

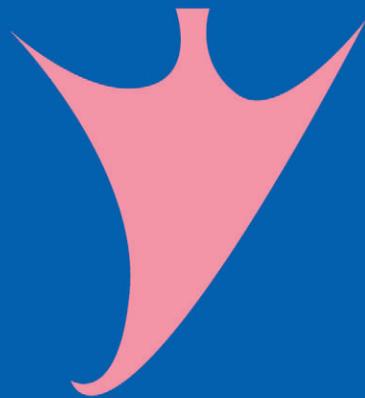


LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980



A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL



Why an Anglo Can Vote Separatist by ALEXMANLEY
But Not For the PQ by COLINHARRIS.....PG14
+ A Student Guide to QC2012.....PG03

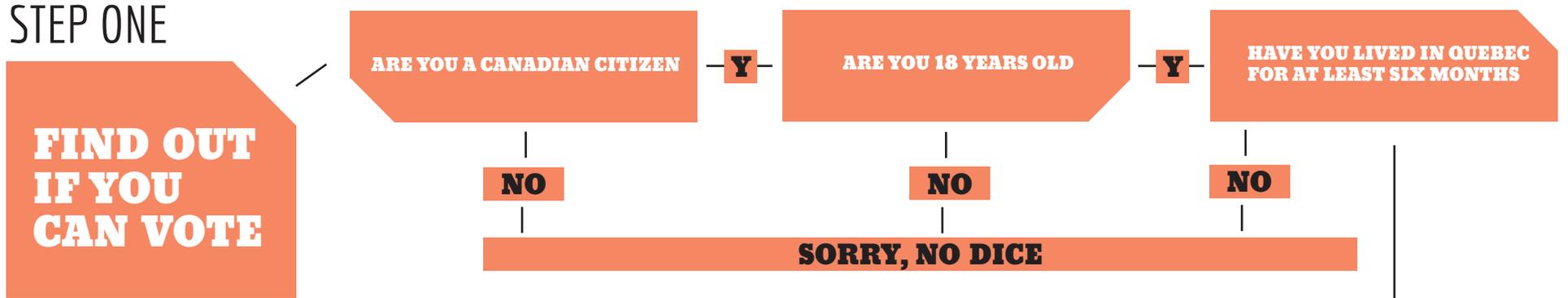


HOW TO VOTE

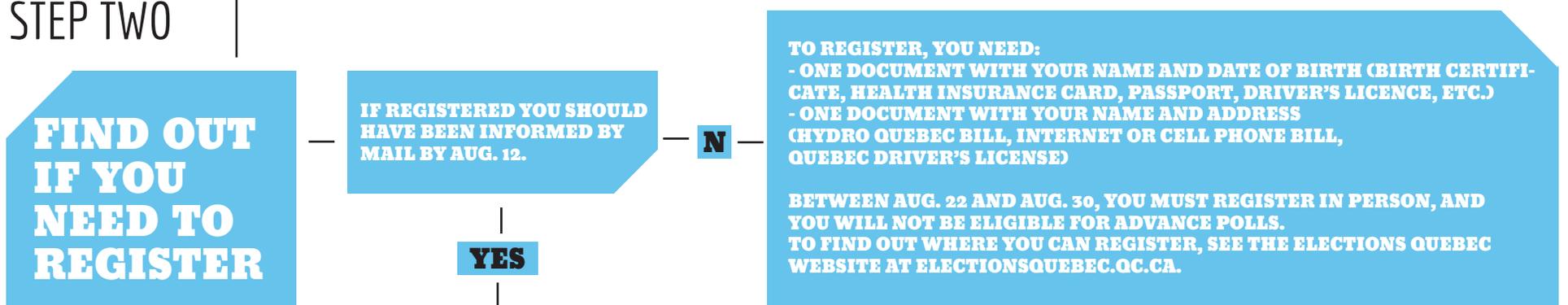
BY COLIN HARRIS
@COLINHARRIS

The Link's guide to voting in QC2012, in three easy steps:

STEP ONE



STEP TWO



STEP THREE



ELECTION TIMELINE

BY PIERRE CHAUVIN WITH FILES FROM ALEX MANLEY
@PIERRE_CHAUVIN

Monthly Day of Action

Since March, the Coalition large de l'Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante has organized monthly demonstrations on the 22nd of each month. Tens of thousands marched peacefully from Place du Canada, the demonstration stretching for 16 city blocks. One arrest is reported, for mischief.

Back to Class for Universities

The Law 12-mandated return to classes meets with resistance at the Université de Montréal and Université du Québec à Montréal, where striking departments face blocked classes early in the morning, and repeated class disruptions at UQAM occur throughout the day. The police are called, and arrest 20 at UdeM—19 under Law 12 provisions, and one for assaulting an officer.

English Debate

Student unions from Concordia, McGill, and Dawson College organize an English-language debate followed by a Q&A with the audience. The event is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., at the John Molson School of Business (1450 Guy St.).

Voting day

Citizens head to the polls. Campaign publicity is banned in the media.

AUG. 22

AUG. 27

AUG. 30

SEPT. 4



THE YOUTH VOTE

BY COREY POOL
@COREYRIVER

VOTER TURNOUT IN FEDERAL ELECTION 2008

The numbers just don't lie. We have a voting problem.

The provincial election four years ago saw the lowest voter turnout in Quebec since 1927—only 57% of Quebecers made it out to cast a ballot in 2008.

Despite increased participation in Quebec's general elections of 1994 and 1998, voter turnout has been on a steady decline since the mid '80s.

Quebecers still statistically

vote in greater numbers than the majority of the rest of Canada, but that's not much to brag about.

The federal election of 2008 marked one of the lowest voter turnouts in Canadian history, seeing a total of 58% of eligible voters cast a ballot.

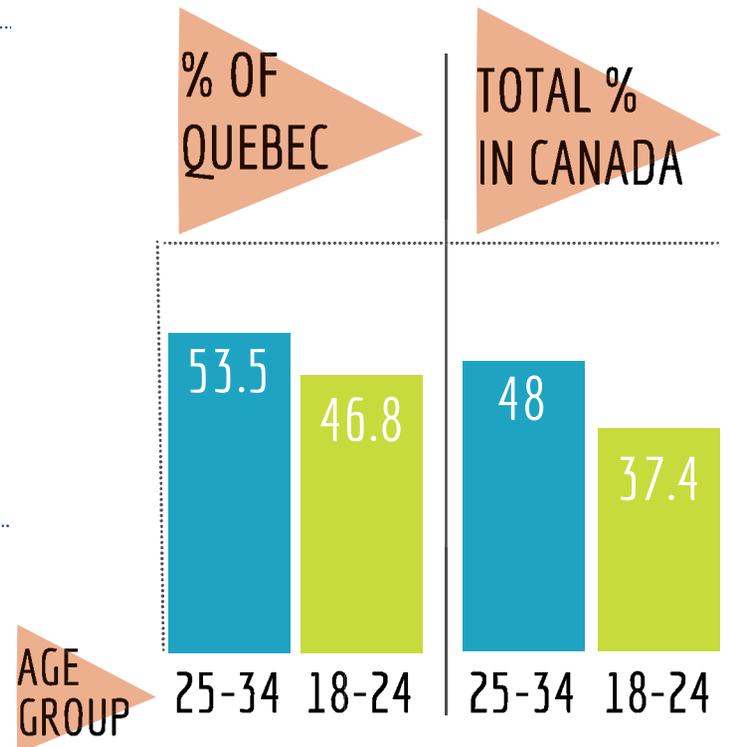
But what makes this general election particularly interesting is the contentious social and political climate surrounding the province.

At the very centre of Quebec's political climate is a loud, active and politicized youth invested in change.

