, don't worry - it's most likely from a sweetgrass ceremony in the new Aboriginal Resource/Student Centre.

The idea for a centre was born in 1990 when a College report made recommendations to establish something to help Aboriginal students maintain their cultural identity.

The College presently has between 300 and 400 Aboriginal students.

John Burelle, community liaison officer at the Aboriginal Education and Institutional Diversity Division at the College wrote a concept paper for the College and has spearheaded the development of the centre ever since.

"The centre has been guided by the students and staff. They told us what the centre should be and what it should include," said Burelle.

Consultations with students and staff at the College helped Burelle decide what kind of place was needed.

Based on those consultations, the centre will be a kind of meeting place where students, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, can get employment information and use reading resources to increase awareness of Aboriginal culture and issues.

"Cultural awareness is a very important component of the centre... for Aboriginals, non-Aboriginals and staff to be more aware of the culture."

Burelle said he is not sure how far the centre will go in providing services.

One thing he said he hopes to do is involving Elders in the centre to improve the counselling services already available for Aboriginal students.

The hope is that the new centre will facilitate the creation of an Aboriginal students' association which will foster leadership training, added Burelle.

photo by Christine Landry

John Burelle, Community Liasion Officer of Aboriginal Education and Institutional Diversity Divison hopes the new centre will be up and running in the near future.

The one sticking point is the space allotted for the centre.

The new centre is slated to be on the second floor of Building F.

This space is currently occupied by the College Hospitality department which is waiting for their new space to be renovated.

David Rew, chair of the Hospitality department, said the new space for his department is not being renovated yet and he has "no idea" when Hospitality will be moved to make way for the Aboriginal centre.

Don Robertson, dean of Aboriginal education, is not worried about the centre becoming a reality.

"The Board is in favor of the centre. It's not that it's not being done, there are lots of others that want space at the College too."

Burelle said it is possible the centre will have to move into the space a little at a time, as it becomes available.

The spokesman from Administrative Services at RRCC was unavailable for comment.

SECURITY NEWS

Recent Incidents

Feb. 7 - York weight bench stolen from South Gym

Feb. 10 - Clock radio and keys stolen from unlocked room in Building C.

Feb. 14 - Glass in door broken. Mall level, Building A.

Feb. 14 - Glass in stairwell door broken. Building J.

Feb. 11 - Locked auto entered on Lot North 3. Speakers, parking pass and siren for car alarm stolen.

Feb. 24 - Locked auto entered on Lot North 4. Speakers, amplifier and parking pass stolen.

Theft from autos, while not a frequent occurrence, is still a concern at RRCC. If you see anyone acting in an unusual or suspicious manner, please advise Security at 632-2323. We will be pleased to check out your concerns.

Crime Prevention Tips

1. Have your keys ready when approaching your home or auto.

2. Do not reveal personal information to anyone on the phone or at your door. You are not required to participate in any surveys.

Look for RRCC SA candidate profiles in the next issue of the Projector

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Yard sale on hold

By Kim Babij
News Editor

One man's junk may be another man's treasure, but treasure hunters won't be able to turn to RRCC to find their goodies, at least for now.

The second annual "Giant Yard Sale" has been postponed until the spring of 1998 because of a lack of items to sell.

Last May the College brought in over $28,000 through the Yard Sale.

Staff and students donated everything from furniture to computer equipment to sell at the event.

Virtually everything donated was sold.

More information about the sale will be available as the date draws nearer.

Continued from page 1

she'll support the Manitoban in the referendum.

"I don't think I read six dollars worth, but I think the paper is important so I'll support it."

Lines said the referendum will help free the student paper from the students' union once and for all.

In the summer, the Manitoban gained autonomy from UMSU.

Matt Lazowski, managing editor of the Manitoban said going autonomous was an important move for the paper. He said the change was essential to alleviate some of the political ties the two entities had to one another.

He said this year the paper has faced some of its hardest financial times after it gained autonomy from UMSU in the summer of 1996.

But he said he admits that the financial records have never been one of the paper's strong points.

"We traditionally were in debt. With going autonomous, we no longer have a big cushion," said Lazowski.

This year the paper is using their independence to get their finances in order so future staff members will have a foundation on which they can keep the Manitoban going.

Lazowski said one of their main problems this year has been the inability to establish a solid client base.

Photo by Christine Landry

Students at the University of Manitoba will decide the fate of the campus newspaper, The Manitoban, in an upcoming referendum.

"Ads are really the only revenue that can keep the paper going."

Lazowski said if the staff this year can't rectify the ad problem, the Manitoban may have future problems maintaining itself independently, even if U of M students accept a new student paper levy.

"We made T-shirts that made us a couple hundred dollars. But we're here to put out a newspaper, not make T-shirts."

Besides a few awareness campaigns to make a few extra dollars and asking for an increase in their student levy, the Manitoban staff have taken a 25 per cent pay cut, have cut the number of pages from 24 to 16 and have increased the editorial/ad ratio to allow for more ad revenue.

Lazowski said if worse comes to worse, he will look at decreasing the number of times the Manitoban is published by cutting back from a weekly to a bi-weekly. But he said that isn't something he wants to do to the paper or the students who read it.

"Being a weekly is really important."

Mark Alexiuk, an engineering student at the university said there would be something missing on campus if the Manitoban had to close its doors.

"It wouldn't harm anybody if it closed, but it is something schools should have," said Alexiuk.

He also said the Manitoban and UMSU should work together to help support one another.

"I think UMSU should contribute (to the finances of the Manitoban) because (the paper) reflects the school."

But Lines said he isn't ready to make a commitment. He said the Manitoban's autonomy is a good thing for both organizations.

"We have to see what the exact problems are and what kind of support they need, whether it be free money or a loan," said Lines.

But VandenBerg said if the issue comes down to whether or not the paper will be able to continue to be published, UMSU should give the paper the financial support it needs.

"UMSU should support it but they shouldn't be related," said VandenBerg.

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No admission is charged and every ticket holder gets a complimentary beverage!

AND...your band gets $1 for every ticket holder that comes in!

Call Martin @ 956-2333 To Book!

Proposed student fees questioned

By Kim Babij
News Editor

A number of new student fees are being discussed by the College, and the SA is not happy about it.

"It's utterly absurd," said Vice President of Student Affairs Corey Dalebozik.

"Every time they need funds, they hit the students."

The fees being discussed include a "Wellness Fee", additional lab fees, and a fee for improved student cards.

The Wellness Fee would go towards improving the North Gym, and adding "lifestyle awareness programs" to the College.

Additional lab fees would be charged over and above tuition for the use of "lab" facilities and equipment at the College, including computer labs, and workspace for programs like carpentry or auto mechanics.

The student card fees would pay for student and staff photo-ID cards with bar codes for access to labs with electronic security systems.

Dalebozik said the SA feels students are covering costs for things they shouldn't have to.

"The staff uses the gym, but the students are going to have to pay for it. Same with the ID cards. Students are going to have to pay for the staff's cards because the staff isn't being charged for any of it," he said.

He added that he doesn't feel the students are being properly represented when money matters are being discussed, specifically by Dean of Student Affairs Fausto Yadao.

