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THE PROJECTOR
RED RIVER COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER
February 9, 2004

CMOR future stabilizing

Forum breathes new life into original RRC radio station

by Sandra Honke

With Valentine's Day approaching, there couldn't be a better time to celebrate relationships, especially the new found relationship between CMOR and CKIC, Red River College's radio stations.

At a Jan. 30 forum, representatives from the Students' Association, CMOR, CKIC and the creative communications program brainstormed together about the future of CMOR, opening up the lines of communication between the Princess Street and Notre Dame campus radio stations.

"The meeting went really well and I think it was good for the two sides to meet and figure out what each other's all about," says CKIC station manager, Rick Everett.

A CMOR representative shared Everett's enthusiasm on the discussions held at the forum.

"I'm really excited about the opportunity for both stations, because each station will be able to focus on college events while maintaining their own identity," says Chrystal Veroba, CMOR assistant station manager.

"Ultimately, we decided that CMOR would establish a working relationship with CKIC, bringing both campuses together," says Veroba. "This working relationship with CKIC will bring CMOR to a new level of professionalism."

Although Veroba and CMOR manager Jeff Boivon are still developing a plan for what the next year will look like for the radio station, some aspects of its restructuring are in motion.

"We're already in the midst of purchasing some new hardware for the station, and to turn it into a remote production facility is what we want it to be, and also to do live DJ shows," says Becky Turner, SA VP Finance. "It's going to require us to purchase some additional software and the Students' Association will be funding all of that."

Although CMOR DJs will be able to produce material for airtime on CKIC, there will be some limits.

"It's not as though everyone who's on CMOR will be able to get airtime on CKIC, simply because at CKIC our first priority is to get creative communication students on the air. That's what the station was designed for," says Everett. "But there will be some slots for the 'best of the best' at CMOR and regardless what happens to CMOR, we will carry on that program sharing situation."

No matter what the future holds for CMOR, CKIC still has a plan in mind.

"So if CMOR remains on the air, they will produce programming for us at that campus, and if they come off the air, I would still like to see that studio remain as a remote production studio for CKIC," says Everett. "So that students at Notre Dame and the faculty there will have access to a studio without having to come all the way down to Princess Street. It's just a lot more convenient having a studio there too."

But for now, it doesn't seem that much will change.

"CMOR will maintain the same role and may evolve or change further down the road," says Turner.

One thing that will change is the airing of other non-RRC radio stations, such as Power 97, at the Notre Dame campus during their down-time.

"CMOR will continue to be cast over the airwaves at the Notre Dame campus," says Veroba. "While periodically airing CKIC throughout the day when there is no DJ scheduled to spin."

Photo by Sandra Honke

Veroba is optimistic about the future of CMOR

Student pilot grounded

by Marc Zienkiewicz

The parent of an RRC student whose son was kicked out of the aviation management program is outraged by the treatment he's received at the hands of both the college and the Winnipeg Flying Club (WFC), which jointly operates the program with the college.

Linda, who requested her last name not be printed, says her son Jason was told by the Flying Club that they would not recognize him as a pilot, despite him having received his private pilot's license in November from Flying Colours pilot training school.

"He passed all Canada Transport tests and had his license in his hand," says Linda. "The Flying Club told him he did not meet the academic requirements."

Linda says the Flying Club requires a pilot to have a minimum average of 70 in order to graduate from the flying portion of the program. Because her son's average at Flying Colours was 65, she said the WFC no longer wanted him in the program. She also says the Flying Club penalized her son for atten-

(continued on page 2)

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Spring break breaks ranks

Student consensus a mixed bag

by Jessica Krawec

Spring break is up in the air for creative arts students at Red River College.

The RRC Student's Association is waiting for a response from college administration about the students' right to a spring break. The SA says it fully supports the possibility of a student strike

"The last thing we heard, they're (the college) still going with a mini-break but it is open to discussion," says SA Vice President of Princess Street, Sarah Hodges. "The ball is in the students' court, but they have the support of the SA."

The creative arts programs had to trade in their spring break for an earlier end date due to a switch from the trimester to the semester schedule. This has caused bitterness among a handful of students who feel cheated at the four-day weekend offered instead.

If students wish to strike during the week of March 6 to 14, they have the right to, according to the SA. College policy says a student can be withdrawn for missing classes.

But Twyla Eagle, director of public relations and marketing for the college, told the Winnipeg Free Press in December that no student would be penalized for missing classes.

The consensus among students is mixed. A large group of students are against the idea of a spring break and a strike, as expressed in an editorial in the last issue of the *Projector*.

"If it was there I'd take it, if not it doesn't matter. But I'd rather be off school early if that's the concession," says first-year creative communications student Rick Scherger.

"There is a better way of doing business, striking doesn't benefit anybody."

If that is the case for students, the SA will back down.

"We are a voice for the students but we can't voice only the opinion of a small group of the school," Hodges says. "It's hard to justify spending our time and resources on something no one really wants."

In the meantime, students and staff opposed to the mini-break will have to take matters into their own hands.

Steve Vogelsang, a journalism instructor for creative communications, is planning on holding an optional work period for his classes on Tuesday, March 2. Vogelsang is also pushing back a deadline on an assignment to Friday, March 5.

"I believe students need a soft spot in the schedule to allow them to catch their breath," says Vogelsang. "It is my right to change my curriculum to create a soft spot, but not to cancel classes."

Photo by Lindsay Winter

Some creative arts students may find themselves sitting at home instead of the beach this year because of the short break.

Pilot (cont'd from page 1)

dance because of his frequent trips to Flying Colours, despite the fact the WFC said Jason could get 30 hours of credit for his time there.

"(The WFC) expected him to attend all classes and still go to Flying Colours," says Linda.

She says that even though her son's license is recognized by Transport Canada, the Flying Club will not accept it as credit for the course.

"If Transport Canada says he passed, how can the Flying Club say he didn't?"

What frustrates her the most, she says, is that RRC has not followed the proper procedures after her son filed an appeal to get back into the course. She says RRC chairperson of hospitality David Rew would not support the appeal, so her son stopped attending classes.

"(Dean of Student Services) Pat Bozyk confirmed with me that David Rew did not do what he was supposed to do. The buck stopped there, he dropped the ball by not putting his position in writing," she says.

According to Linda, Rew should have passed his opinion on to dean of business and creative arts Dave Williamson, who was supposed to carry the matter further.

"Williamson did not get together a review committee which was supposed to be composed of two members," she says. "The whole appeal process has been thrown out the window."

Jon Mertins, Students' Association VP of student affairs, says the appeal is now in the hands of Bozyk. Mertins says he cannot comment on specific aspects of the appeal or Jason's situation.

Representatives of the aviation management program did not return phone calls.

Students keep on puffin' despite program

RRC health centre manager Shane Wood disappointed by lack of interest

by Bryce J. McEwen

It's a testament to the 'never give up' attitude of Red River College students.

Kick Butt, an anti-smoking program urging staff and students to kick the habit, has received little support, leaving organizers unsure about the future of the event.

RRC in partnership with the Wellness Institute organized the campaign which began the second week of January.

"We were hoping for ten students, that's how many we had budgeted for, but we only ended up with one," says Shane Wood, manager of the health centre at RRC.

"We received funding from the provincial government for students, but not for staff. It cost $35 for students to join, with a $35 rebate if they were successful, so it wouldn't have cost the student anything, except for the products recommended by the physicians, like the patch or Zyban."

The Wellness Institute joined with second-year advertising students in the creative communications program to launch the event. Posters were distributed, staff and students were notified and ads and articles were published in the *Projector*. But still, only one person signed up.

Sandra Honke, a 29-year-old creative communications student, is the lone smoker willing to give up cigarettes.

"My older sister taught me how to smoke when I was in kindergarten," says Honke. "But I didn't start smoking until I was in grade five, my allowance wouldn't cover cigarettes when I was five years old."

"I promised my dad before he died that I would quit smoking, and that was a year and a half ago," says Honke. "This program is a good opportunity; it has a good reputation, and a low cost."

A lot of people think the value of these programs come from the strength in numbers, but with only one student, the numbers aren't very strong.

Honke was hoping more students would sign up for the program, but feels she can relate to the staff members as well as she could with the students.

"I'm shocked and disappointed that a program like this wasn't received, it stands a chance that it won't be run again," says Honke.

Wood thinks the reason more students aren't enrolled in the program is the desire to quit just isn't there.

"We only wanted people in the program who were ready to quit, most students are just not ready," says Wood. "Maybe it started too late, classes just got back and are in full swing, students are busy. We will try to offer the program again in the future though."

Eric Thiessen, 25, a smoker enrolled in the creative communications program, heard about the campaign but didn't look into it.

He agrees with Wood; students have to be ready to quit.

"Your mind has to be 100 per cent into quitting, because if you're not, the first time you have a beer, you're going to be looking for that puff," says Thiessen.

"My dad always said he'll quit smoking one way or the other. Either you quit smoking or smoking quits you."

Photo by Marc Zienkiewicz

Anti-smoking group lobbies for school smoking ban

by Chris Kitching

Smoking should be banned from all school facilities and grounds in Manitoba, says an anti-smoking lobby group that is taking steps to make sure the province butts out.

And while the Manitoba Tobacco Reduction Alliance (MANTRA) is more worried about cigarettes being expelled from all high schools and below, it also wants to see smoking nixed at post-secondary institutions.

"It's one of the measures that will assist in some way to... demoralize the use of tobacco by those who are thinking about taking it up," said Murray Gibson, the Winnipeg-based organization's executive director.

"Tobacco is a huge social problem. If we create non-smoking environments, it assists people who want to quit."

