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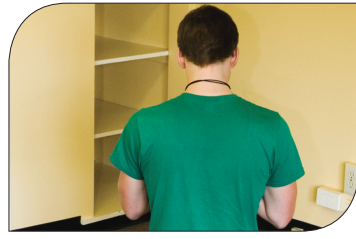
Camosun's Student Voice
Since 1990



MEET THE PREZ

She likes fine wine. Find out what else makes Kathryn Laurin, Camosun's new president, tick.

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ON YOUR KNEES

Finding inner serenity is hard; finding Camosun's new on-campus prayer spaces is even harder.

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Nexus prints letters that are 250 words or less in response to previous stories. Nexus reserves the right to refuse publication of letters. Letters must include full name and student number (not printed). Nexus accepts all letters by e-mail to nexus@nexusnewspaper.com

EDITORIAL MEETINGS

Come out to our weekly Nexus editorial meetings, where all Camosun students can get involved in their student newspaper. Meetings take place every Tuesday at 11:30 am in the Nexus office, Richmond House 201, Lansdowne. Call 250-370-3591 or e-mail nexus@nexusnewspaper.com for more information.

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Nexus Editorial

Me & Julio down by the schoolyard

SHANE SCOTT-TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Giggle weed. Julio. Bammy. Dope. Mary Warner. Chronic. Ganja. Reefer. Slick students and cool profs have been hip to the lingo for ages. College kids and cannabis have been compatible contemporaries for quite a while, and that isn't going to change anytime soon.

But is it possible, without harshing anyone's mellow, to get straight A's while picking it, packing it, and firing it up? Mary Jane has been merciful to many musicians, we all know that, but does Juanita have anything to offer the struggling student?

Is it possible, without harshing anyone's mellow, to get straight A's while picking it, packing it, and firing it up?

Everyone knows someone who always smells like the second day of Burning Man, and they probably wear patchouli and a Bob Marley or Cypress Hill t-shirt, too. Well, it

isn't just dopers and dropouts who turn to the funny stuff for a little R and R. And it isn't just for chillin' that these cool cats go illin'.

The late American author and astronomer Carl Sagan doesn't fit the stoner stereotype and yet he was taking hits from the bong on a regular basis. And he wasn't the only productive pothead who promoted the wacky tobacky and its bountiful blessings.

Barack Obama, Stephen King, Pablo Picasso, Ted Turner, and Margaret Trudeau are some of the most well known cannabis connoisseurs, and not a goldbricker among 'em.

Weed first cropped up in America after WWI, and in the 1920s it was jazz musicians who were the most enthusiastic users. In western medicine, cannabis tincture was commonly prescribed in the 1800s and an even longer history suggests Eurasia was burning bats before that. Pot popularity hasn't been anything to cough at for some time.

Marijuana, like any drug, can be abused. Dependence does occur, though rare, and chronic users do take risks. Too much bogarting doobies can irritate the respiratory tract and susceptible individuals can have bronchial and lung problems. But who says you always have to blaze? You can vapourize it, you



GRAPHIC: NIC VANDERGUGTEN

can eat it, you can even get pill and tincture forms of it.

But be warned! There's some strong shit out there that even Spicoli himself wouldn't be fast to fog. The Beatles may not be the only ones who'd "love to turn you on," but if we aren't smart about our handling of the drug, the current stigma attached to it may never blow.

Knowing what benefits we want ahead of time can help the marijuana muse stay magical. Setting limits on usage can keep it fun and

satisfying for everyone.

Is toking right before class or work wise? Of course not, that would be a total buzz-kill. Should you notice the effects you like best are dwindling, then it's time to stop, or at least go on hiatus. Resume after a break and you'll be as right as Ram Dass.

To paraphrase British philosopher Bertrand Russell, the time you enjoy wasting is not wasted time, so pass the dutchie to the left-hand side.

Open Space accepts submissions from Camosun students. Submissions to Open Space should be 400 words or less. Responses to previous articles in Nexus should be 250 words or less. E-mail submissions to nexus@nexusnewspaper.com and include your name and student number.

Open Space

What to expect when servers are expecting

JENNA SEDMAK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I went to my favourite coffee shop the other day and as I was waiting for the barista to make my soy mocha, I was handed the debit machine. I thought to myself, "This looks new," but proceeded to push the buttons anyway. Then, I awkwardly arrived at the tip screen.

Normally, there's a way to frantically push buttons and continue on with the transaction, but not this time. I was suddenly faced with only two options—"%" or "\$." What about "no thanks"?

I tried to hit the "OK" button, but nothing happened. I tried to hit the yellow "correct" button, but it just took me back a screen. Finally, I thought my only option left was

to hit "cancel." This cancelled the whole transaction.

After wishing I had just left a tip and got it over with, I had to ask the cashier to ring me in again and help get me through the tip function.

It isn't the act of tipping that irks me; it's the expectation that a tip is necessary.

There was a way around it, but it certainly wasn't easy.

I have encountered similar situations in other restaurants, cafes, and coffee shops. It isn't the act of

tipping that irks me; it's the expectation that a tip is necessary. When I'm going into a place of business and purchasing a product or food, I expect great service—regardless of whether or not I leave a tip.

At most restaurants, if a group is larger than six people there's an automatic 15–20 percent gratuity. This could be anywhere from \$30–\$70 on the total bill.

I've never understood this; larger groups bring more revenue to a restaurant. Why should they be forced to tip a certain percentage above the cost of the meal? If they are spending more money to begin with, why do they have to shell out a certain percent of extra cash?

I was told growing up that it's customary to tip in our culture.

But, depending on the service and type of business, the tip amount should vary.

It's understandable that servers and other people in service-industry jobs come to rely on their tips as regular income. But here's where the integrity of the service industry comes into question.

Servers aren't being greedy by expecting tips; it's just that most people in the service industry aren't paid competitive wages.

This burden shouldn't fall on the customer. A tip is a tip—an expression of gratitude for when the server goes above and beyond the customer's expectations. Although many people will tip, regardless of the quality of service, it should never be mandatory.

SPEAK UP What's your favourite conspiracy theory?

BY SHANE SCOTT-TRAVIS



JOSEPH WOOLFREY

There are so many! I'd say aliens. They are classic and they stand the test of time.



TABITHA BENNETT

I don't know, but people should check out zeitgeist.com—it's very informative and debunks lots of conspiracies.



SCOTT CUACHON

Probably the 9/11 attacks and how the Bush administration was responsible. There's so much speculation over that one.



ANITA THOMAS

The stories about aliens, for sure. Even though lots of them have been disproved, scientists still support so much of it. Very interesting.



JAMAAL HYDER

The birthers! They are against the legitimacy of the Obama presidency based on his birth documents. Crazy.

New Camosun president ready to face challenges ahead

KRISTIAN DART
STAFF WRITER

Tears may not have flowed from the eyes of many Camosun College students when former president Liz Ashton announced her retirement last semester. But it can't be denied that Ashton had a significant impact on the college and its direction for many years. Now taking over the master controls of college administration is incoming president Kathryn Laurin.

Laurin officially became the college's new president on Sept. 1 and is eager to make her mark on Camosun. She has been busy calculating the important and immediate topics she will be facing.

"The economy and ensuing challenges to the postsecondary sector will be an important issue," says Laurin. "Camosun will need to continue to build on strengths, seize opportunities, remain competitive, and ensure that we remain relevant and financially stable. And, most importantly, focus on quality programs."

Laurin is an experienced college administrator and served as president of Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, NS until she resigned to join Camosun College.

Laurin believes she's a good fit with Camosun and its commitment to open learning.

"I am passionate about the concept of accessible postsecondary education for learners of all ages and demographics, and the community at Camosun is focused on

"Camosun will need to continue to build on strengths, seize opportunities, remain competitive, and ensure that we remain relevant and financially stable."

KATHRYN LAURIN
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

transforming lives and providing opportunities," says Laurin. "There is tremendous pride of place here and faculty and staff are committed to their vocation. I feel that I am fortunate to have the opportunity of assisting with that mission."

