

An illustration of a large, reddish-brown hand reaching down from the top of the page, holding a small stick figure. The stick figure is composed of a blue head and torso, and a yellow lower body. The hand is positioned as if it is about to drop or release the figure. The background is white, and the overall style is minimalist and graphic.

Sorry!

RECALL PETITION TRIES TO KNOCK CSU EXECUTIVES BACK TO "START"; COUNCIL CHANGES RULES MID-GAME • PAGE 3

By-election and recall petition: how the cards stack up

Matter likely to be settled in court

• GIUSEPPE VALIANTE, CUP QUEBEC BUREAU CHIEF

Concordia Student Union President Keyana Kashfi said she is seeking advice from her union's lawyers and awaiting the official reply from the Council chairperson in response to a petition seeking to recall her and the rest of the executive.

The recall petition, circulated by a group of undergraduate students calling themselves "Students for Democracy, Accountability and Sustainability," reached the minimum threshold of 10 per cent of the undergraduate student body to trigger a by-election. But the union's governing body, the CSU Council, passed last-minute changes to the standing regulations that they claim void the petition.

The Council chairperson, Jessica Nudo, has the sole authority to interpret if the petition is legal since it does not conform to the new rules, said Kashfi.

Nudo has not returned *The Link's* repeated requests for an interview.

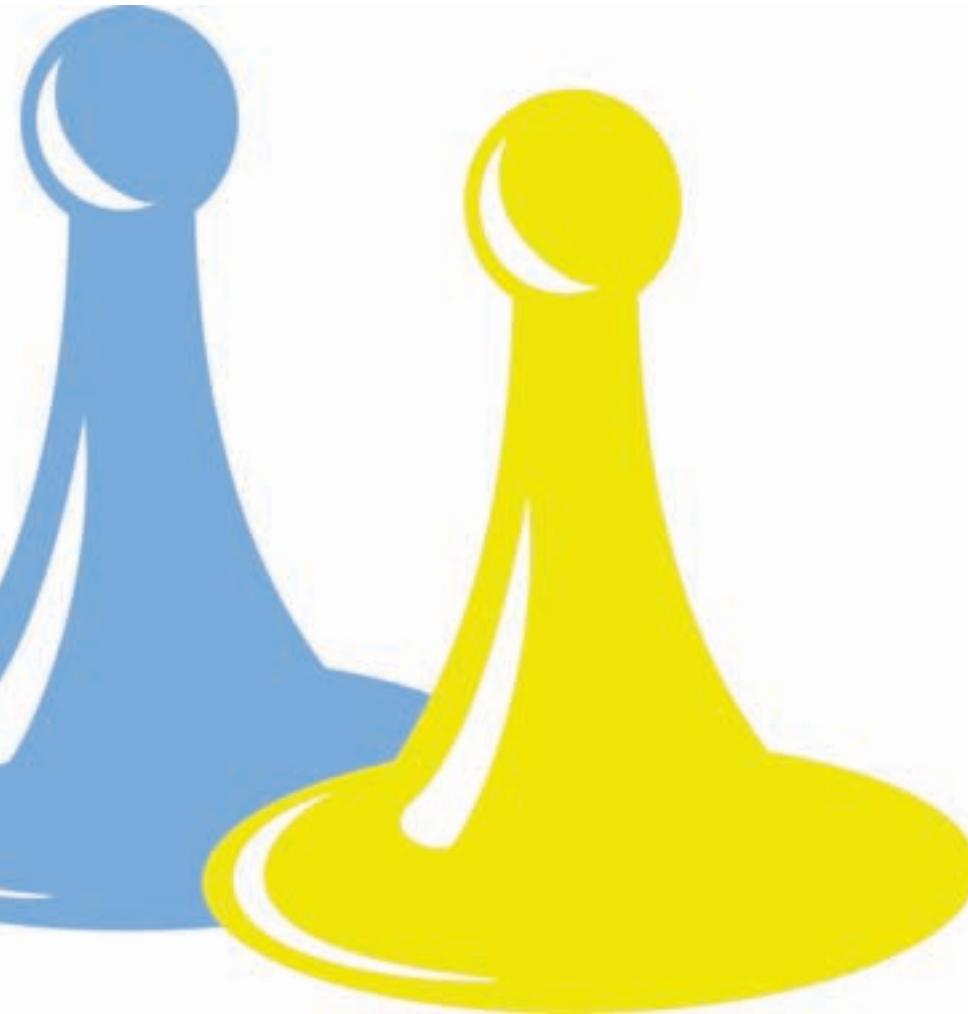
"I can't predict what the chair will do," Kashfi said. "I believe that the chair is aware of the will of Council. And Council's will was to put in these regulations to make sure that all petitions such as this are fair and reasonable."

Spokesperson for the group of petitioners, Patrice Blais, said he sent a copy of the roughly 3,700 amassed signatures to Nudo by bailiff on Dec. 19.

But three days prior, on Dec. 16, Council passed a motion in a closed session at a special meeting that added several rules governing how petitions can be circulated. Blais says the measures—which include adding the names of the union executives to each petition sheet—were not included in his petition.

"So after all the students had signed, they're saying they are changing the rules. Let [the CSU executive] tell that to a judge," said Blais. "It's a pathetic attempt to save their own jobs."

Blais said the goal of the petition is to rid Concordia undergrads of a government that is unaccountable and not transparent. He said he's asked repeatedly for copies of financial records—which, as an undergrad student he has access to—and was ignored. He also claims that the union is responsible for the failure to stop the



The semester starts off with a fun game between two players. GRAPHIC AMY SMITH

hike in international tuition fees.

Kashfi said she has never spoken to Blais, nor has her office received an official request for financial records from him.

Moreover, Kashfi said her executive and her political allies that ran the union last year halted the fee increase for over 12 months and brought the university to court over the issue.

"I don't know why [the petitioners] want to cost students another \$10 to 20,000 for a by-election months before the annual election in March," Kashfi said. "I do know that Patrice Blais [...] [has] been politically involved at Concordia for many years now. This isn't the first time [he's] done something like this. Patrice Blais was a CSU executive at one point and then he wasn't anymore, maybe there is some bitter feelings about that."

Blais is a lawyer, but he said that he's also taking undergrad courses in the John Molson School of Business. He was president of the CSU in 2001-2002 and was briefly president of the Graduate

Student's Association in 2007.

Blais did not want to disclose all the names of members who make up his "15 to 18" petitioner team because he said they were afraid legal actions would be taken against them by the CSU. He did mention that one other member, Ethan Cox, "was very efficient in getting these signatures done."

After arriving at Concordia and registering as an independent student in the fall of 2006, Cox ran an unsuccessful campaign to recall the then-CSU executive, led by former CSU President Khaleed Juma.

Cox ran as an independent student councillor in the subsequent student elections that were mired by fraud allegations and lost. With Blais as his lawyer, Cox tried to bring the CSU to court, but nothing materialized.

Cox did not return requests for an interview.

If Nudo declares the petition void, then the matter will go to court, said Blais. And if the petition succeeds, students can expect a by-election as soon as the end of January—at a cost of at least \$10,000.

Blais questions incriminating posters

• TERRINE FRIDAY

Concordia student and former Concordia Student Union executive Patrice Blais got a surprise during the exam break.

What he calls inappropriate posters of him were plastered around the Hall building on Dec. 8. The posters featured a caricature resembling Blais carrying away suitcases full of money.

"It's not like the person who put it up is courageous enough [to come forward]," Blais said.

The rumor of missing money started during the recall campaign, which would force a by-election within 40 days of the petition's delivery. Blais thinks it's no coincidence the posters with his name and face appeared around school during his bid to remove the current CSU executive from office.

"I think anybody with a brain knows where it comes from," Blais said, noting that the CSU would deny it came from them.

The student union denies it was their doing and claim they didn't know about the smear campaign.

"I haven't heard anything about it," said Elie Chivi, VP communications for the CSU.

But Blais said he doesn't want to be in the middle of a squabble that he says has nothing to do with him.

"If somebody stole money, then they should press charges, not hide it," he said.

Guy gets glassy



The streets around Concordia's still-unfinished JMSB building were closed on Dec. 28, 2008 due to falling glass from the structure. PHOTO JONATHAN DEMPSEY

York students on (forced) vacation

• TERRINE FRIDAY

In Toronto, York University students still aren't back to school as a union strike continues into its second month.

The Canadian Union of Public Employees local 3903 has been on strike since Nov. 6. Teaching assistants, graduate assistants and contract faculty are seeking a new contract, which includes higher wages and more job security.

Tyler Shipley, spokesperson for the worker's union, said he has been in negotiations since summer and contract workers are still considered "a cash cow for the university."

According to the group, York President Mamdouh Shoukri has failed to comply with their requests for a public meeting and disclosure.

Con U prez declares economic certainty

• TERRINE FRIDAY

President Judith Woodsworth released a statement before the holidays reassuring the performance of Concordia's investments.

