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# Montrealers United Against Mubarak

## Rally in Solidarity With Egyptian Demonstrators



Nearly 200 protesters rallied in support of the people of Egypt Friday. Last week, over 100 were killed while demonstrating in Cairo. PHOTO IRINA GABER

• CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

As thousands continued to clash with riot police in the streets of Cairo Friday, nearly 200 protesters stood outside Montreal's Egyptian consulate calling for the country's president to step down.

Widespread demonstrations began on Jan. 25 in Egypt, when thousands marched through Cairo demanding an end to Hosni Mubarak's presidency—a 30-year regime marked by political violence, high unemployment and food price inflation.

"This is the moment we have been waiting for for 30 years," said Montreal resident Yassir Shoukry, whose family is still living in Egypt. Shoukry lost contact with them on Thursday after Egyptian authorities disabled the country's wireless communications and Internet access.

"The government cut [communications] because they are preparing for attacks on the protesters [...] but the people cannot stop, you can't win freedom without bloodshed," he continued.

Shortly after the Internet blackout, violence erupted in and around Cairo. Police began

using live ammunition to subdue demonstrators, causing the deaths of over 100 people across Egypt.

**"We just want to be human, to have elections, to eat."**

—Ala Aldin, protestor

Ala Aldin emigrated from Egypt five weeks ago, but his mother and sister remain in Cairo. He has not heard from them since the uprising began.

"The last thing they told me was there is a great revolution happening in the streets," he said. "It's terrifying and I cannot stop worrying about their safety. We just want to be human, to have elections, to eat."

The Egyptian uprising came after weeks of demonstrations in Tunisia brought down President Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali's autocratic government. The success of the Tunisian revolution sparked a wave of unrest throughout the Arab world as mass protests were staged in Jordan, Yemen, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

The Montreal rally was one of

many organized across Canada as hundreds in Toronto and Ottawa also marched in solidarity with the people of Egypt.

Demonstrators outside of Montreal's Egyptian consulate on Friday were hopeful that if Mubarak's government fell, upheaval would spread throughout the region.

"Tunisia was the beginning," said Hussein Youssef, who also has family in Egypt. "We're going to see a domino affect here. People want democracy and I wish them the best."

In Cairo and Alexandria, protesters now number in the hundreds of thousands. Police have reportedly abandoned certain neighborhoods altogether as massive amounts of looting and unrest continued to spread throughout the country last weekend.

Although tanks entered the city streets and fighter jets circled above, the military's role in the fight for Egypt remains ambiguous. Soldiers were called in to disperse crowds, but in many cases their actions were ineffective and some have even shown public signs of solidarity with protesters.

"Who are the soldiers?"

asked Fehr Marouf at the Montreal protest. "The soldiers are the people and they don't want to shoot down their brothers and sisters."

Responding to the calls for him to step down, Mubarak fired his entire cabinet on Friday. But for those attending Montreal's protest, nothing short of a resignation would suffice.

"Mubarak needs to go," said Youssef. "I lived under his regime for most of my life. You could not express opinions, you lived in fear of being beaten or jailed. Egyptians were treated like animals. He needs to go so that we can hope for people to eat, to elect their leaders, to have dignity."

On Sunday, hundreds of members of Egypt's leading Islamic party, the Muslim Brotherhood, escaped a prison in Cairo, leading many to fear that the fundamentalist group will seize power if Mubarak is deposed.

"The Muslim Brotherhood didn't initially support this revolution," said Marouf. "This is about the people who united as both Christian and Muslim. It's much bigger than a group of fundamentalists."

## DONATIONS PLUMMET WITH UNIVERSITY CRISIS

### Donors Fall by up to 80 per cent: Employees

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI  
& JULIA JONES

After Concordia's Board of Governors dismissed President Judith Woodsworth on Dec. 22, the student callers at the Alumni Relations office found unwelcoming ears and little enthusiasm as they solicited donations.

According to student callers contacted by *The Link*, the number of donors fell by up to 80 per cent in the early weeks of January and donations fell to \$50 on some days—an average day before the dismissal could see callers bring in several thousand dollars.

While university spokesperson Chris Mota told *The Link* that no official figures are available, students in the office have noted that procedures were changed to try to stem the fall in donations.

"While we used to contact alumni regardless of their faculty, we now give preferential treatment to alumni who are in our current faculty," said one caller who asked for anonymity due to fears of losing their job. "They expect that if donors can relate with us, they will give more."

Despite the changes, Mota warned that it was still too soon to comment on the potential impact of the dismissal.

"The Alumni Office is still processing 2010 gifts, and early January is generally fairly quiet in terms of donations, so we won't have any meaningful comparisons for some time."

As one of the few ways that Concordia communicates with its alumni, the callers complained that the university's reaction to the firing was a "sugarcoating" of the truth.

Briefed by Mota during the second week of the semester, callers were instructed to tell inquiring alumni that the university's Board of Governors had full confidence in the university's senior administration.

Despite training that reinforced the university's official position—that Woodsworth resigned for personal reasons and that her contract details were confidential—callers said that

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# The Return



## “We Take Care of Our Students”

### Student Union Calls Special Meeting to Fight Tuition

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

Two months before students elect new representatives, the administration of Concordia Student Union President Heather Lucas was confronted with a drastically different brand of student politics on Thursday.

At the Information General Meeting last Thursday, 150 Concordia students and community members approved a series of mo-

tions that could have sent the CSU skidding off on a new path. Unfortunately for those present, the motions were non-binding.

However, it's too soon for the union to breathe a sigh of relief.

Presented with a petition collected by Irmak Bahar and signed by 114 students, as well as a motion at the IGM, Lucas filed a presidential decree yesterday calling for a Special General Meeting on

Feb. 14. A legally binding assembly, students can pass motions at a SGM that mandate action from the CSU.

If the IGM is any indication, the SGM, which will be held on the Reggie's Terrace and has been entitled “A Wintry Hot Accessible Love-in for Education,” will push the CSU on a path of action which is largely foreign to the current executive.

While the talk of banning credit

cards, fighting privatization and humbling the Board of Governors will be absent, the SGM will see Concordia undergraduates voting to hold a Day of Action to denounce the Quebec government's proposed tuition hikes.

“I'm pretty excited for this,” said Lucas, who added that food and heating tents will be present to cater to the 800 students necessary to reach quorum.

“We take care of our students.”

## “OVERHAUL THE BOARD”

• LAURA BEESTON

At the Concordia Student Union's Information General Meeting last Thursday, the assembled students and community members took a hard line against the Board of Governors.

As a result of the Board's controversial dismissal of President Judith Woodsworth before Christmas, the students assembled at the IGM demanded the resignation of all 23 of the Board's community-at-large members.

Reiterating much of what was discussed at the Jan. 12 CSU Council meeting—where councillors spent hours in debate before passing a watered-down motion calling for those Board members who exceeded their term limits to step down—the IGM also supported new hiring and appointment structures for the Board that were passed at the Senate.

Despite the much stronger stance taken at the IGM, two CSU executives, VP Loyola & Advocacy Hassan Abdullahi and VP Clubs & Finance Remy Khoriarty, stressed that the

CSU had already approved a motion “with the exact same intent,” cutting off student debate by saying, “We're already doing everything.”

Many were quick to call for a tougher stance from the CSU on the current Board, and called for a system of appointing community-at-large members that would allow for more representation of the actual Concordia and Montreal population.

One member of the crowd lamented the “underrepresentation of people like drag queens and librarians” on the Board.

But beyond a call for an overhaul, the fact that teaching staff and students were united was briefly celebrated, with the lone faculty member in attendance calling for students to put continued pressure on their representatives.

“I just wanted to remind you that Peter Kruyt is nowhere nearer to the door than he was last Thursday,” said David Douglas, a part-time teacher who sits on the Senate's steering committee.

## FEUQ OFF

• ADAM KOVAC

On Dec. 9, nearly 100 Concordia students traveled to Quebec City to express their opposition towards potential dramatic hikes in university tuition.

Louis-Phillipe Savoie, president of La Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec, an organization that represents more than 125,000 students, announced to the attendees of Thursday's Informational General Meeting that on March 12, they'll be able to protest a little bit closer to home.

“All organizations from Quebec, student unions, community organizations, will be there to denounce that orientation of the government and tuition hikes, so it's very important that students get mobilized and send out a clear message,” said Savoie of the public protest that will take place at Place du Canada in downtown Montreal.

“We're trying to get every university to mobilize students

to send out a clear message to their administration that they are not happy with what's going on with tuition.”

**“It's very important that students get mobilized and send out a clear message.”**

—Louis-Phillipe Savoie  
President of FEUQ

Tuition began rising by \$100 a year in Quebec after a more than decade long freeze was lifted in 2007. As of 2012, however, politicians have been discussing a much steeper increase—as much as \$500 per year for three years until 2014.

Savoie pointed out that this would make university education inaccessible for students who are unable to get financial aid or cannot afford to go

into debt.

“Right now, 77 per cent of the average undergrad's financing comes from themselves or their parents. What does that mean? If tuition rises, it's not true that it will be covered by government loans or grants. It will be covered by students working more, getting more debt on their credit cards, or their parents paying more,” said Savoie, adding that 44 per cent of Quebec parents cannot afford to contribute to their children's education, and that the average student who graduates with debt owes \$14,000.

Concordia Student Union President Heather Lucas promised strong support for the March 12 event.

“We're still working on the details and logistics of that, but there will be a protest,” she said, adding that though still in the early stages, the CSU will show the same level of commitment as it did for the Dec. 9 protest in Quebec City.

# of the Student



PHOTOS CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

**“I just wanted to remind you that Peter Kruyt is nowhere nearer to the door than he was last Thursday.”**

## THE \$7M QUESTION

• LAURA BEESTON

The final motion drafted at the Information General Meeting on Thursday concerned the allocation of the Student Centre fund, which has amassed nearly \$7 million from student fee levies since 2003.

“We want people to start thinking about what they want to do with this money, and to talk about the fact that there is a SC building [at Loyola Campus] that is underused, and not a student centre [downtown] at this point in time” said Concordia Student Union VP Sustainability and Promotions Morgan Pudwell.

The IGM proposal suggested that the CSU transfer money from the Student Centre fee levy to the renovation and improvement of the Loyola SC building, putting it towards sustainable initiatives like the green roof project and the forthcoming Hive Café.

Initially, various community members at the IGM spurned the motion. Some called for the creation of student bursaries and financial aid, while others questioned whether or not Loyola was an appropriate space for the centre.

CSU VP Loyola and Advocacy Hassan Adullahi also explained that council had already spent up to \$100,000 on improving the SC building this year, suggesting that “it might be counterproductive to use [the \$7 million] for that purpose,” as the CSU only

has a lease with the university on the SC space until 2019.

Additionally, the lawyer representing the CSU, Francois Longpre, stated via e-mail that “it has always been the understanding of everyone concerned that [the SUB] would be located on the SGW campus [...] and the general understanding that the project involved new installations.”

It was his professional opinion “that council does not have the power to allocate all or part of the monies held in the building funds to purposes other than those outlined.”

Finally, the meeting’s chair Roddy Doucet suggested that a proposal be made to mandate the CSU to develop a plenary commission with councillors and other interested parties to explore the options for the \$7 million fund.

CSU councillor Lex Gill promised to put the motion forward at the next council meeting, saying she would advocate for five students on the committee: one from each faculty and one independent student.

The contract for the \$43 million student union building—which failed for the second time in the November referendum after 69 per cent of voters cast their ballots against it—is ongoing between the CSU and the administration. Signed in 2009, students have agreed to put \$10 million towards the project by Sept. 1, 2012.

## SWIPING AWAY CREDIT VENDORS

• ADAM KOVAC

Concordia student Jamiey Kelly got a big cheer at Thursday’s Informational General Meeting for expressing his opinion on the credit card vendors who set up shop in the mezzanine of the Library building.

“I just want the Concordia Student Union to hate the credit card companies as much as I do,” he said to almost unanimous support and laughter.

While a loathing for student debt plays into Kelly’s disregard for the vendors, of greater concern is transparency from the university on financial matters.

“I think what I want is a greater schematic of fundraising that the university does,” Kelly told *The Link*. “I don’t know how much money they make off this, [I] want to understand more about how the university raises money, and how much money they get out of [credit card vendors on campus].”

After a vote, it was decided that Kelly’s proposal would be forwarded to the CSU’s policy reform committee.

CSU VP Sustainability and Promotions Morgan Pudwell said that while vendors are already not permitted on space operated by the CSU, further actions are being taken to minimize credit card companies’ presence on campus.

“The CSU is opposed to the distribution and sale of credit cards on campus, but we’re looking at a way to further advocate that,” she said. “If we’re taking money from alumni,

for example, we want to know that the money isn’t coming from a relationship with credit card [companies].”

However, the CSU has no control over what happens on university-controlled property.

“We can tell the university what we think, and that we don’t support it, and if all else fails we can go out and have a protest in front of the vendors,” continued Pudwell.

Banning credit card vendors would be a dramatic step in Concordia’s current battle against corporatization. In the current academic year, controversies have arisen over advertising space on campus, exclusive agreements with PepsiCo., the current Board of Governor’s corporate ties and retail space in the proposed Faubourg student centre.

Kelly said that while his opposition is tied into that overarching theme, he has targeted the credit card vendors due to their day-to-day ubiquity.

The motion proved overwhelmingly popular, but not everyone in the crowd supported the idea of banning credit card vendors from campus. Stefan Vatchkov voiced opposition to the measure.

“My position is not necessarily that it’s a good or bad idea [to keep vendors on campus],” he told *The Link*, adding that when they’re on campus, the school at least stands to profit. “They’re everywhere, anyway. If they stay on campus, yes it’s an academic place, but what difference does it make if they’re outside the door or inside the door?”



Anti-bottle mascot Huggy the Muggy mugs for the camera alongside student union execs and Concordia VP Services Roger Côté.

PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

## Connect the Dots

### Ticket Price Hike

### Signals Change at TEDx

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

The venue changed, new speakers were selected and the ticket price has doubled, but despite the changes, TEDxConcordia's organizers say interest has never been higher.

"We received 200 applications in the first eight hours after we opened for registrations," said David Chouinard, the head of public relations and marketing for the Concordia event. "We knew that a big pool of people were interested in this, but not to the extent of the interest we got."

With only 400 slots open at the one-day event on Feb. 19—an independently organized offshoot of the global conference series on technology, education and design—applicants are being vetted before being accepted to attend.

"The response has been pretty insane, both inside and outside of Concordia," said Chouinard.

Only half of all applicants to attend the event have been students. However, even the organizers could not confirm how many of those students are from Concordia.

"A big part of the conference is making sure that the people who are there are the people who want to be there," said Chouinard. "We are looking for passionate, curious, interested people who can give back to the community."

According to Chouinard, the increase in the ticket price to \$50 per attendee had less to do with financial pressures than it did with maintaining the integrity of the event. The organizer called the increased admission a "roadblock" to ensure that the right people attend.

