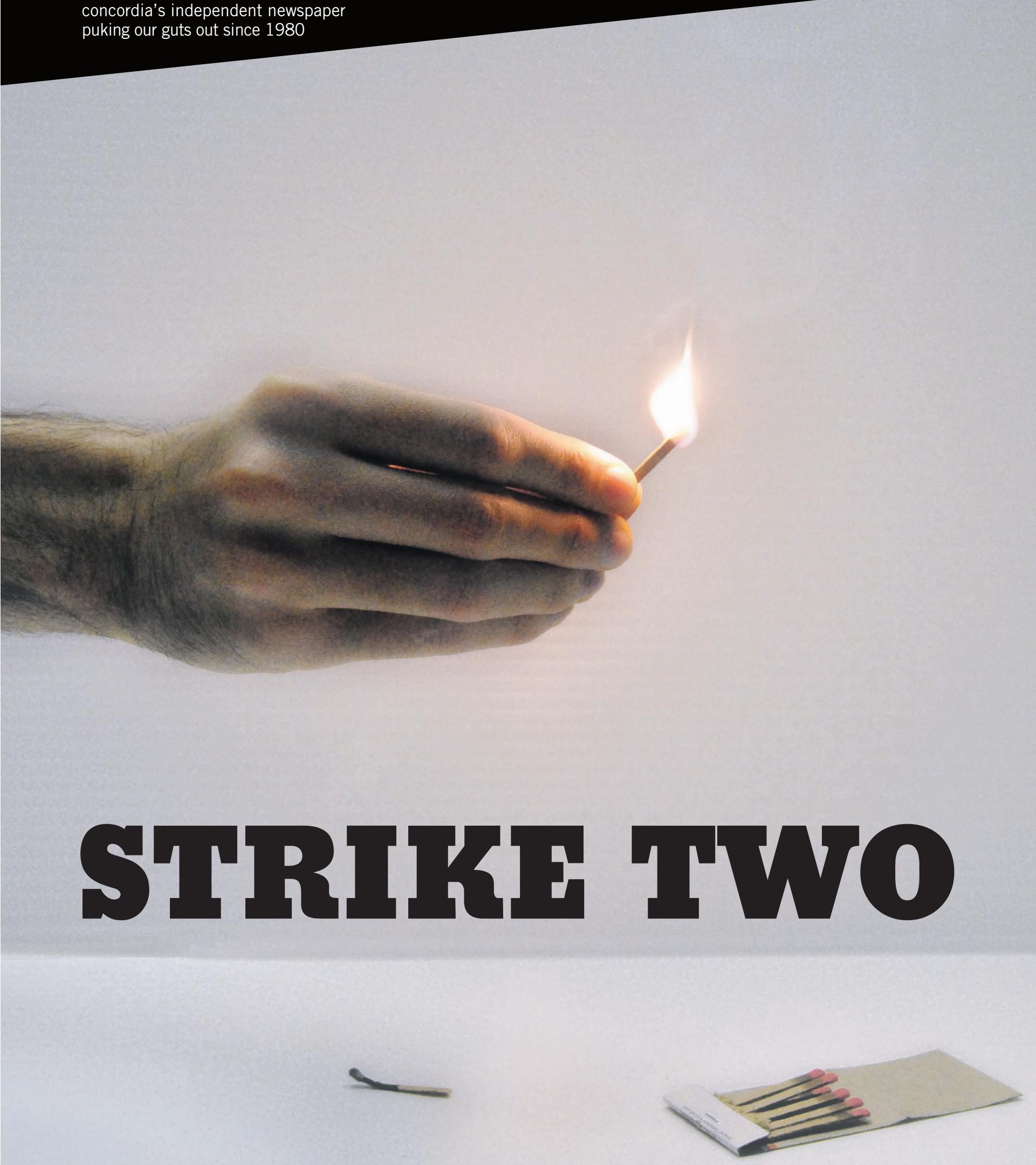


THE **LINK**

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STRIKE TWO

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: NO DICE ON INCREASING TRANSPARENCY • PAGE 4

THE UNION STRIKES BACK



CSU VP External Chad Walcott (centre) at the Nov. 10 Day of Action.

PHOTO SAM SLOTNICK

CSU Preps for Strike Vote, Anti-Hike Efforts

• JULIAN WARD

Concordia students will be returning to the streets this March as part of a general strike against tuition-fee increases—that is, if all goes according to a new plan released by the Concordia Student Union.

"The reason we've chosen to move toward a strike is because, frankly, it's the strongest tool we have at our disposal," said Chad Walcott, CSU VP External.

If the students vote yes on the proposed strike, it will take place from Mar. 26 to Mar. 29. Students will then vote again at the end of the strike on whether to continue the fight, or to pack up and prepare for exams.

"The reason that we've chosen these dates is because they fall kind of close to exam period, and yes, it's a scary thing for students for that to happen, but the closer we have it to exam period, the more the university will react, the more they will have to negotiate with us and come to our terms," he said.

CSU President Lex Gill says she does not take the decision to push

for a strike lightly. "You don't just get up one morning and say, 'We're going on strike!'

"It's part of a long, long process of negotiations, breakdowns in communication, demonstrations, direct action and, when all else fails, you say, 'Okay, we've got to shut down this university to send a message,'" she said.

"Historically, a strike for this amount of time has never happened at Concordia," said Gill.

"It is really a new experiment on this campus. Physically, no one knows what it will look like, but also no one understands what the consequences will be."

"What we can say is that massive student strikes in previous years have been massive victories."

On Jan. 16, the CSU started an information campaign to inform students of why they should vote for a strike and all the hazards that go along with doing so.

"It's really important to us that, moving toward March 7 [the day of the planned vote for the strike], each student is fully aware of what they're going to be voting on and what impact it will have on them,"

said Walcott.

The CSU many events planned in the lead up to the potential strike.

The downtown library will see itself occupied for a one-week "sleep-in for accessible education," the dates of which are currently "top secret."

CSU members will also be organizing a 'fax and phone jam,' which will see students calling and faxing Canadian Ministers of Parliament en masse in order to "disrupt the normal functioning" of the MPs' offices.

Jan. 31 is billed as a date for students to reclaim student space; no further details on this day have been released yet.

The biggest action before the planned strike days is sure to be the province-wide demonstration against tuition hikes on Mar. 22, which will likely mirror the Day of Action that took place last semester on Nov. 10.

As well, the CSU is bringing back "Fuck Tuition Tuesdays" at Reggie's Bar, where students can kick back and play "Pin the Tail on the Administrator" and "Make a Charest Mask."

ANTI-TUITION CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Jan. 16:

Anti-tuition poster campaign begins

Jan. 17:

Fuck Tuition Tuesday at Reggie's Bar

Jan. 31:

Day of Action to reclaim student space

Feb. 1:

'Ask Libs' phone and fax jamming begins

Mar. 7:

Special General Meeting to vote on strike between Mar. 26 and Mar. 29

Mar. 13:

Fuck Tuition Tuesday at Reggie's Bar

Mar. 20:

Fuck Tuition Tuesday at Reggie's Bar

Mar. 22:

Province-wide demonstration

Mar. 26 - 29:

Strike! (If approved at SGM)

Mar. 29:

General Assembly to vote on whether to extend strike

FIGHT FOR BOG TRANSPARENCY MET WITH RESISTANCE

Chairman Kruyt ‘Rude,’ ‘Condescending’ to Student Reps

• JULIAN WARD

Student Governors were dealt a disappointing—yet probably expected—blow Thursday by Concordia’s Board of Governors.

Motions filed by Graduate Students’ Association rep Erik Chevrier, that he says were created in the spirit of improving transparency on the Board, were handily voted down.

Chevrier says he was motivated to present the motions because of recommendations made in the External Governance Review Committee’s report specifically mentioning improved transparency of the Board.

The report was part of an overall review of Concordia’s governance that was conducted in the wake of ex-president Judith Woodsworth’s dismissal last December.

“I find it quite unfortunate that the [External Governance Review Committee’s] outlines that the Board should be more transparent, but it doesn’t seem like the Board wants to move on this,” said Chevrier.

Chevrier originally introduced the four motions dealing with transparency to the Board last November:

- a motion to require meeting rooms to have space for at least 50 public viewing seats

- a motion to broadcast and archive Board meetings

- a motion requiring no less than 20 minutes of question period from the general public, and

- a motion requiring that all closed-session business be truly confidential in nature.



GSA BoG rep Erik Chevrier had his motions for transparency shot down by his fellow Governors.

PHOTO JULIA WOLFE

The first motion was voted down when presented in November and the other three were tabled for further exploration until the Jan. 12 meeting, when they were all voted down.

Board Chair Peter Kruyt was curt with the student Governors throughout the meeting, often cutting them off and limiting debate to a bare minimum, if at all.

“He seems to be quite condescending toward us. Just the way he presents his arguments, the

way he presents the motions: he interjects his opinion all of the time, which I think is highly inappropriate, because he’s the chair,” said Chevrier.

Chevrier’s feelings were echoed by CSU President Lex Gill who said, “I thought Kruyt’s behaviour while those motions were being voted on was deplorable. I think as a chair he has a certain responsibility to, if not be completely impartial, then, facilitate debate in a neutral way, which is

absolutely not what happened.” “Regardless of the outcomes of the votes, I think it was revolting to watch how the process was manhandled by the chair and how any sort of discussion was shot down and editorialized,” Gill continued.

Gill said that Kruyt continually referred to the student representatives as ‘the students,’ identified them only by first name (unlike non-student Board members), and treated them, essentially, as

children.

“Kruyt’s attitude has come up after every single Board meeting at this point and it baffles me that the university allows this person to be the chair of their Board because he sets such a poor example of decorum and respect.

“That’s the biggest thing for me. This is the guy who’s the chair of the Board of Governors of Concordia University, and he’s rude and abrasive and can’t even chair a meeting properly,” said Gill.