In her statement, Woodsworth noted the university's endowment fund and pension plan are being monitored, and concluded "Concordia has a strong record of prudent financial management amongst Quebec universities."

This comes shortly after Concordia announced its \$1.3 million payout to former Concordia president Claude Lajeunesse—10 per cent of the university's deficit in the 2007-08 fiscal year—who held the position for only two years.

Blue fleur-de-lys shows store's true colours

Future Shop alone shows French logo downtown



Although English is encouraged, French is mandatory inside this store, no "si", "et" or "mais." PHOTO ELSA JABRE

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

Across the island of Montreal, stickers on store windows tell customers hours of operation, how they can pay for their purchases and what to wear. As of Jan. 5, they also tell them what language to speak.

A new sticker, a blue fleur-de-lys inside a white speech bubble, surrounded by the words "Ici on commerce en français"—here we do business in French—is the latest project of the Office Québécois de la langue française.

"When a francophone customer sees this sticker, they know that they can have their shopping experience completely in French," said Martin Bergeron, the spokesperson for the OQLF. "That's why we have used the verb 'business;' it surrounds everything. This is more than service; it is the billing, the signs and the products they buy."

Although Bergeron says between 3,000 and 4,000 stickers have been distributed to businesses who have asked for them, only one store on the downtown section of Ste-Catherine Street—the Future Shop near Place des Arts—displays the logo in the busy downtown section of Ste. Catherine Street.

"Future Shop works closely with the OQLF. One day they told us

about this program and asked if we wanted to participate and we said sure," explained Thierry Lopez, public relations officer for Future Shop. "We already followed the policy, we require our employees to greet people in French," Lopez continued. "This was simply slapping a sticker on it."

According to Lopez, all Future Shop stores in Quebec require their employees to speak French. "Only in stores like that in Pointe-Claire, where the clientele is 80 per cent English, do we require our employees to know English [...] and the French business policy applies there as well."

Bergeron cautioned that English Montrealers should not overreact to the stickers. "This program doesn't take anything away from Anglophone customers," he said. "If the business can communicate with customers in another language, good for them. This takes nothing away from them."

The OQLF made headlines in early 2008 when it complained that antique signs at McKibbin's Irish Pub were too English. Bergeron said the new business logos have not been nearly as controversial. "We have received a lot of very positive comments on this campaign, which is nice, because people only normally communicate with us when there is a problem."

THE LINK

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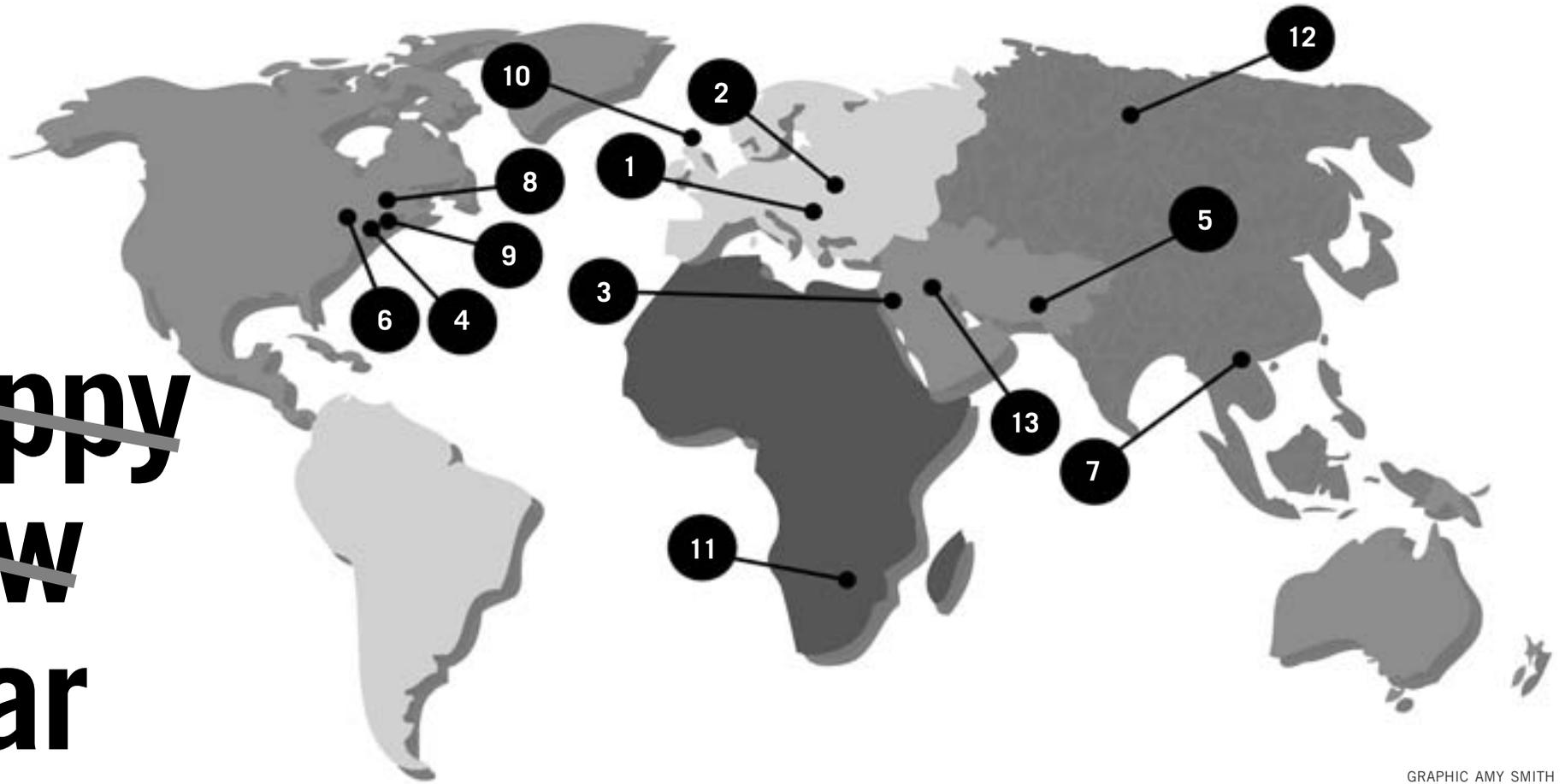
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cover graphic by Amy Smith

Happy New Year



GRAPHIC AMY SMITH

A look at how the old has given way to the new

• TERRINE FRIDAY

New Year's-1944: Hungary (1) declares war on Nazi Germany (2).

2008: Israel (3) declares air strikes on Palestine as an offensive mechanism to promote peace talks. Over 500 civilians have been killed.

New Year's-1946: United States (4) president Harry Truman declares the end of World War Two.

2008: U.S. president George W. Bush declares "it would be irresponsible" for American Congress to not bail out the failed American auto industry. U.S. Congress voted down a \$14 billion package in December.

The war in Afghanistan (5) continues to cost the U.S. about \$10 billion per month.

New Year's-1955: General Motors (6) becomes the first American company to gross over \$1 billion in sales in one year.

2008: GM and Chrysler await their fate as Congress reconsiders bailing them out of their exorbitant debt.

New Year's-1972: During the Vietnam (7) War, the U.S. government decides to halt bombing.

2008: Famous Vietnam War survivor Kim Phuc speaks to

Concordia students in Montreal (8) about her own triumphs.

New Year's-1975: A bomb explodes at La Guardia airport in New York City (9), killing 11 people.

2008: British doctor Bilal Abdulla is convicted for his failed attempt to bomb Glasgow International Airport in Scotland (10).

New Year's-1987: Robert Mugabe takes up presidential office in Zimbabwe (11) after being elected.

2008: Mugabe fails to step down as leader even though a general elec-

tion nominated Morgan Tsvangirai for office. A power-sharing deal is reached between both parties whereby Mugabe will remain president while Tsvangirai will assume the prime ministerial post.

New Year's-1999: Boris Yeltsin, president of Russia (12), steps down. Then-vice president Vladimir Putin assumed the presidential post.

2008: Putin is appointed prime minister of Russia by newly elected president Dmitry Medvedev—whom Putin endorsed in December of 2007—and remains in partial control of the country's political affairs.

Putin could not run for the presidency again due to a mandatory two-term limit.

New Year's-2006: Iraqi president Saddam Hussein is executed by hanging for the deaths of over 100 Iraqi Shiites who were allegedly planning to overthrow him.

2008: In an interview with CBS, American vice-president Dick Cheney admits intelligence that Iraq (13) had weapons of mass destruction—the basis for invasion in 2003—was incorrect. "It wasn't 100 per cent wrong," Cheney continued. Osama bin Laden still hasn't been found.

Another Kohail faces death sentence

Sultan Kohail, now 18, to be tried in adult court

• CLARE RASPOPOW

Sultan Kohail, sentenced in April of last year in a Saudi Arabian court to 200 lashes and one year in prison, could now face the death penalty for his role in the death of Saudi student Munzer Haraki.

Kohail, along with older brother Mohammed Kohail and friend Muhanna Ezzat, is accused of killing Haraki during a large brawl that resulted from an insult to a Syrian girl.