Yadao, however, said he sees it differently.

"To say that I'm not representing the interest of students is simply not true," he said.

"But at the same time, the best interest of the students doesn't necessarily mean that they don't pay."

Yadao cited the ID cards as an example.

"We need to improve on the current system. We need to incorporate a bar code and a photo on to each card. This will help control access into labs and libraries, which will be beneficial to all students. Right now, people can do whatever they want. They can bring their friends in to the labs if they want, and that's not acceptable," he said.

"The issue is somewhat the same for the Wellness fee. Although there is a small number of people using the equipment and the facilities, that's partially because of the state of it. It's getting old. If we had newer equipment, we could attract more people. We're looking at the options that will be most beneficial to all students."

TAX TIP

The Manitoba Learning Tax Credit starts with the 1996 tax year and is a new refundable credit. Any tuition fees or education amount that you normally claim on your tax return will qualify for the Learning Tax Credit.

If you transfer the unused portion to a supporting person – your spouse, parent or grandparent – this person can claim the Learning Tax Credit on the amount that has been transferred.

The Learning Tax Credit is 10% of the total of the tuition and education amount. There is no maximum credit for a student. The maximum credit that can be claimed by a supporting person is $500.

The credit is paid to you whether or not you have income or any tax payable. To file your 1996 income tax return and claim this new Learning Tax Credit come to the H&R Block office located in the "C" Tower Lounge at Mall Level.

Our phone number is 949-4147.

Compliments of H&R Block

Wellness Events & Programs

March 1997

March is National Nutrition Month and Epilepsy Awareness Month

Nutrition Awareness Week at RRCC
March 10 - 14
Watch for the healthy food choices presented by the Food Services Department during this week.

Diabetes Talk
Presenter - Josephine Milton
Health Promotion Coordinator of the Manitoba Division of the Canadian Diabetes Association
FREE!!
Wednesday March 12
12:00pm - 1:00 p.m.
Room E 314
If you have any questions about diabetes, Josephine is the person in Manitoba to ask!

AIDS/STD Awareness Presentations
Presenter - Public Health Nurse from Winnipeg Public Health Department
FREE!
March 4 in Room E308
March 18 & 25 in Room B114
1-2 p.m. 2:15 - 3:15 p.m.

Coming in April -
Dental Health Month

WE WANT YOU !
Call: 694-HELP
Turn to page 7 for details

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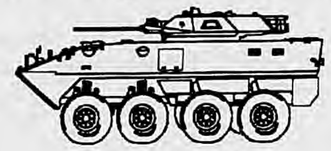

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Open House
Tuesday, March 11, 1997
7 - 10 p.m.
551 Machray Avenue, Winnipeg

A winter season of slippin' and slidin'

Kim Babij
News Editor

Simply put, winter driving can be lethal.

As soon as the first snowflake falls, driving becomes a huge chore.

But apparently half of all Winnipeg drivers ignore the fact that the seasons have changed and there is snow and ice on the roads.

I'll call those people the Grand Beach people: the ones who tear through Winnipeg in January on the treacherous roads the same way they tear their way to Grand Beach on the clear highway trying to make it to the vendor before it closes.

When you see a car on the side of the road, flipped on end, it's owner is probably one of those people.

Of course, they blame the "conditions" for their accidents.

I beg to differ. If you're a careful driver, you won't be in that position, unless one of the Grand Beach people hits you in the midst of getting into his or her own accident.

The only time you're going to spin out of control on an icy road is if you sharply turn your steering wheel for some reason.

Or if you slam on your breaks because you've been going too fast and are about to hit something.

Or if you take a corner at 60 kph.

There's this thing called traction that you have on dry cement, that you don't have on wet, snowy, icy streets.

You can have your fun and whip around like the Dukes of Hazard in July. You can't from November to April.

True, even the most cautious of drivers has slid through a stop sign after a snowfall.

But, the Grand Beach crowd seems to think they're invincible all the time.

Let me tell you - if they happen to involve me in an accident that is 100 per cent not my fault, you can bet their wallets won't be so invincible.

It's a simple fact that driving like an idiot in the winter is dangerous to everyone.

Granny and Grandpa on their way to bingo probably won't have good enough reflexes to get out of the way in time if your car is flying sideways toward theirs at 80 kph.

(Granted, it's a good bet that neither Granny nor Grandpa should be behind the wheel anyway, but that's another editorial.)

And, the pregnant woman walking on the sidewalk won't see it coming if you happen to fly over the median and slam into her and her soon-to-be new baby because you've lost control of your vehicle.

See how easy it is to apologize to her when she's in traction and she's lost her baby.

Or, worse yet, see if you know what to say to her parents and her husband at your manslaughter trial.

In another scenario, imagine what every single one of your friends and family members will be feeling when they look into your open casket after you've totalled your car and yourself.

This isn't to say maniacal driving in the summer is safe. It's not.

But it's far, far worse when there's snow on the ground.

Justifying your actions is too easy

Lisa Glover
Editor-in-Chief

Can you ever imagine that pedophilia may some day be legal?

No it doesn't seem realistic does it.

But look at history.

At one point in time, abortion was a thought as deadly as murder.

Birth control pills weren't thought to be necessary.

Homosexuality was forbidden.

Sex before marriage was only seen in the movies and no couples would ever move in together before marriage.

But today, look far and wide to find people who haven't contemplated the "ifs" or "maybies" of any of those issues.

It's really hard to find a priest, minister or rabbi who will step out and say there is no grey in these issues, they are black and white and you are either right or wrong.

Take a look at your own self.

When these topics pass through your mind can you say "I think/I don't think these issues are morally wrong,"?

It's hard isn't it. Sure, to judge may be easier but if you were in such a predicament what would you do.

Whatever your religious preference or lack of preference may be, you have to let your conscience decide.

All people have varying circumstances, ideals and ideas. But no matter what direction the world takes, society can't let the motivation of right and wrong slip away.

But today's society is loosing their conscience.

Any crime, action or mishap can be justified in some way.

There are so many lawyers who have got their clients acquitted by reason of insanity, depression or (the latest one I heard) drug induced frenzy.

No, it doesn't matter what you do any more because your actions are no longer your own.

Today they are controlled by whatever justification will get you off the hook.

I think there has been a time in everyones' life when the answer would have been "I'll never do drugs", "No I won't sleep with you" or "Smoking is a disgusting habit".

But life has a funny way of throwing awkward alternatives in our paths and "Drugs, just this once will be OK", "This person is different and what's the big deal about sex anyway" or "I only smoke when I'm drunk".

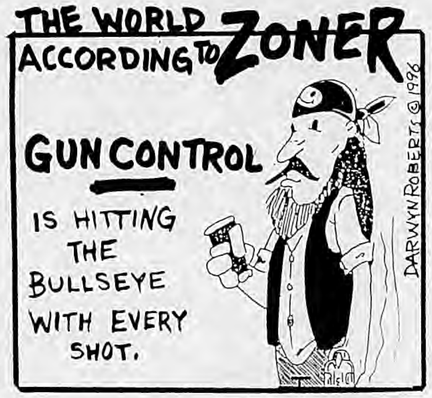
It is a lot easier to justify actions than it is to deny temptation.