BRIEFS

Competitive Business

The John Molson International Case Competition celebrated its 31 anniversary on Jan. 3-8. The JMSB Case Competition is the oldest and one of the most respected case competition in the world. The annual five-day competition hosts the best MBA students from 36 universities from around the world. Students get to showcase their talents in a fast-paced, competitive environment. The competition is organized by a team of JMSB MBA students working under the supervision of business leaders from major multi-national corporations. Over 200 senior executives from all sectors of industry participate as judges in evaluating the competing MBA’s.

Smokers Take Five

National Non-Smoking Week starts this Sunday, and will run until Jan. 22. Based on the idea of being in a relationship that you know is bad for you, this year’s theme is “Breaking up is hard to do.” According to the NNSW website, tobacco kills 37,000 Canadians annually and costs the country \$4.4 billion per year in medical costs, with economic costs exceeding \$17 billion per year. The group behind the project, the Canadian Council for Tobacco Control, hopes to educate Canadians about the dangers of smoking, and aims to help people to quit smoking. National Non-Smoking Week has been taking place every year since 1977.

Gay Marriage—It’s Complicated

The Globe and Mail’s Jan. 12 front page story about Canada revoking its same-sex marriage policy has created controversy for Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Belinda Alzner looks at the issue in more depth in her *j-source.ca* interview with Kevin Kindred, an attorney and LGBT rights activist. According to Kindred, marriage law—especially “tourist marriages,” when a couple gets married in a place where the marital laws differ from where they live—can be complicated. “As far as I see it, this case only impacts couples who have no real life connection to Canada, who travel here solely for the symbolic act of getting married,” said Kindred.

Portal Problems

If you’re having trouble accessing your MyConcordia account—maybe from your smart phone—you’re not alone. The Instructional and Information Technology Services at Concordia said they’re aware of difficulties accessing the MyConcordia portal and analysts are working to fix them. Whether the cake is a lie or not, however, remains in question. For now, the IITS have posted an alternative site for viewing your class schedule:



BOG APPROVES ACADEMIC PLAN

Unanimous Vote in Favour of Provost's Five-Year Proposal, Two Abstentions

• JULIAN WARD

Concordia Provost David Graham had many a reason to smile after the Jan. 12 Board of Governors meeting.

After years of work, the BoG unanimously passed Concordia's new Academic Plan, which has been Dr. Graham's pet project since its inception. This was the final stage of voting on the project after receiving consent to move forward from Concordia's Senate, the highest academic body at the university.

"I'm thrilled that the board approved it unanimously. Having such strong support from the Board is really important for us knowing that they're committed to seeing it succeed," said Graham.

"I'm also pleased because now

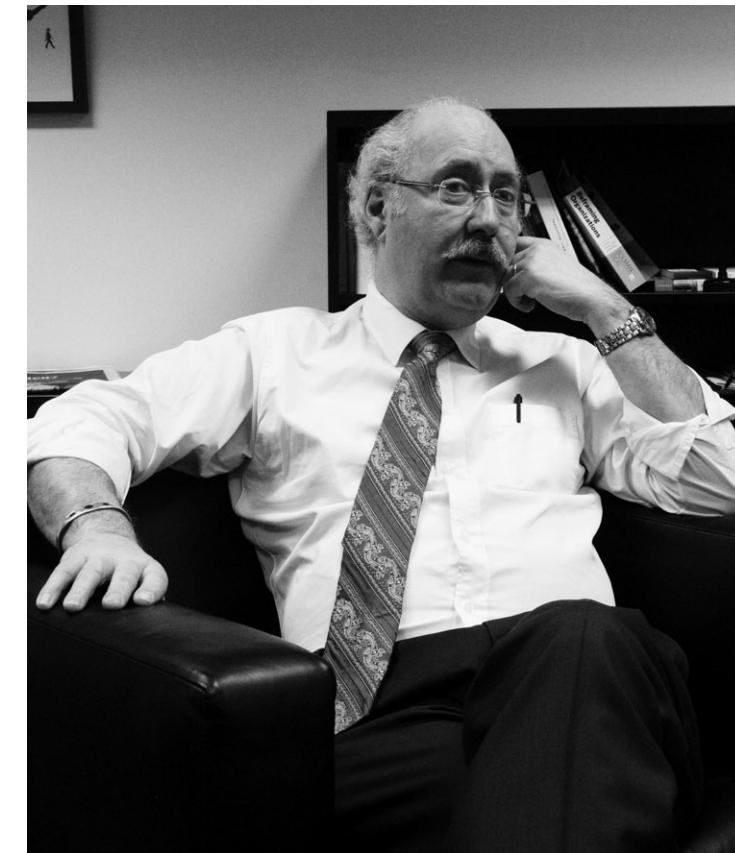
that it's approved we can put the planning phase behind us and get on with the implementation, which will be great."

Parts of the five-year plan have already been implemented, while other aspects will phase in over time.

"It's hard to say when it will be fully in effect, obviously at the end of the five years we'll be able to assess how much we've been able to accomplish, how many actions in the plan we've been able to complete, see what still needs to be done, recalibrate and then go from there," he said.

The plan was passed with only two abstentions, despite strong criticism from the undergraduate and graduate representatives on the Board.

The Concordia Student Union voted against the plan in Octo-



Provost David Graham's Academic Plan was approved by Concordia Senate Jan. 12, despite criticisms from student reps on the Board of Governors.

PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

ber, citing, for example, concerns that the plan did not do enough to protect current students, while at the same time increasing spending on bringing in new students.

"I'm glad that Board passed it without any problems, despite the fact that there was considerable student opposition to passing the academic plan in the senate months ago," said Lex Gill, CSU president.

"The understanding was that, regardless of how [the student Governors] felt about the academic plan personally, this was the democratic will of Senate and the academic community at Concordia, and for that reason, the Board should have a really limited say in the academic mission," said Gill.

One other concern that the

student representatives had was that part of the funding for the plan comes from the impending tuition-fee hike by the Charest government. This was one reason why Gill was against the plan from the beginning, although she admitted that the plan had a lot of merit, but needed to be discussed more and not rushed through.

"There's always been a worry about implementation of the plan. If there aren't certain types of funding like that which would come from a tuition-fee increase, where would they get the additional money, or if not [an increase in funds from other sources], what gets cut?" asked Gill.

"What are the real priorities of the plan, and what is scrappable?"

ASFA TRIES FOR MIDDLE GROUND

Election Protocols Updated

• JACOB ROBERTS

The Arts and Science Federation of Associations amended its election protocol at a meeting on Jan. 12 to try and find a middle ground between the last two years' elections.

Newly appointed Chief Electoral Officer Christopher Webster is determined to make sure "it's a fair election, that everyone feels safe, that it's clean, etc.," said Webster.

"There will definitely be an emphasis in making sure that the candidates act in a respectful manner throughout the election, the campaigning, the polling and the nominations."

Two years ago, the electoral slate system was abolished for the ASFA after incidents of bullying occurred during electoral campaigns.

"There was a very high candidate turnout [in the election two years ago], [...] and I think it had something to do with the political climate at that time, there were instances of bullying," said Alex Gordon, current ASFA President.

Last year's election had the opposite problem. The slate system was abolished, meaning candidates were no longer allowed to affiliate with each other or run in teams. They also weren't allowed to openly talk about their

campaigns or disclose what positions they were running for before the campaign period began.

"What happened last year is that there were open positions, but just the fact that no one was allowed to talk about who was running, and who was actually in the election until it was too late was a bit of a drag," said Gordon. "I don't really see that being a big issue this year."

If it isn't, it might be in part due to the recent change to the election rules, which aims to improve on last year's perceived failures.

Candidates will still run on an individual basis, but now they may choose to affiliate with other

candidates. The only thing they can't do is share a common team name, slogan, campaign media or logo.

If there are still positions to fill at the end of the nomination period, extra time will be allotted to find candidates.

"My goal is to avoid that situation. Obviously, I can't force students to apply, but it's my goal to communicate with the student body to make sure they are aware [if that situation should arise]," said Webster.

The nomination period is from Jan. 26 to Feb. 5. The campaign period runs from Feb. 6 to Feb. 14, with the elections taking place Feb. 15 to Feb. 17.



BONAVVENTURE DEMO

A group of demonstrators gathered at Bonaventure Metro Tuesday night to condemn the death of Farshad Mohammadi, a homeless man killed by police inside the station after he attacked and wounded an officer. He was the second homeless person killed by Montreal police in less than a year.

CANCER BREAKTHROUGH

The media is buzzing with phrases like "cure for cancer" and "fountain of youth" to describe recent cancer studies by Concordia University's Biology Department, but scientists say this is just the first step in research that could take years.

