

THE **LINK**

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cheese tribes and cheese bribes since 1980



CLOSING IN ON THE CHAIR

ConU Wants Kruyt Out • News 3

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2012: A CONCORDIA SPACE ODYSSEY

Senate Calls for Kruyt to Resign

University Governance ‘Extremely Unstable’ Senator



Peter Kruyt (centre) has been at the center of the controversy surrounding the departure of a second Concordia President in three years.

PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

• CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

After weeks of instability and sniping across the university, the vote was unanimous and the debate was short last Friday, as Concordia’s Senate demanded the resignation of Peter Kruyt, chair of the university’s Board of Governors.

Leading into Friday’s Senate meeting, the Board’s decision to dismiss former Concordia President Judith Woodsworth on Dec. 22 ignited an upheaval within the university. Nearly a dozen associations and unions representing Concordia’s 40,000-plus students, faculty and staff drafted letters and passed motions denouncing Woodsworth’s firing and calling for a series of resignations on the university’s Board of Governors.

After the drama was played out throughout the university and the national media for weeks, the issue of Woodsworth’s dismissal was finally brought before Concordia’s Senate, the university’s highest academic body.

“The loss of a second president in two and a half years and [...] having the senior administration of this university more-or-less decapitated is extremely unstable,” said Senator and Concordia professor William Lynch.

“We have to do something now

so that going forth we don’t have the same situation repeat itself.”

In 2007, former Concordia President Claude Lajeunesse was fired midway into his first term of office. As was the case with Woodsworth, the university’s Board of Governors provided no explanation as to the nature of Lajeunesse’s dismissal. Both former presidents signed confidentiality agreements in return for severance packages in excess of \$1.5 million.

“We’re told that any agreement between the president and Board is confidential and yet we’re using public money to pay these severance packages,” said Senator William Simms. “It seems to a lot of people that the use of public money means we should have more transparency [...] I think that has a lot to do with the current unrest at Concordia.”

Some senators spoke of the friction caused by a growing disconnect between Concordia’s academic mission and the corporate structure of its administration and Board of Governors, calling the Board’s governing practices unsustainable.

Since 2005, five of the university’s VPs have resigned. During Woodsworth’s two-and-a-half years as president, three VPs and a number of high level administrators stepped down or were fired

with severance packages.

According to Maria Peluso, the head of Concordia’s part-time faculty union, the university has handed out \$10 million in settlements to 45 departing administrators since 2000.

“How many Board members have ever visited a classroom and seen us in action? How many board members have ever visited a lab outside of when there’s a donation to see what happens on a day-to-day basis?” asked Senator Christopher Ross. “The fact that there is not a single board member in attendance today is to me a sign of the Board’s attitude.”

“How many Board members have ever visited a classroom and seen us in action?”

—Christopher Ross
Concordia Senator

After a 45-minute discussion period, professor Jason Camlot presented Senate with a motion calling for Kruyt to step down as Board chair.

“In view of the loss of confidence expressed uniformly across the university, for the good of the

university and for the necessary healing to take place, we strongly urge that the chair of the Board of Governors step aside immediately,” said Camlot.

Despite the university-wide call for his resignation, Kruyt told reporters he would “not walk away” from his duties as chair of the board at a press conference held just a few hours before Senate met.

Perhaps the most groundbreaking motion adopted by Senate during Friday’s meeting was the approval of a new nomination process for community-at-large members of the Board of Governors.

Twenty-three of the 40 people who sit on Concordia’s Board of Governors are community at large members, most of whom are corporate executives that have been accused by students and faculty of not representing the diversity within Montreal.

The Senate’s new policy would require that the nomination of potential Board members be made with the approval of a committee consisting of an equal amount of representatives from the Senate and the Board.

“This way we would come to come to a compromise on who governs Concordia,” said June Chaikelson, a psychology professor who proposed the motion.

LOWY TAKES OFFICE

• CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

Capping off a month that saw a wave of unrest sweep through Concordia, Frederick Lowy officially took office as the university’s interim president Friday.

Lowy, who served as Concordia’s president from 1995 to 2005, is stepping in for Judith Woodsworth, whose sudden and unexplained Dec. 22 firing has caused just about every student and faculty association on campus to demand a drastic restructuring of the university’s Board of Governors.

“I’m determined to renew the dialogue with all our constituents and to show our commitment to consensus building,” said Lowy at a press conference in Concordia’s EV Building. “We all have a role to play in determining the future of this university.”

Lowy will serve as president for up to 18 months while the Board searches for a permanent replacement. He was the last Concordia president to complete his term of office, retiring from the university in 2005.

Both of Lowy’s successors had their mandates cut short by the university’s Board of Governors, causing many within the university to question the Board’s governing practices.

Peter Kruyt, who chairs Concordia’s Board of Governors, spoke to the press for the first time since Woodsworth’s firing Friday. Although the Concordia community has been nearly unanimous in calling for his resignation from the board, Kruyt said he would not step down.

“The last few weeks have been difficult,” said Kruyt. “But I don’t walk away from a problem, I don’t walk away from a challenge and I don’t walk away because I’m not interested in this place.”

When asked to explain the reasoning behind the former president’s dismissal, Kruyt provided no new details to reporters.

“[The firing] did not please us or members of the community,” he said. “But we are working to make sure the future is promising [...] Things don’t always happen according to an ordained plan.”

Stepping into one of the most turbulent periods in Concordia’s history, Lowy is being touted as a pragmatist that will mend fences

continued on Lowy, pg. 5

'A Lot to Do, and Little Time'

Haiti Non-African Nation Most Affected by HIV/AIDS



Medical resources are stretched thin in Haiti, which has the highest levels of HIV/AIDS outside of Africa.

• MEGAN DOLSKI

One year after a massive earthquake ravaged Haiti, the country is in the midst of battling an ongoing outbreak of cholera and struggling with political unrest.

Meanwhile, issues Haiti struggled with before last year's string of unfortunate events have not disappeared—among which is the number of people in the country living with HIV/AIDS.

"Haiti was the country most affected by AIDS outside of Africa," said Dr. Jean William Pape to an audience in Concordia's Hall Building on Thursday night. The lecture was presented by HIV/AIDS Concordia as part of Concordia University's Community Lecture Series on HIV/AIDS.

Pape is a professor of medicine at Cornell University and executive director and founder of the Haitian Group for the Study

of Kaposi's Sarcoma and Opportunistic Infections, or GHESKIO, a Haiti-based NGO that was the first association worldwide dedicated to fighting HIV/AIDS.

Pape discussed GHESKIO's response to Haiti's HIV/AIDS crisis, before and after the earthquake. The organization treats up to 1,200 patients daily.

With the exception of a few brief anecdotes, Pape's talk didn't use cutting words or tragic stories to paint a picture of the situation in Haiti. Instead, he presented the audience with the country's reality in the form of facts and figures ignore spoke very clearly for themselves.

HIV/AIDS is not Haiti's only pressing health issue, Pape said. He also discussed infantile diarrhea, maternal mortality, cholera, syphilis and tuberculosis.

He noted that last January's earthquake was responsible for severely damaging

three of the nation's four medical schools.

GHESKIO is currently building a new centre and working on research to determine how the earthquake has affected the number of people living with HIV/AIDS in Haiti. All he can say for now is that doesn't look like things have changed much.

In terms of the bigger picture, all of 2010's issues are still very much a reality; only five per cent of the rubble has been cleaned and millions are still living in tent cities.

Pape did offer a hint of optimism, saying that Haiti now has a chance to rebuild and decentralize from the "Republic" of Port-au-Prince.

He closed his presentation by dedicating it to all of those dead, wounded or suffering in Haiti, and thanked Quebec and Canada for everything they have done to help.

Dr. Alix Adrien, assistant professor at McGill University's department of epidemiology and biostatistics, served as the official respondent to Pape's speech, opening the floor for questions.

The question period was largely comprised of differently worded versions of a very simple query: "How can I help?"

Pape's response was gracious, but also stern.

"Don't be a tourist," he said. "We have a lot to do, and little time, so you need to find a place to work and stay so you are not adding to the problem."

He insisted that everyone needed to communicate and work together.

"Right now we are in a situation where nothing is coordinated," said Pape. "We need to coordinate, and coordinate with stable institutions. We need the help; we are not in competition with one another."

BENNIS INQUEST MOVES FORWARD

• SIMON LIEM

The coroner's inquest into the shooting death of Mohamed Anas Bennis, who was killed by a Montreal police officer in 2005, will go forward after a delay of over two years.

The Quebec Coroner's Office said that coroner Catherine Rudel-Tessier will start hearing evidence on April 27 at the Laval courthouse for at least three days.

The Montreal Police Brotherhood and City of Montreal attempted to block the inquiry, which was originally ordered in 2008, on the grounds that all previous investigations exonerated the officer who killed Bennis of any wrongdoing.

On the way to an unrelated police matter, Constable Yannick

Bernier twice shot Bennis, 25, on the morning of Dec. 1, 2005.

Bennis was returning home from morning prayers at his mosque when the incident occurred in Côte-des-Neiges. The police allege that Bennis attacked Bernier with a kitchen knife and Bernier retaliated in self-defence.

Najlaa Bennis, Anas Bennis' sister, rejected the police's version of events. In the aftermath of the shooting, she wrote a letter to *The Gazette* claiming that violence was completely out of character for her brother.

The police union abandoned its request to quash the inquiry last year when a similar request was denied in the matter of the death of Michel Berniquez in 2003. Berniquez died while in the custody

of Montreal police.

"Ultimately, the hope is that the coroner's inquiry will play a role in finally allowing us to find out what happened on that morning of Dec. 1, 2005," said Samir Shaheen-Hussain, a spokesperson for Justice for Anas, a group that is demanding further investigations into Bennis' death.

Shaheen-Hussain is leery of the inquest's effectiveness because the coroner cannot make legally binding decisions, and she wondered whether the inquiry will address whether racial profiling played any role in the shooting. Bennis was a Canadian of Moroccan decent.

The long delay for the inquiry and resistance from the police union and the city have frustrated Bennis' family and Justice for Anas.

Supporters regard the city's conduct as hypocritical.

"On one hand the mayor says he wants 'all light to be shed' and on the other hand the city's lawyer [Pierre-Yves Boisvert] is actively arguing for having the coroner's inquest cancelled," said Shaheen-Hussain.

Last week, Justice for Anas released a document that detailed over \$40,000 in legal fees that the City of Montreal paid to the law firm Trudel Nadeau from November 2009 to February 2010. The firm represented the Montreal Police Brotherhood in the motion it filed to block the coroner's inquest.

The group obtained the document through an access-to-information request to the City of Montreal and provided the infor-

mation to *The Link*.

"The question is not the Bennis case; the question is what is the procedure," said Darren Becker, a spokesperson for the mayor, addressing Justice for Anas' accusation of inconsistency.

Becker would not comment directly about the document detailing the amount spent on the case, but said the city's employees have the right to the city's legal resources, even when it goes against mayoral policy. Becker said the mayor still stands by the statement that he wishes for transparency and that "all light be shed" on the incident.

Neither the Montreal Police Brotherhood nor their law firm Trudel Nadeau responded to a request for comment on the legal fees.

The Art of Convincing People

Thirty Per Cent More Ad Boards On Campus Under Contract

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

Five months after new advertising boards started appearing around Concordia's campus, new details have emerged about the five-year advertising contract that put them there.

When *The Link* contacted the university in October about new backlit boards being installed in the Hall building, Concordia spokesperson Chris Mota assured students that no new boards were being installed, and that they were simply being shuffled around.

In a briefing prepared for the university Senate meeting on Jan. 21, 2011, acting VP Services Roger Coté contradicted Mota's earlier position.

"There will be 11 new backlit boards added to the current 32," wrote Coté. "Oncampus advertising is a source of revenue for the university."

The 35 per cent increase in backlit boards is only the first element in an explosion of new advertising being implemented.

Seven new digital screens will be installed on-campus, showing a maximum of 16 minutes of external advertising per hour.

Fifteen large banners will be installed on both campuses. One of those banners, a large Pepsi ad in the EV building by Le Gym, was the scene of a culture jam by überculture late last year.

Thirty motion-activated digital boards, equipped with high-definition video and surround sound, will be installed in the university's bathrooms. Ads will also be added to Concordia's shuttle bus fleet.

"I think the whole process was flawed," said Erik Chevrier, a senator representing graduate students who brought up the issue with Coté. "I think it's problematic that we can't know how much the contract is worth."

"I think the whole process was flawed,"

*-Erik Chevrier
Concordia Senator*

"The university has problems with transparency on all fronts," said Chevrier. The senator added that the contract reinforced the

serious problems with Concordia's governance exposed by the abrupt firing of President Judith Woodsworth in December.

"We never discuss the financial aspect of contracts and, in fact, we are prohibited from doing so by law unless the supplier agrees," wrote Cote. "In addition, making this information public could compromise the university's position in future contract negotiations."

The consortium of companies Concordia signed the contract with—UB Media, MU Media and Rouge Media—have refused to make the financial details of the contract public.

"I would like them to disclose what students are worth," said Chevrier. "They aren't willing to tell us."

Although advertising will not be accepted in classrooms or instruction areas, Chevrier warned that the new ads could compromise Concordia's campus.

"They should look at this issue of public space and create more student space than corporate space," said Chevrier. "It seems like the amount of corporate space on campus just keeps increasing."



Eleven new advertising boards will be installed on campus. PHOTO CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

Interim President Vows to Mend Fences



Concordia Interim President Frederick Lowy was at the helm during the 2002 Netanyahu riot

continued from Lowy, pg. 5

between the university at large and the Board.

But Sabine Friesenger, who was president of the Concordia Student Union in 2001, said that Lowy was far too cozy with the Board while he was in office.

"He was the Board's figure-head. He allowed himself to be controlled by the Board's corporate interests," said Friesenger. "[And] the Board is at the center of Concordia's current governance crisis."

During Lowy's administration, Concordia's campus became increasingly corporatized, as

many of the university's support jobs were outsourced to private companies and fast-food outlets were welcomed across campus.

'We all have a role to play in determining the future of this university.'

*—Frederick Lowy,
Concordia's Interim President*

Perhaps the most infamous legacy of Lowy's administration was the vast expansion of secu-

rity at Concordia that occurred in the aftermath of the Netanyahu riot.

In the fall of 2002, after a student protest of a lecture by current and former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu turned violent, Lowy oversaw the creation of the Risk Assessment Committee. The committee was designed to screen and approve all on campus events. To this day, former Concordia VP Services Michael Di Grappa remains the committee's only known member.

"After Netanyahu, [Lowy] used security to cripple activism at Concordia," said a student who

wished to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals. "In some cases, it became almost personal."

A number of left-leaning student activists were summarily expelled during this period, but as many of the charges against them were exaggerated, the expulsions were often overturned in court.

