



THE WAR OF WORDS

This Camosun student wants to prove that writing still matters. page 6



Camosun moves forward on new Interurban building: 3

Victoria Film Fest celebrates 20 years of indie movies: 8



Professional wrestler turned performer talks his new life: 9

NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "Do you even read my column or do you just plp it on the page?"

COVER IMAGE:
War of Words by Greg Pratt/*Nexus*
Camosun trades building: Photo provided
Victoria Film Fest: Photo provided
Opera/burlesque: Photo provided

editor's letter

Words and meanings

It goes without saying that I believe in the power of words: I'm a writer and an editor. I realize you roll your eyes when one of us writing types starts talking about the power of words. So, let's try that again: I believe in the power of words because I'm a human being, and I think it's outrageous not to.

Writing of all kinds inspires, moves, and motivates, and that's what contributing writer Giustina Qualizza wanted to explore in more detail in this issue's cover story, found on page 6. When we found out that a Camosun student had just been named Victoria's youth poet laureate, we knew the time was right to write about writing, so we caught up with that student, and others, to find out what they think about the power of words.

We've also got stories about Camosun (their progress on the new trades building at Interurban on page 3; the latest installment of our *Know Your Profs* series on page 5), and we've got an update on what Camosun group Africa Calling is up to, penned by contributing writer Rachel Sovka, on page 4.

Back in our arts section, we've got contributing writers Jillian Wedel, Jayden Grieve, and Andrea Eggenberger writing about, respectively, a film fest, a Japanese pop-culture fest, and an opera/burlesque mash-up. Head to pages 8 and 9 to check those out.

And I know you've all been enjoying the word search on our back cover. I see the paper flipped open and folded to that section all the time around campus. It all comes down to words: may we never have to search too hard for them in the future.

Greg Pratt, editor-in-chief
editor@nexusnewspaper.com

flashback

20 years ago in Nexus



Needles and veins: Our February 21, 1994 issue had a doozy of a cover photo: a stark black and white image of someone shooting up. The story was about Victoria's heroin problem, which was starting to get some attention around that time. As part of the feature story, we interviewed a drug user (who didn't give his real name, but went by "Robert"). He was in his early twenties and used LSD weekly and assured us that it's "just a phase" and he'll "grow out of it." Our door is open for a follow-up interview now, 20 years later, if he's out there reading...

Yup, a hot pink headband: An article titled "Theft at Interurban" detailed how a man held up the

Interurban bookstore on a Friday afternoon. The suspect, who was apparently, and inexplicably, wearing a "hot pink headband," indicated that he had a gun and took the store's cash.

Haunted by the ghost of Rocktoria: Local radio station 100.3 The Q used to run a contest every year where local bands would compete to be placed on their annual *Rocktoria* compilation CD. That's all fair and good, but, man, over time "Rocktoria" became a dirty word. I once wrote a story about the "curse of *Rocktoria*" that ended with me being confronted by a *Rocktoria* winner in a stairwell in the Fisher Building... but that's a story for another time.

open space

God as man contributes to gender inequality

Is there any valid point for god having a distinct gender?

SETH BROOKS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The most powerful entity in the universe is god, and he's a man. This belief has indirectly aided in the creation of a gender imbalance due to its monotheistic principals and has left me asking myself, "What, or who, represents women in Christianity?"

Is there any valid point for god having a distinct gender? This discrepancy of power has contributed to the current imbalance of gender equality in western civilization. There may be some who look at god as genderless, but there are negative ramifications of god being seen in the image of a man.

It's important to consider how Canada began; many of Canada's earliest European settlers were Christian men, and many of them aided or spearheaded the development of policies and laws almost completely without the input of any women.

Being that Christians set much of Canada's foundation, even those of us who aren't Christian have grown up in a culture that's been strongly influenced by Christianity.

The effect of this ongoing belief

in a single god highlights the idea of the divinity of men without recognizing the divinity of women.

Throughout my life I have discussed the idea of there being a goddess with both men and women. Several of the men I talked to responded by labelling my message as "feel-good, hippy bullshit."

We as a society will respect someone when they describe their relationship with god, but we will not typically respect someone who's speaking about their relationship with a goddess in the same way.

The belief of a female goddess shouldn't be slandered and the fact that it is slandered contributes to young Canadians thinking that this belief is something that shouldn't be taken seriously. The battle to establish a greater sense of gender equality is a fight that we as men and women need to examine together in this patriarchal society.

One could argue that the image of god being a male encourages men to be loving caregivers and to be responsible for their actions. In no way would I disagree with this, but this belief puts the image of man on a pedestal while the image of women is left in the shadows.

Something on your mind? Send *Open Space* submissions (up to 400 words) to editor@nexusnewspaper.com. Include your student number. Thanks!

letters

Kindness prevails

A huge shout-out to the guy that not only didn't steal the iPhone that I dropped in the hallway and left behind, but instead phoned the last person listed on my recent calls to find out whose phone it was and where he might find me, and then came to the class to return it!

I, in a state of first-night-of-

class/I-lost-my-cell-phone-on-the-way-here anxiety, simply took it from him with a generic "Thank you very much," as if he had passed me the salt and went back to class.

Thank you, kind stranger. What an amazingly decent and wonderful thing you did. I appreciate you very much!

MICHELE MURPHY
CAMOSUN STUDENT

SPEAK UP

How can literature change society?

BY RACHEL SOVKA



VISHNU PUNWANI

"It plays a big part already; it's come a long way from what we started out as, like Shakespeare and all that. History is shaping our present day and will definitely continue on in the future to change how we write and look at the world."



JORDAN BENDALL

"It has the ability to shape people's opinions if they find the message strong enough."



PAUL BILEK

"It's done so in the past. I can't really think of anything in particular that would, but I think that just knowing what's in the past has changed the future."



KATIE SPENCE

"Yes, because it enhances peoples' thoughts and teaches them things."



TRISHA VANTANKEREN

"It provides knowledge to the community, depending on what it is."



JULIANA COOPER

"We've got examples of literature throughout history based on things that happened, and it creates a feedback loop where people read about an author's interpretation and then use it to further their own causes or to inspire change."

development

Saanich approves construction of new Interurban trades facility

“We’re going to have learning spaces that are a lot more user-friendly.”

ERIC SEHN
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

GREG PRATT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Saanich municipal council recently approved the construction of Centre for Trades Education and Innovation, a new trades facility at Camosun’s Interurban campus. As mentioned in last issue’s *News Briefs*, the \$30-million project received a unanimous approval from council, much to Camosun’s delight.

“I’m very, very pleased,” says Camosun dean of trades and technology Eric Sehn. “Very excited. It puts us into the next phase of the project and it puts us that much closer to starting the full-fledged actual physical preparation of the site. It’s really going to start to come to life. It’ll start jumping off the pages a lot more now. So we’re really, really pleased.”

Construction on the building—which will be where the Tillicum Lodge used to be before it was removed last year—is set to begin in early March and Sehn says the college aims to have the new facility open by September of 2015. He says

the new building will be an upgrade on the existing facilities, which are in need of some change.

