

# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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# THE ULTIMATE LOCAL BEER GUIDE

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**CAMOSUN CHARGERS TO HOST TWO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - page 3**

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Something on your mind? If you're a Camosun student, send *Open Space* submissions (up to 500 words) to editor@nexusnewspaper.com. Include your student number. Thanks!

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OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "Boobies—Jayden boobies."

COVER PHOTOS:

Patrick Newman/Nexus

## student editor's letter

### Locally brewed

Hard-hitting features are our thing; we love them around here. However, it's nice to change things up once in a while, so this issue we decided to do a feature reviewing local beers. From light summer beer to dark stouts, contributing writer Patrick Newman has got you covered. Turn to page 6 for the lowdown.

There was big news at Camosun recently with the announcement of the national men's volleyball tournament happening here next year (they're also hosting the women's tournament this month); we've got the story on page 3.

Camosun recently held its Day of Reconciliation event, and staff writer Adam Boyle tells you all about it on page 4, where he also brings you the latest *Know Your Profs*. Contributing writer Jeremy Vargas writes about the Camosun Muslim student club on page 5. Also on that page, contributing writer Jayden Grieve writes about a local wrestling league; don't say we never offered variety.

Head to page 8 to read web editor Mason Hendricks' story about *Somewhere to Go*, a locally made documentary looking at the rich history of Victoria punk rock. Also on that page is a review of a book written by a local author about an immigrant's journey from Canada to China, and how the head tax affected him.

Make sure to look at the picture of the hidden *Nexus* on page 12; if you find it, bring it by our office for a prize. Happy hunting, and, no, I'm not going to give you any hints, other than the fact that it is somewhere on the Lansdowne campus (sorry, Interurban—we still love you, but it would be a long trip out just to hide a paper).

Adam Marsh, student editor  
adam@nexusnewspaper.com

## flashback

### 25 Years Ago in Nexus



**Now that's a letter to the editor:** We mentioned our columnist Alakson Snow recently here in *25 Years Ago in In Nexus*; Snow is the pen name of someone who wrote opinion pieces for us a quarter-century back. These days, we don't allow writers to hide behind fake names, but we did then, much to the chagrin of letter-writer Chris Conway, who wrote in to us in our March 2, 1992 issue. "One of the lowest forms of life on the planet must be that belly slithering slime that manifests itself as an opinion columnist without the courage or ethics to use its real name," he wrote. "These creatures are costing us dearly for in truth there would be more trees on this planet if a requirement for saying something in

print was that there was something worth saying," he added before signing off with, "Back to your hole, creature!"

**If by "resigned" you mean "fiercely opposed," sure:** This issue featured a story, "Mixed reaction to parking forums," about parking forums that were being held at the college to address students' concerns about rising parking fees. Camosun student Darren Sutton told us that he didn't feel there was even any way for students to voice their concerns at the forums, saying, "It looked more like a bunch of information set out to justify why the rates are going to double." Meanwhile, Camosun transportation advisory committee member Gail Baxter told us that "students seemed pretty resigned to the idea of fees being increased."

**You know, that is stupid!:** This issue's *Speak Up* asked students what they thought of the problem of lead in the water at Camosun's now-defunct Carey Road campus; the best answer came from Isabella Bengall, who said, "It seems sort of stupid that they have 'no smoking' signs and lead in the water."

## open space

### Canadians must welcome Syrian refugees

#### KENNIDY ANDERSON

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Unless you're an Australopithecine living in Eastern Africa, you're an immigrant, which is something that I like to remind those who are against welcoming Syrian refugees into Canada. According to the federal government, Canada has resettled 40,081 Syrian refugees within its borders as of January 29, 2017. My only question is this: where are the rest of them?

I find it incredibly ironic that people who can so passionately proclaim their love for those that they know can also boldly declare their hate for groups of people different from their own. I've recently heard many a diatribe against our refugees, and it's beyond my realm

every day, then I could see not wanting to grant them access to our country. However, they are not. Nobody says "let's get all of the Caucasians in their mid-30s out of Canada" when a crime is committed by someone fitting that description, so let's not let stereotypes define the way we see people.

I had a conversation with someone the other day who said, "Why am I putting my tax dollars toward helping these people who wouldn't do the same for me? That doesn't seem right."

Now, I don't think it can actually be called "helping people" if it's only being done with the expectation of getting something in return, or with the assumption that they would do the same for you. I don't believe

Nobody says "let's get all of the Caucasians in their mid-30s out of Canada" when a crime is committed by someone fitting that description.

of understanding how such prejudice and negativity can be directed toward the innocent children and adults of Syria, who just want to be able to live in freedom; who want to be able to raise their families with safety, proper education, and health care; who simply desire the ability to live beyond the fear of being bombed as they sleep.

People say, "What about the extremists? We can't just be letting anybody into our country." Yes, I agree. We, as active Canadian citizens, can make a point of pushing the government to implement an increase in security screening processes.

Others speak out against the refugees who have committed crimes in Canada, citing them as reasons to not let other refugees in; sure, if the majority of the Syrian refugees were committing crimes

that a country should be run on a tit-for-tat mentality. I do believe that it's good to help the Syrian refugees—and anybody else, for that matter—because they need it.

If you expect compensation, then you're providing a service, not providing help. Our energy and resources should be spent on trying to improve the human race as a whole, not on trying to improve ourselves.

We, as Canadians, are not free because we are any better than anyone else; we are free because we happen to have been born in this great country.

If a little bit of extra cash comes off of my paycheck to help a family escape their war-torn country to find solace and freedom in ours, by all means, please, take my money. That's a hell of a lot more useful than whatever else I would manage to spend it on.

## NEXUS

**Call,  
email,  
stop by.**  
We want to hear your story tips.

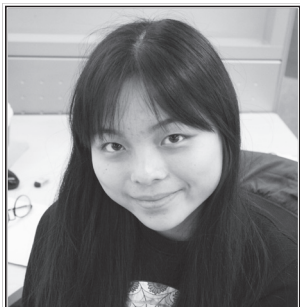


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## SPEAK UP

What's the best movie you've seen recently?

BY ADAM MARSH



#### VANNY CAO

"*The Great Gatsby*. *The Great Gatsby* is the best novel—I love it—and the movie is very nice because it's the same as the novel. I love it."



#### ABDUL RAHAM

"*The Fast and the Furious*, because it has a lot of action."



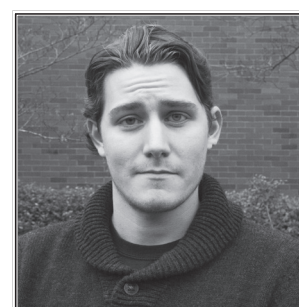
#### SIERIA ROWE

"I like *The Crash Reel*. It's a documentary about Kevin Pearce; he's a snowboarder that has a traumatic brain injury. It was interesting; it was really, really sad. I thought about it for days after."



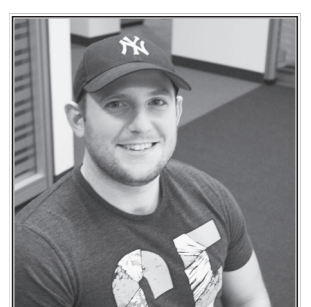
#### BASMA EDDIANI

"*The Godfather*. My father was always passionate about the Sicilian Mafia and the whole dynamic. The film was such a masterpiece—beautiful music, beautiful actors, beautiful acting."



#### DAVID BECKMAN

"*The Shining*. It delves deep into mental issues. I think it's a pretty awesome movie."



#### ZACHARY BARWIN

"*David Brent: Life on the Road*. You have to understand British humour; it's just hilarious. It's a little bit sad at the very end, which I liked. It's a good life lesson on doing anything to make your dreams come true."



sports

# Camosun College to host national volleyball championships

“It brings great exposure for all the programs that we offer because it’s a national event. We’ll have representation, basically, from shore to shore.”

**GRAHAM MATTHEWS**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE



KEVIN LIGHT

**ADAM MARSH**  
STUDENT EDITOR

The Camosun Chargers are hosting the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) national women’s volleyball championships at the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE) at Camosun’s Interurban campus from March 8 to 11. The Chargers also recently announced that they will be hosting the national men’s volleyball championships at PISE from March 7 to 10, 2018.

Camosun recreation and athletics coordinator Graham Matthews says that getting these events at the college shows how hard the players and staff have worked, and that it’s going to benefit Camosun.

“It brings great exposure for all the programs that we offer because it’s a national event,” says Matthews. “We’ll have representation, basically, from shore to shore.”

Matthews says the top teams

The Camosun Chargers women’s volleyball team will be hosting the national championships this month.

from each association will be represented in the tournaments. Camosun put in bids to host the events through the provincial Pacific Western Athletic Association (PacWest); the CCAA approved it based on the college’s athletic performance and on resources including venue facilities, history of community support and attendance at games, and city accommodations such as hotels and banquet space. Matthews says the matches will be live-streamed for those who can’t make it to Camosun but still want to watch.

“They’ll be streamed through the CCAA website,” says Matthews. “We’re going to have three or four hosted cameras, and then we’ll have commentators for each match.”

Camosun men’s volleyball head

coach—and former Team Canada captain—Charles Parkinson says that hosting this event raises Camosun’s profile in both the sports and academic worlds.

“Being selected to host the national championships is a great reflection on the institution,” says Parkinson. “You’re recognized by your peers across the country as being an institution that can hold an event of that scale. It’s a reflection of your people.”

Matthews says that although there are challenges involved with scheduling and finding the time to make it all happen, it will be worth it on opening day when the Chargers athletes get the extra exposure.

“We’ll be able to bring people in from the community to come

and see it being played at this high calibre,” he says. “It gets people excited about the sport again. It gives them a chance to see what it’s all about; maybe they want to aspire to become a volleyball player when they get older. Our team is really pumped about it as well. Being able to play in front of your friends and family is really exciting.”