BEST (FASA) DAY EVER

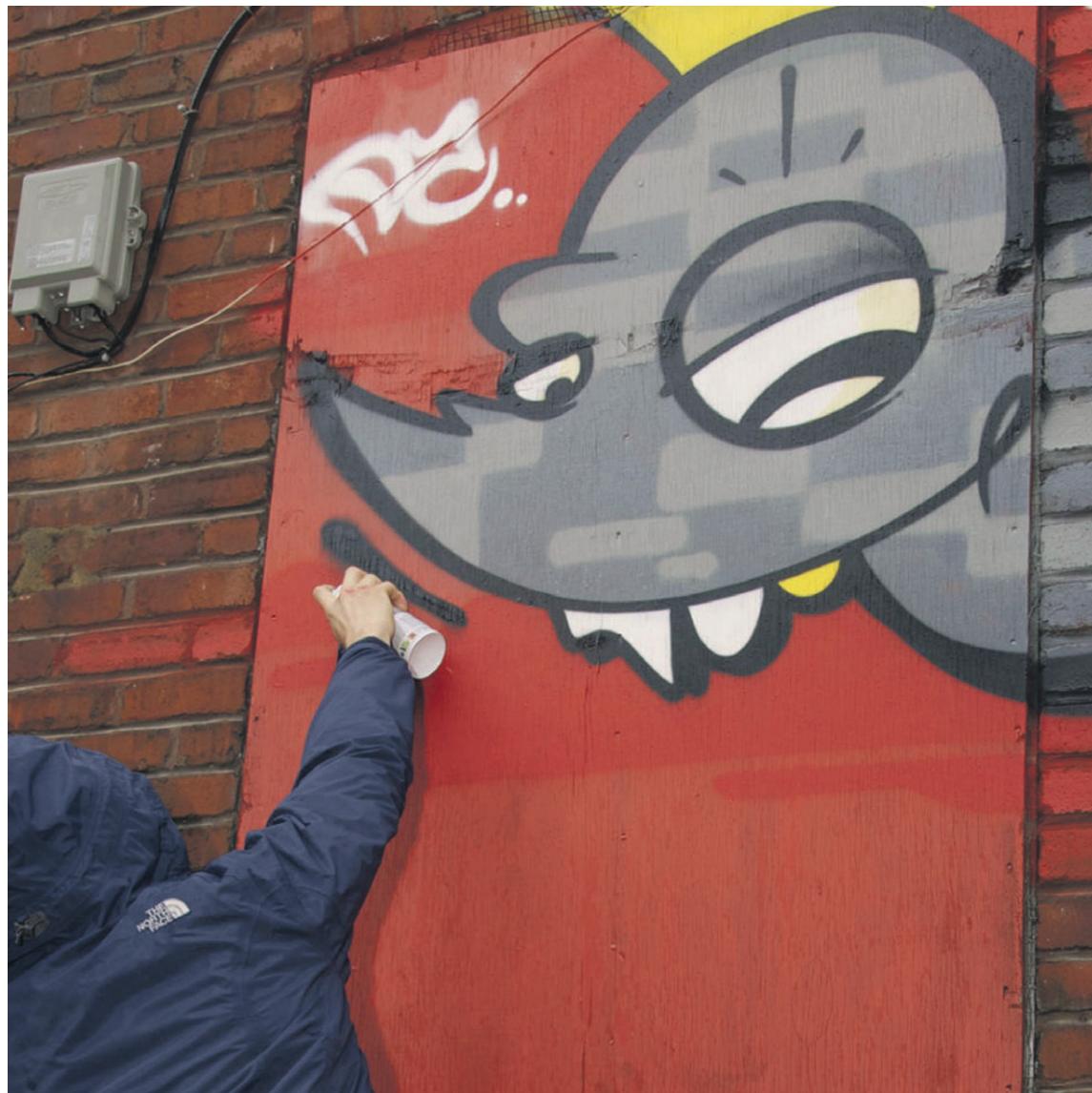
FASA will be hosting bagel and fruit breakfasts for Fine Arts students only on Jan. 18, Feb. 15 and March 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., and they're looking for volunteers to help coordinate the events. Email fasalovesyou at gmail.com for more info.

DIVERSITY WEEK

The International and Ethnic Associations Council presents the first ever Concordia Cultural Diversity Week. Dedicated to promoting the cultural diversity at ConU, the event will include parties, bake sales and cultural shows. The event lasts from Jan. 23 until Jan. 29.

DANCING BETWEEN THE TABLES: A SIDE OF DISCO WITH YOUR EGGS AT NOUVEAU PALAIS • PAGE 7

BRINGING THE OUTDOORS IN



Montreal Graf Legend Goes Straight in New Studio Show

• ALEX MCGILL

From the team that created the FAKE brand—a clothing and lifestyle shop located just off the main drag of St. Laurent—comes a new project.

FAKESPACEPROJECT, a creative space that will host art exhibits, musicians (FAKE has previously hosted acts such as Boot Camp Clik and members of the Wu-Tang Clan), and provide a space for Montreal's creative community to collaborate and flourish, will hold its first exhibit this week.

"This is the debut exhibition of the FAKESPACEPROJECT. It will feature events curated by FAKE, whose sister store is beside the new creative gallery space," said assistant director of the gallery Alexis Hranchuk. "From there, the space will host multiple future

events, including pop-up shops and other art exhibitions."

Beginning Jan. 19, a collection of works titled "MONTREAL 2012" by prolific local graffiti artist Alex Scaner will be on display in the gallery, located on Rachel St. in the Plateau.

Scaner joined the graffiti movement in 1996 with the multidisciplinary group Delinquent Artists, and from there went to achieve notoriety in the Montreal graf scene, as well as travelling with his art to Mexico, New York, Paris, San Juan and beyond.

After bouncing back from a battle with cancer, he refocused his practice.

"This exhibition shows [Scaner's] ability to adapt his practice from the public realm to an indoor space," said Hranchuk. "There are 15 pieces, some of

which are collaborations with other artists, including artists who only practice in a studio setting."

Taking the extremely public art form of graffiti and bringing it to an indoor studio setting is quite the transition for an artist like Scaner. While his studio art is still heavily influenced and indicative of his previous work painting walls, the pieces that will be hung on indoor walls are decidedly a step in a different direction.

The opening will be held this Thursday, Jan. 19 at FAKESPACEPROJECT MONTREAL 2012 (68 Rachel E.) between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., and will feature music by the French Connection DJs alongside original paintings, photographs and prints.

For more information, as well as gallery hours, visit thefake-store.com.



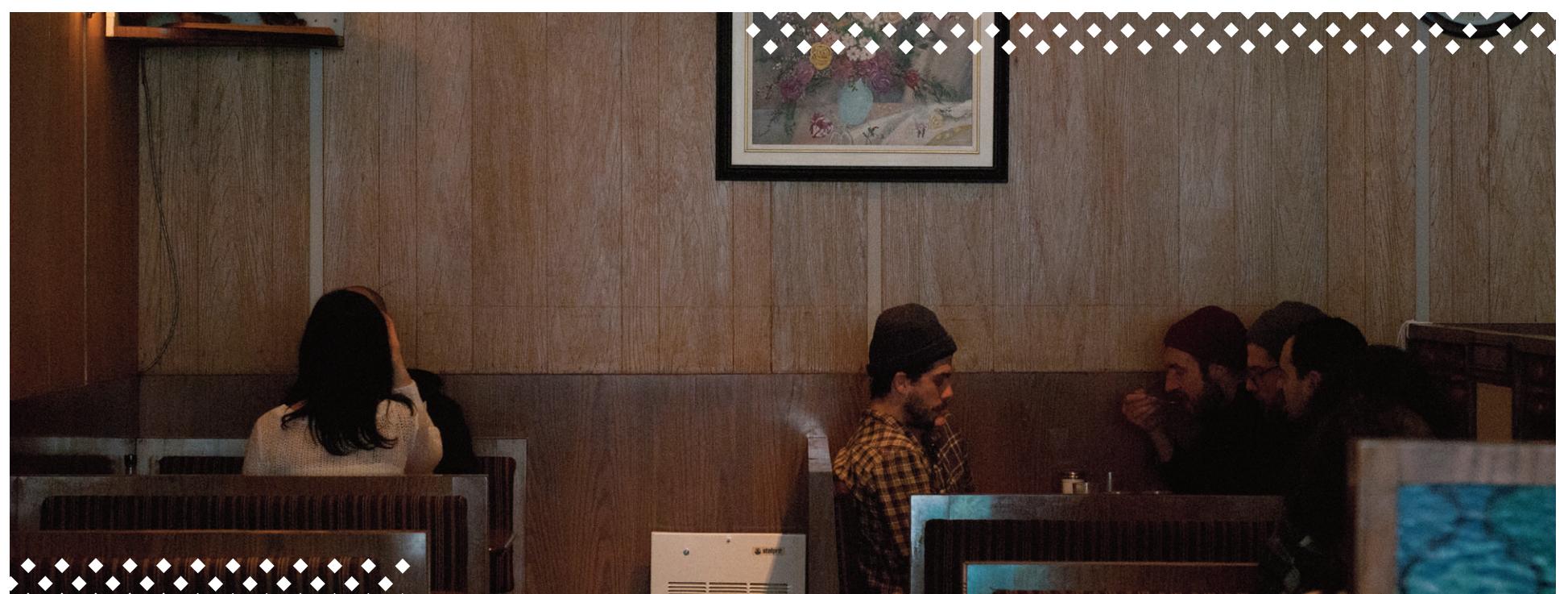
DANCE THAT HANGOVER AWAY



Fringe Food Orders Eggs With a Side of Vibe at Disco Déjeuner



PHOTOS NICOLAS MARTEL



• JOSH DAVIDSON

Nouveau Palais owes its recent success to one simple thing.

Vibe.

It's a subtle attribute, one many restaurants try too hard at and subsequently fail to achieve. But Nouveau Palais has, by all accounts, nailed it, and though it had hit me on several previous late-night visits, my séjour at Disco Déjeuner this past Saturday simply confirmed it.

No, I'm not necessarily referring to DJ Jon Lee, who infuses Saturday brunches at the Palais with an uptempo soundscape, nor necessarily Cadence Weapon, the restaurant's resident hip hop DJ on Thursdays, nor even their slew of DJ-led parties, whatever night of the week they happen to be on.

I'm pointing to something else, something which certainly doesn't suggest itself upon stepping through the restaurant's threshold into a largely untouched diner décor of New Palace years gone by (it's been around, in various capacities, since the Great Depression).

It doesn't emanate directly from the DJ bobbing his head in the front window, nor even thrust itself upon you in the "contemporary comfort" menu.

All these devices have, after all, been employed in many a hipster hotspot, often to the tune of a short lifespan.

But whether it is endemic to the Palais itself—a certain immutable life force running through its walls—or whether it is amped up by Gita Seaton's careful touches in the kitchen and the Palais' quirky event offerings (taco truck nights, Cookies Unite cook spotlights, St. Valentine's Sausage Parties) this odd, diffuse feeling finds its way into your veins somewhere between nestling into the cozy booth and tucking into the first few bites of soulful grub.

It's not a word I've ever used to describe a diner or a trendy spot, much less the two combined, but the spirit of the place can only be described as uplifting. There's a buoyancy to it evident on the faces of all the servers, and even the young diners.

Staff and patrons at Disco Déjeuner stop short of tossing waffles into the air and busting out moves atop the soda counter, however. DD is more hangover cure than after-hours club.

A refined selection of "positive" beats helps the (endlessly refilled) coffee hit your brain, and after fifteen minutes or so, you do feel al-

most ready to hit the floor. Though it's a tight space that—thick with booths—is meant to honour its original dinerly function, my server informed me dance parties are never out of the question.