On Friday, just hours after Lowy took office, Concordia's Senate unanimously voted to demand Kruyt's resignation.

As tension between the university and its governing body continues to mount, it appears Lowy will have his work cut out for him.

TURN IT DOWN

• JULIA JONES

Concordia has implemented a policy on social networking that grants students the right to not submit their work to a third party website in an academic context.

In a written statement release on Jan. 17, Provost David Graham said that "it can't be a requirement to have students submit their work to websites that ultimately would cause them to forfeit the ownership of their work."

Vice-Provost Teaching and Learning Olivier Dyens said that Quebec and Canadian Laws are strict about privacy, and that the law requires the university to advise students about the dangers and potential issues that might come about when using social networking for academic purposes.

"Our biggest dilemma," said Dyens, "is that [social networking tools] can really enhance students' experiences. There are many positive things about them, and we want to use social tools—but we have to be careful."

The policy will also affect professors who use *Turn It In*, a plagiarism detecting website that compares data from millions of papers submitted by students from all over the world. According to Dyens, Concordia is looking to replace *Turn It In* with a similar tool that can be accessed through MyConcordia, but that will scramble the submitted information so that students' privacy is kept untouched.

COUNTERFEIT

TEXTBOOK RING

BUSTED

• CLAY HEMMERICH

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police cracked down on four photocopy stores that doubled as counterfeit textbook dealers in the surrounding Concordia area.

Corporal Luc Thibault said that they couldn't release the exact whereabouts and names of the 13 people arrested because the RCMP hasn't filed any charges yet.

"Charges under the copyright act could be filed," said Thibault. "There's a lot of material that was seized, including digests, photocopies that were used to print counterfeit textbooks."

Thibault added that "one of the complainants is a legitimate business in the university press industry; a client that had regular business with the university."

Some students claim that the university press industry feeds textbook counterfeiting by setting high prices for their manuals.

Computer Science Student who wished to remain anonymous for fear of legal repercussions said textbooks "are ridiculously overpriced," but takes issue with the sale of copying textbooks.

"They're profiting off someone else's work," she said.

However, she said that, although she's never done it herself, she wouldn't feel bad downloading pirated textbooks because they're not profiting off the copying of the textbook.

"I have seen people that download textbooks and hog the copy machine for an hour," she added. "Most introductory textbooks are easy to find online."

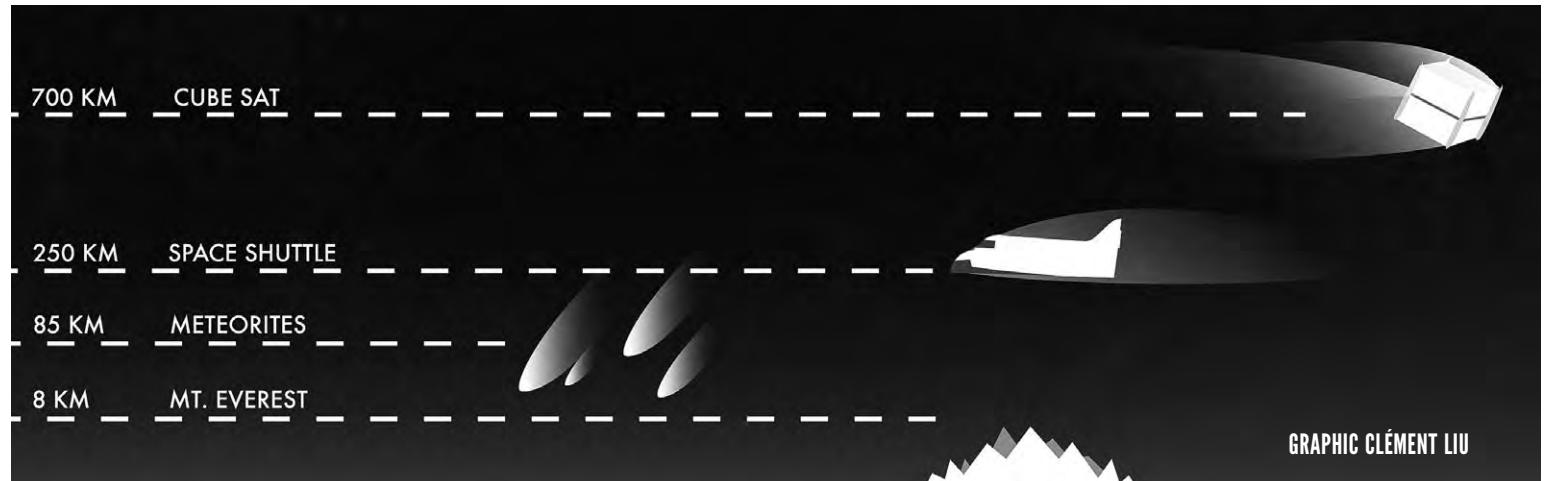
On the other hand, Concordia student double majoring in history and philosophy Guillaume Savoie usually buys used textbooks or photocopies individual chapters from textbooks provided by the library.

"I had free access to it anyways," said Savoie. "I wanted the content of the text, whereas the counterfeiter is being paid for photocopying. The law doesn't make a distinction there."

"I have trouble imagining a scholar who'd be offended at having his work copied," he added.

Con U Wants to Send Your Ideas Into Orbit

Space Concordia to Launch 'Tiny Satellite' Into Orbit in 2012



GRAPHIC CLÉMENT LIU

• CHRISTOPHER OLSON

Unlike many calls for submissions posted around the Concordia campus—whether it be for fiction, essays or art—only one promises to launch the winning proposal into space.

No technical know-how necessary—although it helps.

Space Concordia, a student-run astronomical engineering group formed this past November, is constructing Concordia's first-ever student-built satellite. What the satellite will do once launched into orbit—currently slated for late 2012—is still being determined.

But rather than decide its use and function on their own, Space Concordia is requesting proposals from the larger student body and Montreal's general public.

"Since this is Concordia's first foray into space, we know that this project is not only important to us, but to our educational and provincial communities as well," said computer engineering student and VP Communications for Space Concordia Nick Sweet. "We feel the Concordia community should have some say in what we launch."

Just what that entails, says mechanical engineering student and Systems Team Leader Nic-

colo Cymbalist, is intentionally vague so as not to hamper student creativity.

But he cautions that the more outlandish the idea—ion cannons, death stars and laser-guided pork roasts belonging to that category—the less likely it is to be selected.

"The idea should be at least generally feasible," said Cymbalist. "Just keep in mind that the satellite is small and low powered—generating about 1 W of power.

We don't want to limit [people] though, so if you are not sure whether it is feasible or not, we might be able to come up with a way to make it happen."

CubeSats, which have become the satellites of choice at universities all over the world because of their relatively cheap cost, have been used for various scientific studies, including early earthquake detection, field-tests for future launches and even genetic testing on bacterial cultures.

Because the satellite could potentially have multiple functions, depending on how much hardware can be squeezed into the satellite's tiny 1,000 cubic centimetre frame, Cymbalist and Sweet have brainstormed some of their own ideas for how it

could be used.

"One of the mounting problems with spaceflight is Space Junk," said Sweet.

"We have dead satellites and other debris orbiting our planet, crashing into each other and creating hazards for new launches.

"We need legislation to prevent and handle these wrecks, but we also need to have the technology up there to clean up the debris."

I'd love to outfit our satellite with a tracking system and a small propulsion system and to find and push the debris off-course, making it burn up in the atmosphere.

"Not only are the environmental benefits huge—I'd rather explore space, not fill it with junk—but this would also make space safer, given the rise of private space flight and the mounting traffic out there."

Which ideas ultimately end up getting used will be determined on one crucial factor above all others, said Cymbalist: "How excited would I be to do this project?"

The deadline for submissions is Feb. 18. Visit spaceconcordia.ca/payload to submit your proposal.

10cm

Length, width and height of the satellite (Cub Sats) Space Concordia will launch

700

Distance, in kilometers, from which Concordia's CubeSats will orbit above the earth's surface

2012

Slated launch year of Space Concordia's CubeSats

1W

Amount of power generated by CubeSats

Get cracking on some satellite ideas that will blow the universe's mind, send them to Space Concordia and watch your genious orbit above the earth's atmosphere

Space Concordia needs you to figure out what exactly the university's first-ever student-built satellite will do.

Now we've probably all dreamed of

controlling a Dr. Doom-like death ray or using technology to access people's innermost thoughts and dreams, but let's be realistic here; the satellite is only 1,000 cubic centimetres and can produce just one watt of energy.

Use your noodle and maybe this checklist to get that idea ball rolling.

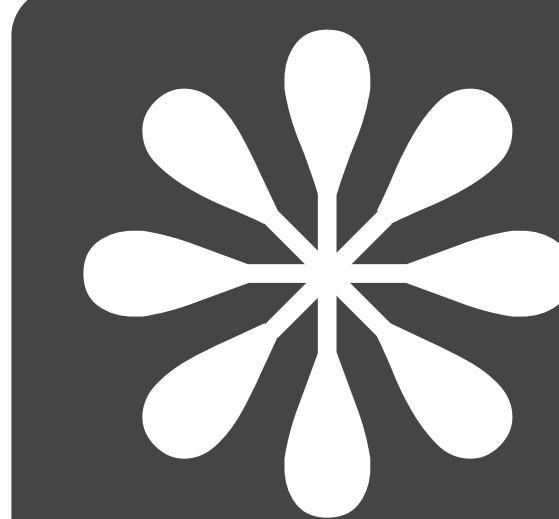
Innovation: Is it original? (Google search if unsure)

Power: Does it use one watt of energy or less?

Budget: Will it put you in the hole \$10,000?

Size: Can it be contained in a 10 cm cube?

Importance: Does it have a significant impact on science, industry or



the asterisk

• CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

A Room With a View

Concordia Greenhouse Open to All



Katie Husted's cure for the winter blues? A trip to Concordia's Greenhouse.

• CLAY HEMMERICH

Concordia students are seldom sun-kissed in the winter as they commute in tunnels and are confined in windowless classrooms, but Katie Husted and the rest of the university's greenhouse volunteers have found a solution to the winter blues.

Volunteers at Concordia's greenhouse on the 12th floor of the Hall building are planning to make their atrium more inviting than it already is. They are opening up the space to cater to studiers, and people looking to relax or learn a thing or two about the finer points of horticulture.

"It's a healthy place to be, especially when you're in your books and your head, there's not much hands on [with school-work], there's not really a hands-on element," said Husted.

Surrounded by plants, growing and drying apparatuses in a room that overlooks the southwest corner of Montreal, Husted said the greenhouse's unrestricted bay windows provided students with a natural light rarely afforded in the city's urban winter landscape.

Throughout a typical day in Concordia's greenhouse, separate rooms are bustling with activity as students work on different projects.

The latest initiative has volunteers growing tea in a room full of upright cedar beds. The tea is then dried and served to anyone who wishes to have a cup.

"Every week we hold open work sessions," said Husted. "Today, we are making solar dehydrators, [a device used to speed up the process of drying herbs]. Hopefully, this will dry our tea faster."

Last semester, Sustainable Concordia's greenhouse project hosted a successful series of workshops on urban horticulture.

According to Husted, greenhouse volunteers will host additional workshops this semester,

but they don't have a set time for it as of yet.

While students lend a hand at the greenhouse for a variety of reasons, Husted said she volunteers at the greenhouse because of it gives her a break from the mental strain of schoolwork.

"It's nice to come here and do something manually," she said.

Concordia students and non-students are welcome to volunteer. Husted also mentioned that there are students from McGill that lend a hand at the greenhouse.

"There's a lot of really curious people that spend time up here," she said. "By coming up here, you can't help but learn."



PHOTOS ERIN SPARKS

CSU to Boycott McDonald's

Boycott a Response to Alleged Gang Violence in MacKay Street Restaurant

• JULIAN WARD

A boycott of a local McDonald's is being set up by the Concordia Student Union in response to a spate of alleged gang violence in and around the restaurant.

"I'm going to advocate we boycott McDonald's because I know a lot of Concordia students go there," said Heather Lucas, the CSU president.

"McDonald's, as a restaurant, their management, needs to be held accountable."

The McDonald's, which is on the corner of Mackay Street and Ste. Catherine Street, was the subject of a recent article in *The Gazette* documenting a number

of alleged gang related crimes that have occurred there. The gang is purported to be made up of 14 to 20-year-olds.

Residents in the area said they are feeling hopeless because of a perceived lack of police action. One victim described being knocked to the ground after trying to stop the gang from stealing his girlfriend's wallet. Then, when they went to the police—who were sitting in their car just down the street—the man said he was beaten by them and then told to get out of the area.

"It's disturbing that the Montreal police are acting in this way," said Lucas. "It's shameful." Being one of the few 24-hour

restaurants in the area, the McDonald's is a late-night hotspot once the bars on Mackay, Bishop and Crescent Streets close.

"The McDonald's is a big trouble for the area," said a local storeowner who wished to remain anonymous.

"Girls will buy expensive jackets here and then go get an ice cream or hamburger and [the gang will] force them to take off their jackets, they steal them," he said.

News of the Concordia boycott may come as a sign of hope for the storeowner, who has lost faith in the police, saying, "[they] do nothing. They always arrest the wrong people."

Another local store manager said his business is affected by the alleged gang.

"I wanted to call the cops [after a group of young men dined and dashed], but I didn't want the windows on my car broken the next day," said Dennis Caragiorgas, manager of Scores restaurant.

Sergeant Ian Lafreniere of the Montreal Police said of the McDonald's situation that "sometimes you get problems, but we have a huge police presence in the area."

He suggested that concerned business owners should contact the commander of their local police station.

Briefs

Something in the Water

A Université de Montréal study found that there are significant amounts of antidepressants in Montreal's waste water. The chemicals may be accumulating in fish tissue and affecting their behaviour, the study claimed. The study's authors said that the chemicals pose no danger to humans.

Rosemont Shooting

Two men were shot in the Rosemont neighbourhood on Saturday evening. Police confirmed that one of the victims, age 24, died from the wounds in hospital. Police said the other man, 37, was in critical condition. No arrests were made as of Sunday evening. This was Montreal's third homicide of 2011.

Car Kills Pedestrian

A 20-year-old woman struck and killed a pedestrian with her car in downtown Montreal early Sunday morning. Police arrested the woman on the scene when she refused to take a breathalyzer test. The victim, a 53-year-old man, was hit while crossing René Lévesque Boulevard near St. Laurent Boulevard.