The gym at PISE can hold approximately 800 people; Matthews is hoping that every seat gets filled.

“We’re definitely looking for big draws for our games,” he says. “That’s hopefully a full house there.”

Women’s volleyball head coach Chris Dahl says it feels great to have the team recognized at the national level.

“It’s recognition for a job well done for many years on behalf of the college and the athletes that have been a part of the program,” he says.

Dahl says it’s a great feeling of validation for him to know that the college is supporting these events.

“It acknowledges their role in the sporting community here in Greater Victoria and in the province, and across the nation,” he says. “This is the national stage for women’s volleyball.”

In other Chargers news, the men’s volleyball team recently got their third straight PacWest title at the PacWest championship tournament, defeating the Vancouver Island University Mariners.

See [camosun.ca/sports/chargers](http://camosun.ca/sports/chargers) for up-to-date scores and info.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Government decreases student-loan interest

The provincial government has announced that through their *Budget 2017* they will lower interest rates on student loans to be just the prime rate of interest; it currently ranges between prime plus 2.5 percent to prime plus 5 percent. BC currently charges the highest rates of interest on student loans of all the provinces. Look for a full story at [nexusnewspaper.com](http://nexusnewspaper.com) and in our next issue.

### Former Camosun artist honoured

Glenn Lewis, who was Camosun’s artist in residence in January and February of 2014, recently won a Governor General’s award for his work, which includes painting, sketching, and ceramics.

### Federal government to write off student loans

The Canadian federal government recently announced that they will write off \$178.4 million

of student-loan money. The total amount of student-loan write-offs since 2012 is now \$961.4 million, leading some critics to say that this shows that the student-loan system is flawed.

### Two sexual assaults in Victoria in two days

A woman sitting at the 1700 block of Douglas Street was sexually assaulted on February 9, according to police. The police don’t know if this was linked to a similar assault the day before. The suspect is de-

scribed as being white and 25 to 35 years old; he has a dark mole on the side of his face and was clean-shaven.

### City Council vows to involve Victoria’s youth

After recent statistics came out detailing the fact that 15 percent of Victoria’s population are between the ages of 12 and 24, but are largely not represented in local government, Victoria

City Council has started a three-year Youth Strategy initiative, which is written by people under the age of 25. The strategy aims to educate youth on the city, start communication between youth and City Council, and get more youth into work through co-op programs.

-ADAM MARSH

Got a news tip?

Email

[editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com)  
to fill us in.

As part of our 25th anniversary celebrations last year, we started an Instagram account! Come say hello over there and see what we’re up to online.

While you’re at it, we’re also on Facebook and Twitter, you know... Find us as [nexusnewspaper](http://nexusnewspaper) on all three. See you there!



indigenization

## Camosun College looks ahead after Day of Reconciliation event



FILE PHOTO

Camosun College president Sherri Bell at the Lansdowne campus.

**ADAM BOYLE**  
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, February 18, Camosun College held their latest Conversations Day; this time around, the focus was on reconciliation. The Day of Reconciliation event was a day of learning for the faculty and educators of Camosun.

Last year marked the beginning of the five-year strategic plan set in place by Camosun president Sherri Bell.

Part of the plan is a call for diversity in the Camosun community, including 39 recommendations on how Camosun can support indigenization and bring a deeper understanding and involvement of aboriginal culture to campus. While many of the recommendations remain a work in progress, some have been completed. Camosun's Day of Reconciliation is one of these recommendations—and, according to Bell, was one of the most productive

and positive Conversations Days that the college has ever held.

"We anticipated having probably about 500 people in attendance and we had over 700 show up," says Bell. "The day was set up differently than other Conversations Days; we had roundtables and we shared a meal together. When we had the extra 200 people, we had to put out chairs, which was a good thing to see. The response from faculty and staff has been incredible."

Eye? Sq̓'lewen director Janice Simcoe feels that the success of the Day of Reconciliation was also due to the interest in reconciliation from faculty and staff.

"The attendance turnout really indicates that staff and faculty at Camosun College are very interested in reconciliation and interested in, 'What does it mean, what do we need to know, and what do we need to do in order to engage?'" says Simcoe. "For me, just that message of that large attendance was amazing. The day was supposed to start at 9 am and by 8:45, people were standing before we even began."

Keynote speaker Chief Robert Joseph and his daughter Shelly talked in great detail with the gathered members of Camosun about reconciliation work, says Simcoe.

"They were so skilled, so articulate," she says. "I saw that Chief Joseph was able to provide the contextual information about the residential school experience and the process of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and how it has evolved into what now is rec-

"The path to reconciliation includes education, certainly of our staff, but also of our students."

**SHERRI BELL**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

conciliation work that is being done across Canada. He was able to provide that information and integrate his personal story around being a residential school survivor and the impacts it had on him, and the healing process he went through, and his desire to work with Canada toward greater acknowledgement of the indigenous peoples' and non-indigenous peoples' shared history."

Camosun School of Access dean Ian Humphries was part of the task force organizing the 39 recommendations. He says that Bell's arrival at the school spurred the 39 recommendations into action.

"Shortly after Sherri took on the president's role, she asked us, 'What is the college doing with respect to the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action?' As a result of that question, a small task force of senior leadership members was formed and worked on coming up with the 39 recommendations," he says. "I meet with all sorts of groups to ensure we put the resources to action."

Bell says that the college is constantly looking for new ways to get staff, faculty, and students involved so that as many people

as possible can be educated about indigenization.

"The path to reconciliation includes education, certainly of our staff, but also of our students," she says. "Some next steps we're looking at are to continue to indigenize our curriculum and looking at ways to have more students get a deeper understanding about where we were, and where we're moving to."

Bell says that she has been working closely with other presidents of post-secondary institutions on Vancouver Island; the presidents meet to share their own practices of indigenization and to discuss what they can improve upon.

"At our last meeting there were about five people from each of the five institutions," she says. "We met at Royal Roads and the meeting was basically sharing what we're doing, what the best practices are, and where we have overlap. It's really wonderful to work with other institutions that have such a strong focus on indigenization, indigenous education, and Truth and Reconciliation. All five institutions have made that part of their focus for the next few years."

know your profs

## Camosun Anthropology prof Kathryn Waterhouse doesn't want to fail you



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Just another day at the office for Camosun's Kathryn Waterhouse.

**ADAM BOYLE**  
STAFF WRITER

*Know Your Profs* is an ongoing series of profiles on the instructors at Camosun College. Every issue we ask a different instructor at Camosun the same 10 questions in an attempt to get to know them a little better.

If you have an instructor you'd like to see interviewed in the paper, but perhaps you're too busy, or too shy, to ask them yourself, email editor@nexusnewspaper.com and

we'll add them to our list of teachers to talk to.

This issue we chatted with Anthropology prof Kathryn Waterhouse about going on hikes with her six month old, wishing no one ever failed her courses, and becoming a more well-rounded person through post-secondary.

**1. What do you teach and how long have you been teaching at Camosun?**

Anthropology—the best subject

anyone could ever possibly teach or take (in my very biased opinion, of course). I've been here a year and a half; crazy how time flies.

**2. What do you personally get out of teaching?**

I love sharing knowledge and participating in the process of learning for students. When I teach a concept/topic/theory and I can see students getting it and putting the pieces together and seeing the relevance of it, it's the best feeling in the world. I get a lot from being able to share what I know and love, and hopefully I encourage others to find it as exciting and awesome as I do.

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

There isn't a lot I hide from students. I'm pretty open and use a lot of personal examples to illustrate points, but I sometimes do wish some students knew how badly I want them to do well in a course. I would love it if nobody ever failed a course of mine and everyone worked hard, did their best, and got through the course. The tests and assignments aren't meant to be obstacles to learning but part of the learning process. My door is pretty much always open to go over material, figure out an assignment, or anything; you've just got to come by.

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

How unfit I am and how hard it is for me to do burpees in circuit class.

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

Getting to know my students as individuals. There is so much energy, hope, optimism, and enthusiasm in the student body, and here at Camosun I actually get to know students and their ideas and dreams and goals. It gives me a lot of hope for our future.

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

Honestly, nothing bad. Although one time I was encouraging a student in giving a presentation by saying that when I'm presenting I usually end up making a bit of a fool of myself and she just agreed, saying, "Yes, yes, you do."

**7. What do you see in the future of post-secondary education?**

There is so much that post-secondary education has to offer. Partly you are learning skills (hard skills and soft skills) that are going to be useful in future employment pursuits. But you are also learning about yourself, things that interest you, things that inspire you, and

things that bore you or challenge you. I think all of this makes for a better, happier, more rounded person who can then face whatever challenge lies ahead. The challenge for post-secondary educators is to make sure everyone can see how valuable and important it is for all of these elements to be part of the education and not just focus on hard skills for employment.

**8. What do you do to relax on the weekends?**

I have a six-month-old baby monster, so relaxing is mostly spent hanging out with her and watching her incredible development from a ball of cells that didn't do much into a little human. We go swimming, go for hikes, and nap quite a lot. I can't wait until she is old enough to go on all sorts of camping/hiking/swimming adventures.

**9. What is your favourite meal?**

Lasagne. But the kind my mom makes; it's different, somehow.

**10. What's your biggest pet peeve?**

Not asking for clarification or help. People are pretty much always willing to help and want you to be the best you can be, so ask for it and appreciate it and everything is so much better.



student group

## Club provides space for Muslim students to come together



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Lindsay Budge of the Camosun Muslim Students Association.

**JEREMY VARGAS**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Camosun Muslim Students Association (MSA) club is a place for Muslims and people interested in Islam to enjoy, grow, and feel comfortable. Second-year Camosun University Transfer student Lindsay Budge is the MSA president; she says the club was also formed because a lot of Muslims on campus simply wanted a space to do something with other Muslims.

