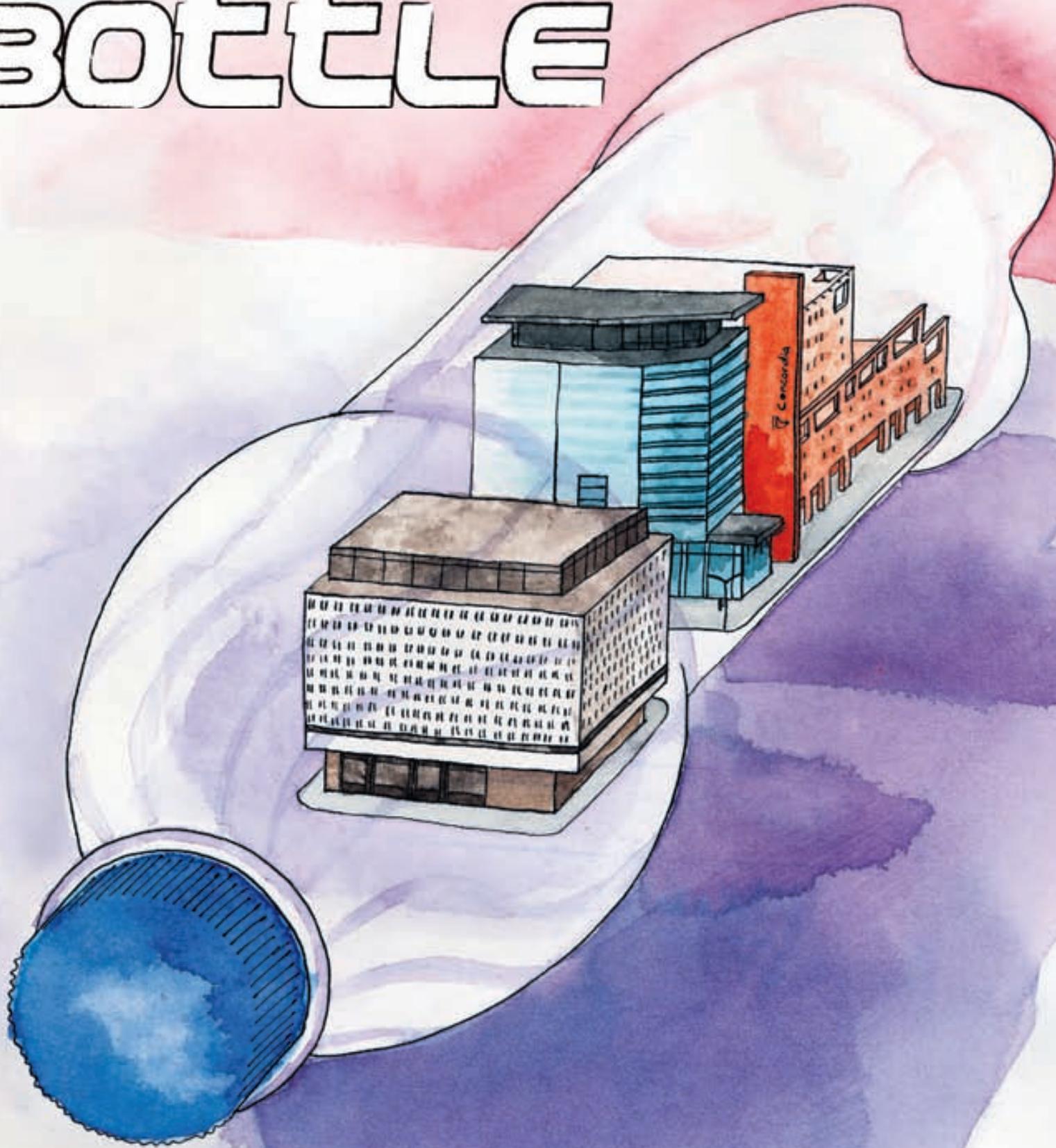


STUCK IN A BOTTLE



NEWS

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Students Sit-In Against Renewal

ConU Moves Forward with PepsiCo Negotiations



A protest against the Concordia administration's "lack of transparency" in negotiating with PepsiCo. turned into a three hour sit-in on Oct. 27. PHOTO CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

• CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

Nearly 40 students occupied the ninth floor of Concordia's GM building on Oct. 27 to protest the university's agreement to extend its contract with PepsiCo. as the exclusive provider of on-campus beverages.

Sustainable Concordia and TAPthirst Concordia—two student groups that are calling for an end to bottled water on campus and transparent negotiations of the agreement—organized a protest hours after hearing the university planned on renewing their contract with PepsiCo.

"This is bullshit," said TAPthirst co-founder Laura Beach to a crowd of about 80 people outside the GM building. Beach said she had been assured by Concordia administration that the university would not sign an agreement with PepsiCo. before consulting with students first.

In June, Hospitality Concordia

Director Joanne De Cubellis wrote to Beach informing her that the university would not pursue contract negotiations with PepsiCo. until a meeting was arranged between Concordia administration and TAPthirst. The meeting never occurred.

On Oct. 26, outgoing Concordia VP Services Michael Di Grappa informed *The Link* that PepsiCo. had been negotiating with the university over the summer and that an agreement in principle had been reached "some time ago."

The demonstration quickly turned into a sit-in when students marched up the GM building's stairwells and outside of Hospitality Concordia's offices, where a representative from Nestlé Canada spoke to university officials and CSU members on behalf of Canadian Bottled Water Association.

According to Sustainable Concordia, 5,800 single-use plastic

water bottles are thrown out at the university each day, making bottled water the second biggest source of waste on campus. A study, conducted by Sustainability Concordia earlier this year, also found that less than 10 per cent of the empty bottles were recycled.

"The university has a strong commitment to sustainability and has been speaking with representatives of the [bottled water] industry to determine whether offering bottled water contravenes our principles," wrote Concordia Spokesperson Chris Mota in an Oct. 28 press release.

"Why is there a contract to renew this [beverage agreement] when Concordia says it wants to be a leader in sustainability?" asked Cameron Stiff, of Sustainable Concordia, about the university's Environmental Policy, which was made official on Oct. 7, 2007.

"Give us a fair, non-exclusive contract; walk your talk."

Mota said that students are

confusing the PepsiCo. contract with the issue of bottled water.

"We can have bottled water removed from vending machines after signing the contract with PepsiCo.," said Mota. "This was just a business decision."

Several hours after the Oct. 27 meeting and sit-in began, De Cubellis and other administrators walked past students, refusing to answer their questions or even acknowledge them.

Concordia's Oct. 28 press release addressed the sit-in, accusing students of "creating a safety hazard, intimidating staff in their workspace, taking their pictures and disrupting university business operations."

"These kinds of tactics do nothing to promote dialogue and are unacceptable in an institution which fosters civil discourse, especially on contentious issues."

CSU VP Sustainability and Promotions Morgan Pudwell, however, spoke of one of the meeting's

positive outcomes.

"There's going to be a public forum in November, where students can speak to [Concordia President] Judith Woodsworth and a representative from the bottled water industry," she said. "They can't deny that there are a huge group of people—students, faculty and staff, focused on health, sustainability or environmental issues—that have said this contract is something that needs to be discussed."

"I don't think they realize how strong they've made this movement now."

Pudwell also said a working group comprised of members of the CSU, the Dean of Students Office, the Environmental Advisory Committee and Concordia administration would be formed to hash out revisions to the university's bottled water policy.

—with files from Ray Corkum and Laura Beeston

A 'Breach of Trust'

PepsiCo. Contract Renewed Without Student Consultation



Laura Beach, founder of TAPthirst (right), speaks for a transparent negotiation of the PepsiCo. contract outside the GM building on Oct. 27. The protest quickly turned into a peaceful sit-in (left) after administrators denied claims that there would be "no movement on the negotiation" for renewal of the contract. PHOTOS CHRISTOPHER CURTIS & LAURA BEESTON

• LAURA BEESTON

On his final Friday on the job, outgoing Concordia University VP Services Michael Di Grappa received a goodbye gesture he certainly won't forget.

On Oct. 29, the senior administrator, along with two other directors, was issued a *Mise en Demeure*, or formal notice of legal challenge, for acting in bad faith after it was revealed the university had quietly renewed an exclusive vending machine contract with PepsiCo.

The soft drink giant—which has supplied beverages to vending machines on campus without competition since 1996—will remain at Concordia University until 2015.

A Secret, Summer Deal

A tip from an anonymous source in the Services department on the evening of Oct. 26 led to a veritable water war on campus between student groups and the administration, thrusting Concordia and its policies into the media spotlight last week.

That night, Di Grappa confirmed with *The Link* that an "agreement in principle" had been struck with PepsiCo. over the summer.

Laura Beach, who delivered the *Mise en Demeure* to Di Grappa, has a long history of water activism on campus as the co-founding member of the anti-water privatization student group TAPthirst.

Fronting the campaign since 2007, she maintains that members of the administration made agreements with her that "no movement would be made" on the contract until all parties—students, administrators and vendors—sat down to discuss bottled water on campus in the context of the contract.

The university has denied having made this agreement, with spokespeople stating that the renewal is "standard operating procedure" and "a normal course of activities."

TAPthirst, the Concordia Student Union and Sustainable Concordia say their attempts to negotiate an environmentally friendly alternative to the agreement were undermined.

The groups made their grievances public on Oct. 26, when they took to Norman Bethune Square to demand consultation and transparency in contract negotiations.

Student Activism, University Awareness

Last March, students discovered that Concordia's 13-year contract with PepsiCo. was set to expire on Dec. 10, 2010.

With a target date in sight, and alongside a growing trend of universities across Canada banning the sale of bottled water on campus, Beach was outspoken in her mission to make Concordia the first university in Quebec to "take back the tap."

Organizing Concordia's first Bottled Water Free Day on March 11, Beach created a petition that garnered 250 signatures on its first day of circulation. The petition reached over 1,000 signatures by June.

"We're looking for support from the administration, Hospitality Concordia and hopefully the president," said Beach at the time. "I think this is the only way a movement can really be effective."

With this goal in mind, Beach spent the majority of her summer attempting to set up a meeting with administrators from both the Services and Hospitality departments.

On June 17, Johanne De Cubellis, the associate director of Hospitality Concordia, wrote an e-mail to Beach that is at the center of the current controversy.

"We will have a meeting with Pepsi and provide opportunity for information exchange," the e-mail read. "Therefore, no negotiations or decisions have/will be made prior."

Hustling signatures of support from nearly every department and faculty on campus, Beach also prepared a letter to Concordia President Judith Woodsworth and a briefing document to Di Grappa.

Both documents outlined the environmental, health and socio-economic concerns of bottled water and water security, as well as the opportunity for change in December.

Environmental Policies, Business as Usual

In May—as mandated by Di Grappa's Services offices and requested by Hospitality Concordia—Concordia's Environmental Assessment Committee held meetings to discuss the exclusivity contract and create recommendations for the administration moving forward.

Beach, along with Faisal Shenib—an Environmental coordinator with Sustainable Concordia—was told in a meeting with Marc Gauthier on May 12 that this was the best way to get their objectives through to the administration.

Allegedly, Gauthier also reiterated that no movement will be made on negotiations or decisions regarding the contract until after all parties met with PepsiCo.

Meeting on May 17, the EAC outlined that no individually packaged bottled water should be sold on campus and that beverage contract negotiations should abide by both the University's Strategic Plan and the Environmental Policy VPS-5.

The EAC recommended the contract ensured health, environmental and socially conscious products, suggesting 30 per cent of all products be supplied locally.

Their objectives also called for non-exclusivity, and the possibility of multiple suppliers so that "negotiations of the contracts will be clear, democratic and transparent, as per Law C-65."

"We will have a meeting with Pepsi and provide opportunity for information exchange. Therefore, no negotiations or decisions have/will be made prior."

—Johanne De Cubellis, associate director of Hospitality Concordia

This Law—known as the *Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies*—standardizes all public-private partnership contracts in Quebec, mandating that any contract worth more than \$100,000 go through an open bidding process.

However, because the PepsiCo. file was an existing contract with provisions for renewal, the university was not legally bound by the Act.

Beach said she considers this legal loophole a poor excuse that allows the university to ignore its own environmental policies.

The signatures, briefing and EAC recommendations on bottled water and negotiation of the contract were sent to Woodsworth and Di Grappa on July 7.

On Aug. 20, President Woodsworth gave her first public comment to *The Link* supporting the potential ban of water bottles, but made no mention of the contract.



CSU President Heather Lucas protests with students Oct. 27. PHOTO CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

A month later, Shennib received another e-mail from De Cubellis. In it she wrote, "There has not been any movement on the Pepsi file [which] is likely due to everyone's vacation schedules."

By all administrative accounts, however, the agreement in principle had already been reached at this time.

When asked why the administration failed to inform the student groups about the renewal, Chris Mota, director of communications, said it came down to business as usual.

"What organization do you know of where clients tell the organization who to sign contracts with?" said Mota. "It's not how these kinds of decisions are made. [...] Contracts are signed on a daily basis. Two people sit down, put the pen to paper and it's done."

Selling Out

After the Oct. 27 sit-in, the university issued a statement in response to the increased media attention the contract had been receiving.

"The university has a strong commitment to sustainability and has been speaking with representatives of the industry to determine whether offering bottled water contravenes our principles," it read. "The university has decided to renew its contract with Pepsi, [...] however, the extension of the contract and the university's position on bottled water are independent of each other."

When asked why the administration failed to inform the student groups about the renewal, Chris Mota, director of communications, said it came down to business as usual.

Not so, says Beach.

"We've been looking at the stipulations of the contract since the get-go," she said. "That's what sustainability is: looking at all of the systems that interact with each other."

To date, the administration cannot explain how the renewed PepsiCo. contract pertains to Concordia's official environmental policies, which spell out their commitment to "tender to suppliers that are local and/or committed to environmental sustainability."

"I'm not sure what the tie is to this [contract] in particular," said Di Grappa on Oct. 26. "Is this about water? Or plastic? Or both? I'm just trying to understand. [...] To me, it's also about choice: no one has to buy a plastic water bottle if they don't want to."

Though the university's official position is to keep the water bottle issue and the PepsiCo. contract separate, Beach maintains the conflict cannot be understood in these terms.

"It's a divide and conquer tactic," she said. "If they divide the bottle water issues and then grant us a bottled-water free campus in 2011 and [expect us] to be happy with that, that is a totally false solution."

"It's not really [looking] at the fundamental framework of multinational contracts within Concordia and what that means to sustainability within the university."

According to Mota, the school's administration has acted in good faith throughout the process.

"The university is confident that we handled everything according to the best practices," she said. "We followed our standard procedures and we certainly don't have anything to apologize for."

In regards to potential legal proceedings, Mota said that Beach "has every right to pursue that avenue if she so chooses."

Beach has not yet decided to pursue further legal actions, but hopes her *Mise en Demeure* will change the way that the administration does business from this point forward.

"Above all, I would like for this opportunity not to be a scandal or bad PR for the university, but for the administration to institutionalize public consultations and inclusion on contract negotiations."

To comment on the contract and read the documents, check out the-linknewspaper.ca

Water Timeline

• LAURA BEESTON

GRAPHIC JEFF BUSH

1996

The Concordia Student Union is cut out from negotiations with PepsiCo. and the administration due to financial disagreements.

1997

The CSU places a vending machine outside their offices "as a principled stand," against Pepsi exclusivity. "We should have a say on what services are provided for us," said the CSU.

2007

TAPthirst Concordia is cofounded by Laura Beach.

2010

MARCH—Students discover that the 13-year PepsiCo. exclusivity Contract expires Dec. 10, 2010.

MAY 12—Beach meets with Marc Gauthier, who makes a verbal agreement that no movement will be made on the PepsiCo. contract until all parties meet.

JUNE

JUNE 17—Johanne De Cubellis writes in an e-mail to Beach, "We will have a meeting with Pepsi and provide opportunity for information exchange—therefore no negotiations or decisions have/will be made prior."

JULY

JULY 7—A letter is sent to Concordia President Judith Woodsworth. A Briefing Document is also sent to Michael Di Grappa, VP Services. Both documents outline the Environmental Advisory Committee's objectives for the upcoming beverage contract negotiations.

