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LETTERS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Kristyn Filip | editor@thefulcrum.ca | (613) 562-5261

And the award for the most dedicated Fulcrumite goes to...

Sean Campbell & Chris Radojewski!

Thank you for helping out at the *Fulcrum's* 101 Week table.

Retraction:

In the Aug. 30-Sept. 5 issue of the *Fulcrum*, we published a news brief titled "U-Pass lines shrink", which said the U-Pass was available to all full-time students. This is incorrect: the U-Pass is not available to students who live in the STO area of service.

We regret the error.

Got something to say?

Send your letters to editor@thefulcrum.ca

Letters deadline: Sunday at 1 p.m. Letters must be under 500 words unless discussed with the Editor-in-Chief.

Drop off letters at 631 King Edward Ave. or email editor@thefulcrum.ca.

Letters must include your name, telephone number, year, and program of study. Pseudonyms may be used after consultation with the Editor-in-Chief. We correct spelling and grammar to some extent. The *Fulcrum* will exercise discretion in printing letters that are deemed racist, homophobic, or sexist.

We will not consider hate literature or libelous material. The Editor-in-Chief reserves the authority on everything printed herein.



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We take a look forward and see what's worthwhile

Nestled in among a countless number of points, just 4.243 light years from Proxima Centauri, sits a small, spherical planet. I, and many others like me, prefer to address said planet as Earth.

Should you stand at the northern most point on the planet Earth and walk in a straight line, there's a 50 per cent chance you will end up in Canada. It's a country. That's how Earth is divided up. Within the country of Canada there are even smaller divisions known as provinces and territories. The difference between them is irrelevant at this point.

If luck proves to be in your favour, and you've made it to Canada, missed the large absence of land known as Hudson's Bay, and have been wise enough to avoid eye contact with the polar bears, congratulations, you've made it to Ontario. It's a province.

Within the province of Ontario, the land is now broken up into areas known as cities. The one you should be standing in is called Ottawa. It has some very large buildings with green roofs on the edge of a river.

At this point, having made it to Ottawa, your wisest decision would be to stroll through the UCU building of the University of Ottawa. Can't miss it. There you will find a table with a banner. The banner will read: FULCRUM, in very large letters. They're having a silent auction on Thursday Sept. 6 and Friday Sept. 7, 2012.

If, by some chance you've made it to this table, I'd say luck is on your side. Bid on something.



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This week on thefulcrum.ca

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The *Fulcrum*, the University of Ottawa's independent, English-language student newspaper, is published by the Fulcrum Publishing Society (FPS) Inc., a not-for-profit corporation whose members consist of all University of Ottawa students. The Board of Directors (BOD) of the FPS governs all administrative and business actions of the *Fulcrum*. BOD members include Mercedes Mueller (President), Jesse Willms (Vice President), Ben Myers (Chair), Michael Robinson (Vice President Internal Communications), Ben Mitchell, Jaclyn Lytle, Sean Campbell, and Jonathan Rausseo.

To contact the BOD, email board@thefulcrum.ca.

To contact the FPS ombudsman regarding the *Fulcrum's* editorial practices, please email ombudsman@thefulcrum.ca. The ombudsman is an impartial party not employed by the corporation who has the power to investigate and pursue a resolution on your behalf.



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A friendly reminder from your student union



Mark your calendars!

Here are the exemption
deadlines for the Health Plan
and the universal bus pass:

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for the fall must be completed by
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* Opt-outs are done through your infoweb account. Once logged in, select "Health Plan" in the "Finance-Awards" menu, and follow the instructions on your screen

U-pass exemptions

must be submitted by
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Please note that no late or retroactive exemptions/opt-outs will be considered

NEWS

NEWS EDITOR Andrew Ikeman | news@thefulcrum.ca | (613) 562-5260

Budget facts

Andrew Ikeman | Fulcrum Staff

BUDGETS FOR CORPORATIONS like the Student Federation of the University of Ottawa (SFUO) can be very long and complicated. Trying to understand them? Forget about it. The *Fulcrum* has decided to save you some work and give you a few key numbers we think you should know.

\$133,590 & \$77,724

These two numbers represent the money going toward clubs on campus. The first is the amount of committed funds flowing to the clubs, and the second number is the predicted levy, which is based upon levels of student enrollment. With that much of your money going toward the clubs on campus, you should definitely consider getting involved in an extracurricular activity or two.

\$9,174,460

This is the total amount of money projected to be spent by students on the U-Pass. This number is up from the \$7,487,967 spent last year; the increase is due to the recent price hike.

\$206,380/each

This is the levy given separately to the *Fulcrum* and *La Rotonde*. We at the *Fulcrum* receive a small percentage of your student fees, and we use it to make a paper that informs and entertains you. This levy, combined with our ad revenue, allows us to put out our paper free of charge.

\$276,575 & \$230,479

These are the amounts of money paid to the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario (CFS-O) respectively. This money goes toward the campaigns run by the CFS, with materials such as posters and promotional material given to the SFUO for their campaigns.

\$17,825,514 - \$17,610,148 = \$215,366

This formula represents the net projected income of the SFUO (revenue minus expenses). This number is impressive, until you factor in the projected amount made by the student-run businesses—\$290,284—which, for accounting purposes, the SFUO does not.

\$4,272,540

This large sum is the amount the SFUO received as part of the health plan last year. The health plan was estimated to bring in closer to \$5-million, but due to more students opting-out of the plan, the actual revenue was lower than anticipated. The 2012-13 budget estimates the health plan will bring in \$5,069,145 to the SFUO, who buys the plan from Green Shield Canada.

\$324,864

The above number is the committed funds for the federated bodies on campus. These bodies are the student associations who have not defederated. The money goes to help the bodies fund different events on campus.

SFUO budget passed

Some SFUO businesses' earnings lower than expected

Andrew Ikeman | Fulcrum Staff

The Board of Administration (BOA) held its second meeting of the 2012-13 school year, during which the budget for the Student Federation of the University of Ottawa (SFUO) was revealed and subsequently passed.

The SFUO-run businesses (1848, Agora Bookstore, Café Alternatif, and Pivik) reported earnings from 2011-12 were approximately \$52,000 dollars below what was projected in the previous year's budget. SFUO VP Finance Adam Gilani attributed this discrepancy to two separate issues: the Agora following a province-wide trend in the publishing business, and 1848 needing new equipment.

Gilani cited a report given to him by the manager of the Agora that detailed the decline in revenue for all bookstores across Ontario during the winter months, and asserted that the student-run Agora bookstore was not immune to this trend. In the case of 1848, the need for new equipment created a worse-than-expected deficit.

"The reason for [the higher deficit] is that there was an investment last year in a new oven," said Gilani. "1848, because of where it is located, is not allowed to have any gas connections ... so [that] really limits the bar to have a functioning kitchen."

Gilani also said that along with the electric ovens, the purchase of new dishwashers and refrigerators contributed to the campus bar falling further in the red.

On a positive note, Pivik nearly doubled their estimated earnings. Part of their success can be attributed to the fact that Pivik is now accepting students' meal plan and flex dollars as payment for many items sold.

"There are a few fridges [in Pivik] that actually count [toward] the meal plan," said Gilani. "So there was a huge amount of new revenue coming from [students on



Illustration by Mathias MacPhee

the meal plan]."

The 2012-13 budget projects that all SFUO-run businesses will make a combined total of \$290,284, an increase from the previous year's earnings.

The revenue generated from last year's student health plan came in lower than expected, as more students than anticipated dropped out of the SFUO health coverage in favour of other options.

"It was budgeted that there would be more people taking the health plan up, and less opt-outs," said Gilani. "There

were a lot more opt-outs last year, from students who have other health plans."

The SFUO will work within a budget of approximately \$3.3 million—which goes toward all facets of the SFUO, including levies for different organizations on campus, general administration costs, clubs, and philanthropic activities.

After the passing of the budget, the BOA debated and passed an amendment to the employment equity policy. The policy amendment, which was brought forward by Gilani, aims to facilitate better

hiring practices in regards to previously marginalized individuals. The policy amendment also removed two other entries from the SFUO policy manual—numbers 17 and 24.

"[Policy] 17 is the original policy, entitled employment equity, which is incomplete," said Gilani. "It is not very useful in achieving the ends that are required by this policy."

Before the vote was taken and the motion passed, Gilani went on to say that the two policies should be amended. f



The Debriefing

McGuinty: civil servants will not go unscathed in recent wage freeze campaign

WATERLOO—ONTARIO PREMIER DALTON McGuinty issued some unwanted words to Ontario's civil servants this past Friday, Aug. 31. As part of an effort to curb the province's \$15 billion deficit, McGuinty promised more wage freezes to come.

The Government of Ontario is in discussions with the Association of Management, Administrative and Professional Crown Employees of Ontario, which represents 12,000 employees from a variety of fields.

Come November, talks will begin with the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, which oversees 38,000 workers throughout the province.

Union leaders claim it is not about money for them, but rather what they see as a clear violation of bargaining rights. Union leaders are prepared to take their fight to the Supreme Court of Canada if need be.

—Alex Kemp

Man charged with killing sled dogs pleads guilty

NORTH VANCOUVER—DOZENS OF ANIMAL rights advocates rallied outside the North Vancouver Provincial Court on Thursday, Aug. 30 as Robert Fawcett pled guilty to a single count of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal. Fawcett was charged in 2011 in connection with the death of 56 dogs near Whistler, B.C.

The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals launched an investigation in January 2011 to determine whether the dogs had suffered when they were put to death, after Fawcett filed a worker's compensation claim to post-traumatic stress disorder, stating he had suffered emotional fallout from the slaughter.

Fawcett claimed the extermination had been ordered by his employer, Howling Dog Tours Whistler Inc., following a lull in tourist demand for sled dogs after the 2010 Winter Olympics, a statement his employers denied.

Sentencing has been postponed until Nov. 22, while Fawcett receives a psychological assessment requested by the Crown.

—Spencer Van Dyk

Debate surrounding India's ban on tiger tourism

NEW DELHI—A FIERCE DEBATE has erupted in India thanks to Ajay Dubey, a self-described tiger-rights champion, who petitioned India's Supreme Court in July to impose a ban on tiger tourism.

Tiger tourism refers to the business of taking tourists and Indian citizens to national reserves to see tigers, India's national animal.

Animal rights activists argue that the ban is crucial to preserving the livelihood of the animal, as tourists often harass the tigers, and reserves seldom abide by wildlife preservation laws. Alternately, upwards of a million people who work in tiger-related tourism have been negatively affected by the ban, as bookings diminish and the money runs out.

The ban remains in place while an investigation occurs on how best to reform tourism guidelines.

—Spencer Van Dyk

Dalhousie grad student creating LGBT friendly retirement home

VANCOUVER—ALEX SANGHA, A graduate student at Dalhousie University, is looking into the possibility of building a retirement home for elderly gay and lesbian people in his hometown of Vancouver. Sangha is trying to raise \$25,000 in order to develop a feasibility study for the project. One of the main reasons this project was started was that many elderly gay and lesbian people face discrimination in retirement homes.

This would be the first retirement home of its kind to spring up in B.C. The only other one in Canada is located in Montreal, with a few others in various cities across the U.S.

—Luna Al Kinani

...and so then I says to him, I says, 'Ernie, that's not a Falcon. It's a Fulcrum.'

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iPads for rent

Apple tablets for rent at Morisset Library



photo by Sean Campbell

Spencer Van Dyk | Fulcrum Staff

MORISSET LIBRARY BEGAN renting iPads to students, staff, and faculty members on Aug. 8, in an attempt to facilitate and foster research. Following the examples of universities like McGill University and Concordia University, the University of Ottawa's library staff has launched a pilot program they believe will aid students in learning.

"It came from our administrative team at the library," said Maryse Laflamme, a librarian at the Morisset Library. "I know that because other universities were doing it, we wanted to do the same thing. We were wondering also, because it's a pilot project, how it's related to research, and how students will use it for research."

There is no fee for the iPad rentals—students need only have a valid U of O student card and a library account in good standing to rent the tablets. The iPads can be rented for a period of 48 hours without the possibility of renewal or reservations.

"We'll start with the 25 [iPads]," said

Laflamme. "I'm not sure if we downloaded an application on the iPad with a survey, but we created a guide for our iPad project and we have a feedback form, and we ask people if the information was helpful, when they used it, what they did with it, etc."

Laflamme added that, for now, the iPad applications are straightforward and unelaborate. Among them are applications to use Microsoft and open documents; so far the intention is to monitor student interest in the project, as opposed to downloading an excessive number of applications.

"The group that prepared the project will look at other universities, and some of them downloaded a lot of applications, but we decided to keep it simple," said Laflamme.