“Our buildings right now are obviously showing their age,” says Sehn, “and I think we’re going to have learning spaces that are a lot more user-friendly, a lot more natural light is a big part of it, a very energy-efficient building.”

Sehn says there has been no significant opposition to the project, and part of the reason for that may be that Camosun—who are the largest trades trainers on the island, training 2,200 students each year—has been doing trades training at Interurban for over 40 years, so the community is used to the campus and its expansion. Plus, as Sehn explains, they’re not adding as much as it may initially seem.

“What we’re really doing is improving our space,” he says. “There are a bunch of old buildings being used [currently], these old wooden portables that foundation carpentry students built 25 years ago, and they’re falling apart. That’s four classrooms; we’re still using them, they’re horrible, but we’re using them. We have no choice, because we have nowhere else to put people. Everybody agrees that those things have got to go. So we’ll be demolishing those four buildings. We’ll have 10 new classrooms in the new building, but we’re taking out four, so the net gain is actually six.”

This also helped quell Saanich council’s concerns about an increase in students both driving to and parking at the campus; it



B+H ARCHITECTS

A design development drawing for Camosun’s new Centre for Trades Education and Innovation.

won’t add huge numbers, just give a better building to those already there, while adding a small amount of new students.

The environmental concerns were also something the college had in mind. “There are some issues, of course, putting a trades building there without some impact, obviously, on the land,” says Camosun vice president, administration and chief financial officer Peter Lockie. “You just never know, taking it to council, whether they’d have some issues there. We satisfied council that we’d done everything we could to minimize the impact on the environment.”

Not only is Camosun attempting to minimize impact on the environment, they’re aiming to take this building all the way to LEED Gold certification, which means it will meet a set of strict environmental guidelines.

“With a trades facility, that’s very challenging, considering some of the work going on in there,” says Lockie. “It’s going to be challenging to get LEED Gold, but we have a plan to do so.”

Lockie adds that Camosun put no shortage of research into the planning out of the building. He calls it a “contemporary trades training facility” and stresses the legwork that went into the planning process.

“Our team went around BC and Alberta touring new facilities and learned from the mistakes and the best features of all those facilities,” says Lockie. “So what it’s going to give is a state of the art teaching and learning facility for students going forward. That’s really what it is.”

The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) are also pleased to see the project moving ahead.

“We’re pleased that Saanich

council has greenlighted the construction of this building,” says CCSS external executive Simka Marshall. “Our trades students are currently housed in really aging facilities.”

Marshall says that the CCSS is “excited that this is happening,” and she’s hopeful that it might lead to more upgrades at Camosun.

“In addition to this, there are a lot of other improvements and new buildings that we need,” she says. “Hopefully this is just the beginning to seeing improvements all around campus.”

In the meantime, Sehn is looking ahead, focusing on construction to begin.

“We’re extremely excited and I can’t wait to see that site start to get leveled off. Then it’ll really get exciting,” says Sehn, adding with a chuckle that it will also “be noisy, and dusty.”

NEWS BRIEFS

Money awarded to Camosun women

The Canadian Federation of University Women Victoria distributed thousands of dollars in scholarships and bursaries to students from Camosun, UVic, and Royal Roads this year. Nine students from Camosun were honoured at a special lunch for award-winners last month. The federation is now fundraising for two more bursaries focused on trades and science. Remember, kids, you can’t win if you don’t apply! Go to cfuwvictoria.org for more info.

Sports teams back in zone for 2014

The Chargers season is in its last stretch this month, after the return to league games in January. Charger Mariah Holmstrom recently earned the PACWEST women’s volleyball athlete of the week for her exceptional teamwork. The team had a strong month of wins, while men’s volleyball, featuring recent PACWEST athlete of the week Alex Wolf, also showed well as the third-ranked team in BC. The women’s basketball team has also been playing for keeps, only losing a single, closely scored game last

month, while the men’s team was around 50/50 in wins.

Camosun students provide free fine dining

Students in the Hospitality Management Training program at Camosun recently had the opportunity to practice their skills and help those in need. Patrons of the Our Place community center were treated to a gourmet meal with professional service in the fourth annual event last month. The event gave many homeless and disadvantaged people a chance to have a really special dining experience and no doubt Camosun will be invited back next year.

Camosun Express shuttle bus reminder

Getting to Camosun from Langford is a pain if you take the bus or drive the highway in the crawl. If you haven’t tried the new minibus service yet, as reported on in our last issue, which runs from Westshore or between Lansdowne and Interurban campuses, don’t miss out on the pilot program, which runs to the end of March. See our full story on the Camosun Express bus at nexusnewspaper.com.

Chinese medicine program in public school

Previously, anyone wanting to learn traditional Chinese medicine in BC needed to attend a private school, but the province’s education minister has announced this month that it will soon be available at a public institution. Kwantlen Polytechnic University has been chosen as the first public BC school to offer a traditional Chinese medicine program. The program advisory committee will be created later this year; the program start date hasn’t yet been announced.

Children’s camp needs help cheering cancer patients

Camp Goodtimes is looking for volunteers to work with kids with cancer this summer. The camp provides kids with a fun and positive environment for themselves and their families. This is a great opportunity for anyone in the health care programs or who just loves working with children. Go to campgoodtimes.org for more info on how to get involved.

Court maintains that compost smells bad

Last year, the Foundation Organics Ltd. compost facility had its license suspended after complaints from nearby residents about the unpleasant emissions. In January, the BC Supreme Court upheld the CRD’s decision, finding the facility noncompliant for the bylaw that ensures a lack of ground contamination and nuisance odours.

TV show filming in Victoria

The Gracepoint series, based on the British show Broadchurch, just started filming in our fair city. The American producers found exactly what they were looking for to recreate the crime drama here. David Tennant, formerly on Doctor Who, will be reprising his own role from the British version, but this time with an American accent. Shooting locations include Oak Bay Ave and Sidney and the filming is expected to last for three months.

Plastic bags into fuel source

Finally an alternative to high-priced oil; well, technically, it’s also a petroleum product, but research

has given new life to used plastics. Scientists in India have developed a low-temperature method to convert plastic bags and other products into a liquid fuel similar to petrochemical fuels. At only 400–500 degrees Celsius (not much hotter than a conventional oven), they have achieved a 70 percent conversion rate using a clay mineral catalyst. Less plastic in landfills, less gas at the pump: sounds like a win.

Skittles millionaire

Local resident Chelsea Middleton is swimming in rainbow riches after winning a candy contest of epic proportions. She directed her social-media savvy towards gaining video views on the getskittlesrich.com website, and ended up with almost twice that of the runner-up. She intends to share much of the loot, possibly donating some to local charities. A couple thousand pounds of Skittles goes a long way!

-SAMANTHA PETTIFER

Got a news tip or a story that we should be covering? Is there something students on campus are talking about but we’re not?

*Let us know!
editor@nexusnewspaper.com*

activism

African phone donation program goes local

“This is social work, and I didn’t need my degree to do it.”

KEVIN DAVIS
AFRICA CALLING



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

A rare picture of Africa Calling’s Kevin Davis with a phone that has a cord attached to it.