MANTRA is calling on all school boards, administrators, educators and parent groups to develop policies to make all school property smoke-free.

The recommendation is part of the group's second annual tobacco report card, which addresses and brings attention to specific issues surrounding smoking cessation and quitting programs.

The report card is split into six key initiatives that meet, exceed or rank below expectations, or are unacceptable.

Some school divisions in Manitoba have already imposed all-out smoking bans on their property. Red River College tried to enforce a similar ban in 1994 but it only lasted one month, said Daryl Nielsen, manager of environmental, health, safety and insurance services.

> "Tobacco is a huge social problem. If we create non-smoking environments, it assists people who want to quit."

The college's existing policy directs smokers to light up in designated areas around both of its Winnipeg campuses, he said.

Dave Pither, a second-year technical communication student, said he doesn't want to see a complete smoking ban enforced at post-secondary institutions.

"When I was a non-smoker I was always for smoker's rights," he said. "To (ban) smoking in public areas, on the streets and around the school is ridiculous."

Pither, 45, had stopped smoking 20 years ago because of his wife's asthma, but he sparked up again last year and hasn't quit since. He cites stress and "a hankering for a cigar" as the main reasons he's picked up the habit again.

"I'm fully aware of the so-called risks," said Pither, who intends to quit again once he is out of school. "But to be dictated as to what I can or cannot do on my own time on public property is nobody's business."

Bre-An Appler, 22, said she is content with the college's existing policy.

"I don't care if they are allowed to smoke on school grounds, as long as they have a designated area for it," the first-year graphic design student said.

Also in its report card, MANTRA recommended all pharmacies in Manitoba stop selling smokes.

According to the group, about 120 pharmaceutical outlets in Manitoba still sell cigarettes, while close to 250 other pharmacies do not have tobacco products on their shelves.

Gibson said the sale of cigarettes compromises a pharmacy's ability to promote the prevention of disease.

"It's a contradiction and may even be considered a conflict of interest," he said.

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OF APPLIED ARTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

2003-04

Diversity Events

FEBRUARY *Celebrate Black History Month!*

FEBRUARY 6

Chinese Lantern Festival Celebration!
Princess Street Campus - Atrium
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Chinese Cultural Displays
Calligraphy and Fortune Telling
The Great Chopstick Challenge - **Win Great Prizes!**
See the Lion Dance performed by members of the Manitoba Wushu Sport Institute

FEBRUARY 7 & 21

FREE ESL Workshop - Creative Approaches to the English Language
Princess Street Campus
9 a.m. to 12 noon
All participants must register with the Diversity & Inclusive Initiatives Office.

Meltdown week Activities

FEBRUARY 10

Origami Workshop
Princess Street Campus - Multi-purpose Room
12 noon to 1 p.m.

FEBRUARY 11

Martial Arts Demonstration
Notre Dame Campus - South Gym
2:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 13

Burnt
Highly acclaimed Aboriginal world-music group.
Notre Dame Campus - Tower Lounge
12 noon to 1 p.m.

Rocalypso
Hear the rich rhythms of this exciting Caribbean band
Princess Street Campus - Atrium
12 noon to 1 p.m.

FEBRUARY 18

Coffieman!
African Dance and Music Workshop
Notre Dame Campus - Library Hallway
12 noon to 1 p.m.

FEBRUARY 20 & 27

Foreign Film Fridays
Notre Dame Campus - Tower Lounge
Films start at 12 noon

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- **Sound Barriers with Druid and DJ Brace**
- **Traditional Yoruba (Nigerian) Storytelling with Bola Olorundare**
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DEADLINE: March 15th, 2004 at 3 p.m.

For more info or pick up your entry form contact:
The Diversity & Inclusive Initiatives Office

Coordinated by:
The Student & Community Advisor - Diversity and Inclusive Initiatives Office
F214 - 2055 Notre Dame Avenue
E-mail: areynolds@rrc.mb.ca
www.rrc.mb.ca/cid

If you have a diversity event planned for March and would like it included in the next calendar, call: 632-2404

Workshops specific to your area can be arranged, call: 632-2404

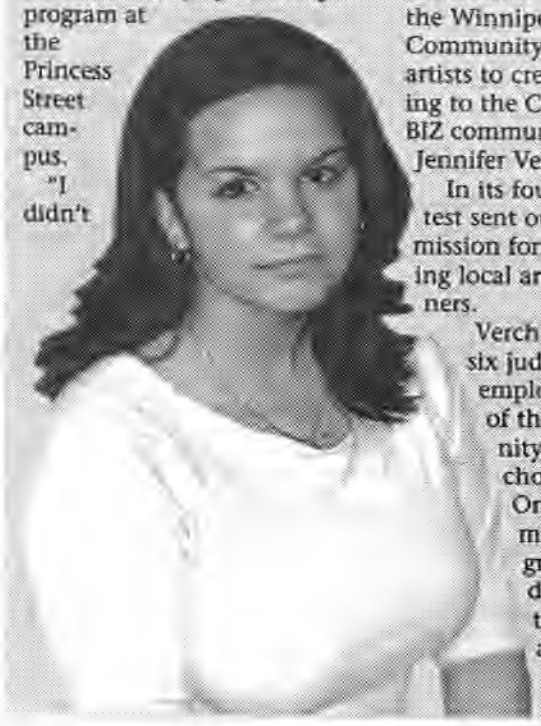
Banner year for RRC graphic design student

Downtown Winnipeg BIZ honours Guy by displaying artwork in Chinatown

By Shannon Martin

A Red River College student is being recognized for her artistic talent after winning a banner designing contest in celebration of the Chinese New Year.

"I'm excited," says Kristen Guy, a third-year student in the advanced graphic design program at the Princess Street campus.



"I didn't believe it at first. I've never won any contests before."

Guy, 22, spent approximately 18 hours creating her banner, and was honoured at a 10-course Chinese New Year celebration dinner, which included an unveiling of her winning piece.

The contest, hosted by the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ and the Winnipeg Cultural and Community Centre asked local artists to create banners relating to the Chinese zodiac, says BIZ communications manager Jennifer Verch.

In its fourth year, the contest sent out over 100 submission forms in October, asking local artists to create banners.

Verch says the panel of six judges, including BIZ employees and members of the Chinese community, had a tough time choosing the winner. One-third of the submissions were RRC graphic design students who entered the contest as an assignment.

"The banners really speak about the quality of the graphic design program. The quality comes out, and they (graphic design students' work) stood out from the other submissions," says Verch.

"It was a difficult decision to make."

Guy's winning banner, designed for the year of the monkey, hangs on over 30 lampposts around Chinatown.

"Because it's a banner, the key thing is for it to look good at street level," says Verch.

"(It has) to have impact when people drive by."

Guy also won a $600 honorarium, which she hasn't spent yet.

"I put it away for bills." Guy laughs. "Every little bit helps."

Graphic design students donate half of any money won from projects, like the banner contest, to the program's open house in April. The money goes towards lighting and display equipment.

But that doesn't bother Guy, who hopes to work in a small design studio after graduation.

The banner is a great portfolio piece, she says.

Photo by Lindsay Winter

Guy's banner hangs from 30 Chinatown lampposts

Salvation Army program helps less fortunate

Winnipeg students give up Friday nights to make a difference

by Jean-Marc Prévost

It is cold out," says Mark Young, organizer for the Salvation Army Frontline program. "Minus 52 with the wind-chill. We're going to be handing out blankets tonight."

It's 6 p.m. on a Friday night in January. Twenty-two-year-old Deanne Wells spends her Friday nights at Weetamah, a church in Winnipeg's downtown core. Tonight I am tagging along. Every week, she and a few other students get together, hoping to make a difference in the lives of downtown Winnipeg's less fortunate.

The doors to the church open at 7 p.m. to serve a hot meal, but already people are huddled in the front foyer.

It isn't long before the place becomes a bustle of activity. Coffee is percolating, hot chocolate is boiling over on the stove, and the grill is sizzling with huge homegrown beef patties donated by a steer farmer from outside Winnipeg.

Then Mark opens the doors. I stand near the back of the kitchen, nervously watching the people filing in – people I usually cross the street to avoid. Deanne, however, is in the front serving everyone. Up to 70 people are here tonight. After the line-up at the kitchen counter slows down, she goes out to top up people's coffee.

There are all kinds of people here: old men and women, teenagers, young mothers and children, among others. Deanne stops to talk with everyone. Everyone smiles, greeting Deanne like an old friend. She sings B-I-N-G-O and plays checkers with the kids. She listens to old George talk about the war.

Sitting at the front of the room is a middle-aged man with a bandage on his forehead. He seems as uncertain about me as I am about him, but he agrees to talk with me.

> "You've got to remember that they're people just like us...only less fortunate."

"My name's Dave," he says. "And that's my best friend Riley."

Riley smiles and nods furiously.

"Mark and Deanne sure are good to us," Dave says. "I don't know what I would do if they weren't here."

Earlier in the year, Deanne helped Dave get a place to live by showing him how to fill out a housing application form and preparing him for the interview.

Back in the kitchen, I tell Deanne how nervous I felt walking around in the dining hall.

"You've got to remember that they're people just like us," she says. "Only... less fortunate."

Pointing to a pile of old firefighter jackets, she says, "Put on one of these. It's time to go out in the van."

On the side of a huge navy blue Dodge are the faded words, "Street Patrol."

"We're basically looking for anyone who needs some help," explains Deanne. "There's never a dull moment on street patrol."

Driving along in the van, I see a part of Winnipeg that doesn't look too pretty at night. We go down to old factories and railway yards, where Deanne says it's common to see people passed out and freezing. Deanne and our driver, Mike, are surprised that no one is out tonight.