"TED isn't about the talks. There is a reason that the talks are put online; it's to make sure that people who want to hear the talks stay home and listen to them," said Chouinard. "The big thing is the experience, to make sure that everyone who is there is contributing to the experience."

The price of food contributed to a larger than expected price tag for the event, with organizers spending \$30 per attendee on food.

"We are going to make sure that food isn't on people's minds," joked Chouinard.

The organizers cited the quality of their speakers as a reason for the vigorous response from both inside and outside of Concordia. The 14 speakers represent a varied cross-section of Montreal life, covering topics from microbiology to social media.

One-third of the speakers at Tedx will be students.

"The speakers I am the most excited for are the students," said Chouinard.

# No Movement On Bottled Water

• JULIAN WARD

After a sit-in, countless meetings, a panel discussion and two open forums, Concordia is no closer to a decision on banning bottled water on campus.

On Wednesday, Concordia VP Services Roger Côté hosted two open forums where students could voice their opinions on Concordia's tap water and whether they want bottled water on campus. No final decisions were made and there is no deadline for dealing with the issue.

Speaking at one of the forums, Côté said that the forums show "an intention, certainly on my part, to act on the issue. What that action will be, and what form it will take is yet to be defined."

Côté was pressed on whether it is even possible to remove bottled water now that the five-year exclusive beverage contract with PepsiCo. has been renewed.

"The provisions of the agreement that the university has entered with PepsiCo. allows for the limitation of the sale of bottled water within that agreement," he said.

The beverage contract sparked con-

trovercy within the student body in October, as the university reached an agreement with PepsiCo. without consulting or notifying students. As a result, nearly 40 students occupied the ninth floor of Concordia's GM Building, where university officials met with representatives of the bottled water industry.

After making his opening statements on Wednesday, Côté opened the floor to forum members, which included members of anti bottled water coalition TAPthirst, the Concordia Student Union, the Arts and Science Federation of Associations and students at large.

While some suggested upgrading the water fountains with infrared sensors, or having biodegradable cups on hand for students, the most agreed upon idea was further maintenance of Concordia's water fountains.

"A lot of students don't want to use the water fountains because they find [them] disgusting," said Chad Walcott, ASFA's VP of external affairs and sustainability. "It's not too much of a choice [between bottled or tap water] if one of the choices disgusts you."

Anyone who sees a water fountain in need of maintenance was told to call the

university at extension 2400.

Another popular notion was for a campus-wide education program to inform students about bottled and tap water.

"The most important point [with regards to an education policy] would be to show students that tap water is just as good and just as healthy as bottled water," said Walcott.

"People will always choose bottled water because they have this ideology that it's cleaner," said Diana Kirkwood, a recent Concordia graduate and a zero-waste campaign manager. "If we create an education program [explaining] that there's no real difference between bottled water and tap water, then we can probably change the culture of water consumption at Concordia."

For those upset by the pace of bottled water efforts, there is at least one more scheduled opportunity for students to voice their opinion. In March there will be a referendum allowing students to vote on whether they want the sale of bottled water banned from campus. While it may be a non-binding poll, it is intended to show Roger Côté exactly what the students want.

# UNIVERSITY ACCUSED OF 'SUGARCOATING'

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few of the alumni had questions about the dismissal.

"They seemed really well informed. Most alumni just said, 'You just wasted \$700,000 on a leaving president, I don't feel like donating to you now.' It seemed to me like the focus was on the severance pay," said another caller.

Alumni objected to the outgoing president's severance package of \$703,500 after having completed only half of her four-year

contract—many referred to it as a golden parachute.

"I briefed them weeks ago to give them the lay of the land so that if they were asked questions by the alumni, they had the correct information," said Mota.

After Mota's briefing, new developments at the university were not added to the callers' information sheets. When they asked, callers said they were told not to bring up new information.

"I asked, could we bring up the vote at Senate calling for the chair

of Board to resign? What about the letter from faculty calling for an investigation of the Board? Or the votes of non-confidence from all the unions? Or the student union's stance that some Board members should go? I wasn't encouraged to bring it up," said a caller. "I had to ask, who are we working for, the university or the Board of Governors?"

The actions of the Board led to a split in the university, with students, faculty and staff rallying together against the unilateral

decision to dismiss Woodsworth, while only Alumni Relations came out in support of the Board's actions.

According to Mota, callers were encouraged to deal with developments within the university, but only when they were prompted on specific issues.

"If I were training callers for fundraising, I would suggest that none of that were brought up; however I would suggest that they respond appropriately when questions are raised," said Mota. "It is

legitimate to respond to appropriate questions when you receive them."

Despite the fall in donations, the callers maintained that they were staying positive about the developments at the university.

"The most important part of our work is to be a listening student on the other line and [to emphasize] that Concordia students, as much as ever, need donor support for various projects around the school, from libraries to bur-saries," said one of the callers.

# (Four Stories) Above the Law

## Forthcoming Redpath Development Violates Montreal's Urban Code



Redpath Mansion may be turned into a seven-story condo development, a plan that would violate Montreal's urban code. PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

### • CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

A plan to level Montreal's historic Redpath Mansion and replace it with a seven-story condo project awaits final approval at city council next week.

Opponents of the luxury condo development are saying it violates Montreal's urban code and are accusing Mayor Gerald Tremblay of waffling on an earlier campaign promise.

Because the mansion sits at the foot of Mont Royal on du Musée Avenue, the city's urban code limits any building replacing it to a three story maximum to preserve a view of the mountain. But when city council voted in favour of the project in November, they gave its developers, Avi and Michael Sochaczewski, permission to soar over the urban code.

"When the Sochaczewskis bought the mansion, they signed

an agreement to maintain it," said Project Montreal city councillor Alex Norris. "And now they are essentially being rewarded for their neglect of the building."

The mansion has a unique place in the city's history, as it was built by one of the most influential families in Montreal history, the Redpaths.

John Redpath came to Montreal in the early 19th century as a penniless Scotsman but soon transformed the city's landscape. His construction company helped build the Lachine canal in 1829, making Montreal a major shipping hub in North America and placing the city at the heart of Canada's industrial revolution. Redpath also financed the construction of McGill University and founded Canada's first sugar refinery, Redpath Sugar.

His family's mansion, built in 1886, was frequently host to the country's political and social elites.

Today, its fading red brick and slate shingles are one of the few examples of Queen Anne architecture remaining in Montreal. The crumbling mansion's houseguests now include stray cats, rodents and the occasional squatter.

The Sochaczewski brothers bought the decaying Redpath Mansion in 1986, when they began demolishing it for redevelopment. Later that year, an injunction obtained by Heritage Montreal prevented the Sochaczewskis from completely razing the house. The Sochaczewskis latest plan has also drawn the ire of citizens groups and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

In 2010, the MMFA built an observatory on du Musée Avenue with a view of Mount Royal. The seven-story condo tower would significantly hinder the view from the museum's observatory.

"When we built the observatory,

we respected Montreal's urban code," said MMFA spokesperson Danielle Champagne. "Why can't [the Sochaczewskis]? It sends the wrong message to other developers."

In 2001, when Tremblay first ran for mayor, one of his platform points was preserving the architectural heritage of Montreal.

"He specifically mentioned the importance of preserving the Redpath house," said Norris. "Now I think it's worth mentioning that the Sochaczewskis are the owners of *The Suburban*. Their newspaper strongly endorsed the mayor's candidacy in 2009, telling their readers it was the most important municipal election of their lifetime and to get out and vote for Tremblay.

"Now, one year later, we're seeing Tremblay grant the Sochaczewskis a derogation from which they stand to benefit."

Dinu Mumbaru is the executive director of Heritage Montreal, a citizen group that works to preserve Montreal's cultural and architectural heritage. Mumbaru fears the consequences the development might have for the neighbourhood and Montreal as a whole.

"It sets a dangerous precedent," said Mumbaru of the mayor's decision to support the seven-story project. "Montreal's old architecture is part of what gives the city its unique character. The mayor is putting the burden of proof on citizens and unfairly siding with developers here. This could completely change the character of the neighbourhood."

Bernard Larin, a spokesperson for the city of Montreal, said he could not comment on the situation, but that it would be addressed at the city's next council meeting on Feb. 7.



the asterisk

• CHRISTOPHER CURTIS

Seeking refuge from the poverty of Scotland, John Redpath boarded a Quebec-bound ship in 1816. When he arrived in Montreal, the city had fewer than 20,000 inhabitants and little shipping activity.

Redpath worked as a stonemason and eventually founded a construction company that would help bring Montreal to the forefront of the Canadian industrial revolution. Redpath's company undertook major works building the Lachine Canal and built locks for ships to bypass the otherwise bumpy Lachine rapids.

By the time ships began using the canal in 1825, more than 13,000 vessels sailed through Montreal annually.

Redpath's construction company also built most of McGill University's first buildings and the Notre Dame Basilica.

Capitalizing on the success of the Lachine Canal, Redpath started a shipping company which imported goods from around the world. One of his company's main imports, sugar from the West Indies, led Redpath to create Canada's first sugar refinery.

Redpath invested most of his wealth into growing and diversifying Montreal's economy. For instance, he was one of the forefathers of the city's stock exchange.

He is also remembered as a philanthropist who donated to charities, sat on the board of Montreal's General Hospital and was a supporter of the abolitionist movement.

By the time Redpath died in 1869, the small town he had immigrated to now counted six times more inhabitants and was at the center of Canada's economic modernization.

**John Redpath was a self-made immigrant success story who helped industrialize Montreal's economy**

## FIRE



Firefighters put out a blaze that caused an estimated \$1 million in damage to an art gallery on the south side of Sherbrooke Street West between Mackay and Guy Streets. No one was harmed in the fire and hundreds of paintings were saved. PHOTO ERIN SPARKS.

# Hive Launch Delayed

## Student Run Café Expected to Open in Summer or Fall

• MEGAN DOLSKI

The Concordia Student Union's plans to open a student run café at Loyola's The Hive this month have encountered a few minor obstacles, delaying the project's opening until later this year.

The space is currently undergoing an aesthetic facelift, which is the primary reason for pushing back the café's opening date. The CSU has recruited a class of Concordia design students to develop the interior look and feel of the café.

"I've delayed it to give the students more time to decide what they want the space to look like," said Hassan Abdullahi, CSU's VP Loyola and Advocacy. The students are working on everything, from furniture and lighting to choosing the colour of the walls.

A second factor causing the delay is a fairly substantial technicality—the building's electricity is maxed out. Abdullahi says that a solution for this issue is currently in the works.

All of the construction required to make the café functional is expected to be complete by the end

of April. A final decision on whether it will open for the summer semester, or hold off until the fall, has not been reached.

The CSU is hoping to make the café widely accessible.

"Students at the Loyola Campus have a variety of eating habits that differ extremely, so we are trying to meet the demand as much as possible," said Abdullahi. "We've actually even looked into meeting the dietary habits of both Muslims and Jews."

The CSU is also working to incorporate educational aspects into the café. In addition to working with design students, the CSU hopes to work with co-op students at the John Molson School of Business to provide them with hands-on management experience.

Meanwhile, the recently revamped and reopened Loyola Luncheon is picking up, despite a slow start. Abdullahi suspects that an initial lack of marketing caused the project's low turnout in the early stages of reopening.

Abdullahi said that on its busiest days the luncheon now feeds up to 150 people—joking

that they've occasionally had to use Frisbees as plates due to a large turnout.

"A lot of money went into that kitchen and people were expecting a lot from it," said Abdullahi. "I think we've reached our expectation because the students are happy and lots of them are using the service. It was definitely worth the investment."

Biochemistry student Iradele Plante eats at the luncheon every Monday to Thursday and is thrilled with the opportunity to have a free meal at school.

When asked about the CSU's prospective café, Plante said she will absolutely be a customer. "I think we definitely need more food options at Loyola, and what I really want is a place where I can sit for hours, study and eat at the same time."

**The Loyola Luncheon is open every Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Hive. Service of free vegetarian meals begins at 12:30 p.m. When it opens, the café is tentatively set to be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**



The Hive will undergo a series of esthetic transformations to make way for a student run café, expected to open in the Summer or Fall. PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

# Taking a STAND for Sudan

## Speakers Address Problems Plaguing Africa's Largest Country



Panelists discuss problems facing Sudan, where over two million have been killed during a 22-year civil war. PHOTO NATASHA MACAMOND

• SIMON LIEM

In the wake of the recent referendum on secession, creating democratic institutions and developing a viable infrastructure are some of the biggest challenges facing Sudan, said Sudanese journalist Laku Bil.

Bil, who now lives in Montreal, addressed a group of about 25 people alongside Khalid Medani, a political science professor at McGill University, in an open forum at Concordia's Hall building on Thursday. The forum was hosted by STAND, an advocacy group that addresses genocide, with a focus on Darfur.

Bil was born in south Sudan, and, like many, left at a young age for the north. He grew up and was educated in Khartoum, Sudan's capital. He worked for opposition newspapers after finishing university and then came to Canada because of the "lack of democracy and

lack of freedom."

The journalist spoke about many different issues including the difficult transition to peace for the Sudanese people.

"How are the people, after 25 years in war, going to put the guns down and become artists?" asked Bil.

To overcome a problem like that, he cited poor infrastructure and social injustice as issues that Sudan must address first. According to him, one of the main obstacles is elites provoking ethnic tension and violence to distract people from more pressing issues such as poverty and state oppression.

Sudan, the largest country in Africa, ended a weeklong referendum on Jan. 15 on whether the southern part of the country should secede. The official results will be announced on Feb. 14, but secession is almost guaranteed, with some districts reporting 99 per cent

vote counts in favour of separating.

The referendum was the result of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. The CPA officially ended a 22-year-long civil war between the north and the south, over the course of which an estimated two million people were killed.

The agreement was reached in 2005 between the Omar al-Bashir government in Khartoum and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, the group that is expected to take power in south Sudan when independence becomes official in July.

Professor Medani, who was born in north Sudan and has studied the country extensively, said one of the many issues crucial to Sudan's future was democratic reform within these two groups.

"Both of those parties [...] are non-democratic. Obviously, the Bashir regime is an authoritarian government," said Medani. "There is a history of human rights viola-

tions by the SPLA in the south, including land dispossession."

Medani added that land is of particular importance because of the role that oil will play in the new country. It is estimated that oil will account for 90 per cent of south Sudan's revenues. According to Medani, this makes peaceful negotiation over disputed regions, such as the oil-rich Abyei, crucial to maintaining stability.

It is still unclear how the referendum will affect Darfur, a region in western Sudan, where there was extreme violence from 2003 to 2004. The number of deaths due to violence, famine and disease during that time is estimated at anywhere from 100,000 to 300,000.

Since 2005, the violence has decreased significantly, but still continues. A United Nations report said that 98 people died from violence in September, 2010. If socio-economic policies are changed for the better in Sudan, Medani be-

lieves the peace process in Darfur would be greatly helped.

While the speakers presented a number of issues that could disturb the balance of Sudan, both were optimistic about the referendum and the possibility of recent protests in Tunisia and Egypt giving momentum to similar protests in Sudan, in which people are demanding more say in their government.