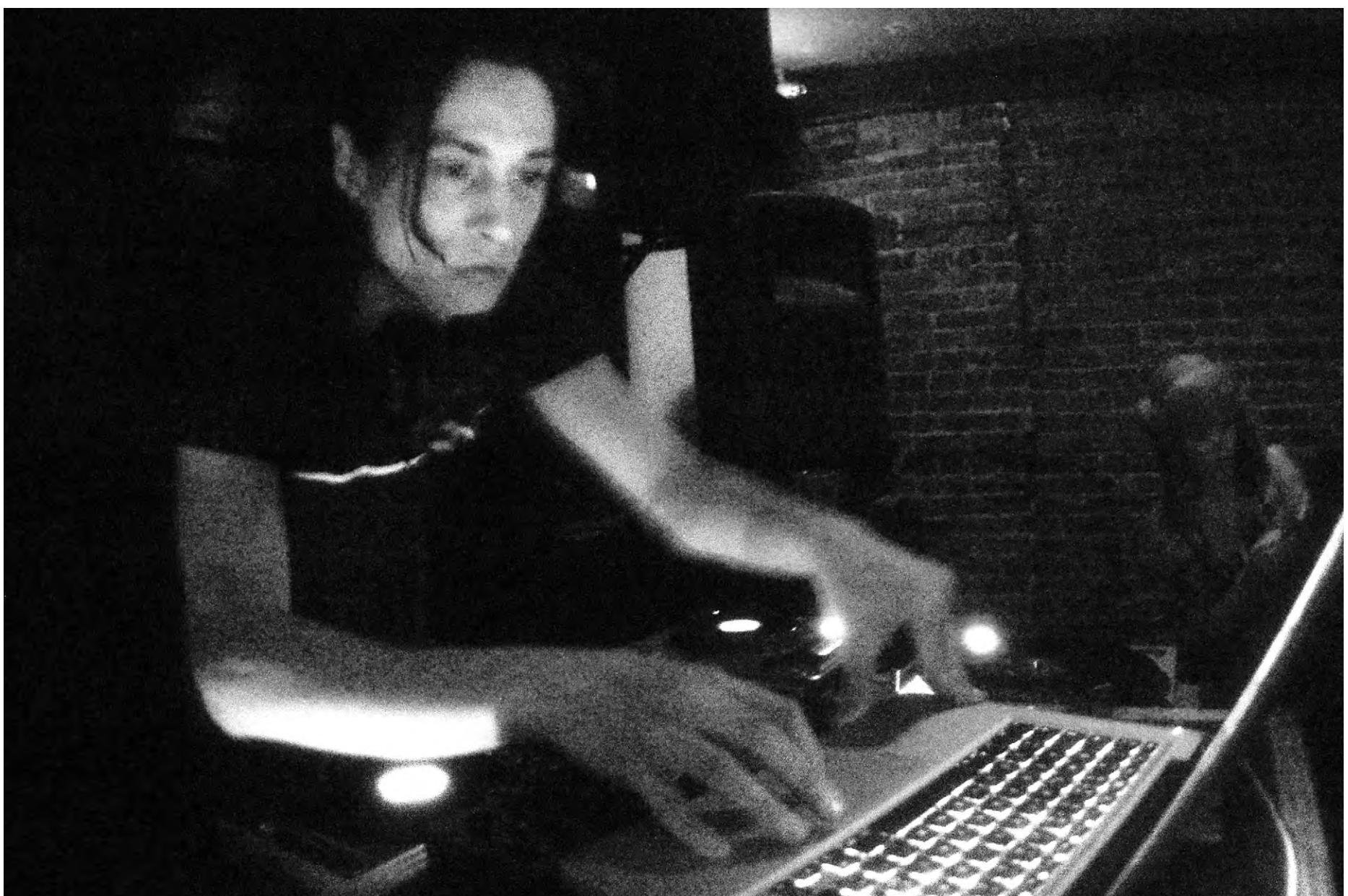
Ticket Quotas

The Montreal Police and City of Montreal have revealed that they do impose ticket quotas on police officers. The admission is part of new police commissioner Marc Parent's effort to be more transparent. Officials denied that the quotas were motivated by money and said they were for public safety.

Floods in the Point

A water main break flooded several basements in Point St. Charles and forced four residents to evacuate their homes early Saturday morning. It is thought that the break occurred because of the cold snap over the weekend, which dropped to minus 18C. The Red Cross was on site to help the affected residents.

NEW CLUB



DJ The Octopus performs at Vinyl for the Electronic Music Association Concordia's inaugural event at Vinyl on Sunday. Proceeds went to UNICEF Concordia

PHOTO NICOLE FROM EMAC

Canadians Help Fund Second Gaza Flotilla

Activists Have Raised \$125,000

• MICHAEL BRAMADAT-WILCOCK

Activists who tried to storm the Israeli blockade on Gaza last year have announced that plans are underway for a second try.

On May 31, 2010, Israeli naval commandoes intercepted a flotilla of ships en route from Turkey to the Gaza strip. The flotilla was organized by a group of activists protesting the Israeli embargo of Gaza that Israel says is necessary to prevent smuggling of weapons into the enclave. Activists say this is denying the basic necessities of life to the citizens of Gaza.

Since their return, organizers of the Canadian Ship to Gaza campaign have raised enough money to add a ship to join the second international flotilla in Spring, 2011.

The organizers announced to supporters that their fundraising efforts were a success by e-mail and restated their intent: "To challenge the blockade both internationally, and more important, locally within the context of the Canadian political scene."

By sending a Canadian boat to participate in a second flotilla, they hope to shed light on what

they see as the Canadian government's "shameful support of Israel and its atrocities."

Canadian activists Kevin Neish and Farooq Burney, who were onboard the flotilla vessel when it was boarded, had already announced their plans to help promote more Canadian participation in "the next flotilla" in Montreal not long after being deported from Israel following the capture of their ship.

The group raised over \$125,000 out of their \$300,000 goal so far. Some members have complained of being questioned by the Canadian Secret Service as to the nature of their activity.

Concordia Hillel president and former Israeli soldier Tomer Shavit disagrees with the activists' methods.

"If these activists want to send a flotilla to Gaza to create violence and chaos, it must be made obvious that Canada does not support this and that this is viewed as a misguided initiative," he said.

Making clear that he supports a two-state solution to the conflict, Shavit told *The Link* that "a free peaceful Palestinian state is

an end goal that is in the best interest of the Palestinians and the best interest of the Israelis."

Neish and Burney fought tears while recounting stories of their ordeal onboard the Gaza bound vessel. They maintained that their intentions were peaceful, that they had no desire to incite violence, but they reiterated that the blockade on Gaza "must be stopped."

Neish justified his involvement saying that he is not "picking on Israel" for any reason other than his sympathy for the suffering of Palestinians and his dislike of governments that he sees as "bullies."

They noted that some of their shipmates used parts of vessels to improvise weapons in order to fight back against the commandos who, according to reports, were armed.

While they did not set an exact date for the launch of the Canadian boat to Gaza, they hope a second attempt at storming the Israeli embargo will force the State of Israel to acquiesce to international pressure to end the embargo.



Protesters rally against the Israeli blockade of Gaza

PHOTO FAIZ IMAM

Radical History 101



The Computer Riot, which shook the university's Hall Building in 1968, is an often overlooked portion of Concordia's history.

Panel Traces History of Social Movements at Concordia

• MEAGAN WOHLBERG

There are some parts of Concordia's history that you will not find in glossy student recruitment brochures. The 1969 Computer Centre uprising, the Netanyahu riots and the "cheese in" which led to the founding of The People's Potato are not incidents administrators are keen to advertise.

Yet according to the folks at QPIRG, Concordia's reputation as a hotbed of political activism is grounded in a history of social movements that students need to know about.

Co-presented by Free Education Montreal, überculture, the People's Campus Coalition and Concordia's Graduate Students' Association (GSA), the "Real History of Concordia" panel took place last Wednesday as part of QPIRG's "New Years Revolution" series.

Author and alumnus David Bernans, former Concordia Student Union president Sabine Friesinger and Montreal historian David Austin gave a lesson on the history of activism at Concordia, emphasizing its relevance for current struggles at the university over rising tuition

and the battle for government transparency.

"Concordia is a contested terrain," said Bernans. "Powerful private interests seek to shape Concordia along the lines of a private corporation under the thumb of a corporate dominated Board of Governors. And at the same time, many Concordia students, staff, faculty refuse to play along and they have their own agenda for Concordia as a public institution."

Bernans was banned from reading from his novel *North of 9/11* on campus in 2006, somewhat ironically, by administration in the wake of post-9/11 security fervour. While officials attempted to blame the censorship incident on a "clerical error," documents released in 2009 showed that the writer was being spied on by university security personnel.

But the extent to which certain actions on campus, like the 1969 computer riots, have been perceived as serious threats to national security is indicative of their potential to cause change, said Austin.

"Those that were involved in these actions (during the computer riots) did not understand

the gravity of their actions, or how they were perceived," said Austin. "But being conscious of the possibilities of our actions is profoundly important in terms of thinking about and actually bringing about change."

The "Computer Centre Incident" at Sir George Williams University in 1969 arose after several black West Indian students complained they were being deliberately failed by a professor because of their race.

When it seemed the complaints were not being taken seriously by administration, hundreds of students acted in solidarity by occupying the computer centre on the eighth floor of the Hall building. A botched negotiation resulted in \$2 million in property damages and 97 arrests, and the adoption of a university-wide Code of Conduct.

"When they protested against that professor, in many ways they were exercising their right to oppose what that professor symbolized, which was an entire infrastructure," said Austin. "It was about the institution of institutionalized racism."

Friesinger, who was CSU president in 2001, witnessed an-

other famous riot which prevented Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu from being able to speak at Concordia, along with a variety of actions against the growing privatization of the university, which included exclusivity contracts with food service providers like Marriott. Reclaiming the right to serve cheese on the mezzanine led student groups to eventually form The People's Potato.

"The People's Potato was not just created to serve free vegan food, but to oppose this privatization process and to highlight the barriers to accessibility of education that came with this privatization process," said Friesinger.

Leading the audience in a cheer of "Whose school? Our school!" from the panel, Friesinger betrayed her hopes for more student-led change in the coming years.

"Students are uprising now everywhere in the world," she said. "I think it's really the beginning of the end of an empire and a potential shift in the economic system. That's something that we haven't seen in a long time."

CON U ENGINEERS WIN BIG

• ADAM KOVAC

The Concordia chapter of Engineers Without Borders might need to construct some kind of lever to lift all the hardware they won at EWB's recent national conference.

The chapter won awards for most improved chapter and best project at the Toronto-based convention.

"[The most improved award] was based on our improvement from last year to this year. Last year we had a total of 37 activities recorded, whereas this year, we have so far 103, so it was a drastic improvement," said EGB Concordia President Jad Saleh. "We also recruited a lot of new members. We had 16 students from our chapter [at the conference], and most of them were attending for the first time or were first year students, which is a good thing for us because that means we are going to have a good future."

The award for best project was given to one of the two submissions by the Concordia chapter into a field of 65. The project, which was done in conjunction with the McGill chapter, saw the volunteers obliterating the divide that exists between high school students in two different hemispheres. It recruited students at Tamale High School for Girls in Ghana and Heritage Regional High School in Montreal.

"It's about linking high school students in Montreal with high school students in Ghana," said Saleh. "We asked both groups to come up with a problem they were facing in their high schools. The Ghanians said their problem was that their English wasn't that good, which they need to pass high school and go to university. The people here said that their problem is that students are becoming more obese, because their physical education for one of their semesters got cancelled."

After each school described its problem, the other school was asked to come up with a solution. When given what the other school had come up with, the students were again asked to come up with a final answer to their problem, in the process learning about the thought process of other cultures.

Concordia's Engineering Faculty was also declared Fair Trade Certified due to a project that has seen all the coffee and tea served in the faculty meeting the strict fair trade standards.

"If there's a department meeting or a council meeting going on in the building, any coffee served will be fair trade," said Saleh. "All the shops that the university owns or has the power to change in the EV building will be selling fair trade coffee and tea."

The Radical Side of Higher Learning

Tuition Fees to Triple in the U.K.



Protesters set an English bus shelter ablaze.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

• ALEXANDROS MITSIOPOULOS—
THE CORD (WILFRID LAURIER
UNIVERSITY)

WATERLOO, Ont. (CUP)—A sense of urgency has befallen students attending post-secondary institutions in the United Kingdom, as enrolment soars to 335,795 applicants thus far for 2011.

Prospective university students in the U.K. are now facing the realities of a government budget cut that will effectively triple the cost of their tuition—an issue that has led to mass protests among students.

“It’s not about the people that are currently in the university system because the changes won’t actually come into play while they’re students,” explained Griffin Carpenter, a Wilfrid Laurier University

alumnus studying environmental policy and regulation at the London School of Economics.

“It’s more about the current high school students.”

The tuition increases are projected to take effect in the fall of 2012. As such, many students are rushing to complete their applications before the increases take place.

The Guardian reported that enrolment has increased by 2.5 per cent when compared to statistics during the same period just last year.

In November, enrolment had climbed to 20 per cent compared to last year’s average, which translates to an additional 8,000 applicants competing for the same positions.

The rise in tuition costs come as

a reaction to new austerity measures introduced by the British government.

Students will now be required to cover more of their university’s operating budget with their tuition payments.

“The government is ending teaching grants to non-STEM [science, technology, engineering, medicine, math] subjects, so soon LSE will lose almost all its funding for professors, including mine,” Carpenter said. “The government is prioritizing sectors in these economic times in very real and explicit ways.”

The tuition increases in the U.K. may prove to invariably affect enrolment abroad as well.

Students fear that budgetary cuts will adversely affect the quality

of their education and enrolment in better-funded universities outside the U.K. has become much more attractive.

David McGuire, international student recruitment manager at Laurier, explained that recruitment of U.K. students to Canadian universities might be challenging.

“Mobility agreements make it a little bit more difficult in Europe because a student in the U.K. can very easily go to France, Poland or even Germany where tuition costs just 500 euro,” he said.

For Canada, however, McGuire added, “Here, we’re just shy of \$19,000 for international students. That’s a pretty tough sell.”

“In Canada, international students bring in \$6.5 billion a year of foreign money.”

Recruitment at Laurier focuses primarily on parts of the world that yield immediate results for enrolment, such as China or Korea.

The rise of tuition increases sparked protests in London, which took place on Nov. 24, 30 and again on Dec. 9.

It was estimated that approximately 30,000 to 50,000 students attended the rallies.

“A lot of students are starting to rethink the program they are taking because when you put a price tag on education like this, you have to think about it within those financial boundaries,” Carpenter said.

“The transition to an academic environment is not an easy one, especially when you have a load on your shoulders that’s now going to be three times as large.”

SYNAGOGUE VANDALISM CONNECTED: POLICE

• ADAM KOVAC

Late night attacks that left four synagogues and a Jewish day school in Hampstead and Côte St. Luc with broken windows on Jan. 16 have been revealed to be part of a pattern involving previous related attacks, according to police reports.

Similar vandalism took place in Sept. 2009 and Jan. 2010, but the police decided to not publicize the incidents in order to give them a chance to solve the cases, according to Commander Sylvain Bissonnette of Côte St. Luc’s police station nine.