"I've never seen it so empty," says Mike. "It must just be too cold."

We drive around for a while longer, giving a ride to a couple that looks like they've been walking outside for too long. We stop and give hot chocolate to some prostitutes. Then, not too far from the church, we see a man staggering across the street.

"It's Catfish," calls Deanne.

Mike pulls over and jumps out. Deanne gets a hot chocolate ready. Catfish smiles as he recognizes them.

"D-D-Deanne – Deanne you know me," he stutters.

"Yes I know you Catfish, why don't you come back with us and we'll get you a burger." Deanne smiles.

When we get back to Weetamah, things are winding down. Kids are still playing midnight challenge, an all-night game of floor hockey in the gym, but the dining room is cleared out. I stop to talk with Mark Young.

"If it wasn't for the Deannes of the world," he says, "I think there would be a lot of people in Winnipeg tonight who would be at a loss. She has so much to share, whether it's just with her smile or a good conversation. She has a passion for humanity and it shows through with her warm kindness. She's a caring, compassionate person."

"I don't think I am changing the world," says Deanne, "but I know a few hours of my Friday evening can make a difference between a good week or a bad week for someone, and I think it's worth it."

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A little budgeting goes a long way

by Ryan Hladun

They say college prepares you for life. Yeah, there's nothing like juggling a full slate of classes while holding two jobs, where half of those $7-an-hour pay cheques go to rent, with the other half going to monthly credit card, car loan, and student loan payments. This leaves little to no cash for spending to get a jumpstart on the grind that is adulthood. Isn't life great? Well, it actually can be relatively stress-free if you budget properly.

But budgeting is not Brian Maddox's strong point. In fact, if a matter of life and death depended on him saving money, he wouldn't last very long. Only in his second-year of a bachelor of arts degree at the University of Winnipeg, Maddox is behind in his payments to three maxed-out credit cards, has interest building on two student loans and has his landlord threatening eviction on a daily basis demanding overdue rent. Life is tough for the Wal-Mart sports department employee.

"I'm like the prime example of what not to do as a student on your own. But there's only so much you can do with so little pay, you know. Plus, I like to have some fun sometimes too," said Maddox, 23, whose mood has not faltered with his credit rating.

Many students share Maddox's attitude and fail to see the seriousness of growing financial problems.

"I figure whether I pay now or pay later, it doesn't really matter. At least later, after I get my degree, I'll have the money to pay everything off," said Samantha Jarvis, 19, a first-year University of Winnipeg student who took out an $8,000 student line of credit in September.

But making the necessary monthly payments to every loan and card taken out is crucial to maintaining a good credit rating.

According to Erin Sacco, a financial advisor with TD Canada Trust, bad credit can cause major problems later in a student's life.

"I can't stress enough how important it is for students to keep on top of their monthly payments," Sacco said. "Getting future car loans, or mortgages, or a loan to start your own business can be near impossible with bad credit."

Sacco said budgeting is the best and simplest way to get out and stay out of debt and bad credit.

"Even the smallest paycheque can go far," she said. "Write out a plan on paper. Start with your paycheque and divide it up between all of your expenses – food, living, utilities, loans and whatever else."

Sacco said to only designate the minimum amount required for a loan or credit card payment, and that anymore is unnecessary if you can't afford it.

She also stressed the importance of putting small amounts of budgeted money away in a savings account and into investments.

> "I can't stress enough how important it is for students to keep on top of their monthly payments."

"Always think ahead. Even small amounts contributed to a RRSP or savings account can build up over time. Just make sure you don't find yourself dipping into those funds when you don't need to be," she said.

That's the biggest problem most students find difficult to overcome, she said – the urge to break away from the budget or to impulsively spend money they don't have.

"It's so hard because everything in college life is so tempting – fast food, socials, entertainment," said Maddox. "You know you shouldn't, but you always make little excuses to yourself to block out the potential backlash from your mind."

According to Steve Ritchie, 28, surviving college on a low wage while living on your own is all about confidence and self-control. Ritchie got through an engineering degree at the University of Manitoba as a computer sales clerk.

"I took out two student loans in five years and started making monthly payments after using them for tuition," said Ritchie. "And now I'm well on my way to paying them back in full. All it took was rationing my money, and keeping myself strictly in line.

"Sure it wasn't very fun, but now I'm having the time of my life, and will be debt free in no time."

RRC student services can make life easier

by Carie Jones

It's unfortunate that as students we're so busy we rarely have time to stop and smell the roses, never mind recognize that we have a lot of services available to us to help ease the stress of being a student. So to make it easier, a list of services has been compiled in the hopes that you can take advantage of what RRC has to offer.

Health Centre

The Health Centre, available at both campuses, offers personal and confidential health services to all Red River students and staff. It helps students manage stress by promoting a healthy lifestyle. The centre offers a Wellness program which covers many health issues including cancer, AIDS, and sexually transmitted disease. They offer full confidentiality of all personal health files or information.

The Notre Dame Health Centre is available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. No appointment is necessary.

The Princess Street campus offers health services two times a month in room P105. The centre is open this month from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 16 and Tuesday Feb. 17.

Writing Skills Drop-in Centre

Students can learn to improve their writing skills at the Princess Street campus's Writing Skills Drop-in Centre. Topics include letter and report writing, sentence and paragraph structure, and theme and vocabulary development

The program is offered Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in room P-212.

ESL and Immigrant Student Services

The Student and Community Advisor-Diversity and Inclusive Initiatives office helps students who've immigrated to Canada learn English as a second language.

This program is offered in room F214 on the Notre Dame Campus.

Students should call 632-2099 to make an appointment.

Chaplaincy Services

A chaplaincy program is available on both campuses for students looking for guidance or questioning faith or spiritual issues. Three Chaplains are available to offer emotional and spiritual support in times of crisis or just there to listen. Services are offered in a safe and private atmosphere and are available Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information call 632-2061.

Support Centre

RRC offers two support centres, located at both campuses, that offer students counseling on educational, personal and financial issues. Other services available include helping students with learning disabilities, exam accommodation, sign language interpreting and tutoring.

The Educational Support Centre is offered at the Notre Dame campus room D104. Call 632-2335

The Learning Assistance Centre is located on the second floor of the Princess Street campus room P210. Call 949-8375.

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The RRC Energy Efficiency Program in conjunction with Manitoba Hydro Powersmart will be displayed in the Library Hallway at the Notre Dame Campus, February 11th. Check out our booth for an opportunity to win an energy efficiency prize pack, generously provided by Manitoba Hydro.

Energy Awareness Quiz

1. L.E.D. Christmas Lights have a rated life of _____ hours.
2. Typical incandescent Christmas lights have a rated life of _____ hours.
3. A 15" monitor uses ___ watts during use and ___ watts in sleep mode.
4. Compact Fluorescent Lamps will last up to ___ times longer than standard incandescent bulbs and use _____ less energy.
5. Cold air can enter through _____ _____ and cause home heat loss. _____ _____ will solve this problem.

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Answer Key
1. 50,000
2. 600-1,000
3. 60, 5
4. 10, 70-85%
5. Electrical outlets, outlet insulators;

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Students' Association dismayed over spring break editorial

Dear Editor,

I wish to address the comments made in the previous issue of the *Projector*, in the opinion article regarding a group of creative communications students who are quite happy without a spring break and disappointed that the Students' Association has made this a priority in lobbying efforts.

I find it very unfortunate that this large group, as you put it, has remained silent. The Red River College SA is here to represent all students. The spring break issue, like any other issue, was identified by us as a priority as a result of feedback we had received from students. Many students (this year and last year) expressed deep concern regarding this issue and felt there was a need for a spring break. Therefore, the SA viewed it as a meaningful issue and thought that it was something students wanted us to fight for. If any of us (the executive or Student Advisory Board) was aware that there was a large group with a different opinion, we may have approached the issue differently. It is unfortunate that you chose to remain silent.

Becky Turner, VP Finance, Red River College Students' Association

Spring break helps student curb winter depression

Dear Editor,

I was just wondering if Mr. Zienkiewicz bothered to do any research regarding why "spring break" or "reading week" has so effortlessly become a standard in every school and institute of higher learning on this continent. Might it have a little something to do with reading week more commonly being referred to as "suicide week?" Perhaps it has some proven psychological value that the staff at RRC and Mr. Zienkiewicz have not taken into consideration.

I find that one precious week between December break and summer break intensely valuable. It allows me to regenerate my love of learning, renew my ability to stay focused, and curbs my yearly mid-February depression. Having to possibly endure a few more days at the end of the school year doesn't quite seem like much of a burden, everyone knows the end is almost near... it's in sight, it's attainable. In the middle of February, however, it is not. It is infinitely far away. It is so far, it's almost worth giving up.... but along comes that lovely break, bringing everything back into focus.

Some of us don't spend spring break "drinking and goofing off", some of us hard working students actually need that break to unwind, to catch up, to chill out. It is perhaps only Mr. Zienkiewicz's past experience that leads him to believe the only possible purpose for a week off in the middle of February or March is to "drink lots of booze and otherwise act like morons." I would just like to state for the record that I believe him to be wrong.

Anonymous

Editor's note:
Just a reminder, opinions hold more weight if a name is actually attached to it.

HAVE AN OPINION TO SHARE?

A RESPONSE TO SOMETHING YOU'VE READ IN THE *PROJECTOR*?

SOMETHING TO GET OFF YOUR CHEST?

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Crow more palatable than disrespectful students

by Sandra Honke

Eating crow: to be forced to accept a humiliating defeat.