It's not a word I've ever used to describe a diner or a trendy spot, much less the two combined, but the spirit of the place can only be described as uplifting.

"On hip hop nights? People dance in between the tables all the time," she assured me. Making a mental note to return, I prompted her for more details.

"Most may not think listening to a DJ is something they'd enjoy on a Saturday morning. I didn't at first either. But I don't know, I just feel so *enah-gized*," she added in an elegant French accent inflected with an unexpected British vowel.

From what I could tell, being energized was ubiquitous: conver-

sation bubbled forth from booths all around me, ramping up steadily in enthusiasm but somehow not in volume—as at a noisy bar (we'll chalk that up a slew of persistent hangovers, and the resulting lack of alcohol consumption).

Though it's no doubt an anglo haven (but where in Mile End isn't these days?), my booth was nonetheless wrapped in a mélange of at least three languages.

Our francophone waitress seemed to revel in the energetic "flow" of it all, swapping utterances with me and my tablemates in one language, then suddenly another, without any apparent rhyme or reason. It's moments like these that remind me why I love this city so much.

All too often, language in the service industry becomes a source of neurosis, whatever side of the fence you fall on (and I've been on both), and one feels a certain pre-meditative strategy behind it all—one usually aimed at higher tips. I hate this, and I'll always tip more if I get the sense that the person is just being natural.

On this note, I caught another server singing along to a song I later identified as disco classic "Johnny Love." I asked if she always had this much fun at work:

"Yeah! We've had a really great turnout already this weekend. But we're only just beginning to flow again for the new year."

Running the gamut from crunchy (granola) to lavish (waffles and fried chicken), the brunch menu is deceptively robust.

While most dishes have unpretentious roots in diner culture, they're clearly conceived by a cook with a caring palate.

The hash browns were seasoned nicely with just enough onion, salt and pepper, the sausage links were plump, herb-seasoned and homemade, the eggs were tender and perfectly over-easy without gridle-burn or the usual pool of diner grease.

The lumberjack sandwich was a full egg-and-meat breakfast slammed between two fresh pancakes: fulfilling, sure, but surprisingly not as heavy as you'd imagine.

I'm tempted to try a few of these dishes next Saturday at home, and even ask Jon Lee for a playlist. But I doubt either would be very effective without that über-positive Palais vibe.

Good local eating spots are as elusive as hangover cures: many try to concoct one of their own, but few manage to nail the magic recipe.



DAILY COVERAGE AT
THELINKNEWSPAPER.CA

FRINGE FOOD

SAT Foodlab's current focus on culinary innovation takes the cozy wintry form of the indoor aperitif, offering a warm dynamism to those bleak hivernal hours of retreating light.



WEEKLY SPINS

As Peter Pan attempted to do with soap, the Babies' self-titled debut tries to glue the shadow of rock 'n' roll's past to a present lo-fi aesthetic using the leftover bubble gum from the recent Beach Boys-fab craze in indie rock.



FOLLOW THE SIGN

Requiem pour un Trompettiste starts in a hotel room with a beautiful naked woman getting out of bed, lighting a cigarette, and taking a swig of whiskey. It also starts in a mayor's office, as city employees try to put a spin on a local tragedy. Which side of this story you see first depends on which sign you decide to follow.



MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

RE: Process Investigates Deceptively Complex Art

PHOTO KATIE MCGROARTY

• KATIE MCGROARTY

When you first look at a piece of art, the process that was required to create it is not always obvious. Sometimes, something that looks intricate and endlessly complex was the result of an hour or two of work, and sometimes, painstaking work can look like a simple print that leaves you thinking, "I could do that too."

Art that falls into the latter category is the basis of *RE: Process*. The exhibition, which runs until Jan. 27 at Coatcheck Gallery, combines photography and installation pieces that all share a single theme—they may look simple at first, but are really much more.

"Their work fell into the same ideals as mine," said artist Matthew Justin James of the other pieces in the exhibit. "It's about reinterpreting process, relooking at it. That's where the play on words comes from. It's not just *about* process; it's about regarding it, and replying to it."

James' work, a set of 10 photo-booth type images, lines the largest wall of the gallery. At three feet high, the photo strips feature friends, co-workers and even the Concordia custodian.

With his subjects placed in front of the iconic red and blue curtain found in the photo-booths of so many malls and movie theatres, James says the unconventional beauty is part of the reason he chose to make them.

"All my photographs actually

happened, and you can see in them little imperfections," he said. "That's why I chose photo strips. They're not artistically perfect, they have bad flash, ugly colours, bad curtains—but there's an essence of true humanism in them."

In keeping with the theme of the exhibit, his photos didn't come as easily as normal photo booth pictures do. Manipulating the photos in the blackness of the darkroom while trying to only expose certain areas wasn't a quick and simple process, but James didn't mind.

"I tried to look at it from unknowing eyes. A lot of people who were honest enough to tell me said that it looks like I did it digitally, that it took no trouble at all."

However, that didn't sway him to choose a medium in which his process would show more clearly.

"It does look simple," he said. "But you ask the artist and you read the statement if you wish to know more about it and you realize how much work really went into it."

"I think there's a paradox of seeming simplicity, and it's really much more complicated than it appears."

Choosing projects that are more complicated than they appear is something that Bella Klein and Daniel Paterson, two other artists featured in *RE: Process*, certainly know well.

"Photography is more of a science than something that you can

really be involved with," said Klein. "We wanted to solve that problem."

So solve it they did. Taking the structural idea of a simple pinhole camera, they supersized their plans to make one that they could actually sit inside and watch the photo expose.

"We got inside the camera for every exposure, which could last from under a minute to 45 minutes," said Klein.

"Photo booth photos have bad flash, ugly colours, bad curtains—but there's an essence of true humanism in them."

—Matthew Justin James

Not only is their homemade camera life-sized, but it's also well-travelled.

Building the camera from the base of a functional trailer, their project was hauled up the East Coast, from New York to P.E.I. for a project called "Trailer Obscura," which was featured at Concordia's VAV Gallery in November.

After spending a year in Montreal perfecting the art of capturing an image while inside a trailer, they took 30 images throughout the road trip. A select few of those are featured in the exhibit.

"It got better and better as we

went, the more we could understand the better," said Paterson. "At the start we used a light meter, but by the end we were able to do it completely by eye."

Among the photographs of the exhibit is one installation piece called "Black Lake," a set of three televisions sets in front of a collage of painted film stills. The piece, by Jeffery Torgerson, works around themes relating to gender and sexuality.

"The centerpiece of this installation is footage from the 1954 film *Always Attainable*," said Torgerson. "Which is an example of early homoerotic filmmaking, thinly veiled as a physique film."

He explained that laws during the 1950s and '60s made producing and distributing homoerotic material illegal.

Allured by the quality of the 8mm films, he illustrated directly on the film stills, adding aspects of typical Canadiana culture—muscle men with antlers and California landscapes under northern mountains.

Torgerson then put them together to make three 30-second films.

"The juxtaposition of the images create a fictional narrative of a mystical gay wilderness," he said. "These films were often neglected, but are a wonderful part of film history."

RE: Process / Coatcheck Gallery (5180 Notre-Dame St. W.) / Jan. 13 to Jan. 27

PAGE 09 Lifestyle

STINGERS B-BALL: MEN SQUEEZE PAST UQAM TO STAY UNBEATEN • PAGE 11

HOCKEY



Stingers right wing Michael Stinziani, centre, fights with a Royal Military College player at the end of Concordia's 6-1 win on Saturday.

PHOTO DAVID MURPHY

Rep, Rep for the Home Team

Ghasemi Wants More CSU Representation for Stingers

• DAVID MURPHY

Rugby player and Concordia Student Union Councillor Emran Ghasemi was left frustrated after several councillors brushed aside his idea for more representation in the CSU.

Ghasemi spoke to Council at the CSU meeting Wednesday, the first since the winter break, about sacrifices made by student athletes. He feels that more representation would allow Concordia to grow as a more reputable school both academically and athletically.

"This is one thing [the CSU] doesn't see," said Ghasemi. "Because athletes have this impact outside of Concordia, this makes everyone talk about Concordia."

"Once we start winning games, which we are doing, people will want to be associated with Concordia, and they will want to apply to Concordia."

About 10 members of Council opposed the idea of having a seat specifically allocated to Concordia athletes. They expressed concerns that having an athletics seat would mean other student groups requiring one as well, and that creating an athletics seat

might be over-representation of one specific group.

"Always having one seat for an athletic person creates a situation where there's this athletic vote, as opposed to running as a student," said senate member Andy Filipowich at the meeting. "And I'm really against segregation of students in any way."

But Ghasemi believes this representation is worth it, given the potentially far-reaching effects of a strong Stingers presence. As Concordia's squads travel around the province, nation and the globe, their success could help bring in more students, which would lead to a higher population at the school—and thus a better standard of education.

"It sounds like a small thing that affects something big, but it's true," said Ghasemi. "It's the little things in the world that get the ball rolling."

The CSU being on the same page as Concordia's athletes is something Ghasemi is very concerned about, citing an instance that occurred last semester at the football home opener where a CSU mascot dressed up in opposing team's colours—bright blue—instead of the Stingers' maroon

and gold.