RACHEL SOVKA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Africa Calling, the organization that started on Camosun College’s campuses, has come a long way since we last checked in with them. In fact, they’ve gone to Africa and back. But now the student-created charity is also reaching out to the local community.

Since 2011, Africa Calling has collected nearly 3,000 used cell phones to redistribute in rural African villages in Ghana, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Malawi, Zambia and Sudan, providing tools to increase literacy, connect families, and increase safety for Africans.

Kevin Davis, who started it all

in 2011 when he was a Camosun student (he’s now at UVic), has never been to Africa himself, but he didn’t let the limits of student obligations, time, or finances stop him from piloting the project, which also makes donations to local people in need.

“This is social work, and I didn’t

need my degree to do it,” he says. “I just put my hand up to volunteer and now I’ve probably given out even more phones locally than I have to Africa at this point.”

Eventually his classmates, faculty, local businesses and even international NGOs began supporting the program. Davis says the phones are carefully sorted and designated for use in Africa, but a lot of the phones that can’t be used abroad, for whatever reason, are donated locally.

“Many of the donated phones that don’t have a SIM card are given to local women’s shelters, community centers, and other social service agencies in Victoria,” explains Davis, “that’s empowering local people to be more equipped to get jobs, a place to live, and reconnect with society.”

Other than the benefits that those in need, both locally and afar, receive from the donated phones, Davis also notes that the program

has long-lasting environmental rewards.

“It’s also very important to understand the environmental impact cell phones have when they aren’t recycled correctly or reused,” he says. He estimates that up to two million cell phones are improperly discarded in landfills every day. “And we can do something to change that,” he says.

Davis says his 2011 sociology class at Camosun, taught by Dr. Francis Adu-Febiri, was the inspiration for Africa Calling. Davis, who has since shared his experience with Adu-Febiri’s subsequent classes, wants similar service-oriented courses available in schools from a younger age.

“We’re trying to contact the Ministry of Education to make service learning a standard curriculum throughout Canada,” he says, “so people can realize that you can make a difference even if you’re just a student.”



Education Council and Board of Governors ELECTION

Representation is important!

Do you want to influence the future of the college? Would you like to have a voice in the development of educational programs? Expand your horizons by serving on Camosun College’s Education Council or Board of Governors!

**The nomination period is from Monday, February 17 through
Friday, February 28 (3 pm deadline).**

The election will be held on Tuesday, March 18, Wednesday, March 19
from 9 am – 7 pm and Thursday, March 20 from 9 am – 3 pm.

For more information, see posters around the campus, on CamNews, student website, or contact Linea Patterson at 370-3530.

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Know Your Profs: Camosun's Laurie Jackson



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GREG PRATT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Know Your Profs is an ongoing series of articles helping you get to know the instructors at Camosun College a bit better. Every issue we ask a different instructor the same 10 questions. Got someone you want to see interviewed? Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com.

This time around we caught up with marketing and communications instructor Laurie Jackson and talked about being a tough marker, Greek ribs, and R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

1: What do you teach and how long have you been a teacher here?

I teach marketing and communications courses: everything from first-year Business Communications and Intro Marketing to upper level BBA courses in Consumer Behaviour and, this term, Advanced Communications, which is writing for marketing and public relations. I first taught as a sessional here in the early 1990s before heading to New Zealand and Australia for 10 years. I was fortunate to be appointed as a sessional again in 2012. I have taught at nine different colleges and universities over the years, but Camosun is my favorite.

2: What do you personally get out of teaching?

I get great satisfaction in seeing students grow from when they come to their first college course to graduating as true professionals. I enjoy working with them on a day-to-day basis to develop their skills in marketing and communications, but also helping them develop confidence, creativity, analytical and critical thinking, and passion for their chosen field.

3: What's one thing you wish your students knew about you?

I want them to know that I am out for their best interest. I have sometimes been accused of being a tough marker, but having worked for many years in business, I know that "out there" only the best will do. While some students seem to be more concerned about today's marks, many do realize that it's getting that first job and progressing in their career that is the important goal to keep in mind. I see my job as helping them do that in the best way I know how.

4: What's one thing you wish they didn't know about you?

I am generally very open. I might jokingly say I wish they didn't know how old I really am, but it's no secret that I'm getting closer to their grandparents' ages than their parents'! I am at the stage that I really admire cultures that honour elders' knowledge.

5: What's the best thing that's ever happened to you as a teacher here?

The best thing has been being reappointed and given the opportunity to teach a variety of courses.

I love planning new courses and I'm very grateful that, as a sessional, they keep hiring me.

6: What's the worst thing that's ever happened to you as a teacher here?

I've been very fortunate not to have any really bad things happen, but I'd have to say getting the flu near the beginning of this term and getting behind in my classes hasn't been fun. I find, though, that it did make me much more sympathetic to all my students who have been sick this year.

7: What do you see in the future of postsecondary education?

Well, not wanting to be political, but unless the government stops the funding cuts to postsecondary education I am very concerned that quality and access will suffer. I believe that investment in higher education pays off in a better

economy, yet they seem to be making shorter-term decisions, which I think will undercut their goals.

8: What do you do to relax on the weekends?

My weekend home is on Gabriola Island and I love to walk the beaches with my dog and then sit by the fire with my two cats.

9: What is your favourite meal?

I am fortunate to have a spouse who loves to cook, so my favorites are some of his specialties: Greek-style ribs or a barbecued steak. Apologies to the vegetarians!

10: What's your biggest pet peeve?

As all my students know, respect is a big issue for me in my classes. My pet peeve is when students don't actively listen to others who have mustered up the courage to speak in class or deliver a presentation.



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THE WRITING'S

A poet laureate, an activist, and a writing pro weigh in on words and the power they hold.

With the onset of Ted talks and viral Upworthy videos, many people are finding their inspiration online. These kinds of videos are becoming increasingly popular and are flooding social media. But this raises the question: what is happening to the written word?

Is writing losing its effectiveness in provoking thought? Do people pay as much attention to stories, essays, and poems as they do to the heart-warming videos that pop up in their news feed?

And perhaps the most important question of all: Is writing a form of advocacy and self-expression that is here to stay?

C The power of words

Camosun student Morgan Purvis has recently been named Victoria's Youth Poet Laureate for 2014. Last year was the pilot for the program and the City of Victoria Youth Council, who organizes the program, is very excited to see what Purvis, an already well-established poet within the community, will bring to the position.

The goal of the program is to get young people that would otherwise not have access to that scene involved in poetry, as well as supporting youth arts in general, according to Kluane Buser-Rivet, youth council coordinator for the City of Victoria Youth Council.

"When we talk to youth we find that the challenges, in relation to the arts, are the lack of accessible spaces to showcase their art and a lack of financial support for their work," says Buser-Rivet. "Through this project we are addressing both of these issues, by providing funding for the Youth Poet Laureate, but also providing established spaces to present poetry, and also have access to the resources that the Youth Council has, in terms of organizing events and projects."

Purvis is thrilled with the prospects of her new position as Youth Poet Laureate and can't wait to start organizing projects and events.