"[The protests] have galvanized and mobilized people in civil society to say we can actually go out on the street and express our grievances," said Medani.

Alicia Luedke, a student of Medani's at the forum, appreciated both the academic and personal perspectives of each speaker and the importance of the subject for her peers.

"Canadians do have a responsibility [...] to help with state formation, but not in a way that's intrusive," said Luedke.

## CARLTON U SOCIOLOGIST DECONSTRUCTS PRISON EXPANSION

• MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Despite a steady decline in cases of reported crime in Canada since 1991, the country's prison population is on the rise—and with it, plans for massive prison expansion projects.

An expected influx of at least 3,400 new prisoners has the Harper government planning to construct \$2 billion of additions onto 35 existing federal penitentiaries. Some 2,700 more beds and "double-bunks" will be created across the country, including 484 in Quebec.

This discrepancy in the numbers of crimes and prisoners can be traced to several "tough on crime" bills passed last year. Such bills have meant longer sentences for inmates, said Justin Piché, a PhD candidate at Carlton University who gave a talk last week called 'Prison 101: If You Build It, They Will Come', at the Atwater Public Library.



Although crime is down in Canada, a vast expansion of the country's prison system is underway. PHOTO DAMIEN ENTWISTLE

"While many jurisdictions such as Texas and Kansas have decided to shift gears away from building prisons and to invest in things like justice reinvestment and more community-based alternatives, in Canada we're publishing piece after piece of legislation that aims to put

more people behind bars for longer periods of time," he said.

Last year Bill C-25, or the Truth in Sentencing Act, eliminated the practice of considering one day of pre-trial detention as equivalent to two days of detention after being convicted of a crime. Bill C-2, or the

Tackling Violent Crime Act, has introduced harsher minimum sentencing for gun-related crimes. The two bills are expected to increase the number of inmates by at least 3,400 by March 2014.

Despite a 22 per cent decrease in crime since 1999, Prime Minister Harper said that Canadians continue to be concerned about crime, especially guns, gangs and drug violence.

"Canadians expect to live in a country where they don't have to worry when they turn off the lights at night, where they don't have to look over their shoulders as they walk down the street, where they can expect to find their car where they parked it," Harper said in a speech to supporters on Jan. 23.

"Sometimes that means taking the bad guys out of circulation for a while. So that's what we're doing. Does it cost money? Yes. Is it worth it? Just ask a victim."

Piché argues that these pieces of legislation actually threaten public safety by preventing access to the necessary programming that allows for a safe reintegration into society, such as mental health and parole services.

"What we're doing in terms of trying to send people to prison for longer periods of time with fewer chances of release [parole] does not actually strengthen safety in our communities," he said.

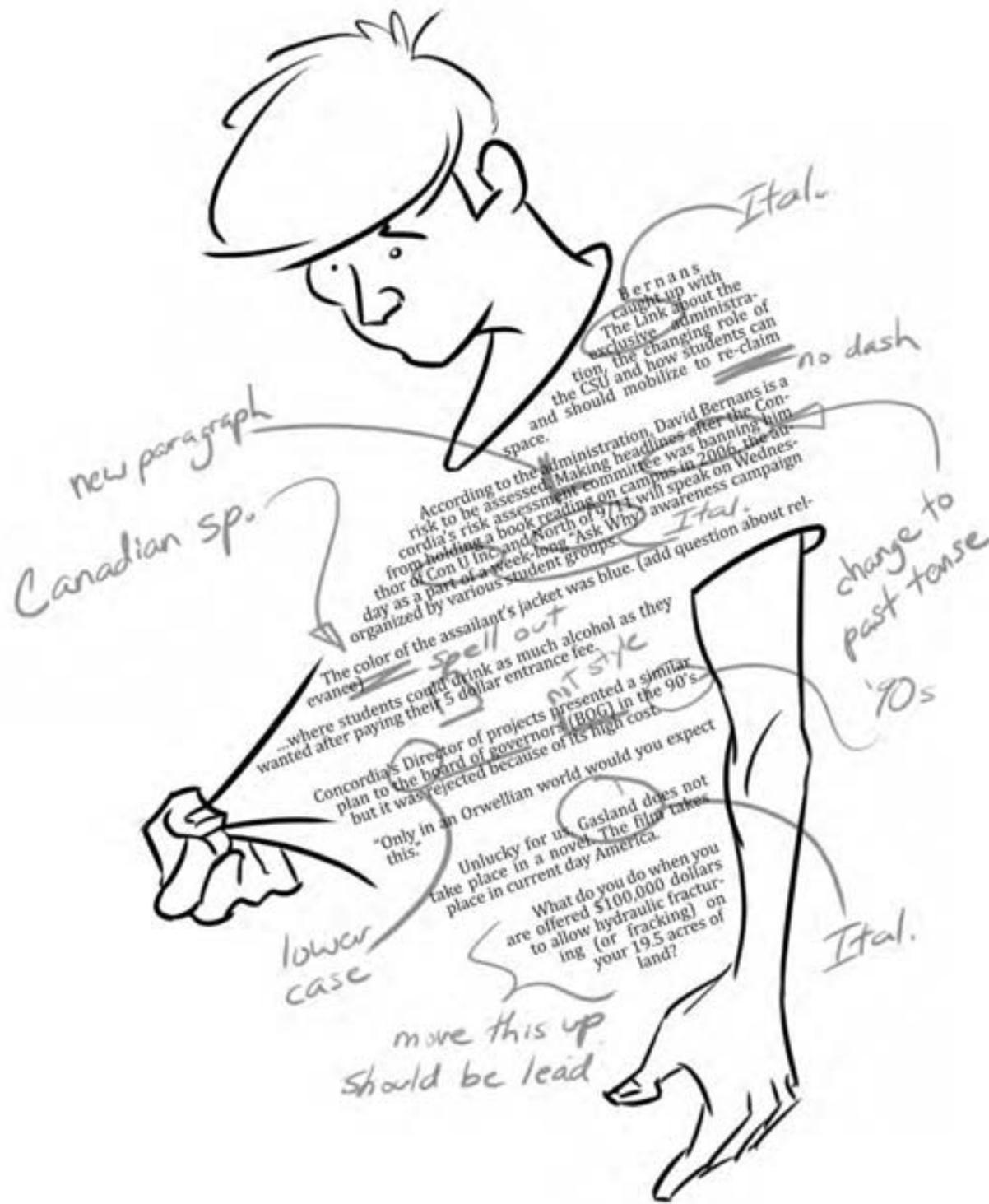
The latest victimization study done by Statistics Canada showed that 93 per cent of Canadians feel safe with respect to crime.

"If we look at prevention literature, it will note that we need to build community," said Piché. "This is not being done by making everyone afraid of each other."

The government is planning to release more details surrounding the cost and extent of this long-term expansion in March 2011.

# Rethink Your Style

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GRAPHIC DAVID BARLOW KRELINA

**THE LINK**

**2011** BYELECTION RESULTS

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# Stimulus Needed



Natural Resource Minister Christian Paradis visits Concordia, where stimulus money has funded massive infrastructure projects.

PHOTO LUC CINQ-MARS

• JULIAN WARD

Canada's Minister of Natural Resources unveiled the latest report on the Economic Action Plan yesterday at Concordia University, which has provided stimulus money needed to fund major infrastructure projects.

Minister Christian Paradis toured the Centre for Structural and Functional Genomics building, currently under construction at Loyola campus. Both the infrastructure projects and the stimulus plan are the subject of controversy both on and off campus.

"This university is certainly an ideal location for such an event. [The genomics centre] is one of

three investments by our government in this university," said Paradis. The other two investments are the Perform Centre and the solar lab in the basement of the Hall building.

"Concordia has benefitted greatly from [the Economic Action Plan], to the tune of some \$80 million dollars of combined funding from the Canadian and Quebec governments," said Frederick Lowy, Concordia's new interim president, who was also in attendance. "This funding helps support environmental genomics, renewable energy technology, exercise science, and it allows us also to reinvest in our teaching facilities."

Not everyone on campus shares

Lowy's enthusiasm. At a Jan. 21 senate meeting, Christopher Ross, a professor at the John Molson School of Business, questioned whether Concordia's decade-long structural expansion has jeopardized the school's academic mission. His comments echoed what many of his colleagues have been saying for the better part of a decade.

The interim report, the seventh so far, is also generating dissent off campus. The report says the remaining \$28 billion of the \$60 billion stimulus package will be delivered this year. But some of the claims made in the report touting the success of the plan are being refuted by the opposition.

"Close to 400,000 jobs have been created since July 2009, the strongest performance of any G7 nation—offsetting virtually all of the jobs lost during the recession," said Paradis.

The Liberal Party disputes those numbers. According to a post on the party's website, "New job numbers released last week showed that from October 2008 to December 2010, there are 109,000 fewer full-time jobs and nearly 300,000 more unemployed Canadians."

The Liberals also point out that after taking office with a \$13 billion surplus, the Conservatives have managed to create a \$56 billion deficit in only five years.

# JMSB Closing Case Competitions

• CLAY HEMMERICH

Concordia's John Molson School of Business Competition Program is teaching business students how to win.

The JMSB-exclusive program sent students to international case competitions—where participants compete to find the best solution in a business scenario—and brought a number of gold medals for Concordia.

"This year alone, we have sent teams to competitions around Canada, the United States, Singapore and Hong Kong with more to come in the Netherlands and Den-

mark," said John Molson Competition Committee VP Communications Benoit Chevrier.

"Within Canada, we have attained our best results ever at our two largest competitions, the Inter-Collegiate Business Competition and the Jeux du Commerce. [Case competition competitors] took home two gold medals, and one silver, as well as the Chairperson's award for the school with the most spirit [at the Inter-Collegiate competition]," said Chevrier. "And at the [Jeux de Commerce], they finished first overall for the third time in the 21 year history of the games."

The team of 85 students sent to

the Jeux de Commerce passed 13 other schools and 1,200 people, including McGill University. Chevrier said that most of the success is owed to Mark Haber, the head advisor for the JMCC.

"He's the one that makes us stand out from the other schools," said Chevrier. "He's incredibly devoted, and he's always there when we need him."

Chevrier said that Haber was especially good at instilling confidence in him and the rest of his fellow competitors during presentations, which is essential to gaining success in case competitions and the business world.

"It's not that hard to come up with a good idea, or to have a general idea of what you want to do," said Chevrier, "but [the real challenge is] to frame [that idea] in an intelligent way that you can present it to people and to have the confidence to stand before them and really show that your idea or method is the best."

JMSB's prestige is largely due to things like JMCC's success, according to Chevrier, adding that the faculty's image is growing internationally.

The case competition is having tryouts for next year's team at the end of the winter semester.

# Briefs

## ASFA Extended

ASFA Chief Electoral Officer Nick Cuillierier announced yesterday that the election nomination period has been extended for 24 hours, or until 8 p.m. Tuesday. Citing increased interest, Cuillierier said the extension was to ensure as many people could get their forms in properly. The candidates will be announced Feb. 3.

## Revolt for the Ruins

Concordia students are holding a demonstration on Feb. 23 to raise awareness about a crumbling Montreal mansion once occupied by pre-Confederation prime minister Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine. The house, located on Overdale Avenue, has been deteriorating for decades and is on Heritage Montreal's endangered landmark list.

## Art Gallery Fire

The Jean-Pierre Valentin gallery, located on Sherbrooke Street West in downtown Montreal, caught fire Sunday evening. The blaze closed Sherbrooke for several hours between Guy and Bishop Streets as firefighters worked to control the flames. No injuries were reported. The fire caused approximately \$1 million in damage.

## Man Shot

A 28-year-old man was shot in the leg early Monday morning at an apartment in Rosemont. The man came to visit his ex-girlfriend when another man allegedly answered the door and shot him in the leg. The victim was listed in stable condition on Monday. The police arrested a 43-year-old man at the scene of the attack.

## Rosemont Shooting

A Montreal police officer shot and killed a 48-year-old man in Rosemont early Wednesday morning. Police engaged the man after receiving a complaint from his ex-wife. The man, allegedly intoxicated, lunged at a female officer with a knife and she shot the man dead, according to police.

LOCK ME UP, LOCK ME DOWN: BEHIND THE SCENES WITH THE EMPLOYEES OF RUEFRONTENAC.COM

# Life After The Lock-Out

• GENEVIÈVE TRUDEAU SENÉCAL

## Two Years In, the Staff of *Le Journal de Montréal* Move On



**O**n March 8, 2009, 39-year-old cartoonist Marc Beudet suffered his first ulcerative colitis crises—caused mainly by stress and anxiety—since his late teen years. He would spend the next 10 days under close observation in a hospital before his internal bleeding got under control.

Under heavy morphine doses, he became addicted to the painkiller. Over the following year, Beudet would spend \$4,000 on medication alone, his health insurance having been cancelled by his employer. Beudet is one of the 253 employees of *Le Journal de Montréal*, who marked Jan. 24 as a special day.

It was the second anniversary of the lock-out that has changed their lives in many ways. From medical procedures to marital breakups, and from sold houses to new families and new careers, they have been through it all as a group.

Alain Décarie, a photographer, learned in February 2009 that he might be suffering from lung cancer. Unsure of his condition, doctors scheduled a major procedure for April 1. April came and the 53-year-old endured major surgery, which cost him \$3,000. In a demonstration of how close the lockout has brought coworkers, his colleagues all chipped in \$10 to help him pay for the procedure, which revealed no signs of cancer.

### Life Goes On

The 731st day of the lockout turned out to be a happier day than the 365th for most employees. If many have struggled to face the professional and personal dilemmas this situation has put them in, serenity now seemed to be the most widespread emotion.

Many former *Journal* employees found consolation in their new project: *Rue Frontenac*, a publication that started out as a tool for protest, has now become a well-known

media outlet. It is almost exclusively web-based, but a paper copy is produced once a week. *Rue Frontenac* was an escape for the employees that could not cope with the reality of the lockout.

Diane Dupont, who used to work for the advertisement section and is the treasurer for the *Journal* union Syndicat des Travailleurs de l'information du Journal de Montréal, is another *Rue Frontenac* employee. She admits she was simply incapable of being anywhere other than *Rue Frontenac's* offices, located next to *Le Journal de Montréal* on Frontenac Street during the first six months following the lockout.

"I am usually a very solitary person. I have lived alone for many years, and I am happy that way," said Dupont. "When the lockout was declared on Jan. 24, the first thing I did was drive to [*Rue Frontenac's* offices] and from then on I was here as early as 6:30 a.m. up until 11:00 p.m., sometimes even on weekends. My sleep hours were midnight to 4 a.m. and that was it. I just felt useful here. There was always something to do. At home, it was despair."

Dupont, a cheerful and smiling woman in her early fifties, had worked at *Le Journal* for 35 years before the lockout began. Her situation is similar to most of her colleagues

in her section: she is too young to retire, despite having more than 30 years of dedication to the paper she loved. She became very emotional when discussing the position the lockout has put her in.