Eating crow sucks, but this past week it was on the menu. I remember the first time I picked up an issue of the *Projector* and immediately noticed the typo, "Big Naked" (it was supposed to be Bif Naked). A big oops, as I saw it. So I took the liberty to walk up to the news editor and ask him, in my most pretentious voice, "doesn't anyone edit the school paper?" I, in my first semester ignorance, assumed editing the school newspaper was easy. So last issue, when a group of us first year students took over the paper while the second year students were busy at their work placements, I got a taste of reality and a big mouthful of scavenger bird. At five in the morning when we finally decided to put the *Projector* to bed, I knew I had been defeated. Typos galore infested our first attempt at stardom and when the second years returned, my words from last year came back to haunt me. "Doesn't anyone edit the school paper?" asked the editor smugly. Touché, my friend, touché!

I have something else to get off my chest. I am getting sick and tired of the lack of respect students are showing in classrooms. Constant outbursts, speaking out of turn, interrupting when others are talking, and the list goes on. When I attended other college institutions, this type of behaviour was frowned upon and dealt with immediately. Just once I would like to see an instructor at this college ask a student to leave. Yes, that's right. Kick their asses out the door for the remainder of the class. I came here to get an education, I am paying for it, and I think I deserve the right to be in an environment that's conducive to learning. I have taken it upon myself, on several occasions, to try to reduce the level of noise in the classroom by raising my voice and asking people to quiet down. Or in more extreme circumstances, shut up. I recognize this is not making me popular with my fellow classmates, but I often wonder if I don't do it, who will? When did teacher/student authority become so wishy-washy? When did society stop viewing instructors as people to look up to and respect? We are a group of adults(?), who aren't even able to make it through a 50-minute guest speaker seminar without being disruptive. The college spends time booking important speakers and we, in turn, act disrespectfully to potential future employment contacts. I am not the only one who feels frustrated by this behaviour. Students sneak up to talk to me when no one is looking, and share with me their mutual frustration with the noise levels in our classrooms and the constant lack of respect shown towards instructors. If you look closely during the class, you can see them, the respectful ones, exchanging glances, rolling their eyes back, quietly acknowledging an educational environment where they are the minority.

The importance of being courteous

by Alana Pona

The *Projector* newspaper relies heavily on student submissions. For many, the *Projector* is an incentive for creative communications students to publish their work. For others, it is the opportunity to contribute to a student organization within the college.

My position as interim news editor at the *Projector* has proved to be an eye-opening experience. Journalism is an interesting profession. The average journalist contacts about two to three people per news story, therefore the time comes when we meet, let's say, 'unhappy individuals.'

This past weekend while researching for a feature article, I had the wonderful opportunity to call a person for an interview. His response was blunt and I was told to call back in 15 minutes.

I shouldn't have bothered to contact this individual, because as it turns out, he has a hasty way of dealing with journalists. Each question I asked, for example, "Is this particular item inexpensive?" was 'ridiculous,' as he was eager to point out.

The conversation awkwardly turned to the worst when he kept repeating, "Don't interrupt me, let me finish" as he continued to rant about the topics he somehow didn't understand at the start of the conversation.

It was obvious that he had bad run-ins with journalists in the past, but hoping to sound courteous and professional, I anticipated that he would change his tone. This of course, did not happen.

He ended the conversation with his opinion about journalists.

"Journalism is similar to loft living," he said. "The profession seems intriguing at the start, but is actually not as great as it seems."

It was disheartening, being a college journalism student.

He repeated the line twice, and so I felt as though it was my time to say good-bye. But as I hung up the phone, I couldn't help but think about the public's perception about student journalists.

Journalism students are the same as any other student enrolled in a post-secondary institution. Students like myself, my colleagues at the *Projector* and my classmates, who have taken the step to get an education.

I don't believe people have the right to talk to journalists as though they are not living, breathing humans. Journalists give the world an understanding on topics that happen daily. We live to inform.

Therefore, when we call upon you for information, realize that we aren't calling to belittle and degrade you; we are calling for an understanding of a story, so we can make you, the citizens reading our material, know about the world around you.

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True to your school

by Ryan Hladun

I am a name, not a number. I have an instructor, not a professor. I know the students in my class by their personality, not by where they sit in the room. I believe in practical, relatable learning, not a century-old spoon-fed education. I can proudly wear my school's crest on my sweater.

My name is Ryan and I am a college student.

And I couldn't care less if anyone sees less of me because of it.

But, that wasn't always the case. I once felt inferior telling people Red River College is where I'd be going to school for the next two years.

"Community college?" They'd scoff with pity.

I'd then make up some excuse to bring myself back up to their level.

"I'm going to University after. It's only to see if I like the career choice," I'd pathetically say.

Not anymore.

There's this irritating perception out there in the world that, well, let me be blunt, college is for idiots and university is for smart people. College students got 60s in high school and university students got 90s. College students make up the bottom rung of society alongside high school dropouts and university students... well, you get the idea.

If there's a bigger crock of shit out there, I haven't seen it.

College, by far, better prepares you for the real world.

College teaches you how to interact with your fellow human being, how to network, and how to be involved at the grassroots of your career path.

In university, the person next to you changes from day to day, and everyone remains a total stranger. You'd also be lucky to even hear your career mentioned in any class for the first few years.

And in a working society that relies so heavily on quick and flawless practical functioning, hands-on experience is much more valuable than learning how the Europeans came to North America.

So, why do we look so meticulously toward university degrees as the basis for employment?

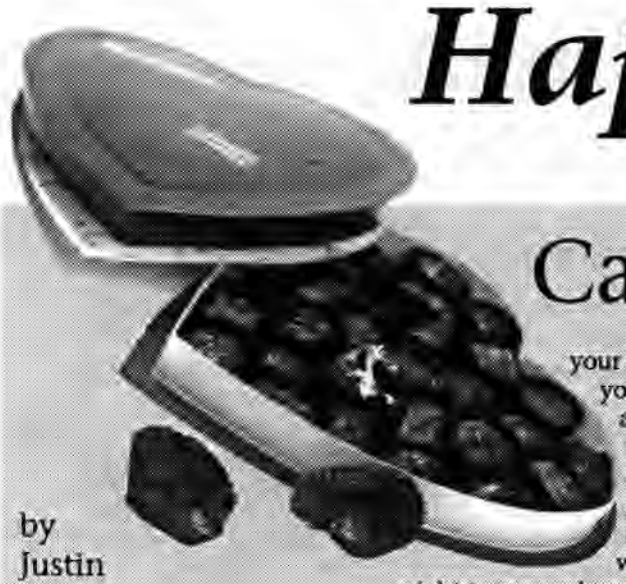
Sure, obviously if you want to be a doctor or a lawyer or a scientist, studying eight hours every night for five years is really the only option. But not everyone wants to be one of those.

If a university degree is the be all and end all of what an employer looks for, why are so many students finding themselves jobless after spending four years of their life at university, only to then enroll in a college program?

You'd be surprised at how high RRC's graduation-to-employment ratio is.

Be proud to be a college student.

Happy Valentine's Day



Canoodling corners on campus

by Justin Deeley

So it's Valentine's Day, and you and your best girl (or boy, whatever orientation you may be, I make no judgment on this matter) are students here at the Princess Street campus. You want to spend that special day in the most romantic way, in an intimate area all your own. You want to woo in a discreet location that's just right for this momentous occasion. You want to impress the lover in your life with your passionate nuances, and surprise him or her with a night to remember.

Well, I say why leave? Stay here and celebrate your Valentine's Day to the fullest at the Princess Street campus.

Can you say, incredibly sexy décor? Maybe you haven't noticed through all the second-hand brick and visible piping, but all of the concrete poles holding this place up are painted red. The architects really had St. Valentine in mind when designing the place. Nothing says passion and love like a little scarlet heavy metal. Yes, the ambiance in this school is fantastic, especially if your special someone is a construction worker or a 30's grain exchange employee. They'll feel right at home with your choice of loving locale.

Looking for a little dinner this Feb. 14? The Princess Street campus can sure deliver in this department. If it's not the red Valentine Smarties currently on sale at the Mercantile or the Boston cream at Tim Hortons, the wide range of food at this campus is really something else. You and your loved one can feel free to wait in line for some soup of the day at the food services stand or enjoy a frozen burrito from the Mercantile and then carry it over to the rows upon rows of McDonald's seating at the other end of the building. Wash it all down with a medium café mocha or English toffee in a brown paper cup. Wow! That sounds nice! Too bad Valentine's doesn't fall on a Thursday this year! You could have bought a whole cold pizza for only 12 bucks!

Now the gifts! Send your loved one a flower e-mail from one of the many computer labs here on campus. Your lover's heart will melt when he or she opens their e-mail account to find a picture of roses that cost you nothing!

Finally, it's time to get intimate. At this school the opportunity for love is great. Anyone who puts this many "break-out rooms" in a school made up of primarily horny twenty-year-olds and doesn't think they'll turn into "make-out rooms" needs to go back to school. Some are even made for as many as ten people, if you're into that kind of thing (again, I make no judgment on this matter).

And if one of the make-out rooms is getting a little steamy, crack open one of the windows and take a romantic midnight swim!

Yes, the Princess Street campus is definitely the place to be this Valentine's Day.

I'm already making my reservation for the best hard plastic cafeteria seat in the joint!

Huddle up boys, this is a valuable lesson

by Chad Scarsbrook

Believe it or not, Valentine's Day isn't just another holiday conjured up by some greeting card or chocolate company to sucker you out of money. At least that's what my fiancé tells me.