Kohail was originally tried in youth court, being 15 at the time of the incident. However, unsatisfied with his original sentence, the prosecution in his case has succeeded in having his case moved to adult court.

When tried in adult court, Kohail could face the same fate as his brother—death by beheading. Mohammed Kohail has currently exhausted all avenues of appeal and awaits

his execution in a Saudi jail.

Sultan Kohail will next face the Saudi court of appeals, who will decide if his case will be judged by the same men who condemned his brother.

According to Mahmoud Al-Ken, family spokesperson, the Kohail family fears Mohammed's execution could take place as soon as mid-February as new Saudi law requires that he be put to death no later than 30 days after his final review, which is scheduled within the next two weeks.

Sultan Kohail's move to adult court violates numerous international sanctions preventing someone from being sentenced to death for a crime they committed while under the age of 18.

It has also been reported that Kohail's father has been summoned before the Jeddah court, being confronted with charges of going to the press and criticizing Saudi government agencies.



Protestors unite on Ste-Catherine near Atwater. PHOTO TERRINE FRIDAY

Protestors denounce Israel

• TERRINE FRIDAY

As Israel entered into its ninth day of air attacks on Palestine, protestors and human rights activists gathered in downtown Montreal to speak out against the warfare last Sunday.

Protestors, marching to denounce air strikes in Gaza, denounced the terror near Atwater metro with chants, including "Israel, terrorist!" and "Stop the killing, stop the crime, Israel out of Palestine!"

Although world leaders and the United

Nations have yet to request a ceasefire, Canadian Foreign Affairs minister Lawrence Cannon has said Canada "is deeply concerned" about the attacks.

Israel has said the offensive attacks are pressure tactics to force Hamas, which has been identified by Israel as a Palestinian extremist group, and Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas into peace talks.

The "Solidarity for Gaza" demonstration will be held this Saturday at Dorchester Square at 1 p.m.

What's going on

Events listing
for Jan. 6-12

MUSIC

Pome/Phonopolis First Anniversary Party/Show!

With all our friends playing:

The Luyas & Handsome Furs & Shapes and Sizes & Adam and the Amethysts & Elfin Saddle & Miracle Fortress & Patrick Gregoire & Nut Brown

Thursday, 8:30 p.m.

Il Motore, 179 Jean-Talon Blvd. O.

The Blue Seeds

With Emilie Proulx.

Friday, 8 p.m.

Le Cabaret Juste Pour Rire, 2111 St-Laurent Blvd.

Maximum RNR

With Dutch Oven + Barn Burner.

Saturday, 9 p.m.

Il Motore, 179 Jean Talon O.

Tickets \$8

Fox Chateauguay

Live in Montreal for the first time ever.

Saturday, 7 p.m.

Indigo, Place Montreal Trust

Free

For the Sake of the Song

A Townes Van Zandt Tribute & Benefit for Mile End Mission

Sunday, 8:30 p.m.

Le Cagibi, 5490 St-Laurent Blvd.

Admission \$5

Onerepublic

Friday, 7 p.m.

Metropolis, 59 Ste-Catherine Street E.

514-844-3500

United Steel Workers of Montreal & The Unsettlers & Malcolm Bauld

Friday, 9 p.m.

La Sala Rossa, 4848 boul. St-Laurent Blvd.

514-284-0122

Matthew De Zoete with Belleisle and Charlotte Cornfield

Friday, 9 p.m.

Casa del Popolo, 4873 boul. St-Laurent Blvd.

matthewdezoete.com

ART GALLERIES

Wallpaper and Landscapes

Chalk drawings by Barbara Kerr and oil paintings from Craig

Welch, opening reception.

Friday, 6:30 p.m.

Wilder & Davis, 257 Rachel Street E.

When I'm Not Around

Tamara Henderson's focus on a simple idea that involves a telephone call and a receiver which refers to communicative installations such as Walter De Maria's Art by Telephone or Yoko Ono's Telephone Piece.

To Jan. 11

Articule, 262 Avenue Fairmount O.

—compiled by Joelle Lemieux

Shoop, shoop ba-doop

Montreal-based sex-pop duo, Shoops, debuts this Friday at Le Social

• KEEGAN KELERTAS

In high school, Yury Shupilov and David Audet hated each other's guts. Before uniting, they each had their own ideas about music.

While one explored hip-hop, the other was into death metal.

As Audet got into beat composition, Shupilov started to pay attention. They made an executive decision to put their differences aside, and worked together.

They became Shoops, giving birth to a new genre of Electro-pop they've dubbed "sex-pop." With an album set to come out this spring, and their first official show this week, it looks like 2009 is going to be their year.

I thought it would be a good time to sit down with Shupilov, the duo's vocalist.

The Link: What differentiates you from other Electro-Pop artists?

Yury Shupilov: We make it so much better. If you could blend Kanye, Justin Timberlake, Kid Cudi, Justice, Crookers and Crystal Castles, you would get Shoops Juice. In respect to that, we like to categorize our stuff in the "sex-pop" genre.

TL: Ok... What is sex-pop?

YS: Sex-pop is a mixture of all kinds of music with sexual connotations. I'm not going to lie we do a lot of mainstream stuff. We know what the industry demands to be able to get ahead in our music career. Sex-pop is an acquired taste that caters to a variety of people.

TL: You're making music that appeals to as many people as possible?

YS: Who said that was a bad thing? [...] Don't lose sleep searching for underlying reason. The beauty of Sex-pop is that nothing is alike. [...] We're trying to reach out to a variety of people with an extensive variety of moods.

TL: What would differ Electro-pop from sex-pop?

YS: Electro-pop is today's music. [...] What differentiates us is the unpredictability of what our music is going to sound like. It's meant to be popular music with sexual content and more. We talk about sex and whatever surrounds it, whether it's love or lust and/or the relationship between the two.

TL: What do you think makes your tracks so special?

YS: A lot of our songs have breakdowns that introduce new instruments with new riffs. What we do is start a song, let it progress, kill it and then revive it with a new feel. That's why we remix our album material to better fit live performances. It's actually fun to remix our own music. You break your back to master a song and just flip it. It's our sort of therapy. It's my favourite process.

TL: Can you elaborate on the production process?

YS: It's pretty systematic. Dave composes a few riffs, emails them to me and I always find the title before anything else. Once I have my title it just seems to flow. I write my lyrics, send my ideas back to Dave. We meet up at the stu-



Sex-poppers Yury Shupilov and David Audet.

dio and start recording. All of our songs are composed, produced and engineered by Dave. Once everything is recorded and prepared, we edit, mix and master.

With Shupilov's lyrical wordplay and Audet's ability to tie together an amalgam of sounds, Shoops have brought together an innovative force that will unquestionably stay ahead of the ever-changing music industry.

Shoops will be playing Friday, at Le Social, 1445 Bishop. Tickets are available at Off The Hook, for \$5. For more information, or if you want to listen to some of their tracks, please visit: myspace.com/shoops

Life outside of the womb

New Year's Resolution: No More Body Paint!

• CODY HICKS

Wondering why you didn't hear from me at the tail end of 2008? I'm afraid I was benched due to a weeklong bout with metal poisoning, vertigo and bad prescription drugs which may or may not have stemmed from the accidental ingestion of gold body paint.

Admittedly, I was in the shop for a long stretch. But I returned to my frozen northern outpost of Edmonton, had a tune-up and now I'm back in fighting form!

So, follow me on a fantastic voyage of ignorance and costume malfunctions ...

Saturday morning, after a serious night of bourbon and DJing, I peeled myself out of bed and crawled to FOUFOUNES Electriques for the debut of Red Mass at M for Montreal.

Immediately, Roy, Red Mass cult leader, handed me two drink tickets, a vial of gold body paint and access to all the Red Bull I could, literally, douse myself in.

I don't know if it was my lizard-dry skin, or if the gold dust just

simply wouldn't stick, but I'm positive, over the duration of the night, that I inhaled enough powder to thoroughly coat my lungs.

I rubbed my almost-golden skin in vain with the powder.

Panicked and approaching show time, I asked around for application tips only to be advised, "mix it with beer." I wasn't about to blow a beer ticket so I grabbed a free Red Bull, made a little cocktail, and slapped it on.

My skin immediately felt like it was on fire, but I blamed the pocket-rocket of bourbon I had been pulling on all afternoon.

So we went apeshit, the crowd went wild and I left the stage fully charged and ready to party.

Roy implored me to go home and shower off citing he'd seen the paint drive people crazy. I stomped home up the Main, spitting gold phlegm and freaking out the cowboy-hat-sporting Grey Cup tourists looking for Crescent Street.

I didn't manage to wash off the gold paint, but I felt that was irrelevant, because I'd just have to suit

up again in a few hours. I showed up to the show at Il Motore full of firewater, ready to douse myself again.

The second show was sloppier, but just as well-received, probably due to the turbo-charged energy levels of the crowd and the unexpected climax that had half the band writhing in a sloppy mixture of fake and real blood.