OCT

TUESDAY, OCT. 26—Sustainable Concordia and TAPthirst are given an anonymous tip that "an agreement in principle" has been made and the PepsiCo. contract is to be signed on Friday. Within minutes, Di Grappa confirms with The Link.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27—Students gather at Norman Bethune Square in protest of the PepsiCo. contract and a lobbyist from Nestlé meeting with the administration. Students stage a sit-in in the GM.

THURSDAY, OCT. 28—ConU issues a statement "The university has decided to renew its contract with Pepsi, however, the extension of the contract and the university's position on bottled water are independent of each other."

FRIDAY, OCT. 29—Beach serves three administrators a *Mise en Demeure* for breach of trust. It is also Di Grappa's last day in office.

Safe Sex in the Stacks

Condoms May Be Distributed Next Semester: Pudwell



PHOTO CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

• CLAY HEMMERICH

The Concordia Student Union, Queer Concordia, the 2110 Center for Gender Advocacy and Health Services are wrapped up in negotiations to provide distribution centres with free safe-sex kits on campus.

Collective member of Queer Concordia Joey Donnelly said he wants to provide students with “the holy trinity of sex products: lube, condoms and [latex] gloves.”

The project is in its developing stages, but Concordia Student Union VP Sustainability and Promotions Morgan Pudwell said that the sex kits might be available to students as early as next semester.

“We’re hoping that [the sex kits] will be [dispensed] in the library because it is 24 hours, so you can get them when you need them,” said Pudwell, adding that she would like to see them in student residences as well.

Concordia currently offers free condoms in selected locations around campus, but Pudwell doesn’t believe that the services provided are sufficient.

“Some places charge you, have strange office hours, or people may feel uncomfortable going to these places to specifically get condoms, and they don’t always have supplies for the whole year,” said Pudwell.

After Queer Concordia purchased \$1,000 worth of condoms

during the 2010 spring semester, Donnelly said that Concordia Health Services manager Julie Gagne expressed interest in creating a program to distribute safe sex kits to students around the university because of the high levels of Sexually Transmitted Infections on campus.

According to Statistics Canada, chlamydia infection cases have been steadily increasing since 1997 and are most common among young people: women aged 15 to 24, and men aged 20 to 29. Seventy per cent of men and women in Canada have the Human Papilloma Virus. Also, HIV positive test results have increased 20 per cent from 2000 to 2004.

“[People seem to think] that HIV/AIDS is an ‘80s, ‘90s phenomenon and goes away,” said Donnelly. “Guess what? It hasn’t, and at Concordia, we are all sexually diverse. We’re just a powder keg of sexuality, so we have to be safe.”

The student groups feel that growing STI rates among a sexually-active demographic create a need for this service.

“To have that kind of access [to safe sex kits] is unprecedented,” said Donnelly. “But at the same time, there may be some naysayers who don’t want to see that on campus.”

Pudwell said that there had been no complaints or restraints on the project yet.

“We’re sure somewhere along

the line someone will say that they don’t think it’s appropriate, but it’s not like people are going to take the condoms and have sex all over campus,” said Pudwell.

“There’s a lot of research that shows when you give out free condoms, people do stupid things with them, like blow them up and draw faces on them,” she continued. “But that’s just people getting more comfortable with the idea of condoms.”

The CSU, Concordia Health Services, Queer Concordia, and the 2110 Center for Gender Advocacy were supposed to meet Nov. 1, but the rendezvous was postponed in order to get more student groups involved.

Mental Geography

Concordia Professor Talks Montreal Multiculturalism

• SHEREEN AHMED RAFAA

“What is especially interesting about today’s Montreal is the way it is bringing together the histories of the city, which were once so separate,” said Sherry Simon, at La Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec.

Simon, a Concordia University professor, headlined the fourth edition of the President’s Conference Series with a talk titled “The Flow of Languages, the Grace of Cultures,” on Oct. 27.

In a packed auditorium, Simon discussed Montreal’s mul-

tilingualism and the historical factors that led to its present diversity.

“Multilingualism does not mean that languages coexist together in a kind of free floating *mélange*,” she said. “Languages interact through translation, as languages are joined to others in conversation. The forces of history can sometimes redirect these currents in surprising and unpredictable ways.”

Simon highlighted French, English and Yiddish as the three main languages that influenced Montreal’s culture in the 1940s.

She named authors that impacted that era, such as Irving Layton, Leonard Cohen and Frank Scott. Simon said she believes that the intellectual and language differences created mental gaps between the writers of that time.

“These different mental geographies,” she said, “mean that even when these writers shared the same spaces, the feel of the place is different, giving rise to a sense of the uncanny.”

Towards the end of Simon’s lecture, she created an image that is meant to capture the way Montreal is viewed today.

“The Montreal of multiple modernities,” she said, “has given us at least three lenses through which we can read the city. Modern Montreal was born as a site of unequal and front transactions, yet today’s city is a laboratory of new forms of expression, new modes of contact across languages.”

The fourth conference series is entitled “Montreal: on the Stream of Languages.” Events are located at the Auditorium and Foyer of the Grande Bibliothèque, and will continue until Dec. 5.

“Multilingualism does not mean that languages coexist together in a kind of free floating *mélange*”

-Sherry Simon

You Steep What You Sow

Food Systems Project Hosts Final Skill Share Before Winter



Graham Calder (above) gets his hands dirty at the RealiTEA garden. The garden is part of Concordia's Food Systems Project. PHOTO LAURA BEESTON

• LAURA BEESTON

Crouched in the RealiTEA garden on Loyola campus amongst the Silver Absinthe, Leopard Lilly and Peppermint, a dozen students and community members harvested herbs for tea-making on Oct. 28 at the Concordia Food Systems Project's final skill share.

Passing around a jar of cured daikon radishes from the last "pick and pickle" canning workshop before getting their hands dirty, the group discussed tips for harvesting and closing down a garden for the season. Pruning medicinal herbs like Lemon Balm and Jacob's Ladder, the yield then went to the solar drying racks in The Hive, eventually to be steeped by the Concordia community in the forthcoming student-run cafe.

"It's creating a closed-loop kind of agriculture system at Loy-

ola," said Lennard Fruehling, who developed the RealiTEA garden with colleague Cameron Stiff in April through an applied research internship and made it possible through the Sustainable Action Fund.

"We grow and harvest the herbs here, while creating dialogue and education around the permaculture processes, then we dry them and then sell them at The Hive," he said. "Whatever revenue we make goes back in the garden and we do seed saving for the next season. It's a student driven, social economy project."

Tucked behind Hingston Hall and the Northern Light Solar House—a space created in 2005 by the engineering faculty for a renewable energy competition that has since been shared with the FSP—the RealiTEA garden project is just the launching point for an even bigger vision for Loyola's

backyard.

The pilot composting, planting, pickling and harvesting projects will hopefully grow into an "incubator farm" and "a little sustainable homestead," where participants are invited to learn permaculture design during the winter, and have the space and tools to apply that knowledge to the garden in spring, reaping what they sow before the winter semester.

Currently, interns with the FSP are working on plans for an edible food forest and food education outreach to elementary schools in the area.

Graham Calder—a permaculture design specialist, consultant and educator—has been on board with the RealiTEA project since April, coaching volunteers about the techniques necessary to make this garden and the Solar House, a "positive solution space."

He said he hopes that the integration of both house and garden will allow for "workshops, screenings, community gatherings and luncheons where students and community can cook together, talk together and reconnect" after planting.

"What is our common root in sustainability? It's food. There is a lot to discuss after we look at what's on our plate," he said, explaining that the workshops have also opened up discussions on food access and security.

"The list of issues surrounding food politics is endless," agreed Fruehling. "We're trying to educate people about these things while giving students the opportunity to improve their own campus and community. This is something we need to support."

For more information, visit: concordiafoodsystem.blogspot.com

Expanded Loyola Luncheon Up and Running

New Luncheon Serves up to 300 Students

• ALEX DI PIETRO

The Concordia Student Union's grand opening of the revamped Loyola Luncheon experienced a two-day delay last week.

"We tried to do the best we could to get the Luncheon up and running as fast as possible," said the CSU's VP Loyola and Advocacy Hassan Abdullahi. "But I don't foresee any more delays with the Luncheon."

The initial reason why the five-day-a-week free lunch service began operations on Wednesday, Oct. 27 rather than its scheduled date of Monday, Oct. 25 is because the industrial-sized oven—part of the \$80,000 overhaul to the kitchen—arrived later than expected.

"When it did arrive, they were missing a cable, so they couldn't hook it up," said Morgan Pudwell, the CSU's VP sustainability and promotions. "So we just had to wait for facilities management to get all the right supplies to make sure it was working."

Following the installation issues, proper training to operate the oven was scheduled for the Luncheon staff.

"Small technicalities that could have been overlooked by the university and construction team weren't," said Abdullahi.

Pudwell said the expansion made to the Loyola Luncheon will free up space for the kitchen to serve upwards of 200 to 300 students at full capacity, and that the new appliances are meant to accommodate the employees at The Hive to make the process run more smoothly.

"[The chefs] will be able to spend a lot more time on food preparation and cooking and a lot less time on cleaning, moving things around or manoeuvring on a small stove," said Pudwell.

The new appliances are part of renovations that will also see a sustainable, student-run café slated to open at The Hive in January 2011.

A Land, Divided

Lines and Laughter at an Israeli Checkpoint



PHOTO JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

RAMALLAH, PALESTINE—“No pictures,” yelled the Palestinian driver as he guided his bus through precariously thick traffic towards the Qalandia Checkpoint.

While the driver admitted that the Israeli Defense Force probably wouldn't shoot at a foreigner taking pictures, the use of deadly force is authorized at Qalandia. Israel's 600 other checkpoints scattered across the West Bank operate in a similar manner. Palestinians are reminded of that fact regularly.

On the road from Ramallah—the de facto capital of Palestine—to Jerusalem, Qalandia is one of the few holes in Israel's snaking 700-kilometer wall. A mess of commuter traffic and pedestrians move along the graffiti-covered barrier as imposing concrete towers and cameras loom above.

Tens of thousands of Palestinians cross the checkpoint every day under the surveillance of heavily armed soldiers from the IDF and the Israel Border Police.

Despite weaponry and often humiliating demands from the border police, many of the Palestinians have a smile on their faces and make the most of a decidedly unique situation.

A coffee vendor moving between vehicles in the snarled lineup that leads to Qalandia asked for the names of us foreigners while offering a fresh Turkish brew.

Blowing kisses and calling, “I love you!” he jokingly proposes to a foreign woman traveling on the same bus as me through the window.

Three friends join him and take up the same playful flirtation.

The unpredictable nature of the Israeli occupation means that time in Palestine works differently and is not as precious of a commodity. A five-minute drive may take five hours; all appointments are flexible and tentative.

It's 8:15 a.m. and Palestine doesn't have rush hour, it has checkpoints.

“We are defiant of the siege. We are defiant of oppression,” Qadoura Mousa, the Governor of Jenin would tell me two days later at the Arab American University. “We are committed to peace, but not peace that is imposed on us.”

Despite rhetoric from Palestinian authorities, the situation on the ground is not one of even passive defiance. This is life—the normalization of occupation.

After half an hour of massaging the brake pedal, we reach the checkpoint.

It looks like any border station between Canada and the United States, but the conscripted guards look no more than 18 years old, wear military camouflage and carry automatic weapons.

Stopping at the station, a male Israel Border Police officer mounts our bus with an assault rifle and walks to the rear. A female IDF soldier waits at the front, gun in hand.

Both weapons are taped up, show visible signs of use and the safeties are switched off. The clips inserted into the rifles are each attached to a second magazine; as they walk past, we notice that these soldiers are ready for a firefight.

As the IBP officer walks down

the aisle, the IDF soldier waits until he reaches the rear and then follows. The tensions on both sides of the muzzle are clear.

No passports are demanded this time, but the intimidation persists.

In the neighbouring lanes, Palestinians are standing outside their cars being patted down as soldiers pore through trunks and bags. Even the children are searched.

We travel through Jerusalem—our bus has a license plate that lets us pass through Israel—and continue south towards Bethlehem, skirting the wall to one side and the Judean desert to the other.

The sides of Israeli-controlled highways, even in Israel, are lined with barbed wire. As we pass through settlements—some of which are full commuter cities and suburbs housing up to 40,000 people—the wall becomes more intimidating.

Though the United Nations has deemed these settlements illegal, Israeli colonists are protected by the ever-present wall, arching over the highway, blocking almost all view of the colonies. Otherwise the road is a straight four lanes, cutting through mountains and bridging over valleys.

The city of Bethlehem is one of the holiest sites in Christianity and also lies fully under Palestinian control. While millions of Christian tourists visit the birthplace of Jesus every year, local Palestinians find entertaining guests difficult due to Israeli actions.

“To be in the place where Jesus was born and to be surrounded by a wall is not fair,” said Khalid Ali, a taxi driver in Bethlehem. “Millions

from around the world come to visit this city and the church where Jesus was born and they see something bad, the wall. It is unacceptable.”

From the Church of the Nativity, Israel's wall is less than a five-minute walk away. Settlements, which dominate the horizon, now separate Christians from the Holy Land.

“Bethlehem should be open to all, regardless of age or permission. They can't order you or give you a permit to pray or not pray,” said Ali.

A Palestinian checkpoint on the outskirts of Bethlehem turns any curious Israeli around.

“The wall has affected the economy 100 per cent,” said Ali. “When people want to trade between Hebron and Ramallah, they can't go through Jerusalem anymore. They need to go the desert way, through Fire Valley. It adds an hour and a half to the trip.

“Jerusalem is forbidden to us Palestinians. It is 10 minutes away [...] It is sacred to us and we can't go. That is unacceptable.”

As close to the Church of Nativity as Israel's wall is Aida Camp, a refugee camp which houses approximately 10,000 people, originally built for Palestinians ejected from their homes by advancing Israeli forces in 1948.

Over the entrance to Aida Camp is what Professor of Islamic Studies Yusef Salim called the world's largest key. The words “not for sale” in Arabic and English are inscribed upon it.

“It is symbolic. The Israelis took the houses of many people in this camp and they do not want to rebuild when they have homes to re-

turn to,” said Salim.

“They have kept the keys to go back home some day.”

The situation inside the camp is dire. A strike by United Nations workers has stopped the minimal collection of garbage that existed. Trash is piled high in the streets and the stench of burning garbage is everywhere.

The UN aid depot is abandoned, its gate closed to guard the water barrels inside.

The UN's teachers are also on strike. Outside the boys' elementary schoolyard, youths climb on barbed wire and 12 foot walls. They have nothing else to do.

The three-floor cement tenements built for the refugees are in a state of extreme disrepair, with holes the size of basketballs in the walls and stairwells. Inside, young girls giggle and point at the visiting foreigners. Children run up and down the dilapidated stairs.

Across the street from the tenements is Israel's wall, cutting the refugee's goats off from their grazing land. Goats travel up and down the wall, eating weeds and garbage.

Despite their situation, the children in the camp are optimistic. They spoke fondly of a recent visit by the Pope, where he denounced the apartheid-like conditions he witnessed. Pointing at a large mural by famed British graffiti artist Banksy, of an escalator carrying people over the wall to freedom, the children held out hope of a better future.

Justin Giovannetti was in Palestine as an invited delegate for Quebec at the World Education Forum.

NATO Council Secretary Speaks

• JASMINE PAPILLON-SMITH

Expect the war in Afghanistan—the longest military engagement in both Canadian and American history—to continue for a “very long” time, said Edmund Whiteside, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Council Secretary.

Speaking to a Concordia University classroom on Oct. 25, Whiteside addressed NATO’s stance on terrorism, the war in Afghanistan and the proliferation of nuclear arms.

The organization’s current focus is on the threat of transnational terrorism, made all the more pressing since the 9/11 attacks. The concretization of Iranian nuclear proliferation has also had an effect on NATO policies.

“You cannot face security in isolation and divide it up into geographic organizations, and you can’t solve problems of security alone,” said Whiteside.

He went on to discuss Al-Qaeda and NATO’s ensuing ventures in Afghanistan, stating that the country is beset by corruption, illiteracy and illicit drug trafficking. Ninety-three per cent of the world’s supply of heroin is grown in Afghanistan.