Yes, I am engaged. That means I have a lot of Valentine's Day experience. But rather than preach to you about what to do (besides, you already think I'm crazy for getting married), I'm here to tell you what not to do.

My research is collected from first-hand experience, correspondence from others, and field experiments. It has been an extensive project that took many months to complete, but I believe it can make men better.

Without further adieu, here is a selection of what not to do on a Valentine's Day date.

1. Don't use the "two-can-dine-for $5.99" coupons you've been saving for Valentine's Day dinner. The fact of the matter is that girls like (and expect) to be pampered on this day.

2. Don't offer to go on Temptation Island to "test your relationship".

3. Don't give your date Slim Fast, facial hair removal cream or feminine hygiene items as a gift. This one is very important.

4. Unfortunately, the phrase "diamonds are a girl's best friend" that we've ingrained in our heads for years is not a myth. Don't forget that.

5. Don't eat garlic or onions before the date. You'd think that would be common sense. It's not.

6. Don't be late. If you have to pick her up at 8 p.m., tape the last period of the hockey game, or save the video game. You want to start the evening off right, and she wouldn't understand anyway.

7. Don't be cheap. A friend of mine once told me that her boyfriend "didn't believe in Valentine's Day" and that she got nothing from him. He ended up getting nothing from her either.

8. Don't take her to a place you've never been or haven't scoped out beforehand. I've got some first-hand knowledge on this one. For my first Valentine's Day with my now-fiancé many years ago, we went to a restaurant that had offered coupons in the newspaper for a Valentine's Day feast. Well, the place was a dump, the service was lousy, and the meal was putrid. Live and learn.

9. Don't get hammered during dinner unless she does too. Unfortunately, she won't.

This information has helped me greatly over the years. I pass it on to you in great faith. Good luck and have a wonderful Valentine's Day!

Heart-day history

by Heather Esselmont

Why do we celebrate Valentine's Day, anyway? Well, allow me to enlighten you with this brief history.

It's quite simple. As the legend goes, there was a priest in Rome named St. Valentine. The emperor at that time decided to ban marriages, because single men made better soldiers than married ones. St. Valentine would not accept this and continued to marry couples in secrecy. He was found out and thrown in jail. There he fell in love with a girl. He would send her letters and sign them, "from your Valentine." The phrase caught on, and Valentine's Day was born. To commemorate the anniversary of Valentine's death, it was made Feb.14.

Valentine's Day began to gain popularity around the 17th century. By the middle of the 18th century, friends and lovers would exchange handwritten notes and soon ready-made cards replaced handwritten ones, as they were an easy way for people to express their emotions. Now, an estimated one billion greeting cards get sent around the world each year.

And remember those candy hearts you would hand out in elementary school with loving messages on them, like "be my valentine"? Well, in the mid 1800s, the candy company NECCO created what is now the conversation heart. Originally, messages were written on baseball bats, or horseshoes, which would allow for a longer message. But, as time went on, the sayings got short and sweet, and the candy eventually became a heart.

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PDA poses "heeby-jeeby" problem

by Loren March

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, couples seem extra eager to display their undying affection for each other. It's hard not to notice all that love in the air, all those engagement ring commercials on TV, and all those couples desperately trying to think of the perfect romantic Valentine's Day date.

It's also hard not to make fun of all those icky, mushy couples with their 'true love' and public humping. It's almost become a commonly accepted fact that most romantic couples are just plain old disgusting to the rest of society.

"I hate that lovey dovey stuff, when couples cling to each other like there's no tomorrow," says Red River College student Michael Wur, 30. "There's a time and place. Do you have to hold the other person down if it's not a windy day?"

Others expressed a similar distaste for those clingy, obsessed-with-each other couples, who just can't possibly drag themselves away from their other half for even a minute.

"You always feel like a third wheel, with all that constant groping and kissing," says RRC student Ian Wheeler, 23. "It's never a good idea to hang out with couples. They're lame."

Granted, not all couples are "lame." Nobody really seems to mind those couples who actually maintain their own separate identities and don't give in to what I like to call "Bennifer Syndrome." Heck, people don't even seem to mind a little public ass-grabbing here and there, as long as the grabber and grabbee can still go out with other people and carry on a conversation without mentioning their boyfriend or girlfriend in every sentence.

But there is definitely some stereotypical couple behaviour that gives both unattached and attached individuals the heeby-jeebies. These are the top five romance faux-pas (according to Red River College students) that you and your love monkey should NOT commit.

1. GETTING PHYSICALLY GLUED TOGETHER
"I hate when couples feel like they have to sit in the same side of the booth at a restaurant."

2. GETTING "WHIPPED" AND BOSSED AROUND
Don't you feel like less of a boyfriend and more of a manservant when your girlfriend is always waving her finger at you to do something? And what about those guys who tell their girlfriends where they're allowed to hang out and who with?
"I hate when guys freak out and say stuff like 'you were in the same ROOM as my girlfriend? Motherf**ker!'"

3. BREAKING UP, AND MAKING UP, A HUNDRED TIMES.
Grade eight was ages ago, people.

4. BABY-TALKING
Calling someone "baby" and "honey" and "muffin" makes other people want to call you a "wanker."

5. MATCHMAKING
"I hate how couples are always trying to set you up with all their single friends... jackasses."

Valentine's horrors worse than Halloween

by Julie Horbal

For a holiday that's supposed to be one of the most beautiful, there is no uglier day of the year than Valentine's Day.

Things like pink and red hearts surrounded in lace that would normally be charming and delightful, are annoying and obtrusive everywhere you turn.

Cupcakes slathered in pink syrupy goop and heart-shaped candy bits prey on the innocent with all their cavity-causing goodness.

Canoodling couples litter the streets, holding hands and staring obnoxiously into each other's glowing eyes.

For those who are chronically unattached, attached and unhappy, or just fed up with their philandering love lives, Valentine's Day proves to be more like Halloween than "heart day."

Let me elaborate.

Last year, I (the chronic one-dater) spent the month leading up to Valentine's Day questioning my quasi-relationship with my sort-of-on, sort-of-off jockstrap of a boy friend (notice the space between words – not a boyfriend, not a friend, but something in between), only to have him politely inform me he'd be spending "the big day" with someone else.

Then I spent the week leading up to Valentine's Day writing a bitter diatribe against all those couples who I would be forced to look at on the "most wonderful day of the year for lovers."

Then came the big day itself. And I spent it going from airplane to airplane and state to state on the way to Arizona - with my parents. I spent my "romantic" Valentine's Day dinner with Russ and Pat eating a pepperoni and mushroom pizza from a Pizza Hut/Sam's Steak kiosk in the Denver International Airport.

Now, don't get me wrong, I don't have a problem with my parents. However, I would be lying if I said we were all in the company we desired that evening, sitting in a cozy booth (maybe it was more like a cold steel airport table) underneath the mood-lighting (icy fluorescent light bulbs), and listening to music ("We are now boarding Flight 596 to Anchorage. Ding"). It wasn't the most passionate moment of my life, to say the least.

To compensate for the experience, I spent the days since last Valentine's Day vowing to make this one perfect. The perfect evening, the perfect outfit, the perfect candlelight and music, and of course, the perfect date. I even got the most perfect surprise of all – my parents are planning a Valentine's Day trip out of town, without me, for the first time. Ever.

But I neglected to take one little thing into account. I could make the evening and buy the outfit, steal the sweetest smelling candles from my best friend's scented collection, and borrow the sappiest music. I could not, however, make, buy, steal or borrow the perfect date.

And, strangely, I don't even care. There's absolutely nothing special about Valentine's Day, and frankly, nothing so special about romance right now.

Now I'm just a single girl looking forward to spending an evening with all of my single friends, watching girlie movies and drinking wine from the bottle. They're the girls who'll be there the next time my heart gets broken by "the perfect guy".

It's a just a shame that so many of us girls have wasted a whole year worrying about a day that's, truly, so insignificant. Feb. 14 is nothing but another day after all. It'll come around again after 364 more just like it.

Only for the other 364 days of the year, the hearts are less intrusive, the icing in the bakeries is a far less pink, and the canoodling couples are easier to ignore.

I guess I'm not cured completely.

Pick-up lines that will make you cringe

by Sandra Honke

I was standing at the Palamino Club, minding my own business, when some young studly hunk of burning love walked up to me and started fumbling around at the back of my neck. Part of me is wondering 'what the hell is he doing?', the other part just taking the moment in for what it was worth. Then it came. The ultimate. The worst pick-up line ever. Grabbing for the tag on the back of my shirt he said, "oh, I thought for sure you were made in heaven."

Here's a few more pick-up lines, along with my "I don't give a shit if I hurt your feelings" responses.

Your parents must be retarded, cause baby you're special.
(Speaking from experience?)

I ain't no Fred Flintstone, but I can sure make your Bedrock.
('I ain't no...?' Take an English class, loser.)

Excuse me, ma'am, but I've been over by the bar running some numbers, and I believe that through combining our genes, we could create a faster, stronger, smarter super soldier for our country. Now, there remains only one way to actually create this super soldier, but in this time of national emergency, we have all been called upon to exert ourselves to new heights. Therefore, not for me, but for America, the cause of freedom calls upon you to go home with me tonight.
(I hate America)

Stand still so I can pick you up!
(Close your eyes so I can steal your drink)

Giant polar bear.
(Good ice breaker)

If I could be any part of your body I would be your tear, born in your eyes, run down your face and die on your lips.
(I like the dying part)

So if I could rearrange the alphabet, I would put U and I together.
(Cheese, solid goat cheese)

As a young boy I always wished I had red hair.
(What?)