“We’re a place where Muslims can come to meet together and explore their faith, enjoy our events, and put forward events to do in an Islamic environment,” says Budge.

The group puts on social events like laser tag outings and educational events (one recent topic was female sex ed from an Islamic perspective). Budge says that these events are made to give Muslims and others at Camosun a space to participate in student life without feeling excluded by cultural differences.

“We have some restrictions that make it sometimes more difficult to do events with the greater community,” says Budge, “so it gives you a place where you don’t have to worry about rubbing against something that you’re not comfortable with.”

Second-year Arts and Science

“We have some restrictions that make it sometimes more difficult to do events with the greater community. [The club] gives you a place where you don’t have to worry about rubbing against something that you’re not comfortable with.”

**LINDSAY BUDGE**  
CAMOSUN MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Studies student Mahinur Efe is an MSA member; she first learned about the club through one of its laser-tag events.

“On my first year here, we had a laser-tag event with the members of the Camosun MSA,” says Efe. “I got to know some people that I am now really close friends with.”

Budge hopes the MSA can be a space for Muslims to grow during their college experience.

“They’re faced with a lot more people, a lot more social structures, a lot more ideas,” says Budge. “They are also looking at new ways of thinking, new ways of understanding, and things like that. So a lot of people end up having to look back in on themselves and say, ‘What do I actually believe?’”

Efe says that the MSA has given

her a feeling of empowerment and made her college life way better.

“If I didn’t have this kind of support around me, my college life would be harder,” she says.

The MSA Facebook group has 33 members, and Budge says there are more on their email list. Still, often only a handful of people show up at an event.

“I think the problem is the divide between the campuses,” says Budge. “We cannot really ask someone from Interurban to come all the way here [Lansdowne] just for something and vice versa. A lot of people from Lansdowne are not going to go to Interurban.”

Budge is hopeful that the group will grow and that it will continue when she leaves.

“I’m leaving next year,” says Budge. “I want other people see the benefit of it and try to grow it more.”

Efe has seen people from various backgrounds—including Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Ireland, and Canada—get involved in the club.

“It’s such a diverse group,” she says. “We all come together because we are Muslim and we just want to do things, socialize, connect together, and send a positive message; that’s my favourite part of the MSA.”

event

## Local wrestling league prepares for smackdown



PHOTO PROVIDED

Medouchea is a wrestler in the West Coast League of Lady Wrestlers.

**JAYDEN GRIEVE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Wrestling was the most popular sport in ancient Greece. Thousands of years before John Cena captured hearts on the internet, near-naked Olympians tussled in the ring, exhibiting strength, endurance, and willpower. The excitement and adrenaline of this spectacle has withstood the test of time and has captured the hearts of folks far and wide... and in our own quiet town.

The West Coast League of Lady Wrestlers is, as it sounds, a collective of women who have been enthralled by the sport. Last year, for the first time, they held the wrestling show Garden City Smackdown, and it’s coming back this year.

The event will be a wrestling event, no doubt about it: the league has a wrestling ring, with areas for people to sit and stand while watching the matches, announcers on stage behind the ring, and half-time shows.

“The wrestlers can be quite interactive with people in the front row, but if you’re not involved, you’re not involved; there’s the lovely safety of that,” says Fraea Blanchard, one of the event’s participants, known as Fraea the Ban-see in the ring. “We’re really into promoting safe spaces and respectful events and stuff like that.”

Blanchard says that the wrestlers come from all sorts of backgrounds; some have never performed before, while several—including Blanchard—are burlesque performers. Blanchard says that the group has worked very hard to ensure that the event will be safe and fun for both the performers and the patrons. The event will have “safer space” staff, who will be there to support anyone who feels overwhelmed by the violent nature of the event.

“If something brings something up for someone, it’s really important for us that we have people there

that know how to provide a safe experience for them if they need to talk about it and address anything that comes up,” she says. “Violence is something we need to keep on as a community because it looks different for everyone, and I think it’s something we’ve all experienced.”

Blanchard, who was an extra in the first annual smackdown, says that last year’s event went smoothly, and she expects the show to be fun to watch and exciting to participate in.

“I really love seeing different types of people doing different types of things,” she says. “I think, especially, there’s something extraordinary about wrestling. Some people compare it to, ‘Oh, you guys are like superheroes.’”

With their own bits, skills, and methods, each performer has developed their own persona, and Blanchard says she’s excited to see everyone rock it.

“I really like how everyone embraces the differences in people in such a creative and supportive way, as well as embracing some political satire,” says Blanchard. “Having the combination of satire and playfulness is super important during these times.”

Garden City Smackdown  
7 pm Friday, March 10  
7 pm Saturday, March 11 (sold out)  
\$16 advance, \$20 at door  
19+, Victoria Edelweiss Club Hall, 108 Niagara Street  
wclolw.com

## ELECTION NOTICE

### Board of Governors Education Council

Do you want to influence the future of the college?  
Want a say in the development of educational programs?

Gain significant leadership experience by serving on Camosun’s Board of Governors or Education Council!

### NOMINATIONS

March 2 – March 15 (noon)

### VOTING

April 3 -5

For more information, see the posters around campus, or email [elections@camosun.ca](mailto:elections@camosun.ca)



# Cream of the craft

A collection

One of the most important aspects of college life is unwinding after a long week of classes and studying. And what better way to do that than with a cold beer? But not just any beer; even though it may cost a little more, you're going to get one of those local craft brews that are everywhere. And with Victoria Beer Week happening from March 3 to 11, what better time than now to dive in and do some tasting?

Why? Well, you'll be supporting local brewers, the local economy, local farmers, local industry, and the ancient art of brewing, all while sticking it to the man. Plus, if you've got a few bucks to spend on beer, don't you want the best? Don't you deserve the best? Of course you do. But where does one start? Well, follow along, my friends, and I'll share with you my years of brew research. Beginning with lighter fare—the lagers and pilsners you're probably more accustomed to—and ending up at the heavier end of the beer spectrum—double IPAs and Scotch ales—let's take a look at some of the local craft brews, rating each out of 5 with our opinion on whether it's worth your precious few student dollars.

**Hoyne**  
**Helios Dortmunder Golden Lager**  
6% ABV  
650ml bottle or growler fill at the brewery  
4/5

You had me at "Hoyne." This beauty is sure to please those that like a sweeter beer. It's very sweet-smelling with a bit of earth that lets you know you are about to drink a beer. The colour is clear and light gold with a shadow of copper. It tastes wonderful, with a honey-like sweetness to it, if a little heavier than regular lagers. I never used to be a fan of lagers, but when I started dating the woman who is now my wife, we needed to find a beer we both liked. It's this one—and, no, I'm not recommending this on sentimentality alone. This is a great starting point for people who want to try some craft beers but need to train their palate a bit before they take on more bitter offerings. We often have this with curries or chicken; it used to be seasonal but is now available year round.

**Hoyne**  
**Hoyner Pilsner**  
5.5% ABV  
650ml bottle or growler fill at the brewery  
3.5/5

When most Canadians think of a pilsner, they probably think of that stuff in the green, red, and yellow label—Old Style Pilsner. Pilsners are originally Czech pale lagers from the city of Pilsen, and they used to be brewed in caves. Technically, beers like Labatt Blue and Budweiser are pilsners, but they're much less flavourful than their predecessors or modern craft cousins. Hoyner is the opposite of so many wannabe pilsners; it's full of real pilsner flavour. It's true to form in that it pours out a nice golden hue with a bubbly head. It smells like warm cereal and a bit like biscuits, and it has a grassy floral hint. It tastes like a pilsner should, which is a bit sweet, light, and herbal, but it finishes dry. It's delicious any time of year but is certainly a great summer refresher.

**Moon Under Water**  
**Light Side of the Moon India Session Ale**  
4.2% ABV  
4 x 437ml cans or growler fill at the brewery  
3/5

A great way to start building your palate toward the more bitter, hop-forward beers is to try an India Session Ale. They are developed to impart the flavour of India pale ales without being overly heavy or hoppy, and they tend to be much lower in alcohol. Moon Under Water contributes a great little hazy-blonde-coloured drink here that's lightly fizzy and has a little head but packs a lot of flavour into its deceptively low ABV. It smells of flowers and bananas, has a citrus hit, and is very soft on the tongue. Dry and refreshing, this brew is made with rice and orange peel, which makes for a very friendly entry point to more flavourful beers. You can also try it at Moon Under Water's pub without having to commit to a larger serving.

**Phillips**  
**Analogue '78 Kölsch**  
5% ABV  
6 x 341ml bottles or growler fill at the brewery  
3/5

This has been a solid mainstay for Phillips since it debuted a few years back, and for good reason; this is a beer you can become friends with easily. It's a great, refreshing German-style brew that's easy on the palate, with a crisp, clean finish. Drink it ice-cold and it will slake your thirst for a more traditional North American beer. The world would be a better place if this were the low benchmark for lager-style beers instead of the major-label brews like Coors Banquet, Miller High Life, or Molson Canadian. Analogue is a great beer for the beach, camping, and BBQ season. Keep some in your cooler for your friends who normally drink the aforementioned brews and see if you can't turn them onto something new.

**Spinnakers**  
**Queen Bee Honey Kölsch**  
4.6% ABV  
6 x 341ml cans or growler fill at the brewery  
3/5

Like Phillips Analogue, this is brewed in the German kölsch style, but with some honey added in the brewing process. This softens the sweetness of the beer malt and any bitterness imparted from the hops. This is a light, thirst-quenching brew; it's crisp, and it pours with a foamy head. Is it the best beer in this style? No, but it's a good choice for those who are

looking to explore the lighter side of craft brews or who want something for Taco Tuesday but don't want to pay the ridiculous prices they charge for cheap Mexican imports.