I was so irritated by the paint that all I could think about was getting home to scrub my skin raw. The second shower was useless and I ended up coating my sheets in gold powder and waking up the next day with what I thought was the ultimate hangover.

For the next two days I smelled similarly to a dirty sock filled with loose change. Worse, I had an overwhelming taste of metal in my mouth, rendering my taste buds useless.

Being a severe hypochondriac I read the bottle of paint, which apparently contains copper, aluminum and bronze. I take a useless trip to the emergency room, as they refuse to even take a blood

test because at this point it's too late.

Two days pass and I still feel like I'm sucking on a loonie, so I go back to the hospital, get diagnosed with Labyrinthitis, a sinus infection that causes severe vertigo.

To remedy the dizziness, nausea and severe anxiety, I was prescribed a medication that caused psychoactive reactions, ruining any chance of sleep, social interaction and, unfortunately, column writing.

I'm a lousy braggart, so I gotta say that nearly every review mentioned my contribution to the festival show. Many were impressed, a few called me out as a gimmick, and far too many people compared me to Joel the tambourine wrangler from the Brian Jonestown Massacre.

My bottom line? I'll take a week hallucinating in bed for 15 minutes of fame any day.

The next Red Mass is this Friday at Club Lambi, 4465 Saint-Laurent where I will take part in rock and roll evangelism and leave the robot body paint at home.

Broaden your britches, bitches!

Art Matters curator on the discourse of the term hipster

• ELLA FOX

Craigslist's beloved Missed Connections became a battlefield after the Fine Arts Student Alliance's end of semester party last month. The brawl comprised of more than 20 (mostly snarky) posts, an anomaly for this usually romantic space.

Although the original provocateur post has been deleted, it would seem from existing responses that it had expressed inflammatory remarks pertaining to hipsterism, inspired by encounters at the FASA party.

Within the ensuing quarrel is an exchange of personal attacks, enabled by online anonymity, which touches on themes as various as globalization, labelling, individuality, appropriation, skinny jeans and the positioning of gonads within them.

former of arrogance, elitism, and bad manners.

While some were left grappling with the very meaning of hipster, whether it be a fashion trend, lifestyle, and/or subculture, others took the time merely to write about the matter's seeming irrelevancy.

They observe these problems as inevitable, a fact of Montreal; a mainstay of postmodernism.

While hipsterism and its ensuing debate is certainly very prevalent on the local scene, it is also a global circumstance. (Craigslist's 'Best Of' has hipster-bashing rants from Philadelphia and San Francisco).

The Independent's 'Meet the Global Hipster' discusses this sweeping trend, and it's few, albeit significant origins in Montreal.

While some were left grappling with the very meaning of hipster, whether it be a fashion trend, lifestyle, and/or subculture, others took the time merely to write about the matter's seeming irrelevancy.

As a curator for Art Matters, I had approached many people at the FASA party to discuss the exhibition I'm currently working on in relation to those very themes.

Several perspectives were evident in the Craigslist exchange:

Most vehemently of all is the voice of the proud hipsters, disdainful of their critics and condemnatory of unauthentic wannabe hipsters.

Similarly prone to the labelling of others, is the hipster-basher type, who accuses the

In 1994 a magazine called the *Voice of Montreal* began, that eventually, in 1996, changed its name to *Vice Magazine*, and moved to New York City in 1999.

The magazine currently boasts a readership of 900,000 people located on five continents, and the Vice corporation includes a clothing chain, record label, and online TV channel.

It's hallmark photographic style, a sexualized vernacular of voyeuristic street-erite, is not only fundamental to the hipster



Hipsters, a true subculture? GRAPHIC GINGER COONS

aesthetic, but also an essential implement of the cool-hunter, the globalizing, commercializing force that interferes with any claim hipsterism might make at being a true subculture, and sets it more suitably within the parameters of popular culture.

American Apparel, frequently advertised in the magazine, has adopted the Vice aesthetic of the lo-fi look as well. Certainly global, with 200 stores worldwide, it has local foundations as creator and CEO, Dov Charney, was born and raised in Montreal.

The exhibition that I am organizing is an invitation to confront these issues without getting caught in neither the type of nasty name-calling, nor the dismissive pride of those who deem themselves to be the true hipsters.

I align my curatorial agenda not with the peacemakers, although I do love the little

lovers. And it must be quite evident by this point that I disagree that all of this is unimportant.

Let's revel in cultural renovations, and have a collaborative re-birthing of the cool. Go ahead and overlook fashion, broaden your britches!

Yet un-named, this exhibition will live in the Art Matters Gallery in St Henri at 3520 Rue St Jacques, a link to pictures of the space and more information can be found at hipshiz.blogspot.com.

The deadline for Art Matters applications has been extended to Friday, Jan. 9. Completed works as well as project proposals and works-in-progress can be submitted. Please clearly indicate on your application if you intend to be considered for this particular show.

spins

Spinnerette *Ghetto Love EP*

Independent



Their sound is described as "being back in the womb." This comes as little surprise after hearing the deep, dark and twisted ambience of their first official release, *Ghetto Love*. Brody Dalle, of much beloved punk band the Distillers, is back with this innovative and daring project, accompanied by former co-Distiller Tony Bevilacqua. With this first EP it's evident that Dalle's got a lot to say. Her new level of maturity and life experience comes through loud and clear with tracks such as "Distorting a Code" in which layers of music play backwards over and under a surprisingly soft and tame singing voice. It is very different to hear Dalle singing, rather than screaming and projecting that infamously raspy, gravelly growl, but the characteristics fans love remain strong in this new endeavor.

To top it all off, the new band is relying entirely on Dalle's existing Distiller truant, releasing the EP entirely on their own à la Radiohead's *In Rainbows* internet phenom. For \$5 fans get the EP, the cover art, the lyrics, and the first music video, made with some help from Liam Lynch. So, get downloading!

4.5/5

—Natasha Young

K-Os *Yes!*

Virgin



Yes! finds Toronto's K-Os at a musical crossroads, trying to throw even more ingredients into a musical pot that he's created over the course of the last few records while still trying not to be overshadowed and outdone by the perilous concoction at hand.

If his first album *Exit* was a critique of rap music in general, and *Joyful Rebellion*

and *Atlantis* were sunny, psychedelic walks in the park, sonic experiments that have pushed the musical and lyrical boundaries of the rapper, that must make *Yes!* the late-night walk home from all of this busy work.

The keyword when thinking about the instrumentation on the album is definitely "ethereal" with tracks like "Astronaut" and "Zambony" backed by layer upon layer of synthesizers and choral arrangements, reverbed handclaps and soulful singing. K-Os manages to spit pensively while still coming off strong, a testament to his ability to let the music lead when the time is right. That doesn't mean he isn't able to drop knowledge when needed.

The beat on "Fun" harkens back to K-Os' breakout single "B-Boy Stance", its beat pulsing and driven, with a funky guitar/synth break that works well (within the context of the song). Similarly, "Uptown Girl" uses the guitar line from Shocking Blue's "Love Buzz" while K-Os raps about a

well-to-do girl, his and her trials and tribulations.

K-Os has often succeeded in the experimental department, where people like Common (Electric Circus, anyone?) and Kanye (2008's *808s and Heartbreaks* was a disaster, for all intents and purposes) have failed, forcing them to go back to the drawing board. But drawing comparisons between Kevin Brereton and the rest of the rap world is clearly a bad idea.

There have been many allusions that Brereton is not of this planet, and I'm slowly beginning to believe it.

4/5

—R. Brian Hastie

TV on the Radio *Dear Science*

Interscope



Though some are calling it the album of the year, TV on the Radio's *Dear Science* has yet to convince me. Don't get me wrong, the

album is more than tolerable, and at times even catchy. But the opening tracks fail to deliver, and instead of wetting my appetite, served only to turn me off. It isn't until track five, "Golden Age," that the album really starts warming up. "Family Tree" is a great addition to the softer side of the album, like an ocean of sound washing over you as vocalist Tunde Adebimpe channels Erlend Oye, one-half of the UK's Kings of Convenience. "DLZ" sounds so instantly heavy, I feel like I've accidentally put my playlist on random. If TV on the Radio proves anything with this album it's their flexibility in sound, their willingness to evolve, adapt, and experiment. And while it hindered my ability to really get into them, I suppose it would be a reason to award them the too-tight crown of album of the year. Highlights include "Crying," "Red Dress," and "Dancing Choose."

4/5

—Joelle Lemieux

Second straight shutout

Stingers women's hockey goalie Audrey Doyon-Lessard blanks Badgers to start 41st Theresa Humes Tournament

• JOHNNY NORTH

**Concordia 2
Brock 0**

Despite the Concordia Stingers women's hockey team not playing competitively in almost a month, they showcased an aggressive, hustling style in a 2-0 win against the Brock Badgers last Friday at Ed Meagher Arena.

The Badgers were the first-round opponents for the Stingers this year in the 41st Theresa Humes Tournament. The Stingers' annual tournament is named after a former Concordia Director of Women's Athletics from 1976 to 1984 who made many contributions to the women's hockey program.

