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IGNORANCE IS A KIND OF BLISS.

A SMACK IN THE MOUTH IS A KIND OF A KISS.

— JOE JACKSON

HEAT WAVE HAS STUDENTS HOT UNDER THE COLLAR

Chillers on the fritz leave classrooms hotter than Hades

By Scott Carman

Who needs a trip to the Bahamas when you can spend the weekend at Red River College?

Abnormally high temperatures and humidity levels have had Red River students basking - and sweating - amid the hypnotic hum of the computer labs for the last few weeks.

"It's bloody hot," says Ryan Richardson, a student of Culinary Arts since March 1998. "I can't concentrate any more and I'm not gonna take it. I don't remember it being this hot last year."

"After working in a hot kitchen, you don't get any relief by going to the classroom. You feel like you're going to pass out."

Four chillers, owned by Manitoba Government Services, circulate fresh air throughout the campus. Two chillers are for A-building, while the others should keep the rest of the campus cool. None of them, however, have been working properly. Ken Smythe, deputy chief engineer of the college powerhouse, says the situation has improved in the last week and A-building chillers are up and running.

Continued on page 2...

Cultural diversity celebrated at college.

Red River students were treated to a wide variety of music, dance and food during this years celebration of multiculturalism. Above, a Chinese lion dance entertains students.

Gourmet tastes on a student's budget

Prarie Lights offers fine dining, experience for students

By Darcy Gillespie

There are few places in Winnipeg where you can buy a gourmet meal for less than $30. But tucked in the heart of Red River College is a quiet little restaurant where gourmet food won't cost you your arm, leg, and everything in your wallet.

Unfortunately, it's too late now to make reservations for evening dining at Prairie Lights, because it's booked solid until it closes for the season on May 13. But if you're lucky you may still be able to grab a quick meal at lunch.

Prairie Lights restaurant has been around for more than 25 years, surviving a name change, a decorative facelift, and frequent staff turnovers. High turnover is not a problem at Prairie Lights; it's the goal.

Have you heard of teaching hospitals? Prairie Lights is based on that concept, only it's a teaching restaurant run entirely by students.

Students in the Culinary Arts and Hotel and Restaurant Administration programs are responsible for all functions at the restaurant, from creating the menu to handing you the bill. They are graded on their performances and receive credit for working in the restaurant.

Prairie Lights offers customers a "nice meal, nice atmosphere at a reasonable price," said Barb Hogue, an instructor in Hotel and Restaurant Administration. Hogue oversees the Hotel and Restaurant Administration students as they gain experience with the service, bartending, and financial maintenance side of a restaurant.

A new group of students is rotated through the restaurant every three weeks.

Hogue says customers notice the students' enthusiasm and that's one reason they keep coming back.

Students begin their career in the restaurant working the lunch rotation.

Continued on page 4...

Voters choose new SA exec.

Gray, Storey, Slusarchuk voted into office; 6.5 percent turnout

By Vincent Pearease

With 222 votes, Geoff Gray has become the new president of the Red River College Students' Association. His opponent, Calvin Friesen, garnered 143 votes.

The battle for VP of Student Affairs, between Kevin Storey and Ian Scott, was a squeaker. Storey emerged victorious with 186 votes. Scott was close behind with 181. The results were so close that Scott asked for an official recount, which confirmed the initial count.

In the VP of Financeand Student Services vote, Paul Slusarchuk, who ran unopposed, had 295 yes votes and 50 no votes.

In total, 374 ballots were cast. According to the SA, 6.5 percent of eligible voters cast ballots.

Once he assumes the president's job on Jul. 2, Gray said his main priority will be to promote the SA.

"My number one objective is to raise the visibility of the SA -- who we are, what we do, and what is available to students," Gray said.

Gray wants to increase awareness about SA initiatives such as tutorial services and the SA health plan, which he said most students don't know about.

The new VP of Student Affairs Kevin Storey is optimistic about the coming year.

"We have a good executive. We are going to do all we can for the students."

He had kind words for the defeated candidates. He said Scott and Friesen would be valuable additions to the Student Advisory Board.

"They are the type of people who will be able to keep us on our toes and keep us accountable," Storey said.

One of the things Storey wants to improve are the SA bylaws.

"They are far too vague," Storey said. "They leave too much open to question."

Like Gray, Storey also wants to have an instructor evaluation program in place by next year.

Photo by Christine Choi

Polling clerk upholding democracy. Only 374 students voted in SA election.

Students sweating, and not just because exams are coming

...Continued from page 1

Smythe says government engineers have been working on a new chiller that will supply the rest of the college.

"If we're able to run it all night (Thursday), then people should notice a difference as early as tomorrow (Friday)," Smythe says.

Smythe says he would like to see C-building rebuilt like A-building -- with fewer windows. This would help to keep hot air out and cool air inside.

Though open windows may seem like an appealing option to some students, Smythe says it would be impossible to maintain building pressure with that form of ventilation.

College technical officer Cam Asher says temperature control with the chillers operating is still difficult because the original cooling system was not designed to maintain a campus of today's size.

Building additions and expansions over the years has made it difficult for the system to keep up.

Asher says an early spring with unusually high temperatures hasn't helped the situation.

the Projector

has been Red River College's Student Newspaper for over 30 years.

