

My b-boy stance

CONCORDIA BREAKDANCER LUCAS
"LAZYLEGZ" PATUELLI ON DANCING
AROUND THE WORLD • PAGE 11



Concordians don yellow in protest

Students rally behind part-time faculty in a bid for a new contract

• JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

With the help of Facebook and Concordia University's Part-Time Faculty Association's distinctive yellow t-shirts, marketing student Ryan Burnham added a new chapter to the tome of grassroots student activism at Concordia.

CUPFA, which has been negotiating a new contract with Concordia since 2003, was given a strike mandate by its members earlier this year. Burnham's event, organized through the Facebook group 'Support CUPFA!!' called for students to wear the part-time association's 'Enough Is Enough' t-shirt on Sept. 11, the last day of orientation.

More than a hundred students participated in what Burnham has called "a very successful day [...] I've received numerous emails from people thanking me and the students involved."

According to Burnham's Facebook group, 57 students confirmed they'd wear the CUPFA t-shirt last Thursday. The event organizer also said that his staff handed out more than 200

flyers and 50 t-shirts.

CUPFA member David Moscovitz told The Link that "the CUPFA shirt day is student organized, but we supported it."

Moscovitz was excited about the display of student action and support. "This is a good opportunity to reinstate debate and to display the administration's lack of progress in negotiating contracts," he added.

This is the second CUPFA shirt day organized by Burnham; the first was last April when Concordia's part-time teachers went on rotating strikes.

Burnham said he decided to join the picket line during the winter semester. "I really believe in the cause, and I think they needed the help," he said. "They desperately deserve a good contract."

Chris Mota, Concordia's director of media relations, said the university had no problem with the student-organized event.

"Students are quite within their rights to support any union or teacher," she said. "We continue to negotiate, and talks [with CUPFA] are ongoing."

At the end of the "Enough Is Enough" shirt day, Burnham declared that he's not done.

"In the coming weeks we are definitely going to do something to support CUPFA," he said.

According to CUPFA, Burnham won't be alone in stepping up pressure: Moscovitz has warned Concordia's administration about upcoming negotiation pressure tactics.

"We expect in the coming weeks to undertake initiatives of our own to increase awareness of the impasse, and the growing anger of the length of time it has taken to resolve this," he said.

"To increase pressure and move the administration to a settlement, we are prepared to act, all the way up to a complete walkout. We leave our options open."

UPDATE: CUPFA Grievance Officer Richard Bisailon informed The Link that Concordia's negotiating team called a snap meeting last Sunday. According to Bisailon, the university is "ready to present an offer." The Link had no further information before its publication deadline.

Prices soar at ConU bookstore

• SARAH TOOTH

Concordia University students are biting the bullet at the bookstore this fall as they try to keep up with rising book and coursepack costs.

The steep price increases of required texts are forcing some students to re-evaluate their budgets.

First-year Psychology student Megan Lavigne said the cost of her books were getting out of hand.

"I had made a budget for everything this year [...] and had to end up spending a hundred dollars over what I expected."

Lavigne said she always knew her schoolbooks would be expensive, but having to count her pennies makes it a harsh reality.

"Even the little, tiny [books] are costing me 50 to 60 dollars!" she exclaimed. "I don't understand how they think students can afford these."

According to Concordia's bookstore director Lina Lipscombe, the rising costs of textbooks and coursepacks are troubling everyone.

"We are all a little concerned," Lipscombe said. "We've all come across a number of publishers that we feel have increased the [cost of] books more than what we consider to be the cost of inflation."

A Statistics Canada report released last month showed a 2.1 per cent hike in the cost of most consumer goods. In contrast, some required course texts at Concordia have seen a 30 per cent increase in price since last year alone, even though they're not always available in time for classes.

Lipscombe said that prices have gotten so high the bookstore has started exploring alternative options to over-the-counter books.

"We've logged on with a provider that allows us to tack on digital books to our website," she said.

The on-line service, hosted by the Nebraska Book Company, allows students to lease digital copies of books for a fraction of the cost of purchasing the hard-copy version.

According to Lipscombe, this method will save students lots of money.

"You can print pages, highlight things you need, then at the end of the semester it's not yours anymore," because the lease will have expired. This "alternative option" can save students up to 50 per cent on book costs.

Lipscombe insists the bookstore will keep looking into alternative methods for students so they won't have to dig so far into their pockets.

"[Students] should not have to pay this much," Lipscombe said.

Concordia on top of the world



• TERRINE FRIDAY

Concordia spirit has now graced the heights of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak on the African continent.

Antoine Labranche, a history major, climbed the 5000 metre-plus mountain last month despite a severe bout of Altitude

Mountain Sickness. He kept both his Concordia University and Stingers flags tucked in his daypack during the trek.

"I kept going and saw the board for Uhuru [Peak] far in the distance," Labranche wrote in his personal journal. "My body felt like collapsing to the ground. I was ready to crawl to get to it."

Labranche reached the peak in just ten days on Aug. 30.

Ban on the 'book

Concordia students received a scare when access to Facebook appeared to be threatened

• SARAH TOOTH

Concordia students let out a collective sigh of relief when Facebook ban rumors proved to be only half true.

The ban on the popular website, implemented for the 2008-09 academic school year, is limited to hard wired computers on the Concordia network.

Concordia's Instructional and Information Technology Services said it's a much-needed measure in order to ensure the reliability and performance of Concordia's Internet service.

Andrew McAusland, associate vice-president of Concordia's IITS, said it's not as bad as some students have made it out to be. While Facebook cannot be accessed from any hard-wired school computer, connecting through a wireless access point will give you unrestricted access.

"[Facebook] has not under any circumstance been banned," he said. "[Wireless] access to that service is completely undiminished."

McAusland said the risk of jeopardizing the entire university's network is too high. Facebook, known for its virus-riddled applications, would affect all of the university's 50,000 users.

"All of the University's business is transacted on the core network," McAusland said and highlighted IITS' mandate to "protect the integrity of that network."

First-year Leisure Sciences major Morgan Krout said it's a precaution he understands completely.

"Students are supposed to be



GRAPHIC AMY SMITH

doing work while they are in the labs anyway, and I think we all know what a distraction Facebook can be," he said.

"[Facebook] was a really powerful method in community organizing, and getting people mobilized too."

—Larissa Duti, manager
Concordia's Co-op Bookstore

Sarah Rogers, a third year Biology student, said the initial ban announcement was a scare she wasn't prepared for.

"[Facebook] is the easiest way for me to keep in touch with my

cousin who lives in Vermont," she said. Rogers, like several other Concordia students, logs onto the site frequently to check messages, which "became an every day ritual for me."

Concordia's Co-op Bookstore manager Larissa Dutil said the ban scare made her realize Facebook was more than just a social utility, and opened her eyes to how useful and integral to her business Facebook is.

"Over the past six months we really began to use Facebook to promote what we do [and] reach out to our members," she said.

"Facebook was really a tool that we started using and then realized it was a really powerful

method in community organizing, and getting people mobilized too."

Dutil said Facebook not only provided a free method to promote awareness of the bookstore business but was also a powerful method to encourage community activism and new people who just want to lend a hand.

"We have gotten so many volunteers through Facebook," she said.

While Facebook may never again be accessible from school computers, McAusland said Concordia students will always be able to access the much-loved website.

"I would never ban it," he said.

Facebook may not be as forbidden as users thought

Although Concordia's Instructional and Information Technology Services may have blocked Facebook access to all hard-wired users hooked up to the school's network, there is a solution available to counter that problem.

Web proxies allow users to disguise their destination website in hopes of hiding their intentions from the censoring network they are currently on. In this case, a web proxy would fool the Concordia server into thinking that you have simply logged onto a random website, while that site acts as a gateway for people wishing to get onto Facebook.

Logging onto a web proxy site, a user is invited to plug in their website of choice and the proxy acts as a surrogate. A Google search using the term "web proxy" will return several websites with lists of decent proxies that will allow access.

The downside is, of course, that you're submitting your Facebook username and password to the gateway website, not knowing what the intermediary intends to do with that information. Less-than-selfless individuals running these sites may save these passwords for any number of reasons, such as selling them to spammers and utilizing them in a denial-of-service attack.

Another downside to a majority of the web proxies available is that features like Facebook Chat, leaving comments, responding to messages, dealing with pending invites and application offers cannot be used. You can still change your status, read your messages, and peruse profiles, though.

—R. Brian Hastie

Bring Abdelrazik home

Street performers denounced the government's refusal to allow Canadian citizen Abousfian Abdelrazik re-entry into Canada last Friday.

Abdelrazik was arrested in 2002 and held in a Sudanese prison for several months at the request of the Canadian government under the suspicion that he was a member of al-Qaeda.

Four years later Abdelrazik was released without

charge, but was not able to fly back to Canada—he was still on the American government's 'No Fly List,' which is respected internationally.

The performers reenacted torture techniques and denounced Canadian complicity in Abdelrazik's torture. Demonstrators also collected donations to help pay for Abdelrazik's ticket back home.

—Ion Etxebarria



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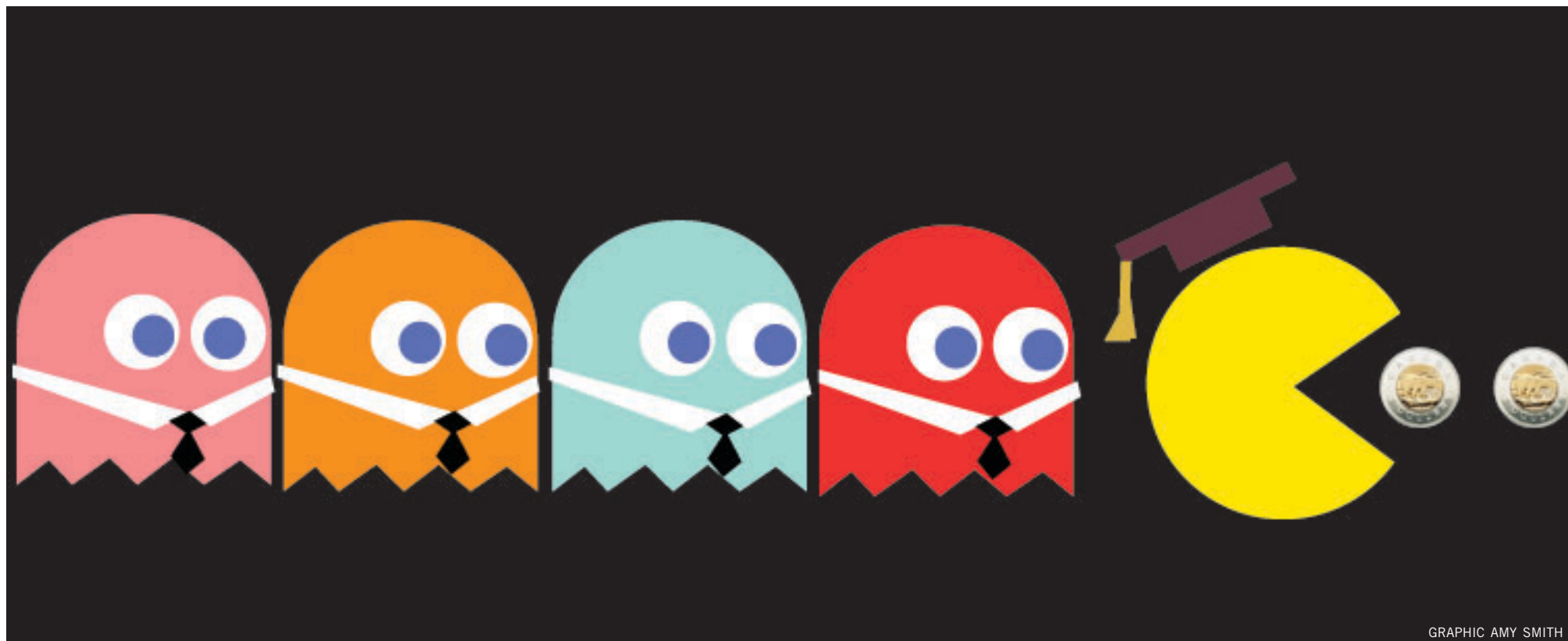
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Cover photo by Nik Brovkin

The budget business is everyone's business

'We all have to pull together,' says VP Finance



GRAPHIC AMY SMITH

• TERESA SMITH

The cuts across Concordia University seem to be leaving their mark on every student, school and department.

The Liberal Arts Library has been forced to cut its hours from 30 to 20 per week. They simply don't have enough money from the university to pay a student to work for those extra hours. Lina D'Iorio from the college says the library is a priority for her department so they're cutting a little bit everywhere in order to keep it open.

Some departments are going so far as to ask students to fork over the cash for classroom materials.

One professor cited cutbacks when he informed his journalism class that the department would no longer provide printer paper, adding that students would be required to bring two full packs to the following session to make up for it.

The shuttle bus service, which carries students between the Sir George Williams and Loyola campuses, saw another cutback to its schedule and students must wait longer times to get onboard.

The problem is the university's deficit, which the administration is trying to tackle this school year.

Crunching the numbers

Despite all these cuts and an increase in fees, Larry English,

Vice-President of Finance for Concordia, said the university's expected cumulated deficit for the end of this school year is \$14 million.

"We're in the same boat as every university in the province [...] we're all just trying to keep our heads above the water," English said.

English, who has held the job for 12 years and claims to have never seen this kind of deficit, blames the recent re-routing of provincial post-secondary funding.

In 2007, the university had a \$3 million surplus—but the provincial government cut funding by \$11 million, so Concordia's deficit skyrocketed. English says the cut came as a shock, one from which the university is still reeling.

In order to get back on its feet, Concordia's Financial Committee decided to cut funding for each faculty by two per cent, which made for savings of about \$6 million in total.

But that wasn't enough. That's why student fees have increased by as much as \$200 dollars per semester, depending on your program. And that's also a major reason behind the much-contested international student fee hike.