With a background in the arts and a degree in music, Laurin brings many different personal passions to Camosun's administration. And she has already impressed students during her short time at the college.

"[Laurin] seems sincere as well as approachable; she fully participated in Camfest, and even came by our Lansdowne beverage garden," says Michel Turcotte, Camosun College Student Society director of operations and Interurban student rep on the college's board of governors.

"In addition, she wishes to meet with the student society on a regular basis which will help to ensure a



good relationship in the future," says Turcotte.

Past president Ashton was a sports enthusiast and focused many of the college's recent resources on the building of the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence and the creation of many athletic-based diploma programs.

But Laurin has no immediate plans to reverse this direction and focus on arts programs.

"Any shift in priorities for the college would come from a thorough examination of strengths and opportunities and would be in alignment with the Strategic Plan and identified goals," says Laurin.

With the first three weeks on the job involving endless stretches of handshakes and introductions, Laurin has yet to settle in, but has

enjoyed the job so far.

"My experiences to date have been wonderful. The students, faculty, staff, and board of governors have been extremely warm and welcoming," she says.

The new president is also hoping that she can strengthen the administration's bond with the students of Camosun.

"I would like the students to know that I am committed to providing them with an outstanding educational experience; that I care and will support them whenever I can; and that I will listen and respond respectfully and enthusiastically," says Laurin.

Laurin is also an avid golfer and loves great wine, so maybe students will see her in the Dunlop House Pub from time to time.

NEWS BRIEFS

BY SHANE SCOTT-TRAVIS

Show me the money!

Camosun's VP administration and chief financial officer, Peter Lockie, has taken more bullying from the province (was that a nuclear or an atomic wedge?). When the 2009 BC budget dropped earlier this month, Lockie, never one to say "uncle," said "the province reduced our annual capital allowance—funding used to maintain and renovate our buildings—by \$763,000, or 33 percent." Even with the cuts, both campuses can still expect library renos to the tune of \$4 million, and infrastructure projects, including site utility upgrades, around the \$3.75 million mark. Toss in a \$2.6-million energy retrofit at Interurban and the province's spitballs and swirlies seem less annoying, right?

Musical chairs

Lynda Farmer is the new chair of Camosun College Board of Governors, effective immediately. Robin Adair, the former chair, will be stepping down from that seat and hunkering down as GM of intergovernmental relations and strategic partnerships for the City of Vancouver. "Lynda's strong leadership skills, expertise, and dedication will lend significant strength to the board," says Adair.

The new president is also hoping that she can strengthen the administration's bond with the students of Camosun.

"I would like the students to know that I am committed to providing them with an outstanding educational experience; that I care and will support them whenever I can; and that I will listen and respond respectfully and enthusiastically," says Laurin.

The future is bright, right?

BC Hydro is looking to grease the palms of any student in the province (ages 13–24) who participates in an online contest called Invent the Future. Students stand to win up to \$10,000 towards education costs, as well as four cash prizes of \$2,500, and tickets to the 2010 Winter Games. The rub? Produce and submit, in either video or essay format, creative ways to positively shape the future of our planet. The contest is open until Nov. 8. Go to inventthefuture.ca for more info.

Combustible contest

Mine Action Canada (MAC) and YouTube are on the prowl for young filmmakers and activists to join a video competition on the theme of "what if . . ." as it relates to cluster bombs and landmines. MAC will award a hi-def camcorder and a trip to the Cartagena Summit in Columbia to the winning submission. This is also a surefire way to score brownie points with Angelina Jolie. Entrants have until Oct. 13 to participate. go to minesaction-canada.org for info.

Food, folks, and fun?

Aramark Food Services and Camosun College are starting a monthly dialogue on both campuses about food available to students. Feedback is encouraged and Q & A sessions will be part and parcel of the program, so feel free to regurgitate whatever dietary concerns have been foisted upon you. This forum, dubbed the Chef's Table, will be at the Lansdowne campus the last Friday of each month and at Interurban the first Friday of the month. Contact Kathryn Le Gros, director of Ancillary Services, at legros@camosun.bc.ca for more information.

Camosun preparing for potential outbreak of swine flu

JASON MOTZ
STAFF WRITER

With fears of swine flu making this year's cold and flu season extra concerning, and a recent fatality at the Victoria General Hospital from the H1N1 virus, Camosun College has been busy preparing for a potential outbreak. The college has implemented new hand sanitizers across both campuses, as well as a campaign involving posters and online updates.

"We are likely to feel the effects to some greater or lesser degree."

SUSAN HADDON
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

Since the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the H1N1 virus (swine flu) was a threat to become a global pandemic, cases of H1N1 infection have steadily risen.

In April, Camosun, in conjunction with Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA), assembled a pandemic response team to deal

with swine flu and any possible outbreak at the campus or on the island.

"Given the size of the college community and the fact that the average age of our student population is one of the demographic groups that seem to be more likely to be affected, we are likely to feel the effects to some greater or lesser degree," says College and Community relations director Susan Haddon.

Swine flu made its first appearance in 1976. Despite the hype and hysteria surrounding the potential risk of a pandemic, the threat faded as quickly as it had emerged.

In the years since, there have been other viruses to catch the attention of the world, such as Avian flu and SARS. Viruses attributed to animals as diverse as horses, birds, chickens, and even monkeys have each garnered headlines in recent years. In those cases, the pandemic threat never emerged.

With the threat of Avian flu and SARS having come and gone, the resurgence of swine flu doesn't yet appear to have caused a panic among sedate Canadian citizens. So far the student body of Camosun seems largely unconcerned about the threat of swine flu.

"No, I'm not really worried at all," says Nursing student Kendra Bruly, summing up the viewpoint of many on campus. Even more surprisingly, few were even aware of the college's health and information updates.

One voice on campus that is concerned, however, is that of Linda Scotten, a Biology instructor whose class on infectious diseases has become infused with a sense of urgency. "I believe that there will be cases of H1N1 this fall," she says.

Scotten is optimistic that, should the college endure an outbreak, "the numbers won't be high enough to impact operations at Camosun." According to stats published by the WHO, 40 percent of those known to have died from swine flu were "young and previously healthy."

Scotten's concerns have been heightened by a recent, large-scale outbreak of flu-like virus similar to swine flu at Washington State University.

"Because Camosun doesn't have students living in residences on campus, we probably won't have the rapid spread and high numbers that they are experiencing," says Scotten.

The WHO and other agencies tracking the virus around the globe

Derogatory graffiti raises concerns

JASON MOTZ
STAFF WRITER

Derogatory graffiti directed at the disabled, which first showed up on a wheelchair-accessible stall at Lansdowne campus last winter, didn't get removed until this summer, leaving many students wondering why college maintenance staff took so long.

But Mike Nunn, Camosun supervisor of custodial services, says cleaning graffiti is routine maintenance and the offensive content was never reported to him or his department.

"Not to make excuses, but I'm not sure what happened," says Nunn. "Our custodial staff is quite diligent at reporting and removing graffiti. They are supposed to report any graffiti."

Nunn suggests that perhaps some seasonal staff might have assumed the regular staff was responsible for cleaning the bathroom walls.

Graffiti and tagging are nothing new to Camosun. Each semester, a new surplus of graffiti-minded students arrives to turn the campus into their canvas. But sometimes the graffiti in question is more than a tag

or a personal expression of art.

In cases of vulgar, sexually graphic, or racially charged graffiti, there appears to be little tolerance from students on campus. Which makes the length that some of the bathroom graffiti stays on the stalls even more puzzling.

"Our custodial staff is quite diligent at reporting and removing graffiti."

MIKE NUNN
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

"Pretty disgusting" is how Creative Writing student Kamy Wong describes discriminatory graffiti. Wong is all for artistic expression, but believes that there's always a line that shouldn't be crossed. "Anything derogatory, or a directed hate crime that lacks artistic merit, is completely unacceptable," he says.