Because of the limited number of iPads and the limited rental time period, Laflamme believes there will be little opportunity for students or staff members to be using the tablets for anything other than research. Although library computers are often

used to access social networking sites and for other non-academic purposes, those computers are more accessible than the iPads, and have fewer restrictions on their terms of use.

While student reactions to the iPads remains to be seen, some students, like fourth-year psychology and sociology student, Victoriannah Haince, like the idea of being able to rent the tablets.

"I think it's a great idea," said Haince. "They're lightweight and user-friendly. There are so many advantages to an iPad, and it's nice to see that the university is keeping up with new technology and providing that to students who otherwise couldn't take advantage of it."

According to Laflamme, the iPad rentals have been few and far between so far, but she believes that once the semester starts, and with the project advertised through signs at the library and a link to the information on the library's website, the iPads will soon be in higher demand. Librarians also plan to spread the word to professors and advertise the project in classroom visits.

What's he building in there? Sieving and sorting cells



Tyler Shendruk | Fulcrum Contributor

The problem

The microscopic world of *E. coli* and other bacteria is a mixed-up place. Some bacteria can swim from location to location—but a storm of random collisions with thermally raging fluid particles knocks the microscopic microbes for a loop. This diffusive mixing makes it next to impossible to keep bacteria with different mutations separate from each other.

The researcher

Yuguo Tao is a post-doctoral researcher in the department of physics at the University of Ottawa. Tao is a computational biophysicist who builds computer models to simulate the life of a cell. By letting many of these virtual cells move around, compete for food, divide, and eventually

die, Tao has studied the behaviour of assemblies of many cells, such as the colonies of cells that form the living films on your bathtub or behind the tap of your kitchen sink.

The project

Tao is interested in building geometries that can trap cells of one type but not of another. With future devices of this kind, cells could be sorted, and diffusive mixing could be overcome.

One existing system that is able to do this is a wall with funnel-shaped openings. Previous experiments on *E. coli* using this setup have shown a difference in cell concentration between the two sides of the wall.

The key

Tao's simulations show cells that don't

swim and only diffuse randomly will be found in equal concentrations on both sides of the wall, but cells whose motion is made up of random swimming (like *E. coli*) become concentrated toward the right-hand side of the funnels. The better they swim, the more concentrated the cells become.

Cells that swim are organized by the funnels: the number on the right and left sides of the wall is determined by cell size, rigidity and ability to swim. So by arranging many of these walls in a row, Tao can sort cells by their physical properties and keep different populations separate from each other.

Are you doing interesting science? Or do you have a professor who can't stop talking about their research? Let us know at research@thefulcrum.ca.

UBC researcher hopes to take the stigma out of HIV testing

Marion Benkaiouche | The Ubsysey

VANCOUVER (CUP)—A new HIV prevention initiative pioneered by a UBC researcher seeks to expand HIV testing beyond only at-risk communities, focusing instead on those who are at a low risk of infection or believe they are HIV-negative.

“We’re trying to take the stigma out of the equation,” explains Dr. Julio Montaner, director of the B.C. Centre for Excellence and head of the AIDS division in the UBC Faculty of Medicine. “We no longer want to target HIV testing to people who are at risk because we’ve done that already. We want to confirm that 99 plus per cent of society is negative, but help those who don’t know their status or are unsuspecting and help them get access to proper treatment.”

Montaner intends to test the general public on a strictly voluntary basis. The program uses a rapid-result test that takes only 60 seconds to determine a patient’s status; if the result is positive, this is confirmed by a second test run in a full lab. Anyone who has been sexually active in the last five decades



photo by Kai Jacobson

HIV rapid-testing comes to UBC

could be at risk for the disease, said Montaner.

Various rapid-testing clinics have sporadically offered the 60-second test on the UBC campus, but UBC Student Health Services currently only offers the full lab HIV test with a longer wait.

Reactions across UBC varied; many students had no qualms about taking or retaking an HIV test.

Testing costs would be subsidized by Vancouver Coastal Health. Montaner argues that the cost of testing should pay for itself in the future by making sure

that people who are HIV-positive begin treatment early.

An earlier testing program involved giving the rapid HIV test to 20,000 patients at St. Paul’s Hospital, Vancouver General Hospital, and other Vancouver clinics. Patients visiting for a non-HIV/

AIDS related complaint were offered a rapid HIV test, and 97 per cent accepted. While acceptance was high, “the rate of offer was less than 50 per cent,” reported Montaner. “Doctors or nurses didn’t have the time or the confidence to [offer the test].”

According to Montaner, 21 per cent of HIV-positive individuals are unaware of their status, and those infected who don’t know their status account for 54 per cent of new infections.

“If we could test everybody in British Columbia today, we could potentially find 3,500 HIV-positive individuals and virtually end HIV transmission in the province,” said Montaner.

“We’re trying to use B.C. as a testing ground for how far we can push the en-

“

“According to Montaner, 21 per cent of HIV-positive individuals are unaware of their status, and those infected who don’t know their status account for 54 per cent of new infections.”

velope and eradicate this epidemic,” said Montaner. “People infected with HIV need treatment. Full stop.”

*Rapid Anonymous HIV Testing
Wednesdays - 12:30pm–4:30pm
UCU203 Resource Centre*



sentiment of mistrust which I sometimes perceive towards the church in Europe.”

So back to the reason why a Jew from Montreal is mourning the loss of a cardinal from Milan: we live in a time where religious teachings are considered by some to be justification for racism, homophobia, and terrorism. While we can say it has been this way for as long as religion has existed, we are finally at a place where many can see the error in this way

“

“So back to the reason why a Jew from Montreal is mourning the loss of a cardinal from Milan...”

of thinking. People like Cardinal Martini are hard to find—he was a devoutly religious man who, despite living with scripture for many years, acknowledged the need for change.

It takes a lot of courage for a person to go against an institution like the Catholic Church, and even more so for someone who has been a high-ranking member for decades. Every generation has certain people who fight for what they believe to be right, and we had Carlo Maria Martini.

You stood for basic rights for all people, no matter how different from you, and for that, may you truly rest in peace, Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini.

photo by Justin Labelle

Turning Point

R.I.P. Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini

Andrew Ikeman | Fulcrum Staff

This may seem a bit odd, but I was deeply saddened over the long weekend to hear of the death of former Cardinal and Archbishop of Milan, Carlo Maria Martini. Martini lost his battle with Parkinson’s disease at the age of 85. He had stepped down from the Catholic Church in 2002, but was young enough to be a part of the conclave in 2005 that elected the new pope. Now, I am not a Catholic—far from it, in fact—but Cardinal Martini was far from an ordinary cardinal.

After the passing of Pope John Paul II in 2005, Cardinal Martini came a close second in the papal candidacy to Joseph Ratzinger (now known as Pope Benedict XVI). The contrast between the two men is as dichotomous as can be—with Benedict on the right, and Martini on the

left. By some reports, Cardinal Martini received more votes than Cardinal Ratzinger on the first ballot. When it came down to it—according to many commentators—the college of cardinals elected a man in better health, who aligned with the traditional ideals of the church.

In 2006 Martini spoke out against the church’s view on contraception, arguing that condoms were the lesser of two evils in regards to the rampant spread of HIV-AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. He also spoke out against the church’s long-standing stance on gay marriage—going as far as to say he understood the need for Pride parades as a tool of self-affirmation for the LGBT community.

“

“People surrounding me make me feel love[d].”

In an interview published after his death in the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera*, Martini said the church was 200 years out of date and spoke about the need for change.

“The church is tired,” said Martini in the interview. “Our culture has aged, our churches are huge, our religious houses are empty and the bureaucratic machinery grows, our rites and our vestments are pompous. People surrounding me make me feel love[d]. This love is stronger than the



photo by Justin Labelle

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ARTS&CULTURE

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Are you the catch of your class?

ClassmateCatch dating website launches for U of O students

Ali Schwabe | Fulcrum Staff

THIS SEPTEMBER, OTTAWA-based web development company Nosco Media Inc. launched a new dating website exclusively for college and university students.

ClassmateCatch.com is currently open to only four schools, including the University of Ottawa. Managing partner Christopher Gimmer says he came up with the idea when he was a Carleton student struggling to meet girls.

“This site makes it much easier to interact and find dating partners outside of your faculty and even outside of your university.”

“I found it was difficult to meet girls outside of my program, especially once I got into third and fourth year. The classes got really specific and I was always taking classes with the same people,” says Gimmer. “This site makes it much easier to interact and find dating partners outside of your faculty and even outside of your university.”

Gimmer's business partner and former U of O student Marc Chouinard elaborates.

“It's kind of hard for people who don't live on campus in res to meet other people. You have such a busy schedule with all the commute that's involved, so it's hard to stick around just to meet people,” he says. “The site creates an opportunity for those who don't live so close to school to meet others and then further connect offline once they're in school.”



ClassmateCatch is a new dating website available to U of O students

photo by Justin Labelle

ClassmateCatch has a number of features that make it unique in the online dating world.

“Obviously, the main difference is the fact that it's a student-only dating website,” Gimmer says. “Users will need their school email to sign up, and you'll get a confirmation email sent there, and that's how you have to verify your account.”

“The site, I feel, is trying an innovative approach to online dating in that it lim-

its its member base,” says Sam Zokaei, a political science student at Carleton University who signed up for the site shortly after it launched.

Besides being exclusive to students, the site is also private. Only registered users are able to view other users' profiles and contact them through live chat or by sending a message.

Another perk is the cost, or lack there-

of. “It's 100 per cent free,” says Gimmer. “Even though there are a lot of other dating sites, like Plenty of Fish for example, where you still have to pay for certain features on the site, there's not one feature on our site that we charge for. It's legitimately, absolutely, 100 per cent free.”

Chouinard explains that the site works as a simple search system rather than a complex match system. Users can see who's online, who goes to their own

school, who recently joined the network, and more.

“At the moment, it's fairly basic,” he says. “We'll be adding more features to the site as it develops, but for our Sept. 1 launch date we wanted to keep it very basic, very user-friendly, and simple in its design.”

“It caters to students and helps them find what they are looking for within their school community,” says John Pilbrow, a third-year double minor in history and theatre at the U of O. “Whether students are looking for a fling or something serious, the site helps them find someone in their program and school and keeps it a small environment.”

Jeanna Harrison, a first-year aerospace engineering student at Carleton University, is hesitant about online dating, but sees the new site's potential.

“I'm not a huge fan of dating websites because I think it's better to meet people in real life,” Harrison says. “I think that ClassmateCatch is a really cool idea because I am virtually friendless going into first year, and I think once more people get onto the site it's going to be really successful.”

Gimmer and Chouinard aren't worried about stigmas associated with online dating.

“I know so many people in relationships who have met online. Because it's students only, it also further alleviates that stigma,” says Gimmer. “Just based on the feedback we've gotten so far, everyone is so excited about it.”

ClassmateCatch is currently open to students at the University of Ottawa, Carleton University, Algonquin College, and Queen's University.

It's the year for youth at Folk Fest

Festival has students in mind with discounted tickets and attractive lineup

Adam Feibel | Fulcrum Staff

STUDENTS CAN LOOK forward to discounted tickets and a more youth-oriented lineup of artists at this year's Ottawa Folk Festival, which runs from Sept. 6 to 10 at Hog's Back Park.

Bon Iver and Dan Mangan are among this year's scheduled performers, both of whom have made big names for themselves in the past year.

Tickets have been subsidized by Algonquin College, Carleton University, and the University of Ottawa. Students at each school can purchase tickets at up to 50 per cent off for certain festival dates.

U of O students can buy half-price tickets for Sept. 9 and 10—with Dan Mangan and Bon Iver headlining those days, respectively.

The programming and discounts are part of the organizers' plans to bring even more people out to the annual festival,

which started in 1994.

“We want to draw a large audience to this event and make it sustainable,” says festival supervisor Mark Monahan. “And one of the things I felt was important was to program some traditional artists but also some current artists that would maybe appeal to a younger audience. There was definitely a conscious effort to do that.”

This year's artist lineup deviates from the traditional folk genre with a collection of indie and alternative rock artists like Matthew Good, Said the Whale, Yukon Blonde, and John K. Samson of The Weakerthans.

“We have a lot of indie, alternative stuff that's very current,” says Monahan. “So the lineup is definitely shooting more toward the interests of students than it has in the past.”

Bon Iver is the evolving musical project of Wisconsin-based musician

Justin Vernon, who initially recorded and performed as a solo act before recruiting members and releasing his award-winning and critically lauded 2011 album *Bon Iver, Bon Iver*. The band's ambitious sophomore album earned Bon Iver two Grammy Awards in 2012, one for best alternative music album and an underdog win for best new artist, beating out superstars Nicki Minaj and Skrillex.

Vancouver-based singer-songwriter Dan Mangan was awarded new artist of the year and alternative album of the year for his 2011 album *Oh Fortune* at the 2012 Juno Awards, and was also nominated for songwriter of the year and video of the year for “Rows of Houses.”