"The worst part of being involved in the lockout for me is the complete loss of identity. I went to the dentist in September and I filled in this basic information sheet they gave me. Tears started rolling down my cheeks when I realized I had no answer to the question 'occupation.' I no longer have a profession and there is no future for me. I am going backward," said the woman who admitted she had to take out an additional mortgage on her condo during the lockout.

Other staff members shared her feeling of vulnerability.

"[There are only] four [newspaper] cartoonists in the province. Four!" said Beudet. "If I no longer work for *Le Journal*, I have no future. If I did not have *Rue Frontenac* to keep on doing what I live for, I honestly do not know where I would be today."

"Of course some of us have left the ship by now," said Yvon Laprade, a 54-year-old journalist. "Two years of lockout, with a question marked future is not easy, neither for us nor for our families."

Pillars of the company are starting to

leave for competing publications and others are switching to the other side of the mirror, accepting jobs as public relations officers, but Laprade believes the camaraderie between the locked out employees is one of the most striking features of the conflict. However, that not mean all is always picture perfect.

### Getting Help

Though *Le Journal's* parent company Quebecor offered six free consultations with psychologists to their locked out employees during the first three months of conflict, it wasn't enough for everyone, according to Beudet.

"I consulted for a year," said the cartoonist. "I was forcing myself to look at what the guy replacing me—who pretty much took my life from me—was doing. I was torturing myself. My job ain't easy, I need to make people laugh when my own life is falling apart! I'm a very calm and patient person and, suddenly, I found myself [throwing] a fit at my four year-old because he dropped his glass of milk on the floor by accident. This just wasn't me."

"I lost all contact with my friends and even colleagues. I just spent all my time home, alone, either in bed in pain or drawing as an



PHOTOS ERIN SPARKS

escape. I had a new car to meet payments for and a baby to take care of. I also had to pay for all sorts of treatments from hypnosis to acupuncture to psychologists in hope of healing. At some point, I was so sick that I was taking four types of medications: anti-inflammatory, painkillers, antidepressants and—since the other three were making me queasy—anti-queasy pills as well.”

**“If I no longer work for *Le Journal*, I have no future. If I did not have *Rue Frontenac* to keep on doing what I live for, I honestly do not know where I would be today.”**

—Marc Beaudet,  
Rue Frontenac Cartoonist

It’s not like Beaudet and his colleagues didn’t see the conflict coming; it’s simply that no one can properly prepare for being “tossed away like garbage and treated that way.” The number of executives at *Le Journal* more than doubled in the year preceding the strike, something the commissioners in Quebec’s

National Assembly might consider when they re-evaluate anti-scab laws this February.

To better deal with the intense stress, anxiety and emotions of 253 different people, a mutual-aid committee was created. Listening to others is their way of avoiding illness in times of despair.

“There are bigger and smaller winners and losers in all situations. We need to be there to listen and help so that the tension in us does not explode. We want to [promote] expression and avoid isolation and exclusion,” said group leader Gilles Bélanger, responsible for regional developments of the mutual-aid committee in the Montreal region for the Confédération des syndicats nationaux.

### Finding Positives

It would be wrong to say the lockout has only brought tears. Valérie Dufour, a political affairs journalist for seven years at *Le Journal*, used the newly acquired time to start a family, as did her colleagues Maude Goyer, Marilou Séguin and Myriam Lafrenière.

Despite the salary cuts—employees get 75 percent of their salaries as part of a union fund created in 1973—Dufour was able to put aside the necessary budget for an artificial in-

semination. She ensures that she, her partner, and her daughter Beatrice, have no problem making ends meet. The conflict, though present, is not all they dedicate attention to.

“I was so mad during the first days of lockout; so mad at how we were being treated, so mad at being sent in the streets by the employer I gave so much to. I screamed and yelled a lot. I’ve calmed down since then. I’ve realized there was much more I could do for myself. This conduct would not have led me anywhere,” she explained, holding Béatrice in her hands.

Her colleague Martin Bouffard, a photographer at *Le Journal* since 2003, made one of his own dreams a reality during the lockout. He crossed the Atlantic from the Virgin Islands to Portugal on a sailboat. Bouffard, father of a 14-year-old daughter, admits this experience was life changing.

“We had a hard time at home,” he said of the first months of the lockout. “We even asked a friend to act as a mediator [a few] times. I was very angry and I had to mourn for my life at *Le Journal*; my wife is an executive in her own company, and we just could not understand each other. Once I started accepting contracts again, we both felt much better. I am a very active and dynamic person. I need projects to stimulate me.”

Bouffard has since reached agreements with many clients, including four NHL teams he shoots when they are in town. At hockey games, more often than not he works next to his former boss. He now owns his own company as a cameraman, photographer and editor.

“In a sense, the lockout has been a good thing for me. I was forced to clear my debts, re-evaluate my professional and personal life and start on a new path with my career,” he said. One thing is clear to him—he has definitely crossed *Le Journal* out of his life.

Unlike Décarie, Beaudet hasn’t yet fully recovered from his illness. He admits that at the moment, he cannot see himself going back either. When his two little boys, 4 year-old Raphaël and Alexis, born six months before the lock-out, repeated an ad they had just heard on radio on their way back from day-care two weeks ago, Bouffard’s heart twitched—and he still has goosebumps recalling the event.

“They both repeated the name *Le Journal de Montréal* twice—a name they had never mentioned before. They asked me what *Le Journal* was... I almost started crying. I mean, they can’t understand. What will I be after all this? The answer is, I simply do not know.”

GALLERIA: CHECK OUT THIS WEEK'S THREE FEATURED ARTISTS, INCLUDING ERIKA ALTOSAAR!

# Making the Private Public

*Ligne, Image, Texte* Puts the Human Body on Display



“...I think that it’s important to support practices that are still considered more experimental or that are pushing the boundaries. I think it’s really meaningful to me that artist-run centers and galleries are trying to find ways to support practices that maybe don’t fit in a typical frame.”

—Michelle Lacombe,  
artist

Feel uncomfortable? That’s the point.

PHOTO DAVID J. ROMERO

• ALEX MCGILL

“It has been hard to find forums to make work like this public,” said Michelle Lacombe, performance artist and one of three artists featured in *Ligne, Image, Texte*, an event that will use the human body as a means for expression.

Lacombe was quick to specify that this is an event, not an exhibit or a show.

“The works are on our bodies, so we can’t really exhibit them [laughs], but this is our way of sharing them with a larger public,” said Lacombe.

The event consists of three separate body art projects, in the form of tattoos on the bodies of Lacombe (in collaboration with Emilie Roby), Vincent Chevalier and Sheena Hoszko. The tattoos are research-based, conceptual artworks, and will become ongoing performances.

“Each artist’s project is presented for about 15 to 20 minutes

and then we have invited Erin Silver, who is an art historian who has worked with performance art, to come and moderate a conversation,” said Lacombe. “So after we do a kind of basic presentation where we talk about what we did and what happened—which is more concrete information. Erin and us artists will keep having a conversation about the works, and that will be open to the public as well.”

Each tattoo is linked thematically through issues of feminism and gender theory. Lacombe has been especially involved and interested in body and performance art since she graduated four years ago.

“I think it’s different for all three of us. Like I have a very active body art practice, I’ve done a number of body art works which have included different types of body modification—scarification, tattooing, stuff like that—and in my performance practice I use the body a lot and experiment with things like passing out, so the body

as material is really important in my work,” said Lacombe.

“So I just said ‘Let’s make a proposal and see if we can get a gallery to recognize it,’ and because of the themes, La Centrale was perfect because we’re dealing with feminist history and queer aesthetics and feminine philosophy so that fits with the mandate of the centre.

“I know, for myself for instance, when I do body art works I usually can’t find support for them because they’re not images or they’re not performances in front of audiences in the traditional way, so usually they’re done independently. This is one of the first times that a work has been officially supported and framed in a professional context,” she continued.

Lacombe had Roby tattoo seven symbolic lines on her body. The lines impede the natural curves of the human body and fragment it. This particular piece was inspired by Giorgione’s painting “Sleeping Venus,” one of the first art works that depicted

the nude female body in Western art history. She calls the resulting work “The Venus Pose.”

“This image of the nude in drawing is kind of archetypal and I was really interested because as a performance artist there is a tradition of trying to break away from the image of the body as object,” said Lacombe. “The female nude has created this huge cultural precedence on how we read art, especially the white female body. So as a white female body performing regularly in art, I am quite aware of that, and I’m also aware of the tradition of feminist artists trying to work against this image.

“I’m trying to create a kind of discourse of opposition. I’m more interested in trying to explore how this reading of the nude is present in the body, or present on the body, but also how it falls apart on a real body and how it’s impossible.” Marking her body with lines from the painting’s figure is an attempt to connect the

represented body with the real.

Lacombe hopes that this event will open doors for more performance artists to have a public forum for their work in the future.

“I think on a really personal level I’m like, ‘Yeah let’s see more of this type of work happening and let’s make visible the work that is happening within our communities.’ It’s just hard to see because there’s no way for it to become public.

“And also just in a more general sense I think that it’s important to support practices that are still considered more experimental or that are pushing the boundaries. I think it’s really meaningful to me that artist-run centers and galleries are trying to find ways to support practices that maybe don’t fit in a typical frame.”

*Ligne, Image, Texte* is happening Thursday, Feb. 3 at La Centrale Galerie (4296 St. Laurent) at 7:00 p.m.

# A Fleeting Glimpse of Colour

## Art Students Bring Their Practice Outdoors



• ASHLEY OPHEIM

There has been an abundance of events occurring within Concordia's artistic sphere over the past two weeks with the kick-off of the Fine Arts Student Alliance's Lecture Series, *I Would Like To Answer Your Question But The Truth Is I Just Don't Know*. The series explores the extremely broad topic of space in all its manifestations.

The momentum of the arts community at Concordia ceases to stop, with Art Matters a mere month away and the next few weeks being littered with panel discussions and explorations into public art.

FLEET is another FASA initiative. The event will sprinkle public art installations around the downtown campus in the hope of tickling our brains with questions about space.

The one catch to the event? It's happening outside.

"We, at FASA, really wanted to see some of the questions raised in the lectures [we've been hosting] put into practice," said Amy Ball, FASA special events coordinator and organizer of FLEET.

"I approached Donna Akrey's ARTX 280 class, a multidisciplinary studio course, with the op-

portunity to devote some of their semester to working through these questions, and to develop a project out of them. After that initial conversation, it was up to them, and then FLEET was born," she said.

There is an emphasis on the event being purely a student-actualized collaboration. The students have been actively involved in planning, creating and on Wednesday, implementing these art works into the public sphere.

"We are hoping that people on the SGW campus who are running to and from classes, running to get the bus, running to catch the copy centre before it closes or return the overdue library book might catch a fleeting glimpse of colour," said Ball. "Not from corporate advertising but from a series of micro-interventions marked by coloured flags."

Passersby are invited to witness and partake in the performances, installations, and all the multi-disciplinary works that will manifest around our urban campus, which will be indicated by vibrant markers.

"We are hoping the event will highlight overlooked sites and foster engagement," said Ball. "There will be a walking tour of the event starting outside the FOFA gallery

starting at 6 p.m. Mostly we would like to animate and create points of interest, discovery, intimacy and thought in an otherwise rather mundane [context]."

The intent of FLEET is to offer a platform for spectators to respond and interact with public space that, on ordinary days, would be passed by unnoticed.

Ball shared some questions and concerns that arose amongst students during the planning of the event. Questions such as, "How do we create or adapt work for the outdoors? Why outdoors? This is not necessarily a gallery-going audience, so how do we deal with that? Do we want people to interact in our works? How do we facilitate that? Is the work potentially dangerous? How do we make it public friendly?"

"We hope people will have a walk around and take a minute or two to see [our campus] in a different way and think about public art," she said. "Think about what you like in the city. What you don't like. Think about your city."

**FLEET IS ON FEB. 2 FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M. THE MAP OF INSTALLATIONS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE OR IN THE FOFA ATRIUM.**

## CINEMA POLITICA DOC EXPLORES THE NEOLIBERAL WORLD ORDER, AT ITS CORE

• CORENTINE RIVOIRE

How does money grow? Who does it benefit and who does it affect? *Let's Make Money*, Cinema Politica's next revelation, explores this question in documentary form.

Erin Wagenhofer, an Austrian author and film director, received the German Documentary Film Prize in 2009 for this provocative and dark depiction of the neoliberal world order.

*Let's Make Money* highlights the world's financial market that we are all part of, whether we like it or not. Wagenhofer takes us on a visual and auditory journey around the world and traces the path of money that appears as soon as we open a bank account.

The film offers a historical and ethical look into why the majority of the developing world has sunk so deeply into poverty and how such a small population has gained unthinkable wealth.

This documentary has an emphasis on poverty in Africa. The film begins in the Ahafo mine in Ghana where huge portions of land are being used for gold extraction. One would think that such a resource would be taken as a gift and utilized as a powerful asset for enriching the coun-

try. This is not the case.

The film depicts what scholars have long called "The Natural Resource Curse." As opposed to generating wealth in the country, natural resources such as gold, but also oil and minerals, undermine a country's capability to develop.

*Let's Make Money* shows how international financial institutions such as the World Bank are responsible for the accumulated debt of African states. In this case, it is the World Bank that has invested in the Ahafo mine, but takes no "responsibility for the aftereffects, or any externalities that flow out of the investment project," according to Mark Mobius, president of the investment company Templeton Emerging Markets. "Their job is to invest, and to make money."

In the end, it is the poverty stricken locals that pay the price of investment. The settings range from India to Austria, and from Burkina Faso to Washington D.C., and emphasize the major factors of the neoliberal order through the most chilling examples of market deregulation, credits and privatization of public facilities.

The Sundance Film Festival has characterized this film as



"chilling," with stories "that you'd expect to find in a science-fiction movie rather than a documentary."

Wagenhofer uncovers just how much influence the rich and powerful have. Whether you are part of the world's elite, strug-

gling to obtain basic human needs, or fall into the grey area, money has an influence over everyone. *Let's Make Money* explores this complex relationship and sheds light on the immense divide between the rich and the poor.

Cinema Politica will screen *Let's Make Money* next Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 7:00 p.m. The screening will take place in Concordia University's Hall Building (1455 de Maisonneuve) in room H 110. Free.



# Art and 'Craft

## Introducing the Concordia StarCraft Community

• ADAM KOVAC

Twenty guys are lounging on couches in a dimly lit room, watching a match being replayed on a big screen at the front of the room. During particularly intense moments, choruses of “Oooh” and “Oh shit!” ring out.

To anybody peering in, it looks like the world’s geekiest professional hockey team reviewing tape of an opposing team. Onscreen, though, body checks and wrist shots have been replaced by explosions and gunfire. This ain’t no normal sports team. This is the Concordia StarCraft Community, a club dedicated entirely to the “e-sport” that has popped up around the legendary computer game.

For those not in the know, *StarCraft* and its recently released sequel are strategy games, which the members of CSC gleefully describe as “chess on crack.” You and your opponent construct bases, scout territory, build armies and eventually try to annihilate each other.

It’s a game of patience—and practice. Lots of practice.