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"CANADA'S LARGEST OUTDOOR STORE"

Gray looks ahead to presidential role

By Theresa Seraphim

Incoming SA President Geoff Gray has several priorities for the coming year.

His number one goal is to get the student centre built. Gray said it is an SA project, but "the college has taken the upper hand on it." To regain control, he said the SA will try to resurrect the idea of building on the site of the South Gym. This would assure students a place to gather. Gray envisions it having a meeting room, board room, offices (for the SA, Projector, etc.) and a lounge where alcohol is served.

He would like to see a system set up through which the SA would have access to information from the college regarding the education, qualifications and experience of instructors. This would be cross-referenced with feedback from evaluations "to ensure that the teacher is qualified for the classes they are teaching."

Gray also feels "it's important for students to be heard" by having a representative on the board of governors. Such a person, he said, would be a top student--someone who can "stand forth and speak on behalf of students."

"It's important that students realize that there's more to college than just classes."

Academic appeals is another area of concern. Gray said the college is looking into changing the appeal process, and members of the SA "want to make sure (it) is set up fairly and unbiased towards the student." His recommendation is that the appeals committee, which handles the final step of the appeal process, comprise students, staff and outside people rather than the current department chair/instructor composition. This would be "more acceptable to students," Gray said.

Another area of importance, said Gray, is to increase student awareness about the SA. He plans to get an SA website up and running by summer and have more coffee and doughnut giveaways, which give students a chance to mingle with SA members and voice concerns.

Gray encouraged students to become involved with the SA. "It's important that students realize that there's more to college than just classes." He said a prime way to enjoy the college experience is to get into extra-curricular activities, because they are a great way to meet new friends.

Although Gray will be taking layout and design courses, he will focus on his presidential role in the coming year. (He recently graduated with honours from the Business Administration program and is currently in Commerce-Industry Sales and Marketing.)

When asked about his perspective on the SA, Gray quoted its mission statement: "To proactively serve and protect the interests of Red River College students by providing services and programs that best meet their needs and to deliver these programs and services in a responsible, courteous and cost-efficient manner."

"That's my philosophy."

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Prairie Lights a focal point for college

Prairie Lights; soft lighting, soft colours, and subtle background music for dining.

... Continued from page 1

Eventually, after they gain more experience, they move into the evening dining rotation.

Jen Parker graduated from the Hotel and Restaurant Administration program and is now working in the industry. Parker still works at the restaurant even though she graduated last year. She said working in the restaurant is a great chance for people with no previous serving experience. Parker said she gets positive reactions from customers, who enjoy asking questions about the students running the restaurant. Patrons are usually very happy, she said. "They're getting a five star meal here for such reasonable prices."

Scott Ball apprenticed as a chef in Thunder Bay, went to school in Ottawa and began his career as a chef with the Westin chain of hotels. He worked as a chef at the Manitoba Club for five years, and has been an instructor in the Culinary Arts program at RRC for about seven years. He supervises the Culinary Arts students in the restaurant, troubleshooting when necessary.

Ball said the Prairie Lights experience is designed to give Culinary Arts students as much industry experience as possible. Students do the ordering, receiving, food costing, and have complete control over the creation of menus. They are given two months to come up with three complete evening dining menus. As the course winds up, students are graded over a one week period by their instructors, with some input from lunch customers.

Have you ever wanted to be a food critic? If you stop by Prairie Lights at the right time you may get your chance.

Patrons are served a three course meal from a set menu and are asked to fill out a form assigning a letter grade to the different dishes; soup/salad, entrees, and dessert. Instructors take this input into consideration when grading their students. The meal is varied, substantial and an excellent opportunity to taste the best the Culinary Arts students have to offer, all for only $6.

Kathy Eronen has been a frequent visitor to the restaurant for the last 12 years. "I went to Rae & Jerry's last night for dinner. I'd much rather go to Prairie Lights", Eronen said. She said she loves the food, the prices, and the atmosphere at the restaurant. She also said it's fun to watch "nervous students when they have to flambé something for the very first time."

Four years ago, RRC spent $300,000 renovating the restaurant. The renovation also included a name change from the Assiniboia Inn to Prairie Lights. Ball said the renovations to the restaurant have ensured that Prairie Lights, with its soft lighting, soft colours, and subtle background music, "is a focal point for the college."

Many restaurant owners in the city would love to know how Prairie Lights manages to be booked solid weeks, even months in advance. What's even more incredible is the restaurant doesn't advertise.

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Leaving the nest, and watching the wallet

Think of getting out of your parents basement, or moving out of your present dive? Here's some tips on picking a place to call your own.

By Kat Patenaude

I admit it. It's a personal thing really. I'm not ashamed of it, even if I am writing this under a nom de plume. You see, I just have to protect myself. This is my shameful secret: I HATE LANDLORDS! There, I've said it.

I realize I'm not alone. Starving students frequently deal with that seedy character known as the slumlord. Slumlords don't have to even own slums, per se. Most students live in what they themselves optimistically call "character apartments." What this means is their residences resemble a salty seadog: Not terribly attractive, but full of great stories. I myself live in such a pad. I wouldn't have it any other way. Those new tenements that scrape sky, or the ones that are nothing more than boxes seem to stare balefully and soullessly out on the streets. They give me the shivers.

Only slightly lower on the shiver scale are landlords. I've had odd ones. David*, bless his soul, frequently answered the door in his Hanes, and nothing else. If you've ever seen a sinewy, practically naked stranger in his fifties, you'll know my horror.