He told *The Canadian Jewish News* last week that it seems likely that the all the recent attacks were perpetrated by the same person, noting that even the rocks used

were of a similar type, and that in both cases “we know that it was only one individual [committing the attacks]. We have an idea of the model [of the car]. At each location], the driver of the car got out, went to the trunk, opened it, took the rock and threw it at the window, closed the trunk and got back into the car.”

Representatives of the city’s Jewish community are calling the Jan. 16 incident more than just an act of vandalism.

“It’s an assault on Jewish buildings, but we take it as much more than—that it’s an assault on the community,” Rabbi Reuben Poupko told *The Link*. “It’s an assault on the harmony of Montreal. [However], we’re gratified that there weren’t any injuries.”

Bissonnette confirmed that the current investigation has been aided by the presence of security cameras at several of the crime scenes. The buildings affected were not tagged with any graffiti, each suffering a single broken window caused by thrown rocks.

“We have met the representatives of the various synagogues, [and] we are still gathering information,” said Bissonnette. “Most of them were able to give us the video feed [...] and we are still [looking at it] as we are speaking.”

However, Bissonnette refused to speculate on a time frame for any arrests, saying only that “it depends on if we get a break or not,” but added that “for us, it’s a hate crime, so it’s very important.”

Other recent anti-Jewish inci-

dents include a synagogue in Laval that suffered extensive damage after the contents of its oil tanks were emptied out onto its lawn in October. A yeshiva in Outremont was also vandalized with drawings of swastikas in March.

Most infamously, the United Talmud Torahs of Montreal, a Jewish school in St. Laurent, was firebombed in 2004.

Tomer Shavit, president of the Concordia chapter of Hillel, said that despite being upset at the attacks, he does not think that they represent a wider trend, especially not one that can be seen on Concordia’s campus.

“Actually, I think Concordia is a good example of a campus where Jewish students feel completely safe to go to their classes,” he said.

“Our current [student union] has worked very hard to be diverse and accommodating. I know how problematic Concordia’s history was in the past, so it’s not something we should take for granted.”

As for what the Jewish student club plans to do in response to the vandalism, Shavit said that more information would be needed before any initiatives were acted upon.

“I’ve called a couple of [Hillel members] and while none of them go to any of those specific synagogues, they do have friends that go there. I know that a lot of people in Hillel want some kind of initiative to raise money, but we don’t know the damage yet, so we’ll [...] see if that’s something we even need to do.”

CBC: IT MIGHT STAND FOR 'COULD BE CANCELLED'



The CBC, as seen by Stephen Harper.

GRAPHIC ERIC BENT

Public Displays of Disaffection

Why the Station Where Canada Lives May be Dying

• MICHAEL BRAMADAT-WILLCOCK

When Prime Minister Stephen Harper dined with Fox Broadcasting Company president Rupert Murdoch in 2009, it was a match made in heaven. The high profile dinner date also included the President of Fox News Roger Ailes and Kory Teneycke, Harper's one time spokesperson turned vice-president of the Quebec-based media giant Quebecor.

Famous for his policy of cutting arts funding—including cuts of over \$45 million in 2008—the Prime Minister has been squeezing the CBC, Canada's only independent, publicly owned broadcasting corporation, ever since he came to power.

As the noose tightens around the CBC's neck, Harper has facilitated a new player on the private media scene. Quebecor owns Sun News, which flies under the banner of "controversially Canadian," and Teneycke is one of the project's leading spokespersons.

"It's not every day that a prime

minister sees his one-time spokesperson taking control of a giant media chain's coverage of his government. What will our journalism schools be telling their students about that?" mused columnist Lawrence Martin of The Globe and Mail in his Politics column.

Not shy to admit the biases of the new kid on the block, Quebecor CEO Pierre Karl Peladeau told reporters that he is modeling the new network on Le Canal Nouvelles, a right-wing French-Language news network, and that the angle will be similar to that of the Toronto Sun. The Friends of Canadian Broadcasting group drew the link between Murdoch and Fox News, while the popular petition site Avaaz dubbed Sun News "Fox News North" and amassed an unprecedented amount of signatures in its "Stop Fox News North" campaign.

Ian Morrison, from the watchdog group Friends of Canadian Broadcasting, has been vocal on the issue. "We recognize the threat posed by Harper could be

the most serious peril the CBC has ever faced. Now is the time for all of us who love and depend on the CBC to stand up and be counted," noted the FCB website.

The issue of the Harper Government's agenda towards the CBC was recently taken up in a parliamentary debate, after the Heritage Minister was asked not to take his Parliamentary Secretary's notion of cutting funding entirely. The motion was shot down and the issue remains on the table.

At a Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage hearing in November, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage, Dean Del Mastro asked Corus Entertainment's Gary Maavara whether the CBC should continue to receive funding from the Government. He made clear that he was not speaking on behalf of public policy, but was seeking Maavara's advice on the issue.

"[...] We invest over a billion government dollars, as you know, into a stage, when in fact the private sector would not only make

use of that stage... they have so many already, and reinvest all of those dollars into Canadian content," said the Minister. He pointedly asked Maavara if he thought Canadian broadcasting should move towards the private sector and said that he envisions "major blockbuster films" being produced in Canada under a private system. "I see creators with so much talent. I see a world that is begging for good-quality content."

While the Harper government seems keen on getting its way, an FCB poll recently showed that a majority of respondents think "[the Prime Minister] and the Conservative government are hostile to the CBC and would like to diminish public broadcasting in Canada," and that his government has a hidden agenda that favours private broadcasters.

A majority of respondents thought that "Canada's level of public broadcaster funding is indicative of the federal government's treatment of the cultural sector overall."

Members expressed concern that the CBC is not receiving adequate funding and would like to see the budget increased.

Over 70 per cent said they believe "the CBC provides value for taxpayer money," and over 60 per cent expressed concern that "recently announced cuts to the CBC budget will reduce the amount of local news and regional coverage."

While the debate rages on in Parliament, over the airwaves and in the homes of Canadians, the CBC and Harper Government remain at loggerheads over whether publicly funded content is important.

Whether or not Harper's increasingly tight grip around the neck of the CBC in one hand, contrasting his open support of Sun News on the other is paramount to censorship remains to be seen. One thing is for sure, there is a new kid on the block; he's clean-cut, conservative and ready for a fight. The new kid has powerful friends behind him and is not afraid of playing dirty if it means getting his way.

FILM: FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL MAKES USE OF UNWANTED FOOTAGE

Holyoak's Holocene



Jim Holyoak is locking himself up and creating art.

PHOTO NICHOLAS MCHUGH

Artist Wants You to Think About Extinction

• NICHOLAS MCHUGH

Jim Holyoak is building a visual forest in the York Corridor vitrine of the FOFA gallery at Concordia's EV building.

The work, *Holocene*, is an almost 115 sq. metre mixed-media drawing installation and is Holyoak's thesis exhibition for his MFA in drawing and painting at Concordia.

The giant drawing's subject matter and style is a hybrid of environments, both in the sense of the landscape itself and in terms of the artist's cultural inspirations.

Holyoak grew up in a farming community in British Columbia and studied art education at both the University of Victoria and Concordia University. He has apprenticed in China for traditional

drawing and traveled and exhibited his work across North America.

"I'm mixing together the stuff I learned in China and the stuff I learned before and since," he said. "It's definitely the largest drawing I've ever done."

Holocene refers to our current geologic period and the first large-scale extinction caused by human beings instead of nature.

"I'm trying to take my subject matter as seriously as I can and hopefully get people to start a conversation on extinction because I think it is one of the biggest issues in the world," said Holyoak.

The month-long project has him behind the glass every day working on the drawing.

Passersby can expect to see Holyoak filling the space with

anything from pencil, charcoal, graphite powder, spray paint and ink to painting with a broom or using his own body as a tool to create.

He'll be prowling up and down the vitrine rocking out to audiobooks. He's listening to podcasts from Stanford University, Oscar Wilde short stories, Henry David Thoreau and books on extinction and human behaviour.

"It helps me to forget that I'm on display," he said. "That's why I have a mask on the back of my head; it's more for me than for my audience. It's sort of an odd thing to put myself on display, but I try so hard to forget and really just try to focus on my work."

He hopes he's getting a message across. "I don't want to make propaganda," he said, "but

I'm not trying to avoid being political, so there is political content and I hope it isn't overlooked."

Holyoak is also trying to bring conversation into the work itself by collecting postcards and drawings from people about their thoughts, dreams, and feelings about the Earth. There is a drop-off box at the FOFA reception office for anyone that would like to submit something.

The exhibition is scheduled to be complete on Friday, Feb. 11. A finissage will be held that evening at 5 p.m.

"I'm expecting a lot of people to come," said Holyoak. "The walls should be pretty dense, with probably more sculptural elements."

Those who come to see the finished drawing can try to find

the many creatures living in the giant landscape. Some interesting ones to find will include pterodactyls, a cat growing out of a stump, anthropomorphic trees, a tyrannohorse—half horse, half tyrannosaurus—and, of course, Jim Holyoak.

"They should expect to see me looking exhausted, probably nervous, and hopefully a little bit drunk," he said. "In a way it'll be a celebration, although it feels weird to ever celebrate this one. The way I'm drawing is to me quite joyful, but the subject matter isn't really a party theme. It's something I take quite seriously."

Check out Jim Holyoak's work in progress in Concordia's EV building by the FOFA Gallery (1515 St. Catherine's St. W.)

How To Bare Your Soul



"For me, *Love Remains* is all about baring one's soul, about honesty, about weakness and powerlessness."

—Tom Krell,
How To Dress Well

Tom Krell of *How To Dress Well* will play Casa del Popolo this Sunday.

How To Dress Well Combines Pop Music with Public Mourning

• COLIN HARRIS

In part because of accolades from a certain three-pronged hype machine, Tom Krell's solo-project known as How To Dress Well has enjoyed a growing international audience for the better part of a year now. Krell released his debut LP *Love Remains* in September of 2010—a collection of R&B and pop sounds driven by his delicate falsetto buried in reverb.

Now, Krell is expanding his sound in a live context, stopping in Montreal on Sunday with local opener Grimes. Rather than relying on synthesizers or midi-triggers, he is mounting the stage with just a microphone, backing tracks and visual projections as his accompaniment.

"No one expects Britney to play the drums or an acoustic guitar or whatever," said Krell. "I want to be a pop singer—an uncanny one, though."

This approach is the best rep-

resentation for the record according to Krell, who has carefully chosen his method of live delivery.

"Live, I don't want to stand behind a keyboard, I don't want to have a backing band. For me, *Love Remains* is all about baring one's soul, about honesty, about weakness and powerlessness," he said. "Live, the best way for me to convey this is alone onstage, singing in the half-dark of some smoky venue."

There is a definite sense of beautiful sadness in his super lo-fi recordings. In concert, the philosophy student sees this project as a medium for a collective exhibition of emotion.

"We could definitely use more non-religious occasions for public experiences of sadness, of mourning," said Krell. "Like on 'Suicide Dream 2,' which is a song about my family, I will often improvise [live] and discover myself really going through shit, really working through some hard, traumatic

shit. It is really exhausting for me but really special."

For this kind of catharsis to happen onstage, Krell employs a few mood-setting devices.

"I use [projections and a fog machine] because I want to create a certain affective ambiance, one which accommodates my music in a live space," he said. "When I make my music, I let myself feel very murky and foggy and often find my mind [flooding] with abstract emotions and images. I try to create the live space so as to accommodate the fragility of the voice and the songs I make."

Layers of Krell's voice are the driving force behind How To Dress Well's sound. Manipulated percussive noise and the odd sample create the framework for his vocal noodling. Once a suitable atmosphere is established, Krell feels comfortable to see where impromptu melodies take him—often to '90s R&B-inspired hooks.

"I just approach [songwriting]

by creating musical ambiances, whether through piano or synth or samples, which make me feel comfortable [in] letting melodies and effects come out of my spirit through my voice," said Krell. "Like, when I sing 'Ready for the World' live, I feel like I'm in a really warm bath or something. That musical ambiance, that sample, those drums, make me feel at home and free to express myself."

Krell's success so far is a product of our age of web-based communication. To this date, How To Dress Well sports little more than a Blogspot page for promotion—but that hasn't stopped listeners from taking notice.

"I am always so honoured by people who are into my songs, because if you get it that means you've really listened and really let your heart open up," said Krell. "It's so humbling."

"It makes me feel amazing to know that people are into what I love doing so much," he said. "I

just want to hug and hold everyone who supports me, it's really dope to feel support for this stuff. Like, if you're in love with someone and you see them flourishing in the world—you know how good that feels? To see your sister live happily? That's how it feels for me to see people get behind *Love Remains*."

Regardless of public opinion, How To Dress Well will always be an intimate outlet for Krell. He just now happens to have the world watching while he does it.

"It's really crazy and really awesome, in the purest sense of that word," said Krell. "I'm just super hyped on this whole thing. It makes me feel justified and confident as I keep doing what I do, which is what I would have done anyway."

How To Dress Well and Grimes play Casa Del Popolo (4873 St. Laurent Blvd.) Sunday, Jan. 30. \$10 advance, \$12 door.

Galleria



DAMEOCTO

ELIZABETH LEE

submit
your creative works to:
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Re-Rewind



Enjoying Love Making Through Hypnosis is just one of the many VHS gems the Found Footage Festival has stumbled upon.

Found Footage Festival Commemorates Rediscovered Classics

• LAURA BEESTON

Creating a canon of VHS excellence for rediscovered classics like, *Enjoying Lovemaking Through Hypnosis*, *Ventriloquism For Fun & Profit* or *Rent-a-Friend*, the Found Footage Festival—screening in Montreal Feb. 1—celebrates a golden age of home video.

"In the mid 80s and 90s, every home had a VCR and it was a fairly new thing. All of a sudden, any idiot with a few bucks could produce their own video, and it took off," said Nick Prueher, the co-curator of the FFF, from his Brooklyn home. "Anytime a format reaches that kind of ubiquity, you get a lot of weird, esoteric stuff that ends up on it."

In a world where any shmuck with a smart phone can upload daily hilarity to the Internet, these tapes are certainly not your average YouTube videos. Prueher, with his partner Joe Pickett, have been amassing a sizable compilation of weird, lo-fi footage since 1991, finding gems

in thrift stores, garbage and garage sales.

Rich in cultural capital, the pair has over 5,000 tapes in their collection and are continually amazed by the glut of strange stuff they continue to find and take on tour with them.

"You get discouraged and then find something like *Rent-a-Friend* and it's like 'Oh yeah, that's why we're doing this,'" Prueher chuckled. The video, as desperate and pathetic as it sounds, is apparently for lonely people in need of an hourly friend. "So you pop in a tape and this guy keeps you company. He asks you questions and he tells you about himself and you're supposed to answer to your TV. It's just all very sad."