“Afghanistan will be a very long military venture,” he said.

According to Whiteside, the country, 185th poorest in the world, is looking for very simple progress but this progress will take several more years to achieve. NATO is looking to open an important dialogue with the sovereign nation.

“What it is that people want when they talk to you is to be listened to,” he said. “We talk down to them, but they just want to talk with us.”

He also admitted that aid money from NATO member states, which had previously been fuelling an insurgency during the Afghan-Soviet war, is now seen very cynically as a “proxy war” with the Soviet Union.

“We need to develop [Afghanistan], but let’s be frank,” he continued, “It’s because our security is at play.”

The second portion of Whiteside’s lecture dealt with the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

In 1969, the International Atomic Energy Agency created a pact between China, the USSR, the US, France and the United Kingdom, giving them the right to continue the development of nuclear energy for peace, but not armaments.

The non-proliferation treaty, however, is not without imperfections.

“[The treaty] is not a universal regime, and is haunted by the fact that it isn’t,” said Whiteside. “Allowing countries to not sign on leads to a no-man’s land.”

The secretary elucidated the widespread fear that countries such as Iran would opt out of the treaty and start creating nuclear

weapons.

“We like to think our vulnerabilities are mitigated by the police, by insurance policies, or by our parents. There is no way to mitigate vulnerability to ballistic missile capabilities,” he said.

Twenty-five countries currently possess short- and long-range missiles, the most powerful of which can travel 3,000 kilometres in just over 830 seconds. With such frightening statistics at hand, world forces have recently been calling for the development of ballistic defence technology.

Defence technology, however, is a controversial political question that comes with ethical debates and a price tag.

“Canada says that it doesn’t need ballistic missiles,” the secretary finished. “But Canada is part of a nuclear policy alliance. There’s no getting around that, there’s no blaming the US. When we get it wrong, people remember.”

Anti-Smuggling Law Misses the Mark

Proposed Bill Would Punish Refugees and Smugglers Alike: Crépeau

• MEAGAN WOHLBERG

The Conservative government’s new proposed law on human smuggling is causing concern among refugee advocates.

The bill announced on Oct. 21 by Public Safety Minister Vic Toews and Citizenship and Immigration Minister Jason Kenney is supposed to stop smugglers from engaging in what they say is an abuse of “Canada’s generous immigration system” by giving mandatory sentences to convicted smugglers of up to 10 years.

Lawyers and migrant solidarity groups say the law will only make journeys more hazardous for those seeking asylum in Canada.

“Fighting smuggling is one thing. Fighting the smuggled person is another,” said François Crépeau, professor of public and international law at McGill. “Refugees have the right to be heard and recognized as refugees despite the fact that they’ve entered the country illegally.”

“Preventing them from accessing the country is not going to help them. It is going to endanger them further because they will be taking more dangerous routes in order to get into Canada, so this is totally counterproductive in terms of refugee protection.”

Many of the bill’s provisions target those seeking asylum in an effort to deter “irregular” arrivals, such as the 492 Tamil migrants who arrived in August aboard the Sun Sea. If the bill passes in the House of Commons, people arriving illegally at the Canadian border will face mandatory detention for up to one year and will not be

allowed to leave the country, apply for Permanent Residence or a sponsor family for five years.

Crépeau claims these measures are arbitrarily and unnecessarily punitive and violate the 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees, which says states must provide refugees with travel documents.

“What purpose does it serve?” asked Crépeau. “Apart from being maybe a deterrent measure, which will not deter anyone because if people need to leave their country and come to Canada, they will do it whether they have to wait five years or not.”

“This is sheer discrimination,” he added.

Much of the concern being raised about the bill has to do with the power it gives the minister of Public Safety to designate instances of migration as “human smuggling events” and determine limits of detainment.

“Mandatory detention by the discretion of the minister is highly punitive,” said Jaggi Singh of Montreal migrant justice groups No One Is Illegal and Solidarity Across Borders. “We’re talking about detaining people that have not committed a crime.”

Crépeau agreed. “This means that we will be detaining women, children, babies mandatorily without being able to release them unless the minister decides so,” he said.

The bill also precludes those designated as illegitimate by the minister from the right to appeal.

It also has the power to apply retroactively to those who arrived on the last two Tamil boats, which Crépeau says is blatantly unde-



Mandatory detention is highly punitive, said Jaggi Singh. PHOTO JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

mocratic.

“This is against the rule of law. The rule of law is protected by the Charter, and I don’t see how this could survive a constitutional challenge,” he said.

Legislation against human smuggling already exists in Canada. Those caught smuggling groups of 10 or more across the border can get sentences of life in prison—the equivalent of a crime against humanity.

There is nothing within the law to distinguish between smugglers who help people cross the border for humanitarian reasons and those who do so for criminal reasons.

Both Crépeau and Singh argue

that the announcement of the new bill simply panders to xenophobic members of the population in an attempt to appear “tough on crime.”

Despite such criticisms, Kenney is defending the proposed legislation. He says opposition from the “immigration industry” indicates that the government is “on the right track.”

The additional arrest of 114 more Sri Lankans in Thailand on Saturday who were allegedly “planning to be smuggled to Canada” has further strengthened Kenney’s resolve that the law is necessary.

The bill is currently in its first stage of parliamentary reading.

Briefs

Inflated Parking in the Plateau

Mayor Luc Ferrandez of the Plateau Mont-Royal borough announced the addition of 600 new parking meters to his neighbourhood. In addition, the rates for parking will be upped to \$3 per hour in 2011. Ferrandez said the move is an effort to increase revenue without raising taxes on residents, only 50 per cent of whom own a car.

Khadr Gets 40 Years

An American military tribunal sentenced Canadian Omar Khadr, a former member of al-Qaida who was arrested for war crimes when he was 15, to 40 years in jail on Oct. 30. The sentence is largely symbolic, as Khadr had previously pleaded guilty to five charges, and will serve at most eight years in prison for war crimes. Khadr was originally detained in Afghanistan in 2002.

Dead Albertan Ducks

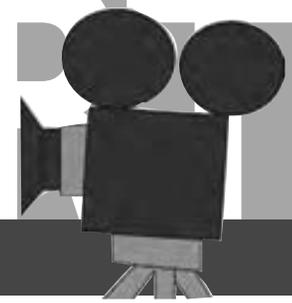
Roughly 350 ducks were euthanized on Oct. 25 near Fort MacMurray, Alta., after landing in a tailings pond operated by oil company Syncrude Canada. This is not the first time such a pond has been a duck-killer—1,600 ducks were killed after landing in another Syncrude similar pond used to store waste from oil-sands mining operations.

Granby To Host Pandas

Granby Zoo is one of three Canadian locations that will be visited by two Chinese panda bears, Environment Minister Jim Prentice announced on Oct. 30. The zoo, which is roughly 70 km east of Montreal, could get its panda presence as early as 2011. Calgary and Toronto will also host the rare bears.

Hell’s Angel Boss Arrested

Normand Marvin “Casper” Ouimet, a member of the Quebec Hell’s Angels, was arrested Monday night. On trial in connection to 22 murders, as well as fraud and money laundering, Ouimet was wanted for a year and a half after avoiding Operation SharQC, a major crack-down on Hell’s Angels Higher Ups.



Resurrection

Discarded Objects Gain New Life, Exhibited at Parisian Laundry

• ALEX MCGILL

At what point do useful objects become unwanted?

This is a question that exhibition *Grade*, displayed at Parisian Laundry, asks its viewer to ponder.

Grade is a mixed media exhibit that plays with ideas of efficiency versus inefficiency and practicality versus impracticality.

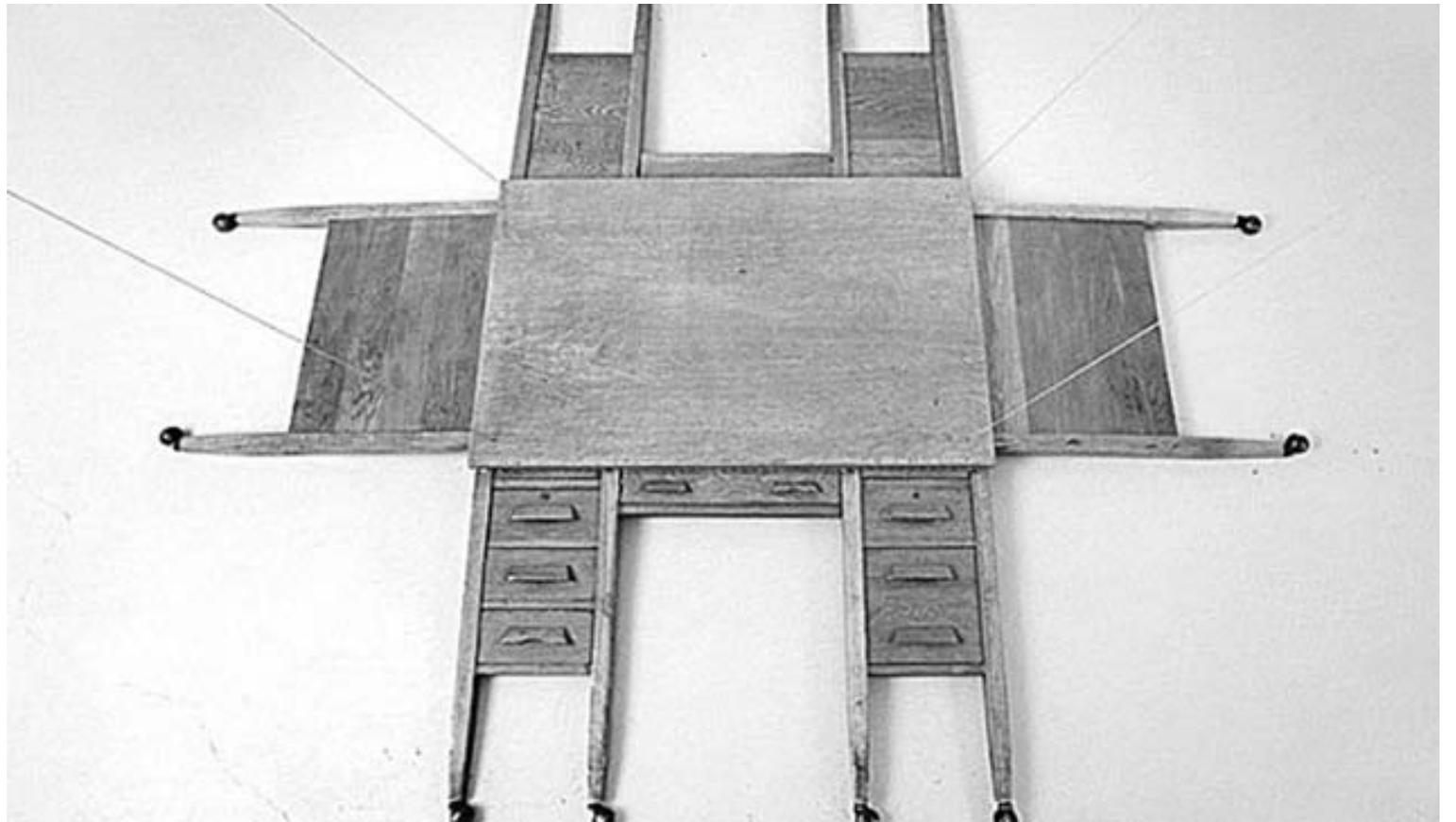
Artist Adrienne Spier is a former Concordia fine arts student. She seeks to explore the artfulness of discarded and overlooked objects in her sculptures, photographs and installations.

The artist found every object used in her exhibit after they had already been discarded. Her works conjure up ideas of failure at the personal and global level of Western civilization—how perfectly useful objects or items which may be a little bit worn are mindlessly thrown away in the search for something better or more efficient.

Her works are exhibited alongside Jennifer Lefort's collection of works, entitled *Make-Believe*. By showcasing Spier and Lefort's work, Parisian Laundry is paying homage to November being Women's History Month.

Parisian Laundry is an open concept gallery. The space has a warehouse feel and is enlivened by floor to ceiling windows, flooding it with light. The clean sparseness of the gallery provides a suitable landscape for Spier's works.

"I am interested in how unwanted objects can be altered to take up space in new and meaningful ways," she said.



Adrienne Spier makes art out of the unwanted.

Spier takes objects commonly seen in high schools (desks, wood flooring, parking lot barriers) and takes them out of their original context; framing, transforming and portraying them in new forms and perspectives.

The sculpture and installation pieces displayed take objects that we encounter every day but are hardly aware of. Spier displays these pieces so that the viewer can re-think what these objects mean.

One piece consists of concrete

parking lot barriers embedded with blinking LED lights and adorned with handles made out of tire parts. Another displays an impressive stack of flawed hardwood flooring. This piece creates a hypnotic pattern that leads the viewer's eye up to the ceiling and gives a perspective of the true excessiveness of these discarded materials. The vertical nature of the piece recalls the trees from which the wood originated.

Spier also showcases vivid, de-

tail-oriented digital prints of dismantled school desks in "Inside Desks" series, complete with graffiti (varying from love notes and drawings to profanities) and a rainbow assortment of gum—almost like a time capsule of the students who used them.

In "Classroom," a 61 x 74" digital print, she assembles flattened desk pieces that create a geometric pattern with a blackboard as the backdrop. The works are subtly imperfect, and demand to be closely

observed.

We're the generation of the upgrade, and Spier seeks to change our minds, or at least make us think about the value of perceived waste.

Grade will be displayed at Parisian Laundry (3550 St-Antoine St. W.) until Nov. 27. The gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 12—5 p.m.) Adrienne Spier will be holding an artist talk this Saturday Nov. 6 at 3 p.m.

spins

Sun Airway *Nocturne of Exploded Crystal Chandelier*

Dead Oceans



Sun Airway make feathery pop music for romantics, dreamers, poets and—well—anyone with a heart?

Feeling a bit nostalgic for summer? This may be the album that will warm your heart.

This duo consists of Baltimore's Jon Barthmus and Patrick Marscelli. Together, they have crafted a record richly engraved in lyrical sensibility and patient melodies.

The album is bursting with emotion and with rhythm. Barthmus' vocals beam through spiraling synths and drum machine batter dipped in reverb.

The lyrical content is so engraved in rich imagery that you almost get lost in the lyrics and forget there are also melodies pedaling you through the album. On track "Infinity" Barthmus sings, "Woke up as a snowflake on an ocean/ I looked over/ I saw you floating next to me/ Drowned in the moon light." The lyric may fall flat on this page but hearing it sung is something else, something worth your time.

Sun Airway emit warmth, unlike other trendy bands that seem to be engulfed by it. The album comes off as unpretentious and undeniably pure.

8/10

—Ashley Opheim

Brian Eno *Small Craft on a Milk Sea*

Warp Records



Brian Eno doesn't give a fuck. He's got the money, he's got the respect, he's got the legacy, and you can expletive yourself if you don't like him or his music.

Here, the legendary Roxy Music keyboardist presents 15 instrumental tunes that range from the soothing ambience of "Emerald and Lime" to the jagged dissonance of "Paleosonic." Eno even gets danceable via pounding tribal rhythms and screeching guitars on "2 Kinds of Anger." The album relies heavily on electronic instruments—not just Eno's trademark synthesizer work, but also drum machines and digital manipulation of sounds.

When it works, it works well. When he turns up the drum machine, shit gets down right fierce.

Unfortunately, the album sags in the last three songs. The world rhythms and clashing tones of the rest of the album taper off to mediocre drone-heavy tunes that sound like instrumental Portishead with the suck knob slightly turned up.

But what the hell do I know? Eno is a genius, and if I, or any other critic, can't understand it, we should probably just go (insert impossible masturbatory act here) ourselves.

7.5/10

—Adam Kovac

Local Film Gives Montreal Minorities a Cinematic Voice



• ADAM KOVAC

Non-art house Canadian cinema gets no respect. Whether it's us trying out romantic comedies like *Men With Brooms*, buddy-cop flicks such as *Bon Cop, Bad Cop* or caper films like *Foolproof*, you can't help but feel that the results, no matter how entertaining, are just the goofy little cousins of American blockbusters.