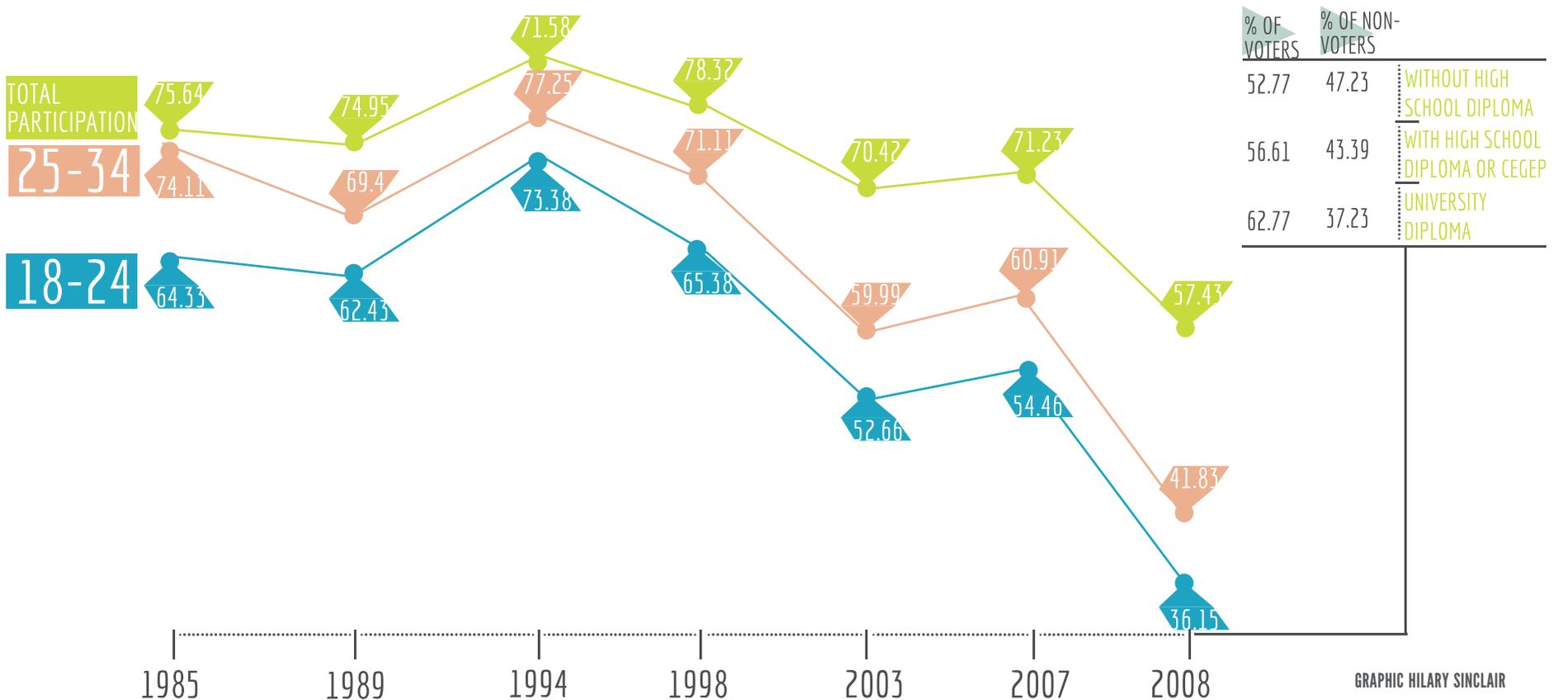
The youth, however, have historically followed suit with the rest of the province in their voting habits.

Only 36% of youth aged 18-24 voted in the last general election of Quebec.

There's still plenty of room here for improvement.



QC GENERAL ELECTIONS 1985-2008



GRAPHIC HILARY SINCLAIR



QC2012 CANDIDATE PROFILES

BY PIERRE CHAUVIN
@PIERRE_CHAUVIN

ALAIN PAQUET

is the Liberal Party of Quebec candidate for Laval-des-Rapides.

Tuition Fees

“Currently the hike is \$254 for 7 years, starting this year,” said Paquet. Taking into account the student tax credit, Paquet says the hike will only amount to \$167 per year.

For Paquet, there is no relationship between tuition fees and accessibility. “In Ontario, tuition fees increased considerably, [yet] the university attendance rate increased.”

“In seven years, the Quebec tuition fees will be quite lower than the Canadian average,” said Paquet.

Financial Aid

All students who currently have a bursary will see their bursaries increase by an amount equivalent to or greater than that of the hike, Paquet said.

“[There are] 67,000 students that receive a bursary equal or higher than the tuition fee hike.”

Any student whose family earns less than \$100,000 will be eligible for financial aid.

“Students from low-income families and the middle class are spared,” said Paquet.

The tax credit could be postponed if the student’s income isn’t high enough to be taxed, said Paquet.

Universities’ Fiscal Management

The PLQ’s main justification for the hike is that Quebec’s universities are under-funded.

“Other universities in North America and in the world keep investing. If we don’t move, the quality of our degrees and the availability of professors will be directly impacted,” said Paquet.

Paquet recognizes some problems in the fiscal management of universities.

“There were cases of abuse or poor fiscal management,” said Paquet. “Cases like that are not acceptable.”

The current hike will go directly to services related to education and research for students, says Paquet.

DANIEL BRETON

is the Parti Québécois candidate for Sainte-Marie—Saint-Jacques.

Tuition Fees & Fiscal Management

A PQ government would stop the Liberal government’s tuition hikes and repeal Bill 78. “After that, we would hold a summit on universities,” said Breton. “On the topic of funding, it seems there are management problems.”

“We’re not against freezing fees, nor are we against free education, but everything has to be part of a national debate,” said Breton. Reforming university governance would also be on the table. “Sometimes, one can wonder if people [on boards of governors] act in the interest of students or other interests,” said Breton.

Financial Aid

Financial aid for students would also be discussed at the summit on universities, Breton said. “Current students, alumni, and future students will all be included, in a democratic and pro-citizen way, to decide what direction we should head in. This debate took place in the sixties, and it’s time to do a new one,” he said.

After the summit, the government would receive a number of recommendations. “The government will study it and say ‘Here is what we propose, do you agree?’” explained Breton.

Youth Unemployment

“Young people having difficulty finding a job after university is a problem that existed when I was young,” said Breton.

According to Breton, the main problem arises from the expectation that students will already have job experience when they graduate from university. “It’s mathematically impossible,” he said. “The PQ wants to create a mentoring program so older people can transition toward retirement while helping young people to gain experience,” he added.

Youth Vote

“What happened this spring is a good strategy to help students vote,” Breton said. “I have a feeling that youth turnout is going to be up this fall,” he added, but said that the overall problem is hard to solve.

JULIE BONCOMPAIN

is the Coalition avenir Québec candidate for Mercier, and a former Concordia student.

Tuition Fees & Fiscal Management

“The CAQ’s position has been clear since the beginning: our students are attending what we consider to be under-funded universities,” said Boncompain.

The CAQ proposes a tuition increase of \$200 per year for the next 5 years, to be followed by indexation. “The additional financing [...] will be contingent on an efficiency-based management plan for each university,” said Boncompain. “[This] has been demanded by students many times over, to make universities accountable.”

Financial Aid

“If a student, once he is done school, is not able to pay back [his debt] after ten years, we will forgive it,” said Boncompain. “On the matter of accessibility, students are right,” said Boncompain. “We will make sure middle-class families [that earn] \$60,000 and less will have loans and bursaries to make up for the [tuition] hike.”

Youth Unemployment

“The CAQ proposes to hold entrepreneurship classes for our young people. This would provide not only the tools to learn and training, but also spark their desire to start their own businesses, to create their own jobs.”

Boncompain also says the CAQ wants to push for more universities like the École de Technologie Supérieure, which combines study with work experience. “It’s not easy for a young student who just left [university] to do interviews. Support at this level is always important,” said Boncompain.

Youth Vote

“Mr. Legault was the first to be active on social media during this campaign,” said Boncompain, referring to a Twitter debate the CAQ leader had with Martine Desjardins, the FEUQ’s president.

Boncompain is disappointed that students won’t be allowed to vote at CEGEPs and universities. “The Liberal Party said no. I don’t understand how they can say no.”

DENIS MONIÈRE

is the Option Nationale candidate for Sainte-Marie—Saint-Jacques. After studying in Paris and Ottawa, Monière taught at the University of Ottawa and has been teaching at the University of Montreal since 1986.

Tuition Fees

“For us, education should be free from preschool to post-secondary,” said Monière.

“We believe that a society that invests in the development of knowledge is profitable: the more people are educated, the more they will have qualified and interesting jobs, the higher their income will be. They will pay more taxes and the state will earn back its investment.”

Monière says that the federal government cut education transfer payments to Quebec, and an independent Quebec would be able to finance free tuition fees. “If we were not part of Canada, we could get the taxes back we sent to Ottawa,” said Monière. “We send more than \$50 billion in taxes to Ottawa [per year].”

University Fiscal Management

“Universities cry hunger but aren’t doing anything to reduce their expenses,” said Monière. He wants to increase the number of academics sitting on university Boards of Governors.

“We believe that at least 50% of the BoG should come from the academic community,” he explained. “[Business people] don’t know anything about the university. They come here to apply the [private] enterprise model.”

Financial Aid

“Students have to live, so there will be a system of loans,” he said. “A loan in itself isn’t bad—what is bad is excessive debt,” said Monière, adding that free tuition would gradually reduce the need for recourse to private lenders.

Youth Unemployment

“Obviously there are no magical solutions,” said Monière, who believes the current system does not connect young people with the market’s needs. “We propose a system of internships, starting in secondary school, which would link education with the labour market, with job requirements.”

ALEXANDRE LEDUC

is the Québec Solidaire candidate for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve.

Tuition Fees

“Since the founding of the party in 2006, Québec Solidaire has adopted a clear stance on free education,” said Leduc. “We believe that the foundation of a democratic society is education,” he added.

“Education, because it’s a right, should be accessible to all social classes, whether you’re born in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve or Westmount.” Leduc estimated that providing free tuition would cost the state around \$425 million.

“To find this money, we would restore the capital tax, but only on financial institutions. This tax was abolished by Jean Charest in 2007.”

Financial Aid

Québec Solidaire wants to merge all welfare programs into one by establishing a guaranteed minimum income. “Anybody who doesn’t have a job, or who has a job that doesn’t pay enough [to live] would receive \$12,000 from the state,” explained Leduc. “\$12,000 per year is a good foundation [for students] to focus on their studies without having to work 30 hours per week,” he said.

Youth Unemployment

Leduc knows the topic quite well. Despite obtaining a Masters degree in history, he did not find a job in his field of study.

