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the PROJECTOR
red river college students' association newspaper
may 8, 2000

Downtown Delay

NDP review slows RRC Princess expansion

By Tamara Bodi

Red River College's downtown campus project has been delayed until June while the provincial government reviews a proposal made by the college,to renovate and move into a block of heritage buildings in the Exchange District.

If the proposal is accepted by the province, the college will move its Creative Arts and Information Technology programs into the block, which is across from the Public Safety Building.

- RRC vice-president Norm Konowalchuk feels positive about the delay, saying it is a necessary step for the province. The provincial government is the college's sole provider for expansions.

"They're key to this because we're looking at anywhere from $3.5-4 million in expenditures for a new facility on an annual basis," he says. "In the big picture it's not a great deal of money, but it's certainly $3 or 4 million that we don't have."

RRC's plan is to have a developer buy the five Princess Street buildings from the college for $1, renovate to the college's specifications at a cost of $20-25 million, and then lease the buildings to RRC at an estimated upkeep cost of $3.5-4 million a year, Konowalchuk says.

The upkeep is where provincial funding is needed.

"It's a long-term commitment. If we're looking at 20 years, that means we would like the province to support this for the next 20 years," says Konowalchuk.

photo: Katie Chalmers

A NDP review is threatening to put the brakes on RRC's Princess St. expansion

He says upkeep costs are for incremental costs such as libraries and staffing.

Curtis Nordman of the province's College Expansion Initiative says a new government and timing are the reasons behind the review.

"The expansion is still in the stage for developing a framework," says the executive director. "It's a new government, and we've got a timing problem. The government is putting together its policies to expand the colleges while an expansion-type initiative has been put ahead by one of the colleges. We'd like to complete our framework for expansion and simultaneously evaluate all our options for making this kind of expansion for RRC. In other words, is Princess Street the right one, or is there another?"

Nordman says the government is committed to spending $4 million over the next several years. It's the statistical numbers the province is most concerned about.

"Manitoba colleges have the second lowest youth participation rates and the lowest diploma graduation rates in Canada . . . Statistics Canada reports indicate we're not doing as well as we think we should, in order to do that we need a significant review," he says.

He also says the province is concerned with aboriginal participation rates and if colleges are meeting skill needs.

Just the same, Nordman says $4 million a year for 25 years is a lot of taxpayer money.

"These are quite large decisions," he says. "The RRC has proposed a lease back option, but over 25 years that is an over $100 million item. These are not small items. The government has a responsibility to make sure that kind of investment is the best one."

The Princess Street buildings are across from the Public Safety Building, and range in age from 102 to 118 years old.

If the project goes ahead, renovations are expected to take a year and a half to complete, Konowalchuk says.

Sweet tooth boosts SA books

photo: Katiie Chalmers

Bad for the waistline, good for SA budget

By Kyla Duncan

Red River College Students' Association is predicting a $30, 000 surplus once this year is said and done compared to a $48, 726 SA defecit five years ago.

Kevin Storey, SA Student Affairs vice president, says it's all thanks to good management.

"In five years the SA has gone from losing money to putting money back in. It's a reflection of the managers doing an excellent job," says Storey.

It's also a reflection of profitable SA ventures, such as The Ox, says Storey.

"One of the biggest things is The Ox sales are roughly 12 per cent ahead. A big reason The Ox is so successful is because of candy sales. The Ox sold $630, 493 worth of candy this year," says Storey.

Storey is predicting tooth decay might spark a different kind of profit.

"There's going to be a huge market for dental hygienists over the next year. That's a lot of candy," says Storey.

Owen Desnoyers, SA executive director says The Ox isn't the only thing bringing in money for the SA this year.

"All of it has to do with sponsors like Coca-Cola. As well as The Ox being over budget," says Desnoyers.

The $30, 000 surplus will go into scholarships as well as the SA's products and services, says Desnoyers.

"The government matches what we contribute to the endowment fund, which goes towards scholarships. The surplus will be put back into the newspaper, radio station, dayplanner and the product & service mix," says Desnoyers.

Storey says the surplus is thanks to increased enrollment, something he thinks the future SA will be able to repeat.

"I think we did very well...the SA will be able to keep it up if enrollment keeps rising, which increases student fees, while costs stay fairly rigid," says Storey.

the PROJECTOR

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

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The editors wish to apologize to Rachel Lagace for errors in the last issue and thank her for her patience.

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Recycling pilot raises noses

photo: Rachael King

One of these does not belong on campus

By Ian Tizzard

A three-week pilot recycling project on the second and fourth floors of the Administration Buildir g has just ended with more than half the 49 people involved objecting to emptying their own garbage, says Mark Wills, chairman of the college's Recycling and Waste Management Committee.