From the opening face-off, Con U controlled the action in Brock's zone. Even with the long break, the Stingers were faster and hungrier for the first goal of the game.

Six minutes in, it looked like Brock had scored when a puck came out of the back of one of Stingers third-year goaltender Audrey Doyon-Lessard's pads, likely stuck there during the pre-game warm-up. The crowd erupted in laughter as the action continued on in the neutral zone while the Stingers put a puck in their own net—no goal on the play.

Con U's top line of Donna Ringrose, Catherine Rancourt and Emilie Luck generated many scoring chances for their team. A little more than 10 minutes into the game, rookie forward Natalie May capitalized on the end of one of their shifts.

May ripped a shot a little past Brock's blue-line and surprised the Badgers' defenders and Brock goalie Beth Clause as she charged the net, picked up her own rebound and buried it for the first goal of the game.

"I really wanted to score," said May. "[The coaches] say I should shoot more often because I didn't use to. I'm trying to work on that."

By the end of the period, Con U had 13 shots to Brock's six shots. Brock was fortunate Clause was able to hold the fort through Con U's initial barrage.

The Badgers got few opportunities, but almost every one was a quality scoring chance that Doyon-Lessard turned aside. The Stingers' defence gave up a few odd-person rushes and breakaways that gave the impression the Badgers were going to tie the game at any moment.

"We've got to work on the defensive part of our game," said Les Lawton, head coach of the Stingers. "We were a little bit braindead because of the break. But we did what we had to do. We were a little sloppy down the stretch a couple of times. Audrey played really well, she made some key saves."

"[Audrey] played amazing, she was so good," said May. "They had a bunch of breakaways and I was nervous on the bench, but she stopped them all."



Stingers first-line forward Emilie Luck gathers the puck. PHOTO JONATHAN DEMPSEY

"We get frustrated too early on our powerplay. We don't have patience, but it will come."

—Les Lawton,
women's hockey head coach

Doyon-Lessard had to be at her best in the second period—Brock came out looking to even the score and got numerous chances, including a shot on a breakaway that went off the post.

While Con U tried to feed off the crowd support, Brock continued to find holes in the defence.

"We were a little slow in the second period, but we picked it up in the third," said Doyon-Lessard.

In the third period Brock continued to press for a goal and got more chances, but with Doyon-Lessard seeing every shot she was far too good to be beat.

"I think we started to pick it up," said May. "We've got to keep our intensity up throughout the tournament."

Con U also got their chances and made the most of one with seven minutes left to play on their struggling powerplay.

With Brock right-winger Michelle Lee in the penalty box for roughing, second-year Stinger defender Alynn Doiron came screeching down the right side and tried to jam home the puck underneath Clause. Doiron was unsuccessful, but Ringrose came in and put the puck in the net during a scramble in front of the Brock net to put Con U up 2-0.

"We get frustrated too early on our powerplay," said Lawton, who was pleased with the goal, but still finds the team needs to work on their special teams. "We don't have patience, but it will come."

The possibility of a shutout seemed possible for Doyon-Lessard, but she didn't really think about it.

"I didn't really think about it until the last minute," she said. "It's like, 'oh nice!'"

The shutout is the second one in a row for Doyon-Lessard. She also blanked the Ottawa Gee-Gees 2-0 in the last game of the season before the break.

Doyon-Lessard believes the tournament is very important for the Stingers as they start the second half of their season. "It's our tournament, we always want to play well in it. It's tradition."

Concordia women almost there

Despite strong effort, women's hockey team drops last two games of tourney

• DIEGO PELAEZ GAETZ

Concordia 1 UofT 4

The Concordia Stingers women's hockey team couldn't keep their momentum from their first win in the Theresa Humes tournament, falling 4-1 to the visiting Toronto Varsity Blues on Saturday at Ed Meagher Arena.

The teams were evenly matched early on, with the Stingers doing a good job on the forecheck. Con U goaltender Audrey Doyon-Lessard was sharp in the first period, turning away a backhander on the doorstep from Varsity Blues forward Callie Bazak. However, the tide started to turn against the home squad thanks to a lucky bounce just over five minutes into the first period.

"We ended the semester very well. We've been in every game we've played. We're a good team."

—Les Lawton,
women's hockey head coach

With Stingers captain Esther Latoures in the penalty box for hooking, Toronto defender Bianca Mirabelli unleashed a slapshot from the point. Doyon-Lessard stopped the shot, but the rebound bounced off of Toronto forward Lindsay Hill and into the net to give the visitors a 1-0 lead.

The rest of the period turned into the Doyon-Lessard show. The Varsity Blues had several chances to improve the lead, but Doyon-Lessard shut the door on Hill twice to keep the deficit at one heading into the second period.

Careless errors ended up killing the Stingers in the second frame. A bad give-away in the offensive zone led to a two-on-one, as Hill scored her second goal of the game on the rebound from forward Karolina Urban's backhand shot.

Another gaffe helped the visitors extend their lead further. Con U fell asleep on a



Stingers goalie Stephanie Peck makes a tough save. PHOTO JONATHAN DEMPSEY

line change, with the new players coming onto the ice behind the play. The mistake resulted in a three on one break for the Varsity Blues, with Urban finishing in the slot to give Toronto a 3-0 lead.

"We made a couple of mental mistakes that gave them two goals in the second period, but the effort is there, and that's a good sign," said Stingers coach Les Lawton.

The Varsity Blues extinguished any hope of a comeback early in the third period, as Hill completed her hat-trick with a wrist-shot from the left circle to give the visitors an insurmountable 4-0 lead.

However, the Stingers didn't give up, continuing to fight hard to claw their way back into the game. Con U finally capital-

ized on one of their seven powerplay opportunities of the game with a slapshot from defender Caroline Desjardins to cut the lead to 4-1 with just under 10 minutes to play.

Despite the loss, the Stingers were happy with the way they played. "We played relatively well," said coach Lawton. "We did show character in the third, after they scored the fourth goal."

The Stingers head into the second half of the season confident in their chances down the stretch. "This team has improved big-time, not just skills-wise, but confidence-wise (as well)," said Latoures. "We're playing much better as a team, we have strong confidence in the locker room."

Her coach agreed. "We ended the semester very well," said Lawton. "We've been in every game we've played. We're a good team."

Concordia 2 Ottawa 3

Former Stingers goalie Jessika Audet made 31 saves to capture the third-place game for the Ottawa Gee-Gees in the tourney last Sunday in a 3-2 win over Concordia.

Gee-Gees player Kayla Hottot got the game-winner in the final frame as both teams got two goals each in the first frame.

The Stingers are back in league action this Sunday at Ed Meagher Arena with a game against the Carleton Ravens at 3 p.m.

scoreboard

	Home	Away	Record
Men's Basketball	Concordia 80	— vs — Wilfrid Laurier 62	4-2-0
	Concordia 86	— vs — P.L. Nazarene 84	
Women's Basketball	Concordia 73	— vs — Carleton 63	8-7-0
	Concordia 63	— vs — Alberta 78	
	Concordia 64	— vs — Memorial 72	
Women's Hockey	Concordia 2	— vs — Brock 0	2-7-0
	Concordia 4	— vs — UofT 1	
	Concordia 2	— vs — Ottawa 3	

schedule

	Who	When
Men's hockey	vs UQIT	Friday, 7:30 p.m.
	vs York	Saturday, 2 p.m.
Women's Basketball	vs Bishop's	Friday, 6 p.m.
	@ Bishop's	Saturday, 4 p.m.
Women's Hockey	@ Ottawa	Saturday, 2 p.m.
	vs Carleton	Sunday, 3 p.m.
Men's Basketball	vs McGill	Jan.16th, 7:30 p.m.

Canada needs more Danny Williams

Newfoundland and Labrador's premier has mastered that rarest of qualities: leadership



GRAPHIC AMY SMITH

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

Sitting in the capital of Canada's most isolated and historically poorest province, Danny Williams has turned Newfoundland and Labrador's history of tough-talking premiers into an art form.

After having seen his oft-belittled Newfoundland don the proud mantle of a "have" province and come of age, Williams has much to cheer about. But like the ancient tale of Icarus, known for flying too close to the sun, Williams' seven-year premiership risks failing on its highest and most confident note.

An Atlantic Conservative

The polite bulldozer of Atlantic Canada, Newfoundland's Progressive Conservative premier has created an impressive résumé for himself over the past decade; he has stared down two successive prime ministers from his podium in St. John's and took on one of the world's most powerful corporations, ExxonMobil, and won.

The people of Newfoundland have reacted to their gutsy premier with stratospheric approval ratings and cheers.

The term progressive conservative has not been an oxymoron under Williams' tenure as the premier has found a careful balance between social conservatism and

an activist state. These Red Tory values have become the reflection of a political tradition that has thrived in its rocky Atlantic exile.

"Called "delusional" by the *National Post* and compared to a dictator by those corporations who have crossed him.."