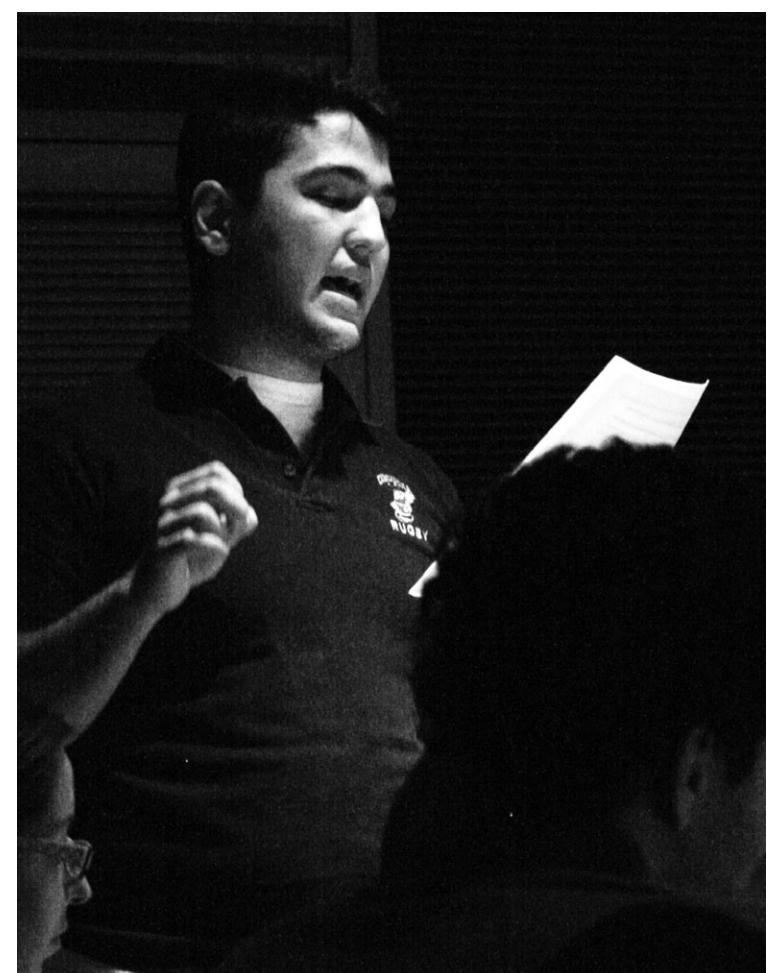
"In terms of school spirit, we definitely have a disconnect and there should be a change," said Councillor Melanie Hotchkiss. "There should be a collaboration between athletes and the CSU about what alternatives there should be."

Ultimately, the Council didn't officially vote down Ghasemi's motion for an athletic seat, but the issue will be referred to a policy committee, taking place sometime in the next couple weeks. Student athletes are invited to speak at the meeting.

According to Jackie Titley, former Concordia rugby player and ex-Team Canada rugby player, the important part is that the conversation about more representation has started.

"A lot of people shot it down, but they were talking about it. And they realize it's an important issue and not something to be set aside, but something to be talked about," said Titley, who gave a speech in front of Council on behalf of student athletes.

She said the benefit of acknowledging the importance of athletics would be bringing together a divided university.



CSU rep Emran Ghasemi delivered his pitch for an athletics seat on the CSU Council—but his fellow reps voted it down.

PHOTO DAVID MURPHY



DAILY COVERAGE AT
THELINKNEWSPAPER.CA

MEN'S HOCKEY I

Concordia made a trip to Ontario only to be trounced by the league's second-worst team Friday night. The goals came early and often, as the Stingers were staring at a 4-0 deficit midway through the first. The boys got one goal back early in the second, but let in five thereafter.

STINGERS 2 - QUEEN'S 9

MEN'S HOCKEY II

After being caught in snowstorm on the way back to Montreal, the Stingers put their fatigue aside Saturday, storming their way to a two-goal lead early and never looking back. The Stingers also scored two shorthanded goals during a lengthy penalty kill. Their next game is on Wednesday; the puck drops at 8:30 p.m. at Loyola.

STINGERS 6 - RMC 1

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The women's team couldn't get anything going on Friday as the number-one ranked McGill Martlets beat them. Penalty trouble sunk the Stingers as all four McGill goals came on the power play. The next game for the girls is at Université de Montréal on Jan. 20. Face-off at 7:00 p.m.

STINGERS 0 - MCGILL 4

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Stingers improved to 5-0 in league play on Saturday as they eased through the four quarters without ever trailing. Kaylah Barrett led the team with a dominating double-double performance, racking up 26 points and 10 rebounds. The Stingers look to stay perfect through six games when they play Laval on Friday. Tipoff is at 6:00 p.m.

STINGERS 70 - UQAM 53

SLUGGISH STINGERS STILL PERFECT



The Stingers' Kyle Desmarais fighting a Citadin for a loose ball.

PHOTO AMANDA LAPRADE

After Two-Hour Delay, ConU Stick to Winning Ways

• RICHIE DALY

After a two-hour delay to tipoff, Concordia's men's basketball team overcame some sluggish play and extended their unbeaten streak in conference play to 5-0, beating the Université du Québec à Montréal Citadins 68-63.

Start time was scheduled for 4:00 p.m., but during the warm-ups one UQAM player made a highlight-reel dunk, shattering the backboard at the Loyola Gym. The game got underway after a replacement was installed, but it was easy to see the delay had left the Stingers moving a step slower. They weren't the only ones, however.

"That major delay killed it for both of us," said UQAM head coach Olga Hrycak. "It was normal that the beginning would be a little sluggish. You try to get

your adrenaline going, but there is no way you can emulate the same kind of enthusiasm at the original beginning of a game."

Despite Hrycak's comments, however, once the game got underway, the Citadins jumped out to an early lead as they seemed unable to miss anything from the field.

They made ball movement difficult for the Stingers by employing a full-court press that created numerous turnovers and missed shots.

The Stingers came roaring back in the second quarter, however, taking the lead on the back of some energizing play by rookie Jerome Blake in his first start for Concordia.

His speed and agility offered the Stingers a more reliable scoring option to break the Citadins' defense. Their improved defensive play created a more up-

tempo game, and the Stingers took advantage after that, leading 34-30 at half.

Blake scored 12 points, one of only two Stingers to finish with double digits.

"Before the game, coach talked to me and he gave me confidence to go out there and do what I needed to do. I started off slow in the first quarter but I came back," said Blake.

The Citadins came out in the second half determined to break their losing streak against the Stingers and kept the game close.

The intensity also led to some physical play from both teams, generating many foul calls, with both teams missing few shots from the free throw line.

As the lead was disappearing again in the fourth, back-to-back baskets from Stingers forward Evens La Roche—who led all scorers with 17 points—stopped

the Citadins' comeback.

Though the game ended with a win, the Stingers were dissatisfied with the quality of their play, stressing their need to take care of the ball and rebound more effectively as the Citadins out-rebounded Concordia while also forcing 26 Stingers turnovers.

"We still have to prove a point [nationally], so winning by one is just winning a game. We just cannot do that. We have to be able to win games by 20 or 30 points," said La Roche.

"Our decision-making has to improve for us to really be a national contender," said head coach John Dore. "Not only with turnovers—because at the end we had a couple of quick shots we did not need."

The Stingers' next game is at home against the McGill Redmen on Saturday, Jan. 21. Tipoff's scheduled for 4:00 p.m.

BARF-A-PALOOZA AT ARCHIPELAGO: NATIONAL CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS CONFERENCE HIT BY NOROVIRUS • PAGE 12

Thank You, Stephen Harper

How the Press Manufactured Last Week's Same-Sex Marriage Debacle



GRAPHIC MYRIAM ARSENault

• JULIAN WARD &
ANDREW SCHARTMANN

In case you missed the ear-splitting cries of activists and journalists alike online, a civil rights 'crisis' erupted in Canada last week.

Thousands of foreign gay couples who tied the knot in Canada awoke to news that their marriage had been annulled.

As the day passed, and news of the regressive policy rippled through the media with force, it became clear that the man to blame was Stephen Harper, snickering at us from the helm of his repressive, homophobic Conservative ship.

Or so we were led to believe...

The issue at hand stems from the 2005 marriage of a foreign couple, who now want to divorce.

A lawyer in Harper's Justice Department, upon reading Canada's marriage laws, discovered that the couple could not legally separate for two reasons: 1) they had not lived in the country for one year, and 2) they were technically never married.

The current law states that all foreign couples married in Canada must also be able to marry in their own country.

Now admittedly, Harper doesn't have the best track record when it comes to same-sex rights, and as such, skepticism of the government's actions was perfectly justified.

But wasn't Harper's Justice Department simply following the law—a law that they didn't enact?

Why didn't anyone report this simple fact? Easy. Because a tale of the Conservative prime minister

trying to overthrow the civil rights brigade makes a better story than the truth.

As always, the jump-on-the-bandwagon anti-everything-Conservative whackjobs went absolutely ape-shit at the first inkling of conspiracy, and the Twitterverse was alight with a smear campaign decrying "evil" Harper and his Conservative cronies.

But what would have gone differently had the Liberals been in power? It's worth a thought or two.

Let's face the truth: The Harper government's handling of this past week's same-sex marriage debacle deserves praise, rather than criticism.

They promptly planned to amend the law on two accounts: to recognize all marriages performed

in Canada, regardless of where the couple are from, and to permit all those married here to divorce here as well. Why this wasn't already the case is beyond us.

Harper's Justice Department was following a law they didn't enact. Why didn't anyone report this simple fact? Because a tale of the PM trying to overthrow civil rights is a better story.

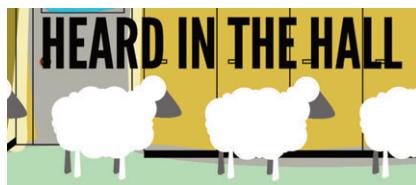
And what did the Liberals do when it was pointed out that they failed to catch these legal loopholes in 2005, when they codified same-sex marriage?

Liberal leader Bob Rae accused the Conservatives of not living up to "the best and finest traditions of Canada with respect to our traditions of tolerance."

Really? Then what exactly did he do, Mr. Rae?

In the end, this fabricated fiasco demonstrates little more than a severe lack of critical thinking by some of the loudest voices in Canada today.

And for citizens across the country, it speaks not to a robust and virtuous opposition, but rather to a bored and powerless left that doesn't seem ready to take the helm anytime soon. Hats off to you, Mr. Harper!



The Police and the Mentally Ill

• SANAZ SUNNIE HASSANPOUR

In the light of the recent shooting of a mentally ill homeless man in Bonaventure Metro Jan. 10, *The Link* asked Concordia students whether they thought police officers needed special training to handle those with mental disabilities. Here's what they had to say:

"I think there are lots of homeless people with mental disabilities in the Metro stations. Their number is relatively significant to me. I think their number is significant enough for them [the police] to have some training."