Then there was Adam*. He started my tenancy with his arm around me, and proceeded to make my life uncomfortable by "dropping by" at all hours and spending way too much time inspecting my light bulbs.

Then there are the uber-slumlords. They usually masquerade as "agencies" and have some nice condo-style apartments in their arsenal. Those are mostly for show. Their bread and butter is the starving student looking for a cheap character pad.

With most of the agencies, you won't have problems with nude representatives, or the need to sidestep ol' octopus hands. No, they are generally politically correct. However, you do have to struggle with major absenteeism. Which means if you want them, you'd better be prepared to waiting for a long, long time. The caretakers are apathetic, and even pathetic, in some cases. They won't fix anything in your apartment unless they have a work order, signed in triplicate and mailed to the proper repair people. This means the leaky ceiling over your bed is going to become the Chinese water torture display in your apartment tour for about as long as the Ming Dynasty was around. This is why I say landlords like Adam and David are just about the best alternative. They may be strange, but doggone it, they are available.

If you're now contemplating a cardboard dwelling, conveniently located under the nearest bridge, buck up. There's hope.

Amazingly, someone in government recognized the potential for big problems. Even more amazing, they decided to do something about it. The Residential Tenancies Branch of the provincial government receives 45,000 calls every year from tenants and landlords alike. Most of these are not compliments.

This is my shameful secret: I HATE LAND-LORDS! There, I've said it.

Bev Wire, the Manager of Primary Dispute and Resolution Services at the branch, said many first-time apartment renters don't even realize there are rules and regulations to living in an apartment. For example, knowing a landlord must give 24 hours notice to visit a suite. If your landlord changes your locks without permission, fails to make necessary repairs on the premises, or cuts off your heat, gas, electricity or water, you can request in writing that the problem be fixed. You are entitled to move out before your lease is up.

On the other hand, you can be turfed if you are more than three days late with the rent, if you disturb your neighbours, damage the premises or don't keep the place "reasonably clean."

If you don't have a rental history, you may be asked to provide character references as to your ability to honour the rental agreement. Another option is to have your lease co-signed by someone considered responsible by the rental agent ("Hello, Mom? I have a favour to ask . . ."). If you feel you've been discriminated against in your apartment experience, you can also contact the Manitoba Human Rights Commission at 945-3007.

Wire's advice to new renters is practical. "Generally, people shouldn't be going beyond one third of their income (in rent). And you have to ensure that includes heat and so on. That's one of the biggest pitfalls of first-time apartment renters."

The Residential Tenancies Branch offers seminars to interested groups. The seminars, usually given by volunteers, give pointers to tenants' associations. Most larger apartments have their own tenant association. It's always helpful to find out if your potential pad has one. If not, you can contact your student union to host a seminar.

Wire said the branch plans to create a registry of all tenants and landlords that can be references for a peek into the past, to protect prospective tenants and landlords from trouble.

Sometimes, the sympathy has to lie with the landlord. James Heibert is the landlord at 36 Woodrow Place in Wolseley, in the heart of the granola belt. He says most of his first-time renters are well behaved and don't cause problems. However, he's got plenty of advice for people in search of a new hovel to call their own. "The worst thing about being a landlord is making appointments (to show an apartment) and having people not show up," Hiebert said. "If you can't make an appointment, or you don't like the apartment you're viewing, don't beat around the bush. Be honest. Don't take an application form and not fill it out. You're wasting your time and ours."

Heibert said most management companies do full credit checks on applicants. "It's amazing what the computer age can do for you. If someone is proven to be a risk, like if they missed a credit card payment or are late on a bill, they're not going to be approved. They do a very thorough credit check and they look into everything."

Hiebert has something to say about the flip side of the potential weirdness in the tenant/landlord relationship. "I have weird single mothers trying to hit on me all the time. They always ask me downstairs for coffee."

My new landlord, Nestor, is a relatively harmless guy. Aside from an eerie ability to show up at the doorstep while I'm in a less than fully dressed state, he is nice, and generally available. I wonder if this means I have moved up on the ladder of apartment rentalship. Move over, George Jefferson.

**Names have been changed to protect the guilty*

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Amber Saleem
Entertainment Editor
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Faust: A Review

By Richard Sandhurst

I was never much for opera. To me, it was always people screaming incomprehensibly in foreign languages about things I didn't understand or care about. I didn't get it, and the fat lady never sang soon enough for me.

That started to change a couple of years ago when I went to see the Manitoba Opera Society's production of Bizet's Carmen. Even though I couldn't understand the language, the story was very clear and easy to follow. Even more importantly, the quality of the production and talent of the singers and orchestra was very high. I was blown away.

I've been to see a couple of other operas since then, and my appreciation for the art form has grown with each production. I'm hooked.

Manitoba Opera's latest show, Faust, is the best I've seen yet. It is opera on a grand scale, a lavish and professional production with a unique take on Gounod's classic tale. Faust, staged by San Francisco director Sandra Bernhard, is the story of an aged philosopher who makes a pact with Satan, signing away his soul in exchange for his youth. Faust thinks he's getting the better part of the deal, but Satan has tricked him with the promise of the love of a beautiful young woman, Marguerite. The opera is basically the story of Faust's attempts to woo Marguerite while Satan draws him further into damnation, until he finally must face the consequences of his sin and illicit love.