Each employee on the two floors was given a blue can for their recyclable refuse. Two larger containers – one for white paper, and one for plastic and aluminum - were placed in central locations on each of the two floors. Employees were encouraged to use their personal containers, and sort them into the larger bins when full.

As a trade-off with the custodial staff, who had two more containers to empty every night, Wills says the employees were also asked to empty their own garbage cans at the same central location.

"Next thing you know, we'll be cleaning the washrooms," says Val Walker, who works in the Accounts Payable department. "I don't mind recycling," she says, "but I sure resent emptying my own garbage."

Wendy Still, who works in the Accounts Payable department on the second floor, also has reservations about the system she helped test. She is in favour of recycling, but is concerned about the extra work involved with separating white, coloured, and carbon paper.

"We get long line ups here. It's hard to keep track, especially if you're busy," says Still.

Romeo Alindayu, the college's environmental coordination assistant, is pleased with the results. He interviewed the employees involved with the pilot project, and says their reactions were mainly positive. Of the 49 people who took part, he says, only three complained that sorting recyclable material is not their job.

Dale Lewicki, a member of the Recycling and Waste Management Committee, has an office on the second floor. He explains people's objection to emptying garbage as "psychological."

"People here, they complain all the time," says Lewicki.

Regardless, Lewicki is confident a recycling program will work.

"I don't mind recycling, but I sure resent emptying my own garbage."

~ Val Walker ~

"It's just a matter of educating people," to change habits, says Lewicki, who points out that he does not even have a garbage can in his office.

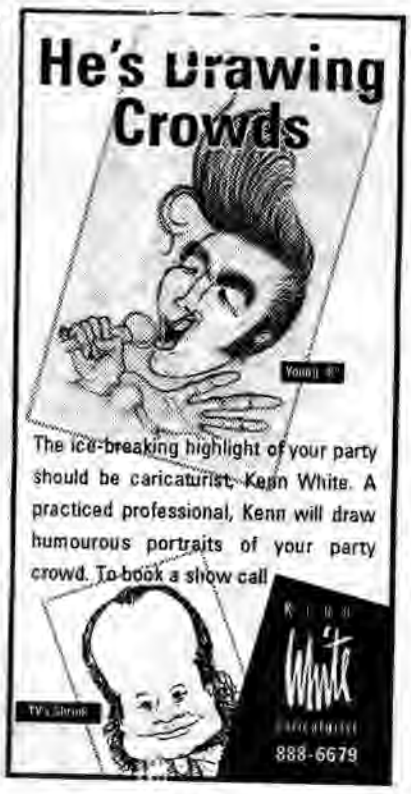
Despite the objections, Wills is fairly pleased with the pilot. The pilot project was a trial run "meant to gauge staff reaction to a system we were thinking of implementing," says Wills, who emphasizes the importance of employee opinion.

"If you can't have the cooperation of the staff, I don't think you'll have a very successful program," says Wills.

"We want to get the bugs worked out with these two floors," says Wills, before expanding the program throughout the college.

The next pilot project involves using small two-quart garbage containers that will hang off of desk-side recycling containers. "If people are recycling properly," says Wills, holding up a typical garbage can, "you don't need a garbage can this big."

With these piggyback containers, garbage and recyclable material would be carried together to a central location.



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Game Day is May 12th.

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Friday, May 12

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Ultimate Frisbee Tournament
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Wednesday, May 17

Movie Wednesday
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Friday, May 19

