

# Deporting human rights

CONCORDIA STUDENT TAKES A STAND  
IN TIANANMEN SQUARE • PAGE 3



Artists unite for non-status man • Fringe arts page 8

A look at Montreal's struggle against street gangs • Features page 6

Women's soccer team filled with new talent • Sports page 13



# Arrested for a cause

CSU employee, *the Link* Board member arrested in Tiananmen Square

• TERESA SMITH

Chris Schwartz is no hero. He hasn't saved any lives or worked any miracles, but earlier this month he stood in awe in the middle of China's Tiananmen Square to show solidarity for a people who are brutalized for speaking out for themselves.

A few hours after arriving in the Square, Schwartz was arrested and deported to Hong Kong.

Schwartz, a Concordia student, member of *The Link's* Board of Directors, and Campaigns Coordinator for the Concordia Student Union, arrived in Beijing with four fellow members of Students for a Free Tibet who gathered in Tiananmen Square on the first day of the Olympic games.

They covered themselves in fake blood and Tibetan flags, which were smuggled into the country—it is illegal in China to display or even own a Tibetan flag.

"We weren't sure what the consequences of our action would be," said Schwartz. "The government was claiming that protesters would get a 15-day prison sentence."

Luckily for Schwartz, he was flown back to Canada just five days after his arrest.

Schwartz admits that he was at times scared and intimidated by the huge police presence in China's capital but maintains the SFT cause "isn't about me, this is about Tibet and it's about solidarity."

The CSU isn't worried that one of their employees had a run-in with the law. Instead they voiced support for Schwartz's protest in Tiananmen Square.



Chris Schwartz rallies with Students for a Free Tibet and members of Montreal's Tibetan community at Montreal's Olympic stadium. PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA

"The CSU completely encourages our employees to be active in whatever stances or causes they believe in," said Elie Chivi, VP Communications for the CSU.

Chivi said that although the CSU did not endorse Schwartz's international display of dissent, the CSU is "always happy to see Concordia students being active in various areas of cause."

In 1949 the People's Republic of China sent troops into Tibet, quickly defeated their small

army, and began what SFT calls "an attempt to wipe out any traces of Tibetan national identity."

According to the SFT website, the situation in Tibet is one of an occupied country: "There is no freedom of speech, no freedom of assembly, no freedom of press and no freedom of religion."

Although the Olympic Games have come to a close, SFT chapters say the fight for human rights won't end with the games, but will continue until Chinese forces retreat from Tibet.

# Geography department cuts green revolution

But the plants live on with a little help from their friends

• TERESA SMITH

Look up... look waaaay up to the 13th floor of the Hall Building. At the peak of Concordia's downtown building, you'll find the university's greenhouse, which is currently looking for a new home.

Due to cutbacks across the university, the greenhouse was dropped by the Geography Department at the end of the 2007-2008 academic year.

With no money to fund the research and education facility, the Geography department's full-time greenhouse technician was shuffled to another position within the department and Facilities Management took over interim funding for the space.

Paul Dwaine Fournier, current Greenhouse Coordinator, has been taking care of the green space since this past April. Fournier describes the greenhouse as an "urban oasis" that the many volunteers and small staff want to preserve.

"When you get up there, it's peaceful and quiet[...]you can actually hear the birds sing [...]along with the traffic down below."

Fournier sees himself as an "advocate for sustainability on the part of the students," mainly because his salary is paid out of the Sustainability Action Fund's 1% Campaign – the 25-cent per-credit fee levy that Concordia students voted for last year.

"I'm amazed that Concordia students have the awareness and ability to vote something like this in," Fournier continued.

While the university sifts through proposals from other departments, Fournier's job is to maintain the plant collection, coordinate volunteers and provide guidance for people with questions about the greenhouse.

Louise Hénault-Ethier is the Environmental Coordinator for Sustainable Concordia. She has worked closely with the Geography Department and says it was difficult for them to pull funding for the space. "They have put a lot of effort and passion into the greenhouse," she added.

The most plausible new tenant is the Engineering Department who Hénault-Ethier says wants to make the space into a "living laboratory." She stresses that the Engineering Department hopes to continue with the green-



Volunteers at the greenhouse enjoy a drink with the plants. PHOTO JONATHAN DEMPSEY

house's current mandate of maintaining an all-organic space, an education facility and a community-building centre.

Hénault-Ethier maintains a positive outlook despite the changes. "Even though we're in a transition period, this place has a lot of potential and we're excited for the coming year."

# University versus university

CSU takes administration to court over illegal meeting



ConU students protest tuition hikes for international students. PHOTO TERRINE FRIDAY

• TERRINE FRIDAY

It's not every day that a student union takes its school to court, but then again Concordia University's not like every other school.

The Concordia Student Union has filed a lawsuit with Concordia's Board of Governors, the head honchos of the school administration.

The lawsuit comes after the board held a meeting via tele-conference last month. During the meeting, Board members approved a tuition hike for international students—the same hike the CSU has been fighting for almost a year.

On Aug. 20, a 10-day temporary injunction was imposed on the university, forcing them to freeze current tuition rates.

"According to the Quebec Companies Act, this should have never happened," said Elie Chivi, the CSU's VP communications.

Chivi says the board considers international students "cash cows" and he considers the fee increase "a band-aid solution for the university's budgetary problems."

"We've been put in a corner and [taking legal action] is our only choice," Chivi said. "So, we'll let the judge decide where this goes."

The Quebec provincial government allowed universities to raise international fees up to 10 per cent last year. Both McGill University and the Université de Montréal raised international tuition fees soon after.

All four student representatives on Concordia's Board voted against the tuition hike to no avail.

Cuts to the shuttle bus schedule and the abolition of the administrative fee bursary were also passed at the alleged illegal July board meeting.

## Shuttle buses get a face-lift

Concordia’s shuttle buses are putting their best face forward this school year.

The shuttle buses, which normally herd students between the Loyola and Sir George Williams campuses every 10 to 30 minutes, have been repainted and re-surfaced.

Due to cutbacks voted on at the alleged illegal Board of Governors meeting held June 27, the buses will be running less frequently and students will spend more time waiting for the newly remade buses.

No school officials were present to answer *The Link’s* questions regarding the matter.

## Just hanging out

Last Friday, an emergency response team was called to rescue two window washers stuck outside the 15th floor of the EV building.

The men found themselves stranded after the motor of their platform jammed.

## New elevators on ground floor

Two new elevators now feature in the Hall building. However, escalators, the primary mode of transport to classes for students, remain intermittently functional.

Elie Chivi, VP Communications for the CSU, believes that an upgrade for the escalators is much more pressing than installing new elevators. According to him, replacing the elevators instead of fixing the escalators is a “mismanagement of priorities.”

Firefighters descended from the roof of the building to join the workers on the platform. The two men were then lowered into a basket with the use of a rescue harness and ropes.

Both men were finally brought to the ground safe and sound.

— *briefs by Charlene Lusikila*

# All about the Robert Bordens

## A look at what happened this summer at universities across Canada

**ST. JOHN’S (CUP)** — Prospective hikes for international tuition have been postponed at the Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Memorial’s Board of Regents voted unanimously to delay the fee increase until it can be further discussed with the provincial government.

Anti-hike organizers were invited to present to the Board prior to their meeting on Jul. 17 and what was planned as a protest became a casual barbecue.

“When we were becoming part of the process, we didn’t want to take that same kind of harsh stance on it,” said Cameron Campbell, Director of External Affairs

for the student union.

—*with files from Ian MacDonald (CUP)*

**WATERLOO (CUP)** — The work contracts of Ontario’s university presidents are now public information.

The city of Hamilton’s daily newspaper, The Spectator, triumphed after a two-year struggle to obtain the details of McMaster University president, Peter George’s, contract.

Up until this summer, universities in Ontario were protected from Access to Information requests, but the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario ruled that employment details for university presidents should be public in accordance with the

Freedom of Information Act.

A table of president salaries and contracts across the province has been made available at hamiltonspectator.com, and copies of the actual contracts are posted at therecord.com.

—*with files from Laura Carlson (CUP)*

The Canadian University Press, a student-run not-for-profit organization, keeps universities across Canada connected with its national newswire, housing articles printed in various student papers across the nation. At 70 years old, CUP is run by university students and is intended to serve university students.

— *compiled by Jesara Sinclair*

# Something academic

## A sustainable vision for Canada: Inspiration from students and Suzuki

• JAMES GRANT

*Dr. James Grant is the current Chair of Biology at Concordia University. Grant, a native of London, Ontario, first whet his appetite for ecology and natural history while “messing about” in a woodland stream at an early age.*

*Grant’s academic focus is on the ecology of fishes and conservation of endangered species in Canada.*

*Grant has been a Biology professor at Concordia for almost 20 years.*

I continue to be impressed by the leadership role played by our undergraduate students on the issue of sustainability. I think it is fair to say that this grassroots, student-led movement has convinced administrators at Concordia to act (e.g. note the launch of the large-scale outdoor composting system at Loyola Campus on Sept. 9) and academics, like me, to get involved in planning new curriculum and research initiatives.