That could all change with the release of *Sortie 67*. A gangster movie in the vein of *Goodfellas*, it was shot and set in Montreal's heavily-Haitian St. Michel neighbourhood. It's a grim yet compelling look at a community that has often struggled with how it is portrayed in the media.

Jephté Bastien is the director of *Sortie 67*. He is soft-spoken, yet passionate—a man who pounds the table in front of him when he makes a point he considers important.

"My nephew died in 2005, and I found out two years later," he said of his inspiration to make the movie. "When I found out, I was angry, and I wanted to do something about it. When a kid dies in those conditions, especially a black kid in a black neighbourhood, [the

police] don't investigate. They classify it as a gang-related murder, and move [onto] the next. I didn't want him to die in vain."

The result is a fictionalized look at gang life in one of Montreal's poorest areas. The film follows Jecko, a young black man, growing up in foster homes and eventually gangs, as he awaits his father to be released from the prison sentence he is serving for killing Jecko's mother.

"It's not just another gangster flick," said Bastien.

"It really is the story of a kid that, having suffered a [devastating] loss at such a young age, is a black kid coming up in the system," said Danny Blanco Hall, a Montreal actor who plays a rival gang member named Blade in the film. "The group homes and everything else weren't doing it for him, and the family that he longed for, he found in the streets. I think what the youth needs to take from it, is hope. There are options for you, there are choices, and it's in your hands."

Although the cast is predominantly black, Bastien insists that he does not see the issues presented in the film as being about race, saying he believes there is

only "the human race." However, he does acknowledge that race plays a major role in what many black Canadians go through on a daily basis.

"Whether you're part of the elite of the society, when you're black, you have something in common with the people of St. Michel," he said. "I'll tell you, when they look at you as a black person, the stereotype is there. Doesn't matter how many diplomas you have on the wall, you are a nigger."

Race is not only an issue that is portrayed in the film. The very making of the movie can be seen as a large step for visible minorities in the Quebec entertainment industry. For Natacha Cole, who plays Candy, *Sortie 67* presented a unique opportunity.

"This film means I have a leading role in a French movie, in Quebec, coming out in theatres," she said. "That could be a stepping stone for many other African-Canadian women who are actresses, who are looking to have leading roles."

Both Bastien and Hall point to the unique language heard in the film—at times you'll hear five different languages. Hall laughingly

said that it's the only film he's been involved with that has three different sets of subtitles. It's a mix that gives the film a uniquely local feel.

"This movie is a Montreal film because I depict the language aspect, the way these kids talk," said Bastien. "They mix three languages, French, English, and Creole, because they take influences from the United States [hip-hop culture], their parents speak Creole, and they grew up here. They speak French, but not like a typical Quebecer because they do not identify with the typical Quebecer."

If it seems a bit contradictory that Bastien also says that a movie with such a strong Montreal identity is meant to be understood universally, it isn't. Although on the surface the film is about Haitians in Montreal, the movie has less to do with a specific race or location, and more with a problem found throughout the world: poverty.

"Whenever you have gangs, it's when you go into poor neighbourhoods," he said. "Those kids have no dreams or their parents are working at factories or driving a cab or doing whatever they have to do to survive in the game. For me, poverty is the source of these prob-

lems. Once you understand that we are living in a rich country, and these kids are living at the level of a third world country, you ask 'why?'"

Noel agrees with that assessment, claiming that the movie has managed to reconcile the paradoxical ideas of making a universal statement while also being extremely focused on a single specific, unique community.

"The Haitian community is now represented on screen in a real way," she said. "You can't say it's the first time there's a Haitian person on screen, but the language and struggles are very representative of the community. If you take away the gangs, what you have are people with their struggles. Not just Haitians—whether you're Jamaican, Latino, Arabic, you're going to relate, because the story is broader."

Bastien is hoping to show *Sortie 67* in schools around Montreal, and is already fielding distribution offers from as far away as Ireland, as well as the United States. With this kind of reception, and a message that translates into any language, *Sortie 67* could be what Quebec has been waiting for—an invitation into the mainstream.

Fuck The Police

Electronic Artist Won't Be Shut Up

• PETER MURRAY

By bringing an amplifier, a sampler and a tweaked out sense of psychedelic-infused electronica to street corners around Concordia University and the Montreal region, Cop Car Bonfire brings a new approach to the act of busking.

Hailing from Vancouver Island, B.C., Cop Car Bonfire (who requested his real name be withheld due to several hundred dollars pending in fines), had spent several years street jamming in Vancouver Island and Kelowna. Since moving to Montreal last September, he has caught the attention of musicians and lovers of fringe art.

"People here seem to be just a lot more into the artistic approach, where they're not necessarily focusing on the overall sound but just how you're approaching it and how unique it is," he said. "People just want to hear something original."

"Original" hardly begins to describe his sound. His music sounds like a series of exploding circuits and police sirens. His music acts as some sort of spiritual experience. "It's basically like you're meditating and sound just comes through you," he said.

A resident of the Mile End, Cop Car Bonfire has only started performing downtown over the past few months, looking for a younger, more open-minded audience.



Cop Car Bonfire exerts his right to musical expression.

"I was busking mostly in the Plateau and just getting a lot of shit from cops. Old ladies would call the fucking cops because it hurts their ears and [the police] would show up, and they don't really give you much of a choice."

Whether his moniker is the result or the cause of this type of tension, Cop Car Bonfire is no stranger to conflicts with the police. When living in Kelowna, he found himself on the wrong side of the law as a result of his busking.

"One time I was just playing banjo [and] I was handcuffed, thrown in a cop car, and driven half

an hour out of town, then just thrown out on the side of the road and told not to come back downtown. Sure, it's two in the morning, but you can't just kick me out [of the city]."

Known for busking outside shows to earn enough money to pay cover, Cop Car Bonfire has encountered similar reactions here in Montreal.

"I'll get a cop that comes and tells me, 'People have to sleep, go play in a club.' But then there are clubs that are actually licensed to do this and they get noise complaints and cops still show up

and try to shut them down and try to give them fines," he said.

His contempt for the silencing of musical expression is especially relevant given the recent changes to bylaws in the Plateau, where bars and clubs can now be ticketed up to \$12,000 for noise complaints. This poses a great risk for smaller venues, which could easily go bankrupt from two or three of these fines. "If someone has a problem with noise in the city, then get the fuck out of the city," said Cop Car Bonfire on noise complaints.

When he is playing in clubs, Cop Car Bonfire has a different

set-up: he uses drum triggers to initiate each of his samples, adding his own vocals on top of the beats. As for the visual display, he sets coloured water and crystals on an overhead projector, which is then tied to his drum kit to make the visuals move.

Cop Car Bonfire will play on November 11 at le Cagibi (5490 Saint-Laurent Blvd.). \$5 suggested donation. Check out his music on www.internetisdead.ca, a collective of Montreal-based musical and visual artists, and on Myspace (www.myspace.com/copcarbonfire).

Cinema du Parc Celebrates Music

• JORDAN RUIMY

"Without music, life would be a mistake."

Nietzsche said it first, but *Let It Beat!*, a cinematic retrospective that will unfold at Cinema du Parc, proves it.

Without music, a film falls flat, and without film, songs would not have the cinematic richness that infuses their ideals and characterizations. Let's face it—music and film need each other.

From November 6 to the 11 Cinema du Parc will celebrate the universal language of music. Music transforms, moves, inspires and links not only between people, but also be-

tween emotions and moving images on the silver screen.

Let It Beat! is part of Cinema du Parc's new monthly series of movies about music. The event is a celebration of the unification of music and film. On a nightly basis, Montreal-based musicians will present films that have inspired their own music.

The event celebrates filmmakers who have offered their talent to document or explore the lives of musicians, their music and their concerts. From blues to '60s psychedelia—the event features a large variety of musical genres.

Let It Beat! is an event where film and music buffs will join to celebrate music and film. Since most of these films are hard to attain at local video stores and you might not have the chance to see them ever again, let alone in a theatre setting.

Fringe Picks



November 8—Martin Cesar (Think About Life) will be presenting *Orfeu Negro*, a forgotten Brazilian film from the '50s that has gained cult status from many musicians over the years. It is a sonic retelling of the Orpheus and Eurydice myth.



November 9—Susie Arioli will present *Wattstax*, a concert film that was held at the Los Angeles Coliseum in 1972. The film was made to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the Watts riots, an event that engulfed the L.A region with police brutality. The riots resulted in a death toll of 34 black people and thousands injured. The concert was the African American answer to Woodstock.



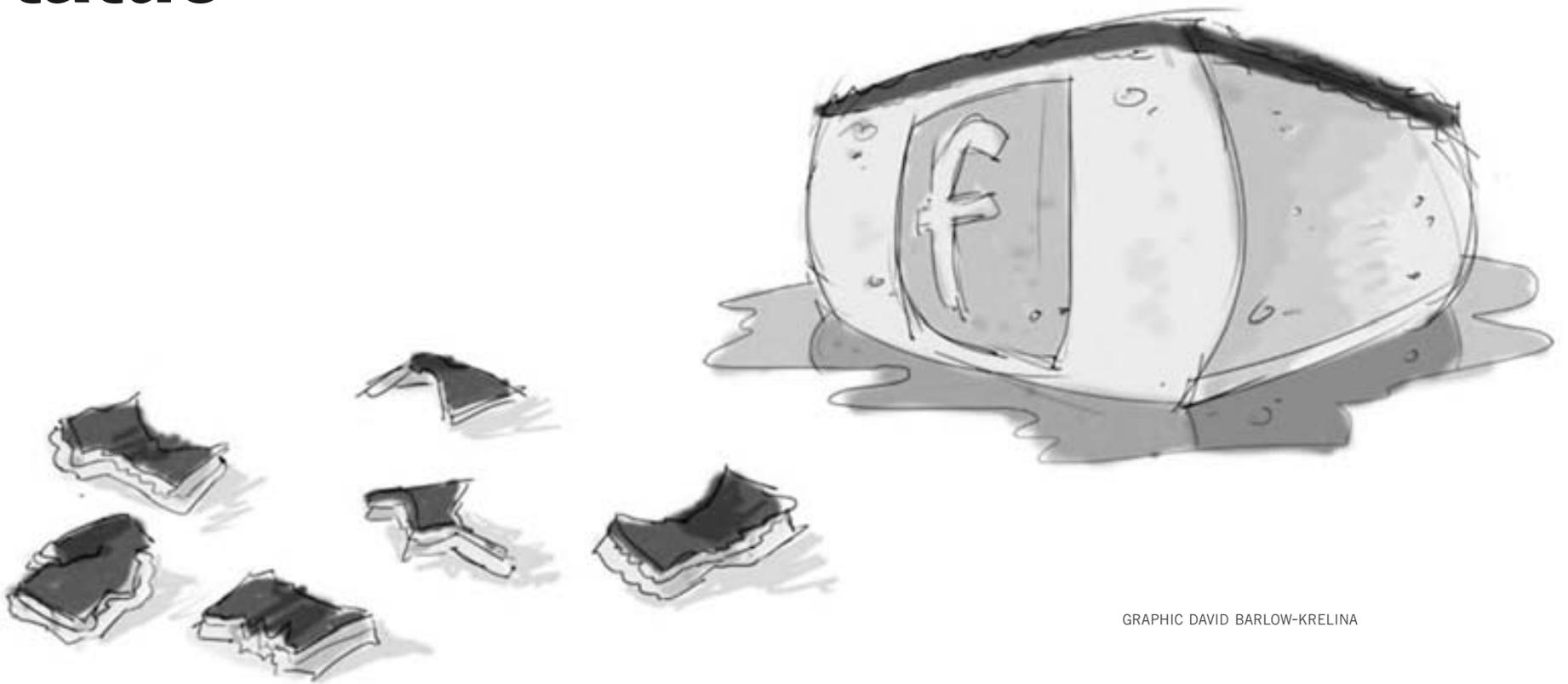
November 10—Alain Lefevre will be presenting Sergei Eisenstein's brilliant 1938 film *Alexander Nevsky*, whose incredible score by Sergei Prokofiev has gained legendary status from film fans over the decades. The screening of this film is a rare treat for film history buffs.



November 11—Patrick Watson will be on hand to present *The Dark Side of the Oz*, the brilliant mix of The Wizard of Oz to Pink Floyd's *The Dark Side of the Moon*. No dialogue, just Floyd in the background, with such songs as "Great Gig In The Sky" and "Time" flowing perfectly in synch to the surreal images of Dorothy and the wicked witch of the west.

See www.cinemaduparc.com for show times and prices.

Disliking Facebook's Environmental Status



GRAPHIC DAVID BARLOW-KRELINA

Facebook's servers soak up power like a sponge.

Why The Social Networking Site Is Polluting More Than Minds

• JASMINE PAPILLON-SMITH

The thought of quitting has occurred to everyone at least once.

Suffice to say that the time wasted updating statuses, "liking" trivial commentary and declining invitations to cringe-worthy events is ample ground on which to leave the social networking scene.

However, it isn't the uselessness of Facebook that made me quit.

As the environmental price for such ridiculous luxuries as relationship statuses, news feeds and endless virtual photo albums becomes more obvious, the more critical it is to fight for change.

This is the story of why one girl quite Facebook, and how she survived to tell the tale.

Factbook

In January 2010, Facebook started the construction of its first custom data centre, located in Prineville, OR. Sixty to 70 per cent of the centre's energy, which is purchased from a company named Pacific Power, is coal-generated.

A data centre, or server farm, is an industrial building that houses rows upon rows of inter-connected servers, which then quench society's networking thirst through fiber optic cables that connect the data centre to individual users. When users consult links on Facebook, they automatically connect to one or several of the servers in this building, which then sends back the required information. These servers are all networked together, and together contain all of the website's memory.

"Data centres and telecommunication networks, which bring information to mobile devices like the iPad and services like Facebook, will consume about 1,963 billion kilowatt hours of electricity in 2020," said Daniel Kessler, who is the head of communications for Greenpeace International's Green Technologies Campaign.

A Greenpeace report shows that this is more energy consumption than that of France, Germany, Canada and Brazil combined. Using current technology, the social network's data centre can only swell in volume.

It is currently the size of three football fields.

Two-Faced Book

Facebook gets 100 billion hits per day. The website boasts 2 trillion objects cached, with hundreds of millions of requests per second. To execute this monumental task, the company developed a custom technology called Proprietary Uninterruptible Power Supply, which continually provides energy to the centre and claims to diminish electricity use by 12 per cent.

Why would Facebook put such significant effort into creating technology that reduces energy consumption, yet still run the centre on coal?

Some say that Facebook wants to profit from the relatively low cost of coal, and then keep its power consumption at a minimum to save money.

"[Facebook] say that their data centre is energy efficient, which is true, but that only tells half the story. The fact is they have chosen to go with a utility that gets almost 60 per cent of their energy from coal," said Kessler.

Steven Forrester is the City Manager of Prineville. According to him, the construction of the social networking site's data centre has done only good for the community. The company has been donating money to local schools and free medical centres, as well as local sports teams.

"Our unemployment rate right now is running at 17 per cent. As we speak, [the data centre has created] 250 construction jobs, and many of these jobs have been filled with local auto-works people, construction workers, welders, plumbers and local contractors who have had the opportunity to go back to work," said Forrester. "It's made a tremendous impact on our local economy."

Once construction is complete, the data centre will only need 35 employees to run it. Forrester claimed that the centre would create auxiliary jobs, such as ground-maintenance and repair, which will continue to help the economy.

"We've been a very timber-dependent economy, so when the saw mills left the area as a result of government policies, [on top of] the home crisis and overall economy, we lost hundreds of jobs," said Forrester. "Strategically, we feel that this data centre will open up the path to economic diversification in a completely new industry that we never would have dreamed was possible."

Coal generators produce carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas linked to global warming. Coal also releases sulphur when it is burned, which in turn produces acid rain.

"As a progressive company, [Facebook] should be better than the standard, which is only having a proportion of renewable fuel," said Beatrice Olivastri, CEO at Friends of the Earth, a Canadian environmental group.

"They should have a higher complement of renewable energy to show interest and commitment to the issues we're facing."