“When I don’t have an overwhelming amount of homework, I can play about four hours a day,” said Daniel Dahlberg, one of CSC’s vice-presidents. “Every single night, there’s at least 10 to 15 members [practicing online].”

Other members are equally committed. One recalled nights back in the caveman era of dial-up when he’d cover his modem with a blanket in the night to keep his parents from hearing the trademark cackling that would betray his all-night gaming sessions.

Though not yet a part of the growing collegiate *StarCraft* competitions due to a missed deadline, the CSC is gearing up to take on an adversary much more vile than the alien avatars they use in their clashes, as they prepare to battle McGill in a tournament during the first week of March.

But the point of the club transcends even that most intense of rivalries.

“It’s for Concordia, we are representing Concordia,” said CSC member Michael Cohen. “We want to give it a good name, but at the same time, we also want to [represent] *StarCraft*.”

### *StarCraft* Gods

Here in Canada we pride ourselves on sports such as hockey or lacrosse. However, some countries put the same sort of national pride towards games such as *StarCraft*—South Korea, for instance.

“If you don’t know, here [in Canada] we have football or soccer. In South Korea, they have *StarCraft*,” said Dahlberg.

South Korea is a place spoken of in tones that are reminiscent of Muslims on their way to Mecca, Jews to Jerusalem, or Christians to Bethlehem. It is Nirvana, Valhalla and the Garden of Eden wrapped in one, a place where their skills attract supermodel girlfriends and six figure paychecks. It is a place where a club that Dahlberg grinningly de-

scribes as a “sausage fest” might attract genuine groupies. Some of the CSC gamers are so enamored that they’re planning on doing exchanges just to be able to watch some of the tournaments that get televised nationally in the country.

“These players are considered Gods,” said an enthusiastic Dahlberg. “If you walk on the street and see a hockey player, that’s the equivalent of being a *StarCraft II* player in South Korea.”

### E-Sport or Art Form?

The glittery allure of fame has caused many to pick up a hockey stick or basketball. But it has also caused an equal amount to pick up a paintbrush or video camera or other means of artistic expression.

*StarCraft* is an e-sport, but is it an art form? There are few mediums where the creation and enjoyment of the work are so tied together. How a game is played is entirely dependent on the player.

So is it really such a stretch to



The StarCraft community are 'blowing up' and re-defining traditional social norms.

call the boys of the CSC artists?

"It depends on whether you consider [something like] Wayne Gretzky doing what he did, his vision on the ice, some people consider that artful," said Eric Leijon, a video game critic at the *Mirror*. "It could be possible for somebody to be so great at what they do that you stare in awe, but I don't know if I would consider it an art form. It's more of a skill."

### Interactive Art

Ok, so they're e-athletes, not artists. But it's not unfair to say that a CSC practice session, where they watch championship matches and take notes on strategy, is a lot like being at an art gallery. They are immersed in an experi-

ence that combines aesthetics with strategy. Playing *StarCraft* is a lot like watching a movie that bred with a choose-your-own-adventure book.

"One thing that video games can do that other art forms can't, is that the level of interactivity allows the player to go into a world they don't live in, one that's created by those who created the game," said Leijon. "It can do things that movies try to do, but can't."

*StarCraft* brings people together in an entirely different way than the movie-watching experience. When you watch a movie, you're encouraged to sit still and shut up, lest you ruin it for others (*Rocky Horror* is an obvious exception). Playing *StarCraft*, contrary to the stereotype of the nerd alone at his computer, is actually an incredibly social activity.

"Most of the people who play online get on Skype so they can talk at the same time," said

Dahlberg. "I went out for a few beers with a couple of guys, too. It's good for me because it was my first semester last semester, so I had people to socialize with."

Leijon observed that global communities have popped up around games like *StarCraft* and *Counter-Strike*, which has taken that bonding feeling you got by playing your SNES or Sega with your best friends in your basement 15 years ago to an international level.

**"Playing *StarCraft* is a lot like watching a movie that bred with a choose-your-own-adventure book."**

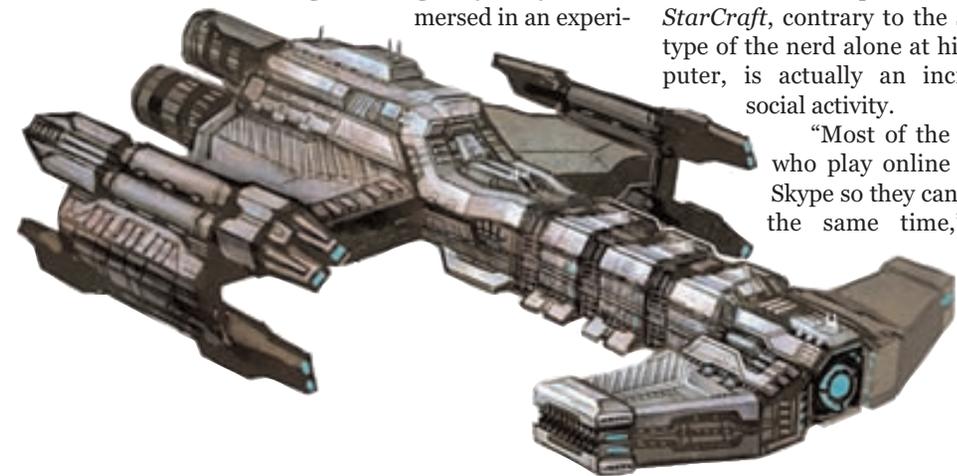
"[A game like *StarCraft* lets you] interact with each other, trade stories and teach each other how to play. There's a sense of cama-

raderie."

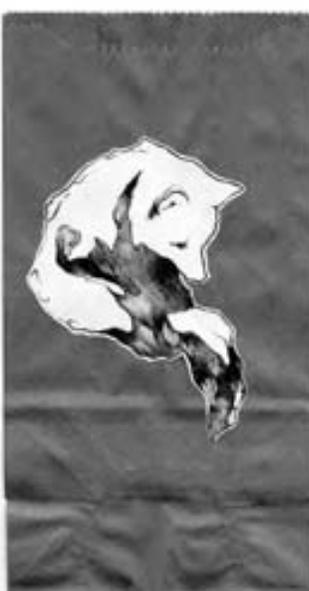
Noted social commentator/hipster svengali Chuck Klosterman once wrote that video games are unlike other art, in that no proper method of critiquing them has ever evolved. We know what the games look like, we know what the gameplay feels like, but we don't know what the games mean.

Groups like the CSC might finally be giving us the answer. Games are about beautiful, intricate worlds and brain addling puzzles of strategy. But they're also about something more—the same thing you see in rinks and fields around the country; the same feeling that comes over you when you feel a reaction from a player or artist of skill.

Behind the bitter competitiveness, when you're sitting in that dark room watching marines and the zerg alien race riddle each other with bullets, it's mostly about good times with your buddies.



# Galleria

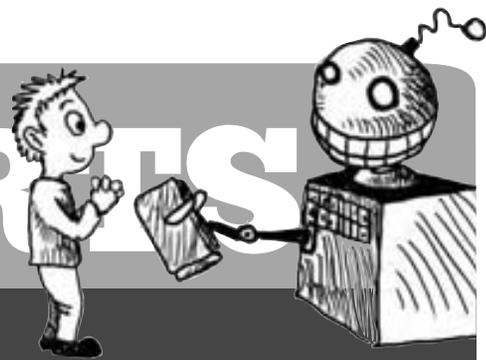


**ERIKA ALTOSAAR**

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DOMO ARIGATO, DISTROBOTO: A LOOK BACK AT THE LITTLE LIT PURVEYOR THAT COULD'S FIRST DECADE

# Lean Mean Zine Machine

## Montreal's Small Press Distribution Solution Celebrates 10 Years

• CHRISTOPHER OLSON

Nothing says commodification quite like a vending machine, and nothing except maybe escalators typifies our culture's sense of leisure and lack of patience.

Those connotations—subconscious or not—probably help to explain the popularity of Montreal's Distrobot machines. Made from refurbished cigarette-dispensers, Distrobot is celebrating 10 years of spreading independent art across the city, and unlike its previous cargo, each object it dispenses is crafted with care—and, of course, won't give you cancer.

"It was born at the end of the '90s out of frustration with a lack of distribution for zines and small press items," said Louis Rastelli, who along with helping create Distrobot is also a founding partner in Montreal's annual small press fair Expozine. He's also a founder of Archive Montreal, which collects and preserves the works of alternative presses. "Around 1999, it had gotten really frustrating because a lot of book stores had closed," he recalled. "It was just getting really hard to find places to put stuff in on consignment or get known at all."

The history of the machines is closely tied to that of Casa del Popolo, whose grand opening a decade ago provided Rastelli with an opening of his own; a chance to get his project up and running. When the owners of Casa expressed interest in having one of the machines, Rastelli and his friends hit the classifieds to look for used vending machines. All their worries about its potential success

or failure fell by the wayside fairly quickly.

"After the first month it was pretty clear that this thing had staying power," he recalled. "I guess the bigger surprise is that I thought that after 10 years there might be a few dozen machines out there."

Concordia's Java U was home to a Distrobot machine for four years, but despite strong sales and the patronage of Concordia students—and even CUTV, which produced short film subjects for distribution—the machine was a casualty of renovations two years ago that left little space for the indie art distributor.

Despite that individual setback, there's still a huge waiting list of venues clamoring for Distrobot machines, a demand that Rastelli has been unable to keep up with due to a crippling lack of funding.

"Unfortunately, the originality of the project has gone against it," he said. "The biggest challenge in 10 years has been financing. It's been really tough to have the project be seen as legitimate arts promotion compared to your regular gallery or festivals."

"Distrobot is a great way to get art and writing and music out and circulating in the wider world," said Kirsten McCrea, a Montreal artist and illustrator who knows a thing or two of her own about creative distribution methods.

McCrea is the creator of Papirmasse, a subscription-based art service that sends subscribers small art prints with short stories, poems and graphic novels on the reverse side each month.

"I love art galleries and art

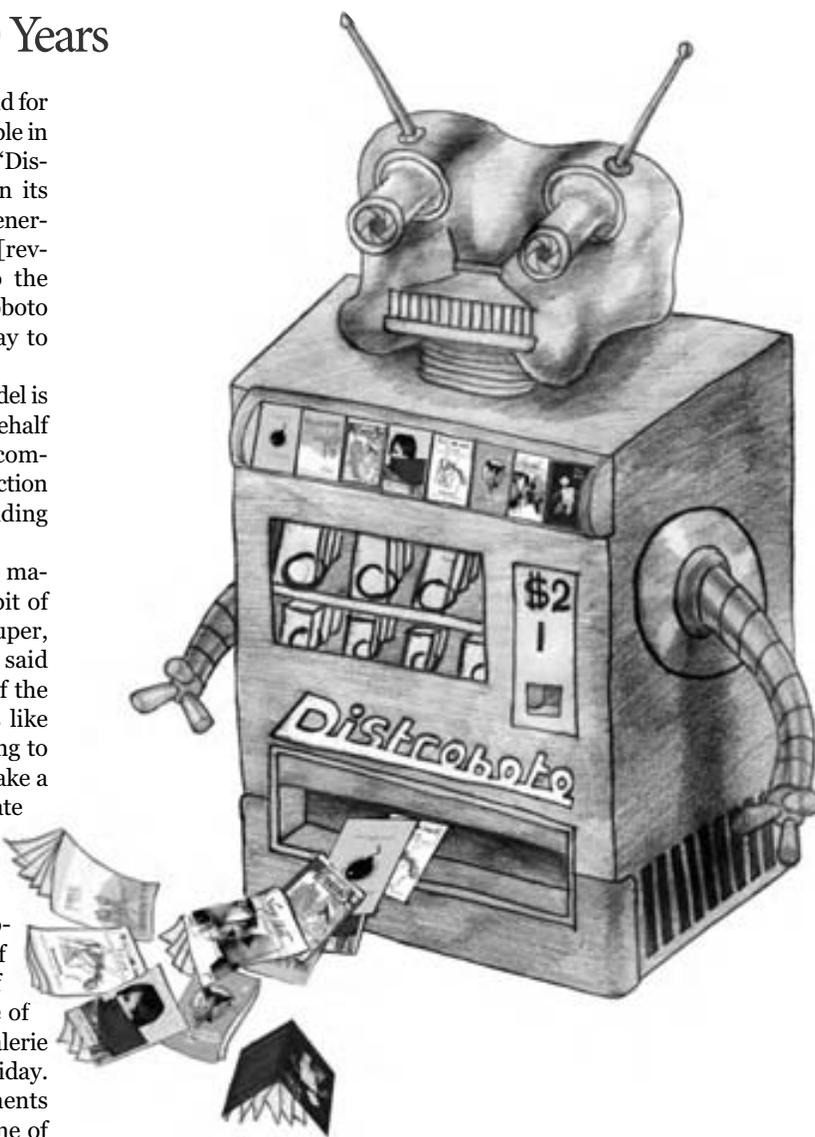
shops, but there's a lot to be said for ventures that make art accessible in unexpected places," she said. "Distrobot is kind of brilliant in its simplicity, and Louis is very generous in the amount of sales [revenue] that he gives back to the artists, so buying from Distrobot machines really is a great way to support local artists."

Distrobot's non-profit model is as much a charitable act on behalf of Montreal's underground community of artists as it is a reflection of the financial reality of vending machines themselves.

"The reality in the vending machine business—and I did a bit of research on this—is it's a super, super low profit business," said Rastelli. "The vast majority of the vending machine business is like one guy with a truck just trying to break even. You can barely make a profit selling chips and chocolate bars, so to sell art by unknown artists, it was almost a no-brainer to go non-profit."

Since its inception, Distrobot has sold 40,000 copies of over 700 different pieces of writing and art objects, some of which will be on display at Galerie Monastiraki beginning this Friday.

"I've gotten a lot of comments over the years about how some of the really raw, underground artwork that was in the machines in the beginning of 2001 is like a lot of the things we see in ad campaigns and graphic arts today," he said. "I think that speaks to the idea of what we're trying to do, which is to promote not just current art, but to get a nice little snapshot over the years of what artists are doing."



GRAPHIC CHRISTOPHER OLSON TEASER GRAPHIC ERIC BENT

The Distrobot 10th Anniversary Art Show will take place at Monastiraki (5478 Saint-Laurent) starting Feb. 4 at 7:00 p.m., and will run until Feb. 27. To submit your writing, artwork or art object to Distrobot, send a sample copy to Arcmtl, C.P. 55052, 221 Fairmount,

Montréal, Québec, H2T 2M0. It cannot be larger than 4" x 3-3/8" x 5/8". You will be contacted by phone or mail several weeks after your original submission if your work has been accepted for distribution. For more information about Papirmasse, visit papirmasse.com.