In one of a series of major events, our students (this time the Arts and Science Federation of Associations) invited Dr. David Suzuki to speak at Concordia last April 3. Although I have seen and listened to Suzuki hundreds of times since he first

appeared regularly on CBC, I was genuinely inspired by his talk; you can still hear him on the ASFA website.

Dr. Suzuki painted a beautiful portrait of a sustainable Canada of the future. He described a county covered by forests, where we could drink the water from our lakes and rivers, catch and eat fish from these waters without worrying about contaminant loads, and walk in cities bathed in clean air.

His vision provoked me to think about how many humans could live in this ideal Canada. While environmentalists and politicians occasionally raise the issue of human population growth on the planet, one rarely hears about this issue in a Canadian context.

Why do I think there are too many Canadians, estimated at 32.6 million on July 1, 2006?

First, Canadians have one of the highest per capita ecological footprints on earth, so that every time a new Canadian is born, it is the environmental equivalent of adding about 1.5 Europeans or five to ten Asians.

Second, there are already 35 extinct species in Canada with another 529 listed as “endangered.” The primary threat to endangered species in Canada is habitat

loss due to land conversion for agriculture, cities and the infrastructure to support 32 million Canadians.

Third, despite our “low” population size, only 6.5 per cent of the total land area of Canada is strictly protected in parks and reserves, less than the 10 per cent recommended by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. The typical excuse for not expanding our park system is the “cost” of excluding or minimizing human activities now and in the future. Hence, there are no large parks in southern British Columbia, Ontario, or Quebec, where most of our biodiversity and endangered species are found.

To illustrate the issue of population growth, consider Canada’s Kyoto commitment of a six per cent decrease in greenhouse gases (GHGs) from 1990 levels by 2012. Even with our current government, you will have noticed numerous campaigns encouraging you to decrease your own personal carbon footprint (e.g. the One-Tonne Challenge).

In 2006, the average Canadian emitted four per cent more greenhouse gases than in 1990, so each Canadian would have to cut their emission by the manageable target of only 10 per cent by 2012 to reach our Kyoto target.

However, Canada’s population will likely grow 22 per cent between 1990 and 2012, which means that each Canadian will have to cut their per capita emissions by a massive 35 per cent to meet the target. Because such a reduction in GHG emissions is unlikely in just four years, I think it irresponsible for governments and environmentalists not to discuss the environmental implications of continued population growth in Canada.

The late and eminent ecologist Garrett Hardin had a unique take on this argument: “there should be no more people in a country than could enjoy daily a glass of wine or a piece of beef with their dinner.”

As part of our basic quality of life, Canadians have come to expect certain moderate luxuries (e.g. eating meat, international air travel, playing golf), all of which have hidden environmental costs.

To achieve Suzuki’s vision for a sustainable Canada, we will have to work at both reducing our personal ecological footprints and stabilizing or reducing the population size of Canada.

To hear David Suzuki’s speech go to <http://asfa.ca/sustainability/david-suzuki-presentation/presentation-a-success/>.



CONCORDIA’S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 29, Number 2  
Tuesday, August 26, 2008

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

editorial: (514) 848-2424 ext. 7405  
arts: (514) 848-2424 ext. 5813  
advertising: (514) 848-2424 ext. 8682  
fax: (514) 848-4540  
business: (514) 848-7406

editor@thelink.concordia.ca  
<http://thelink.concordia.ca>

editor-in-chief

OPEN

news editor

TERRINE FRIDAY

features editor

CLARE RASPOPOW

fringe arts editor

OPEN

literary arts editor

CHRISTOPHER OLSON

sports editor

DIEGO PELAEZ-GAETZ

opinions editor

JUSTIN GIOVANNETTI

copy editor

R. BRIAN HASTIE

student press liaison

JESARA SINCLAIR

photo editor

JONATHAN DEMPSEY

graphics editor

AMY SMITH

managing editor

JOHNNY NORTH

layout manager

MATHIEU BIARD

web editor

BRUNO DE ROSA

business manager

MICHAEL TOPPINGS

business assistant

JACQUELINE CHIN

computer technician

OPEN

distribution

ROBERT DESMARAIS  
JOHNNY NORTH

*The Link* is published every Tuesday during the academic year by the Link Publication Society Inc. Content is independent of the University and student associations (ECA, CASA, ASFA, FASA, CSU). Editorial policy is set by an elected board as provided for in *The Link’s* constitution. Any student is welcome to work on *The Link* and become a voting staff member. *The Link* is a member of Canadian University Press and Presse Universitaire Indépendante du Québec. Material appearing in *The Link* may not be reproduced without prior written permission from *The Link*.

Letters to the editor are welcome. All letters 400 words or less will be printed, space permitting. Letters deadline is Friday at 4 p.m. *The Link* reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length and refuse those deemed racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, libelous, or otherwise contrary to *The Link’s* statement of principles.

Board of Directors 2008-2009: Chris Schwartz, Giuseppe Valiante, Matthew Fiorentino, Ellis Steinberg, Paul Erlichman, Shawna Satz; non-voting members: Rachel Boucher, Johnny North. Typesetting by *The Link*. Printing by Transcontinental.

### CONTRIBUTORS

Sebastien Cadieux, Paola Calderon, Ion Etxebarria, James Grant, Shane Kelley, Charlene Lusikila, Jackson MacIntosh, Evita Mouawad, Michael Novalski, Barbara Pavone, Sinbad Richardson, Teresa Smith, Giuseppe Valiante

Last issue we forgot:  
Colleen Dempsey, Giuseppe Valiante

Cover photo by Ion Etxebarria



# Cops gone wrong

## Two cases of what victims and onlookers consider unreasonable force used by Montreal police

• TERRINE FRIDAY

### The West

Gemma Raeburn and two friends received a settlement of \$60,000 in July for being the victims of unfair treatment by Montreal police officers almost four years ago.

Raeburn, a Canadian citizen born in Grenada, had invited her friends to her West Island home in November of 2004 to help her move, when the police showed up.

With guns drawn, the police ordered Raeburn's two friends, Peter Charles and Frederick Peters, to put the boxes down and put their hands up.

Peters, 60 years old, told the six white officers that in his country of origin, the police didn't respond to a call by showing up with guns blazing.

"If you don't like it here, why are you here?" Constable Isabelle Nault asked Peters. "Why don't you go back to your country?"

Constable Nault and Constable Roger Carbonneau, who told Raeburn that "bullets don't see colour," were subject to a three-day and one-day suspension without pay, respectively.

According to Raeburn, Senior Auditor at the Bank of Montreal and president of Montreal's Taste of the



Police gang up on a civilian before arresting him. PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA

Caribbean food festival, a 17-year-old neighbour had called police to report that people "with black things on their faces" were moving boxes out of a garage.

As it turned out, Raeburn was the homeowner and the black things on their faces were merely their faces.

"It's time they accept who I am," said Raeburn. "I've been in this country for over forty years."

Raeburn has seen to it that her 22-year-old son, a John Molson School of Business student at Concordia University, knows what to do in the event that he's stopped by police.

"I always tell him, 'when the police stop you, be polite

and always take their name and badge number,'" Raeburn said.

### The North

Fredy Villanueva, 18, was playing dice with his older brother Dany Villanueva and friends when the police pulled up.

When police arrested Dany for what appeared to be no reason, Fredy jumped to his brother's rescue, which cost him his life.

Fredy, who was unarmed along with his brother and friends, was shot three times and soon after pronounced dead.

Dany Villanueva had a criminal record and was known to police.

Montréal-Nord Republik, an independent organization made up of members of the community, contends that police are unfairly targeting youth and minorities in the Montreal North area and want to see an independent investigation into Fredy's death take place.

City of Montreal spokesperson Marvin Rotrand also voiced his concern and is pushing for an independent investigation.

"A visible proportion of these (youth harmed by police) have been visible minority and ethnic minority youth," Rotrand said.

Police are still investigating the shooting of Fredy Villanueva.

## X-honerated

### Youth testify about police harassment

• TERRINE FRIDAY

Besides being an after-school centre for youth to hang out, Centre Jeunesse 2000 tries to keep kids alert.

J2K, funded mainly by community-based organization Centraide and located just steps away from Villa Maria metro station in Notre Dame de Grace, launched Project X last fall. Project X's purpose is to teach youngsters how to express themselves when questioned by authorities such as the police.

Chris Vaughn, a bio-resource engineering student at McGill, is a J2K employee who, along with five co-workers, thought Project X was long overdue: several of the 12- to 17-year-olds who drop by the centre complained about being singled out by police.

Vaughn now tries to educate youth on their rights versus their wrongs.

"We try to tell the kids, 'See the police's side'," Vaughn said. "Like if you're walking around high, you're walking around high."

As part of the Project X initiative, Vaughn helps youth record testimonials of unfair treatment by police using cameras and creativity to post online.

"We want them to know that they will be heard," he said.

JP Belmont, a graduate of Applied Human Science at Concordia University, has been working at J2K for over two years. He has been counseling youth concerned about police profiling and has seen police "impose their power" on more than one occasion.

"It seems like [the police] target youth of colour, or youth [involved] in the hip-hop generation," Belmont said.