LostCauseBook

The Oregon data centre is host to the website's information; that is, all of its information. The 85-word status pertaining to what you were doing "2nite" three years ago, or the super sweet echographic photo of you in your 13th week of gestation, along with everything anyone has ever posted, need to be stored perpetually for the site to stay functional.

As of July 2010, Facebook had 500 million users, each of whose data is stored on those

servers indefinitely.

Studies show that data centres and telecommunications networks are to triple their energy expenditure over the next 10 years. If changes are not put into effect, the climate will ultimately inherit the misbegotten spoils of the industry's dirty energy.

"Facebook can do a number of things, including [locating] their infrastructure where there is renewable energy and working with local governments to create additional renewable energy to run their services," said Kessler.

Northern countries like Finland, for instance, are a popular location for server farms. Not only does the country use renewable resources to create electricity, its cold climate allows for less energy to be spent on cooling the server locales. Many centres in Finland sell the excess heat produced by the servers to district heating networks.

"It will be one of the most efficient data centres in the world because [Prineville's] climate will offset the effects," said Forrester. "I can't think of a power unity in the U.S. that is not dependent on fossil fuels."

Outsourcing is a solution to the environmental problem, but does not cause governments to give companies tax breaks.

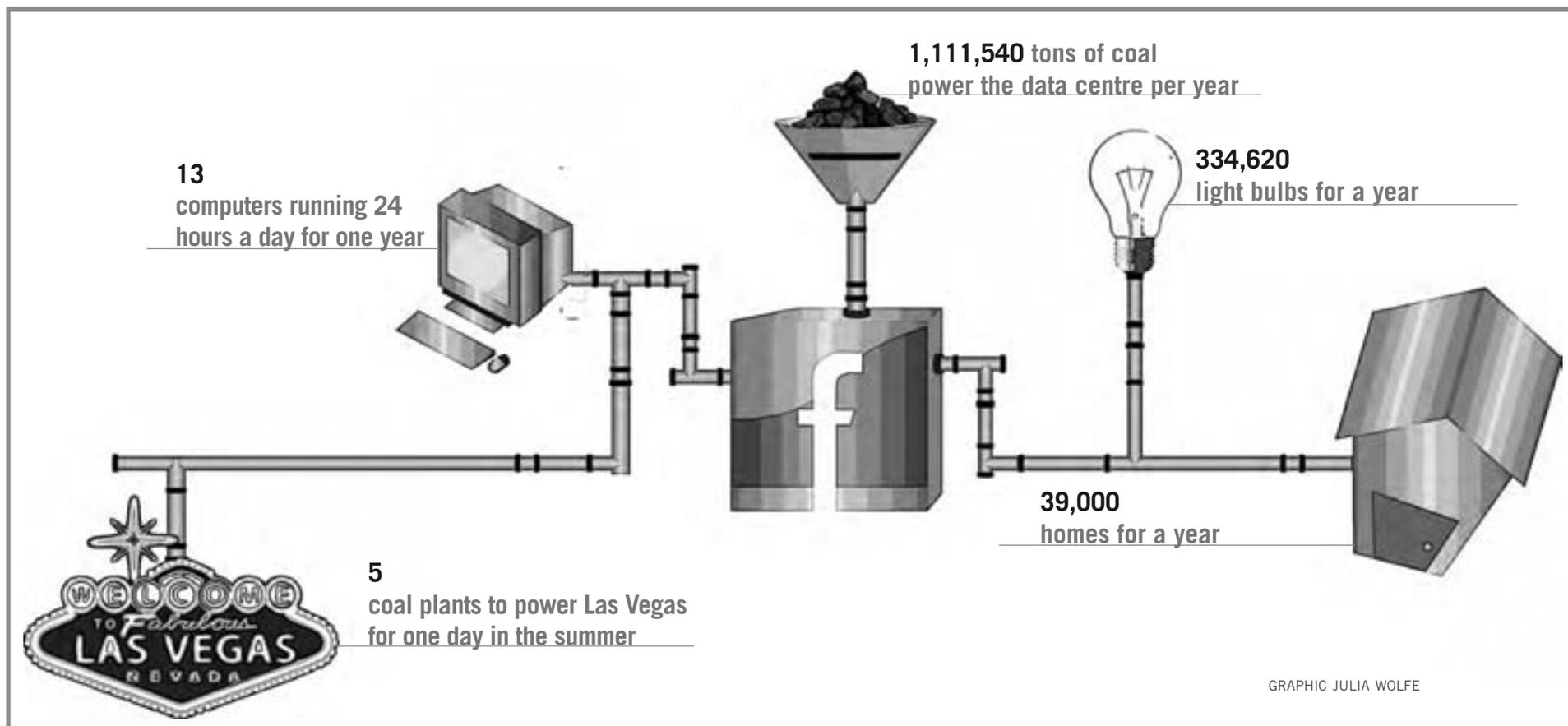
"This country is exporting its technology and exporting its economy, and that's wrong, and the people of Prineville think that's wrong," Forrester said. "We have to continue to push our public utilities to continue to develop alternative energy resources."

Forrester said he hopes that the data centre will create job opportunities for young people. Considering the fragile state of the environment, it's a hope that hinges on the assumption that the world can continue to sustain human life.

SADBOOK

The preponderance of social networking has become such that any of its tools, while causing major damage to the well-being of the planet, are also the most efficient way of communicating issues of global importance to the masses. It is with great reticence that one must admit, with a tip of the hat to irony, that the next logical step would be to join an environmental group... on Facebook.

What Could Facebook Power?



The Intangible Quarterly

ConU Based Online Lit Journal *The Incongruous Quarterly* Prepares for Second Issue

• ALEX MANLEY

PHOTO FRANK MANLEY GRAPHIC ALEX MANLEY

T₁wo weeks ago at Writers Read, a question was posed to the Concordia creative writing alumni on the discussion panel about the death of the book. Mike Spry, who runs the Summer Literary Seminars based out of Concordia, was quick to respond, saying that he didn't think the book would die out, but that the literary journal definitely would.

The physical literary journal may be on its way out, but the online literary journal is just getting started. This past summer, Emma Healey and Michael Chaulk, both Concordia students—Healey, 19, is in Creative Writing; Chaulk, 21, is in Honours in English and Creative Writing—debuted *The Incongruous Quarterly*, a celebration of “unpublishable” literature.

Around the date of its launch, the *IQ*'s strange mandate made it an appealing topic for the mainstream literary media, creating a nice little paradox: hype about supposedly unhypable creative work.

“Before the first issue, I think most people were really interested in what we were about, publishing unpublishable writing,” said Chaulk.

The National Post, *Quill & Quire*, and even CBC Radio were among those who took note, and the buzz surrounding the launch generated a much higher-than-expected submission volume, including pieces by some established writers.

Though they aren't getting quite as many submissions this time, Healey remains upbeat, as she noted that they've been receiving “pretty consistently fascinating, amazing stuff since the day we put out our first call for submissions.”

G₂enesis

“The *Quarterly* started to be a real project in about January of last year,” said Healey, but it had been gestating in her mind “for a while before that—maybe a year or so.” Eventually she “hunkered down in that Starbucks by the FG for about six months” and didn't emerge until the *IQ*'s website was up and running.

Chaulk remembers it a little differently. “We got a beer after a workshop one night,” he said. “She told me about the idea and asked me if I wanted to edit poetry. I was immediately into it.”

As far as the “unpublishable” aspect to it, that was Healey's brainchild.

“I was working with a couple of print magazines when the idea for the *Quarterly* started to drift around in my mind,” she said, “and I was friends with all of these people who were incredibly talented and very strange, and I was seeing, from both sides [of the writer/editor divide] people getting rejected not because their stuff wasn't good enough, but because it didn't fit. Writers who submitted pieces that were “too long or too weird or [whose] subject matter made them not ‘right’ for the magazine” were “getting formal rejection letters and not really understanding why their piece had been rejected.”

This, she felt, had to change.

“I just wanted to make something that would have room for that rejected stuff, that would be able to publish those things that were worth reading but that had fallen through the cracks.”

Internet

Right from the get-go, the project had to be online-only. The primary reason, Chaulk said, was money.

“Of course we would love to be able to print the magazine and of course we don't have any money ourselves. I'd be really excited about printing it. We would need colour and half-nice paper, but it would be so pretty.”

Though he hoped that the *Quarterly* would get “the funding to [print it] at some point,” he admitted that “there are things that are impossible to do in print; for example, mp3s and .gifs and whatever people end up sending us. Having it online really opens it up.”

Healey agreed with the potential of this openness, describing herself as “a ridiculously naive, wide-eyed idealist who is amazed by the limitless possibilities of publishing on the Internet.” She admitted, however, that finances did play into the *Quarterly*'s online-only status.

“Having a print magazine seemed not only like it would be ridiculously expensive, but limiting in a way that didn't really fit with what we were trying to do,” she explained.

“I thought we should be able to mess around, to publish anything we thought was worth publishing.” This freedom has obvious advantages for a publication purporting to publish the unpublishable.

“If there was an audio file or a film or a thirty-page story we thought was worth including we could just include it,” she explained. “No second thoughts, no worries.”

T₁hemes

That combination of exuberant optimism with a carefree, come-what-may attitude is something that has allowed *The Incongruous Quarterly* to flourish in other ways as well. One thing Healey and Chaulk wanted for the *IQ* was guest editors to help them sort through the masses of poetry and prose they'd receive.

Healey recalled that she spent “basically [...] all of last winter e-mailing writers I liked and asking them if they'd be interested” in collaborating. Though she “didn't expect much to come of it”—at the time the *Quarterly* was still without a name, let alone a first issue, and there was no prospect of financial compensation involved—“most of the writers I asked actually responded, and a bunch of them said yes!”

Both the first and second issues so far have had separate guest editors for poetry and prose, as well as separate submission themes—the first issue's themes were “the Graphic” for poetry and “Money” for prose; the second issue's are “Collage” and “Music.”

The second issue finds Saleema Nawaz and Karen Correia da Silva replacing Daniel Scott Tysdal and Pasha Malla as the poetry and prose editors, respectively.

Chaulk admitted that they let the guest editors pick the themes. “It gives us a better chance to work with very respected writers, and [gives] them a chance to explore and build something that's important to them.”

On top of that, Healey said that giving the guest editors “free rein over their sections” worked in the *Quarterly*'s favour since they wanted “every issue to be unique.”

Given the project's mandate and the results it produced with the first issue, uniqueness is probably not something they'll have trouble achieving.

You can check out *The Incongruous Quarterly*'s entire first issue at incongruousquarterly.com

The second issue, whose submission deadline was Nov. 1, should go online at some point in early- or mid-December.

Lit Events

Scrivener Talks Series

ConU Grad Gillian Sze Talks *Branch Online Magazine*

Nov. 2
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
McGill University
Arts Building
Conference Room 160
853 Sherbrooke St. W.
\$2 Entry (Coffee served)

Local Legends Reading Series

Featuring Mark Ambrose Harris From *Lickety Split Smut Zine*

Nov. 3
7:00 p.m. onwards
Concordia Community
Solidarity Co-op
Bookstore
2150 Bishop St.
Pay What You Can
(\$2 donation suggested)

D&Q Double Launch

Teri Vlassopoulos's book *Bats or Swallows* and Jenner-Brooke Berger's book *Rememberer*

Nov. 5
7:00 p.m. onwards
Drawn & Quarterly
Bookstore
211 Bernard St. W.
Free admission

Minimal and Surreal

GRAPHIC DARYNA RUKHLYADEVA

A Look at Alan Reed's Stark *Isobel and Emile*

• ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER

Isobel and Emile is a story that begins at the end of a love affair.

Emile leaves for the city. Isobel stays behind. Emile is a puppeteer. In the city, he'll brood on the love that he left and try to make some sense of it in his work. Isobel will deal with the silence left by the absence of Emile. She'll live in the room that he left, a room above the town's grocery store. She'll beg for a job in the store, and work until her body hurts.

This is the first novel from Alan Reed, previously the author of *For Love of the City*, a collection of poems, who currently resides in Montreal. Reed's prose is comprised almost entirely of simple and declarative sentences. So the novel begins: "They are sitting. There are two of them. They are sitting beside each other. They are in a room. There is a bed in the room. There is a sink. There is a window. There is a door..." It goes on and on (and

on) like that.

There is really no getting around this prose style. The flat delivery, repetition and staccato rhythm are relentless. You'll be able to decide early on if it works for you or not.

If it does, it's probably in part because Reed knows what he's doing. A student of semiotics with an interest in the failure of language, as he puts it, and in silence as an ideal, Reed has said that he writes to point out a quiet place existing beyond what can be written.

The prose style could be seen as indicating what cannot be expressed when a love comes to a conclusion; or as reflecting how deeply each of the protagonists is set into themselves and their circumstance. As every sentence is so curt and minimal, so are the characters' selves starkly defined in the absence of each other.

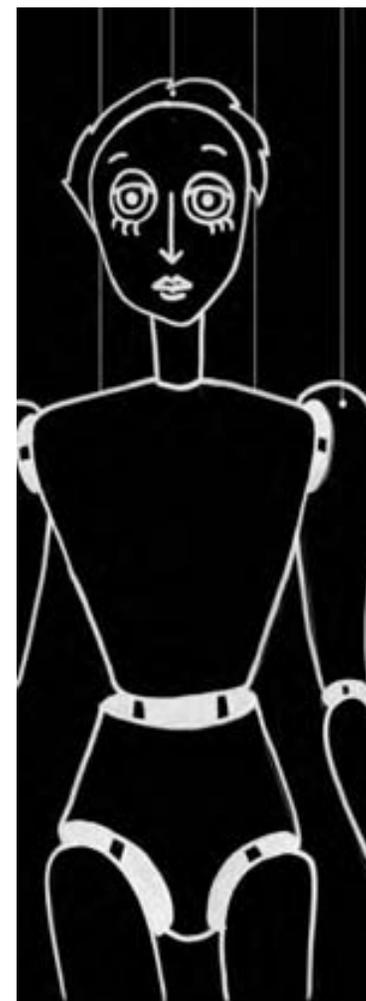
On the other hand, if it doesn't work, it's probably because these explanations aren't pressing enough to justify the style. To be convinced by *Isobel and Emile*

requires close attention on the reader's part.

For many, the book will seem not worth such attention, because until the moment you are convinced of Reed's deeper intentions, the prose can seem gimmicky or pretentious. It's fitting that a book about a couple divided would be so divisive.



Isobel & Emile
Alan Reed
Coach House Books
160 pp
\$18.95



Triplet Writ

• JENNY LEIGH DANCER

Smooth It Over

Smooth over what comes apart,
smooth it over,
and with gentle hands she does
just that: one palm flat against
her mouth, holding everything in.
Who dreams of stars any more?
Maybe she does, her eyes wide,
focused on some distant point.
Smooth, smooth. And her hand
brushes his face, the groove
of cheek bone, flesh, hollow
of the eye, that ridge—
and she finds herself slipping
down and away.

Who has any time for strawberries
and cream? Not her, surely;
she sits in the kitchen with her skirt
all white seaweed in tatters
around her. No time for sewing, none
for putting things back together.

Just smooth over,
she knows, just smooth over.

Who loves with a fire to burn all else?
Perhaps her, but a fire can't face
a storm without the certain knowledge
that rain will put it out. And the message
he left on her machine was just:
"Hi" and empty space, and "So I heard you are
doing just fine. That's good. Well,
Sorry I missed you. Maybe we will talk again
some other day."

Then there is so much endless
grey and white, and she can only
smooth over
so much.



GRAPHIC CLÉMENT LIU

Hey, Killer Smile

Hushed in hues:
radio jazz, vivid blood,
fear which pricks
and swells the skin.
Saw your smile, its too-whiteness
cleaving the blue hour
right in half, bloom of lips
torn silk. Kid skin hands,
smoothing the dress hem,
pulling and teasing
calves and thighs.
How'd you break her resolve?
Hot water, soft kisses
which snared her and melted
the clothes right off her body.
She was sugar and she dissolved
in the grooves of your tongue.
Someday they'll dig
her bleach white bones
from the sweet earth
and you'll smile again,
all teeth in the dark.