All people are tempted and all people make the wrong decisions.

Sometimes a person will never find out whether something was wrong or right.

However, that should never be an excuse.

But it is becoming one and that makes the future uncertain and a little scary.



the Projector

Representing over 30 years of student journalism at Red River Community College.

Editor-in-Chief
Lisa Glover

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Contributing Writers
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This student newspaper is published by the RRCC's Students' Association from September to May, every second Tuesday.

The Projector's mandate is to provide fair and balanced coverage of issues and events that interest RRCC students.

Students are encouraged to contribute articles, opinions, photos, comics and graphics.

Letters to the editor are welcome, but they must be signed. *The Projector* reserves the right to edit for taste, length and legality. The views expressed in the letters do not reflect the opinion of the editors or the publisher.

The Projector editors can be contacted at Trailer K, through the Students' Association office, by calling 632-2479 or by faxing 697-9080.

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New budget a great opportunity for education

By John T. Harvie
Staff Writer

Well the budget is in, and there was some good news for post-secondary education.

First, having 30 months as opposed to 18 months to pay off student loans is a welcome relief.

Let's face it, given the economy, that first job is going to be part-time and will barely pay the rent, let alone repay the thousands of dollars we have invested in our future.

Second, was the increase from $100 to $150 for student tax credits.

This may allow students to work less and study more.

The more time you can spend behind a book rather than behind a counter is time well spent.

Although the RESP contribution increase from $2000 to $40000 may not benefit students in the here and now, it will help populate the campus in the years to come.

As a parent I like the option of rolling the RESP into a RRSP without penalty if my kids don't use the investment.

Also, as a parent I am pleased that student credits can be transferred from my kids to me. The less tax I pay the better.

Finally, it is nice to hear a government recognize colleges as research facilities.

Canadian colleges have long been a much neglected brain-trust.

What was missing from this budget was the simplest economic principal for growth.

If you put more money in people's pocket, they will spend it.

And that is good for business.

Like it or not, what is good for business is good for you and me.

Let's remember it is business that is going to hire us when we graduate.

Unfortunately, Mr. Wilson missed that class.

A five per cent tax cut would have gone a long way to stimulate business, and a stimulated business community means JOBS, JOBS, JOBS.

Sound familiar?

My first introduction to the principles of economics was in Jack Rink's class.

Jack has the amazing ability to take the mystery out of economics.

Now that the government has recognized colleges as a brain-trust, perhaps they will have the good sense to consult Jack the next time they decide how to spend our money.

I will give him the last word on the budget, "I didn't give it much thought, much like those who prepared it."

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Q&A

What do you think of the new federal budget?

"The student thing was cool. It makes more sense that they're helping students out."

-Melanie Fraose
Advertising Art

"There's no new taxes because they're giving money to students. It's good for low income families."

-Wade Garriock
Business Administration

"They're not going to give out anything big. With the election coming up, they just want to make everybody happy."

-Andy Tidsbury
Business Administration

"I haven't read the papers yet, but I'm guessing they're gouging, and I'm guessing Education isn't their top priority."

-Ruth Fletcher
American Sign Language Interpretation Program

"It might work. There's more money for the little guys and they're trying to get the deficit down."

-Lee McCarthy
Business Administration

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TAX TIP

Today, in many Canadian families, often both parents are employed either part-time or full-time. Many of these parents are incurring day-care costs for their children. Effective for 1996, child care expenses can now be claimed by single parents or couples who are in full time attendance at school. Child care expenses paid for children under the age of sixteen may be deducted on the income tax return of the spouse with lower net income. Eligible day care costs can include payments made to licensed daycare, home caregivers, before and after school programs and paid lunch supervision. Payments made to a relative are also deductible provided the relative is over eighteen and is not a spouse or common-law spouse. The costs of transporting children to school and daycare are not deductible.

The maximum amount that a taxpayer can deduct for child care expenses is the lesser of the following amounts: $5000 for children under seven or $3000 for children seven or over, two-thirds of earned income or the amount actually spent. Receipts are not required to be submitted with the tax return but should be kept on file should Revenue Canada request them in the future. When claiming childcare expenses, you will need the address of the day-care or baby-sitter of the daycare or baby-sitter and the social insurance number of any private individual that is being listed as providing daycare.

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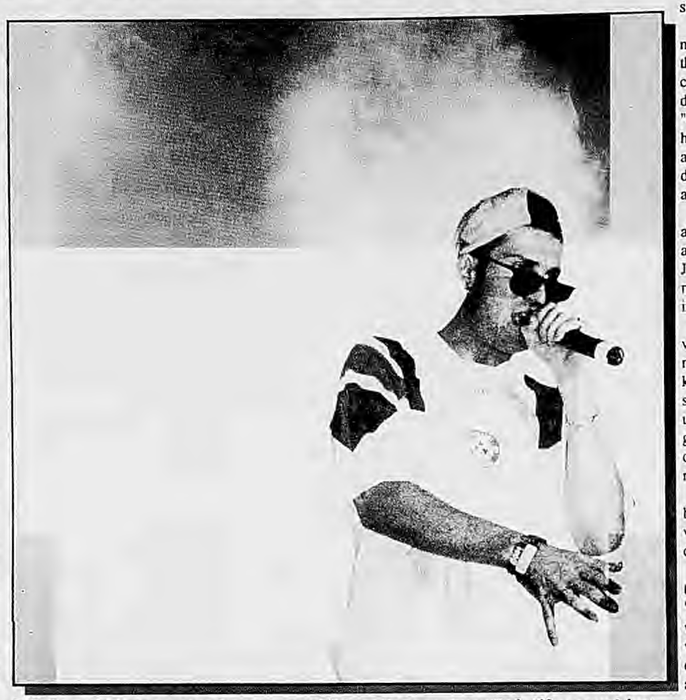
the Projector

Being famous sometimes means being a role model

By Kim Hes
Staff Writer



O'Brien said he can now show young children they can turn their life around just like he was able to

Darrin O'Brien doesn't wear his sunglasses when he leaves his house.

He's afraid people will recognize him.

"My sunglasses are my trademark. If I wear them when I go out, people on the street point at me, laughing and say, 'Hey look at that guy trying to be like Snow'," said O'Brien.

The irony is Darrin O'Brien is Snow.

Although the sunglasses that perch on the end of his nose are his trademark, they're something he saves for the stage.

"When I go out, I don't want to be Snow, I just want to be Darrin," he said.

But with the release of his third record, Justuss, anonymity doesn't seem to be in the cards.

In fact, unless he is hanging out with friends at one of his two favorite private clubs, he is almost guaranteed to be recognized.

It's that Snow doesn't like having fans, he just wonders about some of the groupies that show up.

"There was this one girl who ran into me, begging for my autograph for her friend," said O'Brien. "Apparently her friend had photocopied all the O'Brien's in the Toronto phone book trying to find me. She'd been looking for me for over two years."