Taking the festival from their living room to venues around the world since 2004, the FFF is made up of surprising, similar anomalies like these, hosted with curated context and comedy, as both FFF founders formerly worked for *The Onion* and *The Late Show with David Letterman*.

"The footage is uncomfortably

familiar to people, whether it's a training video you had to watch at your crummy first job or an exercise video your mom used to watch after school. Whatever it is, people know this era and have a fondness for it," Prueher said.

On top of scouring old camcorders or discovering discards in the dump, ordinary folks also volunteer their videos at shows, adding to the "communal aspect" of the show.

"People don't want to watch something alone, on a two-inch screen in their inbox and forget about it 30 seconds later," said Prueher. "Everything's a lot funnier in a group."

Mentioning he just received footage from California—a transit bus video, entitled *Operation Blue Line*, starring people costumed as The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles—he said getting a new video in the mail is "like Christmas morning: we can't wait to tear it open, put it in and see what happens."

Prueher said the duo is never surprised about how weird things can get on discarded VHS, but

are continually surprised by the stuff deemed worthy to commit to videotape.

"For us [these tapes are] worth preserving, not only because it makes you laugh, but because there are organizations like the Smithsonian and the American film institute that preserve *Citizen Kane* [...] but there are no temperature controlled vaults for someone's home movie," he explained. "For me, those videos say a lot more about us as a culture than do some of the great films of the last century. They are in many ways, warts and all, more truthful. You're getting an unvarnished look at what happened."

The Found Footage Festival comes to Théâtre Ste. Catherine (264 St. Catherine E.) on Feb. 1. Tickets are \$10 and you are invited to bring your old tapes! The duo will also be screening the bootlegged, 1986 classic *Heavy Metal Parking Lot* at the show. For more information, check out foundfootagefest.com



• ASHLEY OPHEIM

On Jan. 14, Trish Keenan, lead singer of Broadcast, passed away of pneumonia.

Keenan was a brilliant and beautiful woman, songstress, and poet. She will be remembered for her intricately detailed voice that was nothing short of pure magic.

Across six LPs, Broadcast synthesized music of ghostly truths and electronic secrets from some unknown time and place.

Her tragic passing came as a shock to lovers of her music—songs that seemed like gifts of some better place. A gift to the world—a transcendence of sound, sending the listener into a contradictory world of retro yet futuristic sounds.

This poem pays homage to Keenan.

It's built with various titles from Broadcast's extensive catalogue of songs.

Before We End

Before We Begin, Turn the Lights Out. The World is Backwards. According to No Plan, We've Got Time.

Evil is Coming, By That I Mean, You and Me in Time. Long Was the Year Without You But Longer Is the Distance Between You and I and the Unchanging Window. Look Outside. Until Then, Let The Echo's Answer.

I Found the End, You Can Fall Now. You Can Colour Me In. Come On Let's Go Corporal. Everything is Growing Backwards Through the Gates of Yesterday.

Oh How I Miss You in Winter Now and all the Goodbye Girls and all the Illumination Still Feels Like Tears and the Poem of a Dead Song is just Tears in the Typing Pool.



Ep On A Tap

An Elegy for Trish Keenan

BAR STARS & BOOK NERDS: DAVID McGIMPSEY DECONSTRUCTS THE MYTH OF THE MARRIAGE BETWEEN LIQUOR & LITERATURE

You've Got Another Drink Coming

• LIZY MOSTOWSKI

Montreal has a reputation for being the home of drunken writers, and a place where literary events seem to perpetually cohabit with the local bars. The portrait of the author as an alcoholic is a cliché that some writers seem to relish upholding, but is there any validity to it?

Lizy Mostowski talked to poet, editor, sportswriter and Concordia creative writing professor David McGimpsey about the Montreal literary bar scene and its myths.

LM: What is the significance of the bar scene in your writing life? Do you feel it is important to be a part of the writer's bar scene as a Montreal poet?

DG: If it weren't for bars, where would writers go to complain so much you'd think they worked in an onion-slicing factory? I don't know if there is a literary bar "scene" ("literary bar" certainly sounds less tempting as a bar come-on than, say "25 cent chicken wings during the game") but there are bars where some writers hang out.

The actual life of a writer is away from the bar and that life is largely solitary and boring (tapping away, reading) so, for a writer, a bar can be a great place of release from that routine.

It is probably the same in most professions, and I'm sure the bar scene among card sharks or off-duty strippers is far more exciting. But, there is an implied romance between writing and drinking and this romance is even more compelling if you can call yourself a sportswriter.

Do you think that literary figures like Richler and Cohen glamorize the idea of the writer's bar scene? Where did they like to drink—and have those places gained a reputation as a result?

I don't think Leonard Cohen ever hung out in bars and Mordecai Richler's stand at downtown Montreal bars (Woody's, Winnie's, Ziggy's, Grumpy's, etc.) definitely stood against cutting a literary "scene."

Richler, from what I understand, generally hung out with politicians and journalists and generally eschewed the company of other novelists. Creative writing students did not generally stalk Richler either as they had largely set up their bars away from the downtown core's older, less-

Weezer-loving core.

I think, in some way, the literary bar scene of downtown Montreal simply means "Mordecai Richler once drank here."

As a poet who was born and raised in Montreal, where have you personally noticed the scene drifting around the city? Have you noticed a trend in places writers like to drink? What sort of venue attracts the writer crowd?

I tend to think a literary "scene" is fairly mythic anyway and what you actually have are a bunch of floating klatches which are put together in the normal way all clubhouses are built. I prefer classic American bars (cold bottled beer, ballgame on TV with the sound on) but such bars are rare in Montreal so, here, I actually find the bars less conducive to writerly pursuits.

Lots of things have changed in Montreal since St. Laurent was rezoned and the classic "old man taverns" of Quebec were replaced with dance clubs and brew pubs. They're great places, for sure, but not really the places where I would go to talk shop.

"There is something innately hilarious and humanizing when people who are known for their intelligence are suddenly all hopped up on bad-decision-juice"

—David McGimpsey

I think I've had those conversations while some tune is blasting out and you're screaming, "Are you in your second draft!?" "Yes, I would like a draft!"

Do you think that being a part of the scene can be beneficial to a writer's career?

Being part of a scene can be beneficial to one's normal aspirations to fit into an elite gathering. It has absolutely no bearing on a writer's success. Just remember, a lot of great writers wouldn't be caught dead drinking in the hole you waste your money and time at.

Lit Events

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Lit Writ

Untitled

• DAN MANSFIELD

Night exists
for the pin of a cat's eye.

Night exists
to give gravity to our fears
of death and contortion;

For rain to fall
without our knowing
(secret tides of phantom
growth).

Night exists
for our belief
of the warm, cupping skull
of god—
the night of our palm.



GRAPHIC
IAN STOBBER

No EASY POEMS

Sheryda Warrener's *Hard Feelings* Tough Yet Tender

• ALEX MANLEY

Hard Feelings, Sheryda Warrener's debut poetry collection, is broken down into four sections, each one with its own unique tone. The sections show Warrener at work in a number of different domains as she exercises with and enlists various poetic muscle groups.

The first section, "Ordinary & Remarkable," contains the book's strongest poems and at times feels like a veritable hit parade of poetry. It is worth the price of admission alone, as Warrener's speakers variously explore a one-eyed acquaintance's empty eye cavity, the alienating appeal of trivia, the running of the bulls in Pamplona and the pitfalls of working as a taxidermist, among others. Each new page seems to deliver a poem better than the last; it's a rare and remarkable feat of concentrated linguistic prowess.

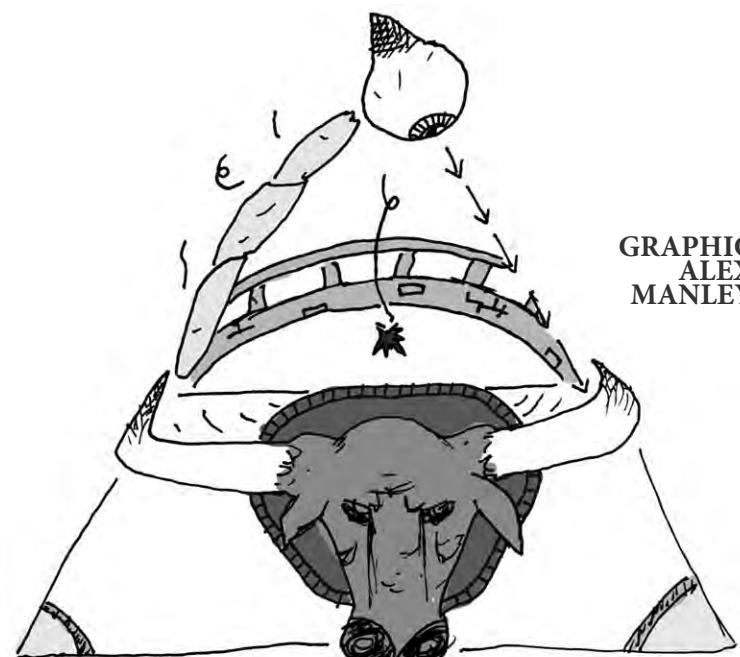
The next section, "Mother/Father," features Warrener scaling back the feeling of intellectuality and emotional disengagement that "Ordinary & Remarkable" pulled off so well and composing a series of short alternating poems explor-

ing her parents' divorce from both sides of the equation. Though none of these poems individually approach the heights of the ones in the first section, that's clearly not the intent.

Rather, Warrener achieves her effect through the dialect between the two worlds the mother and father inhabit—the past and the present. Set against the backdrop of separation, her forays into their long-gone romance (in particular a poem about her father learning to make pie crust) are all the more heartbreakingly.

From the midway mark forward, however Warrener's poems have trouble keeping up with the first half's incredible pace. The third section, "Unequal Hours," is a thread of one-off poems about various cities worldwide—in Canada, Japan, Mexico, Spain and Argentina—from the perspective of a tourist.

It's an intriguing concept, but the strength of the first two sections leave this one feeling like a bit of an also-ran in comparison, although "Bridge," set in Yamana-ka-ko, Japan, provides perhaps the most memorable image of the collection: "I peer over the



GRAPHIC
ALEX
MANLEY

railing, // only to find the water reflecting / my cold face, hands.
Leaves, / a smudge of red around me, seem / to fly up instead of fall."

The final section, "Last Door," is a prose poem that stretches for eight pages and is set in the American Southwest. It may be hard to parse for a city-slicker; lines like "Bones, mesa, sage, sky." hint at both the ephemeral poetry and the mute impenetrability of the terrain, and the poem carries those qualities with it.

Hard Feelings is a bit of a mixed bag, but the intensity of the top-heavy sense I get from it is due

only to the truly impressive quality of the first section and the touching emotional poignancy of the second. It'll be exciting to see where Warrener goes from here, but *Hard Feelings* should help to cement her reputation as a poet to watch.



Hard Feelings
Sheryda Warrener
Snare Books
68pp
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PAGE 19 SPORTS

HOCKEY: STINGERS TO TURKEY • 20



HOCKEY



Stinger's men's hockey throttles the Ottawa Gee-Gees 8-2 on Sunday afternoon, ending a four-way tie for fifth place.

PHOTO DYLAN MALONEY

Victory Hockey

Gee Gees Get Beat To Break Tie

• DAVID KAUFMANN

Concordia's men's hockey team made a statement to the Ottawa Gee Gee's last Sunday at the Ed Meagher arena. They weren't going to be taken lightly, as they dominated from start to finish in an 8-2 rout.

The victory comes days after they took a whipping of their own to the Carleton Ravens in a 7-2 decision.

"When we play with discipline, we've got some talent, so rather than taking penalties and getting into all the rough stuff, we stuck to hockey," explained Stingers assistant coach Peter Bender. It took a little while before either team got the ball rolling, but ConU did stay out of the penalty box in the first period. This was particularly helpful for them, as both right-wingers François Lantôt-Marcotte and Mike Stinziani found the back of the net in the span of a minute to close off the period.

To start the second, the Stingers picked up where they left off when centre George Lovatsis got a lucky bounce from of Gee Gee's goaltender Aaron Barton to go up 3-0.

Yet midway through the period the opposition would make things interesting. Within seconds of Stingers defenseman Michael

Blundon getting out of the penalty box, Gee Gee's forward Luc Blain rifled a shot past goaltender Maxime Joyal. But the Stingers were to get that one back by the period's end as Lantôt-Marcotte added his second of the game to go into the third with a commanding 4-1 lead.

"There are some nights when every time you touch the puck, it turns to points."

*-François Lantôt-Marcotte
Concordia's Men's Hockey Team
Right Winger*

"I think we played a full 60 minutes, and we battled hard which reflected in the score," said Stinziani, who scored a short handed goal early in the third and added an assist later on to the goal defensemen Kiefer Orsini snuck by Barton.

While the Gee Gees did score in this period, it was clear the wheels had fallen off, as Stingers centres Kyle Kelly and Domenic Martel added a goal each to cap off the big

win.

The lackluster effort on the Gee Gees' behalf isn't something that sat well with head coach Dave Leger.

"I think we lost too many battles in our zone and I think we had power play opportunities where we weren't able to put it away," he said.

While he didn't get the result he wanted, Leger was optimistic about the remainder of the season. "The good news is that there's still lots of time left before the end of the year."

Meanwhile the Stingers held their heads high after this victory.

"There are some nights when every time you touch the puck, it turns to points," said Lantôt-Marcotte, who contributed to four of the team's goals.

Prior to the game, the Stingers were in a four-way tie with Ottawa, Toronto and Queen's for fifth place.

With the victory in mind, Bender still saw some flaws with his players that could prove costly on Jan. 26 when the Stingers pay a visit to the McConnell arena to take on the McGill Redmen.

"We've got good goaltending but we didn't clear the puck from in front of the net. McGill will kill us if we don't do that," said Bender.

The puck drops at 7 p.m. for the game on Wednesday.

Scoreboard



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

L 72-60 v McGill

fri

MEN'S BASKETBALL

L 67-65 v McGill

fri

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

L 6-3 v Montréal

fri

L 5-2 v Ottawa

sat

MEN'S HOCKEY

W 4-3 v UQTR

wed

L 7-2 v Carleton

fri

W 8-2 v Ottawa

sun

Off to Turkey



PHOTOS ESTHER BERNARD AND JAQUES BALAYLAD

Stingers' Coach to Lead Team Canada

• DAVID KAUFMANN

Stingers women's hockey coach Les Lawton is heading to Erzurum, Turkey this week to lead Team Canada in the 2011 Winter Universiade—a multi-sport event held by the International University Sports Federation from Jan. 27 to Feb. 6.

Lawton was handpicked from a number of coaches across the country by Hockey Canada, who looked at his record as "the winningest coach in Canadian university hockey history." They selected him to lead Canada with hopes of repeating his gold medal success.