—Ronald Jjombkle
MEng Civil Engineering

"Yes, for sure, because those people are fragile. So, you have to know how to treat them. And, also because, [police] need some psychological training to know how to treat people, how to respond to those situations."



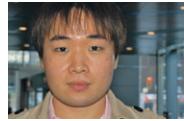
—Daniel Alcantara
BComm Management Information Systems

"I think [police training] is important, because people who have mental illnesses, sometimes when they see the police, they get scared. They just react exaggeratedly. Police should know how to treat them. It is more fair to that kind of person."



—Pik Shan Hui
BComm Marketing

"My opinion is that it's really needed for police to have special training to handle the situation with people who have mental problems. Because those people are not reacting [to a situation] as ordinary people do. So, I think police should try to understand the situation and those people who are not the same as ordinary people."



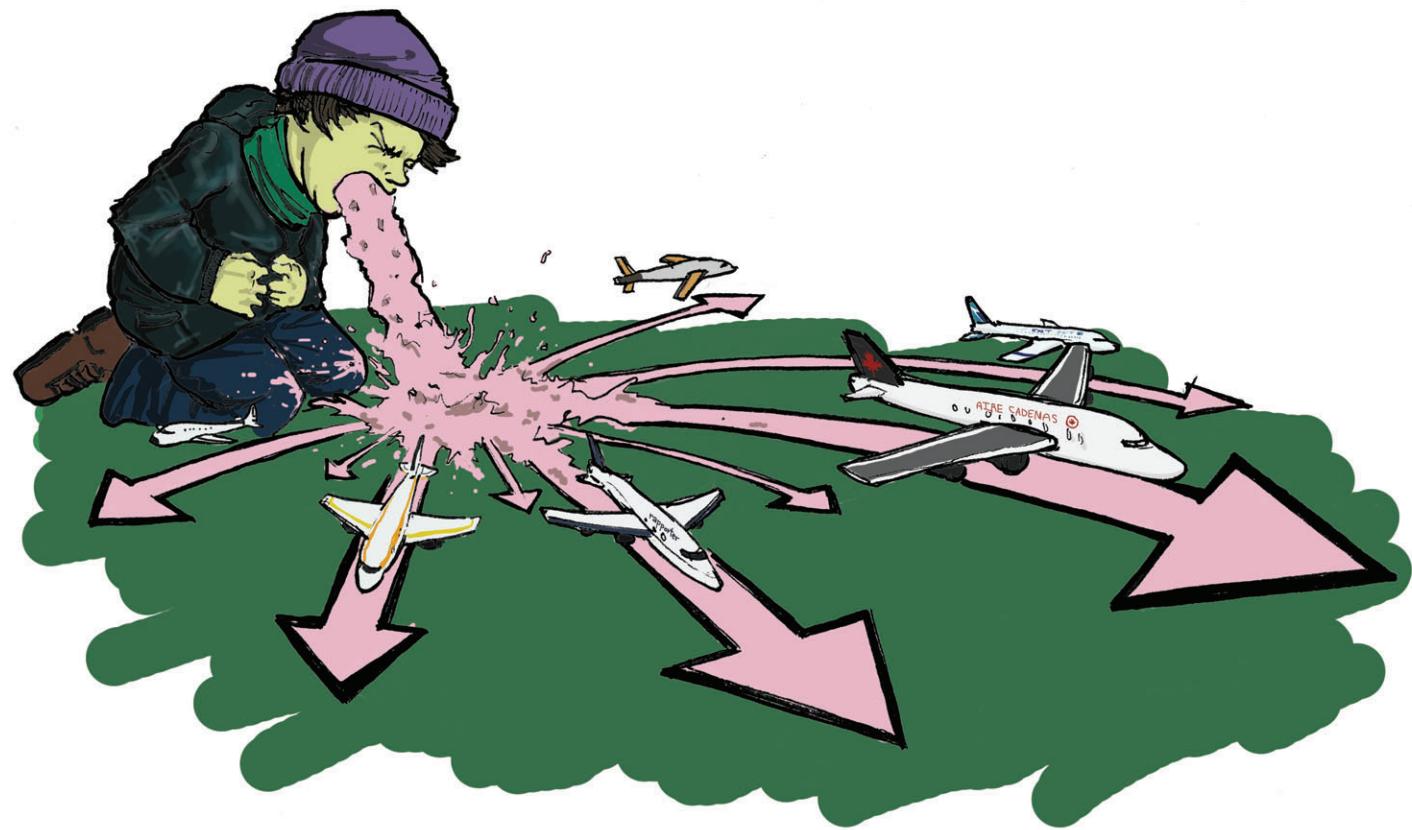
—Eungyeol Cho
BComm Management Information Systems

"I do. I specifically work with children with special needs and adults too. One has like a certain way of dealing with [issues] depending on the disability. You should react differently [with those with mental disability]... And have specific training for it as well. I'm not sure what kind of disability this guy had..."



—Bianca Delle Donne
BFA Art Education

THE ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE IS REALLY NOT THAT FAR-FETCHED



GRAPHIC PAKU DAOUST-CLOUTIER

...And the Airlines Won't Care

• HILARY SINCLAIR

The scene at the annual Canadian University Press national conference, NASH 74, played out like a clichéd zombie flick, dirtying bathrooms and Twitter alike in Victoria this past weekend.

The conference's title, Archipelago, was re-christened #archipukeago by tweeting casualties from around the country as the Norovirus, the virus formerly known as Norwalk, a highly communicable gastroenteritis-causing virus, visited dozens of CUP delegates at the Harbour Towers Hotel like a cruel, stomach-haunting ghost.

It was gala night at #barfipelago and the room was filled with attractive, intelligent 20-somethings listening to smart-ass ESPN feature writer and *Esquire* blogger Chris Jones recounting a story of the time he bled on George Clooney's couch and his preference for putting two hard cocks in his mouth and banging them around like microphones rather than doing a story on his college nemesis.

While many in the crowd felt their guts busting with laughter, others' guts were busting in a different way. The crowd slowly began to lose members as journalists slipped away to the bathrooms.

They managed not to raise a fuss, however, and so, as planned, 300 student journalists were piled onto yellow

school buses to make their way to the gala.

And the gift of the Norovirus kept on giving on these sunshine-coloured wonder-mobiles. Buses are the best places for widespread vomiting, and the virus becomes airborne when puked up. These buses were just glorified disease vectors.

It was a huge expense to those among us who didn't relish the prospect of 200 people all trying to fight the virus in a tin can with one bathroom 20,000 feet in the air.

Upon arrival at the scheduled drunk-fest/dance-off, more puking ensued—but, strangely, this time the puking came *before* the heavy drinking, not afterwards.

For those not immediately affected, because of their obvious biological superiority, it was a waiting game. And like any good zombie movie will show you, no matter how careful you are, resistance is futile. Total zombification comes for you slowly, inexorably, as mem-

bers of the group experience the magic of the disease one by one.

But the real tragedy of #pukeipelago was not the actual puking. It was the red-tape geniuses at WestJet and Air Canada, whose response to the outbreak seemed ripped right out of the script for *Contagion*.

As generally responsible members of society, many at #pukeipelago decided to push back their departure dates, not wanting to re-created the earlier schoolbus scenes while airborne. The airlines were slightly less concerned about the transfer of a virus that could make people poop uncontrollably within half an hour of contact, however.

When contacted, WestJet advised infected delegates to fly, which is weird considering that the Vancouver Island Health Authority made it clear that those very same people should remain in their hotel rooms.

As a result, many of the infected were forced to choose between their wallets and the well-being of their fellow humans. When you switch a flight you have to pay a "change of flight" fee, and you also have to pay the difference in cost between the original flight and the new one.

So the airline decided to pretend that they weren't completely incompetent, deciding to wave the "change fees," which is really tricky language, as it implies that changing the

flight would have no costs associated with it. Wrong.

It was a huge expense to those among us who didn't relish the prospect of 200 people all trying to fight the virus in a tin can with one bathroom 20,000 feet in the air.

Aside from essentially forcing many people to board planes, it appears that airlines do not even have a contingency plan to deal with viral outbreaks that may or may not turn the entire population into brain-eating zombies.

In a tweet, WestJet said, "We do not encounter this very often. We always team up with health authorities to determine the best course of action."

That's, if you will, hard to stomach. What about SARS, the bird flu, and H1N1? Were there no contingency plans for those situations?

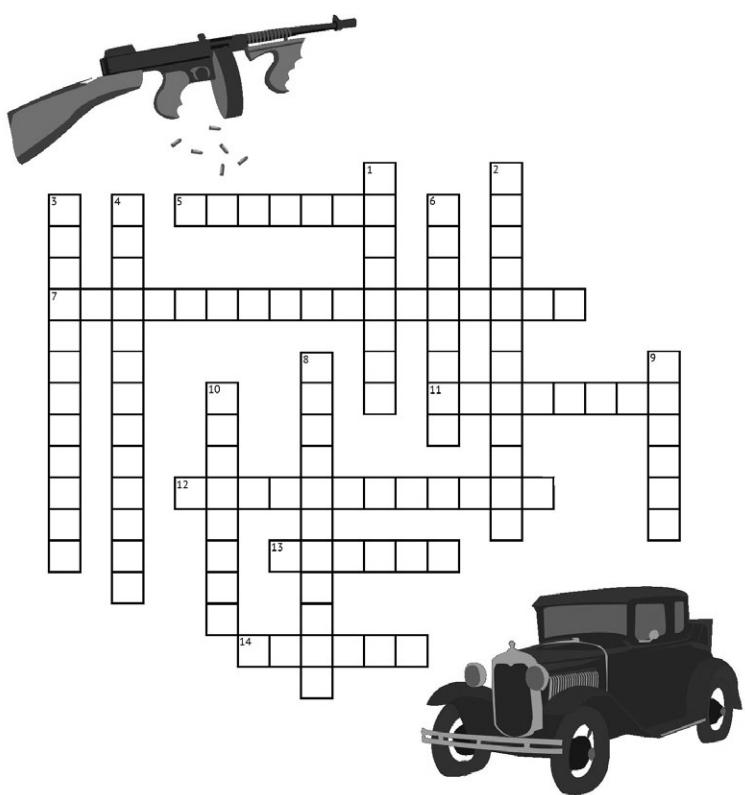
It's frustrating to see a big corporation like WestJet tacitly encouraging people to turn their Boeing 737s into flying toilets, but it's worse when one considers what the ramifications would be like if the virus had been a more dangerous one.