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- √ Make classes interesting for all students?
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- √ Come well prepared to class?
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- √ Give notice before canceling classes?
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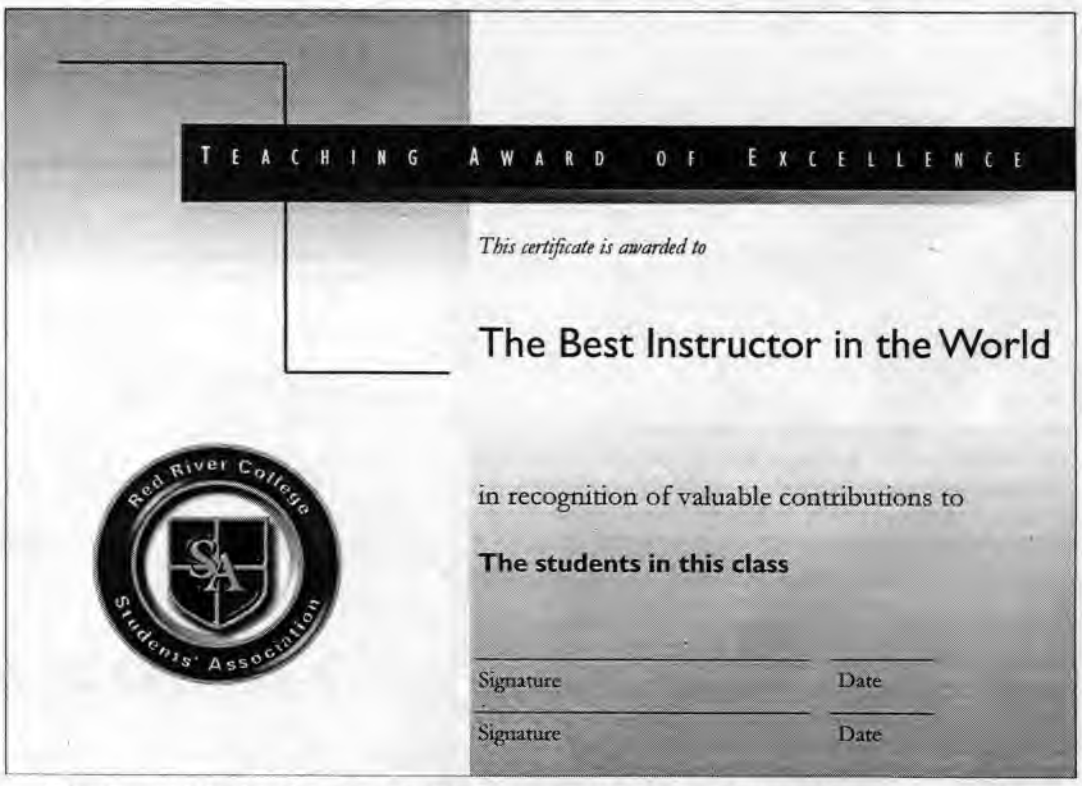

If you think that one of your instructors deserves the Teaching Award of Excellence, pick up a nominations form at the SA office (DM20) or talk to Kevin Storey, VP Student Affairs.

Everyone responsible to end racism

photo: Rachael King

RRC's diversity is showcased

By Sean Thiessen

A warning against Canadians patting themselves on the back in self-congratulation from Strini Reddy kicked off Diversity Day at Red River College.

Reddy was the keynote speaker for Diversity Day, speaking to 160 people of all ages and backgrounds in the South Gym who were enjoying complementary hot coffee, cold juice and muffins prior to a day filled with workshops and entertainment across campus. Reddy, now retired, worked as an educator in five countries for 42 years, winning many awards. Reddy came to Canada with his family in 1971 settling in The Pas, Manitoba, after fleeing his native home of South Africa and its apartheid system.

Speaking from the stage to the crowd below while sipping ice water through his greying mustache, Reddy says Canadian society still needs to address the problems of racism.

"While we have made some progress in this country there is a way to go. We are not as inclusive as we think we are," says Reddy.

Reddy says the ongoing treatment of aboriginals, school yard violence, and calls against employment equity are just some of the indications how far Canada has yet to go.

Reddy says it is up to every individual to take part in moving Canadian society along the path to ending racism.

"Include yourself in the group of people that will say we will not tolerate this kind of behaviour, We will be inclusive," says Reddy.

Reddy says individuals who do decide to act towards ending racism should do so thoughtfully and not merely adopt the language.

"I get upset when I hear talk abouf tolerance. I don't want to be tolerated. I want to be accepted for who I am," says Reddy.

RRC president Jacqueline Thachuk says she hopes that Diversity Day will be a step towards real action towards ending racism.

"We're going to be feeding our bodies and feeding our minds but I hope we'll be feeding our souls as well," says Thachuk.

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photo: Katie Chalmers

Apollo dancer kicks up heels

Dancers fill RRC with 'Opa'

By Jodi Duhard

Sounds of gypsy music paired with joyful shouts of 'Opa' rang through the halls of Red River College last Thursday afternoon as Winnipeg's Apollo Performance Group kicked up their heels for Diversity Day.

The quartet, composed of two males and two females, performed three traditional dances of Macedonia, which Northern Greece was formerly known as. The dancers, in ornate black, brown and white dress, held looks of concentration on their faces as they hopped front to back, thrusting their legs in the air and slapping their feet. The fancier moves and solos, however, were left up to the two males.

"A lot of the dances are war-based and all the girls did was run the household back then," says Agapi Mavridis, one of the females of the group, explaining why the women stand back and clap as the men move out in front to display their dancing prowess.

The female dancers' costumes are made up of a skirt, apron and vest over top a frilly white blouse, with gold coins hung around their neck and waist, which Mavridis says are there to symbolize the size of a woman's dowry or family wealth. The males wear embroidered mid-length coats accompanied with white tights and pointy, pom-pom-tipped leather shoes.

"The costumes are 17th or 18th century. The symbolism is the introduction of Christianity into Macedonia," says male performer, James Bechrakis.