Lawton—who is in his 29th season with the Stingers—noted that organization is key to preparing for an international competition of this caliber and that finding a formula for the short-term will make things "as easy as possible for the players [to] focus on what they have to do on the ice."

The fact that Team Canada—made up of 21 Canadian Interuniversity Sport players from across the country—hasn't yet played together is a challenge, admitted Lawton, but he is nonetheless confident. Many of the Team Canada members were picked based on past performance, and make up a mix of All-Canadians and all-stars from leagues across the country.

"I'm expecting that I'm going to be dealing with a very mature group and a number of players who know what it takes to win," he said.

One of the ways he plans on improving chemistry is with team bonding activities on the plane ride over, which will see the team stopping in Frankfurt and Istanbul before making it to Erzurum. He hopes these activities will help the athletes get to know each other well before the competition starts so they'll be ready to face-off come Jan. 27.

"The important thing is that we find the right chemistry in the right players," said Lawton. "So we're looking at defence pairings [and] we're looking at some offensive energy in our forward lines."

Stingers right-winger Erin Lally, who leads Concordia's women's team in scoring with six goals and four assists in nine games, will also be joining Lawton on Team Canada in Turkey next week.

"I think it's an advantage to have some players that you're familiar with," said Lawton, noting that she has an off-

fensive skill set beneficial to any team and that he's expecting her to do very well on the international stage.

As for the competition, he expects teams like the United States, Slovakia and Finland will be the biggest challengers, as they are all hockey-playing countries, but doesn't expect too much trouble from teams like Great Britain and Turkey.

Regardless of what team they're facing, Lawton said he's just grateful to represent Team Canada.

"It's always, always an honour to put on the Team Canada sweater."

*-Les Lawton
Women's Hockey Team
Head Coach*

"It's always, always an honour to put on the Team Canada sweater, and I'm sure [these players will also] be very proud for not only representing their universities, but also the CIS and their country," he said with a grin.

By the tournament's end, Lawton hopes his players take something away from Turkey as well—besides the gold medal game.

"I hope they embrace the culture over there. It's certainly going to be a lot different from our society here," he said. "Hopefully they can make the most of it and have a valuable experience for [those] two weeks."

For himself, Lawton hopes to learn a few things as well, "not only the people of Turkey, but also [through meeting] a lot of administrators, coaches and athletes from a variety of other countries."

The tournament marks Lawton's second coaching stint on the international level, after leading Team Canada to gold at the 1994 World Championship in Lake Placid, New York. As a coach, he has been dubbed "The Dean of Women's Hockey," starting the 2010-11 year off with a 586-282-72 record and a .662 winning percentage.

Team Canada's first game is against Finland on Jan. 27. To follow the action, check out universitysport.prestosports.com/universiade/winter/index.

Bender In, Messier Out

• ALEX DI PIETRO

When men's hockey team head coach Kevin Figsby returned from the last Ontario University Athletics conference all-star team selection camp in December, some were surprised Concordia forward Charles-Antoine Messier was left off the 2011 World University Winter Games roster.

"I've been around long enough to know he's still in the mix," was Figsby's response. "He's not named to the top 22 right now, but he's in that top group of players that, if anything happens, he's the first call."

And indeed, Messier was the first to be called when one of the players initially named to the final squad was unavailable due to injury. But a slew of reasons forced Messier to decline the invitation for the 25th World Universiade being held in Erzurum, Turkey from Jan. 27 to Feb. 6.

Messier, who sits second among point-getters for Concordia with 12 goals and 18 assists, was selected by the Vancouver Canucks in the fifth round, 145th overall, at the 2007 NHL Entry Draft.

"The unfortunate part is it was two days after the [school] drop deadline," Figsby said of the invitation. "[Messier's] in five courses, [studying] in the John Molson School of Business, and suffered an injury. It was his estimate that if he wasn't 100 per cent, he couldn't afford to go [to Turkey] and miss school."

Every two years, one of the three Canadian university men's hockey conferences has its turn to send an all-star team to the Games. Figsby said there would possibly be discussions held in March to alter the current format so that the teams sent will be comprised of players from across the country—which is how the Canadian women's university hockey program operates.

"There's a tremendous amount of countries sending professional players to this tournament now and we feel we have an opportunity every year to represent our country and bring home gold," said Figsby. "One of the obstacles with that, though, is not everybody will get to see everybody play. [It's like] you're doing scouting by committee and it's very difficult."

For some, there is a price to participate in the prestigious tournament. All universities have different rules for funding players.

"At the last tournament, we had a young man whose school wasn't paying anything for him to go. His family decided to forgo their Christmas gifts, and they all chipped in to pay for his trip," said Figsby. "I asked the

boys to bring a memento from their family or someone who inspired them, and this guy brought an envelope from his 8-year-old nephew that had \$1.28 in it."

Figsby, who left for Turkey on Saturday, will act as assistant coach for the Canadian team. He was also a member of the OUA coaching staff at the 2005 Games.

"Being in a supporting role in a tournament like [the Games] gives me an opportunity to do some things that I really enjoy doing," he said.

Some of Figsby's duties will include helping coordinate the power play, being responsible for all the team building and scouting the opposition for weaknesses ahead of Team OUA's games.

Figsby brings a wealth of experience to the already rich coaching staff being sent to the Games. He's currently serving in his 11th season at the helm for Concordia, carries a level four coaching certificate and was behind the bench for a bronze-medal win at the World Junior U17 Championships in 1995.

He joins the University of Waterloo's Brian Bourque, who will act as Team OUA's general manager, Western's Clarke Singer, who will act as head coach, and the University of Guelph's Shawn Camp, who will share responsibilities as assistant coach.

"When you're head coach and you don't get a chance to work with other head coaches, you spend a lot of time mentoring," Figsby said. "You don't get that opportunity necessarily to develop and challenge yourself, and I'll have that opportunity on this trip."

Stingers assistant coach Peter Bender assumed the role of head coach in Concordia's 8-2 victory over Ottawa on Sunday, and will fulfill that position until Figsby returns.

"Two years ago, [Figsby] was coaching overseas. I took over [then] and it was relatively seamless," said Bender, who has coached in some of the top hockey leagues in Europe.

Fourth-year goaltender Maxime Joyal stated he and some of the more experienced players on the team would take up more of a leadership role in the head coach's absence.

"He uses a simple strategy that everybody can play," Joyal said of Figsby's coaching style. "It's an easy game and it works for us."

Coach Figsby recalled every game at his last World Universiade in Innsbruck, Aut., being sold out. He expects nothing different from the crowd at this year's games. Team OUA's first test will be against Slovenia this Thursday.

Black Friday

STINGERS SUFFER PAIR OF HEARTBREAKING DEFEATS



PHOTO PIERRE CHAUVIN



PHOTO DYLAN MALONEY

Close Call for Men's Ball

Concordia 65

McGill 67

• DIEGO PELAEZ GAETZ

In the final seconds of Saturday's men's basketball game against the McGill Redmen, a truly bizarre foul call seemed to go Concordia's way, but the normally-clutch guard Kyle Desmarais missed two key free throws with no time remaining and the Stingers dropped a 67-65 heartbreaker to their cross-town rivals.

It appeared that the Stingers were attempting to foul the Redmen with under ten seconds left, as ConU needed to stop the clock to prevent McGill from holding onto the ball until the buzzer. But in a strange twist, no foul was called, and the Stingers managed to steal the ball with mere seconds remaining—much to the surprise of Concordia coach John Dore.

"We did try to foul," said Coach Dore. "I don't know why it wasn't called [...] A player has to be in tune with what's going on; well, so do the officials."

Desmarais was fouled with what appeared to be one second left on the game clock, and after extended deliberation, the officials awarded him foul shots. The prolific guard finished with twenty points and six assists, but sunk only six of 13 from the foul line.

Desmarais wasn't the only Stinger to struggle with this aspect of the game.

"We were 13 for 24 from the free throw line, which is a terrible percentage," said

Dore. "I mean, that's the game in a nutshell right there."

The home team was able to close the gap in the fourth quarter with an aggressive full-court press and fearless guard play. And even though Desmarais wasn't able to provide the finish the home fans wanted, McGill's coach knows better than to let him get in that position again.

"Like I told [Desmarais] after the game, 'you're gonna make more winners than you're gonna miss,'" said McGill coach Dave DeAveiro.

McGill's star guard Simon Bibeau didn't let the Stingers get all the way back, as he hit a few clutch shots to deter the ConU's run. Bibeau finished 23 points and five rebounds.

"For us to get a kid like Simon Bibeau in our program is a big step," said coach DeAveiro. "When we need a bucket, he's going to be our go-to guy and he wants that pressure, he accepts that pressure, and that's what great players are made of."

The loss was a disappointing one for the Stingers, but they remain at .500 as they prepare for the stretch run leading up to the Quebec playoffs. To take the next step, they'll need to stop hurting themselves and let their talent and athleticism shine through.

"We've been repeating the same mistakes," said coach Dore. "We have to learn from our mistakes and move forward."

The Stingers may have to prepare for the stretch run without veteran leader Evens Laroche however, as he injured the same ankle that he had wounded just a week earlier. It was unclear how long he would be sidelined as of press time.

The Women Let 'em Back in the Clutch

Concordia 60

McGill 72 (OT)

• DIEGO PELAEZ GAETZ

A furious fourth quarter rally drained the Stingers completely, as the gassed home team had nothing left to fend off the Quebec division-leading McGill Martlets in overtime of a 72-60 loss Saturday at Loyola Gym.

The game was marred by some questionable officiating, as Concordia guard Magalie Beaulieu was twice called for questionable charging in overtime after getting run over near the end of regulation—with no response from the officials.

"Referees make mistakes sometimes, but what you want from them is a certain level of consistency," said Concordia coach Keith Pruden. "And that was totally absent."

Despite the debatable calls, the Stingers made a very impressive recovery against the favoured Martlets, taking the lead for the first time in the fourth quarter off a huge three-point shot from guard Yasmin Jean-Phillipe.

The Stingers looked poised to win after Kaylah Barrett made two free-throws to stretch ConU's lead to 60-58 with 30 seconds left. After a McGill turnover, the home team had a chance to throw in and force McGill to foul with just 18 seconds left. But after what appeared to be a shove from a McGill player that went uncalled, Beaulieu was forced into the backcourt off the in-

bounds pass, causing a turnover and a last chance for McGill to tie.

Guard Francoise Charest blew by Stingers forward Kendra Carrie for a layup with seconds remaining to send the game to an extra period. Charest finished with a double-double of 13 points and 10 assists.

"She's our starting point guard, a great leader, she's from a championship program [at Ste. Foy], so just that pedigree allowed her to come through in the clutch," said McGill coach Ryan Thorne. "Not much I did, she just has that in her."

It was all-downhill from there for the Stingers, as they were outscored 12-0 in the overtime period.

"We were too tired," said Pruden. "We had nothing left [...] they were devastated [when McGill tied the game]."

The Martlets knew coming in that they could not expect this Concordia team to lie down, as the home team has built a reputation for not quitting on games.

"Concordia is always tough," said Thorne. "There's no point where you can say, 'hey, you know what? You've put them away,' they never stop coming at you."

Despite the praise, the Stingers' coach wishes his team would show as much urgency at the beginning of games as they do at the end.

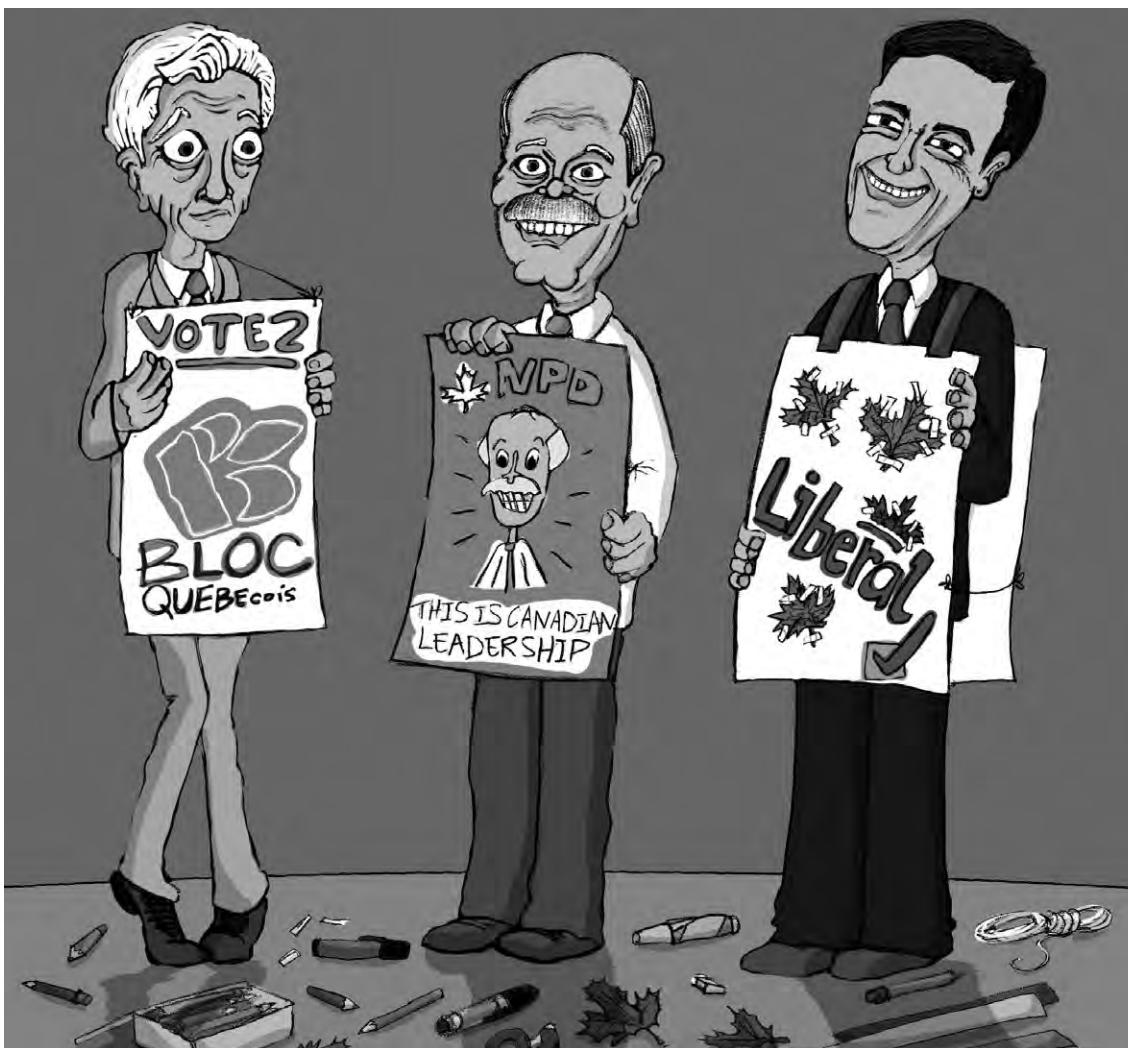
"Some people perform better under stress," said Pruden. "I don't think that's a very good way to go through life—like waiting to study 'til five minutes before your last final kind of thing. Some people love that, I just don't think it's healthy. The odds will catch up with you at some point."