“University is also a place to learn working methods and to develop critical thinking skills. You don’t necessarily end up in your particular field,” said Leduc. “[However], Québec Solidaire has a far-reaching economic plan, the Green Plan, that proposes a series of massive public investments to facilitate job creation.”

Youth Vote

“It’s only a month after Moving Day. A lot of young people moved and did not necessarily have the time to change their address,” said Leduc, who will be handing out flyers to encourage people to vote. “Every time the Liberals were elected in the last 20 years, the turnout rate was low.”

The Link Chats With New ConU Prez Alan Shepard

TALKING WITH THE PRESIDENTBY COREY POOL
@COREYRIVER

PHOTO COREY POOL

Classes don't start for another week, but there's already a new face on campus.

On Aug. 1, Alan Shepard officially took office as Concordia's brand new president and vice-chancellor.

Shepard takes office at an interesting point in the university's history, following on the heels of former interim-president Frederick Lowy and a slew of recent presidential and administrative embarrassments that have put Concordia in the headlines for all the wrong reasons.

Fresh from a five-year term in Ontario as provost, vice-president academic and chief operating officer at Ryerson University, Shepard joins Concordia's community with high hopes.

From his humble beginnings as a self-professed "farm kid in the rural American midwest," to a graduate student in the American south, an administrator in Texas and then Ontario, Shepard claims to have grown accustomed to big transitions.

He says that his job as president has been a long time coming.

"Some of the skill sets of being a president are things I've been working on for a really long time," said Shepard. "Any time you're in these senior admin roles, there are certain things you need to learn about budgets, how things work and what the issues are."

Shepard says that the best training ground for his work as an ad-

ministrator came early in his career when he ran a university-wide accreditation project at Texas Christian University.

"What was great was that I got to learn how these places work," he said. "How sports programs work, how funding, insurance, security as well as all the academic programs work. Not many profs get that kind of moment early in their career, getting to have a bird's-eye view of the whole [university]. It was then that I became really keen [for] these kinds of jobs, these kinds of opportunities."

Despite being transposed into a foreign province in the midst of political turmoil, to a university struggling to clean up its image during one of the largest social movements in recent history, Shepard is surprisingly optimistic.

"This is an amazing moment in post-secondary education," he said. "Universities have been around for a long time, and for most of that time the way that we taught students has been fairly consistent. In the last 10 years or so there has been an accelerated sense that things are changing. [...] This is the moment for urban universities."

Shepard believes that Concordia is in an advantageous position, not only because of its location in Montreal, but also because of its tradition of community engagement.

"We don't have big monastic walls around us," he said. "I haven't found any gates yet. This is a place that welcomes people in."

But despite his optimism, Shepard will inevitably be confronted with messes that he didn't cause, yet will be made to clean up.

The protests that have happened at Concordia are a result of what is happening politically in Quebec, but also what is happening internally at the university. When asked how he intends to address the so-called "culture of contempt" at the university, Shepard's answer was simple.

"Communication is key in a university, and having this kind of hierarchical structure where the administration is very aloof—that is not the kind of administration that I want to inhabit."

To Shepard, understanding and building off the university's history is important, but he stresses the need to "not always look in the rearview mirror."

"Of course, there have been some very difficult times in the past. I've read about them in the press, but I don't want to only dwell on those."

Last spring, Shepard got a taste for what protest actions are like at Concordia when a group of roughly 20 students disrupted a meeting in which the then-presidential hopeful was being introduced to the community.

The disruption came amidst classroom and building blockades happening at universities across the province, and less than a month before the emergency Bill 78—now known as Law 12—was introduced.

When asked how he intends to confront the possibility of these kinds of situations happening in the future, Shepard draws from personal experience.

"Two weeks before my PhD exams was the march on Washington for lesbian and gay rights, which really mattered to me," said Shepard, who is openly gay. "I had this moral dilemma of whether to stay locked up and studying for my exams, or to go to what turned out to be this enormous moment of social protest."

"A huge number of us marched on Washington and it was a great turning point in my young life in terms of coming out. So I've been on both sides. I've been on the administration side and I've been the person protesting in the street. I get that energy."

That said, he believes that there still exists a "magic line," and that though protesting is "fine and great," some moderation is necessary.

"I think we all have a communal obligation to each other to protest in a way that doesn't put people at risk," said Shepard. "So, somebody interrupting my presentation to the community—I didn't take that personally. If someone interrupts your ability to complete your university degree [...] I think I have an obligation to make sure that we provide every means for you to get that education."

Though Shepard has the future of the university in mind, he's not quite sure exactly what that future will be.

"When I was being interviewed for the job, I said repeatedly that I don't trust leaders who show up and say, 'I have a plan for you,'" he said. "I want to work with the community to see where it's been and where it can go, or where it wants to go."

"Of course presidents and provosts and whatnot help to shape that, but they don't just get out their memo pad and say, 'Here's the vision.' It doesn't work like that."

"Two weeks before my PhD exams was the lesbian and gay rights march on Washington. I had this moral dilemma of whether to stay locked up and study for my exams, or to go to this enormous moment of social protest. A huge number of us marched on Washington and it was a great turning point in my young life in terms of coming out. So I've been on both sides. I've been on the administration side and I've been the person protesting in the street. I get that energy."

—Concordia President Alan Shepard

All Systems Cleared for Some Mighty Fine Jazz

Local Trio Cover Nirvana, Radiohead; Journey to the Moon

MARIE-CLAUDE CABANA

The Jérôme Beaulieu Trio doesn't quite fit the mold of traditional jazz musicians. Performing instrumental Radiohead covers and hand-plucking piano strings onstage, the Montreal-based group is bringing jazz to a younger crowd.

It has been a year of firsts for the group who, after winning the Jazz en rafale contest, and taking home the Grand Prix du Festi-Jazz international de Rimouski in 2011, were given a coveted spot playing Montreal's International Jazz Festival last July.

This followed the April release of their first album, *L'Homme sur la lune*, a musically innovative recording inspired by the first moon landing in 1969.

As could be expected, gigs for the group, which features Jérôme Beaulieu on the piano, Philippe Leduc on bass, and William Côté on drums, are multiplying in the wake of the festival.

Although Beaulieu occasionally arranges tracks by the likes of Radiohead and Nirvana for the trio, playing jazz "his way" is very important to Beaulieu, who writes most of their material. The result is a more accessible, contemporary, pop-rock-driven form of jazz that delights neophytes and aficionados alike.

For Beaulieu, the key to making a living as a musician, and more specifically a jazz pianist, is live shows.

"Aside from the fact that jazz is an elite kind of art form, because of the Internet, there is little chance that an artist will earn a living off record sales today. In fact, it's impossible."

He admits however, that along with helping the trio garner new



fans, the visibility offered by their performance at the International Jazz Festival boosted the sale of their most recent album.

Still, when asked whether he prefers the big jazz fest crowds or

playing small intimate club venues, Beaulieu hesitates.

"I love big crowds," he says, "but there's something absolutely crazy about playing in a small venue with people sitting two feet

behind you."

When asked if the size of the venue affects the selection of pieces the trio plays, Beaulieu says it doesn't really matter.

"I don't necessarily pick different pieces, but I'll play them differently," he says. "For outdoor venues, although we'll still play a few ballads to vary the pace, we emphasize the more punchy and rhythmic pieces. In a small venue, we can whisper."

Though the crowd typically becomes silent when the trio plays "Man on the Moon," a piece that incorporates a recording of the moon landing, the recent death of

astronaut Neil Armstrong will bestow a new significance to that silence.

Upcoming gigs will provide the opportunity for the trio to perform both in outdoor, and indoor venues. They will be Les midis Jazz Accès Culture's featured artist at noon on Aug. 30, at Place Émilie-Gamelin's outdoor stage in the Quartier des Spectacles.

Local radio station CIBL 101.5 will also dedicate an installment of Jazz Encore to the Jérôme Beaulieu Trio on Sept. 24. Then, on Sept. 27, they'll be playing at the Upstairs Jazz Bar & Grill on Mackay St.

"There's something absolutely crazy about playing in a small venue with people sitting two feet behind you. For outdoor venues, although we'll still play a few ballads to vary the pace, we emphasize the more punchy and rhythmic pieces. In a small venue, we can whisper."

— Jérôme Beaulieu

THEATRE

1. *The Pillowman*
Aug. 28 - Sept. 1
Mainline Theatre
(3997 St-Laurent Blvd.)