## LIT WRIT: UNTITLED

• JULIA JONES

I want to walk around chinatown at dusk  
and see the lanterns and go into a tea house,  
smell the shrimp-and-soyu in the cold crisp air because I  
I've been craving long walks alone  
I've been thinking of far-reaching roads with their respective light posts  
tearing the city map east-west  
I've been thinking of the smoke that comes out of chimneys and the

color of the sky  
in chinatown at dusk  
I've been thinking of the over-arching sheets of concrete above my head  
when I cross  
a street so wide I get lost in the openness that I can't see.  
I've been thinking of tiny hands reaching for tickling crab feet in a water tank  
that sailed around the pacific and I wonder  
if my surimi remembers how it feels when the wet sand rubs on your skin  
and I wonder

if my nose will remember how it felt when I walked past the red gates and  
I've been thinking of a cool purple hades and a three-headed dragon  
with peony garlands  
all colours of light reflected on my cold, red cheeks  
cars wave by me as I think he was wrong to have ever said "forget it, jake"  
and now my breath disperses in the night air, there is no way I'd ever stay away because I always like to walk down this street  
in chinatown at dusk.



GRAPHIC MICHELLE LANNEN

## FOOTBALL: FRESH TALENT TO STINGERS

## HOCKEY



Goalie Raffaele D'Orso keeps his eye on the rebound during the 5-4 loss to McGill

PHOTO PIERRE CHAUVIN

## Comeback Falls Short

### Frustration dissolves Concordia's cool

•DAVID KAUFMANN

Concordia 4

McGill 5

Concordia's men's hockey team was on a mission last Wednesday when they took on the McGill Redmen at the McConnell arena. For the majority of the game it nearly worked, but unfortunately emotions got the best of both teams as the Stingers couldn't quite finish the comeback in a 5-4 decision.

"Our game plan was to play very disciplined hockey. Until the ten-minute mark we were in very good shape," said Stingers assistant coach Peter Bender.

Concordia stifled the Redmen for the first half of the period but gave their opponents an opening when Stinger left winger Mike Stinziani took a bad penalty.

On the ensuing power play, McGill forward Guillaume Doucet rifled a shot past Stingers goalie Raffaele D'Orso for his tenth of the season. But before the announcer could finish saying Doucet's name, Stingers centre Kyle Kelly buried a shot past McGill goaltender Antoine Tardif to tie the game.

The Redmen nearly regained the lead a few minutes later when for-

ward Francis Verreault-Paul snuck one past D'Orso. But the referees were quick to call that off, as the puck was hit with a high stick.

"They've got a dynamite power-play, which you saw in the first. When we took a penalty they scored right away," said Bender.

Sure enough, it worked in their favor again in the second period when forward Christophe Longpré-Poirier got a bad bounce behind D'Orso seconds after Stingers right-winger Marc-Andre Element got out of the penalty box. A few minutes later the Redmen struck again as forward Simon Marcotte-Legaré caught a passing shot with a deflection.

Just when it seemed like the Stingers would get another thrashing from their cross-town rivals, Concordia fought back. Defenseman Jesse Goodsell began the comeback, connecting on a pass from Kiefer Orsini for his fifth of the season.

The Redmen tried to get some breathing room with defenseman Ryan McKiernan's goal, but the Stingers responded with a goal of their own when Stinziani scored to send the Stingers into the third trailing 4-3. Although Element nearly capitalized on a scoring opportunity, the damage had already been done when McGill defenseman Neil Blundon netted his second of the season on another

deflection.

The story in the third was of both teams losing their cool. The last five minutes of the game saw 13 players from both teams doing time in the penalty box for everything from hooking calls to a couple of misconduct penalties served by Goodsell and Stingers centre George Lovatsis during a massive scrum.

"Being down by two goals isn't very easy, especially when it's against McGill," explained Stinziani of his team's lack of discipline late in the game.

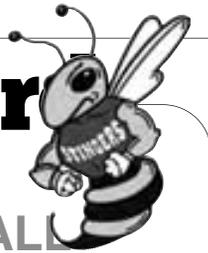
Overall, McGill head coach Kelly Nobes wasn't pleased with his team's performance. "I thought we were okay. We weren't great, but we got the job done at the end of the day, which is important with some of our guys missing," he said. The Redmen were without five of their players as a result of injury or the 2011 Winter Universiade in Erzurum.

Meanwhile, the Stingers were thrilled with the effort they put forth. "The guys hung in well; that was a very good team we played," said Bender.

"We were playing a simple game, the game you need to play against McGill," added Goodsell.

The Stingers travel to Three Rivers on February 9, to take on the Université de Québec à Trois Rivières Patriotes. The puck drops at 7:30 p.m.

## Scoreboard



### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

W 76-53 @ Bishops thurs

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

W 90-86 v McGill thurs

### MEN'S HOCKEY

L 5-4 v @ Carleton weds

L 6-5 (OT) @ Ottawa fri

## Schedule

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY

@ Ottawa  
6:00 p.m. SATURDAY, FEB. 5  
v Carleton  
3:00 p.m. SUNDAY, FEB. 6

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

v UQAM  
6:00 p.m. FRIDAY, FEB. 4

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

v UQAM  
8:00 p.m. FRIDAY, FEB. 4

# FORMER STINGER DRAFTED

## Cory Greenwood signed to the Kansas City Chiefs

•ALEX DI PIETRO

Training camp with the Kansas City Chiefs may have featured hot temperatures and been labeled a “grind” for former Concordia Stingers linebacker Cory Greenwood, but waiting to find out if he had actually sparked a National Football League team’s interest was just as stressful.

“It caught me off guard,” Greenwood said in a conference call. “I really thought the NFL passed up on me because I didn’t get drafted.”

Greenwood thought he would be joining the Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League after the team selected him third overall in the 2010 draft. But a short time later the Kingston, Ont. native signed a one-year NFL deal and was in Kansas City challenging for a spot on the Chiefs’ 53-man active roster.

The signing made Greenwood the second Stinger in 2010 to reach an agreement with an NFL team after offensive tackle Kristian Matte landed a deal with the Houston Texans weeks before.

“I just stuck with it and wanted to make every play on the field,” Greenwood said of his time at Concordia. “That’s all I tried to do in college—[I was] trying to get noticed.”

Stingers head coach Gerry McGrath could see that Greenwood had the potential to be a dominant linebacker when then-assistant

coaches Ray Gagnon and Warren Craney had scouted the Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School grad.

“He had a lot to learn, but you could see his speed and athleticism,” said McGrath. “He was [also] a very physical guy, so right from the beginning there was a whole lot there to work with.”

One of the things Greenwood realized about training sessions in the NFL was that they lasted much longer than those of the Canadian Interuniversity Sport football league. Training camp itself was held over a five-week period in comparison to the CIS’s two, and nine hours of Greenwood’s day was dedicated to football, rather than four.

In addition to coping with the augmented level of intensity, Greenwood initially struggled with adjusting to playing according to NFL rules.

“I was lost within the terminology and the coverages and all that stuff,” said Greenwood. “I had to stay for two hours after [training] every day. I sat down with [Adam] Zimmer, our assistant linebacker coach, and he kind of went through everything for me.”

Chiefs teammates Mike Vrabel and Corey Mays made Greenwood feel all the more welcome.

“If I had any questions, his locker is right next to mine back in Kansas City,” said Greenwood of Mays.



GRAPHIC MYRIAM ARSENAULT

“Being Canadian separated me from the other guys because of my accent and where I played,” he continued. “It kind of sparked their interest and made them accept me a little bit more.”

Greenwood, who was awarded the 2009 Presidents’ Trophy as CIS’s most outstanding defensive player, said he feels he made his

first big impression on the Chiefs’ coaching staff in Kansas City’s pre-season games against the Philadelphia Eagles and Green Bay Packers.

“After those games, I knew I could play with these guys,” he said. “I just had to prove it.”

Greenwood considers his tackle on the Cleveland Browns’ Joshua Cribbs as one of the highlights of his

season and he ended the 2010 campaign with 11 tackles, including 10 solos. He also helped the Chiefs finish first in the AFC West division standings—a far cry from the team’s 4-12 record posted a year earlier.

The former Stinger is currently considered an “exclusive rights” free agent and hopes to re-sign with the Chiefs next year.

## New Blood

•CHRISTOPHER M. HAMPSON

Stingers football fans can look to next season with optimism, as the team’s scouts have reinforced their defensive front seven with one of the country’s most highly-touted linebackers and two defensive linemen that bring both size and speed to the position.

Chris O’Kill Mullen, who played linebacker in Quebec’s vaunted AAA Cegep league, will suit up for the Stingers this fall. Concordia coach Gerry McGrath said the acquisition of Mullen was a major coup for the Stingers. He described the young Quebecer as “the best strong-side linebacker coming out of Quebec this year.”

Rounding off this year’s defensive recruits are Pierre-Nicholas Konan, Ryan Hobbs and Vince Nardone.

Konan, a former Montreal resident who played for the Ottawa Sooners in the junior ranks, is an imposing defensive tackle. His 6’3”, 320-pound frame places him among Concordia’s biggest linemen and he could play a key



Stinger’s defensive line at work against Laval

PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

role in the team’s run defense for years to come.

Hobbs hails from Brockville, Ont., and is already attending classes at Concordia. At 6’3” and 255 pounds, he has the size to out-grapple his blockers, but should also have the mobility to contain the outside run.

McGrath also announced the acquisition of former John Ab-

bott Islander Vince Nardone, who he said was recruited to bolster the team’s pass defense.

On offense, the Stingers have acquired the services of highly regarded offensive lineman Kyle Crisp and versatile tailback John Funston. Last year, the 6’7”, 280-pound Crisp was named to the all-star team in the Greater Toronto Area football league.

Crisp will likely use his size to open running lanes for slashing tailback John Funston this summer in training camp. Funston, a former quarterback, was the leading rusher and one of the top two scorers for Ashbury College in Ottawa. He is said to have excellent field vision and patience that allows him to avoid down-field tacklers.

**“[Chris O’Kill Mullen is] the best strong-side linebacker coming out of Quebec this year.”**

—Gerry McGrath,  
Stingers Head Coach

**BILL 94  
UNVEILED**



Much debate, controversy and discussion surrounded the tabling of Bill 94. The proposed law has rekindled longstanding issues of reasonable accommodation, gender equality and religious freedom in Quebec.

Bill 94 was tabled at the Quebec National Assembly on March 24, 2010.

If passed, it would require any woman wearing a face covering to show their face prior to giving or receiving any form of government service.

The law would be the first in North America to prohibit face coverings in government buildings.

A niqab is a veil worn by Muslim women that covers their entire face except for their eyes.

There are an estimated 24-90 women who wear a niqab in the entire province of Quebec.

Premier Jean Charest cited identification, communication and security as reasons for implementing the bill.

Naema Ahmed was expelled from a French course for refusing to uncover her face, furthering the debate.

—Megan Dolski

# Minority Rights Undermined

## Sikh Delegates Denied Entry into Parliament for Kirpan Possession

—• MUKHBIR SINGH

Sikh delegates from the World Sikh Organization of Canada were invited to give a briefing on Bill 94's implications in Quebec and Canada on Jan. 18. Unfortunately, they were refused entry, as they were not permitted to enter the Quebec National Assembly with their kirpans—a religious dull-edged dagger worn by inaugurated members of the Sikh faith.

Sikhs are permitted to wear their kirpan at Parliament in Ottawa, legislatures across the country, events such as the 2010 Winter Olympics where security was critical, and all schools in Quebec. While the Sikh faith does not permit any face veils or coverings, the delegates intended to speak on behalf of religious accommodations for another minority group when they themselves were not accommodated. The media jumped on the story, and in less than a couple of hours the news was everywhere.

### I'm not Muslim, so why should I care?

After the completion of hearings on Bill 94, Parti québécois member Louise Beaudoin told reporters, "multiculturalism may be a Canadian value, but it is not a Quebec one."

That statement reminded me of the poem "First they Came" written by Pastor Martin Niemöller, which expresses his sentiment that if nobody spoke out for marginalized

groups then eventually there would be "no one left to speak out for me."

Let's think about the real issue at hand: a minority group being singled out and having its rights taken away because of what the majority wants. If we allow Bill 94 to pass, what will be next? The Muslim hijab? Will it be the Sikhs' turban? The Jewish kippah? The Christian cross? Or all of them together, like in France? Is this issue so important that we need to ban those donning the garment from ALL public institutions, such as schools and libraries? Can we not reasonably take care of the security issues without forcing them to give up their article of faith?

It's estimated that less than one hundred Muslim women wear the niqab in Quebec. Is this issue so important that we need to ban those donning the garment from all public institutions, such as schools and libraries? Can we not reasonably take care of the security issues without forcing them to give up their article of faith?

As a large multicultural institution in Quebec, Concordia represents what Canada's culture is truly about—a mosaic of different cultures, races and religions, that function with mutual respect for one another. We don't hear of many racism issues at Concordia because they rarely ever occur; our school's community is a model of the future of this city, and they represent a diverse culture.

What Beaudoin said was not only incor-

rect but also insulting to the great number of Quebecers who consider their neighbours as equals rather than outsiders. We cannot stand by and watch while yet another group has their rights taken away from them.

Imposing rules that force people to abandon certain cultural or religious practices does not adhere to the Canadian way of life and it's not productive. It creates an atmosphere of intolerance and inequality. The future and survival of Canada depends on a dynamic and open multiculturalism policy that respects and honours the cultural and religious beliefs of all—so long as they do not violate existing laws.

**Let's think about the real issue at hand: a minority group being singled out and having its rights taken away because of what the majority wants.**

Bill 94 is both morally and legally offensive, and should not be passed. To do so would set a dangerous precedent which would significantly erode the rights of women, as well as minority religious communities living in Quebec—and, potentially, across Canada.



The Kirpan is a sacred religious symbol to people of the Sikh faith, and can only be worn by baptized Sikhs. In 1699, Guru Gobind Singh ordered Sikhs to wear the holy dagger on their side as protection from slavery and tyranny. The kirpan is one part of a ceremonial ensemble called the 5Ks or kakkars. PHOTO JASLEEN KAUR

# Defining Moral Borders

## Where Do We Draw the Line Between Religion and Culture?

• NATASHA YOUNG

People take their morals from their families, religion and society. Morality can be such a personal matter that many have come to believe it is entirely subjective. But the highly vocal presence of religious evangelicals and fundamentalists, as well as the increase in immigrant religious communities in Canada, the United States and various other Western nations, has been raising important issues on where to draw the line between respecting religious and cultural beliefs and protecting human rights. Just how subjective can we really claim our value systems to be in a society we all have to share?

The *Wall Street Journal* reported last week on a child abuse trend within a Slavic Evangelical Christian community in Oregon. Two parents lost custody of their six children and were sentenced to seven years in prison after one of their sons reported the abuse to the police. Members of that community asserted that the parents were disciplining their children according to Biblical law and that the government should not have intervened.

**But what can we really do? It's their culture; it's acceptable by their standards. Is it possible that some things are just wrong on a basic human level?**

The justification of corporal punishment of children and even women, in the Bible as well as in other texts of the Abrahamic religions, is commonly brought up in debates over whether such methods of discipline are acceptable or even effective. It has become less and less socially acceptable in our own society but for many, the old proverb of "spare the rod and spoil the child" still holds true.