My name is Justin. Justincredible.
*(My name is Sandra. F*** off!)*

Did you hear the latest health report? You need to up your daily intake of vitamin me.
(If you were a doctor, maybe...)

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Butterfly Effect flutters with a notion of déjà vu

by Justin Pokrant and Julie Horbal

Critics have much to say about the psychological thriller, *The Butterfly Effect*, starring proverbial jackass Ashton Kutcher and Amy Smart (Road Trip).

The movie tells the story of Evan Treborn (Kutcher) and his psychosomatic battle with his sordid past. Since childhood, Evan has suffered from a condition that has caused him to black out portions of his memory that are too painful to recall. So painful, in fact, that his lifelong psychiatrist gets him to journal every day in hopes of triggering his memory.

When a college fling asks Evan to read her an entry from his journal, Evan realizes that reading the entry mysteriously brings back his blacked-out memories and transports him back to the time and place of the entry. He takes advantage of this and travels into the past, where he can alter his actions and, in turn, the outcome of his life.

As is expected from a film with a theme such as time travel and causality relationships involving Ashton Kutcher, *The Butterfly Effect* can leave audiences with mixed reactions, as you will see with this point/counterpoint analysis of the film.

Plot

JUSTIN: It's like Groundhog Day, only with a better looking cast. Also like the Simpsons Halloween Special 5, where Homer can go back in time and change the future by using a toaster. Only the toaster is replaced by notebooks – how creative.

JULIE: Keep in mind that there are some people who haven't seen Groundhog Day since they were eight years old and don't watch the *Simpsons*. For these people the story isn't tired at all.

JUSTIN: Speaking of tired, he went back in time every five minutes. It got really repetitive after a while. "Oh look, there he goes again. Oh look, his nose is bleeding again."

JULIE: I agree with that - down with so much time travel. Like they always say, less is more. Although more Ashton is still more, no matter how you do it.

Acting

JUSTIN: The only reason half the people saw the movie was to drool over Ashton. Good thing his looks make up for his poor acting. However it was more than I expected after his terrible performance in Dude, Where's My Acting Skills? Oops. I meant, Dude, Where's My Car?

JULIE: Yeah right. You liked him. When the movie ended you said, "Ashton wasn't half bad."

JUSTIN: Half bad at looking half decent. Now Amy Smart...

JULIE: I can't stand Amy Smart. I didn't like her going in to the movie, and I don't like her now. However, she did play a few different versions of the character and was believable in all of them. I still think Ashton's performance was better. Even you have to admit that going from the idiot he usually plays to this serious a role is a well-made move.

Amy Smart gets *spunk'd* by Ashton Kutcher.

JUSTIN: Please Julie. Every time he tried to be serious, I started laughing, even though it was horrible to do so. Like when he was an amputee.

JULIE: That's true – it was horrible. And had I heard you laughing, I would have hit you.

Cinematography

JULIE: The mood of the movie was captured well in the filming and scenery. I did not, however, enjoy the big bangs and camera jolts when we were being introduced to something surprising. I almost peed my pants the first time that happened.

JUSTIN: Eww. Can you say Blair Witch? The shaky camera work and overly fast flashbacks seemed almost nauseating.

JULIE: Great. One of us was peeing our pants and one of us was throwing up (in my bag of Fuzzy Peach slices). Classy.

The Verdict

JULIE: All in all, a pretty decent movie. It was slightly predictable (oh, look, another episode of time travel), but the ending was surprising enough to redeem the entire film. Definitely left me thinking about what would be different if I'd driven a different route to school this morning... gone to a different school this morning... picked Swedish Berries instead of Fuzzy Peaches...

JUSTIN: Ahh, the wonders of causality. If only I didn't bite that man's ear this morning. But seriously, it's nice to see a movie that isn't a cheesy, poo-poo humour Hollywood romance. Although it is a rehashed version of many other movies, it was done in a new way that was enjoyable to watch.

Theron packs on pounds *and* packs on punch

by Rick Lawler

If anyone has ever told you that someone as beautiful as Charlize Theron must be a bit of a lightweight as far as acting goes, grab them by the scruff of the neck and take them to see her latest film, *Monster*.

First time writer-director Patty Jenkins serves up an unrepentant look at the life of Florida serial killer Aileen Wuornos, with a totally unrecognizable Theron playing the lead. The movie follows Wuornos at the end of her ability to cope with her life as a prostitute and her contemplation of suicide. Enter Selby, played by Christina Ricci, a young, confused woman struggling with her sexual identity. The two become friends and eventually lovers. Wournos continues to sell herself and encounters a bad "john." Their life together goes downhill from there as the demons within Wuournos' sub-conscious take control of her behaviour.

Theron became Wuornos by packing on over 40 pounds on a diet that consisted, by her own admission, of mostly Krispy Kreme donuts. There are no clever camera angles or bad hairpieces to fool the viewer into believing that the model-turned-actress is in character. She also totally immersed herself in Wuornos' body language and mindset. The transformation is breath-taking. Just like Pierce Brosnan is James Bond, with some new freckles, colour contacts and false teeth, Theron is Wuornos, and her performance is riveting.

The film does not try to gloss over her gruesome and eventual unjustified actions. The audience is left with the impression that even though they understand what drove her to hate men, they still can't feel too sorry for her as the credits roll.

Monster is a must-see movie for anyone who is a fan of Theron or the true-life genre. If she doesn't win the Oscar for Best Actress and writer-director Jenkins goes home empty-handed, then the Academy Awards have lost all meaning in my eyes.

Ginger snaps - literally

by Ian Wheeler

I love Canadian films – especially ones that are about hand puppet-like werewolves.

Ginger Snaps II: Unleashed, produced by Canadian production company Seville Pictures is the sequel to the original cult hit.

The story follows Brigitte (Emily Perkins), a woman who has contracted a virus from her deceased sister, Ginger. The disease can potentially transform her into a werewolf. At a home for troubled youths, Brigitte pairs up with a weird little girl named Ghost as they fight a corrupted detention worker named Tyler.

Throughout the movie Brigitte is haunted by visions of her sister Ginger, who she killed in the previous movie.

I wanted to go easy on this film since it is a Canadian production, but a bad movie is a bad movie. From the start, the music kept me on the edge of my seat and close to having a heart attack, but to my disappointment, nothing happened. The intensity of the music didn't need to be maintained throughout the whole movie.

I also realize that a Canadian production doesn't have the resources to pay for top-of-the-line special effects, but couldn't they have shown the girl changing into a werewolf with better production values?

Also, why did they have to try to hide the werewolf that was chasing her the whole time with short, fast shots? It looked more like a way of hiding how cheesy it is than artistic choice. It made me wonder if the movie even had a werewolf in it. At the end of the movie, when they actually show the werewolf, it didn't impress me enough to change my mind about its phoniness.

Also, some scenes were very disturbing and a turn-off, like when she cuts herself with glass and shoots up with needles.

Contrarily, I will say the story is interesting and, not having seen the first one, gives decent clues to what happened in the original.

Complaints aside, the acting was just as good, if not better than some of the recent American horror movies I have seen, like *Cabin Fever*.

However, I would suggest you better save this one for video – you'll thank me.

Stolen tickets make for excellent evening

by Marc Zienkiewicz

When a pass for two free tickets to Rainbow Stage's new production of *Chicago* came into the *Projector*'s mailbox, I immediately grabbed it without telling anyone. I should have informed the entertainment editors about it, but decided to break protocol and claim them for myself. After all, tickets to Pantages are expensive as hell, and what better way to impress my girlfriend than to lie and say I paid for them?

Having a guilty conscience was a small price to pay for seeing this performance. The racy, Vaudeville-inspired tale of murder and sex in 1920s Chicago was worth my little moral travesty.

Stolen pictures make for shitty-quality photos.

Based on a play written by Maurine Watkins, *Chicago* follows the character of Roxie Hart (played by Winnipeg-born Leslie Drewitz) as she murders her lover and undergoes a media circus that makes the British paparazzi seem narcoleptic.

Rainbow Stage has put on a musical that no doubt rivals anything seen on Broadway. When I saw it opening night, the theatre was filled with a lightshow that lit up the entire room and defied explanation. How a Winnipeg theatre can pull off the seamless technical prowess shown during this musical is something that is better kept under wraps.

The opening number "All That Jazz" is performed with beautiful, gritty precision by Robyn Wong, who had a role in the Oscar-winning film version of *Chicago* alongside Catherine Zeta-Jones. Her throaty voice pulls off a hot jazz number that gets stuck inside the viewer's head and rolls around in there for days after the performance. The stage is split in two sections during this song, with Roxie shooting her lover in a small bedroom on the upper level of the stage, making for a scene that keeps both the eyes and ears pretty damn busy.

Despite all the sexiness that oozes from this production (both Wong and Drewitz are extremely easy to look at, but not nearly as hot as the number that sat beside me), the show is stolen by Robb Patterson, who plays Roxie's awkward, sexually-challenged husband Amos.

Amos is the kind of man who means well, and truly loves his wife, but just can't satiate the appetite of a beautiful, demanding woman.

Patterson's rendition of the song "Mr. Cellophane," which involves him wearing large floppy clown shoes, is both hilarious and heart-wrenching at the same time. All men have been an Amos at some point in their lives, and the site of Patterson waddling pitifully across the stage is subtle and powerful at the same time.

Those who've only seen the movie version would probably do themselves some good by going out and seeing Rainbow Stage's spectacle. It may not be as easy as slipping in the DVD, and it may cost substantially more than renting the movie, but it's a good evening of sex, dancing, music, and bright light.

And all that jazz.