MUSIC

2. ExperienceMTL
Aug. 24 - Sept. 1
Parc olympique
(4141 Pierre-de-Coubertin Ave.)
Visit expmtl.com for more info.

FILM

3. *Rock the Bells*
Wu-Tang Clan documentary
Aug. 31
Place de la Paix
(St-Laurent Blvd. b/w Ste-Catherine St. and René-Lévesque Blvd.)
9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

4. Bicycle Film Festival
Aug. 31 - Sept. 1
Cinema du Parc (3575 Parc Ave.)
\$10.00

5. Montreal World Film Festival
Aug. 23 - Sept. 3
Visit ffm-montreal.org
for more info.
\$10.00

TALK

6. Noise Creates Meaning: A Discussion on Music and Social Movements
Aug. 29
Espace POP (5587 Parc Ave.)
6:00 p.m.

VISUAL ART

7. Dr. Sketchy Montreal: Tank Girl edition
Drawing session
Sept. 1
Mainline Theatre
(3997 St-Laurent Blvd.)
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
\$10.00

FRINGE CALENDAR AUG. 28 - SEPT. 3

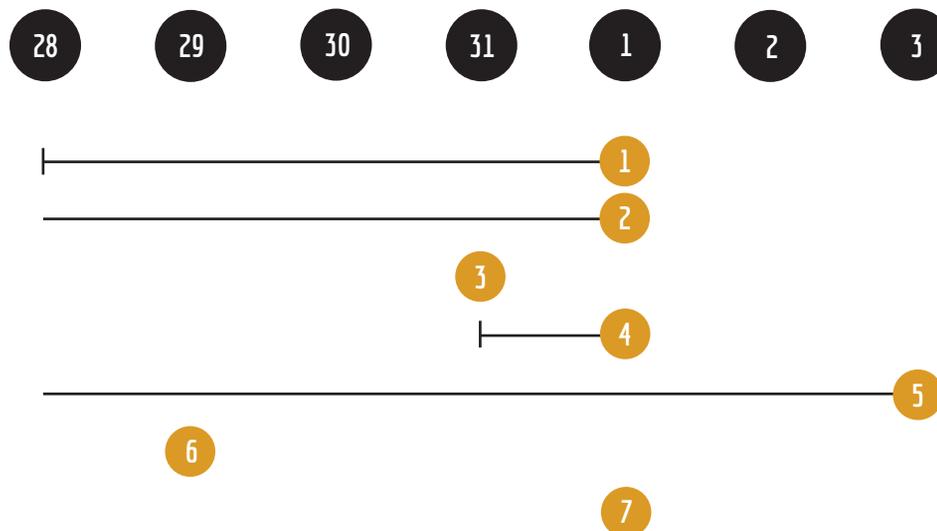


PHOTO OF THE WEEK



PHOTO DYLAN MALONEY

The Stingers are back! The fall sports teams are prepping for the regular season; clearly, Stingers half-back Kris Robertson is already in mid-season form, blazing by would-be University of Toronto tacklers in Friday's exhibition game. The Stingers will be looking to improve on last year's 4-5 record and make a charge to knock the University of Laval Rouge et Or off their pedestal as defending champions.

BOXSCORES WEEK OF AUG. 19 TO 25

Saturday, August 25 Women's Soccer: Concordia vs. St. Lawrence College

Friday, August 24 Women's Soccer: Concordia 2, University of Ontario Institute of Technology 1

Friday, August 24 Football: Concordia 31, University of Toronto 24

Monday, August 20 Women's Soccer: Concordia 0, University of Windsor 0

Monday, August 20 Men's Soccer: Concordia 2, University of Windsor 3

Sunday, August 19 Men's Soccer: Concordia 3, Trent University 2

UPCOMING GAMES THIS WEEK IN CONCORDIA SPORTS

31 Men's Rugby: Concordia at Royal Military College

1 Women's Rugby: Concordia at St. Francis Xavier
Football: Concordia vs. Bishop's (1:00 p.m., Concordia Stadium)
Men's Rugby: Concordia at St. Lawrence

2 Women's Rugby: Concordia at St. Francis Xavier
Baseball: Concordia vs. Carleton (12:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.,
Pierre-Elliott Trudeau Park)

3 Women's Soccer: Concordia vs. Middlebury (12:00 p.m., Concordia Stadium)

The Fight of His Life

Concordia Judoka Sergio Pessoa's London Experience



PHOTO JASON MORRIS

“My friend Antoine Valois-Fortier winning the bronze medal in the under-81-kilogram event, and the celebration, with myself and all my teammates there cheering for him, the whole stadium going crazy, for me, **that’s going to be the moment I remember the most.**”

—Sergio Pessoa

ANDREW MAGGIO
@AJMAGG19

Sergio Pessoa had spent his whole life training for this moment.

As he walked into his under-60-kilogram fight against Yerkebulan Kossayev of Kazakhstan at the ExCeL Exhibition Centre in London, England, representing Canada at his first-ever Olympic fight, he soaked in the moment—and knew he was ready for it.

“In my head, I’m thinking, ‘I prepared so much,’” said the 23-year-old judoka from Sao Paulo, Brazil. “I went through it so many times in my head and I was ready for the moment. I was a bit stressed, but it was nothing out of the ordinary.”

“I was feeling ready—physically, mentally, I was all there.”

Unfortunately for Pessoa, who moved to Montreal in 2006, all the preparation in the world could not have helped him on this day. Despite an evenly fought match, Pessoa lost by unanimous decision after taking a penalty for a false attack in the “golden score” period of the fight—similar to overtime in other sports.

Pessoa understands now that he can draw from this experience at the 2012 Summer Games in future competitions, but that wasn’t the first thing that crossed his mind

when the judges announced their decision.

“I really wanted to come back with a medal,” said Pessoa, “so for me it was... pretty devastating. That loss for me was really tough.”

Pessoa admitted it took him a couple of days to get over the early defeat, but he recuperated quickly and made the most of his two weeks in London. He made sure to attend the surreal closing ceremonies, after being unable to attend the opening ceremonies because of his fight the next day.

“It was fun,” said Pessoa. “It was amazing. You walk into the stadium and you get chills. There were so many people there.”

Despite participating in an individual sport, Pessoa exudes qualities of a good teammate; his lasting memory of the London Games was not a personal one, but was a moment dedicated to celebrating his teammates’ accomplishment.

“My friend Antoine Valois-Fortier won a bronze medal in the under-81-kilogram event,” said Pessoa. “Him winning the medal and the celebration, with myself and all my teammates there cheering for him, the whole stadium going crazy, for me, that’s going to be the moment I remember the most.”

Pessoa started doing judo when he was

only four years old. His father, Sergio Sr., owned a judo club in their hometown of Sao Paulo.

Pessoa has followed in his father’s footsteps in more ways than one; Sergio Sr. was also an Olympian in judo, and Sergio Jr. wants to follow in the same professional field as his father; both share a keen interest in finances, specifically the stock market.

Pessoa enjoys trading stocks when he has time off from training, and will be looking to get accreditation as a chartered financial assistant once he finishes his bachelor’s degree in finance at the John Molson School of Business this semester.

In true Olympian fashion, Pessoa did not hesitate when asked what it was about his sport that he enjoyed the most.

“The competition,” he said. “If I was just doing judo for fun, I don’t think I would be doing it. It’s something different and that’s what keeps me going.”

After experiencing the lows in London, it’s safe to say that Pessoa will be working harder than ever to be in top form for the Rio de Janeiro Games in 2016, for what he says will be his last Olympics.

It’s a story right from a movie script—a Canadian judoka on the podium in his country of birth in his final fight. Pessoa certainly hopes it turns out that way.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

The Latest on Everything Stingers

ANDREW MAGGIO

Olympian Joins Women’s Hockey Staff

Yet another Olympian is joining the Concordia community. This time, however, it won’t be in the fields of wrestling, judo, or fencing.

The Concordia Stingers women’s hockey team will be welcoming Canadian hockey legend Caroline Ouellette, who will be joining the team as an assistant coach to work alongside long-time head coach Les Lawton.

The 33-year-old Montreal native, a former Stinger herself (in 2002), Ouellette has been a member of the Canadian National Women’s Ice Hockey Team for the past 13 years, and has won three Olympic gold medals.

She has also competed in several International Ice Hockey Federation women’s world championships, winning five gold and four silver medals.

Liam Mahoney Joins TSN 990 Broadcast Team

One of Concordia’s greatest football names is coming to the place where he became a national phenom; this time, though, he’ll be making his impact in the press box.

Former Concordia Stingers star quarterback and slotback Liam Mahoney has been named the colour commentator for Concordia football broadcasts on TSN Radio 990 this season.

Mahoney, a native of Lachine, QC, played for the Stingers from 2007-2010, but has been a force in Quebec football for over a decade. Mahoney was selected by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in the sixth round of the 2011 Canadian Football League draft, but joined the Hamilton Tiger Cats later that summer as a free agent.

He joins the TSN 990 Stingers broadcast crew as a sideline reporter.

Tremblay, DuGrenier Come Home Empty-Handed

Despite dominating the university wrestling scene since joining the Stingers wrestling team four years ago, David Tremblay was unfortunately unable to bring home a medal from the 2012 Summer Games in London, England.

Tremblay, a four-time All-Canadian wrestler with the Concordia Stingers and Martine DuGrenier, currently an assistant coach with the Stingers, both left the English capital empty-handed.

Tremblay lost to Ahmet Peker of Turkey in his opening match of the men’s 55-kilogram freestyle competition, while DuGrenier competed in the women’s 63-kilogram freestyle event, making it to the bronze medal match, but ultimately falling to Battsetseg Soronzonbold of Mongolia.

Men’s Hockey Team Welcomes Kabbaj & Payette

The Concordia Stingers will be injecting some more Quebec-grown talent, adding to an already impressive group of local major-junior players, such as starting goaltender Nick Champion.