O'Brien said he has had guys he has never seen before in his life, come up and talk to him like they were long lost buddies claiming to be from his old Toronto neighborhood.

Not that Snow minds being with people from his old neighborhood, in fact those are his friends.

"I lived in one area for my whole life. My friends are the same guys I have known since I was two years old," he said. "I don't think I'm all that, my friends don't look at me like I'm someone special, I'm just Darrin to them."

But someone who has known Snow for a long time, might say he's very different from the kid who grew up in the projects.

"Before I was Snow, I had never been anywhere, except jail," said O'Brien. "Nobody wanted to talk to me. After my first record came out, I talked to more people than I ever have in my life."

> *"My brother and I used to listen to Kiss. When we were younger we would dress up just like them with the wigs, makeup and everything."* - O'Brien

The song "Dropping hit," Informer" is about his past.

When the song was on the charts, Snow was sitting in a jail cell, waiting to be acquitted for a crime he didn't commit.

After spending a year in jail, the acquittal came through.

"I wasn't as confident back then. The changes in my life after 12 Inches of Snow came out were hard to accept at first. My music is at a higher level now."

O'Brien attributes this to the people he has met and the places he has been.

"I want to sing more positive songs. I need someone to bring them out of me."

Songs like "Freedom," from his record Justuss. The song was recorded with Yami Bolo, and its political and social focus bring a new maturity to Snow.

"It's my favorite song on the record. It's a positive song; it's about unity."

sible to turn their lives around.

"When I go back to my old neighborhood the kids will see that if I can change, and that they can see it is possible for them to do well for themselves," he said. "Everybody in my neighborhood has been in jail, but I don't blame anyone but myself for what I've done. I'm trying to work hard and do good things."

Doing things for kids has always been important to Snow, and now that he has a daughter, Justuss, whom the record is named after, it is even more important.

"I did a concert where there was a boy about 10 years old named Jeff in the crowd, who knew all the words to all my songs," said O'Brien. "I let him up on stage, gave him my sunglasses and let him sing. The only bad part was, he got a bigger response than I did."

Not that Snow is complaining, because he remembers what it was like to love music as a young child.

"My brother and I used to listen to KISS," said O'Brien. "When we were younger we would dress up just like them with the wigs, makeup and everything. We'd have concerts and there would be fifty or sixty people watching us."

Snow has come a long way since his KISS days, and says that he is happier with Justuss than with his other two records.

"I wasn't as confident back then. The changes in my life after 12 Inches of Snow came out were hard to accept at first. My music is at a higher level now."

O'Brien attributes this to the people he has met and the places he has been.

"I want to sing more positive songs. I need someone to bring them out of me."

Songs like "Freedom," from his record Justuss. The song was recorded with Yami Bolo, and its political and social focus bring a new maturity to Snow.

"It's my favorite song on the record. It's a positive song; it's about unity."

about his past, in the hopes that others will learn from his mistakes.

He wishes that his success will teach troubled kids that it is pos-

Patois peppered album offers new sound for fans

By Kim Hes
Staff Writer

It has been over three and a half years since Snow hit the charts with his smash hit "Informer."

Finally, Snow is back with his third album *Justuss*.

After his album *Murder Love*, which was a much darker collection of songs, *Justuss* is a nice change.

The album has a solid sound, the result of which is obviously due to an artist who has matured with age.

Probably the best song on the album is "Freedom," which was recorded with Yami Bolo.

The song has a distinctive african sound and delves into some social and political issues that are reticent of Snow's improved outlook on life.

"In a world of injustice, crimes and poverty / Organize and set your lives in one I-nitty."

The album also has a Jamaican sound, not only because of the distinctive beat, but because of the lyrics.

Once again the album is peppered with Patois, the dialect that had Canadians tongue-twisted when "Informer", was raiding the air-waves.

Nevertheless, "Freedom" isn't the only stand out cut from the album.

"Mercy, Mercy, Mercy's" theme is that of life on the streets, it's poignant lyrics and soft melodies create a song that is surprisingly honest.

Another favorite is "Mash Up the Nation" with its heavy Reggae style borrows the melody from the old hit "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" to address the woman of the world.

This collection of songs mixes a flavorful variety of tunes that warrant checking out.

Power falls weak in plot and performances

By Hans Ongsansoy
Staff Writer

Photo Credit: Graham Kuhn

Gene Hackman and Judy Davis both star in Castle Rock Entertainment's Absolute Power

In the first scene of the new film *Absolute Power*, a young woman approaches Luther Whitney (Clint Eastwood) while he is sketching in a museum.

After a quick glance at his work, she concludes "you certainly work with your hands."

The telling statement turns out to have several meanings.

The young woman is obviously referring to Whitney's artwork.

But when Whitney coolly replies "yes I do," it is obvious that he means much more.

Unbeknownst to the woman, Whitney is also a master thief, in the midst of preparing for one last big job before he retires from the burglary profession.

As Whitney, Eastwood has to make full use of his hands.

But Eastwood also uses his hands behind the camera, pulling double duty as *Absolute Power*'s director.

While the technical aspects of Eastwood's direction are adequate, his hands can do nothing with an implausible plot and inconsistent performances.

The premise for the plot seems intriguing enough.

Whitney's last big job involves breaking into the mansion of Washington DC power broker Walter Sullivan (E.G. Marshall).

While there, Whitney is forced to hide in Sullivan's vault to avoid being discovered.

What he witnesses, through a built-in two-way mirror, is Sullivan's very drunk, young wife enter, not with her husband, but with a very drunk President Richmond (Gene Hackman).

One thing leads to another, things get violent, and Sullivan's wife ends up being killed.

Whitney escapes with a vital piece of evidence and is soon pursued by the Secret Service, a private bounty hunter hired by Sullivan, and homicide detective Seth Frank (Ed Harris).

With all these people chasing him, Whitney still finds time to reconcile with his estranged daughter, played by Laura Linney.

Eastwood recycles the same slow, lilting pace he used on his previous character-driven films like *A Perfect World* and *Unforgiven* but the results this time are mixed.

The pace allows Eastwood to remain unobtrusive as a director, stressing what's on the screen rather than forcing the action.

The result though is an overall lack of suspense or concern for the safety of Whitney. He never really seems in *danger*.

Character inconsistencies are also a problem.

A confusing example is Linney's character, who has unclear feelings towards her father.

She bounces between addressing him as "Luther," "Father," and "Daddy," which make anything she says to him seem out of context.

But the biggest culprits in this department are the two Secret Service agents assigned to the president (Scott Glenn and Dennis Haysbert).

Glenn progresses from a seemingly slow-witted lump to a crafty investigator, and then back to a fragile wreck, while Haysbert transforms from a laconic, no-nonsense agent into an obsessive psychotic.

Eastwood, as Whitney, is one of the bright spots but even his surprise appearances everywhere (a la Brandon Lee in The Crow) become a little tiresome, and his reputation as a master of disguise can certainly be questioned.

The conclusion of the film is rather unsatisfying, given the promise of the opening premise.

Whitney never really has to face the "power" of the President's Office, alluded to in the film's title.