Some opera fans might be shocked at what MO has done with this classic opera. It has been staged as a retrospective, with Marguerite looking back on the events of her life. The story of the opera occurs in her memory as a series of flashbacks, rather than in real time as it is usually staged.

MO general director Joann Smith says the company had no choice but to stage the opera this way, because soprano Sally Dibblee (who plays Marguerite) is seven and a half months pregnant. Not even opera audiences would accept a pregnant woman cast as a young girl seduced by an elderly scholar, even if he did sell his soul to the devil, so some big changes had to be made. In most of her scenes, Dibblee does the singing while Marguerite is portrayed by a young "double." The effect is initially confusing, but the audience quickly adapts to the odd convention. In some ways the new staging makes the opera more interesting and more relevant to a contemporary audience.

Rumours that financial difficulties might force the MO to cease operations could mean that Faust is the company's last production. That would be a damn shame, because over the years the MO has consistently brought high-quality and entertaining operas to the stage. Faust is no exception, and if this production is the MO's swan song, at least it's going out in high style.

Internet Superstar

Local musician scores big in MP3 world

By Kevin Glasier

Todd Hunter is a local singer/songwriter who has made it big in the controversial land of the MP3.

MP3 (Mpeg1 Layer3) is a computer file format that allows high quality compression of audio files that are small enough to be easily exchanged over the Internet. The music industry is losing millions in revenue due to digital pirates who are downloading copyrighted material for free.

While MP3 is hurting the major labels it is helping many independent artists by providing them with an efficient promotional tool. Many independent artists post their songs on Internet sites such as mp3.com to spread their music to potential fans.

The songs at mp3.com are legal because the copyright holders have granted permission for people to download and play their songs.

Hunter, who performs under the name Todd, had one of his songs selected for a compilation CD distributed to promote mp3.com. This is no small feat considering the site hosts about 50,000 songs. Hunter's song was one of 19 selected to be on the CD.

On Mar. 1, Hunter's song "Jumping off the Bridge" peaked at number one on mp3.com's rock charts.

Todd will be at the Pyramid Cabaret on May 27.

He describes his music as mid-tempo rock that is "not a far cry from Nick Cave or Morrissey, except not as macabre."

Lyrically, he staggers between storytelling, observational witticisms, and more ethereal topics like emotions. Hunter avoids being preachy with his lyrics. "I don't tell people how to live their life."

Hunter, 25, says, "I tend to write most of my lyrics when I'm a little depressed. I find those emotions are more interesting."

Several years ago, Hunter fronted the local band Garden Party before departing on his solo career. He says since then his "songwriting has become a lot more mature."

Hunter says the maturing process also left him with a different outlook on the music business. "I look at the music industry very differently than I did five years ago."

The once all-encompassing aspirations of a major label signing have faded. Instead he says, "I would prefer to see how far I can go on my own." Hunter, who describes himself as "fiercely independent," is pushing ahead on his own by recording a full length CD that he is financing himself.

He has already recorded six songs, four of which are available for download at mp3.com.

The six-song EP, called *Sketches*, is also available at the site through online purchase for about $7.50.

Hunter recorded the tracks at Channels Recording Studio where he is currently working on his upcoming full length CD tentatively titled *Exhibit A*.

The songs were recorded with the help of guitar player Murray Dulvar, a guitar player currently touring with the Crash Test Dummies. Bassist Ken Sinnave and drummer Steve Broadhurst rounded out the session musicians Hunter used to complete Sketches.

Hunter says once he is finished recording the album he will look around for local independent labels interested in his work. As far as a major recording deal is concerned, he will wait for record labels to approach him.

Until then Hunter says, "I'm comfortable with my stake in life."

Finally! The Force is back

Star Wars merchandise hits store shelves

By Tyler Heshka

The official release date for Star Wars Episode One: The Phantom Menace is rapidly approaching. Of course, those waiting since 1983 for the next instalment are still finding the wait unbearable. However, with the release date creeping up quickly, there is plenty a Star Wars maniac can do to pass the time until the film arrives in theatres.

Fans will want to take note that advance tickets to the film will go on sale at 2 p.m. on May 12 at theatres that offer advance sales. No theatres have yet made an official announcement about showing the film.

Hardcore fans who wish to become awash in nostalgia should check out department stores for the selection of Episode One toys. The toys, which arrived on May 3, range from the traditional action figures and vehicles, to Micromachines. Figures run for roughly $10 a piece and include semi-recognizable characters such as the young Obi-Wan Kenobi and the half assembled C3P0, to new ones like Darth Maul and blatant comic-relief bringer Jar Jar Binks.

The "why-didn't-they-have-this-when-I-was-young" department has put out a line of Episode One sets for the more creative inner child. Prices range from $9 - $15, and include vehicles from starfighters to submarines.

Phantom Menace t-shirts are also available, and are priced at about $ 20.

Those wanting a preview of Episode One sounds can pick up the official soundtrack by John Williams, on Sony Classical records. In total, there are 17 tracks including the familiar main theme from Star Wars. The album's first video, "Dual Of The Fates" has already been airing on MuchMusic, and features actual footage from the film. Those wary of learning crucial plot points may wish to purchase the album after seeing the film, as several of the track titles give away key events in the film.