Defensemen Youssef Kabbaj and Sébastien Payette, who both spent last season in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, have committed to join the Stingers men’s hockey program.

Kabbaj played three years in the Q, finishing his career with the Gatineau Olympiques. In 55 games, he scored seven goals and added 20 assists, while Payette, who played his final year with the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles, scored seven goals and added 25 assists.

A native of Westmount, Kabbaj will study economics at Concordia. Payette, who is from LaSalle, is enrolled in Concordia’s Urban Studies program.



STINGERS SEASON PREVIEWS

A Brief Look at Concordia's Fall Sports

• ANDREW MAGGIO

August in Montreal means the bees are back. At Concordia, the eighth month means the same thing as Stingers fall training takes off. With the start of their seasons only days away, the athletes are gearing up for what they hope will be their own championship seasons.

Here are your fall 2012 Concordia Stingers:

—with files from Seth Galina



PHOTO DYLAN MALONEY

▶ Women's Soccer:

Concordia's women's soccer team is coming off an underwhelming year, picking up only two victories to go along with three draws and nine losses.

Despite this, an influx of talent will look to take the women to the next level under head coach Jorge Sanchez, who is entering his tenth year with the team.

A former Concordian himself, Sanchez is no doubt looking for big seasons from veteran forward Jennifer Duff and second-year players Alexandra Dragan and Melissa White-Kendro.

The Stingers open their regular season Sept. 6 at Université de Montréal against the Carabins at 6:00 p.m.

▶ Football:

The Stingers enter the season with high-expectations for themselves.

After finishing last season with a disappointing 4-5 record and getting blown out 33-7 by the Laval Rouge et Or in the semi-finals of the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec, the team and head coach Gerry McGrath are looking to build around a talented nucleus of offensive and defensive players.

"We need to be more mature and ex-

cute a little better [this year]," said McGrath.

"Raul Thompson and Michael Donnelly are a great one-two punch at tailback, Matt Gulakow has really come on at fullback and tight-end, our receivers Kris Bastien and Mike Harrington and Jamal Henry, those guys know how to play. I met with our leadership group the other day and they expect us to win the Vanier Cup."

The Stingers open their regular season Sept. 1 at Concordia Stadium against the Bishop's University Gaiters at 1:00 p.m.

▶ Men's Soccer:

The men's soccer team, led by coach Lloyd Barker, a former Jamaican national player and Montreal Impact forward, is looking to break a streak of eight consecutive seasons without making the playoffs.

The team has made some improvements since Barker took over in 2007, but a postseason berth has remained elusive.

Barker will be looking to veteran midfielder Karim Haroun, who led the team with 5 goals and 6 points last season,

enough to earn him a spot on the RSEQ second all-star team. Forward Eduardo Mazzonna will also be a key player, providing offense in his second season as a striker.

Despite two non-conference losses to open the season, there were several flashes of brilliance that gave hope that this might be the season the Stingers find themselves back in a playoff spot.

The Stingers open their regular season Sept. 6 at the Université de Montréal against the Carabins at 8:00 p.m.

▶ Men's Rugby:

Despite a subpar 1-4-1 record last year, the Concordia Men's Rugby team advanced to the RSEQ championship game against McGill, ultimately falling 28-7 to the league-best undefeated Redmen. Head coach Clive Gibson is looking to rally his troops with the hopes of reaching another championship game, and coming out of it with a better result.

"We're looking for a championship," said Gibson, who's had a hand in run-

ning both the men's and women's programs since 1996.

"I'm looking to strengthen the forwards so we can gain more profitable balls. I'm expecting big things from my captain Dario Pellizzari. He's put in a great deal of work in the offseason, not only on his own physical preparation but also on building team cohesiveness."

The Stingers open their regular season Sept. 7 against the Université de Sherbrooke Vert et Or at Concordia Stadium at 9:00 p.m.



PHOTO CLEMENT TAGNEY

Baseball:

Concordia's baseball team may fly under the radar at times, but the squad, led by head coach Howard Schwartz, has been a pillar of consistency over the last several years.

Having been to nationals four times in the last five years and winning numerous conference championships in the process,

Schwartz is looking to continue that dominance, despite introducing many new players this season.

"When you have not that many [players] returning, and so many new faces, they have to go through their own personal evolution of becoming comfortable with playing for the university and being part of something

probably bigger than they've ever been a part of," said Schwartz.

"My expectation is to focus on developing the philosophy of the team to get them to learn how to be a successful group. I'm expecting guys like André Lagarde to step up and take control, being a third-year player, as well as guys like Brandon Bercovits to get

on the mound and gain from his experience from last year."

The Stingers open their regular season Sept. 2 against the Carleton University Ravens at Pierre-Elliott Trudeau Park in a double-header; the first game begins at 12:00 p.m., while the second starts at 2:30 p.m.



PHOTO DYLAN MALONEY

Women's Rugby:

The Concordia women's rugby team turned in a solid overall performance last season, going 4-2 in the regular season and reaching the RSEQ championship against Laval. Unfortunately, the women suffered the same fate as the men, falling to their neighbouring archrivals 43-27.

The women did manage to get four players named to the RSEQ women's rugby all-star team, notably Hughanna Gaw, one of the league's premier players.

Gaw was named an All-Canadian for

the second year in a row, following up her Canadian University Sport (CIS) Rookie of the Year Award in 2009.

She led the team in tries and tackles last season, and looks to replicate her phenomenal season this year with the hopes of pushing the team, led by eighth-year head coach Graeme McGravie, over the final obstacle in their quest for a championship.

The Stingers open their regular season Sept. 7 against Université de Sherbrooke Vert et Or at Concordia Stadium at 7:00 p.m.



PHOTO JENNIE MAE ROY

Cross-Country Running:

Concordia's cross-country team may still be considered a club, and may be open to any willing participants, but that doesn't mean that they take their sport lightly. Led by head coach John Lofranco, the group looks to improve upon their solid results from last season.

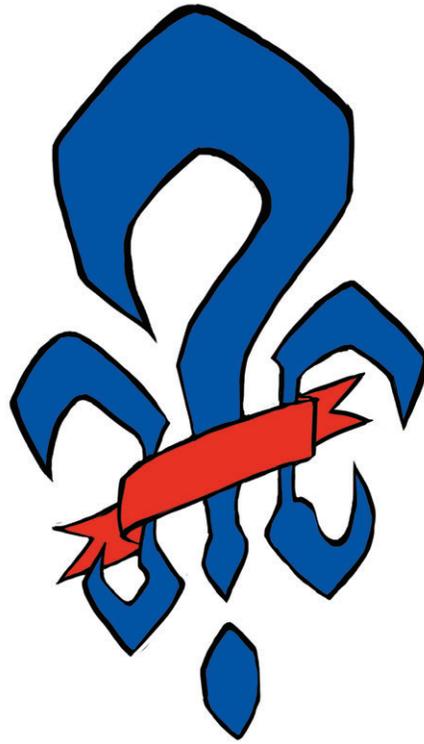
"For the guys, we need the depth guys [3-4-5 runners] to perform better. They were a young group last year, so hopefully another year will help," said Lofranco.

"The same goes for the women: we have a nice returning core who are a little more experienced now, and know what to expect. If they can work as a group and motivate each other, they can be greater than the sum of their parts.

"It's hard to say [with regards to expectations] as it depends on the other teams," Lofranco admitted. "We are always at a disadvantage when it comes to recruiting, so we have to develop from within. We look for individual improvement from each individual. That's the goal."

"I expect Ryan Noel-Hodge to challenge for the provincial title and quite possibly the national title," said Lofranco of the coming year. "I'm excited about Jackie Peters. She had a stress fracture in the winter and didn't run much between March and June. She's pain free and I think she will have a good fall. She has a great attitude: I could see her moving into the top 20 this year."

The Stingers will participate in their first event Sept. 15 at the McGill Open; the women will be running the 4K, while the men will be running the 6K.



OUI/NO

ALEX MANLEY
@ALEX_ICON

On Aug. 25, a *Gazette* article by former *The Link* news editor Christopher Curtis featured an interview that laid plain the feelings of many anglo Montrealers: Aside from the Liberals, “there aren’t any other options for English speakers in Quebec.”

Apart from the succinctness of the statement and how well it illustrates the province’s linguistic tensions in the lead-up to a general election, it’s also worth considering the phrase “English speakers in Quebec,” and what that suggests.

I don’t consider myself an English speaker in Quebec. I consider myself a Quebecer.

I’m an anglophone; my mother was born in England, and my father in Ontario. They met in Toronto, lived in France together for a year, and moved to Montreal in the ‘80s to start a family together. We spoke English at home; they sent me to an English public school, where I was placed in a French immersion stream.

The first time I ever met a real flesh-and-blood sovereigntist, however, was trick-or-treating at a house with a ‘Oui’ poster prominently displayed inside on Halloween 1995 in St-Henri, the day after money and the ethnic vote—as then-Parti Québécois leader Jacques Parizeau put it—kept Quebec a part of Canada.

If the anglo community seemed hermetically sealed when it came to the Yes/No politics of the referendum at the time, it seems to have largely remained that way in the decade and a half since.

Curtis’s article also makes it clear that—west of Guy St., candidates for the PQ, the Coalition avenir Québécois, Québec Solidaire, the Option Nationale et al. might as well phone it in.