As far as political thrillers go, *Absolute Power* just doesn't deliver.

Cliches and predictable plot are not always bad

By Kim Hes
Staff Writer

Matthew Perry has the best one-liners around, and that's what makes the show *Friends* so successful.

It is also why the movie *Fools Rush In* is pure entertainment.

This is Perry's first attempt at the big screen, and if this movie is any indication, it would appear that out of all the cast on *Friends*, he has what it takes.

To make a successful movie that is.

Alex Whitman (Perry) and Isabel Fuentes (Salma Hayek) engage in a one night stand.

Isabel disappears in the night and Alex never hears from her again.

That is until three months later, when she shows up at his doorstep unannounced, and pregnant.

Fools Rush In is a very traditional romantic comedy that takes the perfect blend of humor, romantic cliches and sweet emotion, mixes it all together and makes what could be the best romantic comedy of the year.

Don't get me wrong, it is schmaltzy and chalk-full of cultural cliches.

Alex is your typical WASP, white-collar career boy, and Isabel is a Catholic Mexican-American with the body of a goddess and a heart of gold .

Isabel comes from a tight-knit, loving family, whose over-protectiveness is often amusing, but mostly a source of frustration to her.

Alex's family is distant and at times prejudiced.

His father, Richard (John Bennett Perry) is Perry's real-life father and it is easy to see where Perry Jr. gets his looks and charm from.

> *"This is Perry's first attempt at the big screen, and if this movie is any indication, it would appear that out of all the cast on Friends, he has what it takes."*

Isabel and Alex decide to marry even though they have never been on an official date and he can't seem to remember her last name.

Even though the movie is highly predictable, it works.

Alex and Isabel are destined for all the predictable plot twists that a good [illegible] should have.

Their brutally honest best friends think they are destined to fail, but the two lovers don't seem to care.

Jeff (Jon Tenney) is Alex's best friend and co-worker-worker, and as a recent divorcee thinks that Alex has completely lost his mind.

His constant attempts to get Alex back on the dating scene fail miserably.

Tenney does a commendable job, playing off of Perry's one liners and adds the perfect touch of cynicism and wit to his role.

Isabel's pal, Lanie (Siobhan Fallon), with her red hair and dry sarcasm, plays an extremely believable best bud, although at times her characters understanding nature and lack of contempt seem too good to be true.

Unfortunately, the manner in which Alex and Isabel break the news of their marriage to their parents has absolutely no shock value.

Isabel runs home to tell her parents, believing that honesty is the best policy and Alex avoids telling his at all costs.

The result of this is that Isabel's father tries to disown her (and attempts to club Alex with a baseball bat), and Alex's parents mistake Isabel for the maid.

The only thing not predictable about this movie the fact that it starts with sex, then a baby, then marriage.

However, that seems to be so common nowadays that the audience barely notices that something is amiss in this movie.

With the exception of the overwhelmingly farcical turn of events in Isabel's pregnancy, it is easy to overlook all the cliches and predictability.

Hayek and Perry have a definite chemistry that translates into the perfect date movie.

This is a light and amusing movie, with enough laughs to keep it flowing at a steady pace.

And after seeing Perry's character Chandler on *Friends* have absolutely no luck with the ladies, it is nice to see Perry finally get the girl.

silverchair / Freak Show

Epic records / Sony
By Nigel Moore

"Ladieees and gentlemen!

Sony Music is proud to present, under the big top tonight, human oddities!

See the two-headed baby!

See Princess, the monkey-woman and Jo Jo the dog-faced boy!

Those of you with a heart condition, please be warned.

See Johnny Bizarro, the man born without arms and legs!

See the main attraction, silverchair, perform for you under the big top tonight!

All the way from Australia, silverchair is the band of a hundred sounds!

Silverchair can mimic other rock bands. You won't believe your ears!"

Freak Show is one of the best alternative rock compilations I have ever listened to.

Nirvana, Pearl Jam, Bush, Helmet and Tool all on the same album, without any unheard-of indie bands.

It's great.

Only problem is none of those bands actually play on Freak Show, nor did any of them write any of the songs.

Released Feb. 4, *Freak Show* is silverchair's follow-up effort to their double platinum debut *Frogstomp*, which silverchair also recorded and wrote all on their own.

Daniel Johns (guitars and vocals), Chris Joannou (bass) and Ben Gillies (drums) should either be sued for ripping off other bands on *Freak Show*, or applauded for doing such a good job of it.

But this is a positive review, please don't misunderstand me.

Freak Show is a very satisfying CD to listen to. It rocks with the best of them, easily.

But, unfortunately, silverchair won't score any points for originality on *Freak Show*.

The speed-grunge guitars and vocals of "Lie To Me" sounds exactly like Nirvana's "Tourette's" while "Learn To Hate" sounds just like Helmet.

Even the song "Slave" sounds just like Tool, especially when Johns howls the chorus: "Want to be your soldier/Want to be your slave/Have no pride in myself/That's how I behave".

The slowed-down "Cemetery" is sure to be a radio hit, sounding just like "Glycerine" by Bush.

In it, Johns does his best Gavin Rossdale (of Bush) impression on vocals, which is a shame because Johns' own voice is very powerful and emotive.

So much so, in fact, that when Johns hits the right notes on *Freak Show*, he is as vocally impressive as Kurt Cobain ever was.

I know comparing Johns, only 17, to Cobain will get me into some trouble from both Nirvana fans (I am one, by the way) and people who hate silverchair, but I am serious.

The guy has some wicked pipes.

In my opinion, Johns' voice is silverchair's most valuable musical asset.

It's not as if they can rely on creative and original song writing.

Freak Show also features a bonus multimedia program that can be played on a computer's CD-ROM.

Set inside a circus side show tent, the interactive program lets you watch the videos for new singles "Abuse Me" and "Freak" as well as the video for "Tomorrow".

The program also has about eight video clips of interviews with silverchair and the band playing past hits from *Frogstomp* live in concert.

So step right up, ladieees and gentlemen!

See the main attraction, silverchair, perform for you under the big top tonight!

Those of you with a heart condition, please be warned.

The Offspring / Ixnay on the Hombre

Columbia
By Frank Landry

The buzz in music circles was that The Offspring had sold out and abandoned their punk roots in favor of moving to a major record label.

Well, the politics of being on a major label definitely haven't tarnished the integrity of The Offspring, a fact that becomes blatantly apparent after one listen to their major label debut, *Ixnay on the Hombre*.

Ixnay is laced with Offspring trademarks- it's fast and it's full of tongue-in-cheek lyrics and social commentary.

The album successfully combines the influences of hardcore, hard rock, ska, and pop to an even greater extent than their last release, *Smash* did.

This album also has fewer catchy tunes than *Smash* did, but that's okay. The Offspring were never really a band intended for mass consumption.

They were probably more surprised than anyone else when *Smash*, their third album in their ten year history, sold 8 million copies- a feat this disc won't accomplish.

They've thrown caution to the wind with "Ixnay" and returned to their roots.

The Offspring even invited Dead Kennedys' vocalist Jello Biafra to deliver the album's spoken word intro, *Disclaimer*.