Williams vs. Abitibi

But on Dec. 16 Williams may have taken this populist Red Tory position one step too far. To cheers of "attaboy" emanating from every corner of Canada and jeers from CEOs comparing him to Hugo Chavez, Williams announced the expropriation of pulp-and-paper giant AbitibiBowater's assets in Newfoundland and Labrador. Those assets included three small hydroelectric dams and logging rights covering a staggering 16,700 square kilometres, three times the size of Prince Edward Island.

The reasons for the expropriation were made clear by the premier, who explained in his thick Atlantic brogue that Abitibi's closure of its last saw mill in the province broke the agreement between Newfoundland and the Montreal-based corporation. Abitibi's right to log public

timber lands for nearly 100 years was predicated on the resources being milled in Newfoundland. Williams has said, quite rightly, that those resources belong to the people of Newfoundland.

"We wish you well"

By closing the mill, Abitibi would continue to cut down massive amounts of timber and ship them somewhere else to be cut, depriving the people of Newfoundland of any jobs or money in exchange for the plunder of their environment.

"That corporation has the right to do whatever it has to do to keep their company profitable [...] but from my perspective as premier, and on behalf of people of Newfoundland and Labrador, we're willing to tell them to go on and do their business in other parts of the country and other parts of the world," Williams told CBC News in December 2008, "you came in with none of those resources, you leave with none of those resources, we wish you well."

Williams—a Rhodes scholar and lawyer—may find himself without allies in the face of a NAFTA challenge by Abitibi. The premier's antagonistic negotiating style over the past decade has burnt many bridges. Prime Minister Stephen Harper and much of North America's capital would like nothing more than to see Williams fail. But failure might prove a tall order for the man from St. John's.

A history of conflict

When he got locked in conflict with Paul Martin over oil royalties, Williams stood tall, ordered all Canadian flags lowered and eventually got things his way. When the same conflict flared up between Williams and Harper, the former began an "Anything But Conservative" campaign which graced the front pages of Canada's newspapers and saw the Conservative caucus from Newfoundland and Labrador eliminated in the 2008 federal election.

Called "delusional" by the *National Post* and compared to a dictator by those corporations who have crossed him, Williams has begun a conversation in this country—a conversation that is sorely lacking. Williams has shown that there is an alternative to simple resource plundering and he has shown that a firm backbone can be an asset to political leadership.

Unlike Icarus, the chances of Williams' failure are slight. The premier has found himself in a tough situation before and he has proven that his support is made of something stronger than wax.

Williams has the backing of Newfoundlanders, but beyond that, he seems to have struck a cord with Canadians from sea to sea. Harper has called Williams' style, "confrontation for the sake of confrontation," but the premier is intelligent enough to understand that confrontation is just what Newfoundland needs to be taken seriously. Williams has something that Harper and few other Canadian politicians have shown in a long time, a sense of pride.

Canada needs a strong, proud leader. Canada needs Danny Williams.

Green space

Renewable Hope

A green future can be powered with what we have right now

• BETTINA GRASSMANN

Throughout my life I was led to believe that renewable energy sources like solar and wind were nice ideas that couldn't possibly meet all our energy requirements. The more I read about renewables, the more I realize that I was grossly misinformed.

Going back to the basics: the sun

When it comes to power, the sun has plenty. That it costs more energy to manufacture a solar-powered device than it can produce in its lifetime is a myth. The most efficient way to capture energy from the sun is through heat and solar ovens. Cookers and water-heaters easily pay for themselves. Through the use of photovoltaic cells, many families already live quite comfortably with sunshine as their only power source. Some even sell excess energy to the power grid. According to Scientific American, the United States could derive 69 per cent of its home energy needs from solar power, if huge swaths of empty desert land were covered with photovoltaic cells.

The power of wind farms

Wind power has come a long way since the days of Don Quixote, yet it is still an underused resource. In 2005, atmospheric scientists Christian Archer and Mark Jacobson estimated that the US could derive as much as 72 trillion watts from wind power. The researchers now admit that their estimate was conservative. Recent studies have demonstrated that turbines placed 10,000 feet into the sky produce 250 times the amount of energy they produce on the ground. The future of wind power could be on kites.

Putting a tube in the ground for steam

The amount of energy we could derive from geothermal sources is truly phenomenal, the output could exceed our current energy needs fourfold. Eighty-five per cent of Iceland's homes are heated geothermally and five geothermal plants now provide a quarter of the country's electricity. Canada has ample geothermal energy to tap, yet geothermal technology and research here is under funded. Despite the 22 Manitoba schools that successfully use geothermal energy, the government continues to treat geothermal energy like a novelty, according to energy advocate and former governor general Ed Schreyer.

Growing energy for the future

The use of corn to make ethanol makes no sense from either an environmental or humanitarian point of view, but there are other ways to derive energy from biomass. Changing World Technologies in New York has long been producing fuel with turkey entrails and municipal waste. Harvesting biomass can be very simple. The smallest operations require nothing more than a fire pit and some wayward tree branches. Ajay Chandak of PRINCE India, whom I visited in Maharashtra, collects methane emitted by a vermi-composting pile of manure. He pipes the methane into the homes of farmers who use it to fuel their stoves. Without this technology they would have burned the manure directly, but methane is easier on the lungs.

The energy basket for tomorrow

Then there's wave power, tidal power and hydropower. There is also human power. Engineers want to install special flooring in a subway station in Queens, New York, which will harvest the energy produced by people's footfalls. The Total Body Turnaround gym in Seattle and the California Fitness gym in Hong Kong are powered by their clients, who spin on the stationary bikes and run on the treadmills. The list of potential sources of renewable energy is as limitless as renewable energy itself.

With so many promising sources of renewable energy at our disposal, why, for the love of earth, don't we get all our energy from renewable sources? Why didn't we start phasing out non-renewable sources of energy decades ago? I believe the reason is economic. By economic I don't mean lack of money, so much as greed for money. The problem with renewables isn't their inability to meet current energy needs as their potential to exceed our energy needs. The law of supply and demand says that you can't make much money on something that is abundant, not to mention limitless. Sunshine and wind aren't things that you can own and sell the way you can coal and uranium.

But are non-renewable sources of energy really more profitable? There are devastating consequences to burning fossil fuels at current rates. These consequences aren't cheap.

Fossil fuels are the product of millions of years and billions of organisms who have lived and died and left their traces on the planet. The quantities of coal, oil and gas we are devouring so gluttonously cannot be replenished in our lifetimes or the lifespan of our species. As Tim Flannery states in *The Weathermakers*, we are running a huge debt. Only with renewables would we be able to keep our account balanced.



COMIC MARLEE MACMILLAN



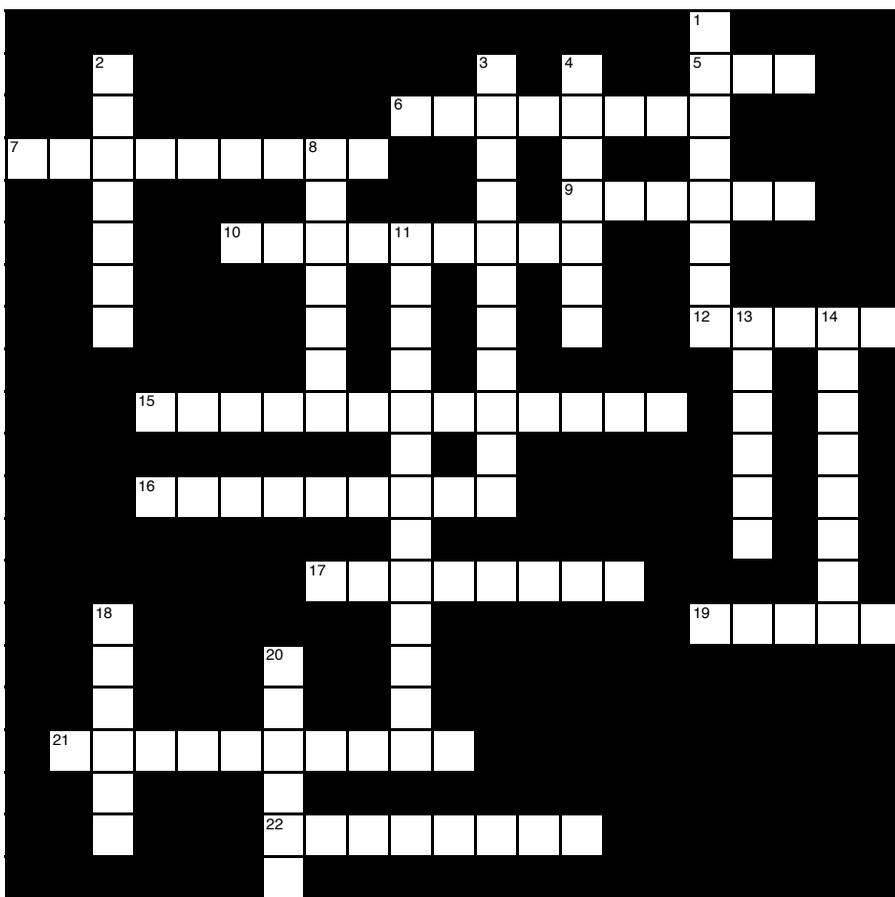
COLOUR BY AUSTIN DAVIS-RICHARDSON

The Link's letters and opinions policy: The deadline for letters is 4 p.m. on Friday before the issue prints. *The Link* reserves the right to verify your identity via telephone or email. We reserve the right to refuse letters that are libelous, sexist, homophobic, racist or xenophobic. The limit is 400 words. If your letter is longer, it won't appear in the paper. Please include your full name, weekend phone number, student ID number and program of study. The comments in the letters and opinions section do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board.