**Swans**  
**Arctic Kölsch**  
4.5%  
650ml bottle  
3.5/5

This used to be called Arctic Ale, but—now that "kölsch" has entered the BC beer drinker's lexicon—Swans has decided that it's okay to call this beer what it is. This kölsch, like the others, pours straw yellow and smells a bit of wheat cereals and a bit floral. It's light, crisp, and easy drinking. It's good in the bottle but best from the tap at Swans. I've spent a few summer nights down there knocking these back with ease while listening to some local rock band play covers of '50s and '60s rock as tourists and locals get freaky on the dance floor. Good times.

**Vancouver Island Brewery**  
**Islander Lager**  
5% ABV  
6 x 355ml cans or 15 x 355ml cans  
2/5

This is probably my least favourite beer on this list. However, I included it because it's a local lager, and if you are going to buy an American-style lager, go local. It rates about the same as Pabst Blue Ribbon or local cling-on Lucky Lager but tastes better than either. It easily trumps the major labels' lagers. This is best served ice-cold and is perfect for those nights you want to overdo it and get inebriated enough to wake up with the taste of regret in your mouth and pain in your brain. Go get some.

Stuck in the middle with you

**Canoe**  
**Pale Ale**  
5% ABV  
650ml bottle  
4/5

Canoe's best brew is this well-balanced creature. It's got a beautiful bright amber colour and slightly earthy and sweet aroma, and it pours with a light head. It's the right combination of malt sweetness when you sip it and hop bitterness on the finish. This beer was meant to be enjoyed year round and is light enough to have a few. It used to be called Siren Song Pale Ale, which was an apt title, as this beer has a strong draw. I'd almost forgotten its lovely song until recently, and it has me wanting more and more. Just imagine you and some friends sitting on a patio this summer, not a care in the world, sipping on some pints and sharing some laughs and food. This is the beer you'll want to go with all that. It's perfect with wings, too.

**Category 12**  
**Simplicity Ale**  
5% ABV  
650ml bottle or growler fill at the brewery  
4/5

This one is a twist on a saison (French for "season," sounds like say-zon). Made using spelt grain, this is golden and pearlescent in presentation. It's a magical concoction that smells fruity and earthy, not unlike freshly cut grass. With notes of citrus and biscuit—think lemon square but with a slight bitter tinge—this has become one of my favourite local ales. It finishes dry but not too dry, leaving a creaminess on your tongue. Foamy and bubbly, one could imagine this being the kind of brew Halflings drink after farming all day; there you are, chilling in a little green valley under spring clouds and blue skies, relaxed and in love with life. Life should be as easy as this beer is to drink. Enjoy it alone or with some halibut or cod; I'd even have this to complement the spices in my family jerk chicken recipe.

**Category 12**  
**Insubordinate ISA**  
4.5% ABV  
4 x 437ml cans or growler fill at the brewery  
3.5/5

This is included here because it's on the heavier side, flavour-wise, compared with Light Side of the Moon. More true to the idea of an ISA, Insubordinate smells a bit on the funkier side of things, with notes of pine, grass, citrus, and butter caramel. It's brassy in colour, not unlike ginger ale, with little carbonation and a head that disappears quickly. It tastes more like its big brothers, being more toward the bitter end of the scale while maintaining a low ABV. It has flavours similar to the nose, hop forward and bitter, but not enough that it will turn a lot of people off. This is a great movie-night brew and would go well with caramel corn and peanuts on an autumn evening, either by yourself or with your snuggle buddy.

**Driftwood**  
**Whitebark Witbier**  
5% ABV  
650ml bottle or growler fill at the brewery  
4/5

If I'm going to recommend a local wheat beer or Belgian witbier, this is the one. It smells fantastically of freshly cut fields in late spring with hints of citrus and flowers. It pours thin, as a lot of wheat beers do, and has a light foam. It tastes mild and earthy, a bit



Story by Patrick Newman, contributing writer

Photos by Patrick Newman/Nexus

# College students' guide to drinking local beer

like dry Cheerios but with coriander and orange zest. Witbiers are mostly a summer beer; light and refreshing, they go well with a lot of lighter summer dishes, like fresh fish, salads, light cheeses like goat or mozzarella, mussels, clams, shrimp, or crab. If you can add a twist of citrus like orange or lemon to the dish, then this will probably work. I've also recently become open to the possibility of this being a breakfast beer, and why not? If you can have a mimosa or a Caesar with brunch, why not a witbier?

**Hoyne**  
**Dark Matter**  
**5.3% ABV**  
**650ml bottles or growler fill at the brewery**  
**4/5**

Dark Matter is, at first, an intimidating beer. It pours out dark as night with a light head, and it smells of malted chocolate, nuts, and toffee. It's smooth, and while it tastes malty, with chocolate and coffee flavours, it's easy drinking, like a lager. It's very strange; it exists between the spaces, where you can't quite pin it as one style or another, and doing so would be futile. It's easy to enjoy this great brew, one of Victoria's best, with a burger or a meat pie. If you're a vegetarian, you could pair this with a pasta. It's also great with fish 'n' chips and friends after a long study session. It's a staple in my fridge; I like to keep some around to share with friends who stop by or to use in gravies and stews.

**Phillips**  
**Blue Buck Pale Ale**  
**5% ABV**  
**6 x 341ml bottles or growler fill at the brewery**  
**3/5**

When this English-style pale ale was first released, it was a revelation to me. Here was a local beer that tasted like the English ales I had tried on a trip to the UK years ago. It's a beautiful dark red amber in colour, with a nice creamy head and a sweet smell with a bit of vanilla caramel. It's more malty than hoppy so is a safe choice when getting into ale territory. It's such a safe beer, however, that it has fallen from a beer that I used to always purchase to simply being an "old faithful." This isn't to say it's bad or has lessened in quality; it's just that there are so many choices on the market today that Blue Buck has been left behind, like a childhood security blanket.

**Vancouver Island Brewery**  
**Black Betty Saison**  
**5.5% ABV**  
**6 x 341ml cans or growler fill at the brewery**  
**3.5/5**

Warning: this beer can be dangerous, as it's very easy to drink. I could recommend several traditional Belgian saison beers to try before you take on Black Betty, if only to get a solid idea of what saisons should be, but I think Black Betty is one of those beers that stands on its own and won't taint your palate in a negative way. While it has a very strong smell of blackberries, it pours out golden and bright. It's refreshing and tasty, as a saison should be; the berry taste is more tart than sweet, more seltzer than flavoured soda. You can knock back a few of these without noticing, until you reach for another and realize you drank them all.

## In the deep end of the pool

**Driftwood**  
**Fat Tug IPA**  
**7% ABV**  
**650ml bottle or growler fill at the brewery**  
**4.5/5**

Not for the faint of heart, and maybe not the India pale ale some would recommend starting with if you haven't had an IPA or if your hop palate isn't developed enough, this is on the list because this is the best of the best in BC, and maybe even the best in the world. It differs from original British IPAs—which were brewed with pale malts and strongly hopped to survive the long trip from Britain to India—by being even more hop-heavy and easy on the malts, and by weighing in at 80 IBUs, making it a heavy in the world of beer. But don't let this turn you off; this beer smells wonderful, with notes of funky tropical fruit—think fresh grapefruit, mango, and melons. It's a hazy, honey-coloured pint that will hit you with a strong floral taste of hops and citrus fruit rind. Delicious. It truly stands in a league of its own.

**Moon Under Water**  
**Creepy Uncle Dunkle**  
**5.4% ABV**  
**650ml bottle or growler fill at the brewery**  
**3.5/5**

This falls to the deep end of the list because a lot of people who are new to craft beer, or who maybe even have a little craft-beer experience, are turned off by dark beer. You'll constantly hear that dark equals filling. Nonsense. This could easily be put in the same category as the baby-steps brews but for its colour and robust flavour. Dunkles are dark lagers, but the malts used are brewed by way of decoction, which is somewhat like searing a steak; the grains are boiled in a way that produces a dark colour. They are usually low in alcohol and smooth in flavour. Creepy Uncle is malty, with a light caramel flavour; it's sweet and very easy to drink. This is a popular beer for good reason—it's well balanced and super tasty. It pairs with a lot of heavier, fat- and protein-rich foods, but it's also great with nachos or on its own.

**Phillips**  
**Benefit Brew S.A.I.N.T.S. Rescue Imperial Pilsner**  
**7% ABV**  
**650ml bottle**  
**1/5**

Phillips likes to help out the community; every year, they have a contest asking the people of BC and Alberta to choose a charity worthy of some funding. They then brew a special limited-run beer, with the proceeds going to the chosen charity. This year, the recipient is S.A.I.N.T.S. Rescue, a palliative-care sanctuary for dogs needing extra care in their senior years. For this beer, Phillips crafted what they are calling an "imperial pilsner." Unfortunately, this is just not a good beer. While it has a nice golden hue with plenty of carbonation and pours a nice, meringue-like head, the flavour leaves a lot to be desired. It smells grassy and earthy, like a pilsner should, but that's about it. It tastes like damp baled hay that's been slobbered on by old dogs, with a boozy finish. It left a slight metallic taste in my mouth. Be merciful and put this dog down.

**Spinnakers**  
**Blue Bridge Double IPA**  
**8.2% ABV**  
**650ml bottle or growler fill at the brewery**  
**3/5**

This boozy bugger is deceptively strong. It doesn't smell or taste as funky as the words "double IPA" might imply, but don't be fooled; this can have the vision swimming and the lips numbing quickly. Golden like candlelight in appearance, and with a sweet smell, this is smooth and goes down—as the English say—a treat. If you're looking for a cheap buzz, this is the way to go. As with most IPAs, this has strong citrus flavours, like orange juice that has been added to booze to remove any sour tang. It's not as complex in the flavour department as other strong beers, so just sit back and enjoy; it's also a great winter warmer because of its booziness. Blue Bridge goes great with the bangers and mash Spinnakers serves up in their brewpub.