The 25-year-old dance group, boasting 16 members, belongs to both the Kefi Greek Folk Dancers of Manitoba and the Folk Arts Council, which is the organization that deals with multicultural groups around the city and the founder of Folklorama.

The Apollo Performance Group will be performing at various local events like Folklorama this summer, and are also booked for shows as far away as California, which may have the members shouting a collective 'Hooray!', or should I say, 'Opa!'

Touching the female and male parts

By Sean Thiessen

With feet firmly planted on the ground, spine perfectly straight, your ears are filled with the sound of asian wind pipes as you are submerged in darkness with your eyes closed. You are alone with your thoughts, yet you sit in a circle with 17 other students in D Building all in different stages of meditation. Your mind becomes vacant of thought and all your stress melts away until the order is given to breath through your belly.

The meditation opened D'arcy Burning Haid's Diversity Day workshop, Discovering the Male & Female Parts of Ourselves.

Those looking for something on the anatomical side may be disappointed, because the male and female parts Haid is talking about are all in the mind.

"Each one of us has a male and female side," says Haid.

Haid says female parts, including non-verbal qualities like intuition and emotions, are centered in the right half of the brain. Male parts, including rationality and physical action, reside in the left side of the brain.

Haid says the key to a healthy fulfilling life is to establish a balance between the two.

"Our culture has spent a lot of time on all the male activities. There are a lot of people who are getting burnt out. Either they get sick or just give up. We need a whole new frame work," says Haid.

Jennifer Stayner, a first-year student in the Medical Radiologic Technology program, attended the workshop in search of something different.

"I was looking for something different, something off the main stream. I didn't want to sit for a two hour lecture," says Stayner.

Stayner says that while she questioned some of the practices, which included many visualization exercises, she did take something away from the workshop.

"It was kinda vague and a little on the touchy-feely side for me. I realized that we have two distinct sides, the creative and the linear, and that I'm a balanced person," says Stayner.

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PROFILE

Miriam Toews

Toews heals through humour

Local author writes her way out of grief

By Tamara Bodi

Two years ago, Manitoba author Miriam Toews' father walked through his hometown of Steinbach and in front of a moving train.

His suicide was felt throughout the close-knit community, but one of his daughters, Miriam, needed to do something more than mourn her loss.

She needed to write a book about it.

The memoir is called *Swing Low.*

Toews, 35, is one of the province's best-known fiction writers. Her novels are known for their humourous and colourful characters.

Her first book, *The Summer of My Amazing Luck*, is about a single mother on welfare in Winnipeg's North End.

It won the John Hirsch Award for Manitoba's Most Promising Writer and was shortlisted for the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour, an award given in the past to Canadian authors Mordecai Richler and Bill Richardson.

In 1998, *A Boy of Good Breeding* came out with similar success. It still runs the book club circuit, just like its predecessor, and won the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award.

Recently, a local film producer bought rights to the novel, which tells the story of a mayor of a small town who thinks his father is the prime minister of Canada.

So when Toews took a break from writing about characters with names like Lish, Knute, Combine Jo, Euphemia, and Hosea Funk to write about the suicide of her dad, people took notice.

That's what I wanted to write," she says in her purple and red dining room.

"That's what I needed to write, was *Swing Low*. It just seemed like the obvious choice. It's a natural evolution; that's what I needed to do.

But I still really enjoy writing comic novels or whatever you want to call them. But sometimes things happen and you have to do what you have to do."

The idea to write the memoir came from her publishers, who noticed work on Toews' third comic novel was moving slowly.

As Toews sits in her dining room with her feet on her dining room chair, it has been just two weeks since she launched the memoir to a standing-room only audience, over two weeks since *The Winnipeg Free Press* ran a full-page colour article about her success, and less than two weeks since the *Globe and Mail* also ran an article.

Toews has a busy life.

So naturally, when asked if she's been thinking about restarting the third comic novel she set aside to write *Swing Low*, her response is a bit jolted.

photo: Tamara Bodi

"No novels brewing," she says as her dog Shadow chews on a Converse shoe under the oak table. "No, not at the moment. I should - well, yes and no. Not really. No."

A little later she says, "I hope so. I think so. I hope so."

"Two years have passed and time does heal. It's amazingly true. It's cliche at the same time, but . . . writing is extremely therapeutic."

Her readers probably hope so.

But Toews is still in the throes of recovery. Writing for several months about a loved-one's suicide has taken its toll.

And with the media attention and book launches it's no surprise Toews turns any talk about a new and funny work of fiction into a discussion about her life in the present.

"I'm obviously still missing my dad a lot, thinking about his death.

But on the other hand, two years have passed and time does heal. It's amazingly true. It's cliche at the same time, but no, writing is extremely therapeutic."

The mother of three says writing out her therapy was a natural thing for her to do.