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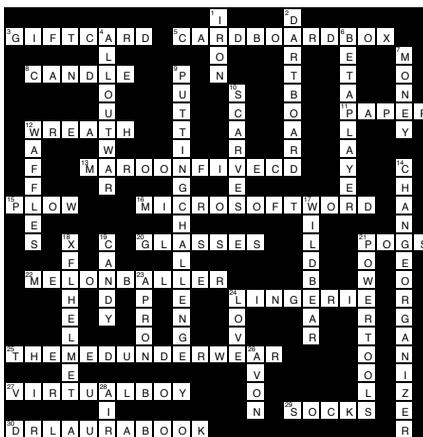
THINGS WE HATE • R. BRIAN HASTIE & BURNO DE ROSA

- ACROSS**
- World-class fighters converge in the octagon to fight for your spare change, or cigarettes
 - Two steps forward, one step back
 - These figureheads are known for enforcing the rules: mom, the principal, the police, Bob Villa and your boss
 - These dangerous water-giving plants can survive the desert, but not my hammer
 - When they are left without payment, they break legs, arms, heads and piggy banks
 - Collection of discarded objects that eventually overtake and suffocate you in a fit of possessive rage
 - Behind on your child support payments? Behind bars for you
 - Fading '60s fad that consisted of gyrating one's hips in concert with a circular ring... And they said that Elvis' hip swaying was obscene
 - The inverse of this made-up holiday would be Space Night
 - Instead of money growing on trees, it is grown in the fields underneath these establishments
 - The Amish have it right, see you at the next Luddite convention
 - First-of-the-month man-made apocalyptic force, appeased only by cheque or money order



- DOWN**
- Rent is something you pay, not something to sing about
 - Elderly TV attorney that's more likely to get lost on his way to the courtroom than successfully getting you off of those drug charges
 - Humans having sex, banshees screeching, dogs barking, cats meowing. Sloths need not apply
 - The thrill of baseball and the excitement of bowling come together
 - Paid to disseminate "knowledge" to paying customers. If they level up enough, they are granted tenure
 - What do you mean I can't Ollie just by hitting the square button?
 - It doesn't matter if they're sharp, blunt, red or even glow in the dark, these are able to get anybody's blood boiling
 - If I get one more poke, friend request, or plant growing application, I will throw this laptop into a wall
 - Beam of coloured light that could blind you, or cut you wide open. Not swords
 - Only creatures in the world that can insult you with words and atomic bombs, other than parrots

issue 16
solutionz



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY JANUARY 9, 1987

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

Unexpected and sometimes unwanted gifts can appear during the holidays as grades gradually appear on transcript. In early 1987, an unnamed student discovered that they failed a class due to the jacket in which they delivered their final essay.

Instead of using a three-hole duo-tang as specified in the course outline, the student used a two-hole duo-tang, resulting in a zero for the assignment and the failure of the class. "Idiotic, stupid, and ridiculous" were the reactions recorded by Brian Dryden as he reported on the reason for the controversial failure.

A re-evaluation board convened at the student's request ruled in the professor's favour and upheld the failure. Although the student argued that the reason for the F grade "defeated the purpose of an educational institution," the board countered that students had to learn to meet course requirements.

History professor Graeme Decarie



called the case ridiculous, "in university, too many professors don't understand the concept of education, that it is for teaching the students the material. Instead they invent stupid little rules [...] you can't stop certain people from being assholes."

To add insult to injury, it was revealed that the professor had been

involved in a similar incident during the 1983 academic year. During the earlier incident the professor compromised with the student, and only subtracted grades for presentation.

The professor was not asked to explain the discrepancy by the re-evaluation board. Welcome back to Concordia.

editorial

Put Concordia back on track

Twelve shukō (challenges) for 2009

Pride in the arts

Though Concordia is proud of its arts programs, as evidenced by the relatively new Engineering, Computer Science and Visual arts Complex, the school does very little to actually promote its artists. With awe-inspiring exhibitions constantly rotating through the school's gallery spaces in the Library and EV buildings, the university should do more to advertise this.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Generally, we can all agree to disagree. But shouldn't we maintain common decency and good ol' respect? Pick up the wad of paper you (accidentally) dropped, flush the toilet and wait for all contents to magically disappear before turning to leave... and nod when you recognize someone in the hallway.

Easier communications between admin and students

Concordia has a great support staff but Concordians shouldn't have to go through nine layers of bureaucracy or talk through a PR flack to find someone who can give them a definite answer. We've got a masochistic preoccupation with red tape. Free communication would make so many problems disappear.

Recycling all around campus

Concordia's sloppy devotion to recycling resembles a last minute Valentine's Day gift to students, with all the signs that the heart simply wasn't in it. If Concordia wants to show its dedication to recycling and win back the heart of students, it'll place some of its bins outdoors to halt the increasing pile up of reusable materials currently festooning the sidewalks and the trash bins.

We need sports facilities to match our teams

Concordia has a nationally-renowned basketball program. Both men's and women's teams are in the running for provincial championships year after year. Yet our teams still play in a cramped high-school gym. With Concordia playing host to many tournaments, as well as teams from the US, shouldn't we have a home court to be proud of?

Recession-proof education: downplay JMSB

One way for Concordia to contribute positively to society is through the creation of a curriculum that encourages a "real" economy. A knowledge economy is based on creativity and entrepreneurial spirit, not paper. This means less management and administration classes and a real push towards engineering and the sciences.

Concordia as a place of learning, not a diploma factory

Concordia's priorities have shifted from education and enlightenment towards that of a financially centered institution with its eye turned towards its financial bottom line. The university needs to take a look at less evident things like building up faculties with interesting and enlightening teachers, regardless of student pass rates. Simply treating students like walking potential gold mines has never been a good thing.

A website for "me"

The Concordia website is pretty and seems to work, however whenever one tries to find any information regarding fine arts, one is left empty handed. People still don't have the slightest idea where the Photography department technician's schedule or phone extension can be found. Things do exist, but a simple department-by-department guide or contact info could help.

Put some fire into the Concordia Community

The Link would like Concordia students to resolve to get more involved. Academics are great, sure, but man cannot live on engineering alone. The school offers a huge range of classes, clubs and organizations to take part in. Concordia is not your enemy, it's your friend, and maybe you two should hang out sometime.

Bathroom doors need to go

Renovations to the male bathrooms were a pleasant surprise at the start of the academic year. Unfortunately, replacing the broken doors of the bathroom stalls was not enough. Every time someone has a class or try to study in the Hall Building, the annoyingly loud slams of the bathroom's main doors add on to the headaches and migraines Concordia generates.

Can't we get an escalator?

There must be a reason why the escalators in the Hall building never work. The Link likes to think it's because Concordia loves us and is secretly forcing us to work out everyday to stay in shape. In reality, we know large institutions don't care that much about our well being, so we see no reason why our escalators are so often nonfunctional.

Concordia.ca layout for the 21st century

The front page of Concordia's website has recently undergone a makeover but frequently visited webpages like the class schedules, feel out of place and outdated. Pages that still use frames and other artifacts from the '90s era of web design should be updated to mimic the redesigned front page. We're looking at you, class schedules list.

—The Link masthead

A billionaire named Ted

Ted Turner's professional highs surpassed personal lows

• JOHNNY NORTH

"Early to bed, early to rise, work like hell and advertise!" This is the motto that Robert "Ted" Turner has used to explain his billionaire status.

In his autobiography *Call Me Ted*, Turner takes the reader from bouncing around private and military schools, to getting booted out of Brown University for having a girl in his room, to dealing with his sister's death from a mental disorder. Turner's father's sudden suicide pushed him into his father's billboard business.

Instead of selling it off, Turner took his father's company and made it bigger than ever by expanding. Eventually Turner expanded his interests, buying last-place Major League Baseball team the Atlanta Braves, who eventually became multi-time World Series champions. Turner also got involved heavily in broadcasting—creating his SuperStation channel and creating the infamous CNN news station.

The book is a long yet easy read—Turner, along with Brian Burke, kept the storytelling simple and honest throughout. The additional input provided by friends, family and celebrities Turner has met over the years adds a little more depth to Turner. Turner is open to what has happened in his life but it's the ones he has interacted with that really helped give a true sense of who Time magazine's 1991 Man of the Year really is.