Belmont believes Project X is a good starting point to teach youngsters how to interact with authority figures.

"We wouldn't do this if it wasn't necessary," he said. "There's a need for it [...] we know what we're up against."

To find out more information about Project X, please visit [theprojectx.ca](http://theprojectx.ca). To find out how you can volunteer at Centre Jeunesse 2000, please call 872-9444.

## Do's and don'ts: how to deal with the police

Project X's website suggests youths abide by these do's and don'ts if stopped by police:

- know your rights
- stay calm and check your attitude
- don't say anything
- if you have to speak, watch what you say
- don't agree to a search unless you are arrested, or unless the cop has 'probable cause.' Saying "no" doesn't mean you have something to hide
- don't touch the cop, their car or dog
- don't go to areas that cops target youth without checking what's in your pockets
- don't show any ID if you're the passenger in a car that gets stopped by the cops
- if you've been wronged, get the cop's badge number or car number
- take pictures if you see the cops being abusive
- talk it out with someone, 'cause harassment sucks

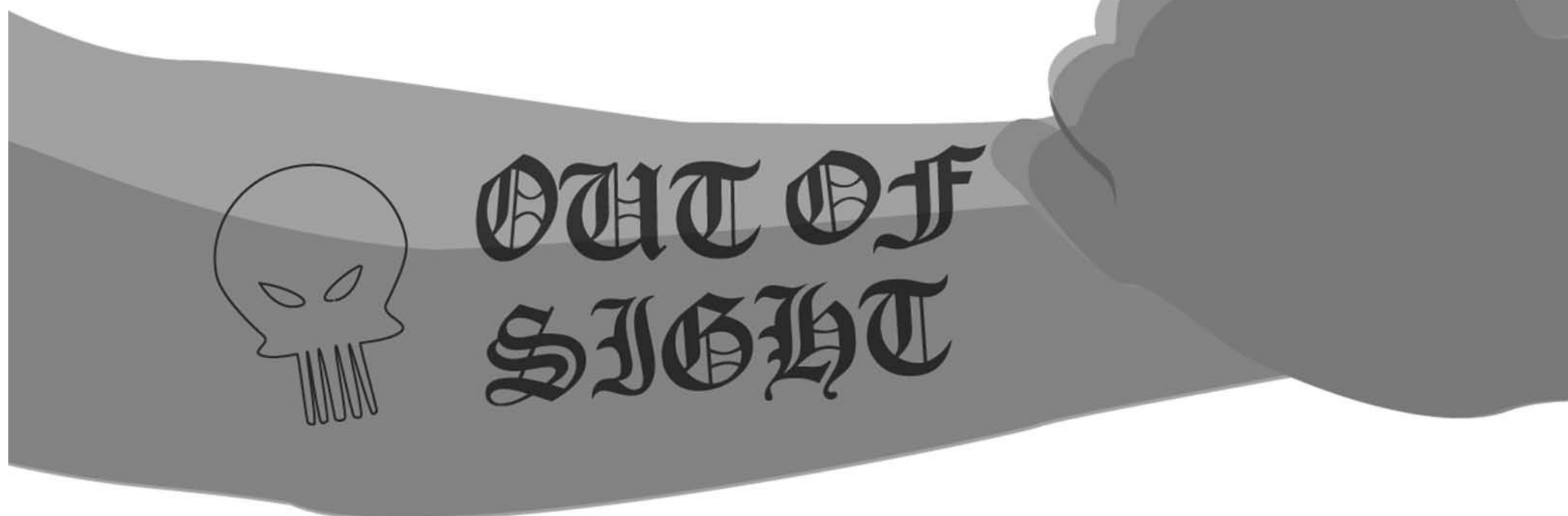
—compiled by Terrine Friday



A civilian is struck with a baton after his friend retorted to a police officer's shouting...



... and the beat-down continues. This civilian was never charged with a crime. PHOTOS ION ETXEBARRIA



## Community awareness is the be

• CLARE RASPOPOW

There is no blood left on the sidewalk. There are no crosses or memorials. Today, the spot on Mackay St. where, on May 4, 22-year-old Andrew Hunte was shot through the heart looks exactly like the rest of the construction-ravaged street. To the eye, nothing appears to be all that different. The violence of that night is fading and will soon be forgotten completely. People are trying to move on with their lives. Hunte's death wasn't the first street-gang related violence this city has seen and it won't be the last. But by ignoring these incidences by letting the deaths of Hunte and other victims fall from memory, are Montrealers helping their own fears come true?

Following the shooting the comments made by the Montreal Police—whether by accident or design—served to isolate the tragic event. Not even a day after the shooting, officers like Olivier Lapointe made statements to the press to assuage the fears of a community that, up until that point, had been largely insulated from the reality of street-gang violence.

"Hunte was not a student," Lapointe asserted in the television news reports. "The young man had a record," he informed us. "He was part of the street-gang activity." The message to the Concordia community: Don't worry. You're safe. But more subtlety and perhaps unintentionally: He wasn't one of you. He brought this on himself.

But Hunte's family members argued that he was not a member of a gang. Rev. Darryl Gray of Union United Church, in speaking with *The Gazette*, described Hunte as

"nobody's follower" and "a young man who wanted to do better." Witnesses to the crime said that Hunte was not even involved in the argument that led to the shooting.

In that case, Hunte was just a young man in the wrong place at the wrong time, an innocent by-stander, and he was shot in a place that every person in the community has probably walked by at least once. Hunte may have been from Little Burgundy and he may not have been a student, but his life was taken from him on the Concordia campus and a student card wouldn't have stopped the bullet that killed him.

Jean-Ernest Celestin, a police officer with the Montreal Police Department for 18 years, is currently the commander of the Little Burgundy district. In his time with the force he's been stationed all over the island of

ing vigilante justice or people putting themselves into dangerous situations that they're not equipped to handle. He believes that in order to overcome the problem of street gang violence it's important for people of every community to become better informed.

"The youth of our generation need education," he said, an education beyond tragic four-minute news spots.

### A History Of Violence

According to the Service de police de la Ville de Montreal website, street gangs first rose to prominence in the early 1980s but weren't added to the National Coordinating Committee on Organized Crime's list of "national priorities" until 2002. They are defined as "more or less structured group[s] of teenagers or young adults who use group

wealth. Emerging gangs are known for taxing, or extorting money, from people found in their territory as well as committing assaults. Finally, there are major gangs. These are organized groups known for acts of directed violence and high-level crimes. While it's common for teen gangs to dissolve and their members to move on, people involved in emerging gangs often serve as a recruiting pool for major gangs.

In these different gang types there are again differences between "hardcore" members, people who are closely connected with the organization and operations of the gang, "moderate" members, those who are involved in gang activity but not in the running or organization of the gang, and "peripheral" members, people who are only loosely connected with gang activity. The majority of people associated with gangs are either moderate or peripheral, with only a slight percentage of gang members falling into the hardcore category.

Gang members are often portrayed as ambitious or ruthless men striving after power, but most studies show that people join gangs because of low self-esteem, early drug use, alienation from their community, as a reaction to chronic poverty, or for a source of protection. Most gang members, especially those connected peripherally, speak of being victims of street-gang violence before becoming associated with their gangs.

"Kids don't just wake up one day and decide to be criminals," pronounced Karen Erickson with a well-worn determination in her voice that not even the thousands of kilometers of phone lines could mask. She is currently the only paid employee of Community

**"When a police officer comes to this neighbourhood, he's already afraid of the people."**

—Will Prosper, Montreal North Resident and Montreal Nord Republik Port-Parole.

Montreal -Dorval, the Plateau, the West Island- and has played an active part in the police department's struggle against street gangs through enforcement and community programs such as "Vision vers l'avenir," a soccer program aimed at keeping kids out of trouble. Celestin has a message for Montrealers everywhere.

"It's the responsibility of all citizens [to confront the problem of street-gang violence]," he asserted. "Street crime is the problem of all people."

That's not to say that Celestin is encourag-

intimidation and violence to carry out criminal acts in order to gain power and status and/or control certain lucrative activities." Within that vague and nebulous definition are three, more definite categories of gangs — teen gangs, emerging gangs, and major gangs.

Teen gangs are unstructured groups of teenagers, usually committing minor infractions. Emerging gangs, while still relatively unstructured, model themselves on major gangs and concentrate on establishing their group's reputation by obtaining territory and

40

times more likely kids associated with gangs will die compared with the average Canadian citizen

10-15

per cent of the gang population are hardcore members

94

per cent of gang members are male

30-40

per cent of the gang population are moderate members



GRAPHIC AMY SMITH

# st defence against street gangs

Solutions to Gang Violence, an organization formed in 2003 and based out of Edmonton. Public Safety Canada praises CSGV on its crime prevention website as a “promising and model crime prevention program.” Erickson has spent the past five years working with her organization to promote anti-gang programs in her community.

“You have to take a look at all of the different factors [that drive children into gangs]” she explained. “Adolescence is a period of risk taking. Peer groups become more important, kids start looking for acceptance and power [...] Teens often suffer from a lack of agency and gangs can be an alternate way to have a voice.”