Singer/guitarist Dexter Holland says that if there were one word to describe this album, it would be "attitude", and that simple word summarizes it better than any review can.

Pineforest Crunch / Make Believe

Polar Records
By Dave Platt

Part of a growing Swedish alternative scene, Pineforest Crunch have more in common with the Cardigans than, say, Ace Of Base or Abba.

Like the Cardigans, Pineforest Crunch writes ironic pop ditties and surrounds them with some of the prettiest arrangements imaginable.

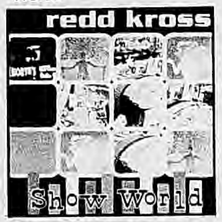
They sweeten songs like "Teenage Alex" (in which lead singer Asa Ecklund seduces a 14-year-old boy) with fragile, beautiful melodies, and fill out the tracks with synths and even a clarinet.

The end result is an almost new agey folk-pop with an odd-ball edge.

The only problem are the rhythms.

On the single "Cup Noodle Song" and "Teenage Alex," the band gets into a propulsive, punky groove, but on too many other songs the beats are hesitant and shaky.

Redd Kross / Show World



Mercury Records
By Tammy Marlowe

The noise coming out if this CD sounds just like anything you hear when you turn to Much Music these days.

Heavy guitar, thrown together lyrics, and an I-Can't-Really-Sing-But-Who-Really-Cares lead singer.

Songs like "Stoned" and "Mess Around" are very teenager appealing, meaning I can't see anyone older enjoying them.

The group also has a garage band sound, which seems to be deliberate but it doesn't do anything for me.

Most of the songs have the same beat and it makes it difficult to tell which track you are listening to without looking at the CD display.

There are also two songs on the CD which don't seem to belong.

"Follow the Leader" and "Secret Life" are nothing like the rest of the album.

They are lighter and a bit more thought out than the rest of the tunes but it is a nice change from the 'Didn't I just hear this one?' tone of the other 11 songs.

Okay, it's not so bad.

Redd Kross and *Show World* will probably sell tons of albums and make tons of cash, but they are still ultra trendy - which means they're probably a flash in the pan.

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Red River Community College

Blue Bombers add new hard hitter to next year's line up

By Jay Whetter
Staff Writer

David Pitcher spent most of the last decade hating the Blue Bombers.

Now he is one.

Bomber Director of Football Operations and Head Coach Jeff Reinebold recently signed the free agent who spent seven years in the hard hitting corps of the Saskatchewan Roughriders special teams, and last year with the Montreal Alouettes.

Pitcher helped maintain the fierce rivalry between the green 'Riders and the Blue Bombers, but he said he has no problems switching loyalties.

"There are quite a few players in Winnipeg I'd like to get to know on a friendlier basis," Pitcher said. "I'm really excited to be playing there."

Canadian-born, Pitcher spent his youth between Armstrong, BC and Regina, where his father taught at the RCMP barracks.

His time in Saskatchewan gave the young boy a chance to see the Roughriders during their heyday under the leadership of quarterback Ron Lancaster.

Pitcher never played football in high school, which is almost unheard of in professional sport.

He got his start with the Okanagan Suns, a junior team on the same level as the now-defunct Winnipeg Hawkeyes.

Pitcher said he was thrilled when he go the opportunity to play for the team he grew up with and was able to fill many roles.

"I consider myself one of the few Canadians who's been able to cross over from offense to defense, and this has helped keep me in the CFL where players have to be able to play two or three positions," Pitcher said.

"I've been given the opportunity to play football and I want to be the biggest, baddest thing out there."

This is the type of attitude that coach Reinebold looks for.

Pitcher has known Reinebold for quite some time and is finally getting the chance to play on his team.

"I have enormous respect for his ability as a coach," Pitcher said. "It's nice that it worked out I was a free agent when Jeff got the job in Winnipeg."

The Blue Bombers signed him as a slotback receiver and a third-down snapper, but can play defense and special teams.

And he is equally dynamic off the field. Pitcher is respected for strong community involvement and for his efforts were nominated three times for the CFL's Tom Pate Award, which recognizes sportsmanship and dedication the the community.

In Saskatchewan, Pitcher in an advocate for the "Stay in School" program and a representative for Arthritis and Diabetes foundations, to name but a few.

The strength of the league hinges on players being a part of the community and that is why the western teams are so strong, said Pitcher.

"The players stay in and around the community and people get to know them on a different level," Pitcher said. "People go to games and see their friends, not just players"

Pitcher, his wife Sandy and two daughters live in Regina. He is the manager of corporate development for the Saskatchewan Science Centre- a job he maintains all year long.

Excited to be a Blue Bomber, Pitcher is ready to give his all to the team, and said he wants to bring the city another Grey Cup.

Seafood Vegetarian Buffet
Friday February 28th
Prairie Lights Restaurant
$6.25 plus tax
Doors open at 11:00 a.m. and close at 12:30 p.m.
The Chef Training Students
and their instructors hope to see you there!

Graduation Photos
Photos will be taken
March 17 to March 20.
Appointments taken after March 10th.
Check your class schedules
before you come in to make an appointment.
$5.00 deposit required
at time of appointment.

Health Awareness

Epilepsy

What is it?

◆ A disorder where sudden bursts of electrical energy in the brian result in seizures

Who gets it?

◆ Anyone - at any age regardless of sex or race.

What causes it?

◆ There are many causes. Some include:
- head injuries
- infections
- drug abuse
- alcohol abuse
- tumors
- unknown - 50% of cases

How is it treated?

◆ 80% of people with epilepsy are controlled with medication which must be taken on a daily basis.

Can people with epilepsy be employed?

◆ Yes. Employment history of people with epilepsy indicated less sick time and fewer accidents on the job than the general work force. Limitations are placed on driver's licenses and some high risk occupations.

First aid tips for Epileptic seizures

Do:

◆ loosen tight clothing
◆ protect the person from self - injury; remove any dangerous objects near the victim
◆ remove eyeglasses
◆ keep airway open - turn victim gently on his/her side with head well back

Don't:

◆ attempt to control or restrain jerking limbs
◆ attempt to push anything between the teeth or put anything in his/her mouth
◆ give anything to drink while the person is unconscious

Call an ambulance if:

◆ The seizure is prolonged
◆ A second seizure follows the first or if the patient remains unconscious

compiled by the health centre

Jobs not there for Manitobans

Let us hope that this new budget includes more and fairer paying positions in Manitoba.

I have discovered what it is that Manitoba contributes to the gross domestic product the most...snow, snow removal, burgers/fries, minimum wage jobs and stupidity.

Unfortunately the latter commodity is not in demand and cannot be packaged for sale.

Unless, some entrepreneurial type could successfully market it like the Green Bay Packers put their frozen tundra up for consumption by the pound.

The only new crop of jobs arriving in Manitoba, rather than leaving, are call centre jobs.

At between $6.50 and $8.50 an hour, those jobs don't add much jingle to the jeans.

Young people have probably come to the conclusion that there is little or no future residing in Manitoba, especially Winnipeg.

If there is, somebody please give me reasons I should not feel the way I feel.