X-Engine-X
Inner Demons

The latest album from Winnipeg's own X-Engine-X is a ROCKIN new edition that I was pleased to add to my CD collection. *Inner Demons* reveals the energy of the band as a whole, almost as well as seeing them perform live.

If you love rock music, it will make you proud to hear the kind of homegrown rockers Winnipeg has to offer. All six songs on the album are originals by the four-member band.

My personal favorite is "Black River", the first song on the disc. Although I usually prefer older rock and much of today's hard stuff, I must say this CD was satisfying. It is obvious that X-Engine-X is quickly making a name for themselves, having shared the stage with big names like Nickelback.

When you crank this disc in your car, you can't help but bob your head and feel the urge to raise your middle fingers in the air the way the band does on stage. The talent of a strong songwriter/vocalist, a wicked lead guitar, a smokin' drummer and an absolutely exceptional bassist is the recipe that's going to make Winnipeg's X-Engine-X famous.

I recommend purchasing this album not only to support local talent, but also to listen to some really kick ass rock 'n roll!

-Shaneen Robinson

Ryan Adams -
Love Is Hell Part 1 & 2

Love Is Hell was going to be Ryan Adams' official follow-up to 2001's *Gold*, until he turned it over to his label executives. They refused to release it, telling him to make them a new album. What followed was the birth of *Rock 'n Roll*, and the *Love Is Hell* album was split in two.

It's easy to see what Adams' label might have been worried about. *Love Is Hell* is one of the most depressing albums I've heard in some time – but in a good way. The songs are almost uniformly downbeat, and many of them spare acoustic pieces, like the opener "Political Scientist". The album also has a strong British influence to it, with Adams co-producing with John Porter (The Smiths, Roxy Music). The first part even includes an acoustic cover of the Oasis song "Wonderwall" that's better than the original.

I don't know if the songs are still in the original order of the album, but the whole thing comes together cohesively. There are highlights on both parts, but the two best songs are on part two. "My Blue Manhattan" has a classic "Tin Pan Alley" feel, and "I See Monsters" features some very nimble guitar playing.

Love Is Hell is definitely worth picking up. It's the perfect music for a gloomy afternoon when you just want to lay around on your bed for hours.

-Brent Smith

RED RIVER COLLEGE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MAKE IT YOURS

Notice of Class Rep Meeting

The next Class Rep Meeting will be February 10th, at 12:00 pm in the White Lecture Theatre.

STUDENT APPEALS

ARE YOU AWARE:
OF THE ACADEMIC APPEAL PROCESS, OR THE YOU CAN FILE A GRADE / EVALUATION APPEAL, OR THAT YOU CAN APPEAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION ON YOURSELF??

Visit the Students' Association office for any Questions you may have, or contact Jon Mertins VP, Student Affairs at 632-2477.

Year 2004

January 9, 2004

January 23, 2004

February 6, 2004

February 20, 2004

March 5, 2004

March 19, 2004

April 2, 2004

April 16, 2004

April 30, 2004

May 14, 2004

May 28, 2004

June 11, 2004

Food Bank Days

Short on Cash for Groceries? We Can Help!

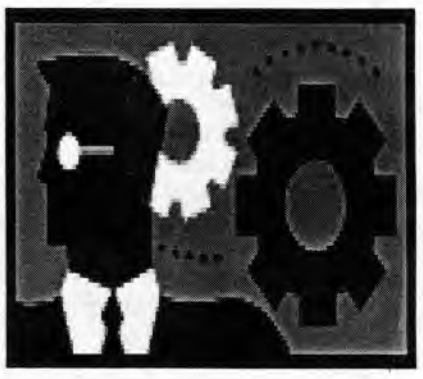
RRC Students' Association provides a Food Bank service for students who need support. This service is open to all RRC students. Just fill a form out no later than two days (**Tuesday**) prior to each food bank day (**Friday**)and submit it to DM20 (SA Office). **Student card and medical card numbers must be on request forms to fill orders. Food Bank will take late applicants after 3:00 PM only and while supplies last.**

Career Fair 2004

Once again the Students' Association is happy to bring you a 2004 Career Fair.

Thursday March 25th in the North Gym
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Again workshops like Resume Writing and Interview Skills will be offered. The dates will be announced in a later Projector issue.



WSO performance positively orgasmic

by Marc Zienkiewicz

I never thought I'd play in an orchestra. Ever. After all, my musical talent is limited to smacking rusty old coffee cans with whatever sort of hitting device happens to be lying around when the mood strikes me.

So when the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra recently gave me a chance to play the slide whistle on the opening day of the Centara New Music Festival, I threw my coffee can aside and decided to take the plunge into the real world of music. Nothing is sexier than a slide whistle, and let's face it- music is all about sex appeal. And what better way to get chicks than to play in the front row of an orchestra. A little slide-whistling and I'd be fighting them off with a broomstick.

So when I showed up at Portage Place on Jan. 27 to play in the orchestra in front of every TV channel in the city, I was ready to become the sex object I've always wanted to be. The slide whistle felt smooth and silky in my hand as I ran my fingers up and down its shaft, sliding it in and out and making the most glorious noise ever heard within the hallowed halls of the city's most dumpy, irrelevant mall.

photo by Marc Zienkiewicz

Global's Eva Kovacs plays the cowbell

The piece we were about to play was an improvisational number that involved Maestro Andrey Boreyko making wild, provocative movements with various body parts such as his head, arms, legs, and pelvic region. He read strange symbols off huge cards held up at the back of the orchestra that told him which movements to make. Each movement told the orchestra what to do. For example, when Boreyko wiggled his head to the right, that was my signal to start pumping the slide whistle like a madman, over and over and faster and faster until I was spent.

I'd always been fascinated by conductors, and always wondered what purpose they served. After all, since the musicians read the music off sheets of paper, why would they need some guy with a small stick to wave his arms like some crazed hockey parent in order to play their instrument?

The reason soon became apparent. Without Boreyko's expert conducting, I'd have been totally impotent. In front of me were John Sauder and his fellow CKY news crew, and the always-enchanting Eva Kovacs from Global sat to my left. WSO chair Wally Fox-Decent was at my right, playing something that resembled a washboard. The presence of such musical greats filled me with unbridled enthusiasm, and if Boreyko wasn't there to give me my signals, my glorious slide whistle would have been lost in the orgy of music that filled the mall.

photo by Marc Zienkiewicz

Local media personalities proudly display their instruments

After the performance, I dragged my tired, sweaty body into the cold Winnipeg wind, and headed for the campus pub. I wanted to try out my new-found allure in a room full of tipsy female college students. Although getting some action was certainly my goal, I also wanted to start a full-blown bar fight. At 23 years of age, my inherent male violence had not yet boiled to the surface, and I finally wanted to lose my bar brawl virginity.

Thank you, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, for making me a Real Man. My black eye is getting better, and I am now playing the proverbial slide whistle on a nightly basis. Nothing is better for the libido than playing with an orchestra.

Now where's my broomstick?

Have fun while freezing

by Heather Steele

With the -50 C temperatures hopefully behind us, Winnipeggers can resume their ordinary outdoor winter activities without the fear of frostbite.

"There are too many great events going on to miss," said River Trail Coordinator Anne-Marie Thibert-Guenette.

The 2004 River Trail is a six-week winter program that takes advantage of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. Four kms. of trail are cleared annually for a series of winter outdoor activities, with the last two weeks coinciding with Festival du Voyageur.

Events include ice painting, curling, sleigh rides, ultimate Frisbee, snow sculpting and much more.

There are pre-register and drop-in events, all of which are free of charge and Thibert-Guenette guarantees there is something for all ages.

"This is our way of using the water system in the off season," said Thibert-Guenette. "We are admitting that we're a winter city and saying let's get out there and enjoy it."

Many of the events are taking place at the fork of the two rivers where a heated tent is set up.

The cold weather has had an unusual effect on the festival this year, according to Thibert-Guenette. Contrary to the freezing cold conditions, the weather has had a reverse effect on the ice.

"The snow has insulated the ice and because of the warm weather in December, we now have a lot of slush," she said.

But the cold has not stopped Winnipeggers from getting out and participating in the many events. The turnout has still been strong despite the extreme conditions, and Thibert-Guenette is certain that the support will continue.

Annual highlights include the dogsled races (which bring out thousands of people annually) and the upcoming ice bike races featuring approximately 200 bike racers cycling down the river.

"The ice is tested regularly for safety," said Thibert-Guenette.

The River Trail events run from Jan. 17 through Feb. 22.

photo by Lindsay Winter

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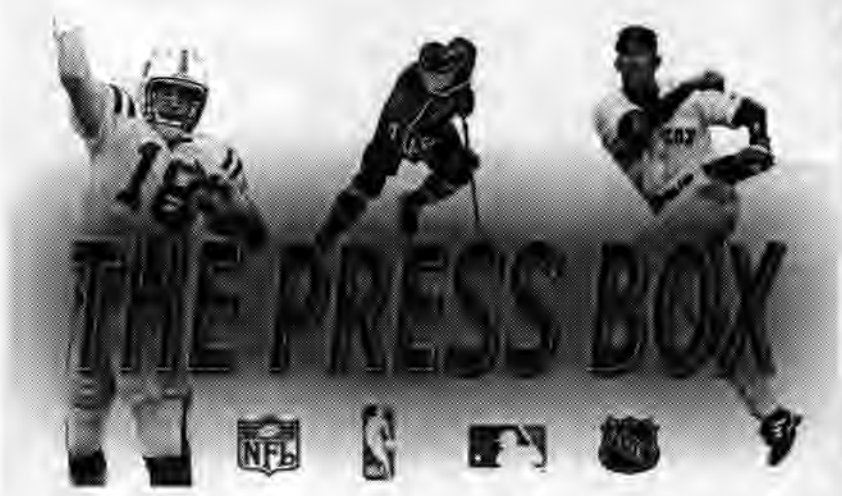

Make a date with game while you still can

by Chad Scarsbrook

Take out your weekly planner. Got it? Good, now circle every Saturday night for the next three months. If anyone asks you to go out, say you're busy.