With nearly half a decade of experience under her belt, she's an ardent believer in the vital role that preventative programs play. “Once kids get involved in gangs, it's so much harder to get them out. There are issues of safety and support [that come into play]...we have to get better at seeing kids become isolated. We have to intervene early.”

Despite her program's success it receives no annual government funding and must survive year to year on what it can scrounge from grants - a situation common for many gang prevention programs. Montreal's Centre Jeunesse must raise \$230,000 of its \$250,000 operating budget each year in order to keep running.

Erickson pinpoints the attitudes of both the general public and the government towards the problem of street gangs as the source of a major lack of funding.

“Getting tough on crime translates to increased prosecutions, increased police presence, putting people in jails and keeping

them there longer,” she said, with a frustrated tinge in her voice.

“But the jails can't handle them and prison makes them more dangerous,” she continued. “People don't stay in prison forever. We're just locking the problem up for a few years.”

Erickson explained that while there is very little to no evidence that incarceration improves the problems caused by street gangs and a great deal of theoretical and anecdotal evidence to back up the effectiveness of preventative programs, the money continues to flow towards strategies to suppress gang violence rather than cure it and efforts to take down high profile criminals.

“People don't stay in prison forever. We're just locking the problem up for a few years.”

—Karen Erickson, *Community Solutions to Gang Violence*

“The funding situation [for anti-crime programs] is like an inverted pyramid,” she elaborated. “Mob bosses make up the fewest people but the most amount of money is spent trying to catch them. In fact, most of the violence, the shootings we hear about, take place among low-end people.”

This funding imbalance weakens the community groups that serve as a counter-balance to the enforcement efforts of the police and leaves law enforcement officials with only incarceration and violence with which to fight gang violence.

Will Prosper of Montreal Nord Republik, can see the damage that this situation causes. “When [gang prevention] organizations are

forced to keep fighting for their financial security it makes it more difficult for them to fight for the children,” he said.

Prosper's organization formed in the wake of the death of Fredy Villanueva in Montreal North on Aug. 9th. Villanueva was shot by a police officer, his death deeply wounding his community. A riot began the next day during what had begun as a peaceful protest.

Prosper believes that the aggressive tactics employed by the police are evidence that they have forgotten their mandate to “build communities,” something he believes is vital if police want to maintain a positive relationship with the communities they serve.

“They don't know the people in the com-

munities they work in,” he asserted. “They see something and they group everyone together and arrest them all, even though most of them aren't doing anything.”

Prosper's voice tightened as he spoke about the problems present in his neighbourhood.

“When they came after Fredy, he was just playing in a park. What's more innocent than playing in a park?” Prosper asked, his words half way between a question and a plea.

But Prosper isn't naïve, and he understands how something like this can come to pass. He puts a fair share of blame on media outlets that vilify his borough and only pay attention when tragedy strikes.

“People think of Montreal North as crime central, but it actually has a lower crime rating than [greater] Montreal,” said Prosper. “It has its problems but it's a great neighbourhood.”

In contrast to this warm review from Prosper, a borough resident, Montreal North is most commonly mentioned on the news or in papers only in association with crime - a situation that serves to heighten tensions between the residents and police.

“Police are influenced by the media. When a police officer comes to this neighbourhood, he's already afraid of the people,” he explained.

However, Prosper remains cautiously optimistic despite the obstacles that confront him and his organization.

“[Montreal Nord Republik] is getting a lot of response from people all over Montreal, not just from Montreal North,” he relates. “People understand that we need to protect all our children.”

For now Prosper has said he will continue fighting for the things he feels need to happen to turn things around. He wants to see police officers get involved with the districts they protect, so that they can get to know the people instead of only seeing threats. He wants people to stop isolating themselves and turning a blind eye to the problems that exist, not only in his neighbourhood, but all over Montreal, because this violence impacts us all and by ignoring it we let it multiply. And finally he wants a statue erected of Fredy Villanueva, a boy who was deeply loved by his community, so that the people of Montreal will always remember his death and strive to see that it's never repeated.

48

per cent of the gang population is under the age of 18

45-60

per cent of the gang population are peripheral members

Organizations that need your time, money and attention

Tu veux sortir de ta gang?  
Tuveuxsortirdetagang.com

La Maison D'Haiti  
mhaiti.org

Montréal-Nord Republik  
montrealnordrepublik.blogspot.com

Vision vers l'avenir  
spvm.qc.ca

Centre jeunesse de Montréal  
centrejeunessedemontreal.qc.ca

LOVE - Leave Out Violence  
leaveoutviolence.com/english/quebec/index.htm









# In support of the non-status man

Artists take a weekend to show support for imprisoned Kader

• PHOTO ESSAY BY ION ETXEBARRIA & AARON LAKOFF

Earlier this month artists from all over Montreal unveiled a mobile mural in support of Abdelkader Belaoui, also known as Kader, who is a non-status man living in St. Gabriel's church since Jan. 1 2006.

Over 150 people gathered at the grounds of the church to see the creation of the mural with works by over 25 artists and writers including Rawi Hage, Shahrzad Arshadi, Marguerite Bilodeau, Fortner Anderson, and

Belaoui also contributed as well.

The mural is expected to be unveiled at various exhibitions in local communities in the upcoming months.

Belaoui is an honoured guest at St. Gabriel's. It is outside the church where his freedom is at stake. He is one of an estimated 40,000 immigrants in Quebec that have defied deportation orders, 18,000 of whom will most likely lose their battle for citizenship.

Were this man to step outside, he could be placed in arbitrary detention for up to 14 months as immigration officials sluggishly

filed the paperwork to have him deported.

Prior to seeking sanctuary in January 2006, Belaoui was a prominent civil servant—one explanation for why so many public activists in the community seem to have rallied to his defence. His contemporaries just want him treated with the same respect and consideration he gave to others.

Montreal, in some ways, is a respite from the anti-immigration fervor that Kazi and people like Henaway claim to see in the U.S. and the UK. Belaoui spent five years in New York after emigrating from Algeria, but left

two days after 9/11 in response to the intense pressure and scrutiny he says he felt was directed at immigrants.

"I had a good life there," Belaoui relates. "Don't get me wrong, nothing bad happened to me." But the US and Algeria signed a free-trade agreement in 2001, some say putting economics before humanitarian interests, and it effectively ended the refugee status of Algerians who'd forged ahead to make new lives since fleeing their home country in 1996.

—with files from Christopher Olson







## Love from France

Film showcases the problems teenager girls have trying to lose their virginity

• JOHNNY NORTH

Two teenagers make a pact to lose their virginity before they head off on vacation, resulting in them testing their friendship and shattering others in this powerful film.

Julie, a goth who is called “Batman” throughout the film, and her friend Élodie face the pressure of becoming sexually active and the ensuing embarrassment they could possibly face at school if they sleep with the wrong guy. While Julie is seen as the least liked at school, thanks to a random sex encounter with a friend of Élodie, she ends up as one of the most desirable due to the belief that she is “easy.” Élodie ends up on a downward spiral and settles for a guy she doesn’t even like but whom Julie kind of likes. The importance of making your first time spe-

cial, which was once considered sacred, is trampled on.

The film is at times a funny, emotional and heart-filled representation of the everyday life of teenagers who want to break away from the label of “just being kids.” The language used by these teenage characters shows that the director did his homework. The film can be crude and filled with vulgarity, but considering the 15-17 age range of the characters, it makes sense. It’s also refreshing to see teenagers that actually look like the ages they’re supposed to represent.

**Et toi t'es sur qui?**  
(Just about Love?)  
Distributor- Seville Pictures  
Rating-14A  
Country- France  
Running Time- 82 minutes  
Language- French with English and French subtitles

# From one depression to another

## Montreal Theatre Ensemble tackles Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*

• JACKSON MACINTOSH

*Of Mice and Men* is one of the defining works of literature of the last Depression, and one can't help but wonder if the prescient timing of the Montréal Theatre Ensemble's production is a reflection on the pecuniary pickle that America has found itself in of late.

Cast member Chris Moore denies that it is overt political commentary. “Actually, the idea to stage *Of Mice and Men* was first brought up about three or four years ago,” predating the current round of mortgages foreclosures and rising unemployment.

Nonetheless, Moore acknowledges the parallels between the current situation and the one illustrated in the play, which depicts the hardscrabble lives of George Milton and Lennie Small, who head west in the hopes of earning enough money to buy a piece of land, and fail in a spectacular way.

“These two guys, they just want to own a bit of something for themselves, and this kind of desperation was big,” he said. “Owning land was really a big deal.”

With the current housing crisis in America, and with more and more people getting displaced every day, it's easy to spot the potential allegory. However, Peter Vrana, who plays Lennie, feels the play tackles themes that are grounded in the human condition, not economic circumstance.

“Most of the issues dealt with in the play are truly timeless, like hope, loneliness, friendship, suspicion. I mean, friendship, you could



Left: director Terry Donald (in the tree) with Adam LeBlanc (George) and Peter Vrana (Lennie). PHOTO SHANE KELLEY

have a play written 2000 years ago that deals with that and it'd still be current, because it's a basic human thing,” says Vrana.