Among the more traditional folk performers at the festival are Great Lake Swimmers, Whitehorse, Great Big Sea, and Ottawa's own Kathleen Edwards.

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PATRICK WATSON • MATT MAYS
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HARAM SAUL WILLIAMS
TIMBER TIMBRE • YUKON BLONDE
WHITEHORSE • RED HORSE
JOHN SMITH • HOODED FANG
GUY FORSYTH • CORB LUND
BELLE STARR • KINA GRANNIS
TJ WHEELER • ABRAMS BROTHERS
GORDIE MACKEEHAN AND HIS RHYTHM BOYS
TODD CROWLEY AND THE MUSICAL PETTING ZOO



Dragonette brings on the synth at FedFest

Toronto electro-pop trio performs for 101 Week event at Confederation Park

Andrew Ikeman | Fulcrum Staff

JUNO AWARD-WINNING electro-pop trio Dragonette kicked off 101 Week with a bang at FedFest on Sept. 1. The Toronto group—composed of front-woman Martina Sorbara, bassist/producer Dan Kurtz, and drummer Joel Stouffer—played to a raucous crowd at Confederation Park. The *Fulcrum* was able to sit down with them before they took the stage.

The Fulcrum: How would you describe your music to someone who has never heard it before?

Kurtz: Martina calls it “basement pop,” which is like pop music made by an indie band. We pretty much put everything but the kitchen sink in it. Sometimes it sounds like an electro band, sometimes it sounds like a rock band, sometimes it sounds like a pop band.

What are your musical influences?

Kurtz: A long time ago we would say bands like Daft Punk, and The Police, and Blondie. I think it starts with really memorable pop songs that stuck in our heads so much since we were kids, and we were like, “Hey, I want to write songs like those,” 15 years later.

Sorbara: I’m attracted to good songs—well-written songs. That comes first for me, and production is kind of secondary. I think that these guys listen to music more for production and what’s going on in the track. I just want to hear great stories and lyrics, and interesting formulas and arrangements.



photo by Justin Labelle

Stouffer: I think that the synth thing is probably mostly to do with the fact that it’s the cheapest way to make everything sound big. You don’t have to get a studio and an orchestra and lots of guitar amps; you just load up a synth and it sounds big, and it’s immediately satisfying and exciting. I think that’s kind of where it started for Dragonette.

You released your new track “Rocket Ship” exclusively on SoundCloud. Why did you decide to release it in that for-

mat?

Sorbara: I guess we weren’t trailblazing that one, but it’s really fun to be able to just release something without any ceremony, without having to make the plans with whoever’s going to release it. It’s just like, “This is our song, we fuckin’ wrote it, and here it is.” It’s very immediately gratifying without having to go through the motions of a formal release. That’s the benefit of music having gone this kind of way of being totally invaluable [laughs]. It’s that we get to be a little

bit less precious about it.

What can we expect from your new album, *Bodyparts*, later this month?

Kurtz: Bigger, better, a little bit faster. The tempo range is pumped up maybe five BPM [beats per minute] on either side.

Sorbara: Are you serious?

Kurtz: Yeah, it’s a bit faster overall.

Sorbara: It doesn’t seem like that to me.

Kurtz: Oh it is.

Stouffer: That’s because the music sur-

rounding us is also faster—you don’t notice it. It’s all relative to you.

Sorbara: It’s a fun album.

Kurtz: I keep telling everyone who asks me: I think it’s the best album we’ve ever made.

If you were a type of cereal, what would you be?

Kurtz: We would be Martina’s mom’s homemade granola, which she makes by the garbage-pail size, and we survive on it.

Before the gaze of many ‘I’s

U of O student explores the dynamics of identity with MFA graduation exhibit

Aidan Parchelo | Fulcrum Contributor

ART, IDENTITY, AND creation are inextricable elements of University of Ottawa student Cara Tierney’s graduation exhibition *Go Forth and Multiply*, currently on display at the Carleton University Art Gallery (CUAG).

Tierney’s 11 photographic works examine the discovery and assertion of identity in a society often dominated by superficiality.

“We can’t define anyone in singular terms,” says Tierney. “If we do that, we’re failing them.”

The pieces in *Go Forth and Multiply* are composed of many self portraits that have been framed or fused together through computer editing. In each, the result is a dynamic gathering of many separate identities, each expressing a different personality.

Truly understanding one’s identity can become a serious challenge and life-long pursuit, as articulated through the series of dramatic tableaux. For Tierney, it was the realization about her sexuality that both challenged and inspired her.

“Identity isn’t made up of a singular element—it’s something really complex and multifaceted,” Tierney explains. “Coming out really put that into perspective for me, because all of a sudden there were parts of myself that didn’t agree with other parts of myself, so there was

a sense of being very fractured and shattered in a way. And the images are trying to say you can hold multiple opinions in a balance even if they do conflict with each other at times.”

Tierney, 33, was born in a small French Canadian town called Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, on the West Island of Montreal. She obtained a bachelor of arts with a major in fine arts from Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B. before moving to Ottawa in 2002 to complete a master’s in art history at Carleton University. *Go Forth and Multiply* is the product of a master’s of fine arts she began at the U of O in 2010, under the supervision of professors Lorraine Gilbert and Celina Jeffery.

While art has always held a place in her life, it was Tierney’s discovery of print-making at age 18 that really “fuelled the fire.”

The process of creating the pieces was nothing short of laborious. Tierney recalls piling everything she needed into a canoe and paddling for an hour to a remote location in Gatineau. She’d set up her camera on a tripod, set the timer, hit the shutter and then run into position, and repeat until she got all the shots she needed.

“It was a lot more physical than I expected it to be,” she says. “And then of course, that’s just getting the raw materials—after that there’s a whole other pro-

cess that happens on the computer.”

The entire process took a year and a half, with shooting and editing taking roughly equal amounts of time.

In the title of her exhibition, Tierney juxtaposes her own contemporary stories of creation with the traditional tale from Genesis. One of her works plays on Flemish painter Jacob Jordaens’s “As the Old Sing, So the Young Pipe,” which has been part of the National Gallery of Canada’s permanent collection since 1969.

“It’s about how the young learn values by mimicking and copying the old,” Tierney explains. “I was thinking about transmission of values, and how queers don’t have access to our own sort of creation stories and our own history. That’s something we have to go off looking for on our own, because it’s not taught to us in schools and it’s not available to us. So part of my thinking when I was making this work was that I want to contribute to that growing creation story.”

Tierney’s experience with performance art prior to her MFA informs both her technical work and expressive artistic decisions within the exhibition pieces.

“When I started making performances, it was at a point where my identity was, I guess, a bit in crisis, and in performance there is a sense of urgency and immediacy that was able to respond to that need to express some of the ideas I was experiencing,” she says.



photo by Aidan Parchelo

Tierney’s art is a perfect example of what she feels is a solution to the misrepresentation and alienation of individuals and groups—namely language, communication, and greater opportunities for self-expression.

“Within the queer community, language is being changed and modified every day,” she says. “What I’d like to see in society at large is people giving individuals more space to self-represent. I think

it’s crucial that we only speak from our own subject position and that we don’t try and make claims for others, because we get into a whole lot of trouble. Ultimately, you just have to ask how other people want to be labeled, how they want to be identified.”

Cara Tierney’s *Go Forth and Multiply* runs at the CUAG from Aug. 27 to Sept. 30.

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album reviews



Yeasayer
Fragrant World | Secretly Canadian



YEASAYER'S THIRD FULL-length album, *Fragrant World*, boasts a sound that is unique but also consistent with the band's existing musical catalogue—though perhaps unconventional to listeners of traditional rock and pop. Combining a choppy, synthetic beat with futuristic effects and soft, soothing vocals, the album is host to a high level of musical intensity.

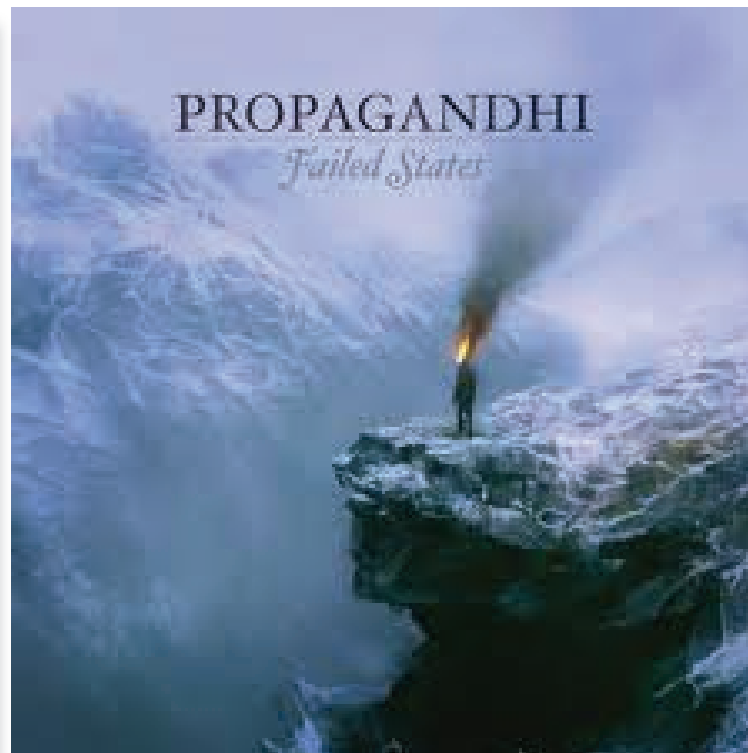
Hailing from Brooklyn, N.Y., Yeasayer emerged onto the music scene in 2006 and is finally earning a larger fan base, though the band has been known in the indie music community for quite some time.

Three tracks in particular stand out as the most intense on the album—songs that stay true to Yeasayer's '80s retro feel but also experiment with other unique influences.

"No Bones" incorporates a Bollywood beat at the beginning of the song and in between verses, while "Damaged Goods" teeters on the edge of darkness; its hollow, faded sound will leave listeners thinking of *Blade Runner*. "Reagan's Skeleton" employs the electric zap of the synthesizer, the organ, and a high-pitched, dissonant tone leading into the chorus to create a modernized, electronic take on the sound effects of old Hollywood horror.

Throughout the entirety of *Fragrant World*, Yeasayer straddles the line between primitive and electronic, ominous and upbeat, and '80s pop and present-day folk. Keeping listeners intrigued with solos on the electric violin and—even more oddly—the xylophone, *Fragrant World* is an album for those in search of an exclusive sort of whimsy.

—Dana Simpson



Propagandhi
Failed States | Epitaph



WINNIPEG PUNK ROCK legends Propagandhi have taken their time crafting a discography that's a force to be reckoned with. It's earned them intensely loyal fans, and for good reason. The band's sixth full-length album, *Failed States*, proves that even after 25 years as a band, Propagandhi is only getting better.

What *Failed States* excels in throughout its 12 songs is the ability to keep listeners on the edge of their seats. Tracks like "Note to Self" and "Lotus Gait" build a whopping amount of suspense before the band finally rips into what it does best: splintering drum chops, plucky and complex riffs, and angry, active lyrics.

"Status Update" channels the unbelievable talent of guitarist and lead vocalist Chris Hannah into a minute-long ripper, as he shreds the fretboard while somehow managing to sing flawlessly at the same time.

The fiercest and most memorable track on *Failed States* is without a doubt "Rattan Cane," as bassist Todd Kowalski absolutely hammers on the low end and the band unleashes three minutes of pulverizing and dissonant hardcore punk that verges on frightening.

Failed States ends on a bit of a haunting note, as a discomfotingly whispered "shh" is heard as the band rings out of the final track. The finale leaves the listener with an uneasy feeling that's appropriate in the context of the record. Propagandhi has always been fairly angry, but they've never sounded this furious. And they want you to feel it.

—Adam Feibel

movie reviews

Lawless



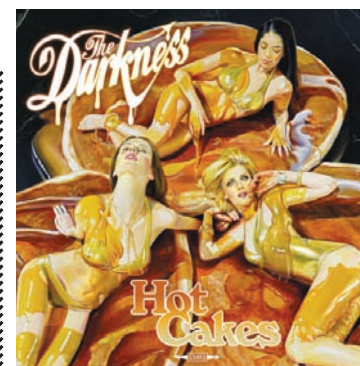
THE FIRST 10 minutes of a film can make or break it. So it came as a surprise that the opening of *Lawless* wasn't all that enticing, because by the end, I would consider this movie to be on my top five list of western flicks. The acting is spectacular, the Virginian accents sound legitimate, the music is flawless, and the film evokes a multitude of emotions.