The government of Quebec has been touting its recent massive investments into post-secondary education. However, funding has only been increased to schools specializing in research, graduate pro-

grams, schools of medicine and other specific programs.

And, as a mainly undergrad-based university, Concordia has been left out of the pot.

English says it's a question of simple economics: "If they increase money in one place, they've got to take it away from somewhere else."

In April 2008, Concordia's Department of Human Resources was told to suspend any hiring procedures. Faculties were told to make do with the people they had, to multi-task and to ensure that every job was being done efficiently.

English said that in the coming months, each faculty will be asked for a detailed budget. Those that demonstrate a transparent, well-defined plan will be rewarded but those who are seen to be wasting precious funds will be penalized.

"It's a move away from revenue-based funding, towards efficiency-based funding," explained English.

In other words, the largest faculties will still have the biggest budgets because they bring in the most money from tuition but their funding will not be automatic. They will be required to provide a clear spending plan as well as to outline the ways in which they are saving money.

An Open Discussion

Over the coming months,

each faculty will be meeting to discuss how these cuts will be made. Students are a vital part of this decision and the student representatives of each faculty are invited to attend budgeting meetings.

Colin Goldfinch, VP External for the Concordia Student Union, said these cuts "will have pretty serious implications for the quality of education students receive at Concordia." He pointed to the university's hiring freeze, which he said is responsible for longer lines at the library and bookstore. "Fewer staff handling more students makes for slower service," he said.

English hopes the university community will be able to pull together through this major deficit. He said that everyone will be adversely affected; from students having to foot the bill for printer paper and paperclips to staff and faculty having to take on new and varied duties.

However, English sees this crisis as an opportunity for creativity. He doesn't shy away from the challenge and he's hopeful that, with strict budgets and a willingness on the part of the university community to work together, Concordia will get rid of its deficit within the next few years.

In the meantime, university staff and students will have to make do.

Bye-bye bursary

Students across Concordia are wondering where the Administrative Fee Bursary has gone.

Since 1999, the university has offered this bursary to students who demonstrate financial need. It covered the \$9 per credit administration fee and many students counted on receiving this fee-remission every year.

However, the university says it was started as a temporary measure to relieve students' financial burden and that it was always meant to end after a "transitional period."

"I guess ten years is pretty long for a transitional period, but the decision was not taken lightly," said Laura Stanbra, director of Financial Aid and Awards.

Stanbra said her department was not responsible for abolishing the bursary.

"[The decision] was made at the highest level by the Board of Governors and it's the job of Financial Aid and Awards to carry out their decisions."

Stanbra was quick to point out that although this bursary is no longer available, other emergency bursaries are. Students in dire financial need should speak directly with the financial aid office to find out more.

"We're always mindful of how students are reacting and so far, they're surprised and disappointed," Stanbra said.

For more info about availability and deadlines for bursaries and scholarships, please visit web2.concordia.ca/financialaid.

The Financial Aid and Awards office is located in the McConnell Library Building in room LB-085.

—Teresa Smith

War resisters move to stay



• WORDS AND PHOTO BY ION ETXEARRIA

Around 75 people picketed Guy Favreau Federal Building as part of the Pan-Canadian day of action against the deportation of conscientious objector Jeremy Hinzman. An objector of the War in Iraq, Hinzman was ordered two years ago to leave Canada on Sept. 23 of this year or face the risk of deportation to the United States.

Among the demonstrators was Michael Hendricks, a Concordia Fine

Arts graduate, who sought refuge in Canada in 1968 evading the Vietnam War.

On June 3, 2008, a majority of Members in the House of Commons voted by 137 to 110 to stop all deportation proceedings against conscientious objectors from the U.S.

Despite that decision Canada deported American national Robin Long on July 15, who was sentenced by a martial court to 15 months in a military prison for desertion.

Get up, stand up

Former Concordia student launches movement from the grassroots

• CHARLÈNE LUSIKILA

Unprecedented partisanship from Parliament Hill has laid the seeds of backlash as a former Concordia student urges citizens to recapture the national narrative in town halls across the country.

Municipal Movement, an organization launched just this month by English Literature alumnus Matthew Brett, began to take form from his critical analysis of global issues.

Brett intends to start by knocking on people's doors and running petitions around a city that he will soon be choosing.

He strongly believes that by stirring up a community and forcing it to engage with the local government, a snowball effect will effectuate change at the national level.

"The government is doing the opposite of what people are asking," Brett said, referring to issues such as the war in Afghanistan and global warming. "This government does not represent us," Brett, former features editor for *The Link*, continued.

Concerned by the current government's inaction regarding what he believes to be pressing issues, the 24-year-old decided to act by drafting a proposal aimed at promoting a movement that would address issues of national importance to municipal governments.

"The basic idea is to get local governments to act on national issues," explained Brett who believes that social movements are best initiated from the grassroots.

Brett is also manager of the weblog for

Canadian Dimension, a progressive socialist magazine.

Cy Gonick, a former member of Manitoba's Legislative Assembly and founding editor of *Canadian Dimension*, says Brett's "superlative job" at *Canadian Dimension* will translate to *Municipal Movement* with "the same creativity."

But some, like Political Science graduate Deborah Ghebremariam, are skeptical about the idea.

"A lot of people talk of doing something, but doing the thing itself is different," said Ghebremariam. "It's basic logic, but the key thing will be his action," she added.

She also hopes that issues such as gay rights will not trigger conflict within a community.

"Such an issue might be too touchy to talk about. It may actually destroy a community," Ghebremariam said, emphasizing how careful Brett will have to be in addressing certain issues.

With *Municipal Movement*, Brett seeks to break the pattern of apathy and get people talking.

"The whole idea is essentially to provoke people because right now people are not reacting," he said.

Though he might be sailing his boat alone, he intends to start fundraising and build a strong membership base.

"People have to start fighting for their rights now to stop this government," he concluded.

To learn more about *Municipal Movement* log on to municipalmovement.blogspot.com.

First Nations demand rights



• WORDS AND PHOTO BY ION ETXEARRIA

At least 400 people commemorated the first anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and deplored that the Canadian government has refused to sign it.

The United States, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada were the only countries that voted against the UN's declaration. These countries especial-

ly opposed articles 19 and 26 in which governments are requested "to obtain [from First Nations] their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them" and "to give legal recognition and protection" to First Nations land, territories and resources.

Australia has since reversed its decision and has declared its support for the declaration.

Military muffled

The Campagne d'opposition au recrutement militaire has launched a new campaign objecting to the presence of the Canadian Forces in Quebec schools.

Opération Objection will launch in Montreal with a picket line outside of the army recruitment centre at the corner of Bishop and Ste-Catherine on Sept. 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Pickets are scheduled for the same day at the recruitment centers in Sherbrooke and Chicoutimi and a conference will be held about American conscientious objectors.

For more info, please visit antirecruitment.info.

Two wheels, not four

Cyclists are protesting pollution from cars, by playing dead.

The third annual Montreal Die-In is scheduled for next Monday, Sept. 22, following International Car-Free Day on Sept 20.

Last year, the theatrical demonstration had hundreds of cyclists lying in the streets, faking their own demise. The idea is to illustrate the thousands of deaths each year caused by reckless drivers and to raise awareness to the negative impact of motor vehicles.

The action starts at 4 p.m. at Phillips Square, at the corner of Union and Ste-Catherine.

For more information, visit dieinmtl.org.

Fee increase imminent

The deregulation of international tuition fees has the Canadian Federation of Students outraged.

Quebec's minister of education Michelle Courchesne made the announcement last Friday.

The CFS is concerned that deregulation will cause international tuition fees to skyrocket, causing prospective students to look outside Quebec.

At Concordia, this year's fee increases already have international students paying about \$468 per credit.

—Compiled by Jesara Sinclair



A group photo of students at the Interact Alternative Learning Centre. PHOTO ELSA JABRE

Quebec schools get a failing grade

But the English ones are doing better than the French ones

• GIUSEPPE VALIANTE,
CUP QUEBEC BUREAU CHIEF

Margaret Blair knows what's wrong with the education system in Quebec. She's the executive director of the Interact Alternative Learning Centre in Notre-Dame-de-Grace, teaching students that don't succeed in the mainstream system. And when the former premier of Quebec came out with a scolding review of the state of the province's public schools, she wasn't surprised.

"It just made a lot of sense to me," she said. "It's always been obvious that there are structural problems that need to be addressed."

Jacques Parizeau, the separatist premier of Quebec in the mid-'90s, wrote an open letter to one of Montreal's French dailies, calling the education system in this province "scandalous" and an "incredible waste that is threatening our future."

His letter primarily focuses on the statistics by the Quebec Education Department, which were released this summer. They state that less than 60 per cent of Quebec students who started high school in 2002 graduated on time.

There is also a wide gap between public and private education in the province. Eighty-three per cent of students in the private

system graduated on time compared with 53 per cent for students in the public system who started high school in 2002.

Parizeau also discussed the French-English divide in the province. Of students who started high school in 2002, 58 per cent in the French system graduated on time compared with 69 in the English one.

Parizeau said in his letter that he doesn't think that split between French and English is that significant because, in accordance with the Bill 101 language laws of the province, all immigrants must enroll in French schools.

Blair said the problem starts before high school. She said there isn't enough money and staff directed at elementary schools in Quebec. Students aren't learning the basics, and it's easier to get by when the same teacher takes on multiple courses.

But when the child who has been pampered and passed along ends up in high school, their lack of knowledge stands out, she said. And since high school is centered around independent study, kids who lack basic knowledge get frustrated and drop out.

Another problem Blair noted was the large number of bureaucrats at the department of education.

"They seem to disconnect

themselves from the day-to-day teaching. They forget the classroom. It becomes so entrenched in policy they lose track of the child's education," she said.

Parizeau wrote in his letter that the problem is too serious to start fingering the blame on specific people and to start looking for fast answers. He said the province needs to ask itself how it got to this point, and why, beforehand.

Blair said she didn't know the answers to those two questions, but that more schools like the one she opened need to be supported.

Her school has ten children ages 6 to 14. They all have varying learning disabilities and the mainstream school system has not been able to meet their needs.

The problem is that as far as she knows, Interact is the only school of its kind in Quebec—and there are children who need special help beyond those in her classroom.

"There should be one [Interact Centre] in every community," she said.

But Blair's been turned down every time she's asked the government for money since her school started eight years ago. It's also difficult to get teachers to come in and work for \$22,000 a year.

"I know I'm making a difference," she said. "I just can't stop now."

Politics are for kids

'Think, read, listen,' says Concordia student and MP hopeful



Concordia student and NDP candidate Daniel Quinn hopes to make it to Ottawa this fall. PHOTO JULIEN MCEVOY

• JULIEN MCEVOY

A Concordia student may find his way into the House of Commons this fall.

Daniel Quinn, a 25-year-old masters student in the History department, is running for the New Democratic Party in the West Island riding of Lac-St-Louis.

Quinn's first try at winning a federal riding seat in 2004, found him to be the youngest candidate for any party across the whole country. Today he has five years of experience under his belt and a growing team of supporters behind him.

"Our objective this year is to win," Quinn said. "I can't say we will, but we're in to win."

Quinn, a History and Political Science graduate, founded the Lac-St-Louis Riding Association for the NDP in 2003. He propelled a dismal party that had received 1.2 per cent of the popular vote in his riding for the 2000 federal election to a respectable 7.5 per cent in 2004 and 10.7 per cent in 2006.

A major party platform point for Quinn is accessible education for post-secondary students, which, according to Quinn, needs massive investments.

"We need to ensure that everyone who wants to go to university can actually afford to do so," the History grad student said. "We need to make sure we are investing in future generations."

"Too many young people look at the political process as some-

thing irrelevant, from which they're completely disengaged," he said. "There should be more young people running for office, more women, more people from ethnic minorities. It would bring a new perspective to public policy," he added.

Quinn is also looking into getting more amenities for the west island suburbs.

The Lac-St-Louis riding, known for its comfortable neighborhoods like Pierrefonds and Lachine, boasts an average household income of just under \$95,000. Twenty-five per cent of residents also have university degrees. Although the riding may seem to be a walk in paradise to some, Quinn says it's still not up to par.

"Lots of improvements are needed," Quinn said. He pointed out that the public transportation system in the western suburbs is "still quite problematic."

"With the revenue the federal government has at its disposal, it should be providing municipalities direct funding to significantly improve the public transportation system in every city across the country," he continued.

Quinn's final message for the masses is to get involved in the Canadian political discussion.

"Every person in this country, whether they're 18 or 55, has a say in what direction the country is going to take," he said. He concluded by sharing his views about political campaigns: it is a very good way to feel part of the system and to engage politics in a fun way.

Parallel Woes

Two men fight for indigenous rights in the face of government greed

• SANDRA CUFFE
(RYERSON UNIVERSITY)

TORONTO (CUP) — Noon. May. I make my way through several levels of provincial security into the Quinte Detention Centre in Napanee, Ontario, accompanied by Sergio Campusano, chief of the indigenous Diaguita of the Huasco Valley in northern Chile.

Sergio has spent the last month traveling the world with other indigenous leaders, protesting the operations of Toronto-based Barrick Gold, the biggest gold mining company in the world.

Shawn Brant, on the other hand, has spent the last month in the Quinte Detention Centre.

Brant, a spokesperson for the Mohawk community of Tyendinaga, was arrested on assault and weapons charges on April 25, 2008, after participating in a road blockade to prevent the development of property on contested Mohawk land.

At the time, provincial and federal police arrested several other Mohawk community members in the ensuing siege of Tyendinaga, but they have since been released with conditions.

Brant and his supporters allege that the protest was peaceful, and that the charges are false. Government prosecutors are seeking a minimum sentence for of 12 years in federal prison in Brant's case.

"We're not prepared to simply stand by," Brant tells Campusano, speaking through the metal grating below the glass window in the visiting room in Quinte. "We feel that our very existence is depending on it."