Terry Donald, the director, notes that the play is slightly different from the novella, but only slightly, as Steinbeck conceived it as a work that functions equally as well as a piece of prose fiction and as a play. He adapted the novella himself for the stage, which was first produced

in 1937.

“The play is slightly different from the book, but the alterations are minor,” said Donald. “Most of the time, the characters are saying the lines exactly as they were written in the novella.”

*Of Mice and Men* will open on Aug. 28, and will run until Sept. 13 at Casgrain Theatre in the Casgrain Building of John Abbott College.

## spins

**Creature**  
**No Sleep At All**  
Bonsound Inc.



Creature's first full-length album is a rare gem and musical masterpiece. The four members—Kim Ho, Gina Simmons, Sid-Z and CowBella (who single-handedly raises the cool factor of a cow bell to a 10)—have created an eclectic medley of genres that leads to 11 tracks that will never be skipped.

The fast-paced changes in instruments, vocals and even genre on each track and between tracks are handled with grace and fluidity. The ongoing battle for lead vocals between male and female combined with witty lyrics make for a unique sound.

From the first track you can feel the energy and with catchy lyrics like “Who's Hot, Who's Not,” “Would you say no to Brigitte Bardot?” and “I just turned 65 and I'm feeling wild” you can't help but be in a great mood no matter how hard your day was. They also take the time to speak

their mind on more serious issues on tracks like “Last Days of America” and “Pop Culture” while still maintaining their upbeat sound.

4.5/5  
Barbara Pavone

**Solient Green**  
**The Inevitable Collapse in the Presence of Conviction**

Metal Blade Records



Being packed with heavy instrumentals and aggressive riffs helps make *The Inevitable Collapse in the Presence of Conviction* a fun easy listen for fans of smash mouth death metal. Unless you've listened to extreme metal before you're probably not going to understand a word they are saying, but the lyrics are not what make this album enjoyable. Fast-paced drums and a feeling of a gloomy existence are

constant throughout. Vocalist Ben Falgouist bellows out many different howls and angry rasps that unfortunately are a second to the constant riffs. Far from a great metal album but solid nonetheless.

3.5/5  
Johnny North

**Austrian Deathmachine**  
**Total Brutal**

Metal Blade Records



As I Lay Dying singer Tim Lambesis has created a 17-track thrash metal album that is both a tribute to and constantly making fun of Arnold Schwarzenegger. What makes the album really neat and special is the individual guitar solos on certain tracks. Guitarists from Killswitch Engage, Mercury Switch, Dââth, Haste The Day and more all help add some depth to the album. While the Arnold one-liners are far from

funny, the mechanical sounds and catchy choruses like “Screw You (Benny)” and “You Have Just Been Erased,” make this album worth listening to.

3/5  
Johnny North

**Fate**  
**Vultures**  
Metal Blade Records



Fate can definitely play some enjoyable death metal/grindcore, but some of the 10 songs are very standard and always seem to lead into some big and aggressive beats, but disappointingly only result in some decent heavy riffs. Their best song “Vultures,” has no lyrics, just straight up powerful riffs and sinister drumming. Singer Justin Krahn is not bad at growling or howling, but there are better. Most of the songs are short and sweet but by the end of the album it feels like the aggression has reached its peak

and simply plateau-ed.

3/5  
Johnny North

**One-Way Mirror**  
**One-Way Mirror**  
Metal Blade Records



A side project from members of European metal bands Soilwork, Mnemic and Scarve, delivers 11 tracks with a smooth industrial feel that includes many emo-like melodies. Any of the songs would easily fit in with the style of the recent soundtracks of the *WWE: Smackdown VS. RAW* videogame series. Fans that believe that Disturbed or Linkin Park are metal bands could enjoy this album, but fans of harder metal can get turned off very quickly. Their cover of Frankie Goes To Hollywood's “Relax” is a good song, but not worth buying the album over.

2/5  
Johnny North



# No studio required

Indie-pop band The Darcys battle their way through expenses and a broken collarbone

• BARBARA PAVONE

Naming one's band after Pride and Prejudice's Mr. Darcy, also known as "fiction's greatest bachelor," is fitting for indie rockers that are not signed to a record label.

The Darcys feature Kirby Best (vocals/guitarist), Jason Couse (guitarist), Wes Marskell (drummer), Dave Hurlow (bassist) and Mike Le Riche (guitar). They released their first EP, 'You, Me and the Light' in 2006 and in August last year their first album, *Endless Water*. The album deals with "growing up [...] dipping your feet in that great body of water [...] and realizing how far you have left to swim," said Marskell.

They funded and recorded *Endless Water* themselves and completed it in slightly over a month. Even more unbelievable is that instead of heading to a studio—which they couldn't afford, they packed up their instruments and recording gear and moved into the Waterloo Regional Children's Museum for two weeks. They "hung microphones all around the four-story atrium and hoped for the best," says Marskell. The outcome amazed everyone, including the band.

Their writing process is a team effort, the best idea usually wins out, regardless of who or where it comes from, resulting in a sound that is unique and versatile. Their influences include Broken Social Scene, Constantines, Radiohead and Ladyhawk, with whom they'd love to collaborate with.

They experienced a setback in July when Marskell broke his collarbone and had to stop drumming. Now The Darcys are ready to tour again with two dates in Montreal.

"[Montreal is] a pretty fantastic city to play in," said Marskell, but went on to warn, "we always seem to get into the most trouble in Montreal [...] and are late for our show in the next city [...] I would like to take this time to apologize to Fredericton. Blame it on Montreal."

The Darcys play the McGill Open Air Pub campus event on Aug. 28 with free admission. They return on Sept. 10 at L'Esco located at 4467 St-Denis. Five dollars admission.



The Darcys, five indie hipsters making an effort towards getting their music and name known throughout the country. PHOTO MICHAEL NOVALSKI

## Metal that matures

Whitechapel's second album pleases their death metal fans

• JOHNNY NORTH

Violently fast and wicked death metal from start to finish has evolved in Whitechapel's sophomore album *This is Exile*.

The band, named after the area where England's infamous killer Jack The Ripper committed his crimes, continues to deliver their triple guitar attacks and sadistic howls, but is now geared more towards expanding their talents.

"We wanted to grow and mature so that we could gain a more mature and growing fan base," said Alex Wade, one of the guitarists of Whitechapel. "At the same time, we wanted to please our old fan base. When we set out writing, we still incorporated the classic

Whitechapel elements that we're known for but we tried out some new things—different effects and making some of the sound ambient."

"[Phil Bozeman] shied away from lines like 'the gangrenous vagina' and stuff."

— Alex Wade,  
Whitechapel guitarist

The result is 11 tracks that not only sound more mature and heavier, but have also matured lyrically. Instead of spewing the hatred and lust that Jack had for his victims, the focus has turned towards the failures of humanity.

"As we mature musically we wanted to mature lyrically," said Wade. "We wanted to make the album on a whole more mature. [Phil Bozeman] shied away from lines like 'the gangrenous vagina' and stuff. He focused on more serious aspects—he focused more on the concept of the CD instead of sporadic writing."

While Wade admits the band enjoys recording and is currently working on riffs and material for their next album, they love touring a lot more because they meet up with cool metal fans and influential bands like Dying Fetus who "have a heavy influence on our sound since they invented groovy death metal," said Wade. "We're all about the groove and the slam."



Whitechapel recently toured Canada for the first time.





# Going for that gritty 'New York Comic Convention' look

Trading pencils and pens for cameras and photoshop,

• SEBASTIEN CADIEUX

With casting sessions at six local comic shops, work for the second part in the *P-Brane* trilogy is already underway, while promotion for the first installment is in full swing.

"We spent just over two years on the first one," said film producer Jesse Heffring on the subject of his first self-published graphic novel *P-Brane: The Green Man*. "But we could turn out another one in six months with what we've learned."

*P-Brane's* most distinctive quality is its look, which uses stylized black and white photographs teamed with both three-dimensional and digitally created artwork.

"We photographed 400 people having a blast in these crazy poses," Heffring said of his weekend at the New York Comic Convention. By having a way for fans to get involved, first-time, Montreal-based comic

creators Graviton Publishing and Quietus Films have piqued the interest of local comic readers. "And now they all have a vested interest in it," said Heffring.

When it comes to photographing comic panels, the term "actor" is used loosely. "We had [the actors] go through the peaks of the conversation and used the most interesting parts of the discussion." Sometimes this leads to a character being unusually expressive, but usually it makes for a realistic look.

"[Comics are] very similar to film but there are things that would be impossible for low-budget films to do," said Heffring. "I did this project as a filmmaker working in another medium." With both comics and film being very visual media the transition came natural to Heffring's film team. "When you do a lot of these things you think visually, like with story boards."

Originally written as a novella, *P-Brane's* story starts out very low-key and kind of

cliché, with a nameless protagonist waking up not remembering where, or even who he is. Within a few pages however, he snaps into action, making quick work of some thugs that he witnessed kill a man. From then on the plot is propelled from a simple action/thriller into science-fiction territory, with space ships and all-knowing aliens.

"It came about because the writer had written a very good novella, [...] he had final say but we were all in on it," Heffring explained. Through the collaborative process everyone involved made a bit of an impact.