Until then, I just don't buy the media hype about the superior lifestyles in Manitoba.

I protest the agony and red tape that an average person who is job seeking has to suffer in order to become gainfully employed in MB.

By average I am refering to the physical single, white male description.

No visible minority, affirmative action, physically or mentally challenging or other trigger words lean in my favor as being hirable.

Since I enjoy no elite labeling or categorization, I am part of the bleak but real sub culture, the most invisible minority of all, the single, white male.

Although I began to recognize my situation way back in 1989 when I first moved from Alberta, I am thoroughly convinced that there are too many cattle grazing on the same job pasture.

I kept listening, thinking and believing the words of optimism the economic leaders uttered about better days coming around the corner, the next month, the next year....

But guess what.

There's just more tunnel at the end of the light.

There were announcements about more jobs from infrastructure funding to get people off welfare.

A flurry of economic activity is always supposed to generate jobs, but the day never arrives.

Unfortunately only a few will earn a respectable income as a result of working on Manitoba soil.

Second to no other, Winnipeg is the king of minimum wage and slave economy rules.

I stand to be corrected but there is just too large a number of people subsiding on welfare or barely existing in a work force of minimum wage employment.

Perhaps there is no utopia to migrate to, but local improvement is begging to be addressed.

-Charlie Nicol
Business Administration

Dear Reader,

If you'd like to voice something, anything at all, write a letter to the Editor. You can drop it off in our tiny grey mail box in the SA office or E-mail to us at...

projectr@post.rrcc.mb.ca

Or, if you'd just like to air your opinions, call us at 632-2479.

tks,

the Projector

Harassment Has No Place Here!

Red River Community College is an institution of higher learning - as such, behavior such as avoidance and exclusion, rude behavior, stereotyping, threats of reprisal/intimidation etc., should not be tolerated. The College has a harassment policy and provides to students and staff, the services of a Harassment Coordinator who can be reached at 632-2416 or through the Students' Association (Room DM20) at 632-2474.

In an effort to improve the existing system, your Students' Association would like to provide a peer-support system to those students experiencing harassment in any of its forms. For more information please contact the SA President, Cheryl Herda at 632-2474

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SA'S PEER SUPPORT SYSTEM OR TO VOLUNTEER CONTACT EITHER:

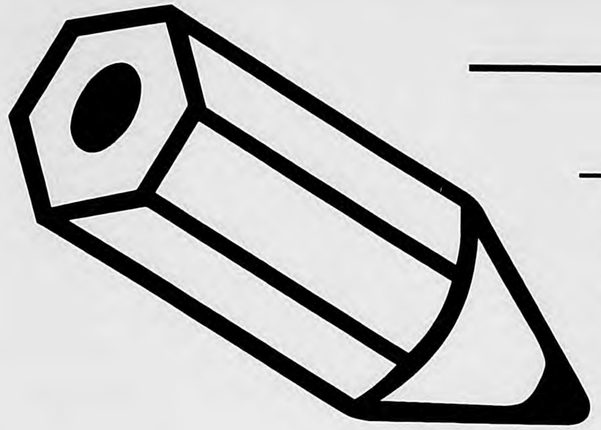
CHERYL HERDA, SA PRESIDENT 632-2474

OR

NAOMI LEVINE, HARASSMENT COORDINATOR 632-2107

WE NEED MALE AND FEMALE SUDENTS TO BE PEER SUPPORTERS WHO ARE:

1. NON-JUDGMENTAL
2. SENSITIVE
3. OPEN-MINDED



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Become an Editor of the Projector and discover the power of the medium.

Pick up applications in the SA office.
Deadline for applications is March 3.
All positions are paid.

Take your time at RRCC to use the opportunities you may never have again.

On the lighter side-Four guys and a trip to Minneapolis

By Chad Wassing
Feature Columnist

I guess that the old grey haired lady walking down the hall at the Select Inn in Bloomington, Minnesota had it right.

After watching three of my colleagues tear down the hall, she remarked, "Idiots, total idiots".

I can't really say I blame her when you consider what she had witnessed.

The first of the galloping three was holding a pair of boxers aloft, the second was laughing and spilling cheap American wobbly pop all over, and the third was cursing while naked as a jaybird.

Yes, the first edition of the Dunk and Drunk to Minneapolis was a total success.

Three days, no arrests. Sounds like a well executed trip.

Now, I realize, being a figure of extreme stature around campus, it is my duty to inform the masses of the dos and donts of American big city travels.

Hint #1: Yes, we can drink way more than the arrogant Yankees, and yes, the beer is so very cheap.

However, as I found out, do not EVER try to go drink for drink with a Syrian pilot.

It's just not worth it.

Believe me.

Hint #2: While in a foreign city, one should always check out local arts and culture.

Being the connoisseurs that we are, our first stop on the arts scene was Hooter's Restaurant.

Fabulous, truly one of life's great experiences.

Unfortunately, we did not have time to sample the wonderful exotic dancing that Minneapolis offers.

Hint #3: When hosting a party in one's hotel room, the wise traveller will always check the identification of his or her guests.

The suggested range of ages should be after junior high, and before senility.

If you must allow minors in, deny any involvement. Ask two of my friends.

They have the denial part down to a 'T'.

Hint #4: If at all possible, do not budget any time for sleeping. Sleep is a party killer, and leaves you open to various forms of abuse from your roommates.

Toothpaste was the weapon of choice this weekend, finding it's way into shoes, hair and ears of sleeping guests.

In the absence of toothpaste, shaving cream is a ready substitute.

Hint #5: This one is the important.

On the way home, your fellow travellers will ask to stop for food and beverage.

Under no circumstances let them eat chili.

I experienced a nine hour van ride, and chili in four of us.

Not a good combination, let me tell you.

Well, there you have it.

Following these rules will give you a good start on your own American Adventure.

By the way, plans have already been hatched for a sequel to this little excursion, this one to see the Twins during the summer.

Although no date or time line has been set yet, it's safe to assume that this one will be as idiotic as the last.

To signal or not to signal

By Hans Ongsansoy
Staff Writer

Imagine that it's rush hour.

It's been a long day, and you can't wait to get home.

You're almost there. Just a few precious blocks more.

As you line up at a red light to turn left, you look down to switch the station on your radio.

For a brief moment, it flashes in your head to flick your left turn signal on.

You dismiss the thought quickly, too wrapped up in deciding which is less worse, listening to Celine Dion, or eighties Rush.

When you look up, the left turn arrow is flashing.

The first car in line is a little slow to react, but eventually gets it in gear and starts moving.

You start to creep forward too, slowly, following the lead of the little car in front of you.

As more cars make the turn, you give a little more gas, anxious to make the turn yourself, and get home.

Again, you think to yourself that maybe you should flick your left turn signal on. It's not too late, is it?

Nooo, it's not too late, but it is a lot of trouble.

I just want to get home, you say to yourself.

The little car in front of you is almost to the intersection, when the arrow starts flashing yellow.

"Oh, go little car," you whisper, "come on, please make it."

The little car doesn't seem to hear your pleas. It just putt, putts through the intersection with the same sense of nonurgency it had before.