"A lot of people who experience suicides in their family, friends, will try to do something to compensate and try to raise awareness. So I think it was a normal sort of reaction, and I'm a writer, so I write."

Toews' father suffered for years from manic depression. It was this mental illness which drove him to make that final walk two years ago.

"I want to make people more aware of mental illness. The subject is so misunderstood, so feared, and it's so common."

But Toews still has the humour bug in her, and defends it as if it is another cause she'd one day like to write a memoir about.

"Humour is dismissed as less literary," she says as she tosses away the shoe. "I believe that. It bugs me, because some of the most profound stuff I've read by writers is just so funny.

I'm not sure if it's a Canadian thing to have serious novels, but I wish it wasn't that way."

All that humour, then, came from one room in Winnipeg: her bedroom.

"My first two novels were written in my bedroom upstairs on a desktop computer. Then I decided for some reason to get rid of it, and I got a laptop so I can write here on the dining room table. But then I get distracted and I'm thinking of going back upstairs."

The author, who also has a journalism degree, says she always tells her husband what happens in her novels in case she is prevented from finishing.

"I say to him 'What if I die before I finish it?' So I tell my husband what happens. I say, 'Remember this part,' and he says, 'Yeah.' I tell him about three quarters of the way in, when you just kind of have this vice around your head saying 'Must finish, must get to the end,' because you just can't bear to be writing it anymore and yet you can't give up. I think it also comes from paranoia, and maybe vanity. Actually, I didn't do that with *Swing Low*."

She says she's never sure how her novels will end, admitting she often reveals her storylines to friends and family so they can give advice.

Before starting a novel, she takes a lot of notes and maps everything out, including the characters.

She also says the outrageous names she gives her characters comes from real people, but she makes sure to switch first and last names.

Last summer her family drove down to Graceland, the home of Elvis Presley, which Toews says was both cheesy and moving.

It's obvious the trip had an impact, as outside on the sidewalk, in between giant pink, blue, and white chalk drawings of flying horses, a hopscotch, and an enormous head filled with stars, Elvis' name is in pink nail polish.

Toews' says one of her mantras was written by one of her dad's favourite writers, C. S. Lewis, famed children's author: "We read to know we're not alone."

And as Shadow and Toews wave good-bye at the door, it's obvious that her house is filled with life.

Dolphins IMAX experience goes swimmingly

By Heather Dzioba

Imagine floating in the clear, turquoise waters of the Bahamas and swimming alongside some of the most graceful and extraordinary creatures on earth: dolphins.

This is the sensation the new IMAX film *Dolphins* creates for the audience.

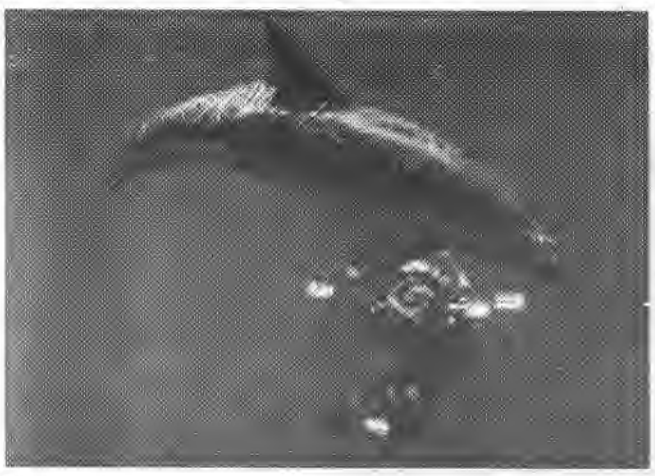
For the faint of stomach like myself, it can also cause sea sickness.

MacGillivary Freeman Films followed Dr. Kathleen Dudzinski, a marine biologist, and her colleagues to the Bahamas and Argentina where they studied dolphin communication.

According to Dr. Dudzinski, who was the guest of honour at the IMAX Premiere, dolphins have a highly advanced form of communication that combines noises with gesture, approach, and touch.

These were caught by the IMAX cameras so the audience could actually hear and see the dolphins communicating with one another and with humans.

The visuals were spectacular, and it was amazing to see the dolphins jumping and swimming with the camera crews, so close to them it feels like you're right there.



It was a great combination of slow-motion film, with music by Sting and narration by the eternally cool Pierce Brosnan.

It wasn't just visually appealing, it was also educational for people like me whose experience with dolphins consists of two trips to Marine Land and one to Sea World.

I was amazed to learn that after humans, dolphins are the smartest mammals. Dolphins never sleep but rather rest each half of their brains in two-hour shifts, and dolphins, humans, and a certain species of ape are the only animals on earth to engage in recreational sex.

The camera captures them playing and interacting through gestures and touch.