The CD costs around $19 and is available at all music outlets.

NOISE.....

Top 5 SINGLES

1 Squeeze Toy
Boom Tang Boys

2 Goodbye
Spice Girls

3 Animal Song
Savage Garden

4 Love Song
Sky

5 Kiss Me
Sixpence None The Richer

TOP 5 CD'S in Winnipeg

1 Come On Over
Shania Twain

2 Americana
Offspring

3 Pure Dance 4
Various Artists

4 Fanmail
TLC

5 MC Mario Mixdown 99
Various Artists

SOURCE Sound Scan

TOP TEN

Numbers from one to ten

0. Ten
9. Nine
8. Six
7. Eight
6. Four
5. Five
4. Seven
3. One
2. Three
1. Two

Very Little Text

RRC Dean out with a new book

Dean of Business and Applied Arts launches *Weddings*

By Candice Knol

Photo by Christine Choi

Book launches are just like weddings. At least that's what Dave Williamson, Red River's Dean of Business and Applied Arts, said at the launch for his new book.

Standing at the podium, Williamson scanned the coffee shop at the back of McNally Robinson in Grant Park. About a hundred faces stared back at him.

He commented it was only when he launches a book that different parts of his life intertwine: people from work, people from his publisher, friends and family all under the same roof.

"This is a lot like a wedding," he said, making everyone in the audience laugh since the title of his new book is *Weddings: A Novel*.

And Williamson kept everyone laughing for the remainder of his presentation. Before he began reading, he said he wanted to thank a few people.

"This isn't the Academy Awards," said Williamson, indicating he wouldn't take as long as recipients of the awards do. More laughter from the audience.

The renowned Canadian author Carol Shields was at the top of his list. Shields read the first few drafts of the new novel.

"Weddings is a wonderful book, funny and often touching — it tugs in an extraordinary way on one's own memories of weddings," said Shields.

Weddings explores both love and commitment as well as the nature of the ceremony itself. Williamson takes his reader on a humourous journey through three generations and several decades, beginning with Paul in the 1950s. On his wedding day, Paul's first concern is the safes he has purchased for the special night. For those of you who don't know, explained Williamson, a safe is a condom.

Paul, of course, practiced putting his condoms on so he would get it just right when the time came. He remembers: "After a few false starts, I had the safe half-unrolled and not on and impossible to roll up again. I hated to waste them this way. Why didn't they give you printed instructions?"

Williamson said the idea for the book came when a friend mentioned he was going to a wedding in Texas where he would be seeing his ex-wife. "That potential conflict of the guy going to the wedding and seeing his ex-wife... [is] at the heart of this book."

Williamson wanted to contrast one kind of wedding with other types, and look at how they've changed over the past 50 years. The book has a traditional 50s wedding where the father of the bride pays for everything, a rebellious hippie wedding, and, of course, a 90s media frenzy wedding.

"A wedding to me is a sort of artificial event," said Williamson. There's no one-true manual, no training, and all the guidance from different people is usually contradictory.

But Williamson took great care in researching *Weddings*, which turned out to be a lot more complex than he originally thought. He said he thought he'd write it up in about six months. It's been taken than 10 years.

Williamson has done other projects in the meantime, and he's working full-time at Red River. Plus, he's written over 600 book reviews for the Winnipeg Free Press and the Globe and Mail in his lifetime.

Then it was printed in a rush. The publisher told him in January they wanted to print it in April. Usually that's a process that takes more than a year, said Williamson. And he should know, since he's published four other books.

But do the marriages in Williamson's book last? Well, you'll just have to read *Weddings* to find out.

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Cuts	$10	Cuts	$10
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Highlights	$20	Highlights	$25
Go Blond	$25 & up	Go Blond	$25 & up
Glazing (Tone & Shine)	$18	Glazing (Tone & Shine)	$18
Perm	$28 & up	Texture Perm	$32
Hair Straightening	$30 & up	Hair Straightening	$30

Note: Long hair - up to $10.00 extra
Note: Long hair - up to $10.00 extra

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ONLY AT THE CAMPUS STORE

eXistenZ not for the light-hearted

By Kelly Frazer

If mutant amphibian guts aren't up your alley then you may want to avoid David Cronenberg's latest futuristic offering, eXistenZ. The director, possibly one of Canada's strangest exports, has put together a disturbing look at the future which defies the sci-fi norm.

Cronenberg avoids the big metal cities standard; his vision is organic and well...messy. eXistenZ is a virtual bio-system created by game design guru Allegra Geller(Jennifer Jason Leigh) that is so twisted apparently even she doesn't know what's going on when she's in it.

In the movie's opening scene, a product testing for eXistenZ goes awry when Allegra narrowly avoids being executed by a technophobe toting a gun made of bone. She escapes with the help of Ted Pikul(Jude Law), who far from being the bodyguard she hopes for, is a lowly new employee of her game's distributor.

The movie seemed to have everything it needed to succeed: a strange, beautiful woman on the run from danger, her uptight, reluctant traveling partner and an exotic alternate reality. The first half of the film was engaging but when Allegra and Pikul went into eXistenZ it started to go downhill.

Cronenberg did well in sculpting the bizarre world of eXistenZ but unfortunately, after seeing the fortieth mutant amphibian get its guts slit open, I wanted out of it.