When it comes to anglo Montrealers—“English speakers in Quebec”—the Liberal Party is the only option, because the Liberals are the one party who will promise outright not to hold a referendum on separation. There’s more to the city—and the province—however, than the west end of Montreal.

With a week to go in the campaign, the Liberals are down in the polls—five percentage points back from the PQ, and even one percentage point behind the upstart CAQ. It’s time to consider the very real possibility that Sept. 6 will usher in a government that is willing to consider—or excited to deliver—a referendum.

This might be as good a time as any for a wake-up call. Quebec is a French-speaking province. It is populated primarily by French-speaking people, its culture is primarily a French-speaking one, and its politicians are primarily francophones as well.

For too long, anglos in Quebec have sought to live separate from

this reality, carving out red anglophone enclaves against the blue backdrop of the province.

Montreal has wonderful bars and restaurants, you can skate on Beaver Lake in the winter, the summers here are to die for and anglo Montrealers can get by just fine, without more than a ‘bonjour’ and a ‘merci’ to their name, providing they stick to the right neighbourhoods.

In the leaders’ debate on Aug. 19, when the talk turned on the language question, PQ head Pauline Marois decried the presence of businesses in the downtown core where customers couldn’t get served in French.

To some, that might seem like a fabrication at worst and a silly thing to harp on at best. But if there’s one thing I’ve found about English speaking people in Quebec over the years, it’s that they have a complete inability to put themselves in the shoes of their French-speaking counterparts. It’s, “They should stop complaining,” or, “They have a victim complex.”

Yet Quebec is the only French part of what can seem at times a largely monocultural and monolingual continent, and American/Canadian music, movies and businesses already run through the province like veins. Quebec is integrated in all the ways it doesn’t want to be.

A friend of mine recently posed this question on Facebook: Why do

so many people think there’s only one way to be a true, good, legit Quebecer? I responded that there was no such thing as a good Quebecer, only good Quebecers. It is a synthesis of people and their differences that makes a society, not clones of a person.

But that answer holds true at the personal level, too. What is a true, good, legit Quebecer? Someone who enjoys Hollywood movies but also *C.R.A.Z.Y.*, the Trailer Park Boys and *Les amours imaginaires* too.

A good Quebecer shouts herself hoarse when Bon Jovi comes on at karaoke, but also enjoys “Les étoiles filantes” by the Cowboys Fringants and “Montréal -40C” by Malajube. A good Quebecer disdains Céline Dion, but can do so fluently both in French and English, *caline de bine*.

Enfin, a good Quebecer is polyvalent.

This is a distinct society, but it’s a society distinct with difference and diversity. That’s something worth celebrating. On Sept. 4, Quebecers will head to the polls—but they should be voting with confidence, not out of fear.

Unless something drastic happens this week, the Liberals may well be unseated, and we may be facing a referendum vote again within a few years.

I find it hard to believe that Quebec could successfully work itself up into enough of a state to actually separate in the current

economic climate. But maybe not far down the road, young anglophone children, for whom Montreal is the only home they’ve ever known, will be told that they do not belong here by the writings on the walls.

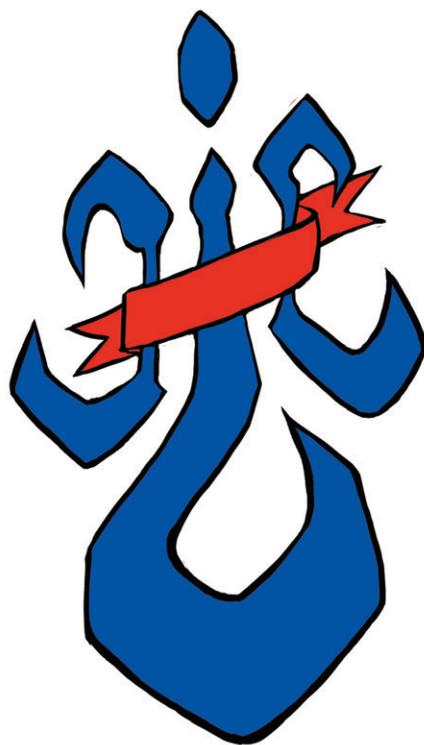
Mistrust and animus exists in every society, and neither side has a monopoly on a moral high ground. Both, for instance, largely leave out First Nations Quebecers from the discussion; they weren’t brought up once during the leaders’ debate.

But next week, we shouldn’t descend to the level of mistrust and animus; we shouldn’t try to retain a stranglehold on a province that is not ours to hold onto.

Instead, we should vote for the parties whose views align most closely with our own, whichever party that is, not the party willing to kowtow to the language politics of a divide born of decades of close-mindedness, class divides and arrogance.

To vote for the Liberals—or to stay at home—purely out of a short-sighted desire for a malfunctioning linguistic status quo does a disservice to all Quebecers.

There are more issues at stake here than the spectre of a future referendum. The parties have plans for the environment, for the poor, for the rich, for the cost of university tuition, and if there’s one thing that transcends language politics—that’s the same in both French and English—it’s numbers.



PQ PASSÉ

COLIN HARRIS
@COLINNHARRIS

Whether you're new to Quebec or not, it's pretty obvious that the province's politics works on two spectrums. While parties are judged on the scale of left vs. right, what often trumps this debate, in debates and commentary alike, is where a party sits on the federalist/sovereignist spectrum.

And when I consider voting for a party with sovereignist values to unseat Charest, I feel a twinge from my Ottawan upbringing, warning me I may be cutting off the nose to spite the face.

After living in Quebec for two years, however, it's become clear to me that things aren't so black and white. But what is clear is that the polarizing nature of the sovereignty debate is dangerous. It makes voting for the left impossible for anglophones with cold feet and has made the Parti Québécois the volatile giant it is now.

When the motion to separate was put to a vote 17 years ago, it was voted down by less than one percentage point. And while the push for sovereignty is quieter now, the PQ can't afford to alienate the hardest of nationalists when it's so close to regaining power from the Liberals.

Losing MNA Jean-Martin

Aussant last year was a blow to the PQ's separatist cred, intensified by the fact that '95 referendum-era premier Jacques Parizeau has now thrown his support behind him.

His new one-seat party Option Nationale aims for the heart of the sovereignist cause, unmoved by the politics of soft nationalists the PQ needs to retain its size.

They can't lose the sovereignist base; it's their bread and butter. It explains why the PQ will consider a referendum if only 15 per cent of Quebecers want it, in what Pauline Marois formerly called a politically binding citizen's referendum.

The small parties campaigning on leftist values and Quebec national identity don't have this pluralist problem yet. The PQ has to rally the worker vote, the left and sovereignists hard and soft to get the majority they seek.

But here I am, sitting on the left, and trusting Marois is some-

thing I just can't do.

In trying to prevent the hard nationalists from jumping to Option Nationale, Marois speaks of policy that only validates the stereotype of the xenophobic Québécois. And while the party's social-service-friendly platform is attractive, they've subordinated it to preservation of culture—a decision that could drive the left to Québec Solidaire.

Because when Marois speaks of the Québécois, it has as much to do with race and religion as it does with language.

She was originally running on the platform that everyone wishing to run for public office would need a competence in French, but when she realized she had forgotten about First Nations communities, Marois changed this idea to only apply to immigrants.

Her party is running on the premise of secular government, but with the caveat that the crucifix is a cultural object—as if a

hijab has nothing to do with culture.

And that's perhaps the greatest indicator of the PQ problem: they need to keep their base and gain new support to win the majority, which means being the champion of Quebec's history while immersing themselves into the social issues that will shape its future.

And, caught between the two, they haven't managed to be heroes for either cause. What they do have going for them is their position as an alternative to Charest.

The international language of commerce is English, and barring its use in the workplace, like Marois has suggested, is a Custer's Last Stand against the great tide of globalized business Quebec's economy necessarily needs to interact with.

While a customer should always have the opportunity to be served in French, forcing the exclusive use of one language on the private sector veers far closer to oppression than a so-called progressive party should.

And while the PQ has spoken out against Charest's tuition increases, there's no guarantee Marois will be the friend to students, even if former student leader Léo Bureau-Blouin wins in his riding.

A majority PQ government would hold a "national discus-

sion" on the subject according to Sainte-Marie—Saint-Jacques candidate Daniel Breton. Marois has been a fairweather friend to the students, illustrated by her wearing the red square only at the height of its popularity, and her quick separation from the movement when a fall election looked possible.

The provincial equivalent to the New Democratic Party, Québec Solidaire, has never wavered in its support for the *printemps érable* crusade against neoliberal politics, and co-leader Françoise David proved her competence in the Radio-Canada leader debate.

And, most importantly, while QS is explicitly pro-sovereignty, they acknowledge how imperative it is to fix what's broken first, without blaming all Quebec's woes on federalism.