To the Crescent in Winter

To the poplars in the ravine
and the teenage boys smoking
on their lawn, and the wolfhound
prowling the yard,
and the chilled pond with its silent
surface, and the rooftop snow peaks:

Surely, on days like this
I am an amateur ascetic,
climbing the loneliest mountains
suburbia has to offer.

RUGBY



Cara Stuckey and Hughanna Gaw scored the all-important tries to seal a spot in the National Championships during the Stingers' 13-8 win over Laval on Friday. PHOTO ROB AMYOT

see story, pg. 20

The coaches' take

"We're a really young team and it's important that we keep things positive. The gelling process is ongoing but we're on our way"

—Les Lawton,
Women's hockey team
assistant coach



"We didn't answer the bell for the second half. Then, on top of that, we compounded things by going out and throwing interceptions"

—Gerry McGrath,
Stingers football
coach



scoreboard



MEN'S SOCCER

L 0-2 v McGill fri

T 4-4 v UQTR sun

WOMEN'S SOCCER

T 1-1 v McGill fri

T 1-1 v UQTR sun

MEN'S RUGBY

W 15-13 v Bishop's fri

WOMEN'S RUGBY

W 13-8 v Laval fri

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

L 63-71 v Carleton fri

MEN'S BASKETBALL

W 50-89 v RI fri

L 56-68 v U of V sun

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

L 1-2 v Montréal fri

MEN'S HOCKEY

L 1-4 v Nipissing fri

L 2-6 v Toronto sat

FOOTBALL

L 7-62 v Laval sat

Stingers Crash Out of Playoff Contention

The Football Team's Season Ends with Loss to Rouge et Or



Concordia couldn't contain a Rouge et Or running game that accumulated 308 yards rushing on Saturday, denying the Stingers a spot in the playoffs. PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

• DIEGO PELAEZ-GAETZ

Laval 62

Concordia 7

The young Concordia Stingers faced more growing pains against the powerhouse Laval Rouge et Or, as their playoff hopes were obliterated in a 62-7 loss during university football action on Saturday at Concordia Stadium.

The heavily-favoured Rouge et Or came out of the gate quickly, as quarterback Bruno Prud'Homme marched the visitors for two long touchdown drives in the opening quarter. Laval added a safety to go up 16-0 before the break.

However, the Stingers briefly

showed signs of being able to stand-up to the bullies of Quebec, as they converted an interception into a short drive culminating in Dan Rodrigues' two-yard touchdown run.

Concordia received another golden opportunity as a result of a Rouge et Or turnover in their own end. Although Laval had stretched its lead to 26-7 with a field goal and touchdown pass to J.S. Haidara, Concordia recovered a fumble on Laval's 33-yard line with a chance to cut into the lead before the half. However, sophomore quarterback Terrance Morsink threw over the head of freshman Kris Bastien at the goal-line, resulting in a long interception return for the Rouge et Or.

"We've got to take care of the ball better," said Stingers head

coach Gerry McGrath. "[Morsink] has made some strides over the last few weeks, but he's [been] giving the ball up too much in the last couple games."

The momentum from the second quarter didn't carry over into the second half, as the Rouge et Or quickly stomped out any hope of an improbable comeback.

"We had a good first half, but we made too many turnovers and mistakes," said Rouge et Or QB Prud'Homme. "We knew the game was do-or-die for them, so we came out in the second half to take away their hope."

The visitors did just that, as Laval's two-headed running back tandem of Pascal Lochard and Guillaume G. Bourassa punished the Stingers' front seven and controlled the clock. The tandem's ef-

forts led to three third-quarter field goals and a short punch-in from a yard out for Lochard to give Laval a 46-7 edge heading into the final quarter.

Lochard and Bourassa finished with an astounding 308 rushing yards combined.

"We didn't answer the bell for the second half," said McGrath. "Then, on top of that, we compounded things by going out and throwing interceptions."

Despite the disappointing finish to the season, there is hope for the future for the inexperienced Stingers. Even without their starting quarterback for much of the season, the Stingers finished 4-5 and just a game out of the playoffs.

"I just wish we made the playoffs," said Morsink. "I hate losing. You always want to win."

Morsink added that the future "is definitely bright" for the Stingers, and that the experience gained this season should translate into more success next year.

"We've had a lot of great play from great young players," added McGrath, before pointing out that many teams without their starting quarterback struggled much more than the Stingers.

Even the opposing coach agreed with the hopeful assessment. "They have a lot of good young athletes," said Rouge et Or coach Glen Constantin. "I'm not worried about their future."

With as optimistic an outlook as a non-playoff team can have, the Stingers look forward to next year. Like the rest of the conference, Concordia simply could not handle the juggernaut Rouge et Or.

Heading to Nationals

Women's Rugby Team Secures Second Consecutive QSSF Title

• NICHOLAS WARD

Concordia 13

Laval 8

The women's rugby squad took its second straight QSSF provincial title on Friday night with a 13-8 win over the Laval Rouge et Or.

"For the first 60-minutes [Laval] out-hearted us," said Stingers coach Graeme McGravie. "I don't think we matched them."

Playing in blistering conditions didn't help ConU's cause. The highly vocal contingent of Laval supporters who consistently drowned out the Stinger faithful didn't help either.

The game itself was full of end-to-end action, with both teams vulnerable to big plays. In the first half, the Stingers made some large territory gains on the backs of their forwards. Laval full-back Karen Paquin answered back for Laval, using her speed and size to overwhelm ConU's defence time and again.

The province's top player,

Jackie Tittley, had a golden chance to put her team up with a penalty right under the post. While she denied the Laval crowd had anything to do with her miss, she did call the unsuccessful kick "a bit of a shank."

It seemed that ConU's coaching staff did a better job of making half-time adjustments, with the backs looking better organized in the second half and the team finally finding an answer for Paquin's running ability.

"[Paquin] is such a threat with the ball, but we didn't do anything specifically [in the second half]. [We] just started paying more attention to her," said McGravie.

Still, it was Laval who scored first after some desperate cover tackling by Tittley and the rest of the backs. However, the Stingers failed to stop outside-centre Claudiane Renaud from punching in a try over the line. The kick was unconverted and Laval drew first blood to take the lead 5-0.

ConU's forward pack finally caught fire late in the second half and relentlessly drove the ball down the field on a series of mauls from loose play and from line-



A late try by Cara Stuckey guaranteed the Stingers a spot in this weekend's National Championships. PHOTO ESTHER BERNARD

outs. A group effort resulted in Hughanna Gaw touching down an unconverted try to even the score at 5-5.

Each team's kicker then swapped penalties to keep the score deadlocked at 8 points apiece, with extra-time seeming

inevitable. However, ConU managed to pull ahead after some white-knuckle defending by Laval and a series of attempts that were held-up in the try-zone.

This time, all-star rookie Cara Stuckey got credit for touching the ball down. Tittley missed the con-

version by the smallest of margins to keep the lead to 13-8 with less than two minutes remaining.

The Rouge et Or came back down the field and threw everything they had at the Stingers, but desperate defensive work, led by the ever-improving backs, resulted in a second-consecutive provincial championship for ConU.

After the game, all thoughts were on the upcoming CIS National Championships.

"[The provincial championship] is a stepping-stone. Our goal is to get to nationals," said Tittley, the league's MVP.

The National tournament runs from Nov. 4-7 at Peterborough's Trent University. The team to beat will be the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns. The Pronghorns are going for a fourth-straight national championship. ConU will be up against Lethbridge in Pool A, joining Queen's in trying to unseat the three-time champs. Pool B is the easier draw with the winless Trent Excalibur getting a birth as hosts of the tournament. Trent is joined by Atlantic champions St. Francis Xavier and Ontario's best, the Guelph Gryphons.



First-year flanker Cara Stuckey has been a huge player in the Stingers' recent bid to be national champions. PHOTO ROB AMYOT

Stuck on Success

Cara Stuckey: Rookie Sensation of 2010

• CHRIS HAMPSON

Cara Stuckey may have dressed up as a ballerina for Halloween, but don't let her girlish, laid-back demeanour fool you. Her notorious straight-arm has smashed into many rival faces to help the women's rugby team reach the Canadian Interuniversity Sport National Championships.

She was born on March 21st, 1991 in Montreal but grew up about an hour southwest of the city in the small town of St. Chrysostome, QC. As the second oldest of three other siblings who all play sports, she remembers growing up in a competitive environment.

At Chateaugay Valley Regional High School, Stuckey enjoyed playing a different sport for every season. Her search for a sport to play in spring ultimately led her to try rugby for the first time in grade eight. She had no idea that her punishing runs would later become league-famous, making her an influential player for Concordia.

"Rugby was one of the biggest sports at CVR so I decided to try out, and I've been hooked ever since," said Stuckey.

She would later go on to play Quebec U17 for three years, win two championships with Dawson,

make the reserves for Canada U20, and has also won bronze and gold medals with the Quebec U19 team at the national championships.

"The biggest highlight of my career was definitely winning the National Championship with the Quebec U19 team last summer in Calgary. Winning a national championship, in my opinion, is almost an impossible thing to do. I'll never forget the feeling I had when the last whistle blew. I had to look up at the scoreboard just to make sure we had actually won, and there it was—Quebec 15, Ontario 14. We had done the impossible. I have never been more proud of the 14 girls that played by my side that day," she said.

Stuckey doesn't consider herself an aggressive person in terms of her playing style. She prefers the term "offensive." Still, she recognized the straight-arm to be one of her strong suits during a game this past summer.

"I've always had a strong straight-arm, but I played in the backs and I hit this girl in the face by accident. She just stopped, and I was gone. I scored a try and was like, 'Wow, that works,'" she said.

"When she first tried out, she was timid. We only saw flashes of her talent," said Concordia's head coach Graeme McGravie. "As a

rookie, she worked hard to learn the pace we play at, but in the last three games especially, she's been probably the best player we've had. If she's struggling, the team struggles. When she has a good game, the team typically has a good game."

Stuckey said that her main inspiration is her high school friend, Hughanna Gaw, who also plays for the Stingers, and helped motivate her to get to the level she is at now. "She's just so good. I want to be that good," Stuckey said of her teammate.

Her dedication to the sport paid off on Friday as she scored the final try to secure the victory over Laval, definitely earning herself the title of "Rookie Sensation."

Stuckey's self-discipline allows her to balance a training schedule that sees her spending four nights a week either practising or in the gym. Add in a full schedule of games and time spent studying for her major in marketing, and Stuckey says she is left with almost no free time.

However, she plans to continue on with rugby for as long as she is able to—not for the fame, but because she simply cannot see her life without it. She enjoys the challenge, loves the team and most of all, loves the game.

The Allegory of the Cage

The Link Talks to Montreal Mixed Martial Arts Trainer Firas Zahabi

• CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

Is there a logical leap between debating Plato's metaphysical reality and slapping an armbar on someone?

Logical or not, Firas Zahabi made that leap when he went from Concordia University philosophy graduate to internationally

renowned mixed martial arts trainer. Zahabi—whose students include UFC welterweight champion Georges St-Pierre and former featherweight champ Miguel Torres—is nominated for “best trainer” at the 2010 World MMA Awards, which take place on Dec. 1 in Las Vegas.

The Link caught up with Zahabi for a chat at his gym in northwest Montreal.

daunting mental step. How do you psychologically prepare someone for a match?

Zahabi: Let me ask you a question. Would you be able to walk across a wooden plank if I put it on the ground for you? It would be pretty easy. Now if I suspended that plank 100 feet in the air could you walk across it now? That's what fighting is. You do it in the gym, the plank is on the floor. You do it in a local league, the plank is five feet off the ground. You do it in the UFC it's 100 feet off the ground. Same plank, same dude, the guy's got two arms, two legs.

When you're fighting in the UFC and the whole world is watching, it counts. You fall off that plank and you're dead—same thing for your career.

I tell my guys [that] you can't control whether you fall or not. Just put one foot in front of the other and do what we've prepared for.

John Makdessi is your latest pupil to make it to the UFC. Although he is a renowned kickboxing champion, Makdessi has only been fighting in MMA for about two years. How do you deal with the jump in competition he'll face when he steps into the octagon on Dec. 11?

He's dominated his first seven MMA fights. This is a big step, but when the big show comes calling you don't want to say no because they won't call again. It's important for me to give him a shot, and regardless as to whether he wins or loses—and believe me, we're going in there to win—but regardless he's got international experience now. I can't teach that kind of experience in the gym.

Win or lose, we'll go back to the drawing board again. I try to cultivate a survivor instinct in my fighters. You have to be prepared for anything and all we can do is work on what we control, which is preparation.

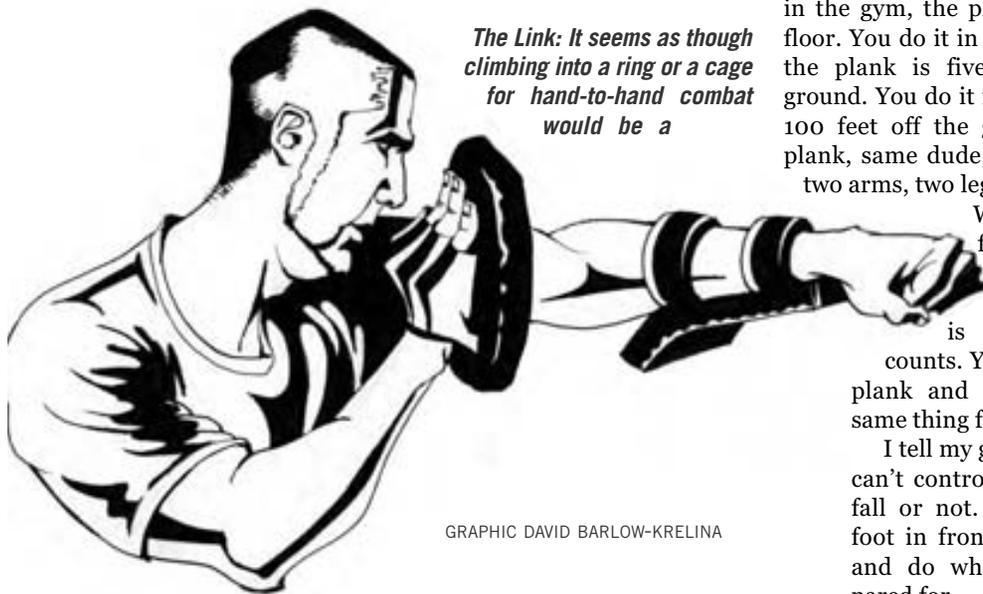
After Georges St-Pierre de-

feated BJ Penn a second time, Penn accused St-Pierre of cheating. In Penn's autobiography he writes that St-Pierre greased his body to stay slippery, a violation of the unified MMA rules. What are your thoughts on Penn's allegations?

I've recently had a talk with BJ Penn and he initiated it. He was very polite, we apologized for our past misbehaviours and it's all water under the bridge between me and him. He's a good guy with a lot of pressure on him. He was a world champion with the hopes and dreams of his people on his shoulders.

Maybe the cheating thing got blown out of proportion, the greasing he's referring to never happened. A little Vaseline got onto one of [St-Pierre's] shoulders but the Nevada State Athletic Commission wiped it off and they gave us the OK. The cameras don't show that.

St-Pierre is a devastating human being to fight and Penn jumped up a weight class to fight him. You have to respect that.



The Link: It seems as though climbing into a ring or a cage for hand-to-hand combat would be a

GRAPHIC DAVID BARLOW-KRELINA

The Terrible Two, Two and Twos

Women's Hockey Team Loses Third Straight Game by a 2-1 Margin

• CLEMENT TAGNEY

UdeM 2

Concordia 1

It took a pair of power-play goals for the Montréal Carabins to overcome goaltender Audrey Doyon-Lessard and hand the Concordia women's hockey team another 2-1 loss on Friday, Oct. 29 at Ed Meagher Arena.

“We just didn't create enough offence. It took us a little while to wake up and hopefully we can get some things going for our next game,” said Concordia head coach Les Lawton, whose team's current record is 2-2-2. “We're a .500 team, so hopefully we can improve on that before the semester ends.”

In total, the Stingers were penalized three times in the first period. Though the Carabins' advantage on the power play translated into a strong offensive presence and more shots, the Stingers' strong defence took care of the visitors with ease on all but one play. It didn't hurt that net-minder Doyon-Lessard also made 13 saves in the first period, giving the crowd an amazing show.