In 1832, Tyendinaga lost the Culberston Tract to the federal government. In 2003 the government acknowledged that the Tract belonged to the Mohawk community, but an agreement satisfactory to both was not reached.

While land negotiations were ongoing, the government granted a mining license to

Thurlow Aggregates, a non-Native business that developed a gravel quarry within the Culberston Tract.

The Mohawk community and others led a series of actions including economic disruption, both before and after Tyendinaga physically reclaimed the gravel quarry in March 2007, in order to raise awareness about the situation and pressure the provincial and federal governments to act.

In late April 2008, after a series of road blockades against Kingston realtor Emile Nibourg, who announced plans for construction within the Culberston Tract, Brant was once again arrested on the 25th with a whole slew of charges, including various counts of uttering death threats and possession of a dangerous weapon.

Mining is just a symptom. A symptom of the eradication of indigenous peoples around the world, along with the dismantling of the Mohawk tobacco distribution, resource extraction, accusations of terrorism, the taking away of children.

—Shawn Brant, Tyendinagan Native Activist

The weapon in question was a fishing spear, which Brant's supporters claim he was using to protect the women and children of his community from rocks being thrown in their direction. Brant had the spear in his possession because it was fishing season.

The Mohawk community of Tyendinaga responded to the arrest with blockades and actions.

"We were at gunpoint for four days. We were not allowed to leave the quarry," said Arosen, a community member. "It was terrifying."

Another Mohawk community member recalled the siege: "There were rifles, machine guns, snipers, helicopters, undercover police agents sneaking around at night."

A SWAT team even detained a school bus full of Tyendinaga high school students who must travel off the reservation in order to

continue their studies after elementary school.

"All we ever wanted was a safe and healthy community to raise our babies, and clean drinking water," says Brant. "Sadly, we share the same issues and the same efforts to wipe us out."

"They put up a gate..." Campusano began as he showed slides of his home community of some 1,500 Diaguita at an event in the Ottawa Public Library. He broke down in tears and had to take a moment to collect himself before he could continue.

"They don't let us go onto our land," he said. "This hurts me very much."

Campusano is trying to spread the word

about the oppression of indigenous people worldwide by Canadian companies.

So far in Chile, Barrick Gold has fenced off some 50,000 hectares of traditional Diaguita territory and claimed it as company private property. The land is off-limits to the indigenous people who have lived there for centuries, herding animals, and gathering medicinal plants and firewood in the mountains.

The Diaguita community erected their own brightly painted sign at the entrance to Barrick Gold's installation. It read: "Home of the Huasco Altinos since 1903. Private."

Faced with the onslaught of mining in their territory, a few years ago the Huasco Valley Diaguita community put out a call for international solidarity—especially for global indigenous solidarity.

They received a response from the Manitoba Assembly of First Nations.

Ron Evans, Grand Chief of the MAFN

flew down to Chile and was welcomed in a ceremony in which the Diaguita and MAFN signed an International Agreement of Mutual Aid.

Later, however, the Diaguita learned that the MAFN had used their agreement to propose a multi-million dollar project to Barrick Gold.

The Diaguita community sent word to the MAFN that they were to come immediately to the Huasco Valley to explain themselves to the Diaguita community. When Evans did not return to Chile to clarify the situation, the Diaguita informed all involved that the agreement was null and void.

"It is about more than mining," Brant says from the other side of the glass.

"Mining is just a symptom," he explains. "A symptom of the eradication of indigenous peoples around the world, along with the dismantling of the Mohawk tobacco distribution, resource extraction, accusations of terrorism, the taking away of children."

Brant says it is commonplace for the Canadian government or companies to use Canadian band council leaders to convince indigenous communities in other countries to accept mining practices.

"We consider them traitors in our midst."

Brant says the Mohawk traditional system of governance—founded on values of sovereignty, honesty, and integrity—has existed for thousands of years and still exists alongside the band council system.

"The Assembly of First Nations is a government of Canada Indian organization that supports the government of Canada and does nothing to support the Mohawk and other nations," Brant says.

Campusano says that in South America, even indigenous leaders believe that indigenous people are treated very well in Canada.

One of his missions, he says, upon his return to Chile is to spread the word about Brant's case, and about what he sees as the oppression of indigenous people in Canada.



GRAPHIC MADELINE COLEMAN

And the beat goes on



Luca "Lazylegz" Patuelli lets us into his life

• TERRINE FRIDAY

Luca Patuelli has everything he wants in life.

He goes to university, has a car, works part-time, and practices his passion for dance and movement through breaking, or B-boying.

And whatever he doesn't have, he goes out and gets.

"Once I make my first million, I'll buy my plane," he says.

With his newfound fame, Patuelli says it's normal to catch people eyeing him in the streets. "But I don't know if they're looking at me because they recognize me, or because they're curious."

Patuelli, known to his b-boy crew and fans as Lazylegz, was born with a congenital condition called arthrogryposis, which leaves the bones and muscle tissue in his legs a little lazier than the average person.

"I never saw myself as disabled," says Patuelli. "Not that it's a negative thing. I just don't think that I ever was."

"We're only disabled if we think we're disabled," he says. That attitude and the support he's received from his friends and parents has left him in a very comfortable position.

Patuelli was born in Montreal but moved soon after with his family to Bethesda, Maryland, where he grew up.

Life with his parents and older brother Stefano was normal to Patuelli. But things

changed for him when he broke his leg six years ago on Jan. 19, 2002, right before his high school graduation.

Patuelli was rushed to the nearby General Hospital where doctors ordered an emergency procedure, one that would have complicated his condition.

"I'm fascinated with flying. I think that's why I like what I do, because I'm flying in the air."

—Luca "Lazylegz" Patuelli

His parents, who've kept track of his bumps and scars, refused the operation. They opted to drive two hours to his regular hospital in the middle of the night, where he had "the proper surgery" for his broken leg and condition.

When he was accepted to Concordia University's John Molson School of Business, he and his parents headed back north.

"I'm on the ten-year plan," Patuelli says of his major in marketing. "I love it because it's what I'm doing. I'm learning how to market myself."

This past summer alone, Patuelli was whisked away to international locales just to breakdance for thousands of fans.

"I flew to Italy, San Francisco, Toronto, Germany, back to Italy, France, Japan, Halifax, Korea, then back to Japan, and

then back to Toronto," he bragged. "That's my profession. I haven't paid for a flight in over three years."

Patuelli also organized the No Limits break dancing show this past summer in Montreal, which was a fundraiser for his dance crew, ILL-Abilities. The group is

made up of breakers Checho, Tommy Guns, Kujo, and Patuelli.

He's been on The Today Show, a popular American morning news show on NBC. "I was filmed for two days in April of 2006," he says, before joking about his relationship with the show's co-anchor, Matt Lauer. "Yeah, that's my dawg."

Patuelli admits that sometimes the job does get in the way of his studies, but he gets lots of support from his teachers.

"It's doable. School's been extremely accommodating," he said. "Isn't it a real world if it's a real education?"

Luca's considered becoming a pilot but has put that dream on hold for the time being. He says the cost of flight school is too steep and being in the Air Force is not an option. "I'm fascinated with flying. I think that's why I like what I do, because

I'm flying in the air."

For now he busies himself with public appearances and lectures. He's been a regular fixture at the Mackay Center School in Montreal, for children with sensorial difficulties, since he gave his first speech there Jan. 25th, 2006.

Patuelli says this is because he wants to give back the care and attention he has received from countless hospital visits where nurses, clowns, and jesters made his stay a little bit more fun.

"The people that spend time with you, they're people you don't know, but the twenty minutes they spend with you is priceless. And I love the kids," he says.

He's quick to point out he has other interests: "I also like long walks on the beach," he says with a grin.

Walking is something Patuelli does not take for granted. He's been teaching himself how to keep balance on his own two feet over the past six years.

"That's my real dream, to walk without crutches," he says. Now when Patuelli competes in breaking, he tries not to crawl out of the circle. He thinks he's too old to crawl and works hard at putting one foot behind the other.

"I force myself to walk out, or I find transitions to roll or slide out."

With the interview at an end Patuelli transitions back into his normal life as he drives off in his blue Subaru Impreza.

POP goes Montreal

Annual Montreal festival once again brings wide variety of music, theatre and mayhem

• GABRIEL SIGLER

Running from Oct. 1-5, and featuring over 400 bands spread out in 50 venues throughout the city, this year's Pop Montreal festival once again offers up a veritable glut of live music. In addition to the performances, Kids Pop, Puces Pop, Art Pop, Film Pop and a symposium all fall under the Pop Montreal umbrella this year.

The expanding scope of the festival couldn't come at a better time—with a debate raging in this country over the validity of supporting the arts in all their various forms, Pop Montreal will once again place our city squarely in the radar of taste-makers the world over, even if only for five days.

With so much to see and hear during the festival, what follows is a highly subjective rundown of some of the highlights:

Irma Thomas (Oct. 2, Ukrainian Federation, 5213 Hutchinson, 9:00 p.m.)

Often mentioned in the same company as Aretha Franklin and Etta James, "The Soul Queen of New Orleans" has been performing for close to 50 years, earning

her stripes as one of the most respected vocalists of her generation.

Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds (Oct. 2, Metropolis, 59 Ste-Catherine E, 9:15 p.m.)

The moody troubadour makes a rare Montreal appearance, hot on the heels of his acclaimed 14th album, "Dig Lazarus Dig!!!" Johnny Cash even covered one of his songs back in 2000, which is all the endorsement a songwriter needs.

Socalled's Porn POP (October 3rd, Cinema L'Amour, 4015 St-Laurent, Midnight)

Montreal's own Klezmer / hip-hop fusionist Socalled brings his unique brand of Eastern-European by way of Brooklyn sounds to the realm of '70s porn, as he creates a "new soundtrack for the forgotten gay cinema of Toby Ross." 'Nuff said?

Watain (October 4th, Katakombes, 1222 St-Laurent, Midnight)

Sweden's black metal anti-heroes, having "crawled out from Satan's cunt in 1998," have been perfecting their blood-soaked live shows ever since. World of Warcraft players are stoked!

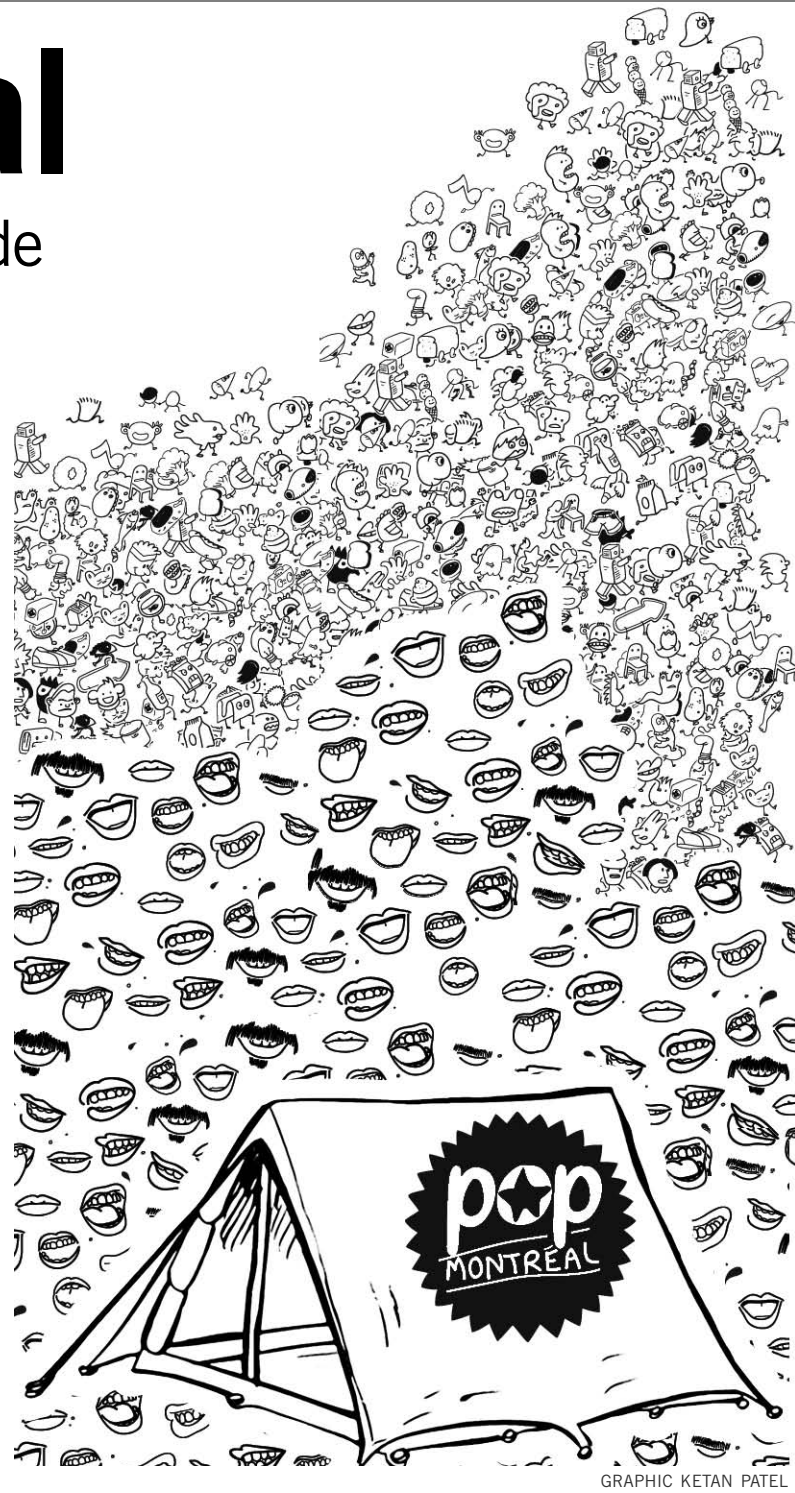
Weird Punk Series (Oct. 1-5, le Divan Orange, 4234 St-Laurent, 11 p.m.)