Lansdowne Anthropology student Lara Tataryn takes it one step



PHOTO: NAOMI KAVKA

further, saying all forms of graffiti are questionable on college grounds.

"It's strange to see it on a campus," says Tataryn. "I like seeing peoples' expressions of art, but [at the college] it seems weird."

"Graffiti can be an art form," agrees Christopher Gillespie, Camosun College Student Society students with disabilities director. But he is also quick to express his disdain for the offensive content.

"This art form should be used creatively," says Gillespie, "not to tear at some of the more vulnerable and unique community members."

As tagging continues to grow in popularity, it's not likely to disappear from the walls of Camosun.

"Graffiti comes in waves. When classes start up in the fall we always see an increase," says Nunn.

This semester has been no exception. Nunn cites some graffiti-based vandalism at Interurban's Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence as the start of this year's wave.

Given the flux of graffiti, Nunn is certain he has a handle on the situation and often compares his staff's performance to those at other postsecondary institutions.

"I think we do a pretty good job," he says.

Opt-out deadline for student health plan fast approaching

JASON MOTZ
STAFF WRITER

Students with existing health and dental coverage better mark Oct. 13 on their calendars because that's the opt-out date for the college's mandatory student insurance plan.

All Camosun College students automatically pay into a health and dental plan upon enrollment. But, fear not, there's recourse for students who are already covered by another health plan, such as their parents' or a work plan.

Christine Musselwhite, health plan and services officer at Lansdowne, stresses the importance of

the opt-out date.

"If you are covered by another plan, and are not wanting to coordinate your benefits plan with our plan, it is very important that you opt out prior to Oct. 13," she says. Opting out of the college plan is the only way for these students to avoid being double-dipped with insurance premium payments.

This semester the premiums are \$51.50 each for health and dental coverage; that's a cost of \$103 per semester. These costs are tied into the overall student fees due the third week of the fall and winter semesters.

According to the Camosun Col-

lege Student Society (CCSS), who administer the plan, this mandatory payment during enrollment is done to ease the burden on students as a whole.

"If you are covered by another plan, and are not wanting to coordinate your benefits plan with our plan, it is very important that you opt out prior to Oct. 13."

CHRISTINE MUSSELWHITE
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

"This is a group insurance plan," says Michel Turcotte, CCSS director of operations. "The plan would cease to be sustainable if we did not have the means to pay the premiums, or if students could opt out on the basis of choice."

Katherine Turner, a third-year

Nursing student, has decided to opt out. Turner is already covered by her parents' plan; she's one of many students with alternate coverage. Last fall, 1,109 students, more than one-eighth of the student body, opted out of the Camosun plan.

Once the CCSS receives a complete list of the students who will be covered for the semester, benefits cards are made available for students.

Like a confirmation of class enrollment, the CCSS can't hand out benefits cards until it knows with certainty how many students are on the plan.

"I guess you could say that our plans operate like a pre-paid cell phone, in that you pay for the coverage up front," says Turcotte.

Before their benefits kick in, students have to show proof that they are registered with the provincial Fair PharmaCare program. This allows the CCSS to keep drug costs low.

"Instead of our plan paying for your drugs," explains Turcotte, "PharmaCare pays."

Unlike other institutions, such as UVic, students at Camosun only have to opt out once a year and not on a semester-by-semester basis.

NEWS BRIEFS

BY SHANE SCOTT-TRAVIS

Wanna help? Sike!

Psychology Club students are looking to send some of their own to the Western Psychological Conference in Mexico. To make this happen the club is fundraising by selling an entertainment coupon book that you will not want to pass up on. So pitch in and avoid being a maxi-zoom dweebie. To nab a coupon book, contact the club's head honcho, Kris Andrew, at andrew@camosun.bc.ca

Cash prizes and videotape

My Camosun is a contest wherein you create a one-minute video. The rules of the contest—which is open to everyone in the community—are flexible and fun, so long as the theme—"my Camosun"—is obvious. David Sovka, associate director of College and Community relations, warns eager contestants, "Just don't make it creepy." So, a cameo by Udo Kier, Willem DaFoe, or Christopher Walken is not recommended! Cash prizes and bragging rights will be awarded to the winners who have until Friday, Oct. 30 to submit their vids. Visit camosun.ca/mycamosun for more info and good luck!

It's easy to be green

Camosun's Horticulture Technician students have a huge stash of herbs, perennials, deer-resistant shrubs, and other unique plants up for grabs. This annual sale will be on Sept. 26-27 from 10 am until 4 pm at the Plant Shoppe at Royal Roads. With autumn upon us, now's the time to start planting.

Bountiful bursary in the nursery

Camosun's Child Care Services is feeling more love than ever before after establishing a new bursary. The new bursary is geared towards student families with childcare needs and will award a total of \$5,000. The deadline for applications is Sept. 30. For more info, contact Child Care manager Lisa Stekelenburg at stekelen@camosun.bc.ca

Get up ev'ry body and sing!

The Harmonious Family Choir's fall '09 season is here! Each Wednesday from 6:30-8 pm at the James Bay Athletic Association you can expect lots of crooning and emoting from this multi-generational and multi-cultural choir. Join director Doug Paterson, an early childhood teacher at the Victoria Conservatory of Music, for this eclectic and ecstatic event. Go to harmoniousfamilychoir.com for more information.

Rebel rousers

Canada's premiere custom motorbike magazine, *Revolution Motorcycle Mag*, is all revved up over Camosun! Four Mechanical Engineering Technology students will see their aluminum chopper on the cover of the fall issue. It'll be rumbling onto magazine stands mid-October and motorcyclemag.com will be posting it online. Let's just hope there's a muffler on that crotch rocket!

Camosun creates campus prayer space

KRISTIAN DART
STAFF WRITER

Camosun College may not be known for an abundance of available space for students to relax, socialize, or even study, but now, thanks to the college's Diversity Committee, they at least have a place to pray and meditate.

Following the model of most postsecondary institutions, Camosun is now offering an interfaith space for students to meditate or pray during their breaks between classes.

"At this point the Diversity Advisory Committee has, each semester for the past several semesters, looked through the timetable to try to find a space that is consistent, if possible, for prayer and meditation," says Gail Baxter, assistant to the dean of access and a member of the Diversity Committee.

"The lack of prayer space has been a complaint that's been around for awhile from students, often from those of the Muslim faith who require daily prayer space."

MICHAEL GLOVER
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

The idea was spawned by the committee, but also included input from the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS).

"The idea came from the Diversity Committee, but the lack of space has been a complaint that's been around for awhile from students, often from those of the Muslim faith who require daily prayer space,"

says CCSS services coordinator Michael Glover.

During the fall semester, prayer and meditation space will be available at Lansdowne campus in room 307 of the Richmond House, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 8:30 pm, excluding Thursdays.

"Finally we found the space at Lansdowne campus in the Richmond House that seems to be stable. We had it cleared out and put up signage. The only challenge we are having with the space is for Thursdays," says Baxter.

On Thursdays the upper level of the Richmond House is home to the Sexual Health Clinic, and although they don't use the same room, there's concern about sharing the space on the same day.

"There are two sides to this is and there is a possible concern from the people who run the Sexual Health Clinic that the confidentiality of those meetings might be compromised by students who are using the prayer space," says Baxter.

"And the other side of the question is a concern from the students using the space that their prayer and meditation space may be impacted by conversations coming the other way," says Baxter.

Unfortunately, the room currently provided in the Richmond House is devoid of comfortable furniture and inspiration. The emptiness is uninviting and students may feel they have entered into the wrong room. In fact, some members of the advisory committee haven't even seen the space they have provided.

"It's quiet—what do you expect?" says Dan James, a Political Science student. "I'm not an interior designer, but it certainly needs something. Maybe some artwork or some cricket noises?"