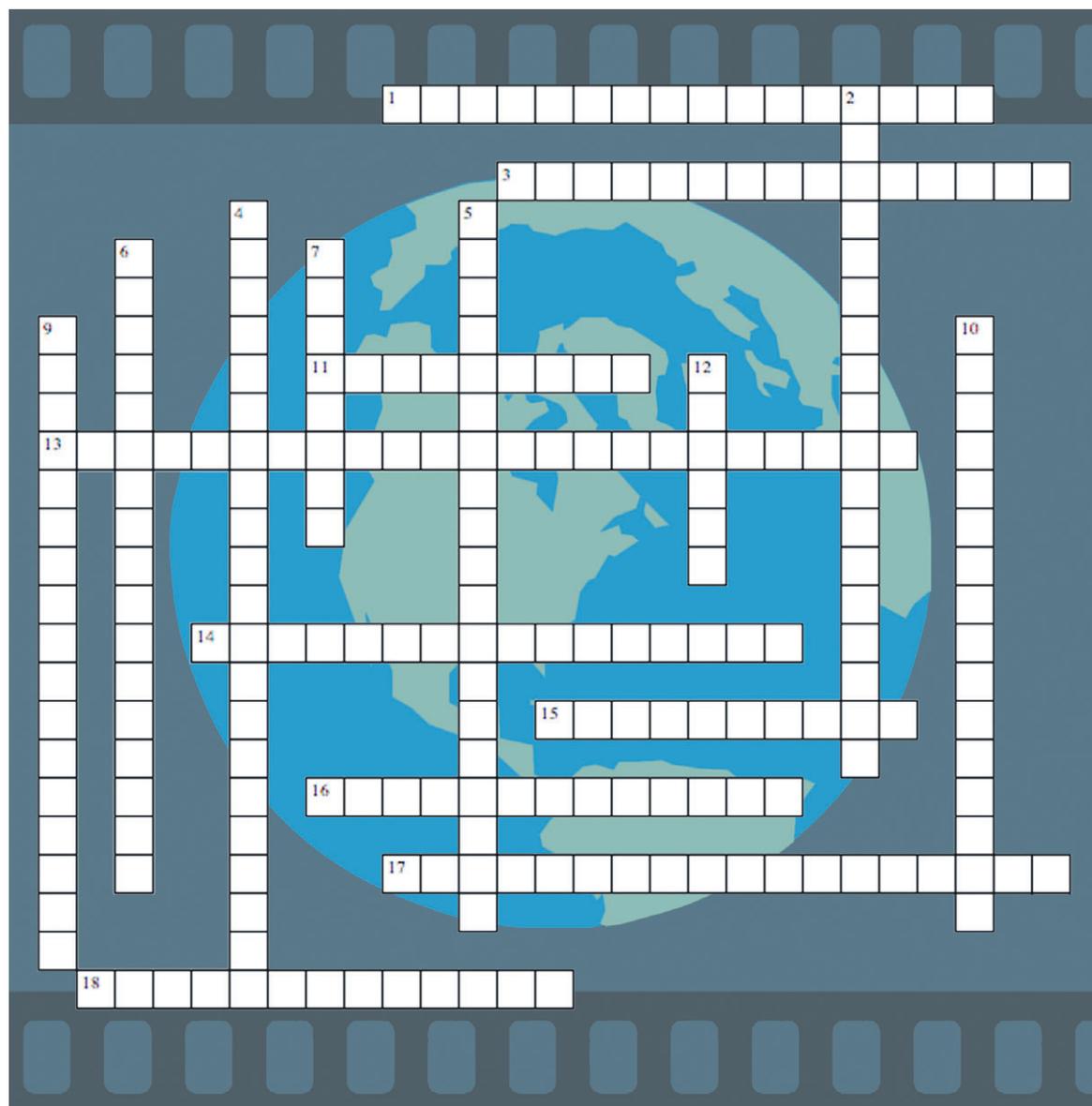
They provide a solutions-based platform without harping on language politics. In a minority government, a QS bloc can go a long way towards looking out for the social welfare of the province—something that will be needed if Legault's right-wing party winds up in third place.

You can vote for a party with intrinsically Québécois values for accessible healthcare, daycare, housing and tuition without selling out to separatism. That's what your ballot in a referendum is for.

"The small parties campaigning on leftist values and Quebec national identity don't have this pluralist problem yet. The PQ has to rally the worker vote, the left and sovereignists hard and soft to get the majority they seek."

MOVIE COUNTRY

CHRISTOPHER TAN - @CHRISVTAN



ACROSS

1. During the production of this 1998 animated film, over 600 religious experts were consulted to ensure an extremely high level of accuracy. (3 words)

3. This 1984 film marked David Leah's return to filmmaking after a 14-year hiatus. (4 words)

11. Home to some of the most deadly animals on the planet, this land down under is also the name of a 2008 film. In fact, during its filming, Nicole Kidman saved Hugh Jackman from being stung by a scorpion that was crawling up his leg.

13. The Han characters used for the title sequence of this film translate to "Evil Spirits Make a Big Scene in Little Spiritual State." (5 words)

14. Harrison Ford got his first major break when George Lucas discovered him working as a set carpenter. Lucas liked him so much that he cast Ford in this 1973 comedy. (2 words)

15. The Central Park Zoo from which the main characters escape in this 2005 DreamWorks film doesn't actually house any lions, zebras, hippos, or giraffes.

16. In the 2003 remake of a Michael Caine movie, 32 minis were used during filming that included specially built electric models. This was because of laws prohibiting gas-operated vehicles in the Los Angeles subway tunnels. (3 words)

17. This film, the second Bond flick starring Sean Connery, was almost his last. During filming of the helicopter sequence from the end of the film, an inexperienced pilot flew too close to the actor, nearly killing him. (4 words)

18. Taking homage to the next level, this 2006 film starring George Clooney was shot only using techniques and technology of 1945. The only deviation from this was the inclusion content that the Production Code of the time would have prohibited—nudity, swearing and violence. (3 words)

DOWN

2. All of the broadcasts that Robin Williams does for this war comedy film were ad-libbed by the actor. (3 words)

4. Johnny Depp shot all of his

scenes for this film in nine days, but when he was done he didn't want to leave. Depp suggested to director Robert Rodriguez that he play the small part of the priest, so he could stay longer. (6 words)

5. This film starring Gene Hackman was the first R-rated movie to win Best Picture at the Oscars. (3 words)

6. Actor Ralph Fiennes insisted on wearing his full burn makeup even for shots that only included his face in this 1996 film that took home 9 of the 12 Oscars it was nominated for. (3 words)

7. Errol Flynn stars in this film, which is actually a remake of the film *Singapore*, altered to take place in Turkey's largest city.

9. When this film based on a novel was first released, 25 minutes of it were cut out for screenings in West Germany. (4 words)

10. This 1941 Bogart film is almost entirely identical to the novel on which it was based, word for word and scene for scene. (3 words)

12. Randal Kleiser, director of this 1978 film, hated the song "You're the One That I Want," saying it "sounded awful."



Apartment Building Tensions

My boyfriend and I are in a committed long-distance relationship. Recently, I moved in with a male friend and I've gradually discovered that I have deep feelings for him.

At first I wasn't too concerned, because we're both involved with people we're serious about, but a combination of feeling safe around him and total sex deprivation has led to some awkward thoughts.

I really love my man, but I'm miserable trying to ignore these feelings. Can I make this easier on myself or is it a hopeless case?

—Rent-Up Desire

There are some ways to make this a little easier on you, but before that can happen, you need to figure out what your ideal solution actually looks like.

Whether or not these "deep feelings" are deep emotional feelings, deep sexual feelings or a bit of both is pretty key—is this someone you want to date, regularly sleep with or just fool around with once or twice?

You also say your roommate is in a serious relationship, so I'm wondering if he's been giving you reason to believe he wants something to happen with you. If your roommate wants something to happen, then things will probably get pretty messy however you play it.

If this is the case, don't cheat. Cheating is a really shitty and disrespectful thing to do to someone, and if you feel like it may come to that, I suggest either talking to your boyfriend about how you're feeling and potentially breaking up, or finding yourself another living situation.

At the same time, don't ignore your thoughts. Use your fantasies, masturbate to them (if you aren't already), and enjoy the awesome orgasms they'll give you.

Fantasizing is not cheating, and there is absolutely nothing wrong with exploring the things you're fantasizing about doing without actually doing them to relieve some tension. Sometimes people even realize they don't actually want to do the things they fantasize about once they get it a little out of their system.

In another direction, I don't know how long you've been doing the long-distance thing, but sometimes when couples are apart for some time but know they still want to be together, they temporarily open up their relationship.

If the lack of sexual intimacy is becoming a recurring issue and an open model is of interest to you and your boyfriend, then it might be something to start looking into and seriously discussing.

Being open can mean a lot of things, and the boundaries are really up to the couple to decide based on their own comfort levels.

It can be really complicated to switch from a monogamous long-term relationship to an open one, and both partners need to want it and be committed to the process. It's definitely not for everyone.

That may or may not be for you, but even with an open relationship, you still live with this guy! What is the likelihood that your boyfriend will be cool with you fucking the guy you live with? Or that things won't get awkward once you're done messing around? You might lose him not only as a roommate, but as a friend too.

If you're having trouble ignoring your feelings, then maybe you shouldn't be ignoring them. They may be there because you need a change, however big or small. My advice is to figure out what you really want from your relationship, and whether this living situation is best for you.