Although the moniker reeks of a pretentious American Apparel-esque soundtrack, this nightly late-night series promises to be one of the hottest draws during the festival. The rather intimately-sized Divan Orange will be laid to waste by the hardcore punk shenanigans of Toronto's Brutal Knights and Career Suicide on Oct. 3, and should be packed to the gills for the pairing of garage-y buzz bands Vivian Girls and Tyvek on Oct. 5.

Wire (Oct. 5, Theatre National, 1220 Ste-Catherine E, 9:45 p.m.)

U.K.'s minimalist heroes Wire date back to the initial punk explosion (their landmark debut, *Pink Flag*, was released in 1977). Starting out as a manic-paced, proto-punk outfit, Wire went on to flirt with angular rhythms and cold, industrial soundscapes, influencing legions of post-punk/no-wave/electronic outfits in the process.

Pop Montreal runs from Oct. 1-5. For full schedule details and ticketing information visit popmontreal.com



GRAPHIC KETAN PATEL

Lost in conversation

Kamikaze Baby hit the mark with their album *uptown VineRise*

• PINA LUSCRI

Montreal's Kamikaze Baby is back with a vengeance. Well, they never really left—they just locked themselves in a recording studio for a year and came out with their first full-length album, *uptown VineRise*.

Formed in 2003, Kamikaze Baby went right to work and released a self-titled demo in 2004 and an EP, *Identity Crisis*. Both were released independently. Through touring Eastern Canada and word of mouth, they developed a loyal fan base.

When it came to recording, singer Robert Scalia and drummer Giulio Pampena decided to take matters into their own hands and record it all themselves, even learning how to use the recording equipment. "This time around, it was easy. We followed exactly what we wanted without any compromises. The fact that it was just us two was a relief," says Pampena.

They took full advantage of the freedom given to them, composing what was important to them. "We sort of let ourselves do it. It's a different experience when you don't have to write for people," says Scalia. Instead of recording in spans, it was a continuous effort until the record was done. "It was week after week of revising, writing, coming up with ideas, fixing lyrics. Before we knew it, we had a story."

The bond is obvious between the two—they

even finish each other's sentences. The union is stronger when the other members, Angelo Ruscitti, Coco, and Markus are present. "The guys in the band, we're like family. We relate on every level. These guys are our brothers. It's really the best thing for music. It's alive," says Rob.

"People that liked us from the past are coming back."

—Giulio Pampena, drummer

Uptown VineRise was released in March of 2008. There's a hint of Pink Floyd and Radiohead in there, but it's the perfect harmonious flow from start to finish that makes the album special. Fans have taken a great liking so far. "I feel a very warm reception from *uptown VineRise*. People that liked us from the past are coming back," says Pampena.

They're eager to share the album with their fans live. With shows scheduled in the upcoming weeks, they want to show everyone what came out of all the hard work they put in. "When music is honest, truthful and goes to your heart, people will like it no matter how it is," says Pampena.

Kamikaze Baby is playing at le Theatre Plaza at 8 p.m. on Sept. 18. Tickets are \$10.



GRAPHIC GIANNI BERRETTA

Holy moly

• PHOTO ESSAY BY JOSH BROWN

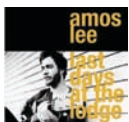
Talib Kweli and The Stills showed an estimated crowd of thousands on Thursday night on a makeshift stage erected on Mackay Street. revellers are still recovering from Kweli's aural assault.



spins

Last Days at the Lodge Amos Lee

Blue Note Records



Amos Lee's album *Last Days at the Lodge* was not a bad CD. Which is to say, it

could have been worse — it just wasn't my style. Even as I write this, I'm desperately listening to the album trying to find something pleasant to write. Each song, it seems to me, is worse than the last—invading my musical comfort zone and aggressively pressing itself against my eardrum. Lee's album is obviously meant to be political, or at least controversial, in the fashion of Justin

Timberlake's "Losing My Way" at the end of his last album; there, I wrote something about cocaine — do they think I'm deep yet? What is self-proclaimed jazz feels more like self-indulgent acoustic and the truth of it is, if I was sampling this album at HMV I would have stopped listening after the first song and walked away.

1.5/5
Joelle Lemieux

Hit & Run Emma Cook

Emmazing Records



If Cook's sweet-as-sugar voice were complemented by the right lyrics, she could easily be Canada's next Alanis Morissette, but instead she pairs her gift with awkwardly immature lyrics like those found in "Coffee Shop Girl" — "And everyday before I go to work / she's the first one

on my way / and she's always got a smile and she's always got time to say thank you and / have a nice day." What makes the female artists that Cook is compared to great is what they have to say lyrically. In Cook's case what she lacks in poetry, she also forgets musically and I'm left listening to an album that sounds unfinished; a girl in her basement longing to be famous.

3/5
Joelle Lemieux

Spirit through Indian dance

Con U grad Amrita Choudhury celebrates various aspects of humanity through dancing

• LAURA GIACCARI

Indian dancing is not only a form of dance, but also a way of life. The different techniques, hand gestures and postures all have symbolic meaning. It is through this form of dance that Amrita Choudhury will represent different aspects of humanity in her production *Celebrating the Human Spirit*.

Choudhury started training in Indian dance at the age of four. Her mother, a well-known dancer, was her greatest influence and her first teacher. To this day Amrita has trained in Indian classical, flamenco, Irish, and Middle Eastern forms of dance. Her show on Sept. 21 at the Concordia DB Clarke Theatre (which also happens to be International Peace Day) will present mostly Indian classical dancing.

Moving to Montreal in her late teens, Choudhury attended Con U and graduated with a BA in Anthropology. Throughout her years in Montreal she also taught



Amrita Choudhury in the middle of her dance routine.

and performed in different areas of Quebec. Choudhury always had a love for both performing and teaching.

"I love performing and dancing because it is used as a tool of communication between human

beings," she said. She finds that since dance is a form of communication something is always being learned, even when performing. "Performing is a form of teaching as well. Giving a message to the audience through the

dancing and performing, sharing and energy with the audience."

Choudhury says that her best performances are those that have touched the audience, "[when] people come to me with tears and unspoken words, I know my cho-

reography meant something to them."

After 9/11, Choudhury felt frustrated that so many people were being killed and hurt. She wanted to offer something to society. "Dance was the only tool I had, I felt like this was a way I could offer something to society [...] Messages can be given in the most humble compassionate ways. When you send a message in the most subtle, compassionate approach you hit peoples hearts." She hopes that through her production and through her dancing she has offered a spiritual message of humanity, unity and peace in the world. *Celebrating the Human Spirit* premiered in Ontario in June and it will tour Europe in 2009.

Celebrating the Human Spirit will be performing Sunday Sept. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the DB Clarke Theatre, Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve West. Tickets can be purchased at admission.com for a cost of 25\$ and 20\$ for students and seniors.

Love, lust & deceit-18th century style

The newest play adaptation of *Dangerous Liaisons* takes viewers into the steamy world of French court life

• BARBARA PAVONE

Christopher Hampton's adaptation of the classic novel *Les liaisons dangereuses*, written by Pierre Choderlos de Laclos in 1782, is a witty and scandalous play which often seems more appropriate for a cabaret than a theatre.

Dangerous Liaisons follows ex-lovers Vicomte de Valmont and Marquise de Merteuil's cruel games which attempt to make one another, and all other characters involved, miserable through lies and seduction. As the Marquise famously quotes, "I distilled everything to one wonderfully simple principle—win or die."

The intimate setting of The Leonor and Alvin Segal Theatre, seating slightly over 300, allows the audience to feel as if they're part of the production.

The mostly Canadian cast ranges from seasoned stage actors to newcomers and a Canadian TV teen-drama star. No matter their experience, all showed a remarkable level of talent and ease on stage. They all morphed into their characters exquisitely, however, the star of the show was Le Vicomte, Brett Christopher. He appeared in the majority of scenes delivering a high-energy performance filled with chases of his constantly changing femme du jour. Jake Epstein (of Degrassi

fame)'s performance as the eccentric and extremely jumpy Danceny was also a stand-out.

Adding to the ambience was the original music, which mimicked the character's emotions and actions, and the intricate costumes which complemented everyone's personalities. A unique aspect of the set which added a refreshing twist was the wall of the salon/bedroom filled with two way mirrors.

On many occasions the characters would find themselves behind the wall fulfilling their desires through contemporary dance routines representing their lust and passion. That's not to say that the action didn't often return to center stage with scenes verging on cabaret with fully dressed men and lingerie clad women. At one point they moved even farther towards risqué, which many audience members whom I overheard after the show found shocking, with same-sex and group liaisons.

All of these aspects combined with dialogue which is both smart and funny make for a play which, to quote the Marquise, is "genuinely delicious!"

Dangerous Liaisons runs until Sept. 28th at The Leonor and Alvin Segal Theatre (5170 Cote-St-Catherine). Tickets cost \$35 dollars and are available at admission.com



From left: Catherine de Seve (as La Marquise de Merteuil) and Brett Christopher (as Le Vicomte de Valmont) sizzle in *Dangerous Liaisons*. PHOTO RANDY COLE

What's going on

Events listing
for the week
Sept. 16-22

Comedy

"Hey It's Thursday - Episode 4!"
Thursday, Sept. 18
Featuring the improvised sitcom
from *The Bitter End*
and the improvised surgery of
Uncalled For.
Show at 8 p.m.
Tickets \$6

Sunday night improv
Sunday, Sept. 21
The All Star Survivor Improv Show
Show at 8 p.m.
Tickets \$5
Free improv classes from 5-7 p.m.

All located at:
Theatre Ste. Catherine
www.theatrestecatherine.com
264, Ste. Catherine Street E.
514-284-3939

Film

Daughters of Darkness
Friday, Sept. 19
8:45 p.m.

Food Matters
Sept. 20 & 21
3:15 p.m.
Sept. 22
7:15 p.m.

All located at:
Cinéma Du Parc
3575, Park Ave.
514-281-1900
info@cinemaduparc.com

Music

Far From Shore
Saturday, Sept. 20
with special guest Amanda Mabro
Doors @ 9 p.m.
Tickets \$10

All located at:
Theatre Ste. Catherine
www.theatrestecatherine.com
264, Ste. Catherine Street E.
514-284-3939

Bloc Party & Holy Fuck
Wednesday, Sept. 17
59, Ste-Catherine Street E.,
Metropolis
Tickets are \$32.50 at Ticketpro
514-908-9090

Exhibits

*Signals in the Dark: Art in the
Shadow of War*
Now-Oct. 11, 2008
Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery
1400, boul. De Maisonneuve W.,
Ground Floor J.W. McConnell
Library Building, Métro Guy-
Concordia

—compiled by Johnny North



The Joys will be performing in Montreal this Sunday.

Happy Happy Joys Joys

Canadian indie band The Joys bringing *Unfold* to Montreal

• JOHNNY NORTH

The misery, uncertainty and feelings of helplessness brought on from the death of a loved one helped bring inspiration and life to The Joys newest album *Unfold*.

"It's all about life experiences. Of course with that there are ups and downs," said Ken Ross, bassist for The Joys. "I think [Unfold] is very honest, true and diverse."

During the writing and recording of *Unfold*, lead guitarist Mike Mckyes' mother was sick and eventually passed away. "For sure it was a big inspiration," said Ross. The emotion is shown throughout the album—upbeat indie rock songs like "Soul on Your Sleeve" and "Storm" are accompanied by lighter, heartfelt songs like "Unfold" and "Don't Look Back."

"For me personally, "Unfold" is so emo-

tional," said Ross. "The single we're sending off to radio called "Storm," it's about the inner dynamics of a relationship—it's good rock. I don't think there's one song that everyone likes, but people definitely like [the album]."

The Joys have been called "the very definition of indie rock" due to playing over 200 shows a year and constantly working on new material. It's a definition Ross is not particularly fond of.

"I personally don't like any labels, it's all about do it yourself in indie rock," he said. "We're definitely hard workers and we all believe in what we're doing, nobody sits around and does nothing—we all have our roles to play."

For four years The Joys have been working out of London, Ontario to get their music out to as many people as possible. While creating *Unfold* was an emotional

roller coaster, Ross finds the experience was far from a chore.

"We've been doing it for years. For people that really love it I don't think it takes a toll on anybody," he said. "We're very fortunate to do what we want to do. Life is work [...] right? You get what you put in and we put everything in."

Ross is looking forward to their Montreal show. His last trip to Montreal was a memorable one thanks to the way Montrealers treated The Joys.

"It was absolutely awesome. The fans in Montreal are great. Everyone I met on the street was really polite and friendly. That was the first time I was there and I'm super excited to be back."

The Joys will perform this Sunday at The Pound at 377 Richmond St. Show starts at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$6.

A world of violence

Photo exhibit in Montreal Just For Laughs museum showcases collages of war, refugees and sports

• JUSTIN BROMBERG

Blindfolded Iraqi detainees, American soldiers in combat, Congolese rebel armies, young street gangs of Columbia, and the deadly potential of Arctic sea ice reduction. If press photography's finest photojournalism—as presented at the 2008 World Press Photo exhibit—could sum up the last year, "violence" would emerge as an influential player.

Exhibited in Montreal for the last seven years, the World Press Photo contest has, since 1955, showcased some of the most creative, intelligent, and global-minded press photography from around the world. The mandate of the WPP, itself an independent, non-profit organization, is to highlight the challenges of global press photography while striving for uniqueness in its technical execution. This year alone, 200

images were selected from 80,536 submissions in 125 countries.

Beautiful as these images are, the artistic merit of the chosen photography is indeed the greatest contrast to the often-harsh journalistic stories they tell. The 2007 World Press Photo of the Year, U.K. photographer Tim Hetherington's image of an exhausted American soldier resting in a bunker in Afghanistan, is no exception.