"This year it has private sponsorship," says Purvis. "I get an honorarium and an operating budget, and I get to do projects that are meaningful to me."

Purvis has big plans for her year as the Youth Poet Laureate. In October, Victoria will be the host city of the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word, a national event that will be bringing poets together from all across the country. Within the event, Purvis plans on making sure the youth voice is well represented.

"My idea is to have a day of youth programming; to have a showcase of national talent of youth in spoken word," she explains. "I'm also planning on going to the youth correctional facility, to some youth poetry slams there. I've done it before and really loved the experience."

As the Youth Poet Laureate, Purvis will have a handful of responsibilities, including presenting at Victoria City Council and Youth Council meetings. Purvis has already begun to think about the issues she wants to address in front of these groups.

"Educational funding cuts and child poverty, in BC particularly, are really serious problems," she says. "There's a part of me that looks at being the Youth Poet Laureate and thinks that I have to work as an advocate, and I have a duty to write about these issues."

On the other hand, Purvis says she doesn't like the idea of tokenizing youth even further.

"I'm also just a poet, and I have things to talk about, like falling in love, and war, and other youth do, too. And so it's hard for me to know whether the issue should be, 'Youth are real artists, take us seriously!' or, 'Don't you dare under-educate us.'"

Purvis believes that the written word has the power to bring about positive change on a community level and feels that spoken-word poetry is especially effective as a writing genre.

"I think of it as typical, awareness-raising activism," she says, "because for a lot of poets it's not that different from a poster campaign or a rally. It's a media plug, it's whatever you want it to be. What makes spoken word different is that it's really hard to fake it. You're interacting with an audience in a real moment."

B The written word as a tool

Besides the basic act of self-expression, through the ages the written word has been an important form of activism. And while video campaigns or online petitions may appear to have a more direct effect, it's the written word that can resonate with people and affect true change.

Camosun College Student Society Women's Director Daphne Shaed recently won a writing competition put on by the Association of Canadian College and University Ombudsperson (ACCUO) for students that have a focus in social justice work.

Shaed was recognized as a strong contender for the competition by Camosun's ombudsperson, Carter McDonald, after she gave a memorable speech at the ACCUO's conference last year.

"I sent in my essay on the final day, on the deadline. I actually wrote it the morning of, just right of the top of my head," says Shaed. "I honestly didn't think I had a chance. It was all the colleges and universities across the country, and I thought, 'Well, there's going to be hundreds of entries and I'm not likely to win this.'"

Perhaps Shaed was able to craft a winning essay with such ease because she's so passionate and committed to the activism work that she does.

"I do that dialogue so often that it wasn't really much for me to write about it," she says. "If someone had given me new subject matter and told me to write about that, I'd really have to think about it... but because I know this subject so intimately and so well, I was just able to hit the keyboard in one run and say, 'Here it is, here's what I think.'"

Shaed's endeavors in social justice work are numerous. On top of being Camosun's Women's Director, she's also the outreach coordinator for the Students of Colour Collective within the University of Victoria's Student Society, as well as working as an advocate for transgender women worldwide.

With the type of advocacy work that Shaed does, being clear and concise is very important. She explains that the writing has taught her to use a different approach in educating.

"I want to tell people about my personal experience, and how I view the world, and how I think things are working, because it's about idea sharing," she says. "At the same time, I want there to be a very clear picture of what I'm sharing. It's important that it's done that way, because I don't want my ideas to be taken or twisted and then used in the capacity to do harm. I'm very conscious when I'm writing; more so than when I'm talking."

Shaed considers herself an orator and admits to feeling more comfortable going out, talking with people, and having a two-sided interaction, rather than relying on writing alone to get a point across.

"Writing is not reciprocal," she says. "It's very one-sided, you're telling somebody something. You may be getting them to think about something, but everybody will practice the interpretation of what you write differently..."

Because of this, Shaed feels that writing doesn't necessarily have the power to bring people together, and uses writing primarily to access an audience that doesn't have the ability to make it to a speaking event.

"Having speaking engagements brings people together because it puts people in the same room. And they're all listening, and you're having that back and forth, reciprocal relationship," she says. "Reading is an internal thing. We generally read by ourselves. We don't collectively read, and there's a different dynamic there."

S ON THE WALL

Professor

Story by Giustina Qualizza, contributing writer
Photo by Greg Pratt/Nexus



“There’s a part of me that looks at being the Youth Poet Laureate and thinks that I have to work as an advocate, and I have a duty to write about these issues.”
Morgan Purvis
**Camosun student/
Victoria Youth Poet Laureate**

Daughter By Morgan Purvis

My hips know already how to rock her gentle
My fingers know how best to keep her clean
Being the oldest sister taught me the canonized bookwork
of motherhood.

Mary was no sexless doll
No toy of jealous macho Gawd
She was made purer in every bloody, dripping, squelching
moment

Picking up the lunch dishes in the sink, one by one
Cleaning them slowly, scrubbing every millimetre
The hum of the refrigerator
Breathing sweet lavender bubbles
Visceral gratitude for a moment of control
-likely the only one today

On the day my daughter is born
I think I’ll call her Eve
And I’ll breath her scent so hungrily
Ahh that lingering cling of paradise
Sweet, like apples
Special, like a secret seed kept under the tongue
Hidden bits of eden we take with us from birth to grave

Looking out the late afternoon window
Children squabbling in play
Laughing in discovery
Sobbing out whole seas in disappointments unbearable

I spend 3 falls, 1 fight, 2 new dimensions, and a faerie visit
Washing this little pile of dishes
In silence
In reverence

And I remember
The middle aged tequila soaked friends of my stepfather
Appraising my 15-year-old breasts and ignoring my mother
They were disguised as friendly family-men.
Costumes completed with real live
wife-and-kids-accessories.

the next day I painted my first giant rainbow vagina and
taped it to my ceiling

And now, good “Man’s men” never ask me what I think
anymore
Except when I catch them by surprise

But don’t worry, Evey. They are easily surprised by the
works of God,
and you carry paradise under your tongue.

Putting pen to paper

Purvis and Shaed are full of advice for anyone who wants to start writing, or for those who are having a hard time getting their work heard.

For starters, Purvis is an active part of the spoken word scene and urges anyone who writes to go out and become a part of the community.

“I think a lot of the time young writers don’t get taken very seriously,” says Purvis. “Don’t let that stop you! You don’t have to be a spoken word artist, you could be anybody... if you are having a hard time getting support for your work, come to an open mic. You’ll get something.”

Purvis also offers advice and personal insight into struggling with creativity and subject matter.

“Don’t worry about writing the right thing. This happens to me a lot,” she says. “I worry, ‘Is my cause the right cause? Am I being justice-y enough? Or am I being beautiful enough? Am I being eloquent?’ But the best things I have written have always been without trying to answer of my own questions. Don’t force it.”

Meanwhile, Shaed stresses that if you are using your writing for advocacy or teaching, it’s very important to be familiar with your subject matter.