Dolphins is very moving and somewhat humorous, as the dolphin's personality really shines through.

The film is not all light and fluffy though, as it also features the struggle of the dolphin to stay alive.

Dolphins are an endangered species in many countries, and the film shows very disturbing shots of dolphins stuck in fishing nets and sick from pollution, bringing many audience members to tears.

Dudzinski says it was important to include these scenes in the film in order to raise awareness for preserving dolphins and their habitat.

With her work on the film, Dudzinski hopes to help viewers develop a love of dolphins and motivate them to take up her cause.

I think she succeeded.

Music Reviews

Patti Smith
Gung Ho

This legendary rock artist's new release is very unlegendary. Not even the production skills of Gil Norton (Foo Fighters, Counting Crows, Pixies) could save this album. Smith's voice is grating and the songs all sound the same, they just ran together. This CD just didn't do it for me.

-Heather Dzioba

Rating 3 out of ten. Favourable Track: 2.

Dot Allison
Afterglow

Afterglow is a showcase of vocal talent and masterful mixing. It feels like Portishead, and sounds a bit like Reznor. A real gem. Allison's vocals would make a Seraph envious. I digz!!!

-Jeremy Brooks

Rating 9 out of ten. Favourable Tracks: 2,3,8.

Various Artists
Heavy Metal 2000

The original soundtrack to the wickedly-dark 1981 animated film made it to platinum status with help from the vocal talents of Black Sabbath, Cheap Trick, and Journey. This installment sees the foreboding nuances of creator Kevin Eastman reflected in the pounding electric grab-bag of sinister musicians.

-Brandon Boone

Rating 7 out of ten. Favourable Tracks: 5,17,18.

Shannon Curfman
Loud Guitars, Big Suspicions

The album jacket screams cliche, and the CD itself does not fail to deliver. The music is unoriginal R&B sung by a 14-year-old with a strong voice, but not much real soul. However, with fellow Fargo wunderteen Johnny Lang on guitar this CD has great potential for sales among the Hanson crowd.

-Ryan Kinrade

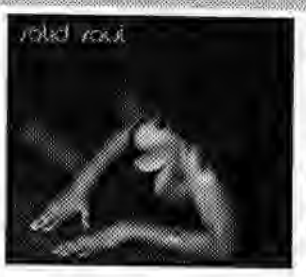
Rating 6 out of ten. Favourable Tracks 1,6,10.

Mia Sheard
Reptilian

Toronto singer Mia Sheard's deep Joni Mitchell-sounding voice is ill-fitting with the instrumentals on this art-rock CD. Sheard's always slightly behind or ahead of the music, and it's distracting. It's too bad because her lyrics are edgy and full of social commentary worth listening to.

-Katie Chalmers

Rating 5 out of ten. Favourable Track: 1.



Various Artists
Solid Soul

I was hoping to get past the large breasts and underarm hair on the front cover. It didn't happen. *Solid Soul* features emerging soul/rap artists and switches dizzily from rap to soul and back. There are one or two hopefuls in the messy fray, but go buy the real thing and leave this bad imitation on the shelf.

-Kyla Duncan

Rating 4 out of ten. Favourable Tracks: none.

28 DAYS two hours of serious yet funny entertainment

Sandra Bullock's latest flick "startlingly real"

By Kyla Duncan

In just two hours, *28 DAYS* will take you through the ups and falling downs of Gwen Cummings (Sandra Bullock), a New York writer with a serious addiction to alcohol and pain killers.

Directed by Betty Thomas, this amazing film is a true depiction of what an addict, her family, and friends go through.

The story begins with Gwen getting plastered with her equally-alcoholic boyfriend, Jasper (Dominic West) at her sister's (Elizabeth Perkins) wedding.

She borrows the wedding limo, and after crashing it into a house, ends up with a 28-day sentence to a rehab centre en lieu of jail time.

There, Gwen is plunged into sober reality.

During her stay at the rehab centre, she comes across many other addicts who add a touch of humor, but keep things in perspective when dealing with their own problems.

Gwen doesn't take her rehabilitation seriously and gets drunk when her boyfriend visits on family day. After she is found out, Gwen is kicked out and is a night away from jail, until she sprains her ankle in a fall out her four-storey window in pursuit of pain-killers.

It is then Gwen realizes that being an addict is not the way she wants to live her life and starts on the road to mental and physical change.

Anyone who has been an addict or has had someone close to them struggle with some form of addiction will instantly recognize that Thomas and Bullock did their homework.

For those who haven't dealt with addiction in any way, a limo crashing into a house or someone falling out of a four-storey window may seem a bit exaggerated and imagined.

But it is startlingly real, since an addict often has to hit lower than rock bottom to realize they need help.