Prayer and meditation space is also available on the Interurban Campus in room 116 of the Centre for Business and Access build-

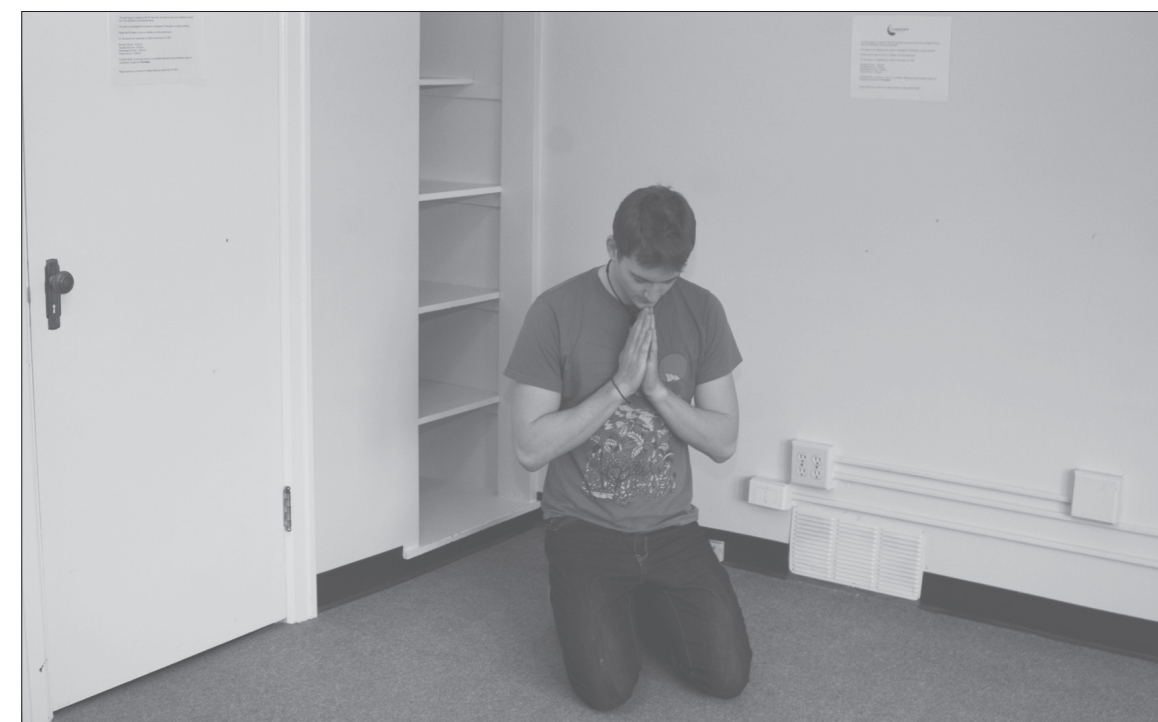


PHOTO: NAOMI KAVKA

Does this empty room look like a suitable place of worship?

ing, but students are advised to check the schedule on the Diversity Committee's website, because the times change often.

"There's not nearly as much available space at Interurban," says Baxter. "It's an hour and 15 minutes Wednesdays, and then two hours on Tuesday, and then it's different after September, so it's always changing. It's very tight to find space at Interurban," says Baxter.

Interfaith chapels and shared prayer spaces are a fairly recent phenomenon in public institutions, which were once very secular.

"Times have changed and we're trying to include other faiths, and that's sort of a challenge," says Glover.

The greatest challenge may be getting students to use the space, which is difficult to find at Lansdowne, and sporadic at best at Interurban.

But stressed students who actually do find the barren rooms may find the quiet space relaxing.

Education Council
BY-ELECTION

Representation
is important!

Do you want to make a difference? Would you like to have a voice in the development of educational programs? Expand your horizons by serving on Camosun College's Education Council!

Nomination period is from Monday, Sept. 21 through Friday, Oct. 2 (3 pm deadline).

By-election will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 21 and Thursday, Oct. 22 from 8 am-7 pm at both campuses.

For more information, see posters around the campus, on CamNews, student website, or contact Becky McGowan at 250-370-3530.

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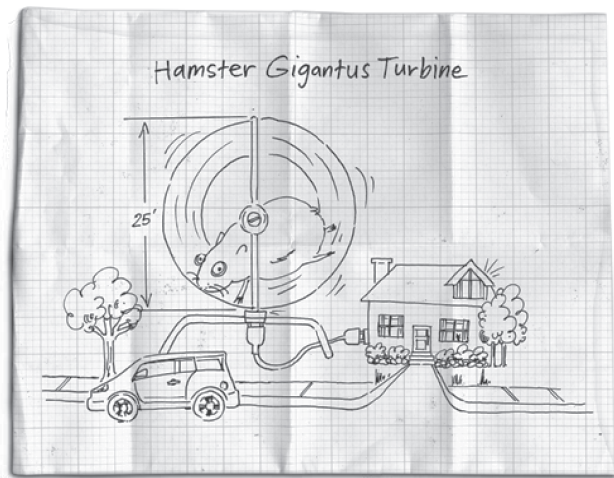
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Students find relaxation in casual fishing

ALEX HARO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students get stressed out. It's inevitable, with all the new faces, classes, deadlines, and, for some, money problems. There's obviously the cost of tuition and textbooks. But what about food?

Luckily, a variety of options are available to students at Camosun to relax after a long day in class. But only one is good for your brain and gets your belly full of delicious, healthy, free food—fishing.

Head down to the breakwater on any given evening and you'll find a whole lot of happy, content people. No one cares about the act of catching a big, fat lingcod; instead they are more intent on unwinding. And if a free meal happens to latch itself onto someone's line, so much the better, right?

Although it's rare to see young people and students down at Ogden Point and some of the other local fishing spots, there are a few. Dustin Wright, a former Selkirk College student, is one of them. Hailing from Nelson, BC, Wright is an avid fisher. Every time he's in Victoria,

Wright comes down and sinks a line at the breakwater.

"The fish are big, the people are cool, and fishing is more relaxing than a good blowjob," says Wright.

No one cares about the act of catching a big, fat lingcod; instead they are more intent on unwinding.

Wright comes from a town famous for its lake fishing and he uses that to his advantage. Going to school full-time is not an easy task and Wright can attest to that. While at college he would regularly stop at Kootenay Lake for an hour or two in-between classes or after school to clear his head before going home.

"No matter how busy you are with school and personal stuff, everyone needs some alone time. It ends up helping you deal with things better in the long run," says Wright,

glancing over his shoulder as he casts his line over a kelp bed.

For those students interested in picking up fishing, it's not hard to do. All you need is a rod, a saltwater (tidal) or freshwater (non-tidal) license, and some bait or tackle.

A tidal license is only around \$22 a year, a non-tidal is about \$40, and you can pick up a decent rod-and-reel combo for about \$60 at Island Outfitters or Trotac Marine. These retail outlets also sell licenses, or head over to env.gov.bc.ca/fw/fish/licenses to get a license online. Licenses are available in one-day, eight-day, or annual increments.

Not a bad investment for peace of mind and the chance to pull in dinner. Sure, you may get skunked, but there's always tomorrow.



PHOTO: ALEX HARO



Camosun Students!

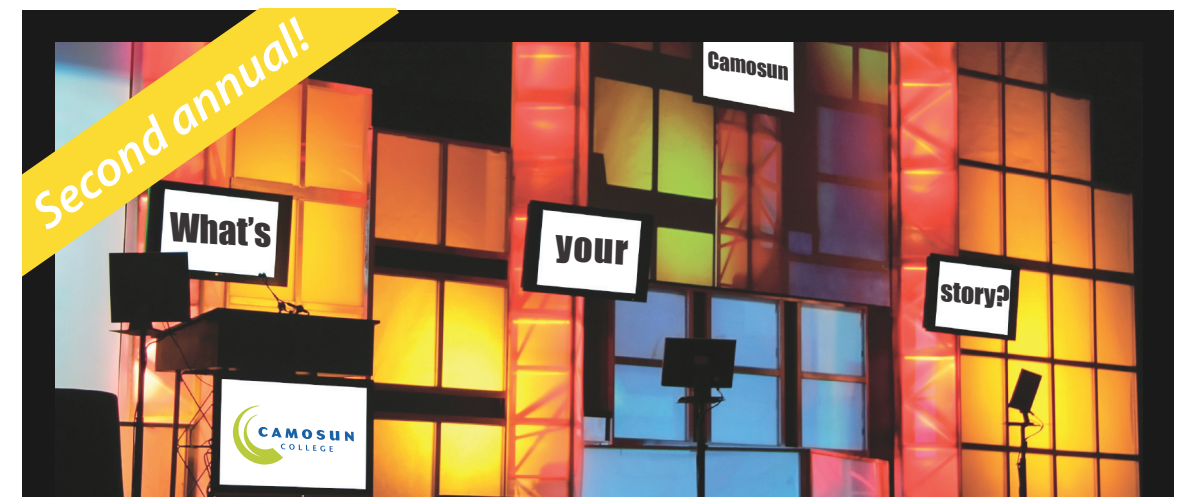
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	Closing date: 4 pm, Friday, October 30, 2009	

Visit camosun.ca/mycamosun for details.