**Swans**  
**Berry Ale**  
**7% ABV**  
**650ml Bottle**  
**0/5**

Why, Swans? Why? Why does this continue to be in your lineup? Surely you can come up with something far more satisfying than this candy-coloured nightmare in a bottle. I get it—lots of people like Swedish berries, but that's a candy to be enjoyed when smoking mass quantities of Vancouver Island's other famous export, not a flavour to be imitated and bottled as a beer. Who buys this stuff? It's horror-show-reddish in hue, with a pink head that doesn't last long. It reeks of the aforementioned confection or the jelly inside a Big Turk, and is cloyingly sweet. Why does this abomination exist? To remind us that Swans needs new direction and someone to revitalize its place amongst the pantheon of Victoria brewers.

**Swans**  
**Riley's Scotch Ale**  
**8% ABV**  
**650ml bottle**  
**3.5/5**

One summer afternoon years ago, before the massive BC craft explosion, I took a trip to Durrance Lake with friends. While sitting there soaking up the sun, I struck up a conversation about craft beers with a gentleman sitting with his family. He informed me that he was the brewmaster at Swans and offered me some of his latest brew, which was named after his son, Riley. He said it was a Scotch ale and not for the faint of heart; he was not lying. This is where beers get very boozy. While dark, this is very malty, sweet, rich, and slightly fizzy. It's a bit smoky and peated like a scotch, but with dried fruit flavours, like figs and plums, as well as notes of brown sugar, like a Christmas pudding soaked in rum. This is not something to drink often, but it's great for cutting the cold on a rainy Victoria night.

**Phillips**  
**Amnesiac**  
**8.5% ABV**  
**650ml bottle, 473ml can, or growler fill at the brewery**  
**4/5**

I was going to write an eloquent tribute to this over-the-top double IPA that Phillips has continued to earn attention with, but after drinking it, I really can't remember the details. Pro tip: drink one of these and follow it up immediately with a Phillips Longboat Chocolate Porter for an incredible flavour experience. The bitterness of Amnesiac wreaks such havoc on your palate that the chocolate tones of Longboat will shine through like a lighthouse in the densest Victoria fog.

This is just the tip of the iceberg, of course; each of these breweries has several regular offerings sold year round and maintains a healthy crop of seasonal beers. Don't be ashamed if you don't like something right away; like any food or libation, you have to train taste buds and build your palate. If you do, I promise a world of magnificent flavours awaits; studies show that beer is more sophisticated than wine in its ability to develop flavour profiles.

Starting in a new column next issue, I will bring you reviews of local beers each issue. We'll explore the latest and best of what Victoria has to offer in the world of craft beer. Cheers!



## music

## New documentary explores Victoria's rich punk rock history



PHOTO PROVIDED

Rob Wright of NoMeansNo in *Somewhere to Go*.

**MASON HENDRICKS**  
WEB EDITOR

*Somewhere to Go* is a new locally made documentary that hopes to introduce people to the history of Victoria's vibrant punk rock subculture. Filmmaker Paulina Ortlieb graduated from the University of Victoria in 2014 with a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies; the film, which Ortlieb worked on for six years, is her master's thesis and her first feature-length movie.

"The film is about more than just the bands and what they did and where they played; it tries to focus on the importance of subcultures like punk rock for youth," says Ortlieb. "It covers the inception of punk rock in the late '70s, but it

centres around local Victoria bands. It's also about the influence on youth in Victoria at that time, largely from bands in the UK and, later, America, too. The film tries to capture more of the sociological aspects of punk rock."

Victoria has had a sizable punk rock scene for decades. Ortlieb has played bass in some of the bands that have been involved in that scene, most recently for local rockers Budokan; in the past she's played in, among others, The McGillicuddys and The Vinaigrettes. She's gone on tour multiple times across western Canada and down to California.

"Punks were often looked down upon by society or thought of as

"There will always be a place for punk rock. It's not so much a musical genre as it is an attitude, and I don't think that can ever die."

**PAULINA ORTLIEB**  
SOMEWHERE TO GO

degenerates," says Ortlieb. "Cops were always trying to bust the shows. Parents were upset that their kids were involved in the scene, but, really, it was so positive for these kids. It kind of provided them with an alternative voice, and it opened doors to new ways of thinking and new forms of expression. I think every generation has to do that, and especially youth; they have a lot of angst and they feel misunderstood. When you get together with a group of people where you can have that expression, it's just very empowering."

Ortlieb believes that punk rock culture has been instrumental in influencing and shaping kids and young adults. She says she owes who she is today to her experiences in the subculture of punk rock.

"I think a lot of these kids were really inspired by punk rock, and it led them to do things that they wouldn't normally have done, and they found a lot of enduring qualities through punk rock that they still believe in to this day, whether they still identify as a punk or not," says Ortlieb. "The most important thing

is busting out of the conventions of society, and doing what feels right for you, regardless of whether or not it's accepted by society. There will always be a place for punk rock. It's not so much a musical genre as it is an attitude, and I don't think that can ever die."

In the film, Ortlieb interviews dozens of current and former punk rockers from Victoria who discuss the subculture associated with the music. Among them is Rob Nesbitt, a musician who plays in Bum, one of Victoria's more well-known bands to emerge from the punk scene; he also participated in the production of Ortlieb's film. Nesbitt has spent many years in the Victoria punk rock scene and has played in several punk bands.

"The film celebrates and highlights the people who've been involved in the scene since it began, and highlights the incredible bands that emerged from that scene, people who were pretty much fostered or nurtured in that scene," says Nesbitt. "At the time that this was happening, people didn't really realize what was going on—that

this was a sort of arts collective fostering and supporting new artists, many of whom went on to have a lifelong career in the arts."

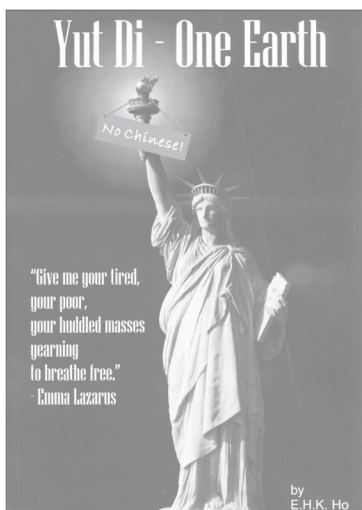
Nesbitt became involved in the Victoria punk rock scene shortly after moving here. He witnessed the early embodiment of the scene as it unfolded, a brand new genre of music being born before his eyes. He believes that Victoria played an important role during the development of the punk rock movement.

"When the scene reached Victoria, it was still an unquantified element; this was an emerging musical form. The culture that went along with the genre was also emerging and developing organically," says Nesbitt. "A band would make a song stating an important factor of their belief system, and then that thing would spread like a virus to all points across the globe. There were no major records or radios playing this, but we would always hear about it eventually. The culture was happening, but no one understood exactly what it was or where it was going; it was just constantly evolving, and it was surprising. What people don't realize, though, is that the punk scene in Victoria was just as vital as anywhere else."

*Somewhere to Go*  
7 pm Saturday, March 4  
(sold out)  
The Roxy Theatre  
bluebridgetheatre.ca

## review

## Local author explores Chinese history



**ADAM MARSH**  
STUDENT EDITOR

As a white, Victoria-born, west-coast-bred-and-fed male, I've remained pretty ignorant of Chinese culture—and, especially, Chinese history—most of my life. *Yut Di: One Earth* by local author E.H.K. Ho changed that.

Ho begins with the history of why people wanted to get out of China; reading the introduction felt like a high-school history lesson that would be quite conducive to a nice catnap. That all changed once Ho dove into the historical fiction.

The book delves into how and why Chinese immigrants in the late 1800s were mistreated. The history is fascinating when combined with the fictional aspect of the book, and it's conveyed in a creative, unique voice that—although much

of the dialogue reads awkwardly in English as a result of being translated—will make you rethink your own values and customs.

There was a bit of a learning curve to reading this book because it starts at the back and ends at the front, which is in keeping with traditional Chinese literature.

Ho honours his roots while staying true to Victoria in *Yut Di*. He tells a story driven by human emotion, which is intertwined with the history. Any predispositions I had about this book being another dry historical endeavour had vanished by about the tenth page. I couldn't put it down.

Anyone interested in the history of North America or in Chinese culture and history would enjoy this book, and even lovers of a good fictional read would as well; the events of the story are based on past events, such as the opium crisis in China and the Gold Rush in California, but the characters are fictional. It appeals to a wide audience while dealing with a narrow topic, and the ability to manipulate someone's interests by bringing creativity and the human heart into historical events is one of the marks of a great storyteller.

This book tells a story that will help the reader appreciate Canada's open immigration policies as well as feel hopeful about the country's future.

## New Music Revue



**Amber Run**  
*For a Moment, I Was Lost*  
(Dine Alone Records)  
4/5

British pop-rock group Amber Run flesh out their sadness on their second full-length. It's strongly driven by misty electronic music, muddled guitars, and haunting vocals, reflecting what they've been through: since their first album, their record label dropped them, and their drummer left the band.

The album's songs manage to touch on each individual aspect of the split, whether it be anxiety ("Insomniac"), loneliness ("Island"), or depression ("White Lie").

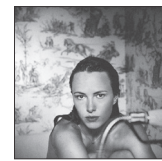
The album is cohesive, with polished instrumentals running throughout the production. Despite the sombre mood, Amber Run manages to keep me listening by concentrating certain sounds in certain songs. For example, "Insomniac" maintains a more upbeat pop feel, driven by the bass and chiming keys, while "Haze" sparks digitized harmonies to life.

My one quailm is the length of the album. The tempo slows down toward the end, making the

later songs drag. The band doesn't switch sounds up too dramatically, maintaining a strictly pop-rock sound, with electronic features for good measure. Cohesion reigns over variety with this album.