Turner was not always successful—the AOL-Time Warner merger eventually got him booted out of his own company and a loss of several billion dollars. With family life he seemed to always struggle due to putting work ahead of everything and everyone. He admits that he should have done more for his first two wives and five kids, but given his ambitious lifestyle it's not surprising there was a lot of

sadness and frustration. The book establishes Turner as the type of person that tends to ignore family problems, or just forget that they even happened.

"Ted is a major wizard in terms of having a whole new way of thinking and doing things."

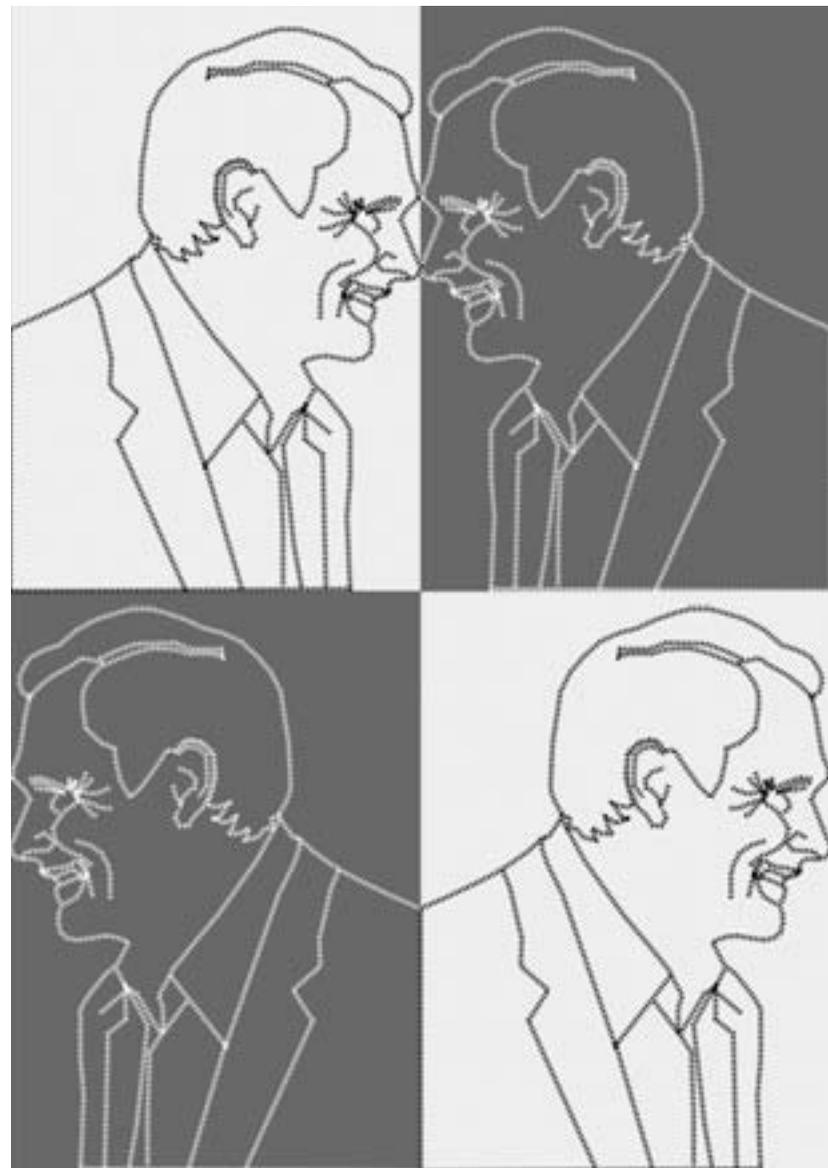
—Bill Gates

The book is filled with examples of Turner's determination. Turner came from a rich family, but had to work hard for everything he got. Bill Gates says it best in the book, "Ted is a major wizard in terms of having a whole new way of thinking and doing things." Turner's ability to get an elderly woman to sell her land to him when no one else could is one of many examples that if Turner wants something bad enough, he'll get it.

While some may see Turner as a conniving philanthropist, it's hard to believe someone who created Captain Planet, the Goodwill Games, helped pay off the United States debt to the United Nations and contributed to many other charitable donations is only doing it for alternative motives. Writing *Call Me Ted* was a way to show that he is not a power-hungry tycoon all the time. He admits he has made mistakes, but he doesn't dwell on the past—this book being a rare exception.



Call Me Ted
Ted Turner and Brian Burke
Hatchette Book Group
November 2008
448 pp
\$33.00



Ted Turner tried to colourise classic films, for irony's sake here's Ted Turner in black and white. GRAPHIC GINGER COONS

quick reads

Baseball, I hardly knew ye



Dingers: Contemporary Baseball Writing
Edited by David McGimpsey
DC Books
2007
150 pp
\$18.95

I don't watch baseball. In fact, I'd go as far as to say I resent it. How can the single most boring sport be so presumptuous as to also be the longest?

Actually, it's this quality, this slow-moving, occasionally attention-grabbing quality, that *Dingers* editor David McGimpsey claims to be so desirable of authors; "baseball is not clock-bound and, unlike hockey or football, has a more leisurely pace which is claimed by many to be more conducive to the literary imagination."

Interesting.

Whatever it is, *Dingers: Contemporary Baseball Writing*, never stops feeling inspired.

From McGimpsey's informative intro, to "Johnson's Johnson," the story of a kid who dreamed of playing in the Big Leagues, makes it to Montreal and watches his dreams turn to shit in the "toilet bowl" of le Stade.

While "Swing and a Miss" takes the female perspective Fever Pitch never could, James Crosbie's "Dear Youppi" takes an entirely different direction.

"Did you ever watch The Mary Tyler Moore Show? In the

final episode, everyone gets fired but Ted Baxter. That's kind of like you when the Expos left, except I love Ted Baxter."

I love James Crosbie!

Or was it Steven Hayward for his closing piece, "Stark County Baseball"? Or Greg Santos, "How to Throw a Kick-Ass Tailgate Party"? (I'm starting to think I'm awarding an Oscar here ...)

The point is, be it short story, hate mail, poetry, or prose, *Dingers* is for baseball lovers and haters alike.

—Joelle Lemieux

Follow the yellow bouncing ball...



Words the Dog Knows
P.J. Carpenter
Conundrum Press
October 2008
168 pp.
\$15.00

Take a walk around the block of this insightful and adventurously poised book based on a dog and his owners. *Words the Dog Knows* is more than just a tale of a dog and his alleyways but of his adventures carried out through those around him, where they came from and where they're off to next. Carpenter delivers with a down-to-earth and honestly naive pen the simple routines of everyday life through a small and handy book that can follow you along anywhere from the dog park around the corner to Roman

ruins in Italy.

The reader is taken for a walk along with the narrator and book's protagonist from her home on a farm in Halifax to the neighbourhoods of Montreal, as the sights, smells and sounds of Mile End gives us a jolt of recognition. Events that shape a life are shared and expressed; leaving home, finding love and braving the cold winter months while forming a family where a woman, her man, and their dog make a life for themselves within the pages of the book.

So keep an eye on that bouncy yellow all as you turn the pages of the city and the dog that brought you the stories of Carpenters book.

—Leila Amiri

Borges meets belly-busting humour



McSweeney's Joke Book of Book Jokes
The editors of McSweeney's
Vintage Books
April 2008
217 pp
\$14.95

Moby Dick is not only one of the greatest American novels in this nation's history, it's also one of the funniest. Consider the title for a moment. It's one of the funniest titles to bare the cover of a book since Charles Dickens decided to continue the family name. It may be an immature way of enjoying the classics, but that's what makes *The McSweeney's Joke Book of Book Jokes*

gut-wrenchingly hilarious.

McSweeney's combines an English Graduate's peculiarly precise knowledge of literature's greatest forbearers with common wisdom pertaining to the historically lopsided degree of talent distribution between Matt Damon and Ben Affleck. Finally, my knowledge of pop culture phenomena meets my socially-skewed love of books.

Who's to say that literature can't be enjoyed (and trivialized in the process) to the same degree as the movies? Like watching Kurt Russell's "lost" audition tape for the character of Han Solo in the original *Star Wars*, the editors of *McSweeney's* imagine if a sophomore squad's head cheerleader had played the character of Shakespeare's Juliet.

Or what if Jean-Paul Sartre hadn't been a writer, but a 9-1-1 operator too eager to embrace mortality than to call an ambulance? What if Homer had taken a creative writing class; what "corrections" would the members of his writing circle dare to make to his 2000 year-old *Odyssey*?

John Hodgman, noted for his "personal computer" humour, reveals the struggling humourist that lives underneath every gargantuan pile of unpublished prose, eked out by aspiring (but ultimately obscure) authors during his time as a literary agent. Hodgman pens the book's introduction, wherein he tears into the notion that books are only to be enjoyed as serious and sober-minded ruminations on subjects more dire than laughter, more depressing than tummy-tickling.

Give it a read, but then reread *Moby Dick*.

—Christopher Olson