"It feels like it's changed," said Heffring of the final product after years of hard work. "It's like that when you go from rough-cut to final-cut."

"The superhero thing, I'm not interested in," Heffring admits. He lost interest with mainstream comics during adolescence. Since majoring in English, however, he has

gotten back into reading those stories and now sees them as a serious medium to tell stories in: "Some of this stuff is comparable to the best literature I've ever read."

"They're this hybrid in between [film and novels], and people won't pick it up because of a stigma, because it's a comic. But amazing stories are being told here."

Self-publishing can often prove difficult, but with proper planning and a good head for business the endeavor may not be so difficult. With local printer Quebecor already printing a huge share of mainstream comics every week, they were an obvious choice for publishing *P-Brane*.

"It's our first comic," said Heffring. "We're learning as we go."

*P-Brane: The Green Man* is available at most Montreal comic shops. For more information on upcoming casting sessions, or to order *P-Brane*, visit [pbraneworld.com](http://pbraneworld.com).

## Everyone has a price

Ted DiBiase reveals all on The Million Dollar Man's legacy

• JOHNNY NORTH

Being a rich prick that made little kids cry when he cheated them in a dribbling contest helped make Ted DiBiase one of the most memorable characters in World Wrestling Entertainment history.

Inside the ring DiBiase was one of the most hated wrestlers—buying the WWE Championship off the late Andre The Giant was one of his evil schemes to show that money could buy him anything. Outside of the ring DiBiase was almost a complete opposite. Poor most of the time and a highly touted football star who trained countless hours to attend West Texas Academy.

Wrestling ran in the DiBiase family—both his stepfather and mother were professional wrestlers. School and football could only keep DiBiase away from his true passion for so long until he decided to not attend his senior year.

**DiBiase took a gamble on a career that did not give much back.**

DiBiase took a gamble on a career that did not give much back. However, thanks to his dad's connections and friends in the right places he excelled and retells many humorous and bizarre stories along the way.

Trying to out-drink the 400-pound, 7-foot Andre the Giant had a hilarious result.

This book repeats a lot of his beginnings in wrestling found in DiBiase's first autobiography, but this time around Ted's version of events are expanded by his family, friends and rivals who add much more to understanding the real DiBiase.

DiBiase also refrains from putting over how much God changed and saved his marriage and his life. Although DiBiase mentions he was unfaithful to his wife he refrains completely from going down the route of other wrestling novelists like Bret Hart who used explicit details with each affair.

The ending of his career as a professional wrestler only opened new doors for DiBiase. He retired in 1993, but continued to play a role in wrestling all the way up to 2006. His insecurities about his abilities as WWE producer and having to put up with Vince McMahon flipping out over the Undertaker not doing a chokeslam helped mark the end of his time in the business.

Unlike many wrestling books, DiBiase is able to pull off a decent ending thanks to have his three pro wrestling sons writing their own two cents on him. Far from the longest book, but still enough wrestling and personal stories to keep fans of The Million Dollar Man satisfied.



**The Million Dollar Man**  
**Ted Dibiase with Tom Caiazzo**  
**World Wrestling Entertainment Books**  
**June 2008**  
**242 pp**  
**\$16.00**



# Entering a new generation

## Nagging injuries not a concern for Ladies soccer team heading into big home game

• JOHNNY NORTH

A lot of new faces have been added to the Concordia Stingers ladies soccer team—10 rookies have been recruited since training camp began.

“We’re going to be young again. Some veteran players decided to not return, a couple of recruits we were counting on didn’t show up,” said Jorge Sanchez, who is entering his eighth season as head coach of the Lady Stingers. Sanchez is not focused on the players he doesn’t have, but more on the players that decided they wanted to work for a position on the team.

“We have a good solid core,” he said. “We have good strength coming off the bench when we need them. I think we’re going to be solid defensively. We’re not very deep, but we have versatile players who can step up.”

### Concordia 2 Wisconsin 2

In their first game together, the Ladies were able to manage a 2-2 tie against the Wisconsin Badgers last Friday to start off their first of three games at Loyola Field.

The game started off with both teams having numerous scoring opportunities, but all either missed the net or were foiled by the goalkeepers. Natasha

Sicondolfo, a third-year Stingers forward, put Con U up 1-0 almost 15 minutes into the first half with a forceful free kick close to the Wisconsin net. Emily Hubbard, last season’s Stingers rookie of the year and leading goal scorer, broke away and scored early in the second frame to increase the lead to 2-0.

Miscommunication and an unfortunate rebound helped put Wisconsin on the board twice—they took advantage of their opportunities late in the game to help tie the affair.

“We started off pretty strong, we were playing our game,” said Monica White, a left mid-fielder and rookie Stinger. “Then it ended up into their game where it was more of a kicking game than a possession game. It’s our first game together. There are a lot of rookies and I’m one of them, so we’re adapting to all the new players. I think we did a pretty good job.”

### Concordia 1 Ryerson 1

A late comeback nearly gave Con U the win in their second pre-season tie 1-1 against the Ryerson Rams last Saturday.

“We played a team that didn’t play the day before, we started off slow but in the second half we came out really hard and compet-



Stinger Emily Hubbard misses a great scoring chance on Sunday. PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA

ed hard,” said Sanchez. “I give the players credit for the effort level they built throughout the game.”

### Concordia 0 Laurentian 2

Falling behind early and troubles maintaining an offensive attack hurt the Stingers in a 2-0 loss to the Laurentian Voyageurs last Sunday morning.

“Typically after a three-game weekend you get nagging injuries,” said Sanchez. “I don’t think it’s indicative of the level of our team. It’s a building block, you take the positives and you build and you throw out the negatives.”

“Players don’t show up as fit as they should be,” he said. “They’re not used to training seven times in

five days and playing three games in three days which has accumulated into injuries.”

Con U has their season-opener on Sept. 12, yet due to the football team playing on the same day the team has decided to have a special offer for fans for their Sept. 14 game. Members of the women soccer team have already been advertising on the radio and with flyers.

“We’ve invited a lot of the Stingers alumni to come back and for this game we’re charging admission of four dollars,” said Sanchez. “For the price of admission you get a trio [hot dog, fries, and a drink] worth \$3.50, so if they come to the game they’re basically not losing any money.”

“The football team always get a

big crowd, we want to show we can too,” said Karen Stewart, a Stingers forward in her third year who sat out the three games due to a hamstring injury she suffered in training camp. Stewart is expected to play next week.

“Individually we’re a much better team from the last two years. Hopefully, New Brunswick will be a good bonding experience for us,” she said.

Con U will see action this Friday through Sunday in New Brunswick against the Moncton Aigles Bleus, the Mount Allison Mounties and the UNB Varsity Reds. Con U returns home for a scrimmage game against the Lady Dawson Blues at 8:45 p.m. on Sept. 10.

# Stingers finish weekend on high note

## First win of preseason for improving men’s squad

• DIEGO PELAEZ-GAETZ

### Concordia 2 Laurentian 0

Concordia’s men’s soccer team nabbed their first win of the pre-season on Sunday afternoon as they manhandled an over-matched Laurentian squad by a 2-0 margin that probably should have been larger.

The first half of this match was hotly contested—both teams came out with an intensity that one might not expect from an exhibition game. The physical style gave the game more of a regular season feel.

It was clear that although this game didn’t matter in the standings, it mattered deeply to the teams involved. This may have had something to do with the fact that Concordia still has yet to make their final cuts, and many were fighting for their spot on the squad. “Our final roster should be set after our road-trip,” said assistant coach Darko Kolic regarding the team’s

exhibition trip through Moncton and Mount Allison.

Concordia opened the scoring on a penalty kick awarded after an over-zealous tackle in the penalty area by a Laurentian defender in the opening minutes of the second half. The goal followed several close calls for the Stingers, including a break-away attempt that was foiled by a brilliant diving save from the visiting goalkeeper.

Frustration clearly started setting in for Laurentian as the second half progressed. They found themselves increasingly unable to break through the solid defense of the home side, and the visitors increasingly settled for long range bombs that did little to test Concordia keeper Brian de Palma, who didn’t face a meaningful scoring chance in the second half.

Just as it seemed the Stingers might be letting their opponents stick around a little too long after another missed opportunity in the box that sailed over the crossbar,

Concordia forward Ahmed Hassan erased any doubt about the outcome when he calmly converted on a perfect cross into the penalty area to increase their lead to 2-0 and give the home side some breathing room.

The win had to be something of a relief for the Stingers, as they had lost their first two pre-season games, including a heart-breaking 2-1 defeat to U.S division 1 powerhouse Wisconsin Badgers. “For sure it feels good to get the first win,” said Kolic. “Even though it’s still really early, it’s good for the confidence.”

There were lots of new faces on the field for Concordia, which made it tough to know what to expect for the coming year, but it wasn’t hard to sense the optimism from their coach. “We’re still in the process of building our team, but we have a lot of talent, and we’re certainly going to be improved.”