With the NHL gearing up for the second half of its season, you'll want to make sure you have a comfortable seat in front of the TV to watch teams battle for a playoff position. After all, it may be the last hockey you watch for a long time.

The NHL collective bargaining agreement is set to expire Sept. 15 of this year, with a new contract between owners and players light years away. If a new deal is not agreed upon in time for next season, there will be a work stoppage, the second in ten years. Some are predicting it will be the longest in professional sports history.

The key issue that is keeping the two sides apart is salaries. The owners insist a salary cap (or cost certainty, as Commissioner Gary Bettman likes to call it) is necessary for the league to survive, while the NHL Players' Association has refused to even discuss such a possibility.

The league is concerned that salaries are spiraling out of control and the small market teams will never be able to compete with the Toronto Maple Leafs and New York Rangers of the world in terms of revenue. The NHLPA, on the other hand, wants nothing to do with a salary cap, as they believe it would deplete the market and would prevent players from earning top dollar.

One thing is for sure. A system needs to be established so that teams like the Pittsburgh Penguins and Edmonton Oilers can compete with rich teams like the Detroit Red Wings and Colorado Avalanche, both on and off the ice. It is believed Bettman wants to impose a cap of $35-$40 million US per team. To put that into perspective, the New York Rangers payroll for this year is $69.2 million. Teams that exceed the cap would be forced to pay a luxury tax that would be distributed among the other teams.

The major concern is whether all 30 teams would survive a prolonged work stoppage. According to a recent article in Forbes magazine, 20 of the NHL's 30 clubs are losing money. The Ottawa Senators and Buffalo Sabres filed for bankruptcy last year before new owners bailed them out, while last year's Western Conference champions, the Anaheim Mighty Ducks, have been on the selling block for years.

The NHL does not have a lucrative television deal in the US like other major sports leagues. ABC will televise only five games nationally this year and will broadcast the Stanley Cup final starting at game three. Instead of TV revenue, the NHL relies heavily on arena-generated revenue, and if fans walk away from the game of hockey as they did baseball after its 1994 strike, the league will be in big trouble.

With so much uncertainty about the league's future, be sure to get your fill of hockey this spring. And if anyone asks, you've got a hot date with Ron MacLean and Don Cherry.

Tune in to The Press Box every Thursday on 92.9 CKIC FM beginning in February for all your sports news and analysis.
E-mail your questions and comments to: thepressboxtalk@hotmail.com

Saying goodbye to the barn

by Rick Scherger

Modern day sports equals long-term contracts, labour disputes, players who don't care and high-priced luxury boxes. When it comes to enjoying the game, some fans agree that sports aren't as much fun as they once were.

With that in mind I skated onto the hallowed Winnipeg Arena ice recently to enjoy what will be my last opportunity to do so.

No, the Winnipeg Arena does not conjure up ghosts like the Montreal Forum did, and it doesn't have the aura of other historic buildings recently replaced in Chicago, Toronto and Boston, but it did have its share of amazing moments during its time.

The World Hockey Association Winnipeg Jets won the Avco Cup three times (1976, 1978 and the last WHA championship in 1979), all on home ice.

The arena also hosted the World Curling Championships twice, the World Junior Hockey Tournament, the 2000 Canadian Figure Skating Championships and the 1998 Men's Brier. And let's not forget that one of the best games of the 1972 Canada-Russia summit series was played on that ice. Canada and the Soviets played to a 4-4 tie there Sept. 6.

It's hard to imagine missing the building, but it's a good bet that a great number of our population will.

Soon the Manitoba Moose, or if Dan Vandal has his way, a relocated NHL franchise, will be moving into the new MTS Centre.

The old arena will be turned into something else or torn down and forgotten about. Before that happens, the people of Winnipeg should take one last walk through the old barn. Walk around under the stands and investigate the peculiarities of the structure (the tiny escalators up to the upper seating area, the makeshift benches at ice level). Look up into the rafters and wonder about the people who placed the banners there. Listen for the voices of Ken Nicolson, Curt Kellback, Kelly Moore, and Don Whitman. Remember the playoff white-outs and the extra-large portrait of Queen Elizabeth II.

When the MTS Centre opens later this year, it will be full of high-tech gadgets, shiny luxury boxes, and curious people trying to get a peak at the novelty. The building itself will be magnificent. It may end up with exciting moments of its own. Maybe one day it will house an NHL franchise. But it will probably have trouble duplicating the moments that made the Winnipeg Arena unique and a major focal piece of our civic pride.

Don't let it go without making one more trek out to the old barn to say goodbye.

The soon-to-be extinct Winnipeg Arena deserves one last hurrah.

Visors save eyes...what a thought

by Matt Packwood

Due to an epidemic of eye injuries, a serious controversy is currently sweeping over the NHL. The debate is whether or not half-face visors should be mandatory for all players.

Gone are the days when a toothless smile, long flowing hair, and 50 per cent of one's vision were all that was required to play professional hockey. At least helmets are mandatory now.

Nowadays, with the use of composite sticks, eye injuries are becoming frighteningly common, sometimes ending promising careers.

But the sticks are not always to blame.

In 1999, Vancouver Canucks defenseman Mattias Ohlund was struck in the right eye by a deflected puck. Fortunately for Ohlund, it did not end his career. He was able to return late that season with 70 per cent of his vision.

Not all players suffering eye injuries were as lucky as Ohlund though. In 1995, Edmonton Oilers defenseman Ryan McGill was struck in the left eye with a puck, leaving him permanently blind in that eye. McGill was forced to retire at the age of 26.

Now, sticks and high sticking infractions have moved to the forefront of the concern as of late. With recent eye injuries suffered by players like Florida Panthers defenseman Branislav Mezei and Toronto Maple Leafs forward Owen Nolan, many coaches and officials are calling for the league to make all players entering the league wear half visors.

Hockey fans will never forget the image of the then Toronto Maple Leafs defenseman Bryan Berard writhing in pain on the ice after he was hit in the face with an errant stick. His career was left lingering, and although he has returned since, his career has not been the same.

The choice of wearing a visor has always been left up to the players, and many feel that it should no longer be. Even professionals outside of the league are recommending that visors become mandatory.

The Canadian Association of Optometrists has suggested for years to all levels of play that visors be made mandatory. This has left many wondering how many injuries it will take for the league to finally take action.

The strongest argument for visors lies in the junior ranks. All junior players throughout the world are required to wear at least a half-face visor. Some argue that if a player has to wear a visor before they play in the NHL, there should be no reason why they shouldn't wear one when they turn pro.

Sure, there is the "tough guy" attitude, but after seeing some of the most physical players in the league wear visors, such as Tie Domi, it makes one wonder why all players don't follow suit.

The players should forget about stereotypes, and start thinking about their own safety.

The league had no problem making helmets mandatory, and visors should be its next priority.

MELTDOWN WEEK

FEBRUARY 9-13, 2004

Monday 9

All Day	Free Movies	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
8:00 am	Free Bagel Breakfast	NOTRE DAME - Library Hallway
8:00 am	Free Bagel Breakfast	PRINCESS - Atrium
12:00 noon	Comedian Simon B. Cotter	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
12:00 noon	Comedian Jon Ljungberg	PRINCESS - Atrium
7:00 pm	Free Swing Dance Lesson	NOTRE DAME - South Gym

Tuesday 10

All Day	Free Movies	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
12:00 noon	Karaoke Contest	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
12:00 noon	Comedian Simon B. Cotter	PRINCESS - Atrium
12:00 noon	Origami Workshop	PRINCESS - Multi Purpose Room
7:30-9:00 pm	Glow Bowling	ACADEMY LANES

Wednesday 11

All Day	Free Movies	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
11:00am-7:00pm	Free Shuttle Bus	PRINCESS & NOTRE DAME (S.GYM)
12:00-7:00 pm	Free Pass to Skip Class	DM20 or P110
12:00 noon	Free Lunch	NOTRE DAME - South Gym
12:00-2:00 pm	Caricatures Jon Ljungberg	NOTRE DAME - South Gym
12:00-4:00 pm	Partyworks Games	NOTRE DAME - South Gym
12:10 pm	Body Awareness Dance Team	NOTRE DAME - South Gym
12:30 pm	Comedian Big Daddy Taz	NOTRE DAME - South Gym
1:00 pm	Hypnotist Michael Leach	NOTRE DAME - South Gym
2:30 pm	Martial Art Demonstration	NOTRE DAME - South Gym
3:30 pm	Battle of the Bands	NOTRE DAME - South Gym
4:00 pm	Free Dinner	NOTRE DAME - South Gym

Thursday 12

All Day	Free Movies	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
12:00 noon	Magician Anders	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
12:00 noon	Karaoke Contest	PRINCESS - Atrium
5:00-10:30 pm	Coca Cola 3 on 3 Floor Hockey Tournament	NOTRE DAME - South Gym

Friday 13

All Day	Free Movies	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
12:00 noon	Musicians - Burnt	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
12:00 noon	Nooner	PRINCESS - Atrium
12:00 noon	Pool Tournament	NOTRE DAME - Cave Lounge
5:00 pm	MTS Great Race	NOTRE DAME - Tower Lounge
8:00 pm	Meltdown Stop Light Social	NOTRE DAME - South Gym

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