The entire album isn't all blue—there's a fighting spirit running underneath. From the pulsing drumbeats to the ethereal background vocals, Amber Run's *For a Moment, I Was Lost* shows a hunger despite the circumstances. With an album like this coming out of the band's hardships, it won't be long before their lost moments are forgotten.

**-FELICIA SANTAROSSA**



**Khodara**  
*Billie*  
(Independent)  
4/5

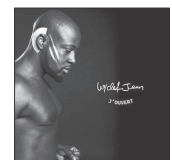
Khodara can build a feeling. On her new EP, *Billie*, she breathes sticky sugar and sweet molasses while waltzing on the points of the percussive.

"Anxious," the album's shiniest gem, gives a feeling of being dragged gently through her vocals, while the title track takes on a milky fog. On helium, she'd be Duffy; if she's already on helium, she's Sade. Regardless, she definitely has that something special that makes people take notice.

Riding the train of jazz-influenced pop serves Khodara well, but I

wonder if it's the best choice for her. I'd like to see her really push with her voice next time around and lean a little less on the instrumentals. After two EPs in a few short months I don't doubt an album is on the way, and I'm sure that it, like this, will be worth the listen.

**-JAYDEN GRIEVE**



**Wyclef Jean**  
*J'ouvert*  
(eOne Music)  
2/5

Best known as a member of '90s group The Fugees and for his subsequent solo career, Wyclef Jean has been out of the limelight since his unsuccessful run at becoming president of Haiti in 2010, followed by a scandal surrounding his failed charity organization.

Jean is back with *J'ouvert*, which features 10 tracks that don't connect with the listener. Jean raps about his musical career and accomplishments in the reggae- and bass-fuelled "The Ring." It fails to really excite, as listeners won't relate to Jean's boastful tale of making hits and rich friends on their way to the top.

This is a mostly mediocre reggae/hip-hop fusion album with forgettable lyrics. Even appearances by Young Thug and Walk the Moon can't elevate this album to anything approaching must-have status.

**-PATRICK NEWMAN**



theatre

## Blind Portrait director says play is anything but normal

“It’s a very beautiful, poetic, strange piece that’s filled with movement, lighting, and soundscapes. I think it’s going to be a really fun and interesting piece. I feel like the audience will take away what they want from it. It can mean a lot of different things to a lot of different people.”

**KARIN SAARI**  
BLIND PORTRAIT



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Blind Portrait director Karin Saari says that the play can mean a lot of different things to different people.

**ADAM BOYLE**  
STAFF WRITER

Local theatre company Vino Buono will be starting their inaugural season this year with the play *Blind Portrait*. Director Karin Saari says the company has been great to work with because it is willing to focus on topics not always in the spotlight and because they give artists a chance to kickstart their careers.

“I think it’s really incredible to work with a company that not only focuses on Canadian content but also focuses on underrepresented theatre artists,” says Saari. “This industry is so incredibly difficult to work in, and because it’s a collaborative art form we also need the space to do it. It can feel next to

impossible for young artists to get their career off the ground. It’s great to have that kind of support and to have that kind of excitement about new work and to be working with people who are not established.”

*Blind Portrait* fits right into that category of new work. Saari says that the play is hard to describe, as it’s not exactly typical theatre fare.

“The play is a bit abstract,” she says. “It’s about one character, who is nameless and genderless, who’s basically trapped in their own mind. It’s really not a linear play; it has a lot of metaphors and imagery and it’s really quite out there, to be honest. It feels like a stream-of-consciousness kind of piece and it has three characters in it, who are called One, Two, and Three.”

If that’s not enough to throw people’s minds out of orbit, Saari says that the one nameless and genderless character is basically the creator of the two other characters, and it comes to realize that it wants to gain their affection and be liberated from its constraining thoughts.

“Character One feels like it’s trapped by things that it thinks are real,” she says. “It’s created the two other characters, and, as soon as it realizes that it wants to be loved and be free, the other two characters leave it and suddenly it’s alone. It’s a very beautiful, poetic, strange piece

that’s filled with movement, lighting, and soundscapes. I think it’s going to be a really fun and interesting piece. I feel like the audience will take away what they want from it. It can mean a lot of different things to a lot of different people because it’s not saying anything specific.”

Saari believes that working on something abstract and distinctive, like this play, will help the actors and actresses involved.

“To be able to get a place in the industry, you have to fight tooth and nail for it,” she says. “Once you get that spot, you have to hold on to it

as tight as you can and for as long as you can. This style of play allows for people to at least have something really beautiful, really different, and really exciting to put on their resume so they can move forward with some confidence and some experience. I think that’s really important.”

*Blind Portrait*  
8 pm, Wednesday, March 8 to Friday, March 10  
\$10 student tickets  
Intrepid Theatre Club,  
1609 Blanshard Street  
ticketrocket.co

# MARCH 2017

## PUB EVENTS

(250) 360-1832 / Facebook.com/LogansPub

**1 WEDNESDAY**  
RETROWAVE GAMES NIGHT  
8PM - FREE  
MUSIC THEME: METAL / PUNK

**2 THURSDAY**  
PRIVATE FUNCTION  
Pub is open to the public after

**3 FRIDAY**  
Non Stop Talk  
Quadra Sound  
9PM

**4 SATURDAY**  
JUST CAUSE  
20th Anniversary  
TORREFFY LIBERATIA  
9PM - \$15

**Logan's**  
MON - THURS : 3pm - 1am  
Friday : Noon - 1am  
Saturday : 11am - 1am  
Sunday : 11am - 12am

SNAPPY MUSIC!

<b>5 SUNDAY</b> CAROLYN MARK'S HOOTENANNY 4PM - 8PM FREE	<b>6 MONDAY</b> Original Authentic Unique	<b>7 TUESDAY</b> GRAYSON WALKER'S KARAOKE 9PM - FREE	<b>8</b> RETROWAVE GAMES NIGHT 8PM - FREE VORPAL GNOME DARK DUNGEON CRAWL	<b>9</b> Musical note icon	<b>10</b> Wide Eyed Novel 9PM
<b>12</b> CAROLYN MARK'S HOOTENANNY 4PM - 8PM FREE Sunday SWING 8:30PM - FREE	<b>13</b> OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK	<b>14</b> GRAYSON WALKER'S KARAOKE 9PM - FREE	<b>15</b> RETROWAVE GAMES NIGHT 8PM - FREE MUSIC THEME: ROCK	<b>16</b> Grotto Mall 9PM	<b>17</b> The McGILLICUDDY'S Pirate ON the INSIDE BROKEN SHOES 9PM - \$12
<b>19</b> CAROLYN MARK'S HOOTENANNY 4PM - 8PM FREE	<b>20</b> 1821 COOK Street	<b>21</b> GRAYSON WALKER'S KARAOKE 9PM - FREE	<b>22</b> RETROWAVE GAMES NIGHT 8PM - FREE TOURNAMENTS	<b>23</b> Roberts Hall Wired To The Sky Soft Alarm 9PM - \$10	<b>24</b> Glad Rags Line Traps SHARKY 9PM - \$10
<b>26</b> CAROLYN MARK'S HOOTENANNY 4PM - 8PM FREE Sunday SWING 8:30PM - FREE	<b>27</b> BOB LOG III The Hex 8PM - \$15	<b>28</b> GRAYSON WALKER'S KARAOKE 9PM - FREE	<b>29</b> RETROWAVE GAMES NIGHT 8PM - FREE EIGHTIES DANCE	<b>30</b> CONLEY Teper 9PM	<b>31</b> Rugged Uncle 9PM

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- KeG Killers April 1
- Menace UK April 7
- Generators April 15



what's going on

by adam boyle



PHOTO PROVIDED

A sampling of Kathleen Morris' art, up at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.

UNTIL WEDNESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 4

Past, meet future

The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria is using the first 30 years of their experience collecting art as inspiration for their new exhibit, *Moving Forward by Looking Back*. The focus of the exhibit will be on the gallery's first director, Colin Graham, whose views of how art should be viewed shaped the gallery in its early years. The exhibit will be on until September 4; additional info can be found at [aggv.ca](http://aggv.ca).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

The land of milk and...

The third talk in the series "Sketches

of Israel and the Middle East" will be held at Congregation Emanu-El Synagogue on March 1. This talk will explore the topic of environmental issues in Israel and the Palestinian territories, as well as explain why these countries are called "the land of milk and honey." Entry is by donation and light refreshments will be served. Contact [heshi@me.com](mailto:heshi@me.com) for details.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

Get schooled on provincial elections

Elections BC manager of communications Andrew Watson will be speaking and answering questions about the upcoming provincial election, right here at Camosun's

Lansdowne campus. The event runs from 3 pm to 4:20 pm in Young 216; admission is free. Search "Discussion: 2017 Provincial Election" on Facebook for more information.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

Make your voice heard

If the prospect of helping shape arts and culture in Victoria interests you, there will be a public event held at the Victoria Cultural Cafe at Victoria City Hall from 11 am to 2 pm on March 4. The event is a chance for the community to contribute ideas on how the city can help improve Victoria's arts and culture sector.

MONDAY, MARCH 6  
TO FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Spreading ideas

UVic is hosting IdeaFest from March 6 until March 11. Join other thinkers for a weeklong meditation on innovation, to be conducted through workshops, lectures, performances, panel discussions, and more. If this gets your mind racing with ideas, then check out [uvic.ca/ideafest](http://uvic.ca/ideafest).