BEER: AMERICAN ALE AIN'T SO ABHORRENT

At the Expense of Democracy

Stephen Harper Says No to Election Subsidies



GRAPHIC MIRIAM ARSENAULT

• TOM LLEWELLYN

A federal election in the spring may be around the corner.

Polling firms have been cranking out seat projections since last fall, and it's looking like yet another Tory minority. Stephen Harper announced last week that he aims to get rid of the \$2 public subsidy federal parties get for every vote they received in the prior elections.

Strategy aside, trying to understand why Harper made the move is less important than the electoral consequences—when he tried last time in 2008, the ensuing outrage almost took down his government.

Whatever savings we could make by taking approximately \$27 million off the books would be offset by a less democratic system. Election results would favour established organizations with large strongholds and a healthy numbers of donors. Small parties with riskier ideas are the ones who will ultimately pay the price.

Jean Chretien's Liberal gov-

ernment brought the subsidy to life and banned union and corporate donations in 2003 to level the playing field. The result was that federal parties relied less on people with money. It also replaced lost revenue from the corporate ban and the newly introduced personal donation cap of \$5,000, which the Harper government later lowered to \$1,000.

Public subsidies now cover between 37 per cent of campaign budgets for the Tories and 78 per cent for the Bloc Quebecois. Similar systems also exist in Australia, Spain, Sweden and other European and Asian countries, usually with a mixed public and private model. It's hardly a "socialist" scheme, as even Australia, with a much more conservative political culture, regards the practice as fairly uncontroversial.

Advertising is the largest campaign expense for all parties. TV ads, in particular, have consumed a fast-growing portion of that budget in the last several decades. Being outgunned on ad spending usually means losing

the seat. Even the comparatively wealthy NDP would have a tough time making noise on the national stage or breaking into new ridings after losing 56 per cent of its budget.

The line in favour of abolition says that a public subsidy is a free ride for parties, who don't have to work as hard for their votes or build a well-functioning fundraising machine. The National Post's Lorne Gunter adds that the biggest players are given an unfair leg up. An unpopular ruling party, for example, would rake in a regular subsidy, even once donations stopped coming, until election time.

However, the deck would be stacked against upstarts even more. The actual machinery of a campaign—riding associations, canvassers and lawn signs—can be made very efficient, which partially explains the Tories' electoral success. Thirty seconds of primetime ad space, though, still costs the same whether you're the Liberals, the Greens or the Work Less Party.

To expect parties with little to

no seats to rely exclusively on individual donations, especially in a recession, is a zero-sum game. Seats can't be won without sustained income and focused spending, and marginal parties can't expect enough donations without winning a seat.

Winning a campaign is all about visibility, airtime and sound bites. The subsidy lets parties play the media game, and buffer its ever-increasing costs, while concentrating on building a solid base of local and national support. The Green Party's first real entry onto the national stage came the year after the subsidy's introduction, which saw their vote share increase almost sixfold.

Whatever happens to the subsidy in the coming months, though, we need to keep looking seriously at the many flaws in our electoral system. The correlation between the number of votes received and the number of seats won is loose at best, and until that's fixed, chances are that subsidized votes will mean less than they could.

ANAL SEX LAWS NEED AN ENEMA

• JULIAN WARD

This past December, Alberta's queers got an unexpected Christmas gift from their government: homosexuality was finally struck from the province's list of mental disorders. Congratulations, Alberta. Welcome to the 1970s!

In this spirit of Alberta's constitutional spring-cleaning, I propose that the federal government do a little of their own.

Did you know that Canada currently regulates how many guests can come in through your back door? Did you also know that the age of consent differs when one is having sex in the pink or in the stink?

The criminal code states: "Every person who engages in an act of anal intercourse is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years, or is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction."

Don't worry, though. There are some exceptions, thankfully.

The law doesn't apply to you if the pillow biting is done in private between a husband and wife or any two persons who are over the age of 18. "Done in private" is defined as having only two people present or participating in a non-public space.

But wait, does that mean I can't have anal sex with someone under 18—even though I could do a myriad other nasty (and consensual) things with this person, so long as they are of the age of consent, which is 16? Yes, that's exactly what it means.

That's right kinks, it also means it's illegal to root someone's rectum while a buddy sits in the corner and films while touching him/herself. More explicitly, double-penetration is illegal as well.

It should be noted, though, that this archaic law has been proven unconstitutional by provincial courts and will most certainly never be applied to anal-enthusiasts ever again. Nevertheless, it should be removed from the books immediately.

I would also like for Stephen Harper to personally apologize on behalf of the government for making the anal-brigade feel dirty when they take the Hershey Highway home in the carpool lane.

Former Concordia Students on Kruyt

'We stand ready to contribute to the development of our alma mater'

Dear Mr. Kruyt,
We, the undersigned former students of Concordia, are writing to express our deep concern over the governance of Concordia University. Many of the signatories to this letter have been directly involved in the governance of Concordia University and the many student organizations at this institution.

Having helped to shape what the university is today, we are extremely alarmed by recent events. Concordia is not merely the bricks and mortar of its ever-growing campus. It is a great university that challenges its students to critically engage with the world around them.

We are writing today to add our voices to those of Concordia faculty, students and staff who have

expressed concern over the untimely departure of President Judith Woodsworth and the Concordia Board of Governors' lack of openness, transparency and forthrightness on this matter. The reasons surrounding her departure and the settlement paid to her have not been made clear. Moreover, the entire process involved in the termination of her employment has been shrouded in secrecy.

We are especially concerned about this matter because President Woodsworth is the second president in three years to be forced out. In the fall of 2007, Dr. Claude Lajeunesse resigned in a similar manner, with a golden parachute of over \$1 million. At the time, the many questions respecting the reasons for the abrupt

departure were left unanswered by the Board.

These and other departures of senior administrators come at a high cost to an institution whose operations are paid for by the public and its student body. As many of us continue to pay off large student loans incurred in order to study, it is difficult for us to fathom how an institution that routinely claims to be barely making ends meet manages to justify spending millions of dollars paying senior administrators to leave.

Lastly, we wish to make it clear that the statement issued by the Concordia Alumni Association on Jan. 14, 2011 with regards to this matter does not represent the views of the many alumni who have signed this letter.

As chair of the Concordia Uni-

versity Board of Governors, we call on you to:

1. Make public the amount of all payouts (and existing liabilities) to senior university administrators over the last five years.

2. Clearly identify what process was followed, and all of the individuals involved in the decision-making regarding all departures of senior administrators over the last five years, and make public any documentation that exists, including minutes of meetings, where such decisions were discussed.

3. Provide an honest and full description of the events that led to the departure of Dr. Judith Woodsworth.

4. Resign your position as chairperson of the Concordia University Board of Governors.

Until the actions outlined

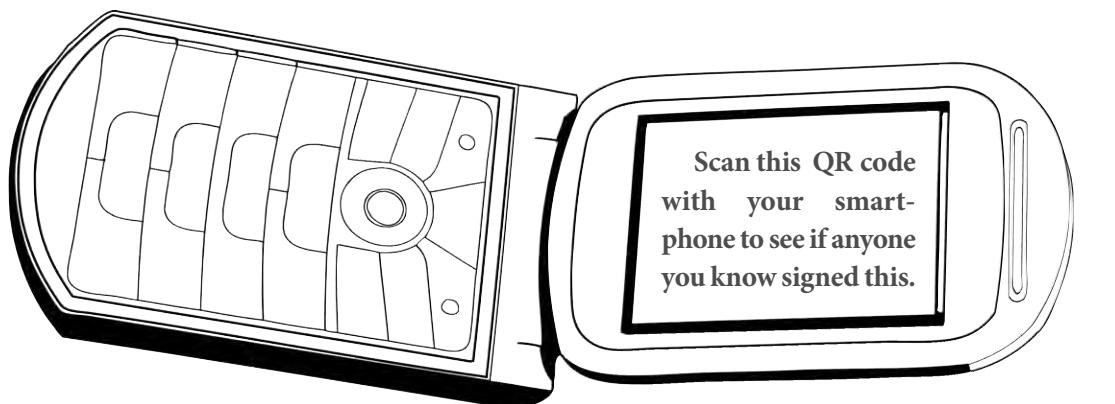
above have been taken, the Board of Governors will not have our confidence.

In addition, we call for a complete review of the governance of Concordia University that meaningfully includes students, staff and faculty with the goal of democratizing the university's governance structure and reducing the influence of external members on the university's Board of Governors. To have credibility, this review must be public.

There is no question that Concordia's Board of Governors is experiencing a deep crisis of confidence. It is not, however, too late to undo the damage. Answering the questions and taking the actions put forward in this letter in a timely manner will go a long way to rebuilding trust with the Concordia community.

We sign this letter as proud Concordia alumni who remain deeply committed to Concordia University's continued success as an institution rooted in its community. We stand ready to contribute to the further development of our alma mater.

From,
36 Former Concordia
Students



Henry Aubin on Us Damn Kids

The Age of Facebook Has Ruined Us: Poll

• CLAY HEMMERICH & LAURA BEESTON

Seasoned *Gazette* columnist Henry Aubin wrote an opinions piece on Jan. 22, tackling the "self-absorbed, less caring Canada of the future" by outlining the findings from a seriously stacked poll.

Talkin' 'bout our generation—us 16 to 29-year-olds—the poll found that 47 per cent of us Canadian youth believe an ideal society rewards individual performance, 54 per cent of us want to earn "a lot" of money, 71 per cent don't want babies and 62 per cent of us say the lowest possible taxes are more important than social benefits.

Also—shocking!—44 per cent of us say we're not ready to pay for the Boomers' increasing social and healthcare costs.

What is to be concluded from this, apparently, is that our generation will be responsible for a narcissistic, childless future. This finding conveniently coincides with "the popularity of social networks such as Facebook, with their culture of self," according to

an American "empathy" researcher.

As one of the youths in question, there's nothing quite like a bunch of partial percentage points paraded as fact by Boomers about how superior their generation was to ours to make you want to stick it to the proverbial (old) man.

I mean, though it may be easy to blame Facebook for the ills of our generation, the context of Canada within the study (and the subsequent opinions piece) seems to be totally lacking. How and why has this happened, Henry? Who raised us with these values?

Though he admits that our generation may lack the money to pay down the Canadian social safety net, due in part to the huge public debt that the "old folks helped rack up," this point was presented in parentheses, so let's be clear: our generation is pretty screwed financially—largely because of yours.

How are we expected to enact social change, volunteer to compensate for the cutbacks in health and social services—and feed our hypothetical babies—in today's world? Statistics indicate that the

average student debt is \$20,000 and the average income of 16- to 29-year-olds is well under \$30,000. Don't even get me started on the job market.

It seems worth mentioning that, in the poll 32,714 youth were surveyed, versus 7,400 people aged 30 to 50, which is quite the disparity. Also, there was only an eight per cent difference between the oldies and younglings who believe primarily in individualism.

Even worse, this opinions piece totally negated the huge number of us youth that genuinely want and are working towards a better future in this country—and Facebook can be used as an amazing tool for organizing, activism and volunteering.

Finally, it seems contradictory that the generation that gave us nine years of Brian Mulroney and five years of Stephen Harper are claiming that we're the ones less committed to the greater social good.

Opinions pieces on youth, without the youth perspective, do nothing to close the chasm that has become the generation gap.



BeermERICA

America's Beer Doesn't Suck

• TAKEO KUSHI

Countries love to laud their beer-swilling credentials. Germany has its reinheitsgebot purity laws, England and Ireland their pub-going ways, and Canada and Australia love to tout their reputation as beer countries—not to mention Belgium and the Netherlands. At the very bottom of the barrel lies the United States, with a piss-poor reputation and an oft-mocked tradition of crappy beer.

In fact, the United States produces the best beer in the world, and it's definitely not the beer you're thinking of. Those PBRs, Buds, and Millers? They're made in Canada, by Canadian factories, often the only way cross-border brews can make it up north. Those beers, in fact, are a better reflection of corporate hegemony than American tradition—though you may content yourself in thinking they are the same thing.

It is the exploding world of microbrews and craft beers—the ‘indie’ market if you’d like—where Americans can plant their flag as number one. You won’t have to take my word for it, though.

Every two years, brewers from the world around compete in the

World Beer Cup, also known as the Olympics of beer. Like the actual Olympics, the U.S. has built itself quite a lofty mountain of medals.

There were more participating states at 47—including Hawaii and Alaska—than there were participating countries at 44. On top of that, American breweries shook up traditional strongholds, outclassing Germany in German-style beers and cleaning up specialty categories such as smoked, extreme and spiced.

While those numbers are from the most recent cup in 2010, the outcome is the same year after year: the United States dominates individual categories and takes the lion’s share of the top-five champion awards. Since 2000 they have gone four out of five each year, except in 2004 when they took all five. Keep in mind, too, that the majority of the judges came from outside the States.

Microbrewing possesses all the stalwart characteristics of a creative movement born in the United States. It is a community driven by invention, experimentation, vigorous creativity, a love for the craft and the product, and new breweries are popping up and forever changing the way the

beverage is made and regarded. It is the indie movement writ beer and, like many things indie, the beer you haven’t heard of is often better than the one you have.

But within this culture, there are some standout names—some of which may be familiar to fellow expats. Dogfish Head Brewery out of Maryland (named for the owner’s three favorite things), Harpoon Brewery out of Boston, Rogue out of Oregon, Magic Hat just south of the border in Burlington, VT, and one of the original microbreweries, Sierra Nevada Brewery out of California.

To be fair, the movement isn’t at all restricted to the States; in Montreal there are outstanding microbreweries as well. Boreale and Griffon are fairly mediocre, but St. Ambroise is decent and Unibroue, with its award-winning Fin du Monde, can stand head to head against the best the States has to offer.

Brutopia, while a great establishment, doesn’t quite cut it.

If you want a taste of the types of beer coming out of the U.S. then head straight to Dieu Du Ciel on Laurier Avenue (try the IPA).



Dear Melissa,

My girlfriend and I want to try anal, but here's the thing. She wants to fuck me with a strap-on. I'm a hetero guy and have never been the 'catcher' in this situation. I'm a little nervous about it and I can't avoid it now because she keeps bringing it up.

From, Catcher

Dear Catcher,

It sounds like you’re open but nervous to the idea of pegging (when a female penetrates a male with a strap-on).