AGENDA

- I CALL TO ORDER
 - 1) Call to order by member of the Executive
 - II INTRODUCTION TO CCSS MEETING RULES OF ORDER
 - 1) Introduction to rules of order, the chair shall provide a brief introduction to the rules of order.
 - III APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 - IV MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
 - V SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS TO AMEND THE EXISTING BYLAWS
- There are several resolutions to amend the bylaws including changes to the CCSS election rules. Please come to a student society office or go to www.camosunstudent.org for more information.
- VI REPORT FROM THE CCSS BOARD
 - VII QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR
 - VIII ADJOURNMENT

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3. You need to have a way with words, but you can work on this as you go, too! Okay, you say... I could probably do that. But what would I get out of writing for the Nexus?
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 3. Break out of your comfort zone! If you're shy, learn how to approach people. Learn to be persistent!

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-Alan Piffer, Nexus volunteer

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FOLLOWING THE CHEMTRAILS

What's really going on in our skies?

by Keltie Larter
Staff Writer

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a... chemtrail? That's right—according to a growing number of chemtrail conspiracy theorists, the white lines you've been seeing in the sky are not the innocuous aircraft condensation trails of times past. In recent years, people around the world have noticed an increasing number of peculiar cloud formations in our skies. While the theories are highly speculative, some suggest the strange, grid-like, crisscrossing plumes that appear to be contrails are actually a form of weather and/or population control.

Jeremy Arney, a Victoria resident who ran as the Saanich-Gulf Islands federal election candidate last year for the Canadian Action Party, thinks there's something strange going on above us. "I believe that they are conducting experiments on the public," he says.

And on that note, let's take a look into the chemtrail phenomenon.

What the heck is a chemtrail?

Remember being young and going to see the Firebirds airshow? Well, the white smoke plumes coming off the back of the jets making pretty patterns in the air are called contrails.

Short for condensation trails, contrails happen when the exhaust gases from jet engines hit the cold air outside and turn into vapour, or, if the air is cold enough, ice crystals.

Although there's some controversy as to the lasting power of a contrail, many believe the trails seen in the sky today last longer and disperse differently than those we have previously experienced.

Jim Honeyman is the manager of the Victoria International Airport's air traffic control tower. He has been working in air traffic control for 35 years. He says condensation trails can hang in the sky for varying amounts of time, depending on weather conditions. "Contrails can sometimes last for hours and hours," he says. "It all depends on the amount of moisture in the air and the temperature. On a clear, hot day, a contrail could be visible all during daylight hours and may even disperse to form cloud cover."

A chemtrail, on the other hand, is thought to be the evidence of high-altitude spraying of unknown substances, masquerading as a normal contrail, from military-style aircraft. A chemical wolf in sheep's clothing, if you will.

Chemtrail theorists claim the trails form unusual grid-like patterns in the sky, they often expand to create cloud cover, and they can sometimes be seen to weep like rain clouds. Believers also claim many of the planes they see spraying chemtrails are unmarked white jets. Honeyman immediately rejects this claim, saying "there are no unmarked jets flying through Victoria airspace."

What's the point?

Three main theories are out there about chemtrails and why they exist—weather warfare, population and/or mood control, and large-scale vaccinations.

The first theory, weather warfare or modification, is not a new concept. Creepy and dangerous, but not new or secret.

Many countries have been using weather modification techniques for years. China uses the largest cloud seeding system in the world; in fact, they used it to get rid of all the smog in Beijing for the 2008 Olympics.

"There are no unmarked jets flying through Victoria airspace."

JIM HONEYMAN
VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The US military's interest in weather modification techniques is, likewise, no secret. In fact, it's likely that chemtrail speculation was originally sparked by a student essay drafted within the United States Air Force's Air University called *Weather as a Force Multiplier: Owning the Weather by 2025*.

The essay suggests how advantageous it would be to have a device that would modify the weather, especially for military purposes or in times of war. According to the essay, "The capability of influencing the weather, even on a small scale, could change it from a force degrader to a force multiplier."

In 1997, Edward Teller, also known as the father of the hydrogen bomb, submitted a proposal to the US government with ideas on how to slow down global warming. One of the ideas involved spray-

ing tiny aluminium particles into the air to reflect some of the sun's ultraviolet rays, while still allowing the planet's heat to rise up through them.

More recently, Karsten Brandt, a German meteorologist, was shown on a German newscast claiming he has proof that the German army is manipulating the weather through chemtrails.

Arguably the most popular chemtrail theory is global chemical spraying; a kind of global suncreening project. But Environment Canada media relations advisor Tracy Lacroix-Wilson says they are "not aware of any scientific evidence supporting the view that contrails are chemically laden or part of weather modification research projects." Lacroix-Wilson adds that all aircrafts engines are required to meet "very stringent emission standards" set by international organizations.

The next theory, population or mood control, stems from the unavoidable historical fact that governments have been known to secretly test chemical and biological agents on an unsuspecting public.

From 1964 until 1969, the United States Army staged hundreds of secret germ-warfare testing operations—where plain-clothed agents carrying specially fitted suitcases sprayed the oblivious public with a bacteria-filled mist—in cities all over America.

They called it Operation Bacterium and didn't admit to its existence until a 1977 Senate hearing, where they continued to claim that there was no risk to the public, despite the distinct possibility that it could have caused outbreaks of disease in some of the tested areas.

It's not a huge leap, then, to suppose that governments would do it again.

Victoria resident Arney thinks our elected officials, in cooperation with governments worldwide, are doing just that. "To a certain extent, the public's apathy could well be induced by the chemicals coming from these chemtrails," he says.

The last of the main theories has to do with large-scale vaccinations via the air; some theorists believe that governments are trying to secretly vaccinate people against pandemics and to combat chemical warfare. While reaching a population through its water supplies is easier, water is also easy to test, people use water filters, and many simply stick to bottled water.

"We all have to breathe," says Arney, "and the government controls the air."

Does it make sense?

The evidence is very convincing, but do these theories stand up to logic? In the chemtrail case, the questions are not just about who would do this and why, but also—the most important question—what's in it for them?

Victoria resident David Kool, who has extensively studied conspiracy theories, doesn't buy into what he calls "the chemtrail hoax." "I just don't see any profit in it," he says. "It would cost billions of dollars. If the government was spending that much money to mitigate the effects of global warming, why would they keep it a secret?"