Lawless tells the true story of the three bootlegging Bondurant brothers residing in Franklin County, Va. during the American Prohibition. The film is based on the novel *The Wettest County in the World* by Matt Bondurant, grandson of one of its main characters. The movie opens as a typical western, but director John Hillcoat adds interesting, Tarantino-esque twists throughout the film that please not only an audience keen on "hick flicks," but also one keen on funny quips and grotesque revenge scenes that make you want to simultaneously wince and jump up and cheer.

Boasting quite the loaded cast, the acting in *Lawless* is by far its stand-out feature. Tom Hardy excels in the leading role of self-proclaimed immortal Forrest Bondurant, while Shia LaBeouf perfectly portrays the growth of his character, Jack Bondurant, from a physically weak aspiring moonshiner to a vengeful man revered by his older siblings. The movie also stars Jason Clarke as Howard Bondurant; Guy Pearce as the antagonist, special agent Charlie Rakes; and Jessica Chastain and Mia Wasikowska as the Bondurants' love interests.

Capturing the themes of morality versus the law and the importance of brotherhood and family ties, *Lawless* gives its viewers many different experiences at once and is a must-see for every type of movie goer.

—Victoria Dudys



The Darkness
Hot Cakes | Wind-Up



THE FOURTH TRACK on The Darkness's first album is without a doubt their most celebrated work. Simply hearing the lyrics, "I believe in a thing called love / Just listen to the rhythm of my heart," calls to mind what is arguably the most ridiculous music video of all time. Keeping this—shall we call it—"masterpiece" in mind, it would be a difficult task to top it some nine years later. Nevertheless, The Darkness has released a third album: *Hot Cakes*.

The album's opener, "Every Inch of You," is a pretty standard offering from The Darkness. Complete with a classic rock beat, predictable power chords, and a copy-and-paste guitar solo, the track would prove forgivable if all subsequent tracks did not follow the same mould.

Of all 15 songs, there are two standouts. The eerie undertone of "Concrete" creates a moderate deviation from the mediocre sonic drizzle of the rest of the album, while "I Can't Believe It's Not Love" breaks from the formula by incorporating a tambourine into the mix and ending on a high note—literally.

Twelve years after The Darkness made their debut, I find myself still wondering whether the band is actually serious or just a parody of the glam rock genre. One thing that's for sure is The Darkness believes in a thing called love, but I believe in a thing called music—and *Hot Cakes* does not measure up.

—Dana Simpson

Penny for her thoughts

Sassy advice from one of Canada's top financial experts

Ali Schwabe | Fulcrum Staff

In between helping couples tackle their money issues on the television series *Til Debt Do Us Part* and taking divas down a notch on *Princess*, author and television personality Gail Vaz-Oxlade took some time to give students the lowdown on debt, OSAP, and living within your means.

Myth #1: All student debt is good debt

Vaz-Oxlade: Student debt has been considered good debt, and within certain parameters it is good debt. What student debt is allowing you to do is potentially earn a better income than you would be able to if you didn't have a degree. The problem comes when you take on more student debt than you can reasonably manage once you graduate. The reason being is that you just can't freaking get it paid off.

Myth #2: I can take on as much student debt as I need to pay for my education

I have a rule of thumb. I have a new book coming out called *Money Rules* and one of the rules of thumb is: Don't gradu-

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“Don't graduate with more than your first year's net income in student debt.”

ate with more than your first year's net income in student debt. Reasonably you [shouldn't take on what you] can't afford to pay back...unless you have special circumstances—you're living at home, nobody's charging you rent, you know. But for most people who want to get on with their lives, graduating with more than one year's net income in student debt [is a problem]. And that's net income, not gross. Because you do not make your gross income—you and the government make your gross income. So it's one year's net income that should be the maximum [loan] that you aim [to take on].

So if you're going to graduate from school and you expect your career choice to pay you \$45,000 net a year then you can have \$45,000 worth of student loans. Now the only exception to this is that in some professional careers you have to take on more student debt to get there, [for example] if you're getting your PhD. But the likelihood is that you're [going to] be earning significantly more anyway. So I still hold with the rule.

Myth #3: As long as I make the default payment on my Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) loan, I'm fine

Part of the problem is that the whole system is set up to make your payments as low as possible. So for instance, under the default payment system under the [Ontario] student loan system, it takes you almost 10, 9.5 years or something. And the problem with that is that it's designed to lower your payments so you think



photo courtesy of Gail Vaz-Oxlade

more debt is good. But who wants to put their whole freaking life on hold for 10 years until your student debt is gone?

People use the default. And what you really have to do is figure out how much you want your education to actually cost you. Because if you use the default system, your education will actually cost you more than twice as much as [the original loan] you graduated with [because of the extra interest it accumulates].

Myth #4: OSAP charges the lowest level of interest

Another big fallacy is that the student loan system charges you less interest than you could get at a financial institution, and it's not true. You pay a premium for staying in the student loan system.

The way the student loan system is set up is that while you are in school, there is no interest cost. Until you graduate, the interest clock does not come on. If you stay in school for the traditional four-year undergraduate degree, they haven't charged you a penny in interest in all that time.

So, when the clock comes on, it does not come on at the current rate. It comes on at the rate plus about four points. So you will pay four per cent more (approximately) on a fixed student loan through the student loan system.

The benefits that you get [are the repayment assistance plans so] if you think you're ever going to default or if you think you're ever going to need interest relief, you stay in the student loan sys-

tem. If you graduate and your only plan is to get the hell out of debt, then what you would do is get a consolidation loan from a financial institution—assuming you've built a good credit history and you haven't screwed it up by using stupid credit cards while you were in school or you used them sensibly—then you would be able to get a loan at about four per cent less than you could get through the student loan system. Then you would apply all that difference to pay off the loan.

Myth #5: OSAP's six-month grace period is interest free

You know how the student loan offers you a six-month grace period after you graduate? People are under the impression that that grace period does not carry interest. It does. In other words what [OSAP] is ... saying [is you have] six months to get a job. But the interest clock still came on. So even if you do not make a payment in that first six months—which you are allowed not to do—you are still paying interest. If you get a job on day two, you should freaking start paying your loans back.

Myth #6: If I can't get an OSAP loan, I can take out a student line of credit and treat it like OSAP

If you need to borrow money to go to school, then you need to borrow money to go to school. It makes perfect sense. But a student line of credit is not free money; ultimately it will have to be paid back.

What you want to do if you're using a student line of credit—if you're using any credit, if you're accumulating any debt at all—is you want to make sure you're doing everything possible to mitigate the amount of debt that you're racking up. The thing with a student line of credit as opposed to going through the student loan system is that you don't get the deferral of the interest while you're at school. So as you are in school the interest rate kicks in the minute you take a drawdown on your line. But any payment you put against the line immediately mitigates the amount of interest you are paying.

So, you go to work and you work and you get your paycheque and you put it directly against the line. And then if you need to take money back off you take money back off. But you don't keep piling money up in a savings account while you have a student line open.

Myth #7: It's September and I just got my OSAP loan/scholarship/other huge lump sum. I'm rich!

This is a big problem for a lot of kids, particularly when they go away in their first and second year and they haven't gotten the gist of money management yet. They feel rich. The OSAP [loan] pays into your account, or you get your scholarship, or your grandparents make a withdrawal from your RESP [Registered Education Savings Plan] and send you some money—you feel rich. And what happens is, come January, everyone is out of mon-

ey—if it takes that long.

There is a way of managing your lump sum and a way of managing your cash flow. The lump sum worksheet [found at Gailvazoxlade.com/resources.html] is designed to help you keep track of that load of money you got. Then recognize that it's not just your lump sum payments that you have to manage, but also your cash flow [from part-time jobs, for ex-

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“Get good gifts. That's when you hit people up for your good shit: you have a birthday coming, it's Christmas coming, your sister's getting married. [...] The rest of the time you are a poor student.”

ample] while you're at school.

So if you follow [my] system, what will end up happening is you will allocate the dollars [for your needs and wants] over the entire year. Because you're not just looking at September, October, and November, but you're also looking at February, March, and April, you won't feel like you're rich because you'll have the sense that this is money that has to last a long time.

Myth #8: I'll only be young once—now's the time to have fun and not worry about debt

You're students, you're poor! Basically



photo illustration by Mathias MacPhee

that's my message. There's going to be plenty of time for [big spending] once you're earning a good living. I'm not saying you don't hang out with your friends and have a great time. I'm saying you don't do it with six beers in a night. You buy one beer and you hold on to that beer. You sip that sucker till it's so warm it feels like pee going in before it's pee coming out.

You do not waste money on crap. This is the huge dilemma, particularly for young people who have come from places where they have been allowed to have what they want when they wanted. You're in high school and you get an allowance or you work and have no costs ... you come from that to a place where you're finally responsible for yourself, and it's hard to make the adjustment.

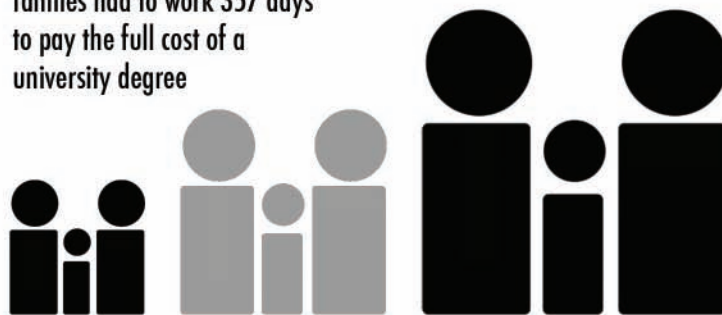
You have to assume an air of poor student. You should be shopping in second-hand stores. There's no reason why you can't dress well buying second-hand clothes if you have a sense of style. Go to Value Village! Get good gifts. That's when you hit people up for your good shit: you have a birthday coming, it's Christmas coming, your sister's getting married. Knock your parents up for the dress. That's when you go for that stuff. The rest of the time you are a poor student.

And incidentally, if you're going to graduate with student debt, you should practice being a poor student so that when you become a worker you can continue to live like a poor student until most of that debt is gone.

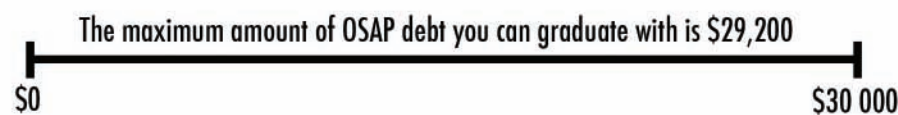
79%

of Ontarians think that students have to borrow too much money to pay for their education

In 2011-2012 middle income families had to work 357 days to pay the full cost of a university degree



Almost \$2.5 billion is owed to the Ontario government in student debt



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SPORTS

EDITOR Maclaine Chadwick | sports@thefulcrum.ca | (613) 562-5931

StarCray: the rise of e-sports

Should games played using a digital medium be recognized as sports?

Maclaine Chadwick | Fulcrum Staff

WHEN WE THINK of *Call of Duty*, *World of Warcraft*, *StarCraft*, or *Halo*, it's unlikely that our minds conjure up the image of a professional athlete—but that may change in the not-too-distant future thanks to the explosion in popularity of electronic sports.

It doesn't come as a surprise that electronic sports, or e-sports, is one of the fastest-growing leisure activities around—just ask any kid with a Nintendo DS. E-sport's roots lie in Korean culture, where, for years, gamers have attained professional status and actually make a living off of sponsorships and competition winnings.

The popularity of e-sports has triggered the age-old debate of what is and isn't a sport. Not surprisingly, many people say the absence of physical exertion is what prevents e-sports from being recognized as an athletic event.

But when comparing e-sports to more

“These people are celebrities and sex symbols in Korea.”

traditional sports, one may find more similarities than differences.

“There is the same level of competitiveness, this overall sense of connectedness, and sense of sportsmanship in the international community,” said Scott Job, a member of the University of Ottawa's *StarCraft* team. “The only thing that makes it not a real sport in the eyes of many people is just the fact that you're not running around on a field, thus the term ‘e-sports.’”

In some countries, extremely skilled e-sport players can attain professional status and even play on sponsored teams.

“The pro players are training 10–16 hours a day. They're training really hard,” said Job.

In cultures where gaming is the most popular, players are idolized like professional athletes.

“Especially in Korea, where it's the biggest right now. These people are celebrities and sex symbols in Korea,” said Job.

In Canada and the United States, Collegiate *StarLeague* (CSL) is an organization that governs 240 college and university *StarCraft* teams. The teams, which consist of at least five players, compete weekly against other schools, and gather two to three times per season to compete at Local Area Network (LAN) events. The league has grown significantly in its first five years of operation, and is expanding even further to create high school leagues. The U of O team joined CSL in its third season and competes locally, nationally, and internationally on a weekly basis.

Even though they compete against teams from schools like Harvard University and Duke University, the *StarCraft* team cites none other than Carleton Uni-



versity as their biggest rival.