The pressing question—which, due to its sensitive nature, often leads to these important issues receiving insufficient treatment—is whether ancient texts are still relevant in our modern, developed societies. There are abundant examples of biblical teachings that go by and large unenforced among most participants of these religions in our society; for example, those regarding slave ownership and the view of women as the property of their father or hus-

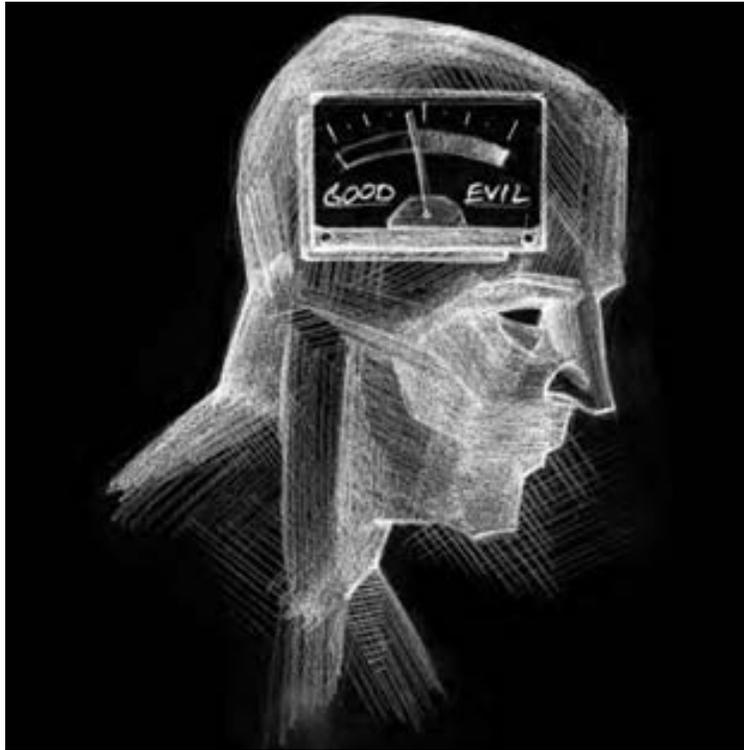


PHOTO DAVID BARLOW-KRELINA

band.

However, fundamentalists of all creeds in various parts of the world still live by these teachings. Stories pervade our news media of African immigrants to the United States forcing their daughters to undergo genital mutilation, women being sentenced to be stoned to death in Iran, and that now-famous case of an Afghan woman whose nose and ears were cut off for attempting to flee her abusive husband. Such instances of inhumane treatment, which some attempt to explain away as cultural or moral relativism, outrage individuals and human rights organizations alike.

But what can we really do? It's their culture; it's acceptable by their standards. Is it possible that some things are just wrong on a basic human level?

As impossible as it seems to concretely answer these questions, some are speaking out—saying that boundaries need to be established and that science can play a role. In American author and neuroscientist Sam Harris' book, *The Moral Landscape*, he claims that the key to discerning right from wrong can be found in analyzing human and animal well-being by judging conscious experiences as peaks and valleys on this "moral landscape."

Harris argues that we now know enough about the human mind that we can determine certain inherently human qualities that do not change depending on the culture or religious beliefs an individual subscribes to.

It is also important to note how societal value systems all over the world tend to change over relatively short periods of time. Women's rights only began to radically change on a global scale

around the beginning of the 20th century, and this process was certainly not helped by archaic religious traditional notions of female inferiority and servitude. As women's rights activist Elizabeth Cady-Stanton wrote in 1896, "The Bible and the Church have been the greatest stumbling blocks in the way of women's emancipation."

More recently, homosexuals have been granted equal rights to serve openly in the United States military, and in many places—yet still only in a select few U.S. states—they are now allowed equal marriage rights. Once again, these shifts in our collective perception of morality were largely held back by religious doctrine that deems, on a purely dogmatic basis, that homosexuality is an "abomination."

What has brought us to this new frontier of equal rights for all people is secular logic and skepticism as to why, and for what purposes, should one group of people be denied equality. Perhaps there is simply something about our fellow humans suffering injustice that gets to us; after all, evolutionary biologists have long argued that we have evolved sympathy for others.

Falsely equivocating worldviews that oppress and even brutalize certain kinds of people does not make us more civilized, nor does it make us more open-minded. It only means we are tolerant of the very behavior that repulses us on a basic level of evolved sympathy for our fellow humans. We may not be able to forcibly change or end these worldviews, but we can control what we deem acceptable within our society.



Dear Melissa,

I've recently begun to suspect my best friend of many years might be gay. A mutual friend has seen him with another man, and I've even been told he's now in a relationship with a guy. It doesn't bother me at all if this is true, but it hurts me that he wouldn't tell me. It even seems like he feels he has to be extra "bro-ish" around me now, and I don't know how to get him to open up.

*From, Kept in the Dark*

Dear Kept in the Dark,

First off, I feel your pain. No matter the situation, it's never fun when someone starts acting extra bro-ish. That being said, I can see your friend's motivation in this situation. Sexuality is a personal thing and I tend to think that someone's orientation should be irrelevant to other people. However, in your case it's easy to understand why you might be hurt.

There can be a lot of different reasons why he hasn't come out to you, or to anyone. For starters, this might all be new to him, so he might not be at the point where he's ready or wanting to share. He could be confused, and he could even not necessarily identify or think of himself as gay, so he might be in a position where he doesn't feel there's anything to "come out" about. It may sound weird to say that a man dating another man may not see himself as gay, but our culture has cut such a strict mould for what it means to be gay that he may just not see himself fitting in it. And, most obviously, he could also really just be scared about the reaction of those around him.

Do you trust that this mutual friend wouldn't exaggerate a situation for the chance to gossip? Has your best friend told anyone that you know of that he's gay? If he has, don't take it too personally that it wasn't you. Sometimes it's actually easier to tell a complete stranger a big secret because a negative reaction from them would hurt less than one from someone you love.

If he hasn't, I don't think the best way to do this is by directly approaching or asking him about it because it could be interpreted as an attack or assumption, and that could be messy for both of you. Instead, I think you should try to focus on your friendship and the attitude you present when issues related to sexuality come up. If you have opportunities to tell him how much your friendship means to you, take them. If you're having discussions where queer issues or sexuality come up, take those opportunities to show him how open-minded and comfortable you can be. If he comes to see you as a generally accepting person who truly values his friendship then you're setting the stage for him to come to you if or when the time comes. If you think you're already doing all these things, and as far as he's concerned you're the most open-minded person alive, then maybe being patient is all you can do.

I know it kind of sucks to feel like your best friend is hiding such a huge part of his life from you. However, our society is such that it puts immense pressure on people who don't conform to heterosexual norms and so you should keep in mind how hard it might be for him as well. It's not an easy situation but I think he'll really appreciate you sticking it out for him in the end.

—Melissa Fuller

Send your dirty little secret sex related questions or qualms to [sexpancakes.thelink@gmail.com](mailto:sexpancakes.thelink@gmail.com)

# Government Pulls Plug on Egypt

## The Internet May Have Stopped, But It Didn't Stop the Movement



Al Jazeera dodged the Egyptian government's attempt to censor the locals by opening its doors to citizen journalists, inviting them to upload footage onto their webpage and making all their content public. PHOTO ALJAZEERA

• LAURA BEESTON

A group of young men run along the smoke-filled streets of Cairo as the sound of choppers echo above. Weaving in and out of the film's grainy footage, they intermittently throw rocks at the advancing line of police, yelling behind their backs. In an instant a gunshot cracks out and one of them is struck, folding backwards onto the street. His friends run to him, towards the line of firing brass, screaming as they gather his lifeless body from the street.

Later that day, after millions worldwide have streamed, seen, and Tweeted clips and similar raw footage of the Middle Eastern uprising as it unfolded in realtime, the government pulled the plug and the 'net shut down.

But instead of bringing the Egyptian resolve with it, the pressure intensifies and the images keep coming.

In one week, political uprising has occurred both on the streets of the Middle East as well as on browsers, servers and web pages around the world—breaking through attempts at censorship. Though substantial efforts were made to keep this story of civil unrest contained, with networks

“falling off” the Internet, media headquarters forcibly closed or controlled and SMS/phone connections cut, the online community, active in solid international and citizen reportage, continued to keep the world updated by the hour.

Living in a world where there are just as many protestors wielding smartphones as there are with rocks, the voices of dissent have never been louder, faster and more accessible. Is censorship, with its basic attempt to disconnect, even possible today? Has Internet access become fundamental to democratic rights and freedom of expression?

Though President Hosni Mubarak's regime shocked even the savviest of hackers by successfully pulling the kill switch on a reported 88 per cent of the Egyptian Internet last weekend, it has proven impossible to keep information restricted.

With democratic expression a central tenant in the fight today, the Mubarak regime's systematic effort to control communication is indicative of the technological hierarchy in our media world—a world where press and broadcast stations are targeted only after the Internet goes out, where Tweets are being broadcast live and where citizens are learning to harness the power of

cyber/social activism.

Since the uprising broke out Jan. 25, news sources around the world and web have also reported that other countries, specifically China, are blocking the search of “Egypt” and “Tunisia,” largely seen as a stalling tactic to suppress similar cyber movements in their own countries.

And despite a network loss for hundreds of thousands in the days of the Egyptian Internet blackout, the tech-savvy continue to circumvent the systems, sending the world this story. Though the communication services in Cairo are expected to be interrupted for yet another week, there is a growing wave of optimism that, when the Internet is eventually reinstated to all, there is no way Egyptians will go back into their homes.

A concerted push for information and resistance to censorship has also strengthened within the traditional press, as seen in backlash and international condemnation following the withdrawal of Al Jazeera's license to broadcast in the region.

In an unprecedented move on Jan. 27, the network beckoned the public to share, link and reproduce footage and video from the uprising. All they asked for was proper

citation, making all of their content in the public domain.

Though the Mubarak agenda has made every attempt to interfere with the images and information from demonstrations by journalists and citizens, the crisis remains public and on an international platform, as Egyptians continue to organize and revolt.

Ironically, perhaps it was censorship that made this footage more valuable and, at this point, we can only speculate what impact this international scrutiny will have as the story—and its geopolitical implications—continue to unfold, live before our eyes, on our screens.

Throughout the chaos, threats of oppression and shaky Internet connection, *The Guardian* reported Egypt currently hosts an estimated 160,000+ bloggers writing daily in Arabic, according to leaked US embassy cables. In a place where two thirds of the population is under 30 years old, they have become the voices and instigators of profound change. One of them, 24-year-old Gigi Ibrahim, spoke with *The New York Times* on Jan. 27 about her use of social media in both journalistic and revolutionary practices.

“Like many Egyptians here, my role is to be part of this wave of

change,” she said via Skype. “[Social media is] definitely a great tool, but it's only a tool. At the end of the day, if the people don't decide to go down into the streets to promote change, or aren't willing to take the risks on the streets—facing police and possible arrests—nothing can happen.

“Yes, they're useful tools and have helped a lot in communication between the people—and communication is key here—but these social networks are used by average citizens, by political groups, activists, journalists, as an open forum for everybody to have a voice.”

As Alexandria prepares for the March of a Million today, using the web to orchestrate the protest, the rhetoric celebrating social media in this particular case is just as widespread. Certainly it is a key component in this Middle Eastern struggle, but what is truly more powerful: the tools used to organize the expressed desire for democracy, or the active follow-through?

The impetus of people to stand up against injustice, censorship and oppression extends far beyond Twitter or the Internet, and requires the masses to come out from behind their screens and onto the streets—no matter where they live.

✉ Letters@thelinknewspaper.ca

### Speak up on V-Day

Tired of feeling lonely on Valentine's Day?

Tired of the cold, distant attitude of the Board of Governors? Tired of not knowing what's going on at Concordia? Tired of constant tuition increases and cuts to education? If you feel like sharing the love, sharing your voice, making collective decisions to freeze tuition, sending the Board of Governors a hearty message on Valentine's Day, or just peacefully and productively heating up the debate with fellow students and other members of the university community, come heat-up, eat-up and speak-up outdoors at a Valentine's Day Action from students to the Board of Governors!

Because speaking your voice is hot. Because direct democracy is hot. Because collective decisions are hot. Because student empowerment is hot. Because undergrads and grads together with a common goal are hot.

Students, faculty, staff, the university community: This Valentine's Day, don't be a lonely fish in the big blue sea. Join the WHALE—the Wintry Hot Accessible Love-in for Education Feb. 14 at 11:30 a.m. at the Hall Building Terrasse. Heaters and hot food will be provided.

The event will be organized by Free Education Montreal and the Graduate Students' Association.

—Nadia Hausfather,  
Free Education Montreal and the  
Graduate Students' Association

### Crisis of Culture in BoG

Just before the holidays, the departure of Concordia's president, Judith Woodsworth, was made known before anyone had time to object. This marks the latest in a series of "departures" by presidents and vice-presidents in a very short period. It is increasingly obvious that the Board of Governors is at the center of it all.

Whatever one thinks of Woodsworth's performance, such departures are unacceptable since they demonstrate that real power lies exclusively with the Board—who are not even subject to the checks and balances of the university.

We know that corporate figures hold a place of privilege on the Board, and that behind closed doors their "invisible hand" increasingly runs the university like a corporation, following the im-

peratives of wealth and not of knowledge.

Should we continue to dole out millions at the Board's whim? Should we accept their lack of transparency, their threats, buy-outs and destabilizing of the university's functioning? Should we accept their contempt for the university's mission and their cynical pursuit of profit?

We, the graduate students of the sociology and anthropology department, have declared that we will not accept the course charted by the Board. It is not enough that those Board members who accepted the decisions should have to resign; the internal culture of the Board must be understood and the structures that permit these crises to recur must be changed. As sociology and anthropology graduates, we are proposing to set up a research group that would do just that.

It is up to each of us to take action through our student representatives resisting this corporate incursion, and to declare ourselves students, not clients.

—Richard Hinton,  
on behalf of the Sociology and Anthropology Student Association

### Who's being Naive?

At the CSU Council meeting held Jan. 12, Council voted down a resolution calling for the resignation of all external Board members. I'd like to point out that the CSU is mandated to oppose corporate representation on the Board, and the majority of external Board members are corporate executives.

I want to discuss a conceptual problem that appeared throughout the debate. Can we please stop worrying about being "naïve?" Too many student politicians seem to have a psychological need to appear "sensible" to the big boys. Stop! The corporate executives, politicians and everyone who ever looked at you and muttered "idealistic," are destroying our planet and society because they believe that economic success means ever-increasing corporate profits and ever-expanding GDPs. A child could tell you that doesn't make sense—and actually sounds a little naïve. Yet being sensible and savvy seems to have become synonymous with toeing the line.

Naïve is thinking that making one more concession to a group of wealthy, arrogant corporate CEOs, who have not supported students on a single significant issue, will make them respect you. Naïve is thinking that running a university like a corporation is not by definition a silly, narrow-minded idea. Naïve is thinking that the Board of Governors as it stands is more than a rubber-stamp, when evidence to the contrary is all around us. Naïve is setting up committees to talk about passing a motion to study the possibility of possibly doing something when Concordia is facing its biggest crisis, and biggest opportunity, in recent memory—while higher education in Quebec is being attacked from all sides.