And this is exactly what Bullock's character does.

Bullock does not play a drunk. She portrays a woman who has just realized she can't really remember the past 15 years of her life and has no idea how to deal with the rest without the help of drugs or alcohol.

Gwen must make many hard decisions about dealing with her disease, but you'll have to see it to judge if she makes the right ones.

BITCH & BASTARD

By Ian Tizzard

I saw a movie last week and was subjected, as usual, to a barrage of non-coming attractions commercials after the curtains opened. One of the commercials I saw was for the Canadian Armed Forces.

Some female recruit was talking about something, and the whole time there are shots of her and her friends doing army stuff and giving each other high-fives. So you know they're good. The sucky team never give each other high-fives.

There's upbeat metal/punk/pop guitar music playing while they're camping, jumping out of planes, rescuing people, driving tanks, and all sorts of cool stuff.

And I'm thinking, "Damn, the army's a lot of fun. What's that Web address?"

But part of me was confused, and it reminded me of something.

I've seen army people on the news and I've heard veterans speak about it, and it doesn't seem that fun.

Maybe you do get to do some fun stuff. Rappelling from a helicopter would be neat, and I really would like to blow the snot out of an oil drum with one of those big-ass machine guns. But then there's the other end of the barrel.

Getting shot at. Things near you blowing up. Some guy always telling you what to do and making you do a thousand push-ups if you ask why. The possibility of having to shoot someone who has never even gotten on your nerves.

Getting up at five in the morning.

I'm not so sure I'd be smiling as much as the woman and her friends are.

Then again, they probably wouldn't be smiling if they weren't paid actors.

No, I do not think I will join the army.

Come to think of it, how the hell did a cool two-minute war movie get me to even consider joining the army?

Are my self-proclaimed critical ways faltering? Maybe I need more self-discipline. But I'd like to have fun getting it.

Really, how many push-ups could there be? Maybe the army might be OK . . .

No. I do not think I will join the army.

In fact, I'm pretty sure nothing the real army could offer would entice me to sign up. But I'm all for more Department of National Defence propaganda.

It makes for entertaining commercials.

By Brandon Boone

Bordering on being redundant, this is going to be one heck of a rant. Today's nemesis: the popcorn man. I'll provide some background so as to explain why I think the popcorn man needs some serious help.

I've attended Red River College since the beginning of September. So to quickly do the math, that's been 35 "Movie Wednesdays," give or take a couple.

On these free popcorn-provided days, I've been able to secure a bag of that golden bounty on average of once a month. That's one out of four, people!

Not a particularly pleasing average for this popcorn addict. Before you start going, "It's free ya jerk, maybe you should be thankful you get any at all," let me finish.

It's not the fact that I miss the opportunity, it's why I miss it that gets under my skin.

Looking at the popcorn machine I was able to surmise that this contraption should be able to hold at least 100 bags of hot-popped golden bliss. So why is this purveyor of sunshine always empty?

The popcorn man.

Instead of running that beast continuously, it's on intermittently at best. Every time I walk by, there are several students with their faces squished against the butter-flavoured glass, anxiously awaiting the next batch of salted salvation.

Is the popcorn man making more? Is he noticing the drool dripping from these fellow students' mouths?

He couldn't care less.

I will concede that this position is not on the top 10 list of students' potential career choices, or that it pays enough (if anything) to take care of the rent. But nonetheless, his job title is self-explanatory. He is the popcorn man.

For the record, the popcorn man is not evil. He always shoves the bag in your hand with a polite snort.

Usually it takes several students to help him lift the heavy shovel of popcorn kernels into the pan before the next batch begins its journey from mais to fluffy white goodness.

So to you, Mr. Popcorn Man/Beastmaster, how's about getting that machine into tip-top olympic-shape by pushing her to her maximum potential?

I would say a weekly regime of Wednesday work-outs would be in order, n'est pas?

If you had her going all the time, the sweet scent of her popped perfume would remain mouth-watering rather than leaving that bitter taste in our

TOP EIGHT

Top Eight reasons why the "ILOVEYOU" virus sucks

1. It deleted all your Lexus pornography
2. You thought it was going to be more Lexus porn to add to your collection
3. All the Metallica MP3s you grabbed off of Napster were e-mailed directly to Lars Ulrich
4. Microsoft stock has fallen and can't get up, ever again
5. Your computer sent out electronic registration cards to all the software companies whose programs you've pirated
6. The naked pics of you and your girlfriend have been sent out to the first 300 people in your address book!
7. Even though Microsoft says they have nothing to do with the virus, they still want you to register it with them
8. This greatly affects your ability to forward those "virus warning" e-mails

-Compiled by Baboone

HELP WANTED

The ideal Part-Time job for students with limited time. Help a local children's charity reach their financial goal. Get paid an average of $8.75 per hour or more (*based on 35% commission). Work evenings and weekends. Team Manager positions also available. Call for appointment 956-2622.