Though there is little doubt that war, refugees, and militaries were predominant subjects among the exhibit's collages, equal regard was provided for stunning sports, contemporary issues, and nature photography. National Geographic photographer Paul Nicklen, in particular, won 2nd and 3rd prizes in the Nature Stories category for two incredible and saddening essays on the effects of sea ice reduction



Example of work at World Press Photo exhibit. PHOTO JUSTIN BROMBERG

in the Arctic. Denmark's Erik Refner took first prize for his portrait series, of Copenhagen Marathon runners crossing the finish line.

On the museum's fifth floor, visitors are invited to the first edition of *La foire de l'image*, an additional exhibit of 400 photographs from 116 Quebec photographers. La Presse's Bernard Brault, a WPP

exhibit spokesman, is also showcasing his latest work from the Beijing Olympics.

The World Press Photo 2008 exhibit runs at the Just For Laughs Museum (2111, boul. Saint-Laurent, corner Sherbrooke, 514-845-2322) until Sunday, Sept. 28. Open every day from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m., Thursdays until midnight. Admission \$10, or \$5 for students.

Teach a student to write...

Concordia Creative Writing grads share words of wisdom

• ALEXANDER ST-LAURENT

"Instead of asking for a light all the time," advised Andrew Hood, a Creative Writing alumni this past week, "learn to carry your own matches around." Hosted in one of Concordia's hidden gem conference rooms in the Hall building, the 2008 edition of the Writer's Read series offered a wealth of sound advice to future writers, with only a dash of disenchantment.

Hood, whose collection of short fiction entitled *Pardon Our Monsters* recently won the 2007 Danuta Gleed Literary Award, told students to "exploit the time that you have in the program," making the most of the facilities and resources available to students.

While procrastination is a virus that plagues students of any field, the panel warned that writers especially learn to long for deadlines and targets. While it is easy to set aside a weekend or an evening to put your thoughts down on paper, it is even easier to find that all your time has been lost in front of YouTube.

The day-long gathering was split in half, first with a panel discussion of alumni Creative Writing students on life after graduation, followed by short readings of their published works. Featuring published authors and poets such as Katia Grubisic, Sarah Steinberg and Moberley Luger, the ensuing dialogue focused on the importance of applying yourself.



Pursuing a career in creative writing takes patience and skill, reveals Concordia graduates. GRAPHIC MOLLY SOWIAK

Students were made aware of the opportunity and support with which they are surrounded, with workshops, literary magazines and writers' communities.

The panel reflected on their own time at Con U, and celebrated the attention that is given to young writers from the Creative Writing faculty. Though it was widely agreed that students had to first and foremost learn to work hard and discipline

themselves, Grubisic argued that "good writing can't be taught, but it can be learnt."

On life after graduation, Steinberg revealed that there is no Great Writers Club where geniuses bogart all the work; it is up to you to get yourself and your writing out there. Like your kicks or your jean jacket, check your ego at the door and throw yourself in completely. Do not, however, send

just anything anywhere. Know your limits and familiarize yourself with the publications you chase. In other words, size Charlie up before you gun him down.

The Writer's Read Series will continue throughout the year. The next event is scheduled for the end of October, with Peter Robinson, author of the Inspector Banks novels as guest host.

Tresspassers welcome

Zine writers explore forbidden territory, literally

• CHRISTOPHER OLSON

Once while I was kayaking down the Lake of Two Mountains, I was irresistibly drawn to the sight of an abandoned building obscured by an overgrowth of hedge and vine. Accessible only by water lane, I disembarked from my fellow kayakers and climbed up a cement incline, once the docking place of a small rowboat, and observed the scene of slow decay around me.

Marked by graffiti tags and littered with the glass of broken beer bottles, pink fiberglass poured out of the seams of wooden boards like mushrooms on a fallen tree trunk, while an empty bag of marshmallows sat beside the remains of a campfire.

This scene came back to me while reading *The Art of Trespassing*, a collection of short stories from a mix of Montreal, Halifax and Toronto writers, some of whom gathered to give public readings at the Redbird Loft on Saturday, September 13.

Apart from the crowd that assembled to support the launch, a passing freight train intruded audibly on the proceedings. But that's not to say it was

an unwelcome visitation.

The Art of Trespassing, an anthology of short stories, features a running theme of people, and things, cropping up in places where they're not supposed to be.

"It was originally conceived as a book about architecture," explains editor and contributing author Anna Leventhal. After whittling down the 80 stories she received after a call out for submissions to

Like the baboon who takes up residency in an old abandoned factory, these urban spaces are in a gradual transition back to naked wilderness.

13 choice cuts—8 of which are from local Montreal authors—she discovered a strong theme of trespassing throughout.

"Some of the [references to trespassing] are oblique," says Leventhal. "Others, more direct."

The scenery in *The Art of Trespassing* is colourful, that's for sure: a globe-trotting Montrealer still reels from the assassination of Santa Claus; a drug-addicted water park owner fires his staff in fear of a

lawsuit; a baboon prowls the hallways of an abandoned factory floor; two bashful lovers do it in the back of someone's car, and if the body is a temple, then the cancer that's eating one character alive might as well be trespassing on her ovaries.

Adam Bobbette's "How to Make Some Simple Things Impossibly Thick," was originally posted on a how-to website, alongside other step-by-step instructions. "It's a kind of prose poetry masquerading on the internet," says Leventhal. Not only is it reproduced in *The Art of Trespassing*, but so are the user comments it inspired.

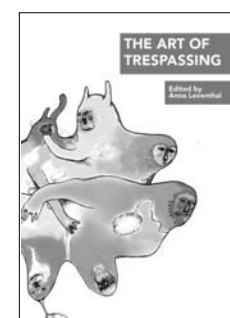
"A lot of the writers featured in the book come out of independent publishing," says Leventhal. "We're sort of anthologizing zine culture. But that's not to say we're legitimizing their efforts by anthologizing their work, so much as taking it to a different place."

Michel Foucault, the influential French philosopher, came up with the term heterotopia, a conceptual idea of what a public or private space represents; thus a hospital is a place for sick people and a prison is reserved for illnesses of an ethical kind, even though they may look the same architecturally.

Abandoned buildings draw such fascination perhaps because they are heterotopias without meaning. Like the baboon who takes up residency in an old abandoned factory, these urban spaces are in a gradual transition back to naked wilderness.

Leventhal understands the fascination of trespassing, even if she lacks the desire to join other would be urban explorers. "If there's an open door, I'll peak right through, but I won't go anywhere that requires a crowbar and wire cutters to get in."

The Art of Trespassing can be purchased at the Drawn & Quarterly bookstore and the Concordia co-op, as well as online at www.invisiblepublishing.com.



The Art of Trespassing
Anna Leventhal
Invisible Publishing
September 2008
156 pp.
\$14.95

Miriam Toews' marvelous misfits

The Author of *The Flying Troutmans* chats up inspiration

• CLARE RASPOPOW

It's the middle of the night and you get a desperate phone call from your 11-year niece, half-a-world away, begging you to please, please come home, your family is melting down. What do you do?

...And so begins *The Flying Troutmans*, the latest novel by Miriam Toews.

The story follows Hattie Troutman, her niece Thebes, and her nephew Logan, as all three try to deal in the aftermath of the complete mental breakdown of Min, Hattie's sister. And what to do when everything—society, your mother, life in general—lets you down? A road trip where desperation meets self-discovery seems as good an answer as any.

Those who've never read anything by Toews before have everything to look forward to in *The Flying Troutmans*. The dialogue is witty and biting, the characters are delicately crafted to inspire neither pity nor ridicule. The pace and the prose in the book make it engaging and easy to read.

Those who've read Toews before might get a vague feeling of déjà vu. So you don't misunderstand, there's nothing substantial in this book that borrows from her earlier works. This is no *R.L. Stein*, or *Rainbow Six* rehash. All of the characters are original. The circumstances and settings surrounding the odyssey of Hattie, Thebes and Logan are entirely novel.

But as someone who's read Toews' work before, you're left with the odd feeling that all of the characters from her various works might know each other—that if they could break the bonds of their individual fictions and meet face to face they might all have a secret handshake.

Toews put this feeling down to the type of characters who inspire her. "Loners, people on the outside, who are awkward, who have things to say but don't necessarily know exactly who they are, or how to say it. Those are the types of people—people on the outside, outside of the system—that appeal to me," she explained when we met at Paragraph books, one of the many stops on her press tour.

In the same way that fucked-up, self-destructive men spoke to Hemingway, Toews has her beautiful misfits who fall through the cracks but manage to catch each other before hitting bottom. And while there is a lingering sense of famil-



Miriam Toews publishes her fifth novel.

arity as you're introduced to her latest cast, the good news is that you're happy to make their acquaintance.

Toews is frank about the amount of work that goes into crafting her characters. "It doesn't seem to get any easier," she admitted. "I spend a lot of time thinking about it and coming up with ideas I think are great [...] only to have to get rid of them. I've come to accept it as part of the process."

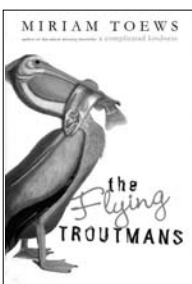
With recent cuts to federal funding hanging in the air, talk soon turned to the future of the arts in Canada.

"I'm infuriated, like all of the artists and writers that I know," said Toews, speaking of the cuts. "It's unbelievably narrow minded and short sighted and ignorant. It's an ignorance of what art does for a country in terms of artists travelling [...] and showing Canadian culture to the world and in that way somehow defining what we are as Canadians."

"I don't know why [Harper's] doing this," she continued. "I suppose it's to comfort his constituents and his caucus, but I don't know where it's going to end."

Toews hopes that the news of Canada's declining status in the arts won't one day come in the form of a phone call half a world away.

"I've travelled a lot lately which has given me more perspective [...]. It always feels good to come back to Canada and see what it represents in my mind, and I hope that those things that Canada represents in my mind aren't slowly being taken away from us."



The Flying Troutmans
Miriam Toews
Knopf Canada
September 2008
288 pp.
\$32.00

Music gets a six-pack

Levitin explains the origins of life, music

• CHRISTOPHER OLSON

Quick. How many genres of music can you name? Did you get Friendship, Joy, Comfort, Knowledge, Religion or Love? No? Then you didn't read *The World in Six Songs: How the Musical Brain Created Human Nature*, by Daniel J. Levitin.

In Levitin's previous novel, *This is Your Brain on Music*, he explored the human brain's synaptic connection with music, referencing scientific studies and magnetic resonance imaging scans that revealed key areas of activity in the brain that light up in response to music. In this book, he reveals the natural human inclination to make lists.

Let me make myself a little more transparent. My iTunes collection is listed alphabetically by artists' names, and I usually leave the categories section blank, so Levitin's explanation of how all music fits snugly (and in Levitin's own way, smugly) into six categories, seemed ill at odds with my own aesthetic tastes.

Levitin began his journey by looking at how songs are different from one another, but as his pet project evolved, he decided to focus instead on what they all share in common. Is it possible that electronic dance music and savoy opera have something in common? Could bluegrass's mutual hatred of heavy metal be nothing more than sibling rivalry? Is there really less of a difference between the Baroque and the Beastie Boys than originally thought?

Yes, says Levitin, and he provides six categories of song to make fans of Nick Hornby's *High Fidelity* scream. Can you imagine a mix tape of the top five Knowledge songs of all time? Or, how about borrowing my ultimate songs of Comfort CD?

Like the nursery rhymes we memorized as children, songs of Knowledge are simply instructional lessons written in a rhyming pattern to assist easy memorization. As Levitin explains, our brains are designed to recognize patterns, and as

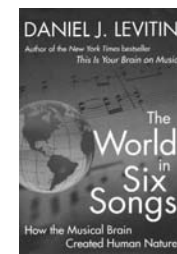
music is nothing but a series of patterns, the best way to remember boring and untidy facts is to sequence them not by pertinence or applicability, but by a catchy rhythm.

Songs of Knowledge, however, are scarce nowadays, and songs of Love don't so much resemble one's private nuptials (as they have in some ancient and derelict cultures) so much as a public mating call, signifying that the singer intends to find someone to screw.

Levitin outlines Darwinian selection in his attempt to explain, through empirical science, the entirely organic evolution of music. You get the feeling that if Levitin were to author an apple pie recipe, he'd write you *A Short History of Time*, and elucidate the differences between Platonian and Neo-Platonian conceptions of the universe. By the time he got to the subject of photosynthesis and pollination, I would snap the book shut.

Someone could easily write six volumes about music, nevertheless six chapters on the subject. While re-conceptualizing all known musical genres and exploring the scientific basis for our love of music, Levitin recounts conversations with his famous musical friends as evidence that he knows his subject worth a damn.

A professor at McGill University, and a record producer to boot, Levitin is certainly qualified to present his views on the subject. As I've heard from someone who has attended his classes, his approach to teaching is highly friendly and personal, if ingratiatingly self-satisfying. Basically, his lectures would sound like *The World in Six Songs...* the audiobook.



The World in Six Songs
Daniel Levitin
Viking Canada
September 2008
354 pp.
\$25.95

lit' Lit Writ

No grass No trees
No happiness, you see
this is the Urban University
No whistles No bells
No extras or frills
near this austere diploma mill
Philosophers work an assembly line
vocation

Escalators convey future waiters to convocation. This dystopian Concordian labyrinth renders parents broke and students ignorant.

—Michael Kowalsky

To submit your fiction or poetry to the Lit Writ column, e-mail them to:
Lit@thelink.concordia.ca

Far from organized

Lady Stingers attract 300 fans, but fall to 0-2 to start the season

• JOHNNY NORTH

Two muddy physical affairs have left the Concordia Stingers women's soccer team heading back to the drawing board following two home losses to the Université du Québec à Montréal Citadins and the Sherbrooke Vert-et-Or.

Concordia 1 UQAM 3

Concordia's home opener started off filled with energy and promise, but the Stingers eventually fell apart in a 3-1 loss to the UQAM Citadins last Friday.

"The effort level wasn't consistent, we didn't have everyone on the field giving it everything they had," said Jorge Sanchez, head coach of the team for a seventh season. "I can take a loss if we get beat by a better team, but when you know there's still more to give, that's really frustrating."