The LAN events mimic traditional sports events as well.

“You're not gathering around and watching people playing online; they are usually there playing the game and you can see them. I'd liken it to a sports event,” explained Job.

Professional events in pro leagues can even attract some rowdy spectators.

“People go and support their favourite teams, their favourite players. And they go nuts, I've seen the body paint,” said Job.

Another facet of e-sport spectatorship is the many smaller events planned for spectators to meet, play, and socialize—defying many conceived stereotypes of the participants.

“People think that it's nerds in their parents' basements playing video games, but it's not. That's not what it is at all. There is an event that runs every couple weeks called BarCraft. You go to the bar and they project it on the wall,” explained Job.

BarCraft events are held at Clock Tower Brew Pub on Bank Street, and attendees gather to stream and watch Major League Gaming (MLG) professionals play. Organizers make sure there

are prizes to give away, and even create special *StarCraft*-themed drinks for the event. Combine BarCraft with fans decked out in body paint, and e-sport events start to sound a whole lot like the average hockey game.

The structure and strategic elements of e-sports mimic those of almost every other team sport, yet e-sports still face one major criticism: unless a game involves physical exertion, it can't be referred to as a sport.

François Rodrigue, a fourth-year student and member of the Gee-Gees football team, is one of many people who agree with the necessity of separating sports and e-sports.

“I think it's pretty cool that they are so organized and have ways to compete ... I think the label of e-sports is better because the physical activity part of it isn't there. Although [e-sports] takes organization, practice, and strategy, I don't think it should be considered a sport in itself.”

StarCraft players, however, argue that there is in fact a very important physical component to the game, which is developing a strong actions per minute (APM) rate.

“The APM is a big thing—being able to

type and click the mouse in a meaningful fashion twice a second is definitely something that takes a lot of skill,” explained Brandon Bay, former U of O *StarCraft* club president. “But it is definitely more of a strategic, mental sort of game.”

Although many would argue that typing and clicking at high speeds should be considered a fine motor skill as opposed to a physical ability, both Job and Bay emphasized this is not the case.

“I'd like to take a pro-football player and try and get them to do it—they wouldn't be able to,” said Job. “It's just a different skill set, and it's really hard to say that one is more legitimate. Obviously you're not going to break out sweating playing *StarCraft*, unless it's over nerves.”

That's not to say that physical health isn't an important part of the e-sport lifestyle. Professional teams make sure they balance game training with physical activity, and often live in houses equipped with a full gym.

“You can't compete in anything if you neglect your physical health,” said Bay.

When Bay was president of the *StarCraft* club in 2010, he approached U of O Sports Services with the goal of having the team recognized as an official com-

petitive club, but was unsuccessful.

“The Gee-Gees organization is very strict about who can be Gee-Gees ... We were basically told ‘not at this time,’” said Bay.

But even without the official status, the team members still consider themselves Gee-Gees at heart.

“In terms of spirit, absolutely. We always view ourselves as representing the school,” said Bay.

The U of O may not recognize *StarCraft* as a sport, but that doesn't stop other institutions from doing so. Entertainment and Sports Programming Network (ESPN) reports on MLG events, and the Total Sports Network (TSN) covers poker games.

“There has been a cognitive shift in terms of how people think about it now—especially with society becoming more and more digital. I mean, everyone is interconnected,” said Job. “E-sports is huge right now, it's the biggest it's ever been, and I think that really reflects how things are going in terms of everyone being more digital in their lifestyles.”

For more information check out uostarcraft.com or email join@uostarcraft.com

Double victory for Gee-Gees soccer

Women's varsity team triumphant at home

Maclaine Chadwick | Fulcrum Staff

WHO NEEDS THE home team advantage? The University of Ottawa women's soccer team doesn't seem fazed when they play away from home. They perform as well on the road as they do when they play on Matt Anthony Field. After a successful string of exhibition matches, winning five consecutive games, the Gees marked the beginning of the regular season at home with back-to-back victories over the Ryerson University Rams and the University of Toronto Varsity Blues.

Reign over Ryerson

The Gees wasted no time getting ahead of Ryerson during the first game on Sept. 1. Fourth-year striker Christine Hardie scored a beautiful top-corner goal eight minutes in. Her goal was soon followed by an excellent demonstration of teamwork by Sarah de Carufel, who set up a goal for Pilar Khoury. By halftime, the Gee-Gees had already racked up four goals on the Rams, whose offense couldn't keep up.

During the second half, the Gee-Gees were playing with the comfort of a four-goal lead, and kept scoring on Ryerson's quickly tiring defence.

Head coach Steve Johnson felt the exhibition tour helped the team come together.

"The chance to be able to go on the road and bring first-year players with you helps them settle in on the team,"



photos by Justin Labelle

he said.

The experience away from home clearly benefitted breakthrough rookie Vanessa MacMillan, who scored her first regular-season goal after a scramble in front of the net during the second half.

By the end of the game, the Gee-Gees had scored six goals by five different players, and goalkeepers Cynthia Leblanc and Alexandra Girouard shared a

shutout.

Victory against Varsity Blues

In the second home game of the season, the Gees hosted another visiting team from Toronto, the Varsity Blues. It was immediately evident that the Blues were a tougher match for the Gees, who went scoreless in the first half due to Toronto's strong defensive line and goalkeeping by Sara Petrucci.

Even though they managed to main-

tain their shutout streak, the Gee-Gees were expecting more from the first 45 minutes of the game.

"In the dressing room we were just trying to get focused and into the game, because our first half wasn't very good, and we all knew it," explained MacMillan. "We just tried to pump each other up and really get into the second half."

Their efforts were successful. After the halftime break, the Gee-Gees came

back as strong as ever, scoring five goals to win the game. MacMillan scored her first Ontario University Athletics hat trick, while midfielder Alexandra Jotham and striker Tessa Dimitrakopoulos each recorded their first goals of the regular season.

The women's soccer team will host the Nipissing University Lakers at Matt Anthony Field on Sept. 8.

Women's rugby defeats Carleton at home opener

Spencer Van Dyk | Fulcrum Staff

LAST SUNDAY, THE University of Ottawa's women's rugby team took a 41-7 win against the Carleton Ravens in the season home opener.

Backrow Alexandra Cleave opened the game with two tries in the first half, first at 37 minutes remaining, and again at 14 minutes remaining, followed by a try from the Ravens. The Gee-Gees maintained a strong offensive throughout the second half, earning them consecutive points and ending the game with an impressive win.

"First games are always the roughest," said head coach Suzanne Chaulk. "There's a lot of nerves out there for both teams, and a lot of expectation from Carleton. I was really impressed with how composed they played. There were some times that we rushed our ball, and we left some points on the five-metre line, but I was really impressed with how well they organized."

Until this season, the Carleton team had existed only as a club team, but they have joined the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec (RSEQ) women's rugby league this year along with the Université de Montréal Carabins. Despite the usual crosstown rivalry between the Gee-Gees and the Ravens in other sports, Chaulk maintains the Gees are supportive of Carleton joining the league.

"Carleton's got a great program," she said. "They've been working hard for about 10 years to get here, and now they're here, which is wonderful ... It's a fun rivalry. We've been working with



them to help them establish their program, so it's kind of hard to do the whole 'boo Carleton' thing."

Chaulk attributes the Gee-Gees' win to the cohesiveness between vets and rookies, despite a huge turnover within the team.

"The vets have done an amazing job of bringing the rookies along," she said. "And it was hard to tell the difference between them today."

One of last year's Canadian Inter-university Sport all-stars, Allison MacCormack, echoed the sentiment, saying that "without [the rookies], it would have been a completely different game."

Rookie Danielle Erdelyi called the vets "very supportive" and said that the chance to bond with them has brought everyone together as a team.

"It'll only get better from here," she said.

Chaulk said she hopes that the September 2 win will be an accurate portrayal of what fans can expect from the team this coming season.

The Gee-Gees will play the other new member of the RSEQ, the Montreal Carabins, this Friday, Sept. 7 at the Matt Anthony Field.



photos by Justin Labelle

Meet a Gee-Gee

Maxime Mireault | Men's Football

Maclaine Chadwick | Fulcrum Staff

"Meet a Gee-Gee" takes a look at the people under the jerseys. Whether they're varsity athletes or otherwise, we ask the players questions you want answers to. We get the dirt, straight from the horse's mouth.

WE SAT DOWN with master's of occupational therapy student and fifth-year wide receiver Maxime Mireault to talk about football, stripping, and the student-athlete lifestyle.

The Fulcrum: What is the biggest misconception about football players? Maxime Mireault: That we only talk about girls and sports. We actually like to talk about politics and topics with deeper meaning too!

If you could choose any actor to play you in a movie, who would it be? Robert Downey Jr.

What is the best perk of being a Gee-Gee? Just being an athlete and having 100 brothers.

What is the craziest thing your team has ever done? We strip down to our underwear for Mr. Gee [an annual fundraising event].

Which school is your biggest rival? Western, but soon it will be Carleton.

What are your plans for after university? I want to open my own clinic in the Montreal area.

If you could play any sport other than football, what would it be? Gymnastics.

What is the best piece of advice you could offer first-year students? Get your homework done, and listen in class.



photo by Justin Labelle

"My teammates would vote me most likely to _____"
Fuck shit up.

What has been the biggest challenge over the course of your career as a stu-

dent-athlete?
It sounds cliché, but to never give up, no matter what.

If you have a suggestion for an athlete you would like to see interviewed, email sports@thefulcrum.ca

MISSION NUTRITION | YOU 1 WHEAT 0

The truth about wheat

Be cautious next time you eat your Wheaties

Britta Schiemann | Fulcrum Contributor

IT'S BREAKFAST TIME. Perhaps you would like some waffles, French toast, pancakes, cereal, or a freshly baked scone to calm that rumbling stomach? I thought so. These tasty treats are the front-runners of the breakfast world, and many of us consume them on a regular basis. We have fallen habit to justifying eating like this if we use whole wheat flour, buy multigrain bread, and purchase cereals that advertise the use of 100 per cent whole wheat. In reality, it's time to rethink the supposedly healthy wheat that we put in our bodies.

Fact is, the wheat we eat today is not the wheat that our grandparents or parents ate 50 years ago. Wheat has been so genetically altered over the latter half of the past century that it cannot even survive on its own without human assistance. This should make you think a little—you are putting something into your body that is supposed to be good for you, yet cannot live without the help of humans. More importantly, the genetic chain of the wheat grain is genetically modified. This means that scientists have figured out a way to alter the wheat plant's genetic code to make it grow stronger, faster, bigger, and in a way that is completely unnatural.

"Under federal rules, up to five per cent of the wheat kernel—which translates to about 70 per cent of the germ, where the majority of nutrients, vitamins and healthy fats are found—can be removed and the resulting flour can

still be called whole wheat," explains Carly Weeks, in an article in the *Globe and Mail*. "That means food manufacturers can label bread 100 per cent whole wheat even if they have removed most of the nutrient-packed germ."


Another common modification of wheat is adding molasses to darken its colour.

Weeks also recommends being wary of unhealthy products that have a multigrain label stuck on the wrapper.

"Many unhealthy products, such as chips or snack foods, have jumped on the grain bandwagon, creating that sense that because they contain whole grains or multiple grains, they're somehow better for us," explains Weeks. "Goldfish crackers made with whole grains, for instance, have eight grams of whole grains per 20-gram serving. That means you would need to eat 74 crackers to get a full serving of whole grains."

Luckily, there are a lot of wheat alternatives out there. Nowadays, if you know where to look, you can find all sorts of bread, pasta, and flour made out of brown rice, buckwheat, quinoa, chickpeas, almonds, and coconut. Of course these flours will not suffice if you feel like whipping up a wonderfully fresh French baguette, but for everyday meals, they're great. Even if you don't want to cut wheat out of your diet completely, take some time to think about how much of it you eat. There are many simple changes you can make to live a healthier, happier life, and this is one of them!


Featuring



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Dear Di...

Dear Di, I have an absolutely amazing relationship with my girlfriend of three years, except for one thing—she is physically unable to have sex. This was fine at the start, but it slowly got harder and harder. We do other things, but no penetration, which I have been craving more and more.

Am I a horrible person for wanting this so badly? How can I go about fulfilling my needs and maintaining my otherwise perfect relationship? I would never cheat, but should I ask her to consider threesomes or unemotional on-the-side sex, or do I just abstain completely?

Please help—I really don't know what to do.

—Eternally Faithful

Dear EF,

Your situation is a stumper! It sounds to me like your girl might be affected by vaginismus, which causes total closure of the vaginal opening, making penetration impossible. The condition can be treatable; you should definitely talk to her about seeing a doctor.