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

The guy who did it all

Ever wonder about the guy behind the 2010 torch relay for the Olympics? Well, that guy is Canadian entertainment veteran Paul Shaw. He also managed the Pan Am Torch Relay in 2015 and Vancouver's Expo

86. He will be talking about his career at 12:30 pm at UVic's Phoenix Theatre.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Neutralizing your stress

Have you ever been so high-strung that you can't think of ways to lose some of your stress? If so, don't worry—the Camosun College Student Society is holding their DeStress Festival at the Interurban campus' main causeway on March 8, from 11 am to 1 pm. The fest aims to help students to become more aware of their own mental health while exploring different ways to reduce stress. For more information, see [camosunstudent.org](http://camosunstudent.org).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

An honourable screening

The African Awareness Committee is screening *Honor Diaries* to celebrate International Women's Day; the movie looks at systemic abuses of Muslim women. Head to Fisher 100 at Camosun's Lansdowne campus at 7 pm; admission is free, and a panel discussion follows the movie. Email [yeec@camosun.ca](mailto:yeec@camosun.ca) for more info.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

AND SATURDAY, MARCH 11

Trauma in flux

Victoria's Flux Media Art Gallery is holding a new show, *Bearing Witness: Media and Performance Art*.

The show will be looking at personal, historical, and cultural traumas and what happens when hidden things come into the light. If you're interested in finding out more about this presentation, visit [medianetvictoria.org](http://medianetvictoria.org).

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

International Women's Day on Cook Street

A community-hosted event for International Women's Day is being held in the Cook Street Village Activity Centre on March 11 from 1:30 pm to 4 pm. Included in the event are panel speakers and discussions about unity, diversity, and history. Admission is by donation; see [cookstreetvillageactivitycentre.com](http://cookstreetvillageactivitycentre.com) for more information on this and other events happening at the Cook Street Village Activity Centre.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

The human library

As part of UVic's IdeaFest, Phoenix Theatre is hosting a "human book" event as a tour of the history of the theatre. Attendees pick from select job titles associated with the theatre and "sign out" a person to hear a history lecture about the theatre and that person's job there. The event is free; learn more at the Phoenix Human Library Facebook event page or head over to [finearts.uvic.ca/theatre/phenix](http://finearts.uvic.ca/theatre/phenix) for info on this and other events.



By Jayden Grieve

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Web Exclusive **NEXUS**

What's happening at [nexusnewspaper.com](http://nexusnewspaper.com)

Week of February 20, 2017

Top five most read stories:

1. "Where are the men? The ongoing gender problem in early childhood education," February 15, 2017
2. "Playing to win: post-Gamergate, gaming is no longer a man's world," February 1, 2017
3. "It's always the season of the witch in Victoria," October 23, 2012
4. "Local conductor brings Beethoven's humanity to Victoria," February 15, 2017
5. "Wolf Parade return to where it all began with new EP," February 15, 2017

New, web-exclusive stories:

- "Presentation looks at how Victoria almost won the Stanley Cup," a story that looks into the city's hidden hockey history.
- "Taking Leave tackles Alzheimer's issues on stage," a preview of Langham Court Theatre's new play, with an interview with the main actor.





## Dearest Reader

by Aaron Stefik

### A proposal: Camosun College must build a wall

Dearest reader, There can be little of greater importance in the midst of our contemporary global turmoil than solidarity exhibited between the brother nations of the Western world and of all those grand old countries whose souls remain pure and committed to the spirit of Christendom.

The purpose of our own Canadian nation, it follows, has always been a general solidarity with and affirmation of the actions of our esteemed southern neighbour. This being the first fundament of our nature, it is dejecting to conceive that we have failed to take in stride the rising star of that great nation's new head of state.

But fear not, dearest reader, for the means remain by which we might assuage our disunity and again embrace the policies and ethos of the leaders of the free world, in whose steps we have constantly trod.

It being the burden of the youthful generation to carry this torch, there can be little better place to begin the venture than our own Camosun College.

In the first place, we must create a monument of support upon the

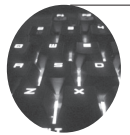
The purpose of our own Canadian nation has always been a general solidarity with and affirmation of the actions of our esteemed southern neighbour. This being the first fundament of our nature, it is dejecting to conceive that we have failed to take in stride the rising star of that great nation's new head of state.

campus, whose purpose is both practical and symbolic. By leveraging the funds of student tuition for the cost of labour, and the many returned second-hand textbooks which currently sit disused in our bookshop as material, we shall construct a great wall along the border of the Lansdowne campus to hold back the unwashed tide of illegal foreign exchange students that plague us daily.

Secondly, we must do away with this nonsense of the college's burgeoning new sexual harassment policy. The number of harassment accusations levied against the leader

of the free world being considered, it is at once clear that these acts have once again come into vogue, and it would be terribly small of the college to make any attempt in stemming the inevitable progress that comes with any such weighty shifting of the social order.

The divisions between ourselves and the people of the great American nation whom we have scrambled to emulate since time immemorial beg to be healed, and in lieu of any sufficient governmental display of cohesion with our greatest ally, it falls inevitably to the citizen to generate a suitable response.



## The Bi-weekly Gamer

by Adam Boyle

### Rocket League gets fuel from developers

I've tried to stay away from sports-related games when writing this column. And there are a lot of them—games involving the NHL, NBA, MLB, and FIFA have been around for a very long time.

*Rocket League* is a game is not about rockets but, rather, about rocket-powered cars that you control to play a compact version of soccer.

Teams are made up of three players with no designated role right off the bat. The premise is the same as the sport it's based on: control a ball and "shoot" it into the other team's net to score. The twist?

You can use your rockets to boost yourself into the air and effectively have aerial play.

This past year, *Rocket League* has seen some decent growth in the esports scene. The championship series marked the largest tournament for the game, and the first-place team took home \$50,000 to split between the three team members.

Coming into 2017, the developers, Psyonix Studios, released a statement on their website about what they hope to do for the esports scene this year. One of the major things they're doing is injecting \$2.5

million into the scene to help pay for prize pools, larger venues for the matches, a collegiate program, and weekly tournament support, among other things. This dump of funding will go a long way in keeping the game accessible for all ranges of players, as well as keeping it fun for the viewers to watch.

*Rocket League* remains one of the bigger niche esports in existence and is backed by some big-name teams, such as G2 Esports, Team Solo Mid, Cloud 9, and NRG esports. These changes should help keep their teams in check and provide extra support for the players.



## Calculated Thought

by Sean Annable

### Canada-Europe trade deal moving forward

The Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA), a free-trade deal between Canada and Europe virtually eliminating tariffs on most goods crossing the Atlantic, has passed another hurdle. The European Union's parliament approved the deal on February 15, leaving national and regional parliaments in Europe to vote.

Once the prescribed changes to federal and provincial regulations are in place, the deal will be provisionally implemented and could take effect as early as April.

Trade agreements are complex. They've been a hot topic lately: he-who-shall-not-be-named has been

means landing that dream job in some hip European city may become easier. This is a tricky part of the deal. Canada's professional regulatory bodies are generally provincial, and negotiating Mutual Recognition Agreements will be up to those bodies to tackle.

European wine and cheese will get cheaper. Are you a student with champagne taste on a beer budget? Well, that bottle of Veuve Clicquot and a nice wheel of camembert should be a tad more affordable.

Some worry there will be negative affects for Canada. European farmers enjoy larger subsidies than those in Canada, possibly creating

For Camosun students who become professionals—speculation is that this may include those in the engineering and accounting professions—this means landing that dream job in some hip European city may become easier.

screaming "NAFTA is a bad deal!" from the rooftops. I'm going to leave the broad-reaching merits, or lack thereof, concerning free-trade agreements to the economists in the Ewing building and touch on a couple notes that Camosun students might find interesting about CETA.

There will be increased labour mobility. The agreement will provide the framework for Europe to recognize the qualifications of regulated professions. For Camosun students who become professionals—speculation is that this may include those in the engineering and accounting professions—this

an uneven playing field in agricultural trade. Drug prices could increase as patents are extended for name-brand drugs under the deal, lengthening the time for their cheaper, generic counterparts to hit the market.

CETA is a landmark agreement for Canada, and students should take note. These are important, widely impactful changes to our country. Whether this a good deal for average Canadians is debatable. However, I think it's at least a win for connectedness at a time marred by an unsettling new breed of protectionism.



## To See or Not to See

by Finlay Pogue

### Kill Bill Volume 1 and 2 still terrific, tracksuits and all

*Kill Bill: Volume 1*  
*Kill Bill: Volume 2*  
5/5

Years ago, I was struggling to pinpoint exactly what it was that all the best movies have in common. The concept of "best movies" is subjective, so I figured there must be some similarities among the films that I deem "the best."

Then the word "bombast" floated into my head, and I knew that that was it—the larger-than-life quality; the spectacle for the sake of spectacle; the guts to do something different, possibly even corny and usually out of the norm, and not be stifled by a self-conscious fear of what other films are doing.

Bombastic films are made for entertainment, not just message or style. *Kill Bill* (Volume 1 and 2, 2003

Bombastic films are made for entertainment, not just message or style. *Kill Bill* is wholly in this vein of filmmaking and is therefore one of the most fun, explosive, over-the-top—bombastic—films Quentin Tarantino has ever made.

and 2004, respectively, referred to in this review as the singular *Kill Bill*) is wholly in this vein of filmmaking and is therefore one of the most fun, explosive, over-the-top—bombastic—films Quentin Tarantino has ever made.

So, for a time I was satisfied with my description of "bombast" until I actually looked it up and realized that, in fact, it was a misleading term, and that "ostentatious" would be more fitting to my needs.

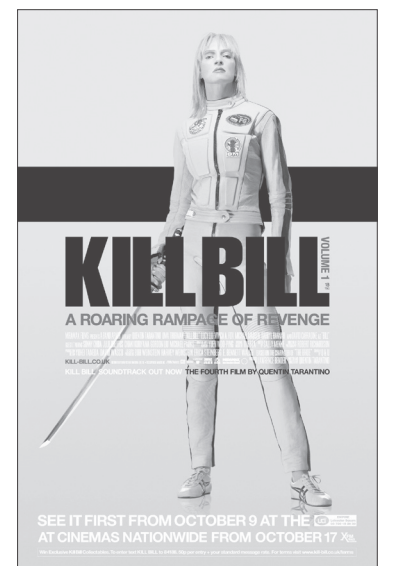
"Bombast" was perhaps more of an onomatopoeic fit than a literal translation of what I wanted to describe.