The moral of the story? The zombie movies were right—the real villains aren't the affected, but those who make the spread possible. One way or another, the end of the world will come down to money matters.

As for the delegates filtering home? Well, just call them the #NorwalkingDead.

Organized Criminal's Sweet Spot

CROSSWORD CHRISTOPHER TAN



Across

5. Seattle-based Grunge band that 'came as they were'—as it were.

7. This chart-topping Coolio single is also a hint to this week's puzzle theme. (2 words)

11. The infamous tale of the infamous Tony Montana, this film is

actually a remake of a 1930s film of the same name.

12. God gives Adam and Eve the boot from this place in Abrahamic mythology (3 words)

13. Meaning "garden" in Arabic, this word is the Islamic conception of

9-Down

14. Its literal translation from the Greek means "no place." Well, that's a bummer.

Down

1. The hall where fallen warriors live it up in Norse mythology.

2. With 8-down, one of the most infamous bank-robbing duos ever. (2 words)

3. The American Film Institute ranked this flick the second-best film of the past century in 2007—up from a lowly third in 1998. (2 words)

4. Johnny Depp stars as this smooth criminal in 2010's *Public Enemies*. (2 words)

6. This is the third and final part of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, after the Inferno and Purgatorio.

8. See 2-Down. Not to be confused with a wheelbarrow, this guy was a real public menace. (2 words)

9. All dogs go here—according to some '90s kids movie. Pretty dubious claim, if you ask me. Some dogs are jerks.

10. This crime Don avoided prison time for his nefarious deeds throughout the '20s—only to be busted for tax evasion in 1931. Oops. Pay your taxes, kids. (2 words)

HEY BOG, YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT CONTEMPT?

• RILEY SPARKS

I slept in and missed last Thursday's Board of Governors meeting. But the meetings have become more formulaic than *House*, and I didn't need to actually sit through another episode to know how this mess would play out.

The chair, Peter Kruyt, would continue his Guinness-worthy streak of terrific douchebagery. The board would contemplate their fingernails, half-asleep, as students asked for some minor concession. And eventually the rich, old folks who run this school would vote to do something short-sighted and stupid. Surprise.

As always, things got off to an ugly start. The university had moved the meeting to some janitor's closet in the Hall Building, where there was just enough room for the Board members and Peter Kruyt's massive ego.

Students and reporters who wanted to watch this month's fiasco were shuffled off to another room to watch a laggy live-stream with a funny tendency to drop the audio every time our student reps opened their mouths.

Back in November, Graduate Students' Association rep Erik Chevrier asked the Board to approve a modest series of motions: that all meetings have 50 seats open to the public, that each meeting have at least a 20-minute question period, that closed-session discussions remain secret and that Board meetings be filmed and

broadcast online.

Not too crazy. But the Board was decidedly unhappy about the idea. Watching their reaction, you would have thought Chevrier had just busted down the door, his Lemmy-esque locks flowing wildly in the breeze, screaming "Up against the wall, motherfuckers!" and demanding Kruyt's head on a plate.

After settling some initial confusion about how the Internet works, the Board members generally agreed that there was no need to be too hasty, and that it would be best to study this strange madness before doing anything rash.

After a few months, Concordia's crack legal team produced a report that in 565 words essentially said, "I dunno, what do you think?"

Acknowledging that Board meetings might be considered public events and therefore legal to film, the university's counsel noted a few paragraphs later that, on the other hand, they might not. I'm so glad we pay these people so much money.

The legal question is simple. Students are allowed into the meetings. Reporters take notes, record audio and sometimes shoot video. The only way these events could be more public is if Board members were required to show up naked. As Concordia's lawyers noted, filming and broadcasting public events is legal.

Almost every time Concordia is mentioned in the national media, it's quickly followed by some mention of

governance problems, the "culture of contempt" and Judith Woodsworth's 'controversial' departure.

Despite the university's frequent cheery news releases about our improving reputation, things are pretty grim. If admin bailed out Bernie Madoff and appointed him president, the rest of the country would be mildly surprised for a day or two, chuckle a bit—and still send their kids to another school.

Over and over again, the recommendation has been to make the university's dealings more open and accountable. By supporting Chevrier's motions, the Board could have made a small, important step toward rehabilitating Concordia's bruised reputation.

But they just don't care. "Transparency does not equal good governance," said Peter "Judge Dredd" Kruyt to *The Link* after the last Board meeting.

Of course he would say that. Given the incredible ability of many board members to stuff both of their feet in their mouths at once, lack of transparency is the only thing keeping them in a job.

We all know the Board of Governors—with the one mustachioed exception of our Provost, David Graham—don't give a shit about students. But every month it's becoming more and more obvious that they can't even be bothered to pretend to care about this school we pay for. Can't we fire these people?



A Mark, Submission, a Brand, a Scar

I really like rough sex—being choked, smacked across the face, having nails dug into my body and being grabbed hard. I don't mind bruising or marks left behind, but the problem is that it's embarrassing when someone notices a bruise and asks what happened. Do you have any suggestions on ways to minimize the physical evidence of one's sex life?

—Rough & Tumble

There isn't really a fix-all solution to bruising after rough sex. Unfortunately, the easiest ways to cover these marks up are to have less rough sex or avoid pressure to areas you can't cover up as easily, like your neck or arms.

The problem there is it's pretty difficult to focus on the difference between roughly grabbing our partner's arm versus their waist in the heat of the moment, or to expect you and your partner to hold back by not going as rough as you want to.

After the fact, you can minimize chances of bruising if you know you were particularly rough on a part of your body by applying ice to the area as soon as possible.

If you're worried that you might bruise more easily than others, you can get a physical and blood test if your doctor sees a need—but there probably isn't anything significant wrong with you if your only symptom is bruising easily.

It also depends on how badly you're getting roughed up. From your question, I'm assuming this is a consensual, enjoyable situation for both partners and that any resulting physical harm is minor and mostly bruising. There are, however, some safety issues I like to bring up when discussing rough sex.

Make sure the acts you're performing, or the intensity with which you're performing them, won't cause permanent physical damage, such as internal bleeding, and that you and your partner have a clearly defined safe word or motion if you're being choked to ensure everything stays consensual throughout.

Regardless of what you agreed to beforehand, in a healthy sexual relationship, you should feel comfortable enough to end things at any point.

It's also important to do your best to avoid potential infection. A good rule to remember is, "If you break the skin, there's risk within!" This refers to the risk of infection (STIs and other) through skin openings, which can also result in longer healing times.

On another note, since starting this column, I've realized that more people are into rough sex than many people (myself included) would have assumed. I believe this assumption continues because people are embarrassed to talk about what gives them pleasure—despite the fact that talking about taboos and negative stigmas is how they get broken down.

Of course, there are many reasons why you might be embarrassed. Maybe your mom is the one asking, or maybe some people are even suspecting abuse. However, if people you would normally speak to about your sex life are asking, why not tell them the truth?

If you aren't down with the bruises and would just feel better and less embarrassed if they were gone that's also fine, but I'm under the impression that's not the case for you.

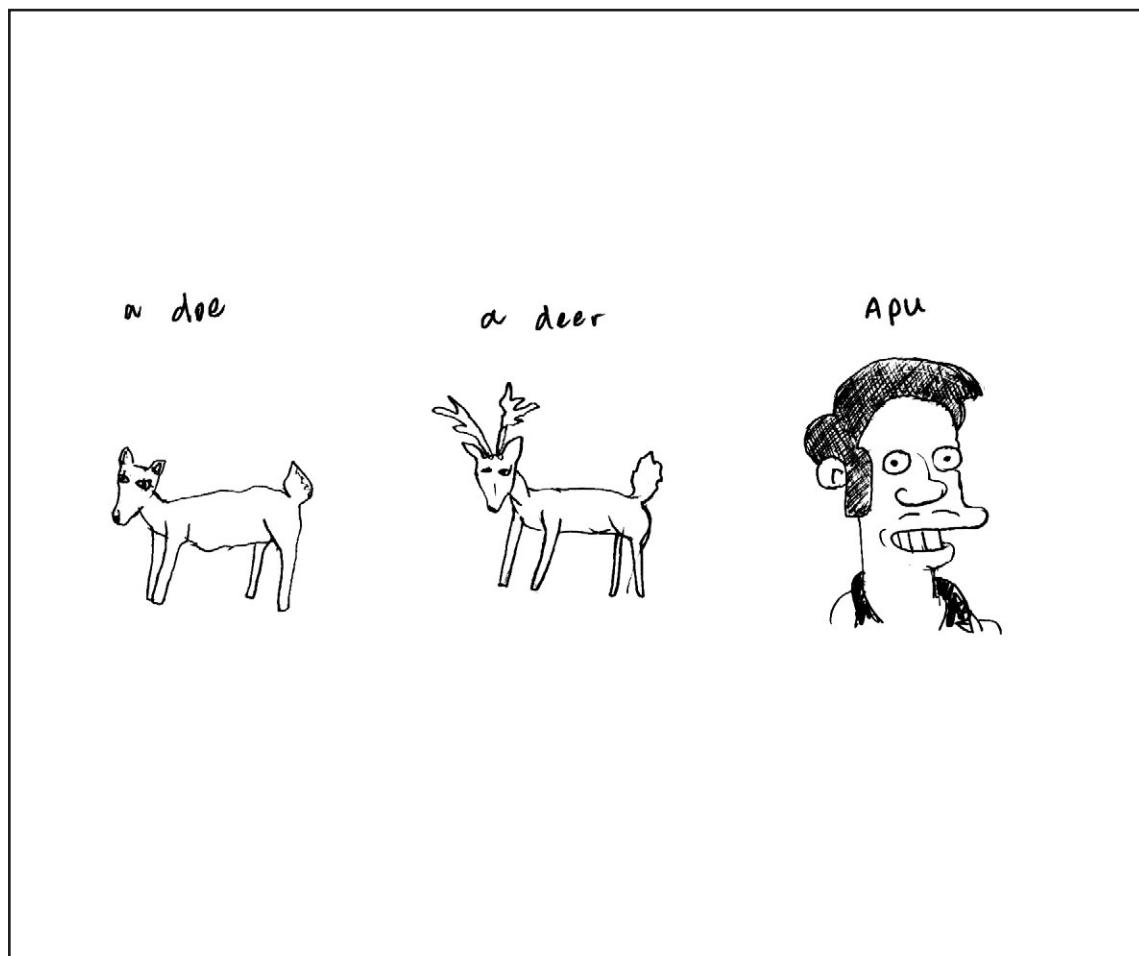
If you don't mind the evidence it leaves behind, don't minimize it for those in your life who can't handle it—and think of those love marks as a little reminder of the awesome sex you had the other night, rather than a mark of shame.