Con U started the game aggressively, as their intensity and speed took UQAM off guard, resulting in a few scoring chances that just missed an open-side of UQAM's net. Eventually, the strategy paid off at the 32 minute mark of the first half. Johanna Van Der Veen, a third-year International Business student and defender, nailed a header to give her team their only lead on the weekend.

Five minutes later, the game fell quickly apart for the Stingers. Concordia's inability to clear the ball away from the goal area

allowed UQAM's Michelle Girard to score, even after she fell on the play.

"Just a bad decision where they should have cleared the ball [...] but didn't," said Sanchez. "It cost us a goal and from that point on we just didn't have any momentum."

"The first goal was horrible," said Karen Stewart, a third-year Stingers forward and Human Relations student. "We felt like we were running around with our heads cut off with no real game plan. We were just kicking the ball around."

The game remained tied until Girard scored her second goal at the 62nd minute mark of the second half. UQAM added another goal around the dying minutes of the game, ending all hope for a comeback. Con U was in defence mode for nearly all of the second half.

"I think we played a much better second half, a so-so first half. We were lucky to finish it 1-1," said Sophie Drolet, head coach of the UQAM squad. "I gave them a bit of hell at half because I didn't think we were playing hard enough. We weren't winning headers, we weren't challenging the forwards hard enough and we were just cruising along."

Concordia 0 Sherbrooke 3

The best crowd for a soccer game at Loyola Field in years unfortunately couldn't help the



Stingers' Emily Hubbard advances ball. PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA

"We felt like we were running around with our heads cut off with no real game plan. We were just kicking the ball around."

—Karen Stewart
Stingers forward

home team to victory in a 3-0 loss against Sherbrooke (2-0) last Sunday.

Early on the crowd was red hot—cheering on the Stingers while a small section cheered on the visitors. An early goal by Sherbrooke quickly made the crowd less vocal. Sherbrooke's

Josée Belanger made it look easy—redirecting a pass that Stingers' goalie Fanny Berthiaume had no chance on.

"I think Concordia gave it their all, but we had superior speed and technique," said Annie Blais, head coach of the Vert-et-Or.

Berthiaume kept her team in it, making more than one spectacular save to keep the score respectable throughout the first and second half. Getting organized was huge problem for the Stingers against UQAM and it continued to carry over into Sunday. Passes were just a little off, and communication was almost non-existent.

"We've always had a problem with communication, if everyone is quiet, we can't work," said Stewart, who was highly vocal on the field. "There's no problem for me communicating, I'm a loud-mouth."

With the lack of support offensively, Con U barely generated any quality scoring chances. Stewart finds getting the high amount of rookies and veterans on the team on the same page is vital for them to break out of their early slump. Sanchez believes while his team had a better outing, they need to further adjust to the university level of competition.

"I think our first half was better than Friday," he said. "It's hard to play catch up. The second half was just a scramble. Their players look fresh after a game, ours look completely drained. It's a lifestyle and a mindset all at once."

"It's too bad we lost, but I think we stepped it up compared to the one against UQAM," said Berthiaume. "I think we imposed a lot more physically, but Sherbrooke is a really good team. I think we can build from this game."

Con U is back in action this Thursday against the McGill Martlets (1-1). Game time is 6 p.m. at McGill's Percival Molson Stadium. Sunday they come back home for a 1 p.m. showdown against the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières Patriotes (0-2).



Stingers runner Rebecca Trembath (middle) finished fifth in the first race this season at McGill. PHOTO CHRIS GATES

scoreboard

	Home	Away	Record
Women's soccer	Concordia 1 Concordia 0	UQAM 3 Sherbrooke 3	0-2-0
Men's soccer	Concordia 0 Concordia 1	UQAM 1 Sherbrooke 2	0-2-0
Men's rugby	Sherbrooke 14	Concordia 9	0-1-0
Women's rugby	Concordia 22	Ottawa 0	1-1-0
Men's baseball	John Abbott 2 McGill 4	Concordia 8 McGill 7	3-3-0
Men's football	McGill 41	Concordia 46	2-0-0

Stingers win in final seconds

Undefeated Concordia wins ninth consecutive Shaughnessy cup in 'stressful' victory



Stingers quarterback Mahoney stretches for touchdown. PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA

• SEBASTIEN CADIEUX

**Concordia 46
McGill 41**

"I've never played a shootout like that before, and it was fun, but I never want to do that again," joked Stingers sophomore quarterback Liam Mahoney on the team's Shaughnessy Cup win.

With just under 20 seconds left on the clock, McGill lead the game and Concordia had just gained 15 yards due to a roughing call. The situation was tense. The roar of the 3,300 in attendance was deafening. "The Concordia section was awesome, but McGill, I've never heard them like that before," said Mahoney.

Mahoney fired the ball off to Stingers third-year fullback Devon Mitchell Jr., who made a 12-yard run and dove for his second touchdown of the evening with only 13 seconds left on the clock.

"I wasn't even going to throw it, I thought it was too risky of a throw, but he was wide open and I figured that with less than a minute left, we gotta throw a touchdown," said Mahoney.

The Redmen followed up with a strong drive to the end zone, with several desperate lateral passes along the way. Ultimately it wasn't enough as McGill fumbled the ball and brought the tense game to a close.

With both teams making some big mistakes along the way and trading the lead, the game stayed close throughout. "It was a little

too close for comfort," admitted Tony Testa, Concordia's second year wide receiver. "We shot ourselves in the foot a few times with penalties and turnovers."

Mahoney recognized the Stingers' problems, but pointed to the team's offensive strength. "We made a lot of stupid mistakes, but you could see that we were able to do whatever we wanted [on offense]," said Mahoney.

Redmen fifth-year QB Matt Cornell's four touchdown passes made Concordia's win that much harder to come by. Cornell also topped the 400-yard passing mark for the seventh time in his illustrious career.

"It's stressful, because you know he can put up points," said Mahoney. "I'm glad this is the

last game I have to play against him, unless we play again in the playoffs."

"It came down to the offence, at the end of the day the defence played very average," said rookie wide receiver Sanchez Deschamp. He added that the team has proven to itself that it's strong enough to make up for any mistakes. "It proves that we can always come back, even if we play bad."

The football team's next outing will be against their arch-nemesis, the Laval Rouge-et-Or, in Concordia's Homecoming game, which is also the Hall of Fame game and the Shrine Bowl. The match-up will be on Saturday, Sept. 20 at 1 p.m. on Loyola field. The game will be broadcast on RDS.

Women take home opener

Rugby team shuts out Ottawa

• DIEGO PELAEZ GAETZ

**Concordia 22
Ottawa 0**

Concordia women's rugby squad put on an impressive display in their home opener as they clobbered the Ottawa Gee-Gees 22-0.

The home side opened the scoring within the first few minutes, as winger Virginia Klinkhoff punched in a try to gain a 7-0 lead.

The Stingers managed to control the action for much of the first half, but were pushed into their own territory for a long stretch. Ottawa tried to wear them down with their gritty, physical play. Fortunately for the home side, the Gee-Gees couldn't manage to capitalize with any points.

Stingers fullback Jennifer

Rosenbaum gave Concordia some more breathing room by capping off a brilliant passing sequence. She streaked down the sideline to put in another try to extend the lead to 14-0, which would be the halftime score. "We moved the ball really well on the back line," said Stingers center Jackie Tittley.

Ottawa opened the second half with an increased energy level, but once again were unable to get that final push into the endzone. Concordia stymied Ottawa on the goal line midway through the second half, and held them scoreless despite their efforts.

Tittley kicked a conversion soon after to give Concordia a 17-0 lead, but they knew better than to let up. "They're a really gritty team," said Tittley about the Gee-Gees.

"They're one of those teams

that even when you're up 14-0, you still feel like they have the capability to come back and score," said head coach Graeme McGravie.

Concordia put the final nail in the coffin with about two minutes remaining when Tittley dragged two defenders along with her as she fought her way across the goal line for the final points in the 22-0 victory.

The victory avenged their defeat to McGill the previous week, and it's clear what's on their minds going forward—to repeat as provincial champions. "That's what's on our minds every practice, every time we step onto the field," said Tittley.

The Stingers are back on the field this Friday at 6 p.m. against the Sherbrooke Vert-et-Or.



Stingers Centre Jackie Tittley caps off final drive. PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA

Lack of focus leads to losses

Men's soccer with a disappointing start to the season



Stingers forward Sean Hanrahan leaps over Sherbrooke defender Simon Lapointe. PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA

• KAREN DURRELL
& DIEGO PELAEZ GAETZ

Concordia 0

UQAM 1

The Stingers lost their first game of the season 1-0 on Friday against UQAM at Loyola field. It was a disappointing loss for the team, which is composed mostly of new faces.

"More than half the team is new this year, we worked hard in recruiting so of course we have new players, to the point where we had let go some of the veteran players and replace them with new blood," said assistant coach Francois Bastien.

Concordia and UQAM played very physical defence in the middle. But UQAM drew first blood, as forward Andrea Romanelli scored the first and only goal of the game as he blasted it through the defence.

"Guys, everyone is running away from me," shouted defenceman Bryan Bourbonnais as he tried to take charge of the game, but his teammates did not assist his attempts to send the ball up the field.

Bourbonnais played an excellent game, preventing two goals from being scored on an open net midway through the second half, which consisted in blocking a great scoring opportunity by Citadins forward Lamine Diallo.

After the game, Bastien attributed much of their offensive struggles to the injury of Giancarlo Vitagliano, who has tremendous speed on the sidelines. Vitagliano missed much of the game after a collision with a UQAM player.

Concordia 1

Sherbrooke 2

It was a tale of two halves Sunday afternoon for Concordia's men's soccer team as they turned a 1-0 halftime lead into a disappointing 2-1 loss to the Sherbrooke Vert-et-Or.

The Stingers came out looking like the better team in this game—they delivered the first real scoring chance of the game on a laser by Stingers midfielder Andres Oyarzun off a free kick that was brilliantly turned away by Sherbrooke goalkeeper Elie St-Laurent.

Concordia kept the pressure on—they earned several corner kicks with aggressive play in the offensive zone. They finally capitalized 20 minutes into the game—forward Fernando Daluiso was tripped up from behind in the box and was awarded a penalty kick. The kick was thwarted by St-Laurent, but Stingers midfielder Aref Amiri caught the Vert-et-Or defence napping as he slipped in to bury the rebound and gave Concordia a 1-0 lead.

The lead would last until halftime, as Concordia dominated possession for much of the first 45 minutes and prevented Sherbrooke from getting any meaningful scoring chances.

However, the tide turned in a hurry when the teams took the field to start the second half. Before five minutes had elapsed, a major mistake by Concordia's defence left Vert-et-Or forward Yannick Gosselin wide open with the ball after a goalmouth scramble. He took full advantage by blasting it by helpless Stingers goalkeeper Kyle Prillo-Guaiani.

The goal clearly rattled the young Stingers squad, as Sherbrooke stepped up their energy level considerably after tying the game. A few short minutes later, Vert-et-Or forward Gosselin was awarded a penalty kick after being taken out by Stingers defender Kouyabe Ignegongba. However, Prillo-Guaiani made a brilliant diving stop to keep the game tied.

Despite the efforts of the goalkeeper, the Stingers could only hold off the furious attack of the Vert-et-Or for so long. Gosselin put in his second goal of the match midway through the second half. He was left wide open on a perfectly placed cross due to a Stingers' defender falling down on the play.

"Our focus drops," said Stingers head coach Lloyd Barker to explain his team's second half meltdown. When asked if that might be a product of his team's youth, he replied emphatically that there was "no excuse" for the lapses in focus. "They all have the mental capacity to be focused for 90 minutes of the game," replied Barker. "They didn't do enough to beat us, we helped their cause by self-destructing."

Going forward, there are some bright spots for the future. Defensively, the Stingers played quite well except for a few lapses, and they dominated possession for much of the first half. "We just came out too slow in the second half, we weren't awake," said keeper Prillo-Guaiani.

Despite opening the season with two consecutive losses, spirits are still high within the team. "We're gonna make the playoffs this year, we'll be alright," declared a confident Prillo-Guaiani.

Baseball team evens up record

Wins over McGill and John Abbott has the team feeling confident

• DIEGO PELAEZ GAETZ

Solid pitching, an area of concern for the Stingers, aided Concordia to a 2-0 record in the past week to even their record on the season at 3-3.

In their first game, Concordia defeated the John Abbott Islanders 8-2. They showed off their fielding prowess in this game, as the team rallied effectively behind their starting pitcher and allowed him to pitch a complete game. Pitcher R.J. Leibovitch redeemed himself from a rough outing against Lafleche the previous week to give his team the chance to win.

The game was deadlocked at 2-2 through five innings, but the Stingers' bats finally came alive in the sixth, as they pounded out six runs to establish the winning margin.

On Saturday, pitching was again the story as Concordia bested McGill 7-4.

Before the game, rookie pitcher Matthew Jacobsen was in a relief role, but he persisted in asking the coach to be inserted as a starter. Much to his coach's surprise, the move paid off. "I'm very happy to admit that I didn't think he could last seven innings, and he proved me wrong." Jacobsen threw 130 pitches for the complete game victory.

Emmanuel Hamel-Carey provided several timely hits in the game, but it was a team effort on the offensive end. "Everybody contributed," said Schwartz.

The Stingers were supposed to play a double-header at home on Sunday, but are still waiting to see what day it will take place. Coach Schwartz assumes that it will be played Friday, but no official confirmation had been received at the time this went to press.

The Stingers go on the road to face John Abbott on Sept. 15th at 7 p.m.

 Letters@thelink.concordia.ca

Copy cards, not so simple

It's nice to be back, with our newly painted washrooms, slightly more reliable escalators and Java U cashiers who aren't sick of us yet. However, something that has still yet to be addressed is a so-far unchallenged concern I ominously call; "the copy-card issue." New at Concordia, I am still astounded at the complexity of students regarding this matter.