“Know what you’re talking about,” says Shaed. “And don’t be afraid to say that you don’t know what you’re talking about, either. There are a lot of times that I speculate on something and I don’t really know...but I will say that I’m speculating, which is okay to do. You don’t need to know everything. It’s okay to say, ‘I don’t know.’”

Shaed also says that it’s important to keep some of what you write for yourself and to use writing as a form of self-care.

“Don’t publish everything. Never,” she says. “I write a lot, but I probably publish 10 percent of what I write. All the rest I keep to myself.”

Social media and writing: not mutually exclusive

Camosun College writing professor Jodi Lundgren suggests that writing isn’t being overpowered by the visual nature of communication; in fact, writing is being proliferated by the rise of social media.

“I don’t think it’s one replacing the other,” says Lundgren. “We won’t get as deep an understanding from just watching a short video clip about something as we would from reading about it. But those videos can spark interest and those who want to will go and research more deeply.”

Lundgren also points out that our increased use of technology, and computers specifically, can be helpful in bringing people together and becoming more engaged with the written word.

“Goodreads is a good example,” she says. “You read a book and then you go onto Goodreads to see what everybody else thought. Then you chime in and give your own expression. So you’re joining in to an online community through the book that you’ve read.”

Lundgren also says the most effective form of advocacy and awareness-raising is via the written word because it’s the most effective way of connecting people on an emotional level.

“For example, a video doesn’t let you develop empathy the way you can with a person in writing,” she says. “You can’t get inside their head. It’s one thing to watch somebody in pain, but to hear what the interior soundtrack was when they were going through that experience is going to be more powerful.”

festival

Film fest celebrate two decades of indie flicks

JILLIAN WEDEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The past year was a turbulent one for the Victoria Film Festival (VFF), but they're back with another line-up of independent films to celebrate their 20th anniversary.

With the recent closure of the festival's main sponsoring venue, Empire Theatres' Capitol 6, VFF was left scrambling for a new screening location as well as money to update the projector at their own venue, the Vic Theatre.

But festival director Kathy Kay was able to breathe a sigh of relief after successful fundraising efforts allowed them to keep up with the technology required to screen the latest releases. Along with the Vic Theatre's brand new digital projector, Cineplex Entertainment has offered the Odeon to accommodate film fest crowds.

Last year, the festival saw record-breaking attendance, with 22 feature screenings selling out. This is what makes it all worthwhile, according to Kay.

"When you have a full house and people really love the movie, and you can tell that they're jiving with it, that feels really good," she says.

And with 17 years of festival planning under her belt, Kay really knows how to get people excited.

To top last year's opening gala, VFF will be hosting a 1960's-themed event that will bring to life some of the momentous occasions of that vibrant decade. "This has become one of my favourite things to do," says Kay, grinning as she talks about the gala.

But it's not all about the mixed drinks and theme parties: the festival is important because it provides an opportunity for the many facets of our identities to play out onscreen.

"Right now mainstream cinema really is black and white," says Kay. "With independent film you get a different perspective; people are grey... good people do bad things sometimes."

Flipping through the 50-plus films in the festival guide, the variety is refreshing: something that big blockbuster films are often unable to offer.

One particularly interesting looking film is *Call Me Kuchu*. This unsettling documentary exposes the dangers faced by Uganda's LGBT community amidst the country's introduction of an anti-homosexuality bill and the murder of gay rights activist David Kato.

Another documentary that stands out, *Finding Vivian Maier*, gives the audience an intriguing



PHOTO PROVIDED

Call Me Kuchu is just one of many indie films screening at this year's Victoria Film Festival.

look at a solitary artist introduced to the world through the striking images uncovered in her private photography. Unseen until now, the late Maier's pictures were discovered at an auction and have become the inspiration and backdrop for this stunning film, directed by John Maloof.

In addition, VFF makes a point of handing the programming over to voices less represented in the industry. For example, filmmaking is still a very male-dominated art form.

"When you look in the program guide, there are four feature films that were directed by women," says Kay.

As a way to encourage and celebrate female participation, there's Women in the Director's Chair, a part of the fest that will feature three films made by women, including the documentary *Cyber Seniors*, directed by Toronto's Saffron Cassaday.

Originally an actress, Cassaday decided to get behind the camera for *Cyber Seniors*. In the film, Cassaday and her entirely female crew follow the relationships that bloom out of a program called Cyber Seniors. Developed by Cassaday's younger sisters, the program teaches seniors how to use computers by pairing them up with a teenage mentor.

But that isn't the program's only goal.

"Seniors and teenagers realize that they have a lot more in common than they thought," says Cassaday, revealing that the film is also about connecting generations.

And, really, events like the Victoria Film Festival remind us how we *all* have a lot more in common than we thought; the stories on screen can reach out and pull in every one of us, no matter what our background is.

Victoria Film Festival
February 7-16
victoriafilmfestival.com

event

Convention honours all things anime

JAYDEN GRIEVE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Set in Japan, big eyes, crazy hair: sound familiar? No, it's not Mothra. It's anime, Japan's number one television medium since a medium only held twelve ounces. From its inception, anime has spread far and wide, becoming a common feature in the lives of many North Americans.

It's even made it to our very own Vancouver Island, which makes sense geographically since Japan isn't that far away. Perhaps anime can swim. Regardless of how it got here, an event called Tsukino Con will be celebrating all of its animated glory.

"We basically are a celebration of the culture around Japanese anime. We have a bunch of dealers that will come and sell merchandise, we have artists from here and Vancouver, and there are a significant number of people who will dress up in cosplay," explains conference chair Adam Park. "We have two main auditoriums and three panel rooms that are filled with events continuously running throughout the weekend. All together we have about 80 events, that's like the programming of a convention that's four or five times the size."

The convention's staff members have set their hopes high and are putting all they've got into making it an enjoyable weekend. For instance, Park, who says, "You'd be hard pressed to find an anime fan that doesn't love video games," has



CLINT HAY

Two attendees of last year's Tsukino Con.

lent his entire personal collection of videogames to the convention's game room.

"We have an entire wing that's all game stuff. There are cards games, a Pokémon league, Dungeons and Dragons, and a videogame room set up with every system imaginable," says Park. "We've been told that the quality of our video games room is what you'd expect to find at 10,000-person convention."

Last year's convention saw an impressive 1,700-plus visitors, but this year it's expected that a whopping 2,000 people will attend. Park hopes that the wide array of programming will draw people from all walks of life.

"A lot of people think it's only for teenagers, but, definitely, it's not. We have a lot of people in their twenties and older. Often parents will bring their kids and then even the parents will end up enjoying it," says Park, who claims even those that are unfamiliar with the anime genre will find something

to entertain themselves. "We even have a lot of panels that are aimed at those people who have maybe never seen anime before. Last year we actually had a panel called 'I'm an Anime N00b.'"

As with most conventions, there will be prizes for those who sport the best costumes based on their favourite anime character. This year the convention is scheduled to fall on Valentine's Day, which provides a unique situation.

"Every year our convention has a theme—last year it was magical girls, like Sailor Moon, and everything that came from that, and this year our theme is love," says Park, who hints that there may even be a special Valentine's surprise at this year's convention... who says anime can't be romantic?