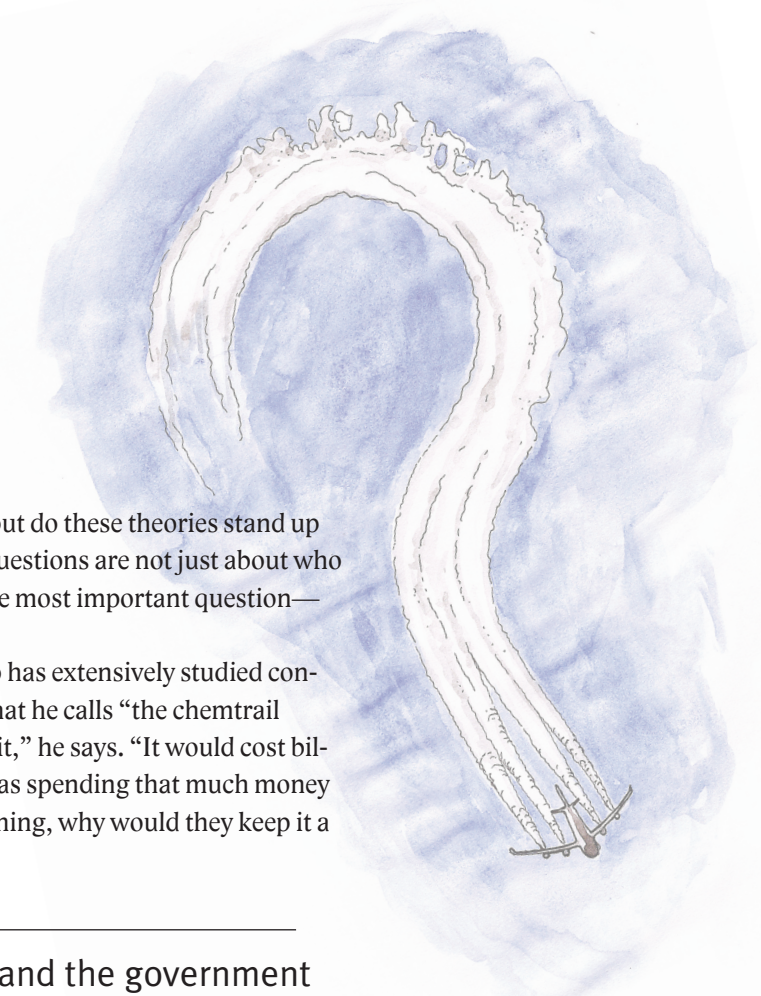
We all have to breathe, and the government controls the air."

JEREMY ARNEY
CHEMTRAILS BELIEVER

"And, anyway," he continues, "the first people to suffer from global warming are going to be the little guys, poor people in developing countries. Since when has government ever done anything purely for the benefit of the poor, unless they were lining their own pockets by doing so?"

Kool also believes it would be impossible to hide such a large-scale project. "Clinton couldn't even hide getting a blowjob in a closet," he says, "so how is our government going to hide an operation which would have to involve thousands of people?"

It's questions like this that, for now, remain unanswered.



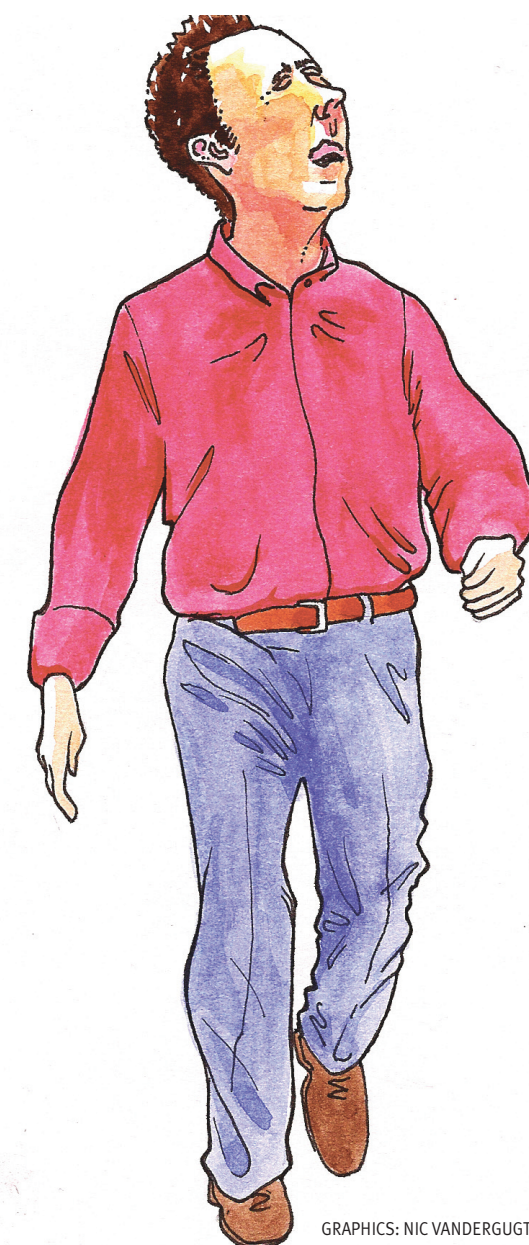
The truth or fiction is out there

The Internet is just teeming with information about chemtrails. Here are some websites and documentary films to check out. Some of them are pretty credible, others... well, not so much.

Websites:
chemtrailsconnect.com—This is a forum-based site. Members post lots of information on what they believe to be chemtrails and many different points of view are provided. They also give updates on chemtrail sightings, resources for dealing with chemtrail-related illness, and even instructions on how to capture time-lapse footage of suspicious activity in the sky.
iseelines.com—Not only do we love the name of this site, but it's also user-friendly, providing the reader with clear, concise explanations of chemtrails.

holmstead.ca—Chemtrail info from this side of the border.
bariumblues.com—Who designs some of these sites? For those who can stomach wading through the mess of information on every page, there are definitely some nuggets of gold to be had here.

Documentary films:
Aerosol Crimes—Produced by chemtrail researcher Clifford Carnicom, this one is available for free in Google videos.
Canadian Chemtrail Documentary—This film explores chemtrails right here on Vancouver Island. Find it on YouTube.



GRAPHICS: NIC VANDERGUTEN

Interview with a local chemtrails believer

Jeremy Arney is a long-time Victoria resident and ardent chemtrail believer. We sat down with him to find out why.

Do you actually think there's a conspiracy to secretly spray chemicals on the population?

Yes. I'm convinced that the whole thing is designed to make us more docile, to think less, to act less, to make it easier for us to be herded wherever it is they want us to go. **Have you found any proof that what the government says are condensation trails are actually chemtrails?** No, I haven't. It's fairly obvious to any normal person looking up in the sky, particularly around this area, that these are not contrails. They're totally different. Contrails disappear quite quickly, even in the middle of winter, but these things stay for hours and hours.

What do you say to the argument that there are more contrails in the sky because there's simply more air traffic than there used to be?

I don't believe that in the middle of the summer airplanes are going to criss-cross over each other and it's still going to be there hours later. There's no way that's a condensation trail. It can't possibly be a condensation trail. The

planes would have to be almost on top of each other in order to cause that. And there's no way that all those planes in this area would be flying in all of those different directions. Frankly, I don't believe it.

Why would our government be secretly spraying chemicals into the air?

Control. Mind control. Once they have experimented with all these different mixtures that they're dropping on us and found the one which makes us even sleepier, even more disinterested than Canadians are right now, they'll use it. We're apathetic. Towards politics, towards what's going on around us, towards what being done to us. What I believe it's all about, eventually, is crowd control.

Why go to the trouble of using jets? Why not just put something in the water supply?

An excellent idea. What makes you think that they're not already doing that? Even here in Victoria, I won't drink tap water. We can hide from almost anything, but we can't hide from what we breathe.

Wouldn't an operation of this size be impossible to keep a secret?

If you're working for the government, especially on some-

thing like this, which is clandestine, you would have to sign [a confidentiality statement], so you can't talk about it. And if you're with the military you're not going to talk about it anyway.

What about those who say this is just another crazy conspiracy theory?

The concept that it's another crackpot conspiracy theory... it's gone way beyond that. It's gotten to the point where young kids and old people are all looking up and saying, "What is this? What's being done to us?" It's scary because we can, to a certain extent, control what's done to us down on the ground, but we cannot avoid what we breathe.

What would you say to people who would write you off as just another crackpot conspiracy nut?