Barely 13 minutes into the game, Montréal capitalized on a



The Stingers spent most of their time defending the Carabins on Friday. PHOTO CLEMENT TAGNEY

holding penalty assessed to Stingers defenceman Alexandra D'Ambrosio.

On the ensuing power play, Carabins forward Josianne Legault welcomed a pass from teammate Stéphanie Daneau and snapped a shot by the eagle-eyed Doyon-Lessard to open the scoring.

Despite recording only three shots on goal in the period, the Stingers had no problem re-

bounding from the deficit. Led by a strong charge from centre Alyssa Sherrard, Concordia's Haley Boyd instantly restored parity at 14:30 of the first.

The only penalty Concordia incurred during the rest of the game was a questionable hooking call on Veronica Lang just over eight minutes into the second period. While Left-winger Holli Monahan and centre Moira Frier both provided a strong presence

on the ice for the Stingers, that penalty gave Montréal the advantage it needed to establish and maintain its lead.

Marie-Denise Ethier led the attack and shifted the puck to Janique Duval, who then passed it to Caroline Martin-Guay for the goal.

Lang, who was later body-checked into the boards by Duval, had to be helped off the ice by teammates Monahan and

Gabrielle Meilleur.

Montréal coach Isabelle Leclair seemed to instill order amongst her players and the Carabins took advantage of the extra man when opportunities opened up.

“The league has really tightened up and it'll be hard work that wins the day,” she said. “During our last match against the Stingers, I don't think we were really up to the challenge. But it's the beginning—we have 11 new recruits—so there are some adjustments to make.”

The third period was almost the exact opposite of the first. The Carabins' Marie-Andrée Leclerc-Auger was administered a couple of two-minute minors, which gave the Stingers the power plays they needed to tie things up.

However, they were unable to take advantage of the opportunities, despite a last minute break-away that saw Erin Lally and Alyssa Sherrard skate in on goal. Both players made attempts to send the game to overtime, but it wasn't meant to be.

The Stingers will have an opportunity to exact revenge on UdeM as the two teams meet Friday, Nov. 12 at Ed Meagher Arena. Puck-drop is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

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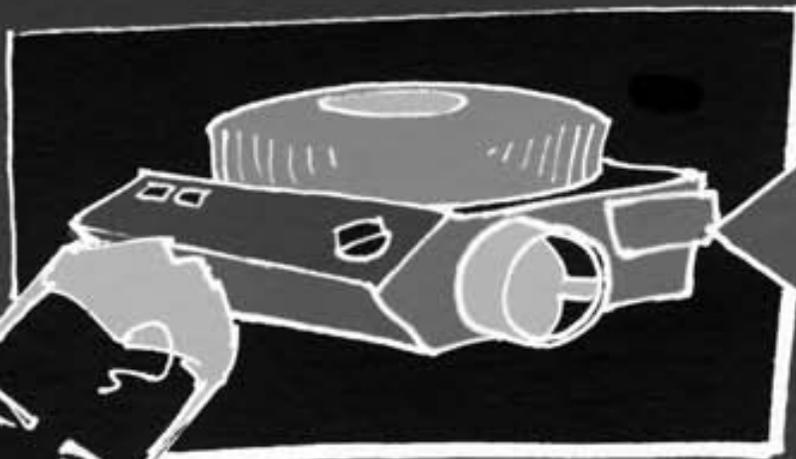


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Lucrative Liquids

Water Bottle Marketing Against Simple Ethics

• CLAY HEMMERICH

Would it make sense if my landlord installed a coin machine that charged me a dollar to get into my apartment? How about if air was privatized and I had to pay by the breath? The answer to both questions is no. It would be completely ridiculous to pay for something that I already own.

Then why, as a Canadian who enjoys 20 per cent of the globe's fresh water supply, am I shelling out a couple dollars to buy a bottle of water every time I'm thirsty? It's my elixir of life, the liquid to my longevity, and I'd die in less than three days if I couldn't have it. Even the United Nations declared water as a basic human right on July 28, 2010.

Like anything one is romantic for, dependence always leads to vulnerability. As corporations like PepsiCo, Nestle, Coca-Cola or the other plethora of bottled water companies suck up the globe's consumable fresh water supply, they're finding ways of selling our water back to us. I'm sure bottled water marketers could sell ice to an Eskimo, or sand to an Arab.

Bottled water marketing campaigns suggest that government-regulated water is dirty compared to their product, which is packaged beautifully and shines like a beacon towards a higher standard of living.

When Jennifer Aniston is prominently displayed chugging Smart Water, Glaceau's bottled water brand, after a hard workout in its last ad campaign, it gives the illusion that anyone who consumes the brand indulges in a higher quality of life.

Numerous studies have also shown high-income households consume more bottled water than low-income households.

Environment Canada said that a thousand litres of tap water costs Canadians \$1.26 (which includes treatment costs), and a thousand litres of bottled water costs about \$1,500.

Apparently, consumerism is a virtue, since the stated advertisement shows that those who consume more are worth more.

Besides the fact that selling bottled water is a complete scam, I'm troubled by the notion that consumers

are increasingly putting more trust in corporations than their very own governments.

Between 2002 and 2007, global water bottle consumption rose by 7.6 per cent per year, and has since then steadily increased.

Albeit both politicians and company men are equally untrustworthy, but to choose the side that's less accountable to the greater population is beyond the realm of logic.

Bottled water marketing campaigns suggest that government-regulated water is dirty compared to their product, which is packaged beautifully and shines like a beacon towards a higher standard of living.

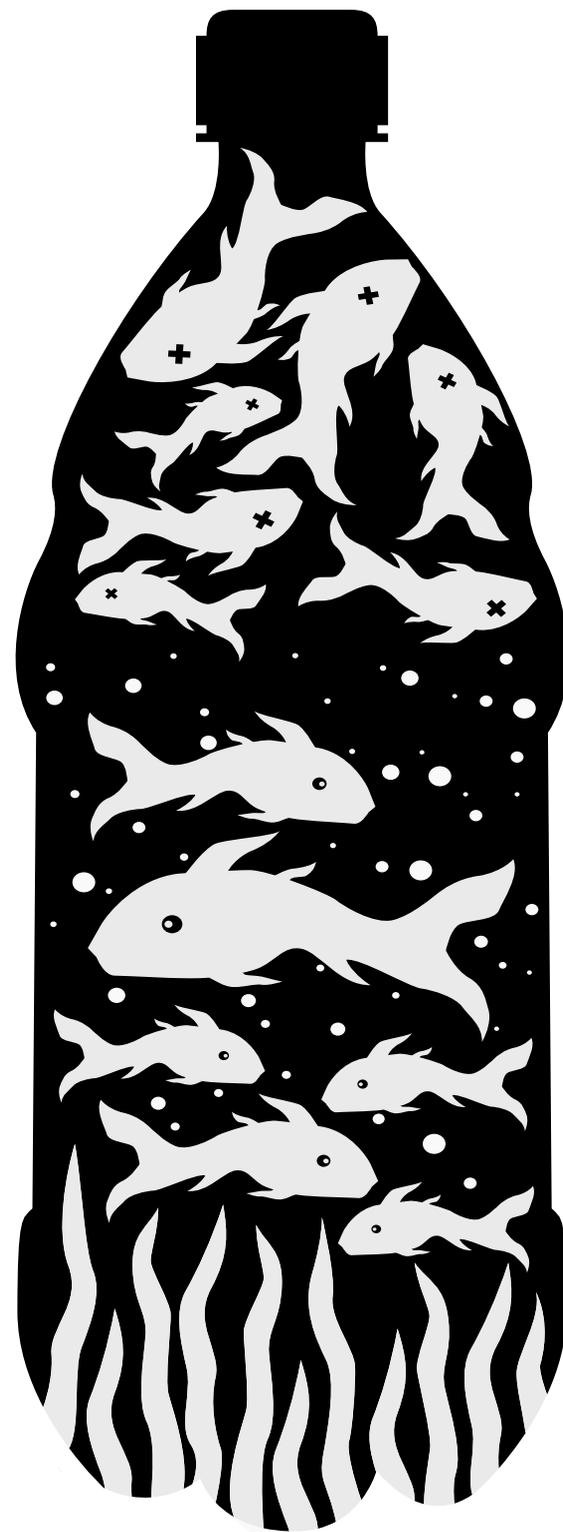
At the same time, it's unrealistic to get rid of beverage corporations like PepsiCo. The beverage powerhouse employs thousands of people across the globe and donates to charities.

In 2009, PepsiCo. donated over \$300,000 to non-profit organizations with clean-water initiatives—though it's obvious that the only reason they donate to water causes is because it is business imperative.

The challenge isn't to veto them out of our lives like villains from old Western films. The World Water Week convention held in September advocated a government and corporation partnership, in regards to regulating water sources.

Corporations are very effective in transporting clean water to countries that aren't privy to advanced water filtration systems like the one Canadians boast. Their problem is obviously their thirst for profit.

So PepsiCo (and others that sell water bottles), I'm not mad at you, just very disappointed. You need to get with the times and practise some marketing ethics. The sustainable mindset that the new-society stresses is that business practice has a triple bottom line: people, profit and planet.



Bottled water straight from source.

GRAPHIC CLÉMENT LIU



Letters @thelinknewspaper.ca

Shout Out From a Shill

I read with interest the article written by Joel Balsam that appeared in the October 27, 2010, edition of *The Link* entitled, "TAPthirst, uberculture and QPIRG Dump Hundreds of Plastic Bottles on Campus." [Editors Note: This is incorrect. The article did not appear in Vol. 31, Issue 11 of *The Link* but was web-only content on thelinknewspaper.ca.]

In the piece, Mr. Balsam writes that Nestlé is "a new player in the bidding process" and "has plans to continue to supply Concordia's vending machines with bottled water."

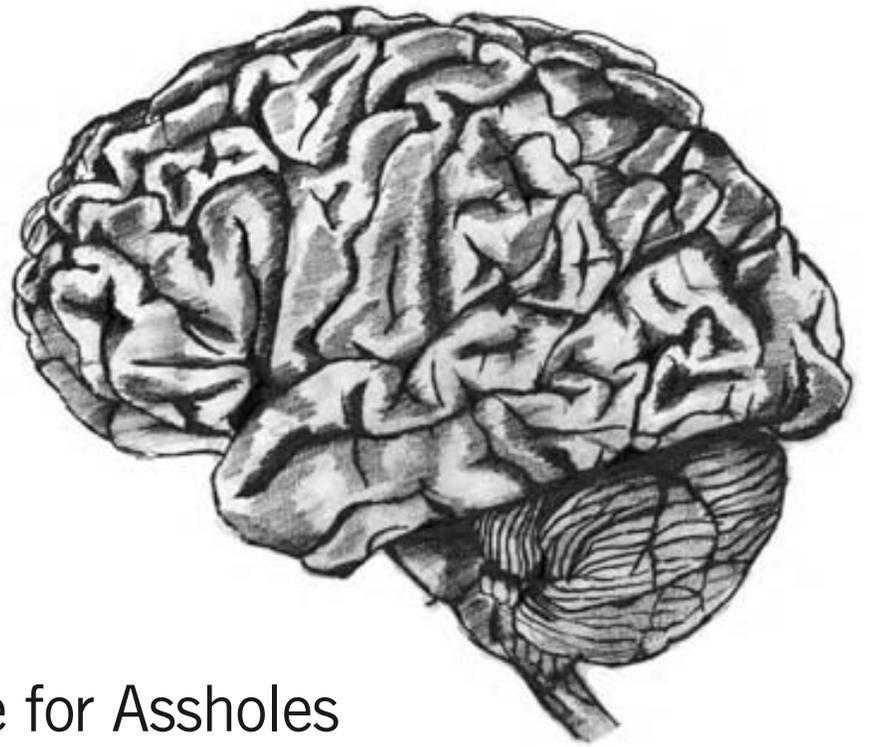
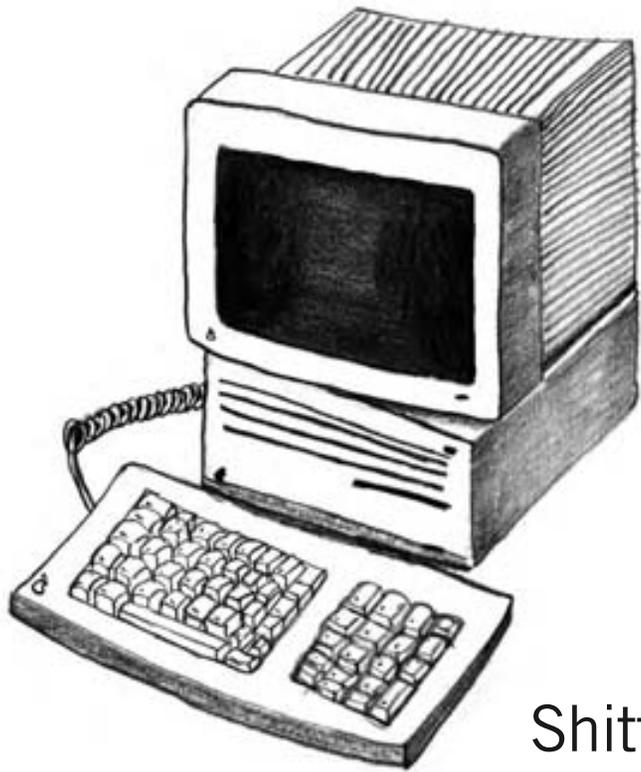
This is incorrect. Nestlé Waters Canada does not currently supply bottled water to Concordia University, is not bidding for the beverage vending business at the university and has no plans to. The Company does not sell its bottled water products in vending machines. Rather, it sells its products in grocery and convenience stores or through food service vendors. [Editors

Note: *The Link* regrets said error, which has since been changed on the website]

Nestlé Waters Canada is meeting Concordia University administration, staff and students on a point of principle. The Company does not support banning the sale of bottled water on campus. It believes staff and students have the right to purchase and consume the beverage of their choice on university grounds, unencumbered by well-meaning but misinformed environmental activists and educators or competing commercial interests.

—John B. Challinor II,
Director of Corporate Affairs
Nestlé Waters Canada

Unintelligent Design



Shitty Analogies are for Assholes

GRAPHIC CHRISTOPHER OLSON

• CHRISTOPHER OLSON

Analogies are like a fish without a bicycle... no, wait. Analogies are like tadpoles without a tricycle... Ah, forget it.

The point is that analogies, at best, can be an effective means of compacting a complex scientific set of rules into something that's understandable to the layman. At worst, they can get someone so lost in abstraction that you can get them to believe just about anything.

And when they get into the wrong hands... whoo boy. They can trash a century of high school science curriculum.

Stop me if you've heard this one before; "DNA is like the programming language God uses."

This analogy assumes God is a noob.

Seriously, like, he couldn't get hired by Wang Laboratories. His ability to program data sucks.

Remember when you got that new operating system that fixed all

the problems your old operating system had? Well, remember when that new operating system had an enormous glitch that caused your video card to overheat and burn your house down, which had to be corrected by a downloadable patch?

Evolution through mutation and adaptation is like a never-ending series of patches—if you'll forgive the analogy.

Humans aren't Cavemen™ Version 2.0. They're single-celled organism Version 1. Some of those patches add gills, then legs to crawl onto land, and then a patch to remove the gills.

If God were at all a competent programmer, he'd toss out the human genome and rewrite it from scratch, omitting the vestigial remains of our ancestors—as well as the predisposition to cancerous tumours and stuff. Seriously, you thought your house burning down was bad?

So you're forced to either be-

lieve that God is a shitty programmer (which is probably against your religion) or you're forced to acknowledge that "DNA is like God's programming language" is a shitty analogy.

Stop me if you've heard this analogy before: "The human eye couldn't have evolved, because if you remove any part of the eye it would cease to work, just like removing a gear from a clock will cause it to stop telling time."

If you correctly identified this as an example of irreducible complexity, aka the foundation for intelligent design, you win a prize: the light of reason!

First off, the analogy is wrong. Just flat out wrong. Granted, an eye without a cornea wouldn't be quite as useful, but that doesn't mean it wouldn't have any use at all.