Tsukino Con
February 14-16
\$20 (student rate),
University of Victoria
tsukinocon.com

what's going on

by samantha pettifer

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS,
THROUGH FEBRUARY

It's gym time!

Camosun students can now play team sports without all the commitment and pressure of an actual team. Just come out for the drop-in soccer and floor hockey at the Lansdowne Middle School gymnasium. Soccer runs from 8–9 pm on Tuesdays and 8:30–9:30 pm Thursdays, and floor hockey from 9–10 pm on Tuesdays and 9:30–10:30 pm on Thursdays.

FEBRUARY 3–8

It's development time!

The first week of February is Canada's International Development Week, which looks at the work Canada is doing in the world community. Camosun will be hosting three events at the Lansdowne campus: a film night on Thursday, February 6, featuring a film about marketing challenges in Africa (in Young 216); an informative session on Friday, February 7 about global internships (9 am–1 pm in Wilna Thomas 234); and "Flavours From Home," a selection of world cuisine with a related talk (7–9 pm in Wilna Thomas 234). Go to videa.ca for more info.

FEBRUARY 4–MARCH 9

Loud and... controversial

Controversial play *Proud* will be staging only its second production since its opening last fall. It was notably refused by playwright Michael Healey's home theatre in Toronto, but the Belfry has no worries about the satire. Go to belfry.bc.ca for ticket info.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Hitchhiking on water

Thorsten Boehnke and BC ecologist Laura Winter will be at the screening of the documentary *Hitchhiking Across the Atlantic* to satisfy curious

minds about their journey. Thorsten started as a crew member aboard a friend's catamaran; he met Winter when he boarded another boat sailing through the Caribbean. The movie will be shown at Ocean River Sports downtown at 7 pm. Admission \$8. Info: running-downwind.tv.

FEBRUARY 7–8, 12–15

Shakespeare in love

The Victoria Shakespeare Society is reviving a popular production that pulls the best love scenes from Shakespeare's plays to create a Valentine's romance for the audience. *Shakespeare in Love* will be staged in the historic rooms of Craigdarroch Castle, with tasty desserts and refreshments served afterwards. There will be no seating and reservations are required. Go to thecastle.ca for ticket info.

FEBRUARY 14–15

Django festival

Paris was the place for hot jazz in the '20s, with guitarist Django Reinhardt as one of its stars. Come dance at a recreation of the swinging scene, with simultaneous stages and a free dance workshop. The Friday show with music from Brishen is at White Eagle Hall, and the Saturday lineup is at St. Andrews Church. Details at oliverswainmusic.com.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

"Seedy" as a compliment

Need seeds? Then Seedy Saturday is the event to hit before planting season starts. Not just seeds, but seedlings, small trees, local produce and food, and even bee supplies. You can get advice from the growers, and meet all kinds of garden enthusiasts. There will also be talks to help that green thumb of yours thrive. The show will be at the Victoria Conference Centre; go to jamesbaymarket.com/seedsaturday for more info.

entertainment

Mick Foley: the *Nexus* interview

“Right off the bat I tell people not to ask me if it hurt when the Undertaker threw me off the cell.”

MICK FOLEY
WWE HALL-OF-FAMER

JASON SCHREURS
MANAGING EDITOR

As the saying amongst professional wrestling fans goes, “Mick Foley is God.” Imagine our excitement when it was announced that the man who was infamously flung from the top of a 16-foot tall steel cage by the Undertaker in 1998’s Hell in a Cell, one of the best wrestling matches of all time, was appearing in Victoria. *Nexus* recently spoke to World Wrestling Entertainment hall-of-famer Foley, also a celebrated author and performer, about his “Tales from Wrestling Past” speaking tour, the classic match we can’t stop talking about, and his ultimate life lesson.

How has the transition been from wrestling to these more intimate speaking tours?

Ah, man, I’ve been doing it for about four years, but it took me two years to understand that people wanted to hear material outside of wrestling, and no matter how good those stories were, that there were other places to go. It was my stories from the road that made me stand out, and once I got that memo, it’s been great.

What was it like the first time you went up on stage to do a show?

It was easy, and that was the worst thing that could have happened. I went up there for 20 minutes with some rough ideas and some stories that I’d told at colleges. I sort of breezed through it and mistakenly thought it would be easy. And then I found out the hard way that there’s a world of difference between going up there and being okay and going up there and really doing a good job.

You do a Q&A after every show. What question do you get the most?

Oh, well, right off the bat I tell people not to ask me if it hurt when the Undertaker threw me off the cell. That’s the question I’ve been dealing with for 16 years on a daily basis.

And the one with the most obvious answer, I guess?

Yeah, yeah... The last thing I want to do is be on autopilot,

whether I’m giving an answer to an eight-year-old kid who honestly thinks it’s the first time I’ve ever been asked that, or if it’s someone who asks it when I’m doing the show out in BC. I think when people walk away from my shows they realize I’m doing anything but phoning it in, and I’m giving the best performance that I can.

When you think back on that classic Hell in a Cell match with the Undertaker, how do you feel about it now?

I came to see that match in an entirely new light following last year’s hall of fame induction ceremony. Prior to that, I didn’t find the story particularly funny, but there are just some great laughs at the bizarre nature of everything that took place that night.

Do miss the limelight and the rush of wrestling?

No, because I get that up on stage. Honestly, and I know this might be hard for people to fathom, but I get as much of a rush out of 170 people who are enjoying themselves as I do in front of 16,000. And on stage I have the freedom to create my own show, instead of reciting words that someone else wants me to say. Of course, I love appearing on the WWE show and it’s nice to hear that many people chanting my name, but the responses I receive in



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mick Foley’s stories go beyond the mat (and cage).

the clubs are equally, if not more, rewarding.

Do you think you or the characters you portrayed would have a place in the wrestling of today?

Yeah, sure! You might need to adapt it a bit, but you see guys that are reminiscent of a younger version of me. Sure, I could have found a way to fit in.

How does it feel when you see these new guys who are modeling themselves after you?

Hey, I love it [laughs]. If somebody does something that reminds people of me, I see it as a tribute. As a matter of fact, I tell the guys, “Look

man, there’s a pretty rich library of stuff and most of it’s untapped.” If you can find something that I did or said in one specific match and you can use it, by all means, please do.

What’s the one lesson you’ve learned in life?

Well, you hope that the triumphs outweigh the failures, and, believe me, I’ve had plenty of both!

Mick Foley
7 pm and 9 pm Tuesday
February 11
\$30, Hecker’s Bar and Grill
(123 Gorge Rd E.)
realmickfoley.com

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Noms!

words and photo by Patrick Hallihan

Chicken curry in a flash



Chicken curry: easy and delicious.

Chicken curry is a spicy dish that's great when you're feeling a cold coming on, and it can also be either an extravagant meal built to impress or a simple dish made in a hurry.

Tonight's dish is a test of "this is what I have, what can I make?" which goes along with my theme of "it's after Christmas, I just paid tuition, and I'm broke." Really, that's what cooking should be: take what you have and make something tasty.

So boil some water and have a cup of tea, we're making some college student curry!