Aside from the gross-out factor, the film started taking too many twists and turns once the characters are in the game. I became alienated from the two main characters, unsure of who they really were, so I didn't really care what happened to them. Whatever sense of reality there was in eXistenZ was lost completely.

As each new development popped up, I could guess that none of them were really going to matter to the final outcome of the movie. When the last plot twist had passed and the credits were rolling, my only feeling was of relief that my eXistenZ ordeal was over.

The Familial Circle By Ken Hunter

Who wiped their ass with my towel?!

Not me!

Not me!

The Bookstore ...More than just books

Introducing Mondetta

The new line of Red River College clothing created by Mondetta is now available in the Bookstore. Come and see the new line which consists of:

- **RRC T-shirts** (white, navy, black)
- **RRC Baseball Caps** (navy, black)
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All items are 100% cotton, with the College logo embroidered on each garment, and each garment reflects the commitment to quality that goes into every Mondetta product.

And we still offer:

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Come and check out our selection today!

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OF APPLIED ARTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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VISA MasterCard *Interac also accepted.*

Music Reviews

Never Been Kissed
Original Motion Picture Soundtrack
Various Artists

"Catch a falling star and put it in your pocket..."

The "Never Been Kissed" soundtrack is an interesting mix of new and old, with music ranging from John Lennon\Yoko Ono and The Beach Boys, to The Moffats and The Cardigans.

Nothing stands out as a huge hit on this disk, but one song (if you chose to call it that) is incredibly terrible. "Please, Please, Please Let Me Get What I Want" is one of the most pathetic attempts at music I've ever heard.

Block does a pretty good version of the classic "Catch a Falling Star," proving their immense musical talent...

This isn't a soundtrack to go out of your way for, but it's worth a listen if you're into soft rock.

"...save it for a rainy day."

-Paul Bruce

The Huntingtons
File Under Ramones

Delaware's Huntingtons have been cranking out Ramones-inspired punk rock since 1996. They've already released 3 albums proper, a live album, a 7 inch, and a Ramones cover disc, "Rocket To Ramonia."

So why does the world need another Ramones cover album from the Huntingtons? Last time around, it was strictly the hits, but "File Under Ramones" contains some of their more obscure material.

Fortunately, they're not just rehashes of already released songs. The Huntingtons add their own spin to already great songs like "Pet Semetary" and "Bonzo Goes To Bitburg. "The Huntingtons may not be the most original band in the world, but with two more studio albums in the works, and having already released a live album and "File Under Ramones," they could easily be the hardest working punk rock band going today.

-Tyler Heshka

Tom Waits
Mule Variations

The gravel-voiced bard is back and he brought along an entourage of animals, unrequited lovers, a paranoid voyeur, and a circus freak.

Mule Variations is Tom Waits' first studio album in six years and his barbed wire voice hasn't rusted a bit. For the recording Waits severed his 15-year association with Island Records to work with the independent punk label Epitaph Records. Waits made the decision to join Epitaph because it is a label run by artists for artists.

This new found artistic freedom, however, has not altered the final product as the 16-track release picks up right where Bone Machine, his 1992 Grammy Award winning alternative album, ended.

All clichés are abandoned on Mule Variations, which has an eclectic mix of blues, ballads and low-fi chaotic melodies. The lyrics address redemption, spirituality, and bizarre characters that explore the beauty and darkness of the human experience.

-Kevin Glasier

Ben Folds Five
The Unauthorized Biography of Reinhold Messner

It was Ben Folds Five's second album, 1997's Whatever and Ever Amen, that first propelled the Charlotte, NC trio into stardom. It was "Brick," a somber song about abortion that stole the spotlight, eclipsing a host of grittier, edgier, and ultimately, better songs. There are no "Brick's" on The Unauthorized Biography of Reinhold Messner, the band's fourth and most recent outing. Biography showcases Ben Folds' more musical side, as he does less pounding on his piano, choosing to weave more intricate melodies. The opening track, "Narcolepsy," starts off with pure aural chaos, until it finally decrescendos, ending with Ben Folds plaintifully repeating 'I'm not tired." Songs like "Mess" and "Army" are pure pop genius, as the band chooses to throw trumpet, saxophone, and violin into the mix. However, the boys haven't lost their sense of humour; "Your Redneck Past" reminds us that while their musical direction may be changing, Ben Folds Five are still the geeks we know and love.

-Jamie Care

Job Opportunities

There are 2 things we never seem to have enough of... TIME AND MONEY. Watkins offers a plan to earn "residual income," giving you that TIME AND MONEY.

Watkins– the world's first network marketing company is growing at an unprecedented pace, proving that there is a large market for wellness products that will help people feel better, live longer and protect the environment.

The Watkins opportunity can allow you more time to spend doing the things you want to do. By setting your own hours you can fit YOUR business into YOUR schedule.

To find out how you can have more TIME AND MONEY, call for a free information package or interview at: 222-9961.

Houses For Rent

2-bedroom house within walking distance of college. Fridge, stove, parking included. $450 + utilities.

Phone 983-1881 (days) or 757-2770 (evenings).

Deposit and references required.

Share furnished house near college/bus routes. Prefer quiet non-drinker/smoker.

Damage and references.

Barb/Roger 338-7810.

Room For Rent

2 bedroom apartment in Wolseley area. Fridge, stove, washer, dryer, shower, hardwood floors, unfurnished. Near Polo Park.