Doesn't bother me. I just wish they would examine things the way they should be examined, and could be examined. For themselves, not for me, because if they think I'm a crackpot, fine. But if they were to go and research this themselves, maybe they'd say I'm not a crackpot. Or maybe they'd confirm in their own little minds that I am a crackpot. Maybe I am. Maybe I'm totally insane, maybe this whole thing is just one big dream I haven't woken up

from yet. But somehow, I think not. Too many things are out there; too many things happening that don't have a logical explanation.

Who do you think is behind all of this?

You'll never get an answer to that because it points to the New World Order, where there's one government controlling the world. I'm not opposed to the idea of having a world government responsible to the people, but I'm not in support of a world government that is totally dominated by corporations.

But if you had to put a name to this conspiracy, who would it be?

If I had to put a name to it, it would be [banking empire mogul] David Rothschild. He is probably the wealthiest person in the world. He's beyond big business. He is huge. So, if I had to put a name to it, that would be who it would be, but I don't think he could do it alone. There's got to be other people there with him, other people from the so-called power elite.

Controlling the government?

Controlling everything. Who's at the tip of the umbrella? That's the person you want, the man who's at the tip of the umbrella. The corporations are the next layer down; then under that are the lobbyists; and then under that there's government; and then there's the long handle, and hanging off the handle by their shoestrings are the people. And we can never climb up, because we're spending all of our time hanging on.

The return of the pink protrusions

SHANE SCOTT-TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Public nudity is a taboo in our culture for many archaic, obnoxious, and, perhaps, practical reasons. This is particularly true in Victoria, where puritanical views eclipse the culture that sweeps the city.

But with a presentation of *Poetry in the Raw III* later this month, Lotus Land will be getting a lot leggier and a lot lovelier.

Missie Peters, architect of this unveiled event, is enthusiastic about this year's faddish fundraiser. Peters and her co-ed poets say it wasn't always so easy to get naked and spout iambic pentameter.

"At a party one night my friend got naked and read [Allen Ginsberg's] *Howl*. It was amazing. His neck clenched, his toes curled—it was beautiful. And I thought, 'I have to try this—right away,'" says Peters, sounding tickled.

Peters is quick to point out that "this isn't a voyeuristic show, at all. It is an empowering and intimate evening that evokes an atmosphere of reverence."

The host for the proceedings, David Morris, is the kind of MC who wouldn't ask his audience to do anything he himself wouldn't feel comfortable doing. So he invites them to disrobe along with him, but

peeling it all off isn't a prerequisite for the event.

"I don't want anyone to be afraid or uneasy, so I start off by removing my socks and most people follow suit," says Morris.

It isn't too long before he is skyclad, and most of the audience is, too.

"It goes from frightening to freeing as people are like, 'Fuck, I can do this!' Nudity is seen as it should be, as something honest and beautiful," he says.

And why shouldn't it be? Tongues of Fire, the spoken-word collective responsible for the event, have been, since 2004, as visible in Victoria as the emperor's new clothes.

All funds raised from this year's event will go towards the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word, happening in November.

The Festival is an exciting event for Victoria to host. It's the premier spoken word gala, a five-day affair—held in a different Canadian city each year—promising ripe repartee but, unlike Poetry in the Raw, sadly, no pink protrusions.

And this year's lineup couldn't be better. The SNAFU Dance Company will be opening the show and members of the Victoria Slam Team, the aforementioned Morris and Peters, Skawt Chonnz, Jane Bee,

and a grab-bag of local spoken word artists, DJs, and musicians are sure to make this an au naturel bacchanal.

"It goes from frightening to freeing as people are like, 'Fuck, I can do this!' Nudity is seen as it should be, as something honest and beautiful."

DAVID MORRIS
POETRY IN THE RAW

"It's about making the body poetry as opposed to just 'Girls! Girls! Girls!'" says Peters, evoking Marlene Dietrich's cabaret crooner. "You will regret not coming to this. You only live once and this is such a unique experience—like skydiving!"

Poetry in the Raw III
Sept. 28, 8 pm, \$15
Victoria Events Centre
tonguesoffire.ca



Word up Book reviews

B Is for Beer
By Tom Robbins
Harper Collins

preschooler and a Beer Fairy, with the "meaning of beer" tossed in for good measure.

The addition of several illustrations by Robbins' regular cover artist, Les LePene, certainly adds to the novel's appeal, but is it enough to entice young readers?

The material is relatively lightweight, especially coming from Robbins, and it's doubtful a younger audience would be drawn in to what's mostly adult-oriented fare. But it still offers up some sweet subversion that clever kids might cling to.

Robbins arguably opts out of a real stance on society's beer dependence, and he sugarcoats some potentially devastating material, but he still writes with a panache and a promptness that most writers can only dream of.

B Is for Beer is, ultimately, a sentimental sidestep from a relevant writer.

Robbins might be slumming a little, but it still adds up to happy hour. Recommended.

Noise Addict

No riffraff at Rifflandia's return



It's easy to miss a lot of really great bands during a giant music festival that happens over four days at multiple venues. Especially considering the festival in question—Rifflandia—is bringing a lot of big acts to town, like Tegan and Sara, Buck 65, Hey Rosetta, Pink Mountainops, Final Fantasy... the list goes on. But besides those big names there are also some lesser-known acts that should not be missed.

The last two years have been particularly good ones for Vancouver's *Said the Whale* (myspace.com/saidthewhale). Their latest album, *Howe Sounds/Taking Abalonia*, has done really well and they have once again been shortlisted for the XM Verge Artist of the Year Music Awards. The band plays a wonderful blend of Canadiana folk and rock—think of what it would sound like if the Tragically Hip and

the Shins had a musical child. Said the Whale will be playing Element on Rifflandia's Thursday night with Analog Bell Service and Dan Mangan.

Recommending one of my best friends is a little unethical; however, I would still try to tell everyone to see *Aidan Knight* (aidanknight.bandcamp.com), even if he wasn't a friend of mine. Knight has been a major part of the local music scene for years; he emerged as one of the vocalists in Black Tie Social and played a key part in two of Victoria's biggest bands—Maurice and Counting Heartbeats. But besides all of that, there's his own music—some of the most stunning and beautiful I've ever heard. Ever. It's a nice mix of folk, rock, and other sounds that are difficult to categorize. Aidan Knight opens for Tegan and Sara at Alix Goolden Hall on Rifflandia's

Friday night.

Jon-Rae Fletcher (myspace.com/jonraef) is in many ways a hidden treasure of Canadian music. He originally performed with his backing band, The River, but now Fletcher has gone solo. He recently released one of the best albums of this year, *Oh, Maria*, which features a wonderful mix of folk, country, and rock, with a very close attention to detail in his songwriting. Fletcher was living in Victoria for a brief period this year and he played a fair share of shows here during that time. Don't miss this second chance to see him. Fletcher plays the Metro Theatre on the Saturday night of Rifflandia.

Rifflandia takes place from Thursday, Sept. 24 until Sunday, Sept. 27 at various downtown Victoria venues. Go to rifflandia.com for more information.

Great White Shark has reggae bite

ALAN PIFFER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Great White Shark singer James Whitehead recently had a serious problem. Right after booking a major tour, all of his Victoria bandmates quit. What was a beleaguered frontman to do? Luckily, a solution to his problem came through the magic of livevictoria.com, a music-centred social-networking site.

"It happened in a very divine intervention-like way," says drummer Sean Thompson. "I was looking desperately for a new project, and I was scouring livevictoria.com, trying to find something that would bite—no pun intended."

And it happened to be Whitehead's listing for reggae or ska musicians that appealed to Thompson, a self-described addict to Stewart Copeland and the Police.

"I get the freedom to pretty much do whatever I want to the groove," says Thompson. "I can

make it feel as weird as I want to at times, as long as I'm tasteful with it. It's like a little playground, because I love playing reggae music."

So the band's new lineup came together—a fresh new group of players ready to conquer the world as Great White Shark. And although Whitehead originally thought their name, suggested by his former bass player, was a bit on the cheesy side, now he loves it.