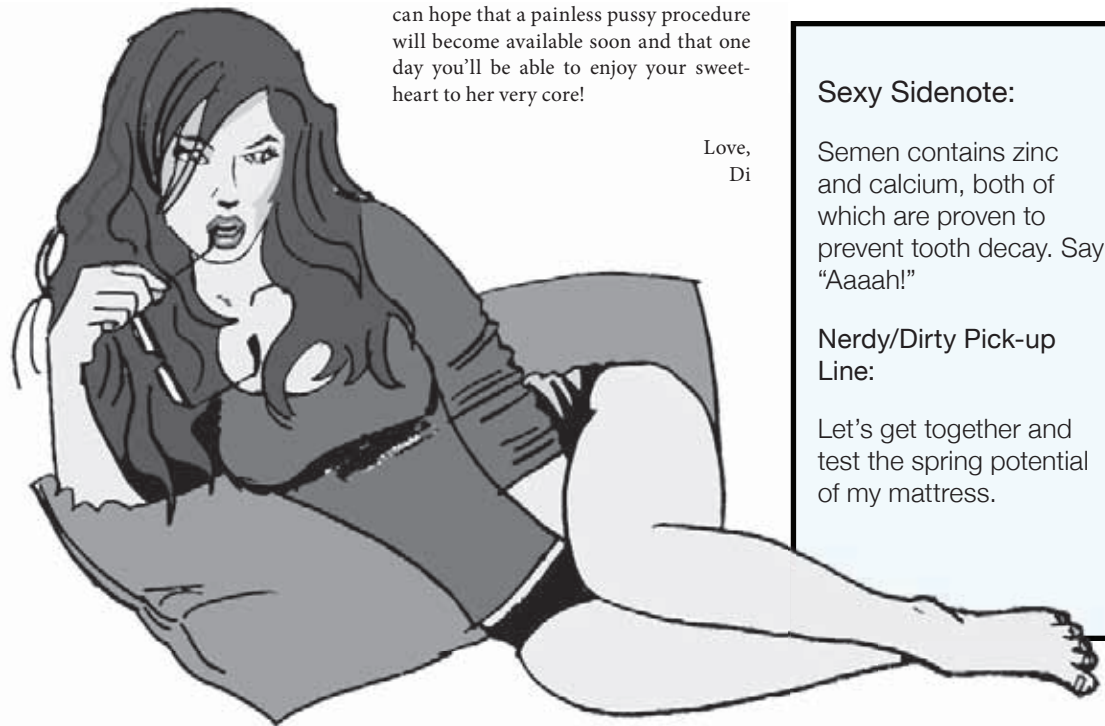
My second suggestion to you is to sit back and relax a little. A sexual relationship does not need traditional intercourse to be fulfilling—just ask any gay or lesbian couple. A prick and a pussy are a match made in heaven, but there are other ways your sex life can reach nirva-

na. You say you enjoy other sexual acts, but still feel that something's missing. If it's intimacy you're craving, try standing face to face while manually getting each other off—the eye contact and kissing are sure to please. If it's the variety of positions and thrill of trying new things that you're missing, try anal in new positions, from doggy style to reverse cowgirl, or try oral and manual stimulation in the shower or on the couch when your roommates are out for the evening. Positive that it's just the feeling of a vag you want? Buy a Fleshlight.

As for threesomes or sex on the side sans feelings—make sure that's what both you and your girlfriend want before diving in. While I'm all for a delightful ménage à trois, it's not okay to pressure your love to make it happen. Given that she's the one dealing with the physiological problem, she probably feels frustrated enough as it is about being unable to please you. If she gives in to a threesome or a casual sex partner for you out of guilt, she'll be sure to start resenting you, and things will go south. That being said, if it's something you and your gal agree on, go for it! Keep the lines of communication open, find a willing participant, and get your dick wet. Just make sure you don't forget about your girl's needs while you're out satisfying your own.

Finally, with medical advancements being made left, right, and centre, you can hope that a painless pussy procedure will become available soon and that one day you'll be able to enjoy your sweet heart to her very core!

Love,
Di



Dear Di, I'm into popping cherries, and I'm thrilled about all the new pussies that'll be on campus this year. Question: Is there a way to make sure the girl doesn't bleed? Can I shove a tampon up there before I go for it? I don't want to have to clean my sheets on the regular—laundry's expensive, yo.

—Broke-Ass Stud

Dear BAS,

Well, if you haven't figured out by now that the best bet is to put down a towel and hope for the best, you probably haven't popped as many cherries as you'd like me to think, and you're as dumb as you sound. Using a tampon during sex is dangerous—they should only be used as intended when Aunt Flow's visiting, never during sex. Not only would you be putting her at risk of toxic shock syndrome, but the dry chafing would be super uncomfortable for both your wiener and her hot dog bun.

It's common courtesy to wash your sheets between babes—but maybe if you don't, some of the girls will be able to smell your latest debacle and will get out of there fast. Sigh—I can only hope. Finally, if you're gonna be a douche, at least be a safe douche. Use protection.

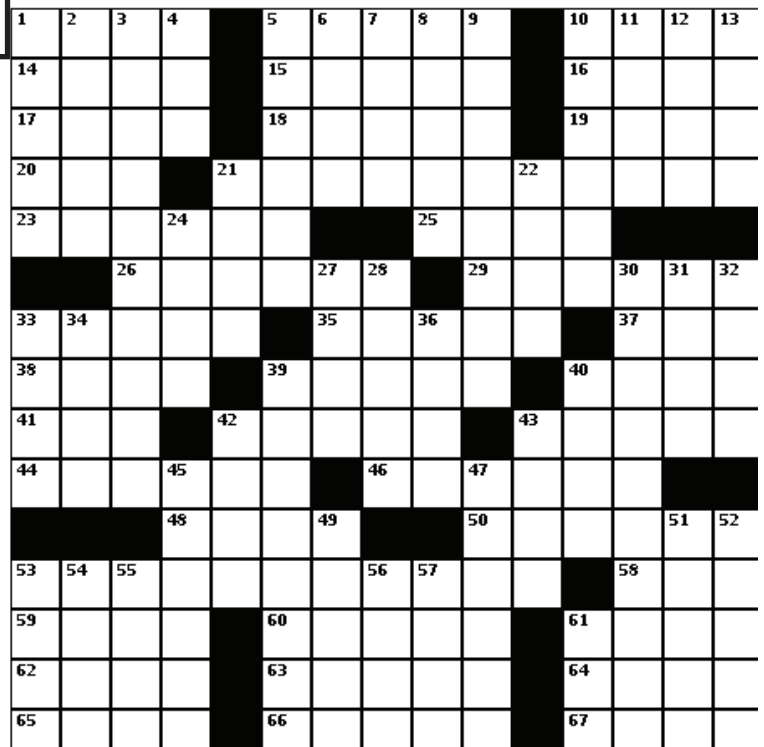
Love,
Di

Sexy Sidenote:

Semen contains zinc and calcium, both of which are proven to prevent tooth decay. Say "Aaaaah!"

Nerdy/Dirty Pick-up Line:

Let's get together and test the spring potential of my mattress.



Puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission. Answers on page 22

Across

1- _ well...; 5- Muscat native; 10- Bed support; 14- Falsehoods; 15- Aired again; 16- Gap; 17- Bard's river; 18- Cadge; 19- Fit to _; 20- Equinox mo.; 21- Dejected; 23- Journey; 25- Toward the mouth; 26- Vigorous; 29- Artificial; 33- _ Ababa; 35- Large wading bird; 37- Bikini part; 38- Hollow grass; 39- Belt site; 40- Uncle Remus title; 41- Young _; 42- Trio; 43- Precipice; 44- Exam taker; 46- Climbed; 48- Bailiwick; 50- Lives in rented rooms; 53- French national holiday; 58- Floor covering; 59- Assist, often in a criminal act; 60- Breakfast fruit; 61- Cancun coin; 62- Carbonized fuel; 63- Maker of Pong; 64- "Only Time" singer; 65- Household; 66- Grannies; 67- Rat- _;

Down

1- As _ resort; 2- Alcohol processor; 3- Female spotted cat; 4- Nine-digit ID; 5- Alloy of copper and zinc; 6- Cat call; 7- "East of Eden" brother; 8- Tortilla topped with cheese; 9- Innate; 10- Broken fragments; 11- Trent of the Senate; 12- "Hard _ !" (sailor's yell); 13- Ticked (off); 21- Ball belles; 22- Bern's river; 24- Empty; 27- Sign of injury; 28- Attempts; 30- Curtailment; 31- Not kosher; 32- Middle Eastern coffee holder; 33- Stuck in _; 34- Sand hill by the sea; 36- Just _ !; 39- Helmsman; 40- Ran, as colors; 42- Actress Garr; 43- Satiated; 45- Gossip; 47- Singer Morissette; 49- Prince Valiant's wife; 51- Gut course; 52- Brown ermine; 53- "Goldberg Variations" composer; 54- Peek follower; 55- Thin stratum; 56- Brio; 57- "David Copperfield" wife; 61- Green shade;

Need more distractions?



Check out the blog of the week:
Gailvazoxlade.com/blog

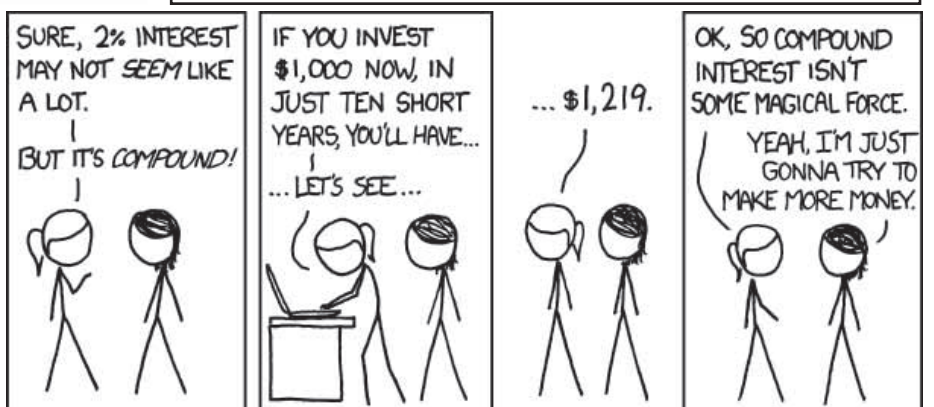
Gail's blog has all the resources and tools you'll need to ensure a financially successful year! Not only does she write about all things financial, but she also occasionally posts delicious cheap recipes, shares stories about her personal life, and once a week answers readers' questions with her usual sarcastic sense of humour.

The Fulcrum is having a silent auction!

Come by our table in the UCU Thursday Sept. 6 and Friday Sept. 7 to bid on some excellent prizes.



Investing | XKCD



OPINIONS

EDITOR Sofia Hashi | opinions@thefulcrum.ca | (613) 562-5258

Bell gets bigger and bigger

Should the Bell/Astral deal be struck down?

Sofia Hashi | Fulcrum Staff

Summer usually doesn't trigger heated debates on mundane topics such as broadcast policies, with most people choosing to enjoy their last bit of sunshine basking on a beach, but the proposed \$3 billion Bell Media and Astral merger has sparked the nation's interest. The amalgamation of the media giants would see BCE Inc. become a broadcast behemoth, owning over 38 per cent of the English-language TV market and 29 per cent of the radio market, which is nearly twice as much as its nearest competitors.

While the numbers are staggering, there still exists a healthy amount of deliberation surrounding the proposed deal, with opposing sides competing for the sympathy of the average Canadian channel surfer. But numbers, facts, and figures aside, there is reason for this deal to raise eyebrows, because if the merger were to be approved by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), the Canadian broadcasting landscape would forever be changed.

The fate of this broadcast merger rests on the CRTC's shoulders in a hearing set to take place in Montreal on Sept. 10. One topic that will be focused on by both parties is competition. Opponents of the union, including cable companies like Cogeco, Eastlink, and Quebecor, believe the deal will effectively kill competition in TV land. With Bell holding the monopoly over TV channels, competing cable companies feel the merger will entice viewers to join Bell or force the companies to pay higher rates for the channels. Either way, this adds up to bigger bucks for Bell and fewer bucks in our pockets.

If the merger goes through, Bell Media will be perfectly poised to heavily impact specialty and premium TV, as they will acquire over 42 per cent of the market. And with 106 radio channels about to become a part of the Bell family, it's no wonder competition is a major concern, so much so that protests like "Say No to Bell" have sprung up.