What you will need:

- Boneless, skinless chicken breast
- Curry paste or sauce
- Vegetables
- Spices (to taste and preferred intensity)
- Rice

Start off by heating up a frying pan and cooking your chicken breast. In a proper curry, we would

actually cook the chicken in the sauce itself, but we're working in the world of a student, where time is a factor! How you choose to prep the chicken beforehand is largely up to you, but I put some chili powder and black pepper on it and then cubed the chicken.

While your chicken cooks, chop up your vegetables, leaving them reasonably chunky. I used some frozen vegetables, potato, and Spanish onion. Grab your curry base, a paste or sauce, and put it in a bowl. Add some desired spices like ginger, curry powder, cayenne, or garlic powder to add some extra flavour. Put the sauce on medium, add in your vegetables, and bring it to a bubble.

We will be serving our curry on a bed of rice, so put one cup of rice (or more if you really like rice) into a pot with double that much water and a bit of salt. Bring the rice to a boil on high heat, then lower the heat to a simmer, and place the lid on the pot. Let the water boil off without lifting the lid until the rice

is fully cooked. If you have issues of the water boiling over, try washing the grains with cold water prior to cooking until the water runs clear.

Once the rice is started and the curry sauce is bubbling away, your chicken should be nearly cooked in the pan. Once cooked, chop it up (if you hadn't already done so to cook it) and add it to your bubbling sauce. Allow to simmer while the rice cooks, giving any vegetables in the sauce time to cook and become soft.

Once the rice is light and fluffy and the curry cooked, slop them both in a bowl and enjoy!

Remember, this is a cut-back version of a proper curry dish, so have some fun and experiment with it. Use up your old vegetables and that leftover meat in the fridge. If you have the time and creativity, make your own curry base instead of using a sauce or paste.

This is an easy dish to make on your own and can actually impress those who don't realize just how easy it is to do it.



Politically Speaking

by Matthew Helliwell

Prime Minister confirms west coast is best coast



PHOTO PROVIDED

In case you didn't know, Canada is really big (at least in the literal, geographical sense). On one level, our size and distance from each other keeps us all interesting: west coasters have our Nanaimo Bars and Newfoundlanders their seal-flipper pies. These fun cultural differences don't generally lead to a lot of regional animosity (although east coasters are almost certainly jealous of North America's best no-bake dessert).

When it comes to regional political culture, though, all bets are off. That's why a policy that the federal government might see as in everyone's interests can in fact polarize different regions. As former Prime Minister Mackenzie King quipped in 1936, "If some countries have too much history, we have too much geography."

Not much has changed since then. A talk by Stephen Harper was interrupted by two climate change protesters at a Vancouver trade event last month. The activists expressed their disdain for the Conservatives' climate policy by calmly holding signs on stage with the Prime Minister.

The activists didn't faze Harper,

however, who calmly chirped, "It wouldn't be BC without it." Some took this comment as proof of Harper's detachment from the nature of politics here in beautiful BC. I would beg to differ.

In fact, I think he's right. Without men and women like Shireen Soofi and Sean Devlin as voices for ecological concerns, we wouldn't be the province responsible for Greenpeace, mass protests to protect our rainforests, or Canada's first Green MP.

This green streak, mostly based on the west coast of BC, proves that politics can differ, even within provinces. Most of these phenomena came and continue to come from us pinko do-gooders on "the Left Coast," who balance the Conservative power-base in the rest of the province.

Harper is probably right about one thing: without our active green movement, BC could be the same shade of Tory blue as the rest of Western Canada. BC wouldn't be BC without a strong environmental movement.

Without it, we'd look the same as the rest of the West, at least politically.



Age of Geeks

by Vishal Pandey

BlackBerry revamps, game prices up, Timmie's tech

In the last two issues we took a look at the technology trends that we may see in 2014. We also covered several devices which we will be seeing more of in 2014. Some of them left us amazed, while others made us wonder about their futures. But that's the story of life, isn't it? It's about time that we can see those trends becoming reality. So, here are some top stories that you may have missed over the last two weeks.

New BlackBerry OS

Our good old Canadian friends at Research in Motion have come up with their new operating system for BlackBerry phones. Last week, they announced OS 10.2.1, the company's latest software update. From the looks of it, they have pushed for a lot of refreshments and upgrades, but only few of them seem significant. Major upgrades are mainly SMS groups, notification improvement, and pinch gesture. So if you are still the old-school BlackBerry guy, this is good news for you.


Video game prices hiked

Okay, so this one isn't for the faint-hearted. Have you been used to paying no more than \$59.99 for new game titles on your consoles? Well, get ready to add \$5 or \$10 to

those prices now. Most of the Canadian game retailers have already increased the price for newer titles due to the dip in the Canadian dollar value, and some who haven't are planning to in the very near future. Retailers like EB Games and Walmart have already increased the prices of their pre-order titles by \$10, and the current titles by \$5. Other big retailers like Future Shop and Best Buy are still waiting to get on the price-increase train. But, for now, if you are in the market for a new game, at least you know where to buy them!

Tech tries for faster donuts

And last but not least, there's a new app out there for everyone who likes coffee and donuts (so, everyone?). The app, named Tim's Times, is designed to chronicle wait times in all of the Tim Hortons stores across Canada. Tim's Times is Twitter-integrated, which means that you can tweet the waiting time at your local Tim Hortons while waiting for your morning double-double (or triple-triple). But what's in it for the users, you may ask? Well, the users can tweet about the delays, and, apparently, Timmie's management is hoping to use that info to improve their service time. So, start tweetin' those wait times!



7th Annual


Cultural Showcase

~AUDITIONS~

Calling all singers, dancers, and entertainers!

We are seeking performers for the Cultural Showcase.

If you would like to be part of the show, please contact studyabroad@camosun.ca by Feb. 14 to arrange an audition.




Presented by Camosun International

For more information, visit camosun.ca/international

The Cultural Showcase will take place on Friday, March 14 from 7pm to 9pm (time subject to change).

Location: TBD

 /CamosunInternational

Camosun College Student Society columns

Queerly Forward

by Caitlyn O'Brien
camosun college pride collective

Time to heart your parts

"The parts you heart are a lot more than what's between your legs," says the Canadian Federation of Sexual Health regarding the upcoming Heart Your Parts campaign, taking place February 10-14.

This campaign is part of the 11th annual Sexual and Reproductive Health Awareness Week. It's a chance to promote sex positivity and celebrate the efforts being made to overcome barriers to improving our sexual and reproductive health.

Through organizing local events and educational activities, sexual health organizations across the country are raising awareness about the importance of self-care, safety, and a pleasurable sexual life.

Island Sexual Health (ISH) and the Camosun Col-

lege Student Society (CCSS) are planning two events; one at the Camosun College Lansdowne campus on February 11, and the other at the Interurban campus on February 12.

On these days, students will have an opportunity to express what "heart your parts" means to them through activities such as painting on a giant canvas, creating a video, or playing educational games. The events go on from 10 am to 4 pm on both campuses.