Allow me to illustrate. You stand in line for over 20 minutes for a computer on the 9th floor in Hall, settle down and are all set to print when you see the blink of 'insufficient funds' on your card. While you put on your best smile and beg to borrow others' cards, isn't it a bit ridiculous that in a school where there are photocopiers on every floor and two computer labs from which documents will inevitably be printed, there is only one machine in all of downtown campus in which to fill up the cards? "Oh no, dear," I was informed in response to my perplexed question at the library; "there's actually two." That fails to console me, as they are adjacent in the same building that in no way lessens the problem.

In what way is this practical? Would it really inconvenience the school to provide us with another machine, at least in the Hall building?

This is not an issue of laziness; I simply feel it is unacceptable that once you are all settled at your fought-for computer, that you should have to pack up everything (or else leave everything at your own risk), while you run down the non-functioning escalators, dart through the underground tunnel, refill your card and then return to find you have been logged off, your research lost and your belongings helpfully stolen by Jack the Burglar. Surely I can't be the only student who has forgotten to fill up their card before printing? Am I the only one to have been confronted by this issue?

So, while we excel in certain fields such as sustainability and high academic credentials, there are still annoying idiosyncrasies that still befuddle me. I sincerely hope something can be done about this for the sanity and convenience of all who attend this school. Until then, keep your card filled and be constantly ready to run.

—Randy Pinsky
Independent

An ode to the Turcot

The Turcot interchange is huge and in its own way, kind of beautiful; an architectural and engineering marvel for its time, no question. But the thought of building yet another huge highway right through populated urban centers is ludicrous.

All at a time when the entire world is focused on finding solutions to global warming and other cities have actually dismantled their freeways instead of rebuilding them. Those cities are investing in improving public transportation and greener alternatives like networks of electric trains and trams, which makes it much easier to leave your car at home.

You've got to wonder who is benefiting from the decision to invest in these mega highway construction projects?

I recently found a great discussion forum on the Turcot interchange project at lotek.info/forums/. The website has a comprehensive discussion on the issues of air pollution, cars and alternatives already in place around in the world.

I hope the residents of the Village des Tanneries succeed in their lobby and that I hope Montrealers lend their support to them, as ultimately this is the kind of backward 'progress' that affects us all. In the 21st century, citizens should expect better decisions from their elected officials.

Posted on The Link website,
—Marcel Henri

A student's response to a response

In a letter to *The Link* in the Sept. 9 issue, Marian Pinsky objects to *The Link's* mentioning of the 'Artists against Apartheid IV' event alongside other art events in Montreal. Pinsky claims that mentioning the event is in violation of *The Link's* own policy against "racist...xenophobic..." letters, and is a form "imposing political and indeed extremely slanted views...[that] is not necessarily representative of the student body's opinions." Ironically, the opposite of Pinsky's misguided claim is closer to truth.

The separation—more accurately, annexation—wall is illegal as it was condemned by the International Court of Justice in 2004, adding another violation to Israel's long record. The ICJ's decision was unsurprisingly dismissed by Israel, which has already set records in defying international law. In January 2008, Israel became the only state beside Myanmar to be condemned by the UN more than 15 times in less than two years.

It takes considerable effort not to acknowledge the crime of apartheid by the Zionist state: "Worse than the one that existed in South Africa," according to Judge John Dugard of the ICJ.

The issue of apartheid is dwarfed by Israel's other crimes, which make this discussion seem distasteful. But the point still holds. *The Link* would be swimming in suspicious waters had it consciously not published the event.

The opinion implied by the piece is representative of overwhelming international consensus, of which Concordia's student body is part; unless our student body is composed of Israeli and American government officials.

American and Israeli government rejection has blocked peaceful settlement in accordance to UN resolutions. Furthermore, public opinion in the U.S. shows overwhelming support for a peaceful settlement in accordance with the international consensus. Contrary to Pinsky's claim, the published piece is very representative of the view of the world's majority, let alone our student body.

Trying to present the Palestinian issue as a "conflict" is a cruel joke, reiterated perpetually by corporate media and echoed loudly by PR pundits. The assumption that there is a conflict legitimizes subsequent demands for "impartial" journalism. Demands for impartiality often succeed in silencing critical jour-

nalism. Facing intimidation with uncompromising journalistic integrity is a rare trait in a world dominated by corporate media subservient to power, not truth. One would hope that publications such as *The Link* continue to break with convention.

—Mohammed AlShamrani
Software Engineering

Lots of green talk, lots of hot air

Polls tell us that the vast majority of Canadians favour regulations to produce more fuel-efficient cars, more eco-friendly energy generation and better public transit. This sort of clear-cut public desire is all but unprecedented in the bitterly divided world of federal politics. With such overwhelming public support, one would expect a clear consensus from all political parties to obey the will of the Canadian people and pursue a green strategy. One would be mistaken.

Stephan Harper's Conservatives have ruined Canada's record on the environment and pandered to the oil interests. The Conservatives have refused to meet Kyoto, calling it "hopeless" and unattainable. The Conservatives have vigorously supported expanding production in the tar sands, even after government studies have criticized the environmental impact. The Conservatives have backed away from any real environmental regulation, instead touting a "made in Canada" plan that relies on "voluntary regulation", which actually allow emissions to grow.

Meanwhile, Stephan Dion's Liberals talk a good game. The so-called "Green Shift" plan certainly looks ambitious and impressive on paper. The Liberal track record leaves much to be desired in terms of genuine action. The Liberal plan is criticized by many environmental groups as "vague," and in over a year and a half since Dion became the party's leader, the Liberal Party has not once stood in parliament to make a single proposal on environmental issues. Effecting real change takes more than complaining eloquently; it takes leadership and if his long track record of inaction is any indication, Mr. Dion seems to be having trouble finding any.

Canada's NDP has historically been Canada's strongest environmental party. In 2006 Greenpeace gave the NDP its endorsement. During this past parliament, the NDP tried to convince the Conservatives to commit to a real reduction in emissions, when the Conservatives refused to negotiate, the NDP voted against carbon-raising Conservative budgets and proposals.

Over the summer, NDP leader Jack Layton proposed a Private Members bill that included the strongest emissions reduction provisions in Canadian history. This bill, which passed the House of Commons on June 4th, would see an 80 per cent reduction in emissions by 2050, and sets incremental target for points in between starting in 2015.

For a real green economy, the choice seems to be fairly clear. The only ones who can, and have, and will continue to deliver results are the New Democratic Party of Canada.

—Andrew David Fernandes
Co-President, Concordia NDP

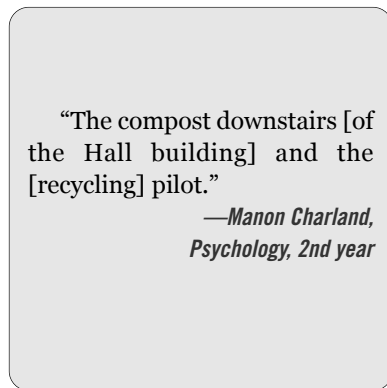
Word in the Herd

—Compiled by Justin Giovannetti & Johnny North

What has Concordia done to go green?



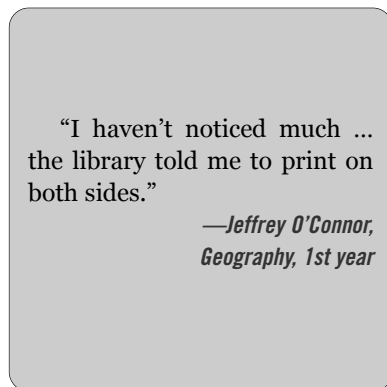
"The greenhouse...it's got green in the name."
—Chris Erb, Sociology
and Urban Planning, 2nd year



"The compost downstairs [of the Hall building] and the [recycling] pilot."
—Manon Charland,
Psychology, 2nd year



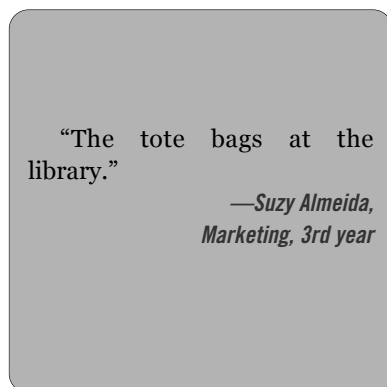
"The new composting program at Loyola and I really appreciate the blue boxes."
—Chris Cooper,
Political Science, 2nd year



"I haven't noticed much ... the library told me to print on both sides."
—Jeffrey O'Connor,
Geography, 1st year



"I was impressed by the bookstore's bags."
—Clara Hessler, Political
Science, 4th year



"The tote bags at the library."
—Suzy Almeida,
Marketing, 3rd year

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. We reserve the right to refuse letters that are libelous, sexist, homophobic, racist or xenophobic. The limit is 400 words. If your letter is longer, it won't appear in the paper. Please include your full name, weekend phone number, student ID number and program of study. The comments in the letters and opinions section do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board. **And maybe that's the whole point.**

Weekly Quagmire

Quagmire - noun: a situation from which extrication is very difficult

Laptops

The Facebook debate at Concordia led the *The Link* to write two duelling articles about the use of laptops in class. Each article was given 400 words to defend a point of view.

Keep learning honest, don't leave the web behind

To ban computers in the classroom goes against the progress that we see infiltrating all facets of modern life. In the age of the Internet, computers connect students to near-endless resources that can enhance classroom learning.

A student at the university level should not be as gullible as to accept any professor's teachings as unquestioned fact. Any lecture can now be immediately cross-referenced against hundreds of scholarly texts, news articles, or encyclopedia entries. This allows students to contribute information from outside sources into the classroom discussion immediately, making for more in-depth and diverse discussions.

This also keeps professors on their toes with a need to stay well informed on the latest developments of their area of study.

A laptop also facilitates note taking; it is faster and easier to take detailed notes, which can be organized and edited for better use when studying. With some modern software it becomes easy to include images, or audio recording in one's instantly searchable notes. This not only makes for more thorough study material but also accommodates students who may benefit more from listening to a classroom discussion a second time, than reading over their notes scribbled in their spiral-bound copybook.

The obvious argument for banning laptops in class is that they are a distraction to students, but to be honest, the students who are in class tagging themselves on Facebook are not the problem. Those students would not be paying attention either way, or worse yet they wouldn't be attending in the first place.

Maybe students who don't pay attention in class are not the problem at all, but rather a symptom of a greater problem in the university education system. In an environment where professors do not make the effort to lead students in engaging conversation, but would rather spout off tired old rhetoric to be ultimately regurgitate back to them in essay form, who can blame students who bring a laptop with them?

Not to mention that, in the middle of hockey season, when you really want to see the Montreal Canadiens game, you can quietly watch during class without losing any attendance marks.

—Sebastien Cadieux
Acting editor-in-chief

Dear Student: leave your laptop @ home

Amid howls of protest from otherwise quiet students, a select few teachers at Concordia decided to ban laptops in class last semester. They didn't go far enough.

Concordia is in need of a serious lesson in electronic etiquette. Between the buzzing of cell phones and the chirping of text messages, the last thing our classrooms need is more digital distractions. But as the semesters go by, the presence of laptops in our classrooms grows unabated.

How often must the Windows jingle cut through attention spans or Apple's brazen startup sound drown out debate?

Most laptop users claim that they need their computers to take notes, I can empathize with them, but I just don't believe them.

I have never seen someone bring their laptop to class and use it only to take notes. The tagging of pictures in Facebook, the building of playlists in iTunes and hours lost in Quinn are much better descriptions of what laptops are actually doing.

All students pay a heavy price for the presence of those laptops in class and they do so for minimal academic gain. What is most disturbing is the blatant aloofness with which laptop users act. Do they not realize that their laptop is affecting everyone around them? With the worst abusers, everyone in the class is distracted.

A fair amount of commonsense is lacking from the way we act with technology. The loud tapping of a keyboard can be excused, the unmuted computer can't. The mad rush for a plug can be excused, doing so during a lecture can't. A blank Word page can be excused, YouTube can't. If you are going to use your computer and be distracted and distracting, save the trip, stay home.

I'm not a Luddite, quite far from it. I often have my laptop with me in class, resting in my bag. My cell phone is always in my pocket, but I do remember to put it on quiet, not on vibrate. My iPod is in my other pocket, not in my ears.

All I have arrayed in front of me in class is a pad of paper, a pen and my agenda. Students pay thousands of dollars per year to learn, and it's hard to learn with a laptop connected to the world.

All I have to distract me in class are my daydreams, what about you?

—Justin Giovannetti
Opinions editor

click.



PHOTO CHASE MOSER

Submit your Click photos to photo@thelink.concordia.ca

My vote

• ALEXANDER OSTER

As the federal election nears the media is awash with Liberal scrambling and Tory posturing; but it's all for show. The issues, ideas and characters of this election arrive at our doors fully formed. The all-important narrative of this election has been written, the character arcs are set, and the campaign curtain has lifted right on cue.

Based on the media's coverage and analysis I know the following:

I can't vote Conservative because Stephen Harper has a 'secret agenda' and we can't let him get a majority.