This merger isn't only about ownership, but also distribution. Bell is what you would call a "vertically integrated" company, meaning that it not only owns the channels, but supplies them as well. It's crazy to think that in Canada we would have one corporation controlling

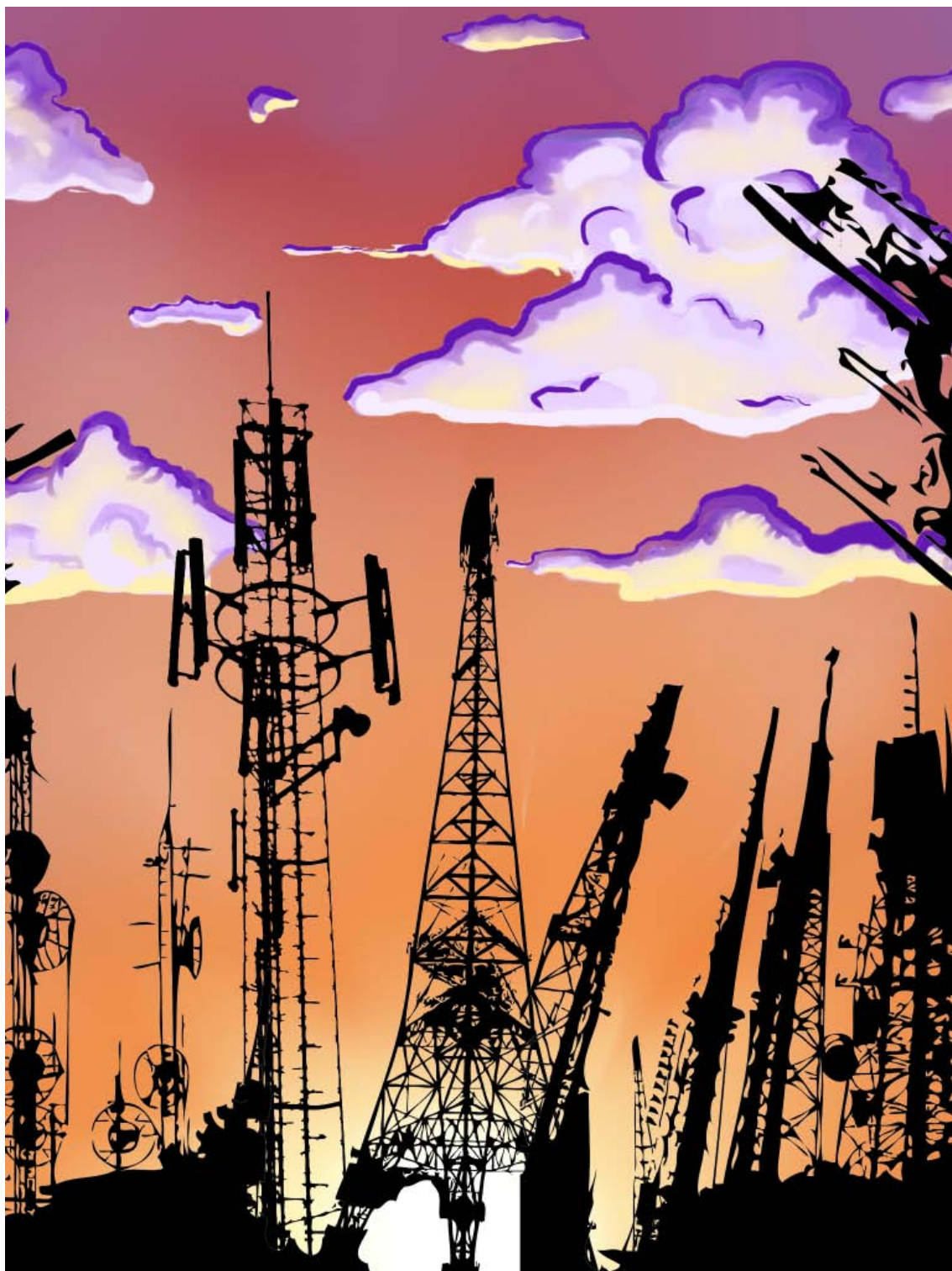


Illustration by Mathias MacPhee

and supplying every channel on TV.

Bell justifies the deal by asserting that bigger media companies will ensure Canada's survival in the face of global broadcast threats.

"If we want Canadian broadcasters to survive against that kind of scale, where really there's not, obviously, borders protecting our Canadian producers and Canadian broadcasters against them, then the Canadian guys have to have [that] scale," said Kevin Crull, president of Bell Media, in an interview with the *Globe and Mail*.

But he's wrong. With the possibility of only one voice owning the channels and one voice distributing the channels, the

future of Canadian broadcasting looks precarious. Most countries around the world have laws and regulations in effect to prevent one company from dominating TV viewing. In fact, it's generally agreed upon that to instill a healthy democracy, many voices must be heard; it's why governments prohibit one company from owning such a large share of the TV, news, print, and radio market. So why is Canada letting Bell get away with this merger?

To the average student, this might seem unimportant and uninteresting. But it should concern us all. Television helps unite our country and culturally impacts our society. Diverse TV pro-

grams and voices help define our generation and the ones to come. So why bestow that power on one company?

And what does this mean for the future of original Canadian content? There's the possibility that a lot of new Canadian TV and radio shows will be scrapped. More U.S. programming might be scheduled during primetime if Bell so chooses. Who knows what could happen?

A famous Canadian scholar, Marshall McLuhan, who practically achieved rock-star status in the field of communication, once said, "the medium is the message." Now imagine if one company owned the medium, the message, the content, and its delivery. Scary, isn't it? f

+ context

Mergers of the past

Bell isn't the first, nor will they be the last.

Sofia Hashi | Fulcrum Staff

IN THE REALM of business, bigger is always better. Bigger companies generate more revenue, and successful businesses usually dominate the marketplace. This belief has led to many company mergers over the past 50 years. Some mergers are so successful we forget there was even a time they were distinct companies, while others fall so flat they are forced to endure a painful corporate divorce. With Bell poised to takeover Astral media and become a Canadian broadcasting heavyweight, we thought it'd be fun to list some past corporate mergers you may have forgotten about.

AOL/Time Warner

It was the most talked-about merger of the turn of the century. Print media giant Time Warner was set to become one with American Online (AOL), the new kid on the block, offering services such as email and Internet for the masses. For a whopping \$111 billion, the marriage between the written and electronic word was meant to last forever, so what made the deal go sour? Differing ideological views, the death of dial-up Internet access, and the disappearance of the dot-com boom rendered the merger defunct. These two companies went their separate ways, but not before losing billions of dollars.

Walt Disney/Pixar

It was a match made in cartoon heaven. Disney, a word forever synonymous with childhood dreams, joined together with Pixar, the company behind *Monsters Inc.* and *Toy Story*. This legendary union brought together two kids'-movie-making champions to form one goliath in 2006. And the proof is in the pudding, or shall we say movies. With *Bolt*, *Up*, and *Cars* having dominated movie theatres across the globe, it's safe to say this was a successful merger.

Hudson Bay Co. takeover

Okay, so this is technically not a merger. But who said all acquisitions weren't without a little hostility? In 2006, Canada's oldest company, having been founded in 1670, found itself with a proposition from the wealthy American businessman Jerry Zucker. The billion-dollar takeover was approved by Canadian federal ministries, and along with it went the other companies the Hudson Bay Co. owned, such as the Bay and Zellers. f

A wolf in sheep's clothing

A student's thoughts on changing the grading system

Ali Schwabe | Fulcrum Staff

SCHOOL HAS BARELY begun, but already the sounds of stress can be heard around campus.

"Got my last syllabus... I have three midterms in a row on Oct. 16! WTF?"

"It's the second week and I'm so behind on readings already. This is impossible."

"I just need to pass."

Those last five words may be heard more and more frequently on campus if Canadian universities begin following the Ivy-League trend of scrapping the letter grades A, B, C, D, and F for the softer ratings of honours, pass, and fail.

Currently, Berkeley, Harvard, Yale, and Stanford's law schools have adopted the system, using five categories including high honours and low pass rather than letters and plus/minus signs. Brown University allows students to take an unlimited number of courses for pass/fail, eliminating the calculation of GPAs for students who opt not to take certain courses for grades. And finally, the University of Toronto's law school is considering making the change in order to reduce the amount of student stress in the competitive, high-pressure program.

Should the University of Ottawa follow suit and buck our A+s in favour of high honours? In a word, no.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not against measures being implemented to reduce stress and improve mental health. But for students who stress hard about getting top marks, how will changing the name to high honours change their stress levels? Rebranding the grading system doesn't make a university's standards any lower; it simply allows average students to mask their minimal achievements.

And that's just not fair. Students who produce a higher quality of work deserve recognition for that work. Removing letter grades might also remove motivation for certain students—cheating them out of doing their best. Letter grades give stu-



illustration by Mico Mazza

dents something to strive for.

A letter-grade system also allows for more precise comparisons between students by grad schools and employers. Sure, the system isn't perfect, and an A from the U of O isn't necessarily the same as an A from any other university, but at least there's a better sense of the student's ability than the word "pass" can describe.

The U of O already has a solid grading system in place with room for alterna-

tive grading. Certain courses, like those taken in a second language, can be taken as pass/fail. This encourages students to step outside their comfort zones by removing the fear of bringing down their GPAs, allowing them to improve their language skills and broaden their horizons. Applying this system to all courses, however, would only serve to allow more slackers to coast and would have a minimal impact on student stress levels.

Stress, as it turns out, is a part of life. Feeling pressure to perform should be an aspect of higher education, because plenty of careers are demanding and stressful. Universities should provide students with strategies to reduce their stress levels when stress just can't be avoided; students should learn time-management skills and how to say no to parties and yes to their books. The U of O also has some awesome programs in place for students,

like the animal therapy program and free yoga classes.

It's true that our culture can be obsessed with grades, which gives some students anxiety. More emphasis should be placed on extra-curricular activities, work experience, and independent projects, but changing the grading system isn't going to do that. After all, high honours is simply an A+ in sheep's clothing.

Perspectives

Student dilemmas

Sofia Hashi | Fulcrum Staff

SEPTEMBER HAS BEFALLEN us and the last couple of months will soon become a cluster of sweet memories we can reminisce about by clicking through some Facebook album with an unoriginal name like "Summer '12." As we zip around Ikea for the latest bargains or make a pit stop at the Apple Genius Bar to update our gadgets, the excitement and nerves we feel about starting or returning to university can be overwhelming.

As students, we're told to love, love, and love our experience at university. Some consider frosh week to be a mandatory rite of passage. There's also the

endless amount of parties to attend. And don't forget the complete freedom. But what if university isn't thrilling? What if the thought of learning theories, solving difficult equations, and reading scores of literature triggers our gag reflexes and sends cold chills down our spines?

It's not a stretch to say that today's students are just plain stressed out. Most students juggle part-time jobs, school, and a social life semester after semester. In fact, there's a funny saying that highlights how painfully true this can be. "Sleep, school, and a social life. You can only pick two out of the three," says the unnamed author. And how right

they are.

School can get hectic. Life can be difficult. But there's nothing worse than being a university student and constantly being told that a post-secondary education is worthless and a waste of four years. We hear it all the time, whether it's from news reports, our parents or, in rare cases, professors. They bemoan our lack of preparation for the workforce, say that we all did nothing but sit around having a grand old time while in school, and complain that we...complain too much.

Newsflash: we don't complain too much. A *Maclean's* article stated that 42 per cent of college and university stu-

dents feel a substantial amount of stress in their everyday lives, with 13 per cent at risk for mild depression. The culprits for student anxiety are usually grades, school, money, and relationships.

While our generation may come across as bratty, we're not a generation of chronic complainers. We should be thankful that the stigma of mental health has dissipated to a point where students can feel somewhat comfortable seeking help. Students today have many resources available to them to cope with anxiety and stress. And there's something to be said about thinking positively.

Instead of reading reports that tell us



our university degrees aren't really worth our time and that more schooling is needed if we want to go anywhere, why not look at what we have achieved? Instead of focusing on the loss of jobs and the worse-for-wear economy, why not focus on the retirement wave that's already in motion? According to the *Globe and Mail*, six million working Canadians will be leaving the workforce within the next 20 years. And who said we won't find jobs?

A little optimism can go a long way. Maybe with a cheery outlook and rose-coloured glasses, we can look forward to a brighter future.

f

Stop the text offenders

Texting while walking could soon earn you a ticket

Sofia Hashi | Fulcrum Staff

There's the man who was so distracted he fell onto a set of train tracks, the woman who walked right into a mall fountain, and, most hilariously, the dude who ran into a bear without noticing. These incidents, having been caught on camera, went on to become viral videos, but did more than just illustrate how clumsy people can be. Who was at fault in all of the videos? People who were too busy looking at their cellphones instead of where they were going. Their thumbs were leading them straight into danger.

But how hazardous can texting and walking be? Hazardous enough that the city of Fort Lee in New Jersey has decided to start fining people \$85 for texting while walking. According to Thomas Ripoli, chief of the Fort Lee Police Department, the city has seen 23 pedestrian



photo by Justin Labelle

“Personally, I would never risk losing my fingers if it was too cold to text, so why risk my life by texting at a crosswalk?”

accidents since January, and all were texting related.