—Melissa Fuller

Submit questions anonymously at sex-pancakes.tumblr.com and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook.

Barton Flats

COMIC JONATHAN WOODS



Tremendous Tales

by Christopher Olson



It may have been the last can of Heinz Beans in existence, but it just wasn't worth parting with Vincent's last scrap of toilet paper.

False Knees

COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



Nah'msayin?

Stop Sucking Up to Profs!

You're in school trying to follow your class/not fall asleep. And then, *that* student—you know the one—raises his/her hand.

"Sorry, professor, but..."

Whatever question follows will be: a) Not relevant to the subject at hand, b) Not related to the class at all, c) Not even a question, or d) All of the above.

Sometimes the student might as well be holding a giant invisible sign reading: "I need attention! Look at me!"

Here are a few classics: "Well, I'm from this place, or lived there for a year or two, anyway,

but I know it better than you, despite whatever PhD you did on it." Or, "Well, my opinion on the subject—which, interestingly, is not based on anything factual, and is not bringing anything new to the table—is that..."

Perhaps the all-time best is the tried-and-true suck-up/brag: "You know, this reminds me a lot of a very pretentious-sounding and obscure book with only a tangential connection to the subject at hand that I've read. What question? Oh, no question, I just thought it was interesting..."

But not everybody needs at-

tention from a room full of people. Some students like to genuinely suck up to profs.

Like if it was high school all over again, and they still think sucking up will get them a better grade.

Breaking news, suckers! It won't, and you look ridiculous.

Also, you're wasting everybody's time. If you need attention, it's pathological. Go to a therapist. Or get a puppy.

Or just think before opening your ridiculous mouth. Please.

-Pierre Chauvin,
Community Editor



GRAPHIC JOSHUA BARKMAN

This Ain't What Democracy Looks Like

editorial

If you haven't heard, the Concordia Student Union wants you out of the classroom and in the streets fighting against the impending tuition increases yet again.

A quick reminder for those living under a rock: the Charest government is set to pass tuition increases of \$325 a year for five years—an increase of \$1,625 by 2017. Student unions from across the province have joined together to will their students to battle the government.

The CSU has released a new game plan for halting the hikes, which they hope will culminate in a four-day strike from Mar. 26 to Mar. 29.

They then hope to extend the strike indefinitely until their demands are met. Concordia undergrads will vote on a strike mandate at a Special General Meeting on Mar. 7,

a meeting that the CSU wants us to believe is "democratic."

In reality, it is nothing of the sort. Just because something is part of a democratic movement that has democracy as a *final goal*, it doesn't mean that it's democracy *per se*. You can't make a sandwich and call it "democracy in action."

Unlike a real election, in which most people have the opportunity to vote, there will be very few students actually making this decision for all of us.

There are over 35,000 undergraduate students at Concordia, which fall under the CSU's purview.

At a Special General Meeting, only 450 students are required for the vote to be binding, and with only 50 per cent of those plus one extra student needed to pass the vote, as few

as 226 students could decide on the fate of all undergrads. That's 0.65 per cent.

At the last SGM, Concordia saw a real failure of democracy when students were called to vote on participation in the Nov. 10 Day of Action.

If you were one of the few students who did attend the SGM you probably saw a councillor or two handing out Timbits, trying to cajole the minimum amount of students necessary into the auditorium. Democracy in action!

But seriously, no.

Scrambling for quorum right before a meeting and sandwiching students into an auditorium by bribing them with sugary treats is not an acceptable way of increasing student interest, even if their own future depends on it.

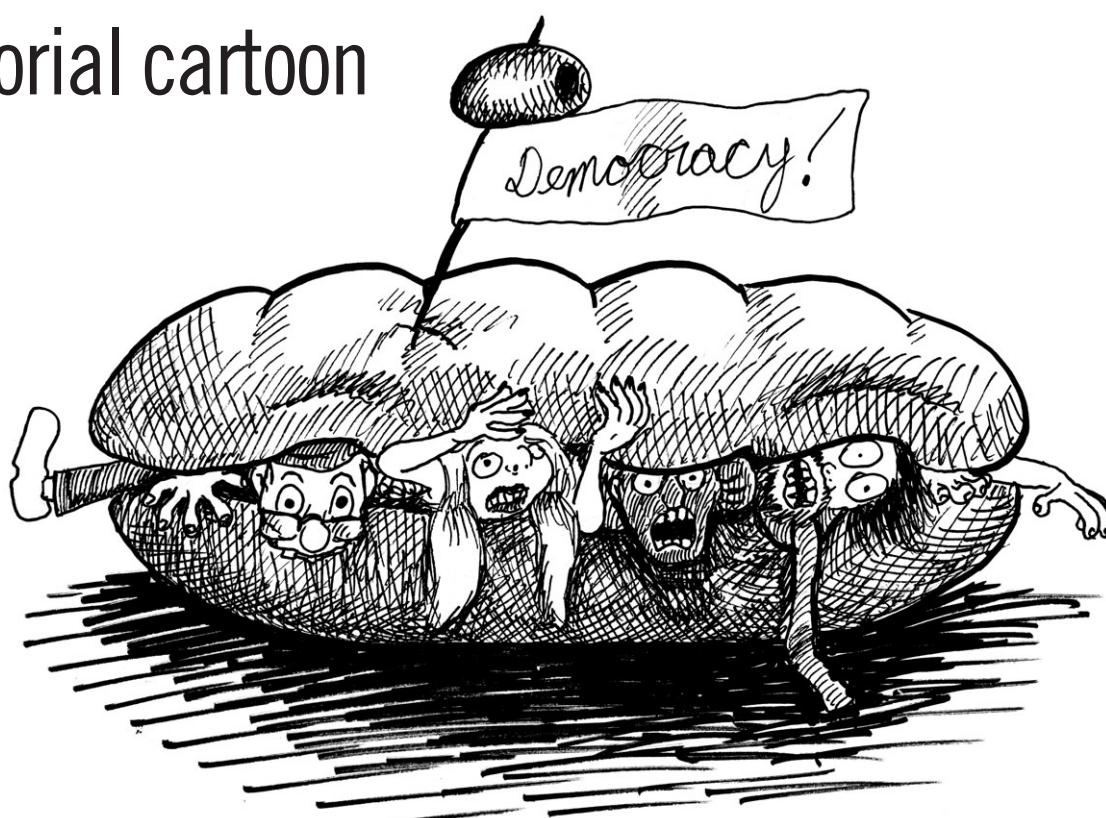
Worse, voting to send thousands of students into the streets is not something that should be done in a small auditorium in under an hour, by a few activists and their most available friends. It should be done in a way that allows the most students the opportunity to vote and make informed decisions.

The CSU must devise a more democratic system. Using the MyConcordia portal to cast a vote, or holding SGMs over several days could ensure more students have the chance to vote. Or, maybe we should have voted on this in the last election.

Whatever the case, no donuts this time, please.

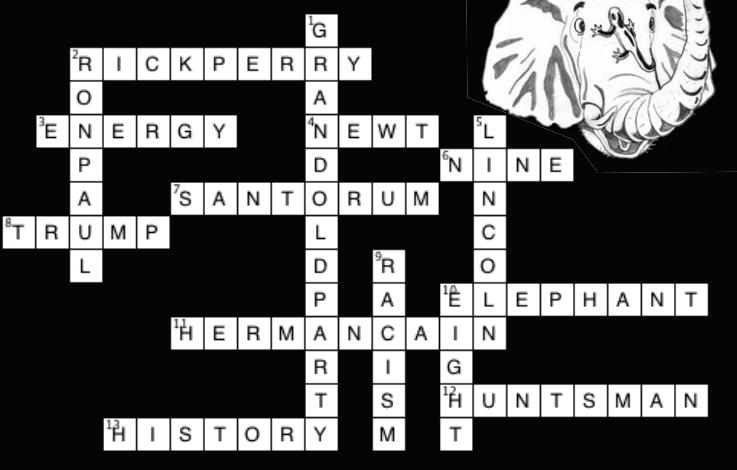
—Julian Ward
News Editor

editorial cartoon



Just because you call it democracy doesn't mean it's democracy...

ISSUE 16 CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS



THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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news editor

JULIAN WARD

current affairs editor

ADAM KOVAC

assistant news editor

JACOB ROBERTS

fringe arts editor

ALEX MCGILL

fringe arts online editor

COLIN HARRIS

lifestyle editor

DAVID MURPHY

sports online editor

DAVID KAUFMANN

copy editor

ALEX MANLEY

opinions editor

HILARY SINCLAIR (ACTING)

distribution

community editor

PIERRE CHAUVIN

photo editor

ERIN SPARKS

graphics editor

ERIC BENT

managing editor

JULIA WOLFE

creative director

OPEN

coordinating editor

JULIA JONES

webmaster

OPEN

business manager

RACHEL BOUCHER

ad designer

ADAM NORRIS

distribution

ROBERT DESMARAS

DAVID KAUFMANN