I can't vote Liberal because Stéphane

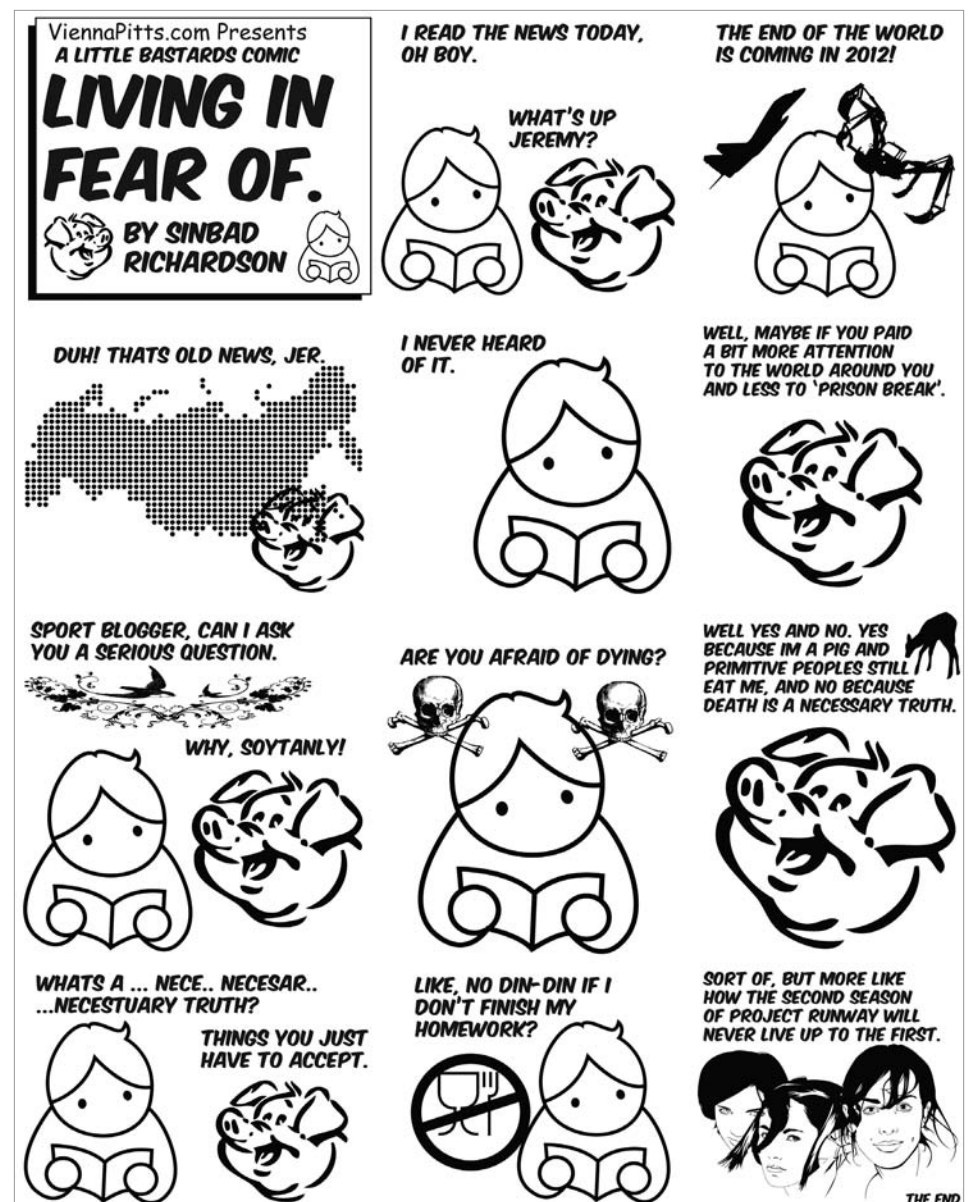
Dion is a poor leader, can't speak English and wants to tax me to death.

I can't vote Bloc because they have a mandate to tear Canada apart and they would hate my Anglo vote.

I can't vote NDP because that splits the left.

And I can't vote Green because they have no chance of forming a government.

After a week of coverage our national media has failed in its role to provide a public service and we have been left with People magazine politics. Instead of discussing growing backbench support for a two-tiered healthcare system, we're caught up in Harper's wardrobe.

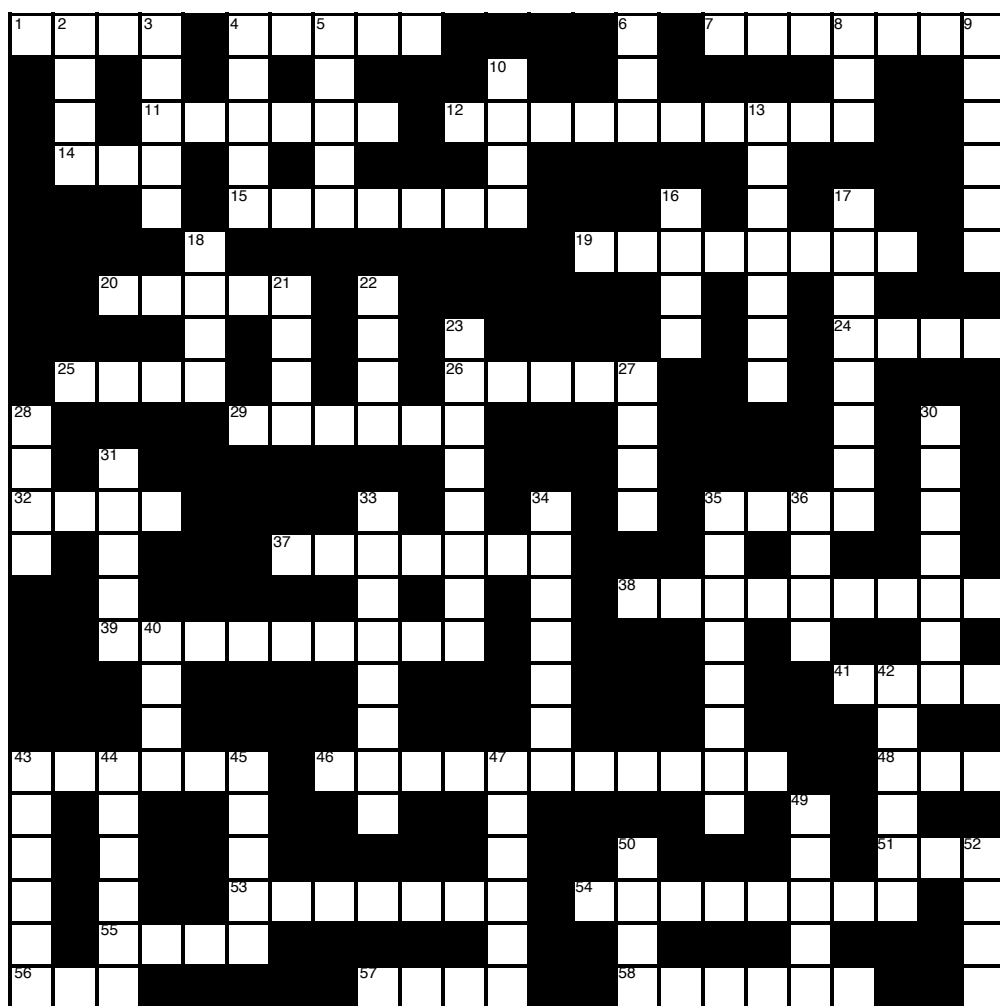


crswrdpzzlol

• R. BRIAN HASTIE

ACROSS

- 1. the concluding section of a composition
- 4. the _____ of a woman
- 7. the crazy man's weapon of choice against a tank
- 11. to piss off
- 12. the antihero's accessory of choice
- 14. the title one gains when knighted
- 15. "it's _____ for you, scum" said the public defender to the drug dealer
- 19. an editing cut that's made horizontally
- 20. tool by which one is alerted that it's time to wake up again
- 24. inexpensive fiction magazines are often referred to as this, due to the paper stock they were printed on
- 25. 'crooked' people can also be referred to as this
- 26. ideal location for a secret meet or a drug deal
- 29. a central element to any film noir, the call to action of the monomyth
- 32. opposite of light
- 35. an informal term for a young woman
- 37. editing technique that intercuts several images together to show a progression of time, or to capture simultaneous action
- 38. a society in which social and/or technological trends have contributed to a corrupted or degraded state
- 39. a dick
- 41. created when gray is added to a colour
- 43. "the boss _____ overtime for the week, partner"
- 46. the hero figure in any story
- 48. weapon of choice for those wishing to dispose of bodies in pieces
- 51. to commit any of these seven is considered deadly
- 53. a false sense of swagger
- 54. henchmen
- 55. to possess a creepy tone
- 56. the fuel that 'drives' life
- 57. the antihero's weapon of choice
- 58. the sound of a tommy gun firing twice



DOWN

- 2. the opposite of evens
- 3. the state a good detective finds himself in
- 4. slang meaning to cancel or postpone
- 5. to annoyingly nudge
- 6. the antihero's social outing of choice
- 8. Operations Per Second
- 9. antagonists want to set the world _____
- 10. possessing filmic qualities
- 13. the force that drives all narratives
- 16. to cook something inside a liquid until the point of boiling; an ideal way to murder one's enemies
- 17. synonym of 13 down; a film genre
- 18. women and children are often used as this by villains
- 21. a plethora of choices is con-
- 22. to meet one's demise via an ax or a hatchet
- 23. Steve McQueen was the king at this event (2 words)
- 27. a quirky cry for help
- 28. a gradual decrease or increase
- 30. the story's antagonist, in simpler terms
- 31. synonym of 35 Across
- 33. a majority of film noir's leading characters are considered to be these types
- 34. the context and/or environment in which something exists
- 35. a damsel in _____
- 36. a relatively lasting affective state
- 40. opposite of hard
- 42. to be overwhelmed, to have a preoccupation with a single subject or topic
- 43. dripping

**issue 4
solutionz**



- 44. multiple armed legions of goons
- 45. a bowler hat
- 47. movie characters are portrayed by these ego-driven thespians of the screen
- 49. ludicrously odd
- 50. Office of Consumer and Business Affairs
- 52. French for black

editorial

Why must students ride in Concordia's ads?

What a relief it was to return from our warm rain-swept summer to see the results of an administration acting with the university's best interests at heart.

When Concordia's Board of Governors realized that we were in the midst of a deficit crisis, with a projected \$10 million of red ink next year, they acted with speed and tact. Fiscal discipline has been returned to Concordia and not a moment too soon.

We can credit the board's wisdom with not doing away with million-dollar severance packages given to administrators still new to Concordia.

If this university is to attract the best to take its helm, it will need to offer generous salaries and perks with no unneeded conditions on minor issues like occupancy or actual results.

Concordia has also stood by the symbols of its current administration, those towering buildings sprouting up downtown and at Loyola. It would be unthinkable for our enlightened leaders to stop now. The cracks spreading through those newly christened structures will be filled, uses will be found for their idle facilities and the debt created will be nothing more than a temporary symbol of our affluence.

With its priorities in correct order, the administration has finally woken up and demanded fiscal discipline of the group most needing it: students. The bursary program was an obvious place to start. Why would the administration give money to young and healthy students who don't even work a full forty-hour week? After all, it would seem Concordia has no need for students, but students do need Concordia. The freeloaders will finally get their just deserts.

The administration's most lasting change will be that made to the shuttle bus, the free service is simply an unjustifiable expense of little corporate value with its old schedule. The decision to cancel a third of the bus fleet's transits was obviously an easy one to make, the shuttle bus is a student service, not one used by administrators.

As one of the most visible signs of Concordia, the fleet of shuttle buses plying back and forth between the verdure of Loyola and the concrete Hall building serve the same purpose on a reduced schedule. Why else would Concordia's administration spend top dollar on rebranding two of its old buses just before canceling so much of the service?

The two rebranded buses are now a rolling symbol of Concordia; they exemplify flash over substance, a necessity for today's serious university. The thick advertising also serves to block those outside from seeing into the bus, a madhouse packed with that most unwanted human flesh, the student.

The university's decision has yielded other fortuitous benefits. Where the two campuses used to look tame with the occasional gaggle of students, they are now postcards of activity. Waiting for Concordia's fresh new buses to arrive, students now perpetually form long disorganized queues that snake down de Maisonneuve and through Loyola. The ruffraff will now be kept in check standing under the watchful eye of digitized justice and not walking the corridors and conspiring. With such long lines at all hours of the day, passers-by will have no question about our success and popularity. Look at McGill, no long queues there.

If students aren't pleased with waiting for so long, especially in the winter, they can choose the adult option and buy a car. Surely that is why Concordia has a well-maintained parking structure for students who are willing to pay for the service. For those who can't afford a car or are opposed to buying one due to moral objection, Concordia has a message for you: pay for public transit.

Concordia students will eventually use both campuses, sometimes in the same day. Weren't you aware of Concordia's odd physical division of academia before registering? Even if you weren't, this should console you: the university does have your interests at heart.

It is for that reason that it fought so hard for you to have a monthly pass with the STM at such a reduced fair. \$36 a month is a bargain, its obvious to Concordia's administration that if you can't afford it you should acquire a job or a debt load, why isn't that obvious to you?

The governors of Concordia are right, it would be foolish for students to assume that it would be the university's responsibility to bridge its two campuses and provide a basic service. If students want to get to class on time, it's their responsibility to pay again. Students may think that they deserve a good shuttle bus service because their tuition pays for it, think again. The students aren't paying for a shuttle that moves people; they are paying for one that moves ads. When you think of it, the shuttle system works perfectly well as a mode of advertising, if students insist on riding in that advertisement, they should do so at their own risk.

—Justin Giovannetti
Opinions editor

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY SEPTEMBER 15, 1989

Orientation welcome "weak"

Two weeks into the academic year without agendas, shuttle bus schedules or any orientation events; welcome to the disaster that was the Orientation of 1989.

CUSA, the precursor to the CSU, was in complete disarray as no social or academic orientation was present to welcome new students. Although the student association was promising "big events" and orientation activities, they were scheduled for mid-October.

First-year students were found wandering the halls lost and complaining about the lack of posters directing them to orientation events, "I've looked out for every poster, every advertisement. I've seen nothing. I'm not thinking of leaving yet, but I'm certainly getting discouraged." They were not aware that there were no events or posters.

Annie Seattle reported on the lack of handbooks by describing the scene at the student association's offices, "CUSA board members frantically

ripped out pages of the handbook with an anti-francophone editorial and a photo of a man's butt they deemed too offensive to print—after originally approving the material."

For all the complaints students have made about orientation over the years, Concordia has seen a year without orientation and order. The result was chaos and a first year experience that left many students distraught and discouraged.

—Justin Giovannetti