Then and there you decide you're going through no matter what.

You deserve to make this light, you tell yourself.

You deserve to get home.

By the time you enter the intersection, the arrow has stopped flashing yellow, and is now bright red.

You dismiss this information as irrelevant.

"I'm turning left," you say, "I deserve it."

Everyone cheats a little.

Anyone else would try to make this light, wouldn't they?

The answer is, by most accounts, yes.

There is only one teeny, tiny, ittcy bittcy, little problem.

The cars heading in the opposite direction are just as anxious to get home as you are.

As soon as your arrow turns red, their light is turning green. The first car in line takes off.

You are only halfway through the intersection.

The charging car hits you dead on.

Tires screech and glass shatters.

Your car spins around, almost 180 degrees.

You, fortunately, are not hurt.

"How could you have hit me?" you ask aloud.

"Didn't you see that I was making a left turn?"

The other driver looks at you square in the face.

"I thought you were going straight," he says.

You spend the next hour exchanging "particulars," and waiting for the tow truck.

Tomorrow, you have to take the bus.

It might be days, or even weeks, before you get your car back. It's not your fault though, you think to yourself.

The blame has to be at least 50/50, right?

When you finally do get home you think about it some more.

It may not be your fault, but was it really too much trouble to flick your left turn signal on anyway?

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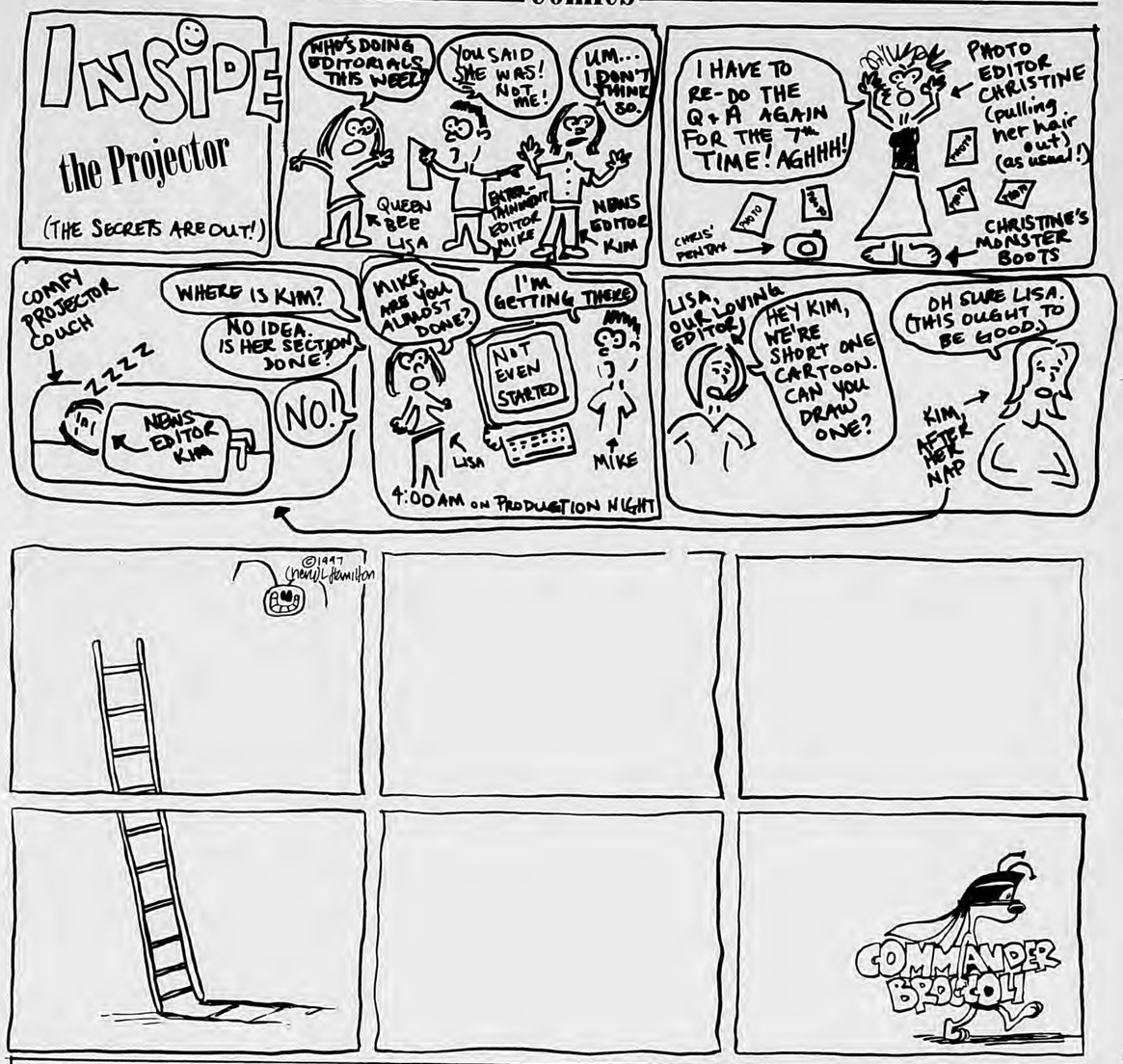

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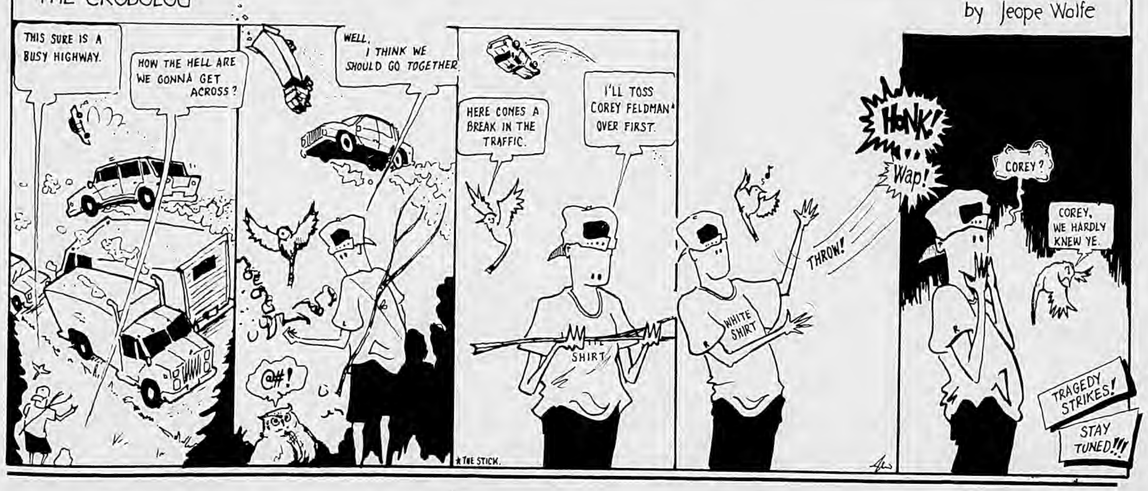
by Jeope Wolfe