Hetero or not, anal stimulation of the prostate gland is something any man can enjoy, but you need to ask yourself if you WANT to be the “catcher.” Are you nervous because it’s something you don’t want, or because you do but it’s a new experience? Your girlfriend bringing it up shouldn’t be your only reason for doing it and if you really don’t want to then chances are you’ll be reluctant, really nervous and you might even resent your girlfriend if things don’t go well.

If you decide you’re open to trying it out, take it slow and relax. The worst way to go about anal sex for the first time is with a “let’s just get this over with” attitude. When you’re nervous your muscles tense up—including the ones in your ass, which can make things painful for you, so try easing into it with something easy like a finger or small toy.

It might also help to do this a few times before moving up to penetration with a strap-on if you’re really nervous because the more comfortable you are, the more you’ll enjoy yourself.

The anus is prone to small tears and cuts because it doesn’t produce natural lubricant so use lots of lube because it’ll make the whole experience easier. Although all sexual activity poses a risk for STIs, a condom isn’t necessary if you’re only penetrating the anus with a toy but be sure to give any toys you use a good clean before and after, as well as if you plan on using the same toy on your girlfriend. However, if you’re both using the toy you might choose to use a condom because it can make for quick and easy clean up between since you’d just need to change condoms.

Though I’m not familiar with the joys of male anal sex first-hand, I have it on good authority that it’s pretty damn awesome. I’m also going to direct you to a great site where you can get further tips on first time anal sex in case you have more specific questions. Analsexyes.com has articles on preparation and a forum where people share their advice and first time experiences with anal. It’s really helpful and a lot of them make for some steamy reads on their own.

Finally, anal sex on either partner is intimate and requires trust because like anything, things don’t always go perfectly. Do you trust that your partner will stop if you realize that it’s not for you? Do you trust that she’ll let you be in control of the pace? These are important factors and things you might want to talk about together if it’ll help put your mind at ease.

Good luck, and don’t let fear keep you from pegging!

Send your dirty little secret sex related questions or qualms to sexpancakes.thelink@gmail.com



GRAPHIC ERIC BENT

Practice What You Preach

Jewish Community Comes to Terms With Islamophobia

• ADAM KOVAC

Growing up in an observant Jewish home, there are values that are generally bestowed upon you. You learn valuable lessons about Tikun Olam, the concept of healing the world. Unfortunately, as you grow older, you learn that often this concept is forgotten when the touchy subject of Jewish-Islamic relations are concerned.

Despite paying lip service to the fact that Islam and terrorism are not synonymous, there is an undercurrent of Islamophobia in

the Jewish community that often goes unremarked. It is neither violent nor public, but is destructive just the same.

When five synagogues and a Jewish day school were vandalized by thrown rocks last week, the immediate reaction from many local Jews was that it must have been the work of Muslims.

Though rabbis and community leaders insisted it was too soon to talk about who was behind the damage, in private, many in the community came to the conclusion that—like the firebombing of the United Talmud Torah of Mon-

treal school in 2006—the perpetrators were adherents to Islam taking out their anger over the Israel-Palestine conflict.

I know this because of conversations I have had with friends and family. I know this because it was my own first reaction. And it is not a racism born out of hatred, but out of laziness and fear of an unknown other.

There have been attacks on synagogues and Jewish centres going back longer than most care to remember, and for reasons that have run the gamut from killing Christ to military action in the

Middle East. Let's face it—there are a lot of screwed up assholes out there who hate Jews. And yet the assumption wasn't that a group of skinheads or extreme Christian fundamentalists wandered into Cote St. Luc, stones in hand.

Yes, there has been tension between the two communities. Yes, passions often get stirred up when it comes to Israel and Palestine. And with good reason—many in Montreal have relatives in the region, and are thus more vested in what happens beyond important, yet ethereal, concepts like human

rights. But it is because of that tension that we need to strengthen the ties between our religious families. By ending the demonization, perhaps we can end the violence, at home if not abroad. If this seems like a vague suggestion that the solution is to hug thy neighbour, well, it is. But it's as good a place to start healing an unnecessary rift as any.

Let's wait for all the facts to come out. And then, once a court of law has reached a decision, we can condemn the perpetrators based on their actions, and not on their religion.

'Fuck It, I'm Still an Aquarius'

How a Scientist Shook the Public's Faith in Horoscopes

• CHRISTOPHER OLSON

The recent news that people's zodiac signs may have changed due to the slow migration of the constellations in the night sky has conjured up strong feelings of denial, skepticism and disbelief. The question is, why the hell now?

The irony that's escaped a great number of people in the wake of this upheaval is that it's thanks to an astronomer—hereafter known as a scientist—that people are beginning to lose their faith in their daily horoscopes.

It's as if after decades of teaching that the Earth is round to the flat Earth society, the shocking truth of the world's spherical dimensions was suddenly made apparent.

If I can't be an Aquarius anymore, what's the point in pretending that my selflessness and sociability are character traits prescribed to me by large balls of gas, instead of traits I developed through a combination of genes and random chance?

So how did this finally happen?

Ask any self-proclaimed astronomer about astrology and watch their eyes roll over in their head—it's the same look you'll get from an evolutionary biologist after asking them about "intelligent design."

But rather than make another dead-end attack on the pseudo-

science of astrology, what Minnesota astronomer Parke Kunkle did earlier this month in an article in *Star Tribune* was go along with the gag. He presented what's already become a well-known fact in astrological circles: that the moon's gravitational pull on the Earth has knocked the constellations a month out of the cycle that astrologists have been following for thousands of years, which, if you follow logic, means that adjustments would have to be made to the zodiac.

Like wildfire, the Internet spread the news, with supporters of astrology busy putting out the flames, "debunking" Kunkle's fundamental

mistruths, and pointing out that the originator of this nasty business about changing zodiac signs is a credible scientist—a scientist god damn it. Not a "qualified" divination expert in the least.

It's as if after decades of teaching that the Earth is round to the flat Earth society, the shocking truth of the world's spherical dimensions was suddenly made apparent by a fellow flat Earther pointing out that, hey, wouldn't a flat Earth be kind of impractical and stupid?

But maybe that analogy isn't giving astrology enough credit. Unlike most pseudo-sciences, astrology has had the remarkable ability to reach

across the aisle to the unlikeliest of allies: atheists and god-fearing people alike.

The news that all of our horoscopes may be wrong has elicited strong reactions from people because, deep down, everyone knows it doesn't pass muster. But rather than point out the obvious fallacy behind the concept that the stars, if read like a script, reveal hidden plot points in the scenes of our life to come, Kunkle poisoned the milk from the source by attacking directly our suspension of disbelief.

In one of his most famous stunts ever, professional skeptic James Randi filmed a lecture he gave to a

group of high school students wherein he presented each student with a detailed horoscope reportedly tailored to their specific birth dates. Only after asking the class if they believed that their individual horoscope accurately reflected them, to which the clear majority agreed, did he reveal that they had all been duped and that they had all in fact received the exact same readings.

This month, millions of people had the cold water of logic splashed on their faces in the exact same way.

But fuck it. I'm still an Aquarius.



GRAPHIC CHRISTOPHER OLSON

Tremendous Tales

by Christopher Olson



Radio contact was made on Monday. First human contact came Wednesday. Friday was the funeral.

Tired of Reading

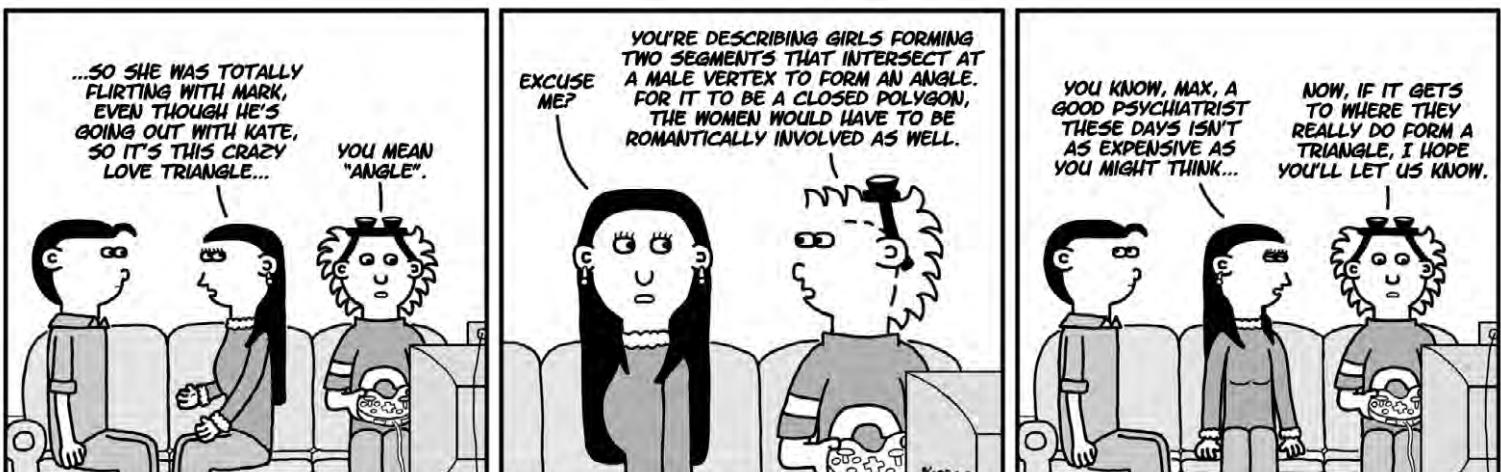
Beardo and the Bear

BY MATT MAROTTI



Last Ditch Effort

BY JOHN KROES



Nah'msayin?

Naming Your Unit

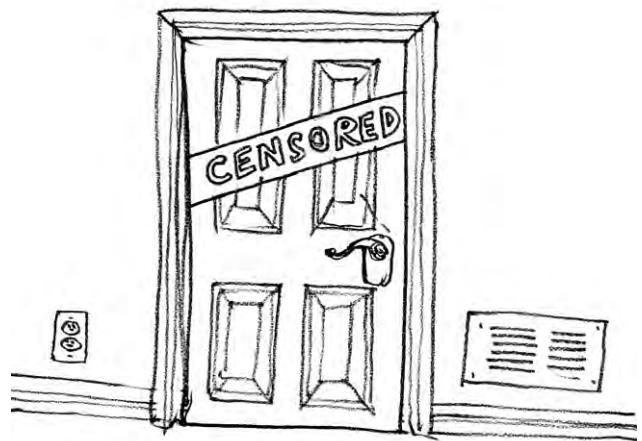
The English language is constantly evolving. For example, a bitch used to be a female dog, and now it's somebody within whom you pop a cap. But there is one area that has yet to catch up: the names we give to the rooms in our homes.

The living or family room: this used to be a place where you enjoyed your family and grew closer as a caring, nurturing unit by playing board games or some other lame crap. In the modern world, this tag no longer applies. Might I suggest the "Play XBox while ignoring your family room?"

The bedroom: pretty simple. You used to sleep in here. But sleeping is just one of many activities that this room now hosts. So I propose a new title: "the Facebook stalking/masturbating/passing out room."

Too graphic? You don't even want to know what I have in mind for the bathroom.

—Adam Kovac,
Features 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

GRAPHIC VIVIEN LEUNG

Byelection January 28, 2011 4:00 p.m. H-649

The following candidates are running:

- Sports Editor: Christopher M. Hampson
- Student Press Liaison: Alex Di Pietro, Alex McGill
- Opinions Editor: Megan Dolski, Natasha Young • Photo Editor: Erin Sparks

The following contributors are eligible to come and vote:

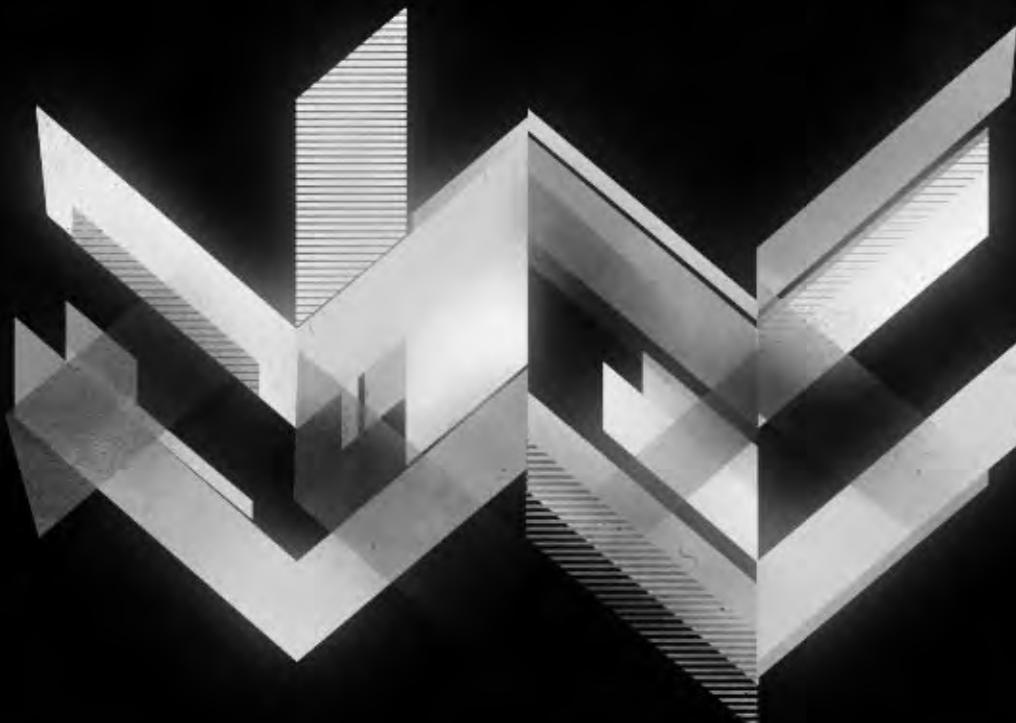
Rob Amyot, Joel Balsam, Esther Bernard, Alex Boudreau-O'Dowd, Jeff Bush, Pierre Chauvin, Ray Corkum, Sebastien Cadieux, Megan Dolski, Sophia Gay, Colin Harris, Chris Hampson, Les Honeywill, David Kauffmann, Nadim Kobeissi, Vivien Leung, Clément Liu, Matt Marotti, Shawn McCrory, Alex McGill, Christopher Olson, Jasmine Papillon-Smith, Daryna Rukhlyadeva, Sam Slotnick, Erin Sparks, Joseph Ste. Marie, Joel Suss, Nicholas Ward, Megan Wohlberg,

Natasha Young, Andrea Zoellner

Elections will take place in *The Link* office, Hall building, room H-649.

For more information email: editor@thelinknewspaper.ca or call

514-848-2424 ext.7407



Student Space - Art Space - Corporate Space - Media Space

Drops Tuesday, Feb. 8