*Kill Bill*, while definitely over-the-top and a parody of its martial-arts/Western ancestors (being a postmodern film, it could be seen as insincere, but to go into why it actually is sincere would require more space than I have here), isn't meaningless or devoid of high or low emotion. *Kill Bill*'s penultimate

scene, for example, is devastating, despite the fact that the lead-up to it is filled with seriously questionable (though nonetheless exhilarating) fight scenes, chase scenes, comic-book dialogue, contrapuntal flute playing, and yellow leather tracksuits.

This is a perfect example of how "bombastic" films work: they'll employ a word that doesn't completely work descriptively, and they'll use it anyway because it sounds great. Sure, you could poke holes in the word's use, but you could also choose to sit back and enjoy it for its auditory advantages—the same goes for flutes and tracksuits.

Perhaps it's the fury of my youth that draws me to *Kill Bill* like a moth to flame—its exuberance in execution, its seemingly un-plumbable wealth of ideas, its atypical female



lead (Uma Thurman) blazing a path of carnage on a mission of righteous revenge—everything is awesome (literally) and bombastic (figuratively).



Speak Up word search

To get the words for this issue's word search, we looked at the last handful of *Speak Ups* we've published. *Speak Up* features the opinions of Camosun students, who are asked a different question every issue as we wander around the Lansdowne campus to get people to participate. Maybe next time it'll be you in our pages!

Flip over to page 2 to read this issue's *Speak Up*, then do the word search below.

Find the words on the left in the puzzle on the right; as always, stop by the *Nexus* office (Richmond House 201, Lansdowne campus) if you complete this puzzle to pick up a prize.

Have fun!

- ACCOUNTABILITY
- ANONYMOUS
- ATHLETES
- BEER
- CHEAP
- COLLECTIVE
- CONCERNING
- DISCLOSE
- DOMESTIC
- DUDE
- ENGAGED
- GREASY
- INDIFFERENT
- INTERNATIONAL
- MESS
- PASSIONATE
- SAFE
- STRESS
- TUITION
- UNRELIABLE

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

Find the hidden *Nexus* and win



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

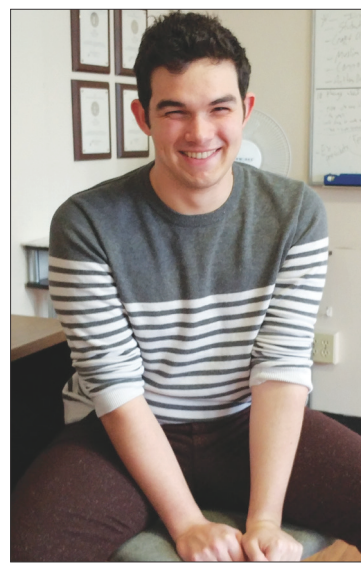
Let's see if you can find this copy of the last issue of *Nexus*, which we hid somewhere at Camosun College's Lansdowne campus.

The first person to find this copy of the paper and bring it in to our office wins themselves a free prize!

Last time around, the issue was hidden behind a poster by a bathroom door in Wilna Thomas. It was sticking out to say hi, but it went unnoticed. Who will find this issue's hidden *Nexus*? Happy hunting, and bring it to us once you find it!

know your writers

*Nexus* contributing writer Jayden Grieve bathes, has fun



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

Often what they say is a lot more candid. It's usually a good trick, but there was this one time where I let the person I was interviewing finish speaking and then waited for them to say something else. That silence felt like a good 10 minutes—it was probably about 25 seconds—and I started panicking and didn't have my next question ready so I blurted out something really stupid. I love walking into my own traps...

*What are the worst and best parts of your job at the paper?*

I really enjoy my duties; I really like having deadlines because they actually make you do something. The worst thing is all those horrible deadlines. Man, do they suck.

*Why did you come to Camosun?*

I literally forgot that you had to apply to colleges at the end of high school; maybe I never knew in the first place. I panicked (I seem to do a lot of panicking), but Camosun was accepting applications later than everywhere else and, fortunately, I wanted to live in Victoria. It may surprise folks to learn that I'm actually pretty smart. My grades and community involvement on Hornby Island were probably good enough to get me into one of the more prestigious schools, but I've never regretted coming here. I think our school's really fantastic—and inexpensive—and I've had some awesome instructors over the years.

*What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?*

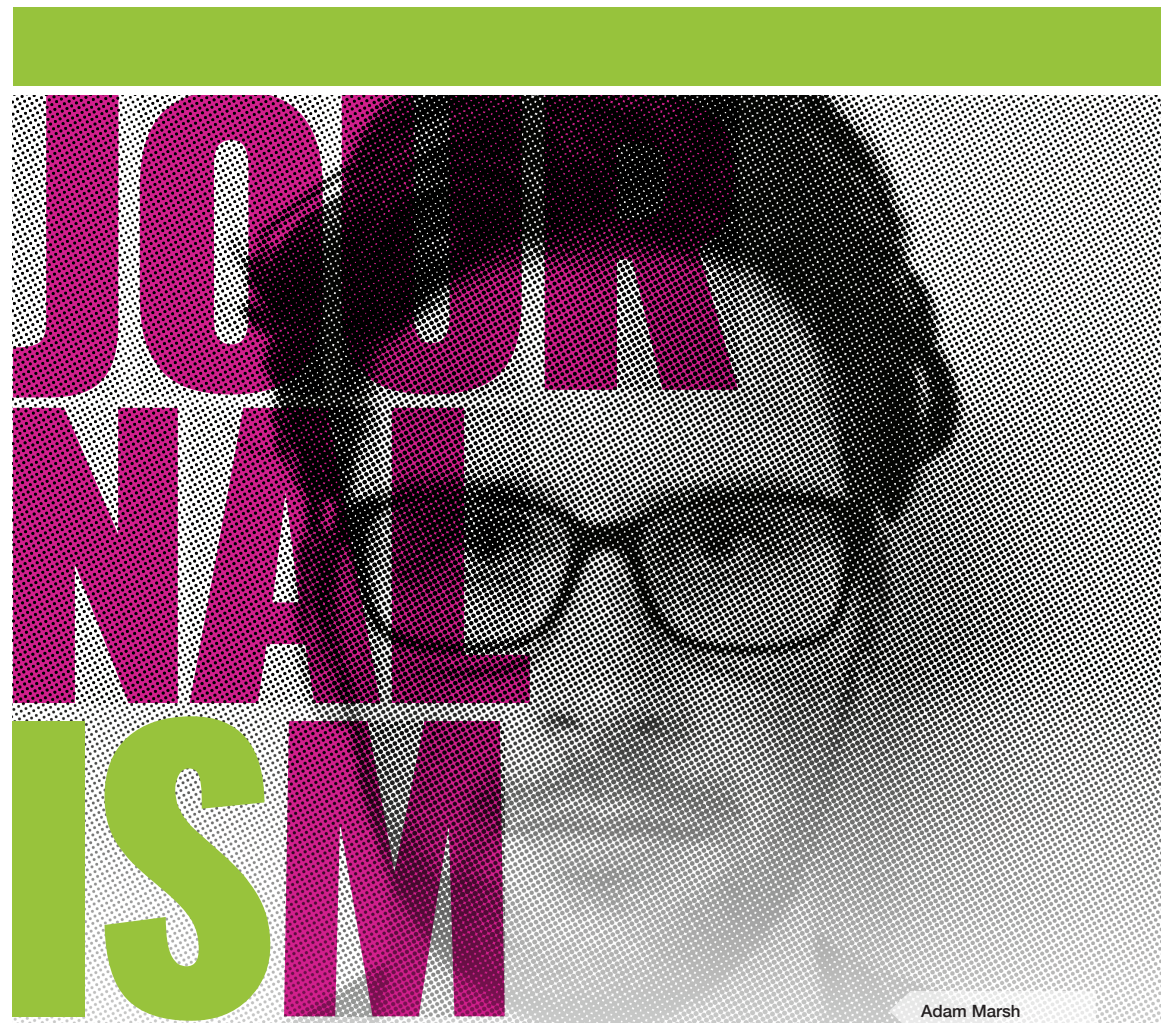
My dream is to be an animator, so I spend lots of time drawing and coming up with stories for that. I love baths; I take at least five a week, minimum; two a day, minimum, if I'm sick. I read a lot of 1920s-to-1960s fiction and watch a lot of cartoons. Name almost any animated program that's not dumb and I've probably watched it three times. I'm an anti-nihilist; my motto is, "We're all going to die; let's be nice to each other and have fun!"

*What drew you to journalism?*

Because I had to travel for a couple of hours every day to get to and from high school, I never joined any clubs or after-school activities. When I got to Camosun, I didn't just want to lurk in the shadows. I've always kind of thought of writing as one of those hobbies that I'd like to do if I were better at self-motivating; having a deadline and people that are depending on you forces you to quit procrastinating (at least when you get to the night before your story is due). Working for the student paper really opens up the world; it's surprising how often I'll have to cover a topic I've never considered before. I'm also happy to be able to publish my comics somewhere!

*What is the most awkward moment you've had in an interview?*

One "trick" that reporters use to get information out of people is to create silences. When they answer your question and trail off, you just don't say anything, and they'll feel obligated to say something else.



Adam Marsh

Student editor for *Nexus* newspaper. Marsh has covered issues such as students successfully protesting tuition raises and student issues surrounding the federal election.

an independent voice.

With a few keystrokes you can sample thousands of opinions, afloat in a sea of information. But as the volume increases, the accuracy and reliability of professional journalism is essential. Gathering and sorting the facts, weighing and interpreting events, and following the story from beginning to end is more important than ever.