$400/month.

Phone Rod at 783-7245.

Condo For Sale

892 sq. ft. Lindenwoods condo on 3rd flr. with **2 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms.** Includes all appliances. Close to all amenities. Security entrance. Low condo fees. Outdoor pool. 2 parking stalls.

Asking $65,000 O.B.O. Private sale.

Call 488-1897 (messages).

Help!

Drink-can tabs are being collected to assist Carley, a 3-year-old girl with cerebral palsy who is a severe spastic quadriplegic.

The aim is to collect 2,000 lbs. (approximately 2 million tabs) for a normal wheelchair. The wheelchair is required so Carley can attend kindergarten when she turns 5.

Tabs can be dropped off in a bin located outside the Information Centre, C mall level, across from the bookstore.

Public Service Announcements

The **Spence Street Thrift Shop** urgently needs the following items for the community:

- ✔ kitchen utensils
- ✔ household articles
- ✔ good used furniture
- ✔ clothing
- ✔ bed linens
- ✔ towels

If you can donate any of these items, please drop them off at 555 Spence Street, Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm, or call 783-9281.

The next meeting of the **Manitoba Anaphylaxis Information Network** will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, in the Winnipeg Room, Second Floor cafeteria, at the Health Sciences, 820 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg.

New members are most welcome.

M.A.I.N. is a support and information group for families living with life-threatening allergies. The group meets on the third Thursday of the month.

For more information call 253-3415.

On Wednesday, May 12 **Amnesty International** will be presenting the topic:

"Arrogance and Power: The U.S. and Iraq."

The event is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. at Westminster United Church (745 Westminster Ave.).

The event is free and open to the public. The speaker will be Professor Rais Khan, from the University of Winnipeg.

For more information contact Louise Simbandumwe at 475-4565.

Attention: Manitoba Child Care Association members and families!

MCCA's 25th Anniversary "Picnic In The Park"

Crescent Drive Park

June 5, 11 a.m.- 3 p.m.

All ages welcome.

Call 586-8587 Ext. 2 to register.

To place a classified ad, call Guy Lussier at 632-2070.

MAY IS BETTER SPEECH AND HEARING MONTH

What **are hearing disorders?**

Hearing disorders are a disruption in one's ability to hear sounds clearly. There are two types of losses:

1. Conductive hearing loss is an interference with sounds being transmitted through the outer ear or middle ear space. This could be due to wax build-up, fluid in the ear, or a hole in the eardrum.
2. Sensorineural hearing loss is damage in the inner ear due to noise exposure, damage to the auditory nerve, or a tumour.

- An estimated 7-10% of children and adults in Manitoba suffer from communication handicaps of some kind.
- Communicatively impaired children form the largest disability category among elementary and secondary school age children.
- Approximately 40% of seniors over 65 have a hearing impairment.

Normal conversation is measured at 60 decibels; a vacuum cleaner at 75; heavy traffic at 80; motorcycles at 95; rock music at 110. Authorities say it is wise to wear hearing protection from 85 to90 decibels and louder.

A speech, language, or hearing disorder interfering with ones ability to communicate can lead to isolation from friends, family, and society.

Most people with communication disorders can be helped through rehabilitative therapy, amplification services, medical treatment or surgery.

Following a stroke, many people lose their ability to read; write; talk and listen effectively. The critical time for intervention is during the first year after the stroke.

The Manitoba Speech and Hearing association.

"No pessimist ever discovered the secrets of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new heaven to the human spirit." Helen Keller

Red River College Wellness Committee

DRAFT

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Red River College is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and respectful environment for all employees, students and clients. The College will not condone or tolerate disruptive or inappropriate behaviour by students whether it occurs on College property or in relation to College activities.

Responsibility of Students

Students are required to maintain an appropriate standard of conduct. They must obey the law and College regulations while on College property, demonstrate respect for all persons on campus and other college facilities, zxand display mature conduct. They are held responsible for their individual or collective actions.

Responsibility of the College

The College's responsibility is to maintain an environment conducive to learning. It may require students to leave the educational setting, so as to preserve the environment or to ensure that all College members have access to a safe and respectful working and learning environment. To this end the College has developed procedures which take into account the interests of all persons involved.

Authority to Act

This policy addresses the College's major concerns about misconduct and disruptive behaviour within the College community. Instructors and staff members are responsible for dealing with minor misconduct. The Dean of Student Affairs has the authority to respond in more serious situations. The power to suspend or expel a student from the College for more than one term resides with the Vice President Academic or Vice President Training Enterprises.

STUDENT MISCONDUCT

Failure by students to maintain appropriate standards of conduct may result in the initiation of disciplinary action by the College. Conduct subject to disciplinary action includes but is not limited to:

1. conduct disruptive to the teaching/learning process;
2. falsification of any college document or the supplying of false information to the College;
3. plagiarism;
4. cheating on examinations or abetting others to cheat;
5. failure to meet basic attendance requirements as stipulated for continuation in courses and programs;
6. failure to comply with the reasonable directions of College staff or faculty;
7. theft/vandalism of College or Students' Association property;
8. theft/vandalism of personal property of students/staff while it is on College property;
9. unauthorized entry to College properties;
10. physical abuse or threat of violence, disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace;
11. behaviour which contravenes The Manitoba Human Rights Act, as amended from time to time;
12. the possession, use or sale of narcotic or illegal drugs on campus or other college facilities;
13. behaviour that significantly interferes with College operations;
14. behaviour that may endanger the health or safety of employees or students of the College;
15. violation of copyright laws;
16. damage or misuse of College or Students' Association property;
17. possession of offensive weapons;
18. obnoxious behaviour which may include using abusive or vulgar language, gestures and the like;
19. unacceptable use of College computer facilities;
20. violation of College policies, rules and regulations.

PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

1. Any infractions related to the items listed above, which are observed by any member of the College community, should be referred, as quickly as possible, in writing to the Dean, Student Affairs or her/his delegate. In case of an emergency, the infraction should be reported immediately by phone to the Dean, Student Affairs followed by a written report.
2. Where appropriate, referral should also be made to College Security, the police or other appropriate external agencies. A written report of such referral will be given promptly to the Dean, Student Affairs or her/his delegate.
3. Where danger to the student or to others exists or is threatened, the faculty member or the employee responsible may immediately prohibit the student from further participation in the educational setting. Upon request, College Security will assist in enforcing the action. The circumstances surrounding such action will be referred, as quickly as possible, to the Dean of Student Affairs or her/his delegate for review.
4. Where a student(s) displays disruptive or inappropriate behaviour, the faculty member or the employee responsible may, in exercising their best judgement, ask the student(s) to leave the educational or classroom setting. Where appropriate, College Security should be contacted for assistance. The infraction should be noted immediately by phone to the Dean, Student Affairs followed by a written report.
5. Within five working days of receiving a report on an infraction under this policy, the Dean of Student Affairs or her/his delegate will conduct a hearing and/or investigation in the manner deemed appropriate at which all parties will be given an opportunity to make submissions. Individuals who participate in any investigations are expected to respect the confidentiality of any information they may receive during the course of the investigation.

   The Dean, Student Affairs or her/his delegate will determine the appropriate action as outlined below.
6. Subject to the College being required by law to disclose information with respect to the investigation and subject to disclosure which is necessary in order to investigate or resolve a complaint, the College, in addressing alleged misconduct and in resolving incidents of misconduct will make every effort to keep confidential any information concerning an allegation of misconduct. Confidentiality, however, must be distinguished as being separate from anonymity.
7. Disciplinary action taken by the College may be, but is not limited to, the following:
   a. a written reprimand, a copy of which will be retained in the student's file;
   b. suspension from a course or program for a period of not more than 5 working days;
   c. suspension from a course or program for a period of not more than one term;
   d. referral to the Vice President Academic or Vice President Training Enterprises for suspension for a period of more than one term or expulsion from the College.
8. Where the Dean of Student Affairs issues a written reprimand, copies of the reprimand shall be provided to the appropriate Dean/Director and College Security.
9. Where the Dean of Student Affairs, Vice President Academic or Vice President Training Enterprises authorizes a suspension or expulsion, she/he shall issue a letter suspending the individual from a course, practicum, work experience or program. Copies of the suspension letter shall be provided to the President, the appropriate Dean/Director, Registrar and College Security.
10. Students may appeal disciplinary action to the President.

RELATED POLICY

- *Safety (A 2)*
- *Alcobol and Illegal Drugs on College Premises (A 3)*
- *Respecting Copyright (A9)*
- *Attendance/Absence from Classes (C 2)*
- *Acceptable Use of College Computer Facilities (F 20)*

RED RIVER COLLEGE
OF APPLIED ARTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Third Revision: April 22, 1999

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

DRAFT STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

Over the years, members of the college community, particularly students, have commented that the procedures for the current Disciplinary Appeals Policy is cumbersome since it requires students to go through too many steps in appealing actions taken by the College.

To address this concern, we have started to work towards developing a new Student Conduct Policy which includes a simpler and straightforward set of procedures and reflects the values held by the college community regarding the maintenance of a safe and respectful working and learning environment at the College.

The draft of the Student Conduct Policy has been provided to members of the College Management Committee, the President's Advisory Committee on Harassment and College Council for their comments and suggestions. As well, the draft policy was made available to staff and students who attended the April 27, 1999 Panel Discussion on Disruptive Behavior held at the Black Lecture Theatre of the College. All college staff and instructors were also requested to provide their comments and suggestions.

We would like to ask all students to review the draft policy and send us your comments and suggestions as follows:

Fausto Yadao
Dean
Student Affairs
Building C 715
Telephone: 632-2331
Fax: 694-7253
Email: fyadao@rrc.mb.ca

After the college community has had a chance to comment and offer suggestions, a final draft of the policy will be presented to College Management Committee for their consideration and approval.

Thank you very much for your kind assistance.

It's Real Life

Projector ad full page for the May 10th issue.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW

Students' Association

INCOMING EXECUTIVE

Geoff **GRAY** for *President*

Kevin **STOREY** for *Vice President of Student Affairs*

and

Paul **SLUSARCHUK** for *Vice President of Financial and Support Services*

In total we had **374** people vote which is approximately **6.5%** of the total voting population.
Thank you for those students' who came out and showed their support.

The official results are as is:

President

Geoff Gray	222
Calvin Friesen	143

VP of Student Affairs

Kevin Storey	186
Ian Scott	181

VP of Financial and Support Services

Paul Slusarchuk	yes	297
	no	50