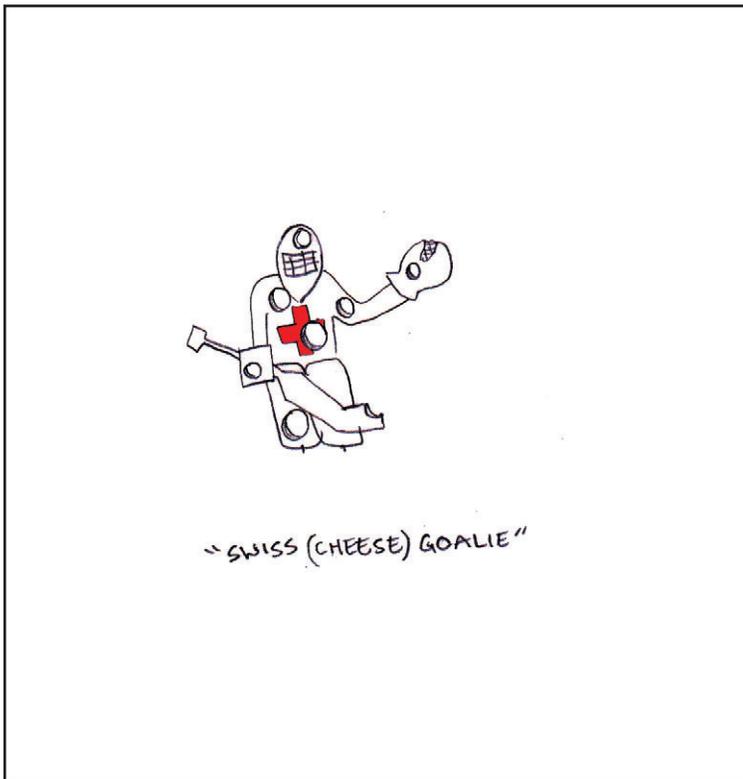
For help working through your sex-related fears, you can always contact Concordia Counselling & Development. The Sir George Williams campus office is reachable at 514-848-2424 ext. 3545, and the one at Loyola is ext. 3555.

—Melissa Fuller

Send questions to sexpancakes.thelink@gmail.com and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook.

BARTON

COMIC JONATHAN WOODS



HOROSCOPE

CLÉMENT LIU - @CLEMENT_LIU

JUPITER AND MARS WILL COLLIDE

ARIES: Look under your couch. There's a few pennies down there.

TAURUS: You need to take a shower; people are giving you awkward stares.

GEMINI: Change your Facebook status to "Hey, I'm single." You will be rewarded.

CANCER: Frosh week will treat you well. Be sure to drink a lot.

LEO: You will be struck by lightning.

VIRGO: Virgins, virgins everywhere.

LIBRA: Watch your back, there's people behind you.

SCORPIO: Maybe tone down the stinging remarks, okay.

SAGITTARIUS: Cash mon-ay! Make it rain! (Money, that is).

CAPRICORN: Pre-game for your first class. Like, Power Hour-style.

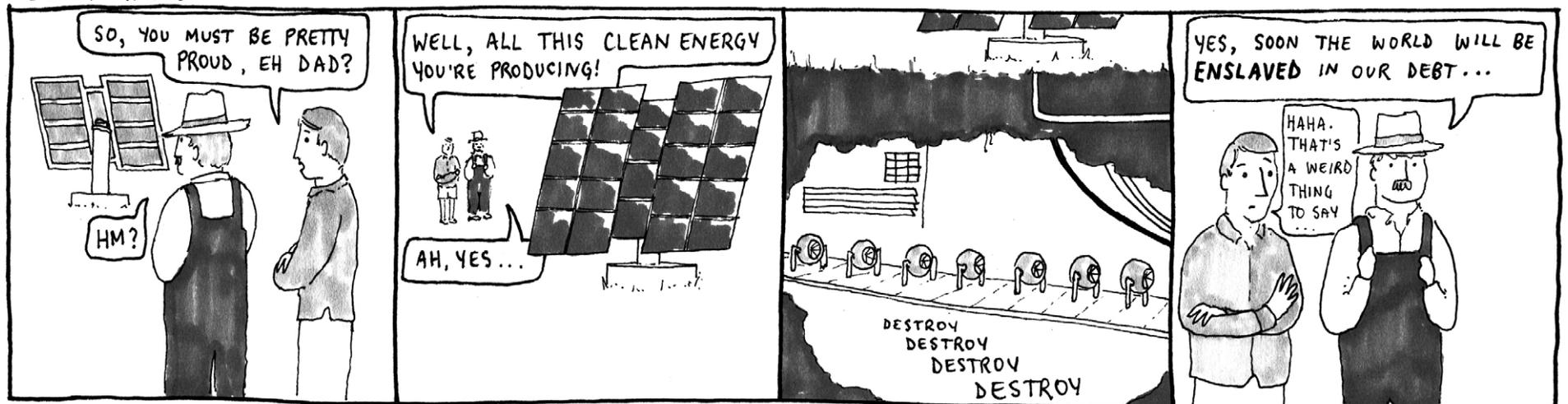
AQUARIUS: A change of identity might be a good idea.

PISCES: Have you been fishing lately?

False Knees

COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN

DEATH PANELS



NAH'MSAYIN?

Construction Criticism

There must be dinosaur bones below de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. The city has been digging and excavating the stretch between St. Marc St. and Mackay St. for months but still—nothing to show off at the museum of natural history.

But Quebec needs more dinosaurs in Ottawa! Keep digging!

Until significant discoveries are made, the area around Concordia is being subjected to random excavation. Was it the intention of those re-paving the section between the Hall and and McConnell buildings to create of the least fun roller-coaster in Canada?

After biking through jaywalkers on Bishop St., the bike path dips from street level to sidewalk and there's a sewer grate near Mackay, which is about 6 inches lower than street level. Wheeee! Worst ride ever! Look at me as I enjoy this reverse speed bump!

Also, thanks for the random plants that now separate the bike path from de Maisonneuve. Woo, shrubbery! It's like a skit called "The Knights Who Say, 'Ouch, My Knee.'"

And thanks for the amazing rerouting effort that's happening west of Guy St., where the bike path is essentially an extra parking lane. Look at all those happy cars and vans that are using the right-hand side of de Maisonneuve as an extra parking lane!

I mean, it's only the way hundreds if not thousands of commuters get around each day, but if three people with cars need a spot to park—into the gutter with them two-wheelies!

I'm so thankful for this teleporter. It's really the only way to travel.

—Elysha Del Giusto-Enos,
Fringe Arts Editor Online



GRAPHIC JOSHUA BARKMAN

Editorial



KANGAROO COURT

The face of the student movement is certainly changing, but at least 26 Concordia students are still stuck in a fight from three months ago.

The fate of these students, who were charged for their actions during the strike, will drastically change the future of student unrest at English universities. It's too bad that this delicate situation will be decided by Concordia—and its new student union.

After all, the relationship between Concordia and its students has been pretty miserable recently. So we shouldn't be surprised at the total callousness of the university when it comes to bringing charges against their own students.

Students were informed of their charges at the start of June, a move the school claims was to avoid extra exam-time stress. Unfortunately, that decision meant many students were already home for the summer. The CSU was in transition and Quebec was in turmoil.

Since then, students haven't seen any of the evidence against them. They've done

their best to plan, but without the actual documents in front of them or a date on their calendar, their hands are sort of tied. Concordia keeping this information from the charged students puts them at a major disadvantage with regards to defending themselves.

And for those who argue that students who blocked classes deserve the treatment, keep in mind this is all still alleged. Students are facing a major handicap before their trial, innocent or otherwise. By treating charged students as guilty ones, the school is completely disregarding any presumption of innocence.

In light of their particular situation, most of the charged students have been meeting with the CSU's Student Advocacy Centre to come up with as many hypothetical game plans as they can.

Unfortunately, the Advocacy Centre can't and shouldn't do the union's job.

CSU President Schubert Laforest says the union doesn't want to demand all charges be dropped without consultation

with the students. Many of the involved students, however, feel the union should have done everything within their power to get the charges dropped from Day One.

They're right.

The role of our union should be as close as possible to that of a labour union. Our elected representatives shouldn't have to ask students if they want the charges against them dropped. From the day the envelopes appeared on doorsteps, it was their responsibility to speak out.

We'll need a strong CSU this year especially. We can only hope that the CSU will learn before it comes time to advocate for their constituents at the Board, Senate and on the streets.

It's worrisome to think this might be an indication of the kind of CSU performance we can expect this year. If this was the union's first real test, they failed outright.

But this was much more than a test—these trials will set an important precedent.

While Concordia has a powerful history of activism, strikes on this scale are historic

for an English school. How these students are tried will send a clear message to the politically active members of this university—and every other English school attempting a student mobilization on this level.

The school itself made its ideas clear about who should and should not occupy this space the moment the letters were sent. Those ideas won't be written in stone, however, until the ink dries on the students' records.

We should be grateful, then, that these decisions will not rest solely in the hands of the administration. The tribunal that will judge the students will ideally be made up of a healthy mix of students, faculty, administration and support staff.

Let's hope they take into account the many hurdles the charged students are facing in order to get a fair trial.

Whatever they've done—or not done—their cases haven't even begun and already they're being mishandled. Hopefully it's not a sign of things to come.

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