Cellphone technology has advanced too far for legislation against it, and without more substantial proof from reports about how dangerous walking and texting can really be, it will be a while before texting pedestrians get more than just a slap on the wrist. Dis-

traced-walking bills have been struck down in the U.S. in places like Utah, Arizona, and New York; opposition to these bills has even come from state representatives.

Craig Frank, a Utah state representative, feels as if distracted walking bills are unnecessary.

“I have a smartphone, too. Walking on sidewalks, in stores, and malls, and maybe in a crosswalk sometimes I’m using my cellphone. But I try to stay connected to my environment. I never thought the government needed to cite me for using

my cellphone in a reasonable manner,” he said in an interview with the *Huffington Post*.

It’s not really that far-fetched for the City of Ottawa to consider issuing fines in an effort to crack down on offending pedestrians. It was only three years ago that the Ministry of Transportation banned the use of handheld devices for drivers—an offence that might need harsher penalties, because this past August the Ottawa police issued 39 infractions to drivers caught texting or calling behind the wheel.

Banned cellphone use while operating a vehicle may have become a norm, we might see the end of texting and walking soon too. And it’s a good thing.

How many of you have bumped into your fellow walkers while being too consumed with your iPhone? How many times have you hit the pavement hard because you were busy tweeting your latest thought to pay attention? It doesn’t take a genius to say: OMG we’re putting ourselves at risk if we text & walk!

Personally, I would never risk losing my fingers if it was too cold to text, so why risk my life by texting at a crosswalk?

Craig Frank’s opinion might be the more popular one now, but as more reports are brought forth and, sadly, more pedestrian deaths occur, we could very well see a change in the law.

We’re all intricately connected with the electronic world, and having such technology at our fingertips comes with responsibility. Our smartphones just might be making us stupider. f

Scared for the future

Generation, that is.

Julia Fabian | Fulcrum Staff

“I KILLED YOUR wife!” Those were the first words I heard as I stepped out of my house a few days ago. The sad part about this is that those words came from the mouth of my neighbour’s five-year-old son, as he held another boy by the throat. The saddest part about this is the fact that such a phrase, uttered with a fury you wouldn’t expect from a kindergartener, barely makes me blink anymore. Ever since I moved into my condo in June, witnessing such altercations between children has been a daily occurrence.

They hit each other with sticks. They call each other names I can’t write in this

paper. They all carry toy guns, even the toddler whose plastic shotgun drags on the ground because it’s a good six inches taller than he is. They never seem to sleep, made evident by their screams of “F***ing piece of shit” wafting through my bedroom window with the crickets’ chirps at 1 a.m. and the birds’ at 6. They throw garbage into our backyard and play on my roommate’s truck like it was parked there for their personal use. The older siblings smoke pot and talk about things that make me never want to leave this house after dark.

Manners? Hmm, not sure where those went. Childish innocence? *Hah!* Think of thugs wearing Pull-Ups. Parent super-

vision? Tossed aside like the hundreds of cigarette butts I find on my front lawn—my neighbour’s personal ashtray, apparently. Cue the mother, who occasionally makes an appearance to sit and smoke and watch indifferently as her kids mould their future gang selves. Then she goes back inside, washing her hands of it. News flash: it’s okay for me to shake my head and retreat to the silence of my house. It is not okay for a parent to.

Is it just me or is there some kind of unspoken rule that goes something like, if you have children, you actually raise those children? If otherwise, the implications for the future are mind-blowing. These are the fresh faces of the next gen-

eration, the next batch of teachers, doctors, bus drivers, and politicians. But perhaps most shocking is what a phrase like “I killed your wife” says about the kind of husbands these boys will be in 20 years. The boyfriends they will be in 10 or 15.

The girls are not perfect either, but in this particular neighbourhood they seem to have drawn the short straw. When my roommate tells me that he once saw from his truck window four or five boys chasing a little girl, some running in a manner to which the verb “toddle” would still very much apply, all wielding sticks of some form, I feel a sick sense of terror. A cold fear, the kind of fear I feel when

something that is deeply disturbing is also largely out of my control.

If I, one person in one area of one neighbourhood of one city, see and hear such things so often, what does that say about the rest of the world? The prognosis is not good.

I want to save the environment, so I recycle. I pick up after my dog because I hate when people get the wrong idea about pet owners. If I ever have a kid, I will make sure that, to the best of my abilities, that kid will be taught respect, decency, tolerance, and manners.

So is it too much to ask that every parent does the same? f

the thryllabus

Want your event listed on the thryllabus? Email events@thefulcrum.ca

Music

Sept. 6–9: Ottawa Folkfest at Hog's Back Park (Colonel By and Hog's Back)

Sept. 7: Sleep is for the Dead, Infiltration, The Channel 4 News Team, Anchor on the Ocean Floor, Paradigm Divide, Of Burning Empires, and Constructing the Future play Club SAW (67 Nicholas St.), 6 p.m.

Sept. 7: Julie Doiron and the Wrong Guys and Dearly Beloved play Café Dekucf (221 Rideau St.), 9 p.m.

Sept. 7: Zoo Legacy, Fire and Neon, and Big Dreams Team play Ritual (137 Besserer St.), 8 p.m.

Sept. 8: The Beatdown, The Sentries, Beer Barons, and the Unremarkables play Café Dekucf (221 Rideau St.), 8 p.m.

Sept. 9: Kreator, Swallow the Sun, and Mator play Mavericks (221 Rideau St.), 7 p.m.

Sept. 10: Madonna plays Scotiabank Place (1000 Palladium Dr.), 10 p.m.

Sept. 11: We Came as Romans, Abandon All Ships, Ice Nine Kills, and Skip the Foreplay play Ritual (137 Besserer St.), 6 p.m.

Sept. 12: Ceremony, The Dagger Eyes, Esprits Noirs, and Stuck in a Hole play Mavericks (221 Rideau St.), 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 13: Rise Against, The Gaslight Anthem, and Hotwater Music play CE Centre (4699 Uplands Dr.), 6 p.m.

Sept. 14: Texas in July, The Glass Cloud, Onward to Olympas, and One Year Later play Mavericks (221 Rideau St.), 6 p.m.

Film

Sept. 6: *The Amazing Spider-Man* plays at the Mayfair Theatre (1074 Bank St.), 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 7: *Bachelorette* released to theatres

Sept. 8: *The Room* plays at the Mayfair Theatre (1074 Bank St.), 10 p.m.

Sept. 9: *Iron Sky* plays at the Bytowne Cinema (325 Rideau St.), 9 p.m.

Sept. 12: *Savages* plays at the Mayfair Theatre (1074 Bank St.), 9:30 p.m.

Sept. 14: *Stolen* released to theatres

Sept. 14: *Beasts of the Southern Wild* plays at the Bytowne Cinema (325 Rideau St.), 5 p.m.

Sept. 15: *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* plays at the Mayfair Theatre (1074 Bank St.), 10:30 p.m.

Visual art

Now–Sept. 9: *The Revolution is called Atlantis* displayed at the Ottawa Art Gallery (2 Daly Ave.)

Now–Sept. 16: *Like Father, Like Daughter* displayed at the Cube Gallery (1285 Wellington St. W.)

Now–Sept. 16: *Haycock* displayed at the Cube Gallery (1285 Wellington St. W.)

Now–Sept. 30: *The Price of Sex* displayed at La Petite Mort Gallery (306 Cumberland St.)

Theatre

Sept. 7–29: *Stones in His Pockets* plays at the Gladstone Theatre (910 Gladstone Ave.)

Sept. 15–Oct. 6: *Hay Fever* plays at the Ottawa Little Theatre (400 King Edward Ave.)

Sports

Sept. 6: Men's basketball open tryout at Montpetit Hall (125 University Pvt.), 7:45 a.m.

Sept. 7: Women's rugby: Gee-Gees play the Montreal Carabins at Matt Anthony Field (801 King Edward Ave.), 6 p.m.

Sept. 8: Women's soccer: Gee-Gees play the Nipissing University Lakers at Matt Anthony Field (801 King Edward Ave.), 1 p.m.

Sept. 9: Women's soccer: Gee-Gees play the Laurentian University Voyageurs at Matt Anthony Field (801 King Edward Ave.), 1 p.m.

Sept. 11: WWE Smackdown at Scotiabank Place (1000 Palladium Dr.), 7 p.m.

Miscellaneous happenings

Sept. 7: PostSecret Live in the Alumni Auditorium (85 University Pvt.), 8 p.m.

Sept. 8: Sandy Hill Community Garage Sale (250 Somerset St. E.), 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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—Jack Welch



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Mathieu Fleury
 Ward / Quartier 12 Rideau-Vanier
 City Councillor
 Conseiller municipal

Hello,

As the Rideau-Vanier Ward City Councillor and as a graduate of the University of Ottawa, I wanted to take this opportunity to wish you a great school year. If you have any questions related to City of Ottawa issues, please do not hesitate to contact my team.

Mathieu Fleury
 City Councillor for Rideau-Vanier

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fulcrum
university of ottawa

Volume 73, Issue 3, Sept. 6–12, 2012

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Recycle this or eat roadkill.

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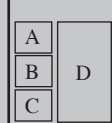
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EDITORIAL

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Those were the best days of my life



illustration by Gustav Doré (public domain)

YOU WAKE UP in the morning and pull on a pair of pre-faded, pre-ripped jeans—jeans you bought two weeks ago, brand-new, and not from a thrift store as it would appear—and head to the kitchen to make breakfast. Listening to Pink Floyd, you fry your eggs and decide to spend the day searching for the *Led Zeppelin III* record that has evaded your vinyl collection for far too long. You finish cooking your breakfast and realize your eggs and toast look too good to not be shared with all 700 of your Facebook friends, so you snap a photo of your plate using Instagram. Looking at the grainy, yellowing picture, it's hard to believe your eggs weren't made in the '70s—and that's exactly how you like it.

You, my friend, are suffering from a severe case of faux-nostalgia. And you're not alone.

Along with texting, trolling the Internet, and teaching our parents how to use every gadget in our homes, our generation—Generation Y, that is—has mastered the art of feeling nostalgic for eras we never even lived in. And who can blame us? We've seen what 2012 has to offer—ear-destroying auto-tuned music,

headache-inducing 3D movies, and digital cameras with resolutions so high they capture every single one of our blemishes. Violence, so it would seem, is on the rise, the number of job prospects is on the decline, and marriages are failing in record numbers. Yes, we've seen what 2012 is selling, and frankly, we're not interested. With Facebook groups like "Give us back John Lennon and we will send you Lady Gaga" and countless websites devoted to all things retro popping up all over the Internet, the message we're sending is clear: we want the good old days back, and we want them back now.

Or do we?

While the music, movies, and fashions of yesteryear are certainly appealing to many people, there are a lot of fantastic things happening today that the bell-bottomed hippies of Woodstock would consider themselves lucky to experience.

Take, for example, the medical world, where the future keeps looking brighter and brighter. The lives of Canadians living with Type 1 diabetes may become easier, thanks to the work done by the University of Edmonton's Dr. James Shapiro and his team of researchers. Shapiro

has developed a procedure known as the Edmonton Protocol, in which doctors inject islet cells that produce insulin into the liver of Type 1 diabetics. The majority of patients who undergo the treatment find they are able to live without daily insulin injections for years or, in some cases, permanently.

We're also seeing the rise of a new type of investment—one that pays dividends, but of karma. The invention of microfinancing has allowed the average citizen to become a philanthropist on a global level. Not-for-profit organizations like Kiva.org give people in the developed world the opportunity to help finance small businesses in the developing world. Once a fundraising goal is reached and the venture proves profitable, the original donation is returned to the benefactor, so he or she has the option to re-donate that money to help fund other projects. Essentially, a single donation could change the lives of countless people seeking sustainable incomes.

And when it comes to the environment, dare we say it, but our generation may actually be the one to make a real attempt at cleaning up the mess made by

the people who came before us. Scientists at York University in England are trying to perfect a technique that has existed for years, but with poor results: phytoremediation, a technology that aims to use trees and other plant life to clean up hazardous waste. According to CNNMoney's Saheli Datta and Todd Woody, researchers have discovered bacteria in the roots of poplar trees that produce an enzyme capable of destroying residue left from chemicals used by the military.

Don't get us wrong—things are nowhere near perfect in 2012. We aren't suggesting anyone turn a blind eye toward the major problems our generation still needs to tackle, nor are we advocating everyone forget entirely about the "good old days." There's certainly something comforting about curling up with a relic from the past, but there's also a lot of really exciting things happening in the here and now. You'll just have to put down that butter churn to realize it.

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