Con U jumped a bit higher than the competition on Sunday. PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA



# Not to add to your burden Senator Obama

Your speech in Boston affects  
Brussels, Beirut and Beijing as well

• EVITA MOUAWAD

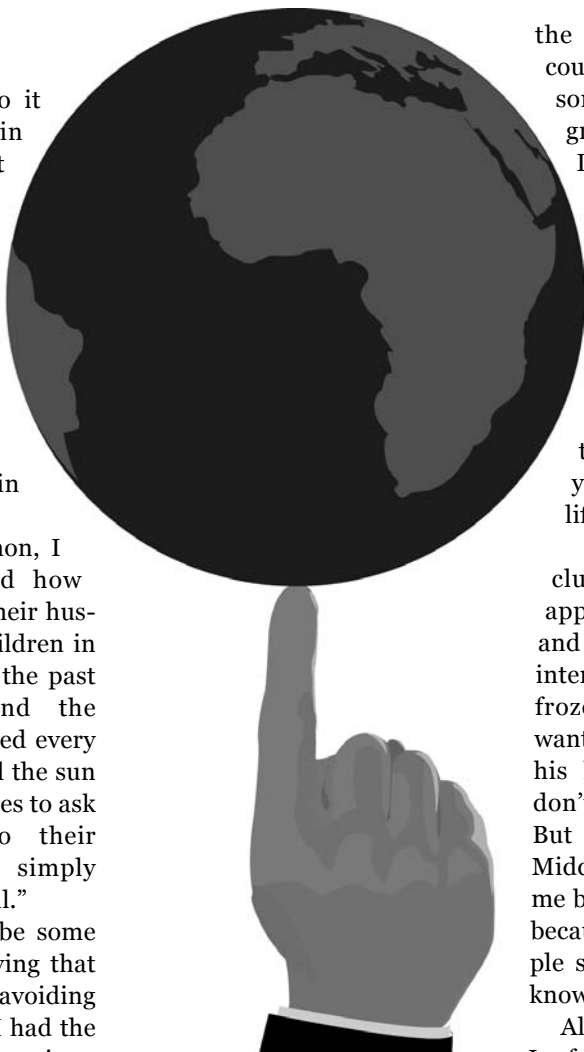
Sic erat in fatis: "So it was fated." Well, Latin philosophers weren't the only ones seeing fate in history. Middle Eastern people have a reputation of 'blaming' everything on fate, and for some, it is not even a question of fate anymore, but simply the realization of God's will, or Masha'Allah in Arabic.

Back home in Lebanon, I have always wondered how women who have lost their husbands, brothers and children in the violent conflicts of the past and the present find the strength to get out of bed every day and work hard until the sun sets. To anyone who dares to ask about the secret to their strength, they will simply respond, "It is God's will."

I admit there must be some relief in honestly believing that there was no way of avoiding these tragedies. I wish I had the ability of blindly believe in a higher power molding this earth, a god with a golden book where all destinies are written down and unchangeable. Countless sleepless nights would have been spared.

My doubts in fate were toughened lately while I was attending a conference for Democrat hopeful Barack Obama in Washington DC. I have been interning in the American capital for the past month. Don't get me wrong, I am very fond of Senator Obama and I believe that he has restored hope to many Americans. But what most Americans tend to forget is that it is not only their future at stake. The outcome of this election will determine the fate of the rest of the world as well.

Announcing his foreign policy objectives, Obama stated that he would set a date for the withdrawal of troops from Iraq. His focus would shift to targeting Al Qaeda in Afghanistan and Pakistan, in order to ensure the



safety of the United States. Finally, Obama pledged to lead America towards energy independence. All of this is for the good of the American people.

Nonetheless I couldn't help but ask myself about the fate of Iraqis once American troops completed their pullout, leaving behind chaos and destruction? What about the children of Afghan villages near Al Qaeda camps soon to be wiped out by American missiles? What about Arab economies once the U.S. achieved energy independence?

**What about the children of Afghan villages near Al Qaeda camps soon to be wiped out by American missiles?**

Here I was, sitting in the fourth row, just a couple of feet away from someone who may possibly become the first African American president of

the world's most powerful country, and yet I blanked. For some reason Obama's words gradually became a blur, and I suddenly found myself back in July of 2006, sitting in my room in Beirut, looking outside my window over a city filled with smoke. All I could hear were planes heading south, followed by simultaneous explosions and then... the loudest silence you will ever hear in your life.

After Senator Obama concluded his speech, he approached the front rows, and as my overwhelmed fellow interns ran towards him, I just froze. The truth is, I really wanted to go up to him, shake his hand, maybe say "please don't forget about Lebanon." But I didn't. Maybe it was my Middle Eastern pride holding me back, maybe I was just tired because I had been seating people since 8 a.m., I really don't know.

All I know is that deep inside I refused to admit to myself that the future of my country, my future, depended on a man who has never even set foot on Lebanese soil. A man who has probably never heard the explosion of a bomb killing people just miles away. Or has probably never had a close friend blown up just because he dared to speak of democracy.

As I watched Obama walk away, I thought that there must be some part of this that depends on us. A small piece of the pie of fate, baked with spices of grudges, a dash of rotten history, and a thick layer of sour foreign intervention. No one would eat such a pie for a million dollars, and yet all of my ancestors have had a taste. Somehow, by being born in a tiny country where diverse religions and cultures coexist and where geography has not been to the advantage of this 'coexistence', I have already had my share of this pie as well. Hand over the million dollars please.

## Letters

### Disappointment with the GSA

I would like to express my deepest disappointment with the general assembly that was performed by Concordia University on June 16. I would like to inform you that I attended the most insulting GA of my life. I felt that I was a toy there, abused by the winning party to reach the quorum designed to silence the other party, and to tell me that it is not my business to question what happened at the Graduate Student Association election and that as a member of GSA I am not mature enough to hear what really happened.

I am really sorry that the Dean of Students chose such a weak chair for the General Assembly. I would like to remind your elected chair that the constitution of the GSA is a regulation to facilitate communications between members, not to block members from knowing what is happening in the GSA. In this context, voting for something that totally disguises the meaning of a general assembly from a session of communication to that of a session of eating cheese and cookies with a diet Pepsi has no legitimacy for somebody who has

a minimal mental ability to judge right from wrong.

When I asked Majid Behbahani, Vice President External, why he proposed the "shut up" motion, he said "their speech is poisoning and it is better that you don't hear it." This is exactly what all dictators around world advertise to censor free media. I am sorry that Concordia University has become a tool in the hand of these people to implement "a dictatorship of the majority" against us.

I have just one week to submit the first draft of my thesis and I left the library just to hear people say "shut up—during the GA you have no right to talk."

I attended the Teaching and Research Assistants Union general assembly last year, and it was the same disaster, however they at least let the other party talk. I'm sorry that we have become worse and worse year-by-year. With corrupt GAs, years will pass while Concordia students never understand what democracy is all about.

— Ahmad Lavasani  
Masters student in Mathematics



**letters@thelink.concordia.ca**

**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.**



# crswrdpzzlol

• CHRISTOPHER OLSON

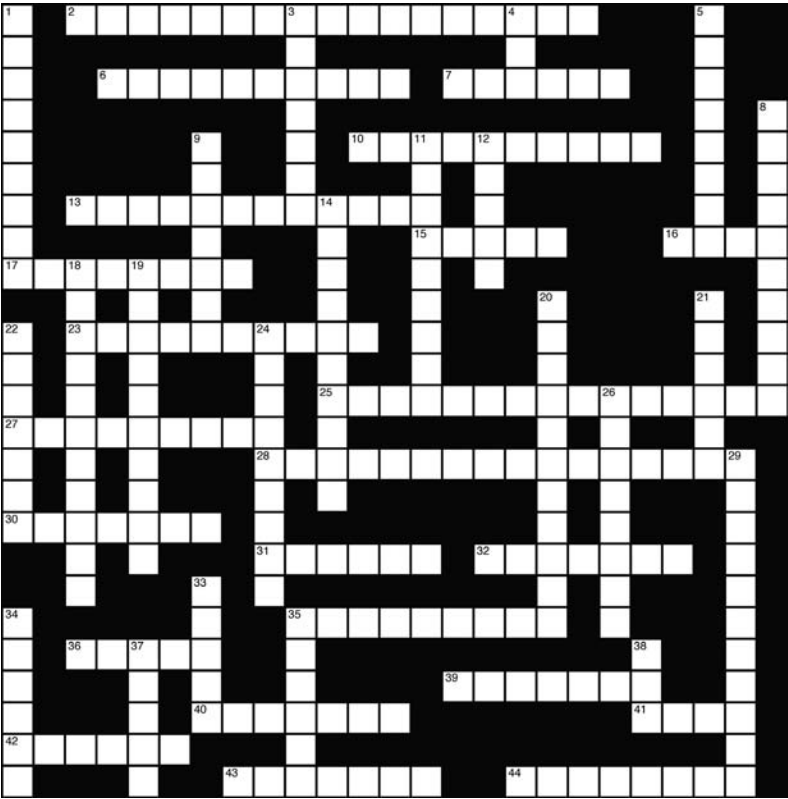
### Across

- 2: Creationism, but with a fancy new name.  
6: The study of word origin, though not to be confused with the study of those talking trees in Lord of the Rings.  
7: It's hip to be a \_\_\_\_\_.  
10: The assassin who took down Jesse James. Hint: he's a coward.  
13: Alien invaders, or someone who could be charged with medical malpractice.  
15: An irritating skin condition, or a watched pot.  
16: Once confused for gold by European colonialists, it has recently been mistaken as an alternative to petrol.  
17: Cindy McCain has a \_\_\_\_ habit.  
23: To imitate the appearance of, or a dry run-through.  
25: Chris Schwartz was arrested in \_\_\_\_\_.