But if we go with the definition of naïve that I heard on Wednesday—calling for radical change to our university and society—based on what is right, not what has always been, then students deserve a little naïveté from their representatives, because it used to be known as courage.

—Holly Nazar,  
MA Media Studies  
Director for Arts & Science, GSA  
Free Education Montreal

### Missed a Spot

I've read with great interest all of *The Link's* articles and editorials surrounding the issue of university governance in the past few months, including articles on the actions and motions of senate this past week.

One omission (due to space, perhaps?) was any coverage of the Strategic Academic Plan and the consultation process around it.

While I agree that recent events have made governance the foremost topic of discussion, I worry that Concordia Student Union representatives to Senate, *The Link* and the quickly emptied overflow room for Senate's guests may have missed a very important forest for the trees.

The opportunity to guide the long-term academic directions, and to help define what we are to do as a university community is one not to be missed, and deserves the attention of the student body and media.

—Alex Oster,  
Former member of the  
CSU Senate 2009-10

## IGMS: CRESCENT TABLE TALK

### A Couple Seats Short of Democracy

• CLAY HEMMERICH

What was supposed to be a roundtable discussion at Thursday's Information General Meeting turned out to be more of a semi-circle in practice—the Commerce and Administration Student Association and Engineering and Computer Science Association's invites must have gotten lost or left in the mail.

The IGM successfully cleared off to-do lists on überculture, Free Education Montreal's, and Concordia Student Union VP Sustainability and Promotions Morgan Pudwell's agendas. The outcome of the meeting trended dangerously towards undemocratic territory, for a number of reasons.

Among the FEM, überculture, CSU and ASFA politico crowd, curious undergrads trickled in, but they were few and far between. Even scarcer were John Molson School of Business students. In fact, only one sat within the left-slanted mob and was often heckled, especially when he stressed the importance of inviting different fiduciary streams to fund student projects.

But the slant of most of the IGM crowd made the meeting very productive. A handful of non-binding motions, including one that was killed at the last CSU council meeting (the call for immediate resignations of 23 community-at-large members of the Board of Governors with expired terms), were passed at the assembly.

Helping move things forward was Chairperson Roddy Doucet's bias towards FEM's mission statement, though I'm sure his intentions were to speed things up. He rushed the passing of ad-libbed motions and peppered in some of his own commentary throughout.

For example, on a motion to call for a stance against water bottles on campus he lamented to the leftist crowd, "Can't we all agree this is a good thing?" Sure, it's likely that most in this group agreed, but those sorts of comments would intimidate someone who thinks otherwise.

Speaking of differing minds, where were the Commerce and Administration Student Association and Engineering and Computer Science Student Association?

Even if they were there,

there wasn't much discussion that wasn't between the Chair and FEM.

A student in the crowd raised a good point by saying that if the CSU was able to elaborate campaign for the Student Centre, they should be able to campaign to mobilize students.

It appears they have taken the comment to heart, because a Mobilization Committee is now in place, made up of FEM and überculture people, Pudwell, CSU VP External and Projects Adrien Severyns, and the IGM Chairperson.

For quorum to be reached, the committee requires 2.5 per cent of Concordia undergrads to feel romantic enough about the university to show up to the Reggies terrace on Valentine's Day to justify Thursdays political maneuvering.

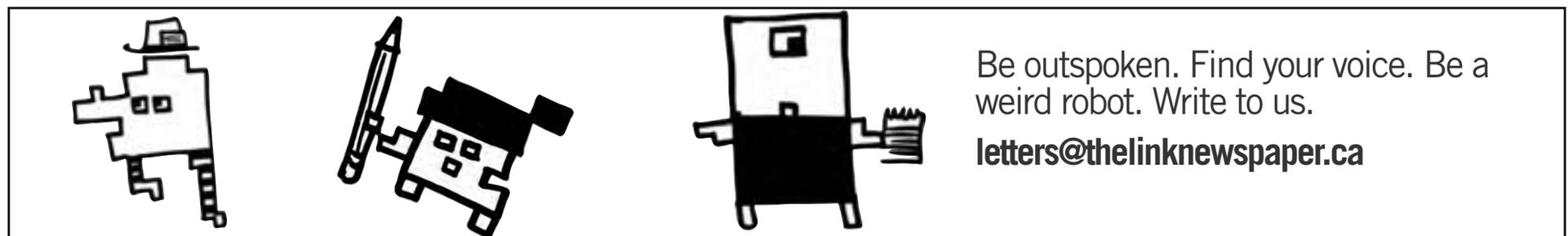
**CASA and ECA can make a pretty substantial advance towards student democracy by simply making the effort to step inside the room.**

Biases aside, I take comfort in knowing that the FEM, überculture, ASFA and CSU crew are out there fighting the good fight for us students in the way they think is right—I think that's nothing but virtuous. But if we're talking democracy, it takes two to tango.

I just wish that the CASA and ECA executive crew knew that their input is needed because a huge chunk of the school is not being represented. Because of this, I'm not even sure if what's happening is democracy in action, but it's no fault of those that are actively trying to bring justice to this university.

The CSU can't do anything else but ask Concordians, ECA, and CASA to show up. Woody Allen once said, "80 per cent of success is showing up." Assuming he's right—CASA and ECA can make a pretty substantial advance towards student democracy by simply making the effort to step inside the room.

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



# Tremendous Tales

by Christopher Olson



True, any sufficiently advanced technology would be indistinguishable from magic, but Harold needed a better excuse than “pixie dust” to explain his recent scientific developments.

## Nah'msayin?

### Down With Ronald McDonald

In light of the Concordia Student Union's proposed boycott of McDonald's because of a supposed group of gang members that frequents the establishment, the CSU has announced several other boycotts based on their unswerving moral compass:

- The CSU has announced a picket of the local police department—not in protest of the Société de Police de la Ville Montréal's mishandling of the Mohammed Anas Bennis case, but because too many homeless people frequent the sidewalk in front of the establishment.

“The police station is great, but how is a respectable Concordia student to walk by these doors in peace with this looming menace?” the CSU stated plainly.

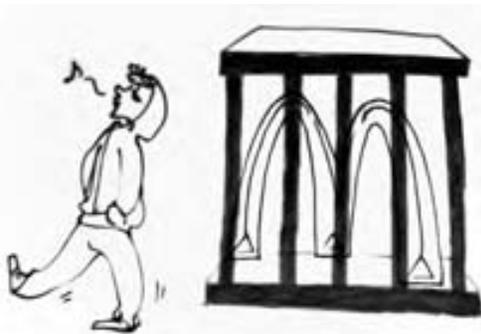
- The CSU also hereby boycotts any student involvement in government weapons programs. The move was not initiated by any anti-war sentiment, but rather due to the nuisance posed by the aggressive promotion of \$4 shot Fridays in and around private weapon manufacturing facilities.

- Finally, the CSU wants to make it clear that they do not support in any way the Canadian sale of asbestos abroad. Surprisingly, the move was prompted by a rumour that Jimmy Hoffa's direct descendents frequent the lobby of the largest asbestos procurers in the country.

“Who knows what poisonous effect gang influence could have on the mass production and sale of a deadly chemical?” said a CSU spokesperson.

So rest easy, Concordia. The CSU is raging fiercely against all the world's evils... as long as there are shady characters hanging out in front of or around them.

—Diego Pelaez Gaetz,  
Copy Editor



GRAPHIC VIVIEN LEUNG

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

## TIRED OF READING

ANGST - "Priorities" by Liz Lee

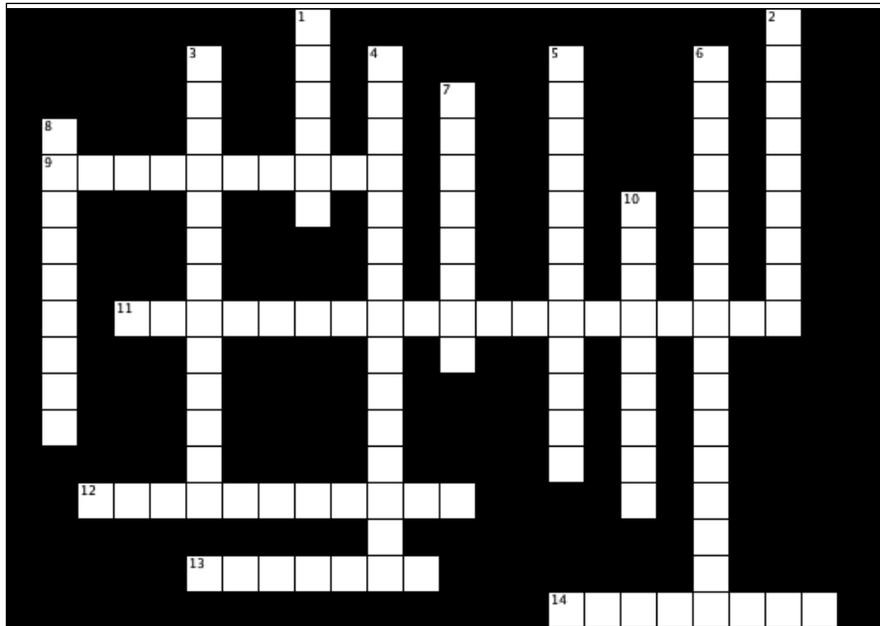


editorial cartoon



GRAPHIC ALEX BOUDREAU O'DOWD

Quik-X  
"Famous Spaceships"  
• CHRISTOPHER OLSON



Across

- 9. This fictional space ship was so freaking popular in the 1960s that fans of the show campaigned to have one of NASA's space shuttles named after it. As the show continued however, the ship was named after the shuttle.
- 11. This Sci-Fi original show named after the space ship on which it was set was so unbelievably well written that the United Nations held a conference to discuss how well written it was.
- 12. Classic Neil Young song, or a spaceship which is literally propelled by improbability in *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*.
- 13. The name of two American space probes launched in 1977 to investigate the outer planets of our solar system, or the titular space ship in this, let's admit it, lame *Star Trek* spin-off.
- 14. The state of being calm, peaceful and untroubled, or a space ship that featured in another great

Joss Whedon show cancelled before its time.

Down

- 1. Bill and Ted might have had a time traveling phone booth, but *Doctor Who* has a time-traveling phone booth that... uh... resembles a British phone booth.
- 2. The closest spiral galaxy to our own, or the titular space ship in this show based on *Star Trek* creator Gene Roddenberry's table scraps.
- 3. Although they do nothing of the sort, you can't argue that these regal-looking Imperial ships in the *Star Wars* universe don't strike fear into the heart of Rebels everywhere with their bombastic nomenclature.
- 4. Because having a show where people make funny commentaries set to cheesy B-movies isn't enough, the creators of *Mystery Science Theater 3000* needed to have a running storyline set on this orbiting space ship—although it's really more of a satellite.

- 5. The only real spaceship on this list, and perhaps the most famous space ship in human history. You know, the moon one. (Spell it out.)
- 6. George Lucas names his spaceships the same way he names his characters: by slightly modifying nouns that describe them. This ship is probably the exception.
- 7. A cult British science fiction sitcom about the last human being in the universe living aboard an abandoned mining vessel—hilarity ensues—or a term for a star which is roughly half the mass of our own sun.
- 8. That's not a moon. It's a spaceship with a design flaw so large, it even defies movie logic.
- 10. What some film critics consider the greatest movie ever made, *2001: A Space Odyssey* took place largely on this ship, whose name evokes a similar sense of awe and... whoops, I almost said it.

editorial

Globalization of Anger

Thanks to a rapidly emerging technology that's changing the way information is delivered to us, the world is getting smaller. One of the consequences of that is that people know about what's going on around the world much faster than they used to—and they get up in arms about it much faster as a result.

So you have students protesting the ills of society, the near-decade long, misguided and unwinnable war that features American troops combating a guerilla-style, rag-tag army using ever newer and unpredictable tactics. You have the police forces of supposedly stable governments killing civilian protesters in cold blood. You have people trying to assassinate American politicians. You have riots and general chaos.

Artists everywhere are getting politically aware. Anger is in the air, and change is in the wind. It all feeds back into itself. 2011 is going to be crazy, right? Well—that was a description of 1968, actually.

They had their TV, their Orangeburg Massacre, their Vietnam and Tet Offensive, their Prague Spring, French May, their RFK and MLK killings. And you have to get a sense that we may be in for another year along those lines.

For all the people who are badmouthing today's youth about their self-centredness, lack of political awareness, brain-deadness and general apathy—remember the G20 in Toronto last year? Remember the last couple of Anti-Police Brutality Marches in Montreal? Remember the Anti-Olympics protests in Vancouver a year ago?

The spirit of anger isn't gone, and if we can still keep the fire burning in North America, then no one should be surprised to see the Tunisian and Egyptian people riled up. They have Facebook there too. For what it's worth, somehow that hasn't affected the simple truth: If your government is giving you short shrift, denying you basic rights, and evidently concentrating the country's wealth at the top of the social pyramid through shady deals and nepotism, you take your anger to the streets. And if they come out shooting, you double your efforts.

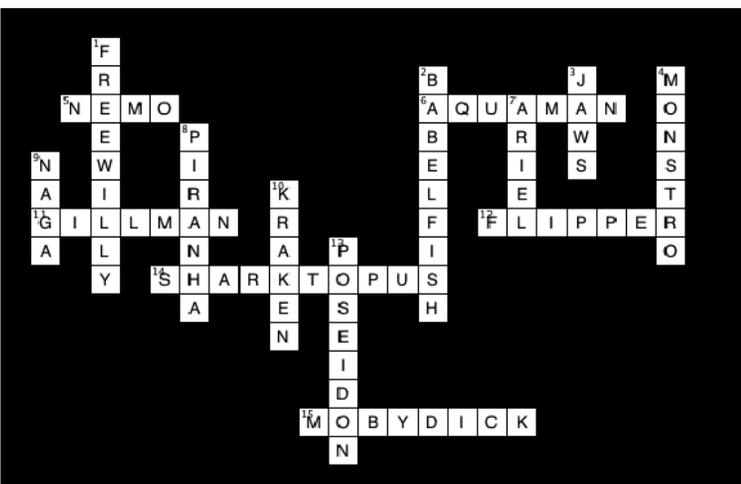
As the spread of television and cheaper, more portable video cameras helped focus the world's eye on the myriad civil rights injustices of the late '60s, so too will Twitter, YouTube and Google focus the world's eye on the injustices of today.

What we're seeing is sort of a re-globalization of rage—that you can't sweep little things like a 25% youth unemployment under the rug and hope everything will be alright, that people will mobilize, band together, and that well-orchestrated protests, the attention of the press and the concern of the international community can work wonders with regards to speeding up the democratic process.

So if Tunisia and Egypt are just the first and second dominos in a longer chain (let's hope), the spirit of '68 is back, and even the most forward-thinking people have got to appreciate a little bit of retro in this case.

—Alex Manley,  
Literary Arts Editor

issue 20 crossword solutions



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