Thank-you Sandra Rebizant!

Sandra Rebizant is retiring at the end of June 2000 after 17 years in the Library.

The staff in the Library would like to thank Sandra for being such a wonderful coworker. Sandra has kept us on track with patience and a sense of humour!

After her first career as a Mom (which is still ongoing and now includes Grandmother duties as assigned), Sandra graduated from the College's Library Technician program in 1985 and completed a Bachelor of Education Degree in 1992.

Sandra has instructed thousands of students in how to find, use and evaluate information, and she has patiently helped many more at the Information Desk.

We are *really* going to miss you Sandra!

THE Library

www.rrc.mb.ca/library
library@rrc.mb.ca

Yes!!! The Job Centre Employment Postings are now on the net.

☑ **http://tlm.rrc.mb.ca/jobbankweb**

User name: disted\student

Password: *****
(use the standard lab password)

Contact the:

Job Centre

Room: D104 Phone: 632-2128
for job search assistance.

11th Annual Cycle-A-Thon Relay

Saturday June 10th

The Cycle-A-Thon Relay has raised some much needed funds and public awareness for what the Firefighters Burn Fund is and does, over the past ten years. The first year of the event the funds were used to purchase a wheelchair.

Over the last ten years Cycle-A-Thon has raised over $140,000 for the Burn Fund.The tangible result from these efforts has been the purchase of a highly specialized pediatric burn crib ($40,700) for the Firefighters Burn Fund Children's Burn Unit, for infants and children suffering from burn unjuries.

Cycle-A-Thon is a grass roots event involving approximately 250 cyclists of all ability levels of riding bicycles approximately 100 km from Winnipeg to Gimili.
The riders involved collect tax deductible pledges for their efforts and **100% of monies collected through pledges is given directly to the Firefighters Burn Fund.**

For information contact Rod Inman, Chairperson

Cycle-A-Thon at 222-1623

PHOTO CONTEST

photo by: Karen Christiuk

photo by: Tamara Bodi

photo by: Tamara Bodi

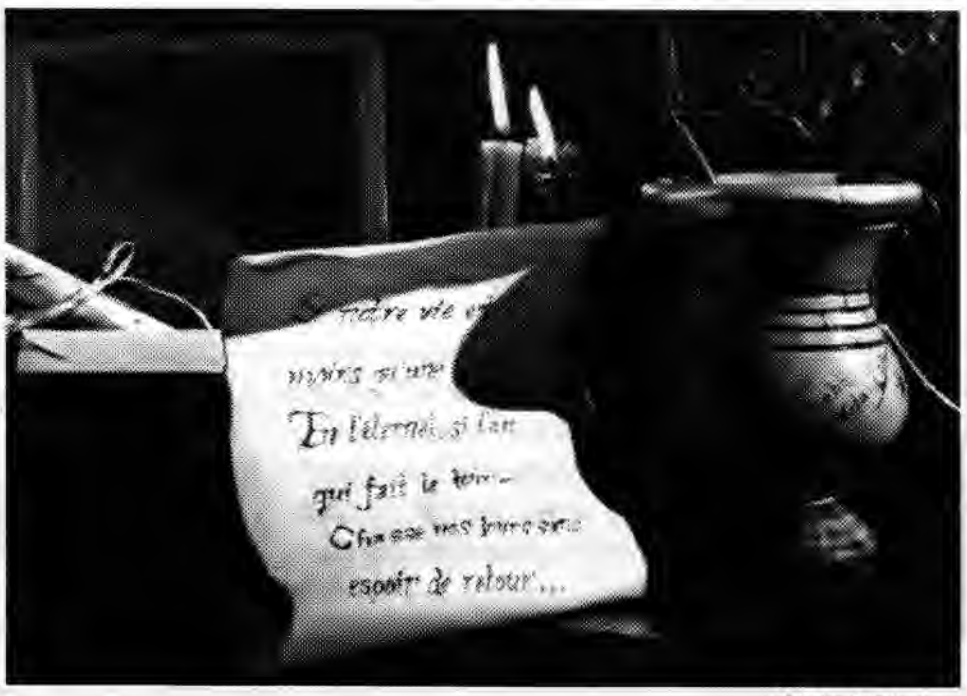


photo by: Sara Roginson

PHOTO CONTEST FINALISTS

Congratulations to these four finalists who have qualified for the grand prize, to be announced at the end of May.

Please send us more of your photos!

You can enter different photos as many times as you like. Entries can be dropped off at the Students' Association office in room DM20. Write your name and phone number on each entry and look for your photos in our next issue.

Good luck and keep'em coming!