- 27: A variety show, typically including striptease.  
28: A persistent flow of atmospheric moisture near the Hawaiian Islands, or a fruit-themed railway company.  
30: "I am the very model of a major modern \_\_\_\_\_."  
31: Zonkeys, Wolphins and Ligers are good examples of a \_\_\_\_\_ species.  
32: Why do I keep getting letters from this forgotten island stronghold of 1940s Imperial Japan?  
35: The way you look when you're really, really drunk.  
36: A hasty backup plan, or a woman exercising control over her own body.  
39: A woman needs a man like a fish needs a \_\_\_\_\_.  
40: Rotting food, or rich people.  
41: Jabba the Hutt's gay uncle, or the total number of black characters in Eastwood's Flags of Our Fathers.  
42: Good for killing someone in their sleep, or just for sleeping on.  
43: A line of hereditary rulers of a country, or a prime time television soap opera in the late 80s.  
44: Unicellular microorganisms that play an essential role in global ecology.

### Down

- 1: "It's become so obvious, you are so \_\_\_\_\_."  
3: The voice of Iago in Disney's Aladdin, or The Mikado's librettist. First name only.



- 4: Vowel letters, or a promise of future compensation.  
5: What you get when you cross an elephant with a rhino.  
8: To replace lost or injured tissue.  
9: A collection of military equipment.  
11: Before he was governor, he was Conan the \_\_\_\_\_.  
12: David Cronenberg's directorial debut, or what an animal infected with rabies is called.  
14: A good way to get rid of household waste while respecting the environment.  
18: Replaced Christ as Easter mascot.  
19: An old Devon word for bumblebee, or a recently outed wizard.  
20: The demon barber of fleet street, and a pretty good singer.  
21: Not only do they not eat meat, they don't eat any animal byproducts.  
22: The sound of a car exploding, or the beginning of all beginnings.  
24: The ability to read minds.  
26: A precious stone that is often blue, transparent.

- 29: North Dakota's dirty ashtray.  
33: While homeless people are sedentary, \_\_\_\_\_ are of the nomadic variety.  
34: 14-time Olympic gold medalist, or a bigoted southern preacher. Surname only.  
35: I'm not gay! But I am a homo-\_\_\_\_\_.  
37: To repeat a lie continuously until it seeps in. See: campaign ads.  
38: Flat-topped conical red hat with a black tassel on top, or that foreign exchange student on That 70s Show.

### issue 1 solutionz

S	T	O	C	K		P	L	O	P		A	S	A	P
H	O	O	H	A		H	O	B	O		D	E	L	I
A	P	P	A	L		D	R	E	G		O	T	I	C
M	I	S	S	I	S		E	A	R	S		A	B	O
						S	U	N	K		H	O	W	B
R	E	G	I	M	E	N	T				M	A	R	
A	X	I	S			E	E	R	Y		G	A	S	P
J	A	B					R	A	Y	O	N		W	O
A	M	E	N	D			D	O	D	O		G	A	L
						E	R	R		N	E	W	C	O
F	A	N	T	A	I	L		L	A	O	S			
A	P	E					W	A	L	L		Y	U	P
T	R	E	F				L	O	O	N		R	E	E
S	O	D	A				T	Y	R	O		S	L	E
O	N	Y	X				O	D	D	S		E	S	A

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY AUGUST 22, 1980

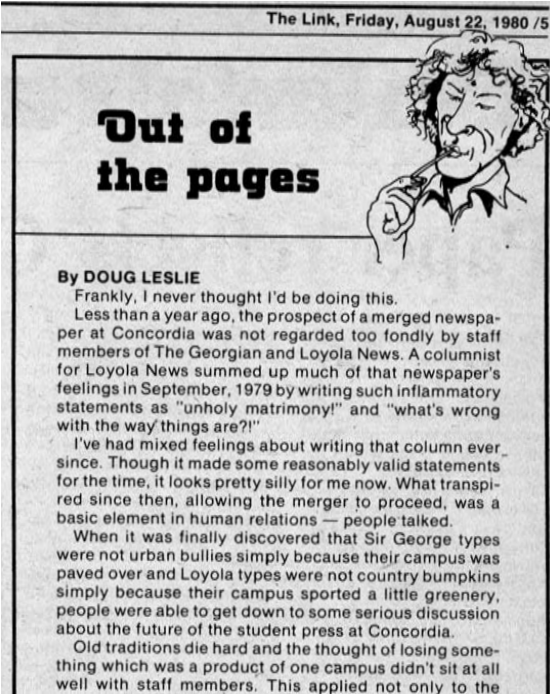
### Out of the pages

Twenty-eight years ago, *The Link*,—a mix of the suburban Loyola News and the radical Georgian—was born. Concordia was little more than the Hall cube and a cluster of antiquated buildings at Loyola, but the spirit of Concordia was alive.

Editor Doug Leslie had this to say about Concordia's campii: "Concordia has often been thought of as 'Last Chance U,' depending on to whom one is speaking. Waiting lists for admissions to Commerce and Engineering faculties as well as the administration's efforts to bolster a more respectable image will go a long way in dispelling this sentiment. What most people don't realize is that Concordia is somewhat of a metropolitan university, offering two quite different environments. What was thought of as a disadvantage may well prove to be an asset. Education's "test-tube baby" may be coming of age.

Our reputation is still questionable and waiting lists still exist for John Molson and Engineering, but at least Loyola no longer seems so old or the Hall building so new. In fact, Concordia's construction boom has done much to blur what was seen as an asset in 1980, leaving us as much a test case as ever. But we, at "Last Chance U" are used to having our backs against the wall. Adversity is our past, our present and our future.

— Justin Giovannetti



## editorial

# Montreal North violence a problem for entire city

When I saw the violence that erupted after Montreal police shot 18-year-old Fredy Villanueva, I wasn't surprised.

Many in the media and community groups have explained the shooting as just another example of brutality by the police towards minority groups—but my own experiences tell me something different.

The bullying by Montreal police is not exclusively directed at non-whites.

Being a white male who lived in Montreal North from September 2004 to July 2005 while in CEGEP, I was harassed by police, drug dealers, homeless people or strangers who just needed a lighter. This is nothing new, especially for students. I've experienced pretty much the same harassment in St. Henri and Notre Dame de Grace as well.

But the police in Montreal North give me the impression that they're a lot more suspicious than the police stationed elsewhere on the island.

I couldn't walk down some streets Montreal North without getting a dirty look from police. One time, I was walking down Langelier with a sports bag and ended up getting yelled at by police from the other side of the street.

"Where are you going?" "Why are you going there?" and "What do you have in [the] bag?" they asked.

The police's paranoia influences the public. People on my block had metal bars on their windows and doors, my landlord had three locks on his door and every time I used a bill at my local dépanneur the cashier would always spend an extra few seconds looking closely at it to make sure it was not counterfeit.

Villanueva was a young kid who lived in a poor neighbourhood where police are often over-aggressive.

The police had reason to go after his brother who had a criminal record and Villanueva was in the wrong place at the wrong time. The inexperience of the cops involved is no excuse for this shooting. If an officer takes an oath to serve and protect they are responsible for their actions even in hostile situations.

The riots were far from just an isolated incident. Montreal is filled with diverse cultures that are clashing with the system that many of them find oppressive.

Tension will increase in poor neighbourhoods thanks to the unemployment rate. The federal government just announced the biggest job loss in 17 years for July 2008.

New jobs aren't opening up in the sectors that need them the most.

Many are going hungry—so it's not a big surprise that people are doing what they can to survive. Violence is bound to break out when we continue to ignore the police abusing their position of authority and power.

Citizens are not making the police's job any easier with rioting after a Habs game, burglaries, home invasions and murders. These crimes are happening all over Montreal from the West Island to the East End. It would not be at all surprising to see another riot elsewhere since Montreal North is not very different from other areas of the city where residents are poor and feel disenfranchised like St. Henri, N.D.G., Pointe St. Charles or Park Extension.

No one is above the law in Canada. Sûreté du Québec Lt. François Doré, who is heading the police inquiry, must now uncover the actions of the police that killed Villanueva so that justice can truly be served, but that is unlikely without a public independent inquiry. We must not allow the police to walk all over everyone because they've got a badge. Their badge makes them responsible to all of us for our safety and to protect the rights, which we are all guaranteed as Canadians.

But vigilante actions are also unacceptable and should be punished. We will never improve or grow as a society if we continue to kill each other and support violence as a solution to injustice.

—Johnny North,  
Managing Editor

THE LINK

Check out  
*The Link's*  
orientation issue  
next week