There are numerous examples in the animal kingdom of earlier iterations of the human eye that are still widely in use, and many that

have even evolved independently alongside it. Each of them adheres enough of an evolutionary advantage that they remain, however imperfect by our standards of sight, generation after generation.

Many examples of supposedly irreducibly complex organs don't take into account that they may have been used for other purposes at one point, or they neglect that those organs once contained additional parts, which were made redundant or useless by subsequent evolutionary tweaks.

For example, gills are pretty useless when you have a perfectly good mouth to breath through, and when you don't live underwater. So away they go. But never forget: we couldn't have gotten to this stage without them.

When looking at the pyramids and wondering how they were constructed, it can be tempting to say, "Space aliens must have done it," when you don't know all the support structures and scaffolding

that needed to be constructed alongside it, and then were disassembled following its construction.

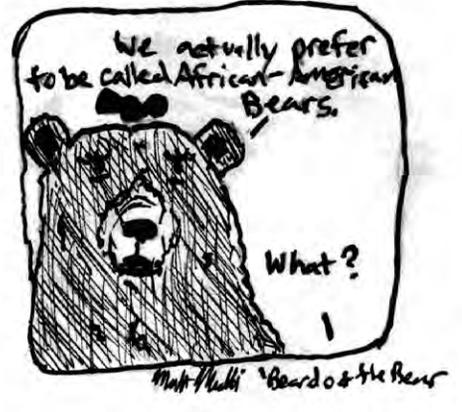
Or in the case of evolution, no longer needed and thus no longer selected for.

American author and naturalist Henry David Thoreau once said, "All perception of truth is the detection of an analogy."

As naturalized American citizen Christopher Hitchens often says, creationism has the advantage of being the first attempt to explain the fundamental questions of life, "Why are we here? Why is there something instead of nothing?"

Science, when used productively, can explain almost all of the mysteries of the universe. Analogies, by analogy, can make even the most complex rational argument for even the most erudite theorem graspable by the public at large—until a better analogy comes along, of course.

Beardo and the Bear



GRAPHIC MATT MAROTTI

Colbert/Stewart Evoke Sanity/Fear

Reporter's account on Restoring Sanity and/or Fear Rally



• JAMIE KLINGER

Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert came together for a rally, dubbed the Rally to Restore Sanity and/or The Rally to Keep Fear Alive, on Oct. 30, but that's not where the story lies.

Fans of *The Daily Show* and *The Colbert Report* prompted Stewart and Colbert to offer a rebuttal against Fox News political pundit Glenn Beck's Restoring Honor rally through the internet. Beck had urged the American population to restore their faith in their Christian roots.

A member of the website Reddit deserves much of the credit for the initiation of the rally. He wrote, "Colbert needs to hold a satirical rally in DC [...] Think about it. It'll be just like Colbert's mockery of GW Bush at the 2006 White House Correspondent's Dinner, but 500,000 people will be able to participate with him. We'll all stay to-

tally in character as tea-baggers. The kid with the microphone that interviews all the idiots at these things can come by and we'll ramble into his microphone."

They could have ignored the pleas of their fans, thanked them and refused, but no, they took charge of an Internet mob—one that stands for honesty in the media.

It was hard to avoid questioning if the whole thing was a simple publicity stunt to grow ratings, or to organize fans and have a great time with the followers of both shows.

First-Hand Account

The National Mall in Washington, D.C. was packed. A half million people crammed in like sardines to catch a glimpse of one of the many acts, including Ozzy Osbourne and The Roots, but I saw and heard nothing. I was standing four blocks away from the stage, but it didn't

matter.

We quickly gave up on the idea of being entertained by the performances and went ahead and created our own fun. Rally signs saying, "Use Your Indoor Voice," "Black Marker, White Paper," "Hug a Redditor," and "I am Arab, Fear Me" were some of our own creations.

This rally was about gathering with people to share their frustration with media, politics and just about anything you could be frustrated about through an extreme amount of irony and hilarity.

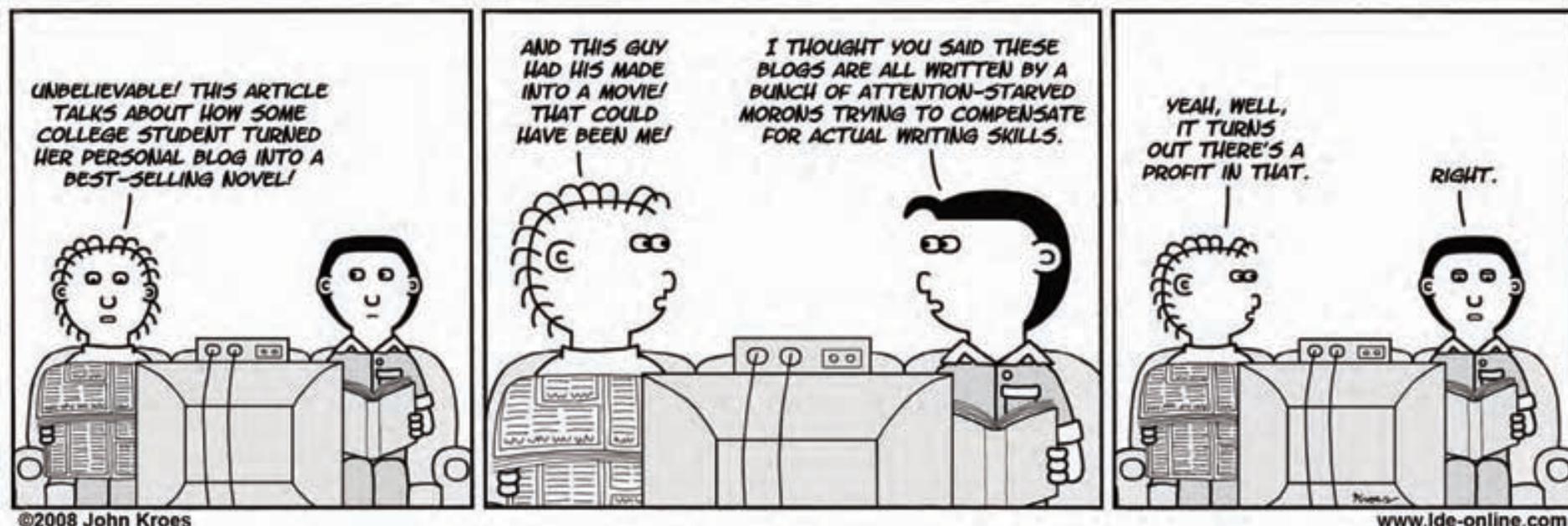
The rally came down to being less about the famed individuals and all about the shared ideals of the everyman. As much as seeing Colbert and Stewart joke around would have been great, my time was better spent making strangers smile.

More at Jamie Klinger's blog. <http://www.jamieklinger.com>



PHOTO ALEX JORGENSEN

Last-Ditch Effort





Dear Melissa,

I hate condoms. They are the worst boner-kill ever. My girlfriend is on the pill, but she's too scared to do it without one. She's very responsible with taking her pill at the right time, so does that mean we can make love without making babies without the rubber?

—*Bonerless*

Dear Bonerless,

Oh how I dread the “do we have to use a condom?” question. It always feels like a moral grey area to advise someone on this because it's a struggle between the safest options and being realistic.

Condoms have two uses; they help prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. If your girlfriend is on the pill, then technically you have one of those covered because the pill is very effective against pregnancy.

However (and this is a big however), the effective rate of birth control is never 100 per cent. This can be for several reasons like missing a pill (everyone forgets sometimes!), complication with another medication (some antibiotics are known to interfere with birth control), getting sick and throwing up, or because sometimes, shit just happens. This question is always a challenge for me because I never want to give the impression that if you're on birth control, there's no reason to use a condom, because it's not true.

STI prevention should also be a reason why you use condoms. I know she's your girlfriend and you “know” she's STI free, but she, or even you might not know if you have something because not every STI has symptoms, and some symptoms are so minor that they get ignored. So you should both get tested before anything.

The ideal situation in my mind is a condom and birth control. Is it realistic for me to expect everyone to do that? No. I know a lot of couples make the decision to stop using condoms and realistically I understand why. I just think it's important that you give the risks serious consideration if you're going to skip the condom. Have you both been tested recently? Have you and your girlfriend discussed what you'll do if she does get pregnant?

Take some precautions to be as safe as you can and make sure you're both comfortable because otherwise it really won't be worth it.

Speaking of comfort, there is something in your question that needs to be addressed. The first half of your question made me think of every “How to negotiate condom use with a partner” guide I've ever read. I don't know you, your relationship, your girlfriend, etc. But I can't ignore the fact that it sounds an awful lot like this is something you really want, but that your girlfriend isn't quite comfortable with. If she isn't, she probably won't enjoy the sex very much because she won't have peace of mind.

Since your girlfriend is on the pill, then she has seen a doctor to prescribe that pill, and it wouldn't surprise me if she already knows the answer to your question. Most doctors make it a point to give a “the pill doesn't protect from STIs” talk to clarify misconceptions and lay down facts about where the pill starts and ends.

Having sex without a condom is a very personal decision, and definitely not something anyone should ever be pressured into. If you're always complaining about condoms killing your boner, it gets translated into “I really want this” pretty easily and there's your pressure, intentional or not.

It's often unintentional, but these things can essentially become bullying someone you care about. So if she gives you a reluctant yes, don't take it as a real yes because chances are it's a wanting to please you yes.

Bottom line: sex should be fun for both of you. Knowing you both made the decision that was right for you will give you peace of mind and allow you to really enjoy yourselves.

—*Melissa Fuller*

Said in the Sit-In

When *The Link* covered the protest against administration's meeting with Pepsi-Cola about renewing their contract, we met many smart, and fed up people. If the Administration won't let them speak, *The Link* will.

We asked them: what do you think of the sale of water bottles on campus?



The production and sale of water bottles is not in the people's best interest at all. The fact of the matter is they try to put up the cost as much as possible. I just find it frustrating.

—*Kwaku Adomako,*
B.A. Sociology and Anthropology



They cause pollution and they're wasteful. It makes you automatically support an organization that you shouldn't be supporting. Bottled water is a big problem in Pakistan.

—*Anum Peeizada,*
B.A. Women Studies



I think we have the right to clean tap water and the resource is available publicly. So privatizing water is kind of absurd. It's like privatizing air.

—*Eric Séguin,*
B.A. Philosophy



Water is a basic human right. The fact that it's been privatized is ridiculous. Tap water is tested every day by the government health ward, and bottled water has to be tested every three years and only within the company.

—*Naomi Large,*
B.A. Art Education

Nah'msayin?

Gettin' Groovy With Granny



GRAPHIC VIVIEN LEUNG

I picked up a copy of *La Presse* on Tuesday and read a screaming headline that old people—yes, *old* people—are smoking pot, getting high, and loving it.

The half-page colour picture of an unidentified pair of wrinkled lips sucking on a lighted pipe, coupled with the huge headline font, led me to infer that I should be scandalized by this discovery. Or something.

But you know what? I wasn't.

I mean, I wasn't personally around for the crazy days of the Quiet and/or Sexual Revolution and the colourful underbelly of antiestablishment, accepted drug use and free lovin,' but these people were—they did it then and they're doing it now.

So how is it front-page newsworthy that these stoner oldies, who were once young and liked to party, eventually got old and still like to party—while medicinally relieving their arthritis to boot?

I'm pretty happy to read that our respected elders are still doing as they've always done—enjoying the higher things in life and not abiding by any social prescriptions of how they should be acting at their age.

Besides, who wouldn't be psyched if granny or granddad decided to strike a J during the requisite Sunday family dinner, or pass the peace pipe as they tell you (once again) how it was when they were kids?

It's allllllllll good, granddaddy-o.

—Laura Beeston,
Managing Editor

Notice something that just doesn't make sense? Got an axe to grind? Send in a rant to Nah'msayin? 300 words max. opinions@thelinknewspaper.ca

editorial

Concordia Co.

The recent closed-door meetings between Concordia's administration and PepsiCo. are indicative of a worrying reality on campus. Nearly every service we consume—from vending machines to food-service outlets and classroom materials—is governed by exploitative, exclusive corporate contracts that have ceased, long ago, to benefit students.

None of this was organized by students or with the best interests of students or Concordia's long-term strategic sustainability policies in mind.

Indifference to student and environmental recommendations, as well as an undisclosed amount of prospective PepsiCo. dollars, has led to an administrative decision to quietly renew an exclusive contract to furnish the school's vending machines and lock us into five more years with the soft drink goliath.

This decision was made for you, the student, on behalf of the higher-ups. After being shut out of the renewal process despite months of demanding a transparent negotiation and open dialogue about the harms of bottled water and exclusivity contracts, students will now have to contend with the results.

The problem is, in this model of university-as-corporation, the "shareholders" the university has to satisfy are not the students—they are the companies that have a stake in an exclusive presence on campus.

Decisions are not made to provide students with the options they want in the realm of food choices or need in the realm of materials for scientific studies or other academic endeavours. Decisions are made so that the university can profit by getting as cheap a product as possible to distribute to students. And, companies like PepsiCo. are rewarded with exclusive rights to the eyeballs of Concordia students.

Most egregiously, the Concordia administration clearly violated the spirit of their own strategic framework to becoming a national leader in sustainability.

By allowing for the continued sale of bottled water and PepsiCo. products on campus, with no local competition or alternative to enter the bid, the administration ignored its own policies, which stipulate that it must "consider life-cycle costs and impacts when assessing products and equipment for procurement."

The official Environmental Policy also states that, "when possible [the university] will tender to suppliers that are local and/or committed to environmental sustainability."

Clearly, the waste accumulated by discarded water bottles would fall under this policy and PepsiCo. is not a local tender.

Universities are held to a higher standard than corporations; the environmental policy of the school directly addresses this fact. If it weren't, then why not have advertisements in textbooks? Why not give classes on cola-beverage taste-testing—brought to you by PepsiCo.? Why go to class at all? We could just invest in the school and watch as their stock-price goes up or down depending on their new decision to give an exclusive contract for one-ply toilet-paper.

Our school is not a corporation. As a result, decisions like the unilateral renewal of our exclusive contract with PepsiCo. have to take into account more than just the bottom line. Schools have obligations that go above and beyond the obligations that PepsiCo. has to its consumers.

—Diego Pelaez Gaetz,
Copy Editor

Corrections

In the article "Outmanned, But Not Outclassed," [Vol. 31, Iss. 11, Pg. 22], *The Link* wrote that Concordia's second goalscorer was David Cerasuolo when it was actually Christian Auld. *The Link* regrets this error.



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THIS WEEK'S CONTRIBUTORS

Archibald Alexander, Rob Amyot, Jeff Bush, Esther Bernard, Jenny Leigh Dancer, Melissa Fuller, Chris Hampson, Jamie Klinger, Vivien Leung, Clément Liu, Frank Manley, Alex McGill, Peter Murray, Christopher Olson, Jasmine Papillon-Smith, Shereen Ahmed Rafea, Daryna Rukhlyadeva, Jordan Ruimy, Erin Sparks, Clement Tagney, Nicholas Ward, Meagan Wolberg

cover by David Barlow-Krelina

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Concordia University
Hall Building, Room H-649
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8

editor-in-chief

JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

news editor

CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

features editor

ADAM KOVAC

fringe arts editor

ASHLEY OPHEIM

literary arts editor

ALEX MANLEY

sports editor

ALEX DI PIETRO

opinions editor

CLAY HEMMERICH

copy editor

DIEGO PELAEZ GAETZ

student press liaison

editorial: (514) 848-2424 ext. 7405

arts: (514) 848-2424 ext. 5813

ads: (514) 848-2424 ext. 8682

fax: (514) 848-4540

business: (514) 848-7406

photo editor

RILEY SPARKS

graphics editor

DAVID BARLOW-KRELINA

managing editor

LAURA BEESTON

layout manager

JULIA WOLFE

online editor

JULIA JONES

webmaster

HUSSEIN RIDA

business manager

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ad designer

ADAM NORRIS

distribution

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DAVID KAUFMANN

OPEN

ROBERT DESMARAIS

DAVID KAUFMANN