All participants will be entered to win several prize draws for participation. Through these events, ISH and CCSS hope to make a lasting impression about the importance of sexual health and get students talking about all the different "parts" there are to heart.

In Search of Lost Time

by Daphne Shaed
camosun college women's center

Olympic-sized issues

The colony of Canada has constructed LGBT rights in its constitutional framework. Although this gives many rights to LGBT people within the colony of Canada, we must contrast this against the operations of our government abroad.

What are our governments and political leaders saying when they claim to guarantee rights while simultaneously actively participating in events that fail to enforce the ideals of the citizens they represent?

It's hypocrisy, plain and simple. Canada and other nations should have stood in solidarity, not to boycott the Olympics, but to pressure the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to meet basic human rights laws.

The failure to do so shows support by being an inactive bystander. Corporate sponsors should stand

up as well and run LGBT-themed advertisements during the Olympics.

I'm disgusted that the IOC failed to act when Russia altered their laws to criminalize certain forms of sexuality. And I'm also upset that powerful nations and corporations stand by and allow for human rights abuses to take place.

However, I'm not surprised.

Our government commits many human rights abuses, historically and currently, and yet I see people still waving flags with enthusiasm.

So, don't boycott the Olympics; rather, criticize those whose support the IOC and the governments of countries that criminalize what should be basic human rights.

Mind Your Business

by Andrea Eggenberger
camosun college DECA club

To compete or not to compete?

A real-world situation with no right answer: business case competitions can seem rather daunting. Camosun's DECA club attends two case competitions each winter semester. This year the first is just a short ferry ride to Seattle, and the second is in Washington, DC. But, as a student, how do you justify the cost? Why is it worth your time and money?

True test of your skills

Breaking down a case is the best way to test your qualitative and quantitative analysis skills. Without textbooks to reference, you're able

to draw on the knowledge that you've worked hard to build during your academic career and see if you can apply it individually and as part of a team.

Build unique public speaking skills

Business professionals need to be able to present their work effectively and efficiently. Unlike most classroom presentations, you may only have less than an hour to put an important presentation together when you're working. Case competitions often have tight time constraints, which make them

an excellent place to build these skills.

New job opportunities

Many case competitions host a networking event with industry professionals connecting you to unique opportunities.

An exciting road trip

College is more than just education. It's about building relationships and memories with your classmates. Hitting the road to compete with your team is an experience not to be missed.

Go to facebook.com/camosun-deca for more info.

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camosun's student voice since 1990

Ever wanted to write a column for a newspaper? Now's your chance!

We're looking for some more columnists for 2014. Is there something on your mind that you want to write about? It could be anything from sex to business issues to topics of interest to mature students.

Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com with your ideas and you just might be the next Nexus columnist!



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

Find Your Voice. Speak Your Mind.
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Info on the web: <http://camosuncollege.toastmastersclubs.org>

You draw comics. And we know it!

(Don't ask how.)

If you think you might be able to make folks laugh with a short comic every other week, then we'd like to see your work in print

Submit samples to: Nexus, 201 Richmond House, Lansdowne Campus, or email: editor@nexusnewspaper.com

NEXUS

The Little Fernwood Gallery Presents

P Jean Oliver



OPENING: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1-4 p.m.
1923 Fernwood Road

Dénouement: The outcome of a sequence of events in which a resolution takes place, the strands of the plot are drawn together, and matters are explained. A fitting theme for a woman's life up to her 55th birthday, which, on the verge of becoming a senior citizen, seemed best done up right, illustrated by strong tree images, far horizons, inscrutable caves, the mystery of math and ice--and lots and lots of

BIRTHDAY CAKE & CHOCOLATE!

Show Runs until Thursday, February 20
Viewing Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 12-4

WANT TO CALL THE SHOTS?

We want to bring a student on board to be guest editor for one issue of *Nexus*. Help decide the feature story, news coverage, and how the paper looks for an issue.

Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com with the subject line "Guest editor" and tell us one great reason why you'd be a perfect fit. Deadline for entries is February 26, 2014.

NEXUS

red planet word search

Here's a Mars word search, in honour of last issue's fun and spooky story about a Sooke resident being shortlisted for a one-way trip to Mars by a Netherlands-based company. (Didn't read it? Head over to nexus-newspaper.com to check it out.)

So find the words on the right down below, and have fun!

The first five people to come by the *Nexus* office with this word search completed get a free CD!

- ACADEMY
 - ATTACHMENT
 - BRAVE
 - CANDIDATES
 - DREAM
 - GRAVITY
 - LEAVING
 - LOVE
 - MARINA
 - MARS
- MARSONE
 - MISSION
 - OPPORTUNITY
 - PLANET
 - PLAUSIBLE
 - RADIATION
 - RED
 - SAD
 - SCIFI
 - SELECTION

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

astrological asininity

by River Rainfall

So someone told me it's winter but it's totally not winter, that's in December! The cosmos works in weird ways, but not THAT weird!

Aries: So, that exam was pretty hard, right? That's because you didn't study enough, not because of the cosmos LOL.

Taurus: Do you ever just sit and think about the word "cosmos"? I do, and it's like, whoa, next thing you know I'm think about cosplay and that's a word I only just learned the meaning of!

Gemini: Someone complained that I don't do enough actual predicting and get off topic [*That was me, River—ed*]. So, here's some predicting: I predict that you're going to walk through Fisher and Ewing today, but no way are you walking through Dawson. Amiright or amiright?

Cancer: I think you need to worry less about worrying and... OMG that doesn't make any sense! If you're worrying less that must mean you're worrying, right? Or, no, wait...

Leo: You've got a big life change coming up and it maybe involves huge rolled up pieces of fabric and I have no idea what that means so keep me posted k?

Virgo: Sometimes I skip my Visual Arts class and just sit on the lawn and think about pi, and how long that number goes on for! Virgos, I think you know what I mean when I say the pi is nigh.

Libra: Libras, I think YOU know what I mean when I say the pie is night! LOL just kidding, but keep an eye out for rotary phones, cassette tapes, and fax lines because that means you've gone back in time and you're kinda in trouble.

Scorpio: There are silverfish in your future. Sorry! I really wish it wasn't true but it totally is.

Sagittarius: It just dawned on me that I've never even read *Nexus*! Is it a website or what? What's going on? Sagittarius, look out for people who only put one "t" in that word, and if your name has a "t" in it, those who double are double trouble.

Capricorn: Listen, is everything working out for you this year, in regards to what I've been telling you? Because I just realized I've been getting you and Pisces mixed up. So, talk to Libra, find out how they went back in time (!), do it, then look at my old columns and make sure you're all square.

Aquarius: Aquarius! Fellow star traveller, you can't hide everything from River: your birthday was recently! Umm... guess my invite got lost in the mail! Or, by email! What, are you going to tell me "it's probably in my junk folder" next? Please stop lying. I still love you, fellow Aquarius person! Lucky number is 1 (LOL, 1), and lucky life is everything! Wow! Um, I feel dizzy.

Pisces: See Capricorn.

SHUFFLE

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\$4 TEQUILA
\$4 HIGHBALLS

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\$4⁵⁰ HEINEKEN
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