"It just lends itself to this certain power," says Whitehead. "It's Great White Shark, you know?"

Part of Great White Shark's sound comes from an interesting bit of trivia about the origins of reggae music—although it was heavily influenced by the rhythm and blues of the '50s and '60s, its unique rhythms happened by accident.

"They used to import radio signals through repeaters across the ocean, and so they'd get a staccato, choppy sound coming through,"

"Reggae takes the genre of rock, and it takes what people are conditioned to listen to, and it flips it upside-down."

SEAN THOMPSON
GREAT WHITE SHARK

says bass player Steven Taddei. According to Thompson, this offbeat, rhythmic feel is what makes reggae so compelling.

"Reggae takes the genre of rock, and it takes what people are conditioned to listen to, and it flips it upside-down," says Thompson. While the three new members are all very skilled musicians, Whitehead aims to keep the band's music grounded.



"We have a friendly running argument because I almost demand that the band have pop sensibility; be catchy the first time you hear it," says Whitehead. "Whereas both Sean and Steven are able to make very eclectic music with weird time signatures, and appreciate it for the technical execution. What we end up with is this really nice amalgam of the two, which keeps our sound really fresh."

And while Whitehead admits he lacks the musical knowledge of his bandmates, he understands

the power of showmanship and self-expression.

"My skill set is that I relate to people and I have, literally, no fear when I'm onstage," says Whitehead. "Nothing filters between my expression and my ego. I just let it out, like a baby crying onstage."

Great White Shark
Oct. 2, \$12
Lucky Bar
myspace.com/
greatwhitesharkvictoria

Spielberg -in- Stilettoes

Japanese thriller meets teen fantasy

Push

Starring: Dakota Fanning, Chris Evans, Camilla Belle, Djimon Hounsou
Directed by: Paul McGuigan
Runtime: 111 minutes



If Dakota Fanning really had psychic abilities, she never would have bothered with this movie.

First of all, the setting is incredibly captivating, and makes for fabulous visuals. *Push* takes place in the ghetto of Hong Kong, where Nick—a young hoodlum with special abilities, played by Chris Evans—is on the run from a shadowy government organization called the Division.

Nick, who was born with the power to move objects with his mind, bands together with a 13-year-old street urchin who can see the future (Fanning) on a quest to overcome the Division.

Despite it being way too reminiscent of *X-Men*, *Push*'s convincing trailer showed potential, especially considering continually rising child star Fanning doesn't often disappoint.

But disappoint *Push* does—the movie poorly delivers what could have been a compelling story. There's a terrific grunge feel to the visual composition of the film, but in all other aspects it's inconsistent. Fanning is in a strange transition period between child star and adulthood. Her acting skills are still above par, but hearing her swear on screen feels unnatural. Not to mention she's prancing around in a mini skirt with her freaky Biafran legs and oversized hooker boots that make her look like a Bratz doll; she is very hard to take seriously.

Still, she's the best of the bunch, because Camilla Belle (*When a Stranger Calls*), playing Kira, Nick's rebellious heartthrob, is a miserable actress. At least Evans is

sometimes funny, throwing in the occasional amusing quip; Belle, on the other hand, is uncomfortable, expressionless, and has really weird eyebrows.

To be fair, the writing is less than impressive. Much of the dialogue feels stilted and unnatural, and the narration is uncreative.

If anything makes *Push* worth seeing, it's the fabulously creepy lollipop girl, played by Xiao Lu Li. Her wonderfully disturbing character adds spice to the movie's strange combination of styles, which can best be described as one-dimensional youth fantasy-romance, meets superhero comic book, meets crazy Japanese thriller.

RATINGS

- Complete disaster 1/5
- Unfortunate malfunction 2/5
- A solid stand 3/5
- Freakin' fabulous 4/5

Arena Rock

Marilyn Manson
Save-on-Foods Centre, Sept. 8

KRISTIAN DART
STAFF WRITER

Controversial debutant rock demon Marilyn Manson recently summoned himself on stage in Victoria, but the crowd was the main attraction.

Cleavage pored over tightly tied corsets, bum cheeks lurked under short skirts and waved hello, and boots were laced up to the knees over fishnet stockings. It seemed like the place was going to explode into a pagan orgy before Manson even hit the stage.

In the stands, bikers handed out high fives to drunk goth kids

as they headbanged together before the music even started.

When Manson made his appearance in front of pounding strobe lights and pulsating beats, his hardcore fans up front went wild. He thanked them by spraying beer and spit all over their eager faces, and then bounced the empty bottle off a security guard's head.

Manson slugged himself across the stage wearing scrotum-hugging leather pants. He looked tired. He looked fat. But maybe he's pregnant with the Antichrist.

His voice was, expectantly, auto-tuned, but his band was tight. The music rocked hard and got the crowd moving.

The stage show was smaller than expected—no fireworks, no blood sacrifices, and very little ban-



ter with the crowd. They projected upside-down crosses, burnt a prop bible, and flooded the stage with fog, but nothing echoed with any of the controversy that followed Manson around 10 years ago.

Government officials used to call for a ban on his music, the religious right protested outside the venues he played, but now all his shock tactics look contrived and silly.

Regardless, his fans at the Save-on-Foods Memorial Centre dressed up, danced, and hailed their dark chief of rock.

9 ★★★★★
ED SUM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The future is grim in *9*, an imaginative and visionary movie by director and writer Shane Acker. Grim and hopeless.

While literary analysts can nitpick at this film for years to come, the general viewing audience probably won't. The best parts are the striking visuals, but the message the film tells is confusing. Is this movie an action-adventure or something more?

Combining philosophical elements from *The Matrix*, *Resident Evil*, and *Transformers*, *9* is a tale of survival. Toss in some action straight out of a video game, such as Squaresoft's *Final Fantasy*, and it appears Acker is continuing in the vein of his animation work in *Lord of the Rings: Return of the King*.

With strong computer-generated graphics painting a decaying landscape, it's the dolls, called "stitchpunks," who inherit this world. Events unfold allegorically after a Great War and there's an Einstein-like scientist figure (voiced by Alan Oppenheimer) that sets the story in motion.

A doll called *9* (Elijah Wood)



is the latest the scientist has made. He awakens and meets another one like him, 2 (Martin Landau), just before a mysterious cat beast steals him away.

Eventually, *9* meets others of his kind and the story turns into why 2 must be saved. A rescue mission ensues, but there's nothing stellar at stake, other than how to survive.

Perhaps the most curious aspect of this film is how it challenges religious doctrine by suggesting ideas that Elizabethan-era astronomer and occultist John Dee would be proud of.

The original computer animated short that *9* is based on won awards for its striking imagery, but as a longer piece it's short of being perfect.

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Salmon Kings spawn new contracts

KRISTIAN DART
STAFF WRITER

The Victoria Salmon Kings, unfortunately, stumbled right out of the playoffs last season and missed their chance at winning the ECHL's Kelly Cup. But that was last season.

Come Oct. 16, the long quest for the championship begins again as the team faces off against the Alaska Aces with three away games in a row in the northernmost American state.

"I'm really excited to play Alaska," says Salmon Kings returning forward Adam Taylor. "They are our rivals and it should be a lot of fun."

The Salmon Kings' organization's top brass had a busy summer, during which they signed a number of new forwards and defencemen.

One of the newly acquired forwards that Salmon Kings fans should keep an eye on is Yannick Tifu, a skilled playmaker and consistent offensive threat.

Tifu arrived in Victoria from Florida, where he played with the Everblades. During the 2008/09 campaign he scored six goals and added 27 assists in just 24 games.

Together Goldie and Tifu could be a colossal combination on the power play and even a dominating tandem during regular shifts.

Another new acquisition to watch out for this year is Bear Trapp (yes, that's his real name). Trapp is making his ECHL debut and spent the last four years hammering it out in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), where he played for the Sacred Heart University Pioneers.

During Trapp's final season with

definitely punch above his weight, and he posted six goals and 16 assists last season; decent numbers for a defenceman. But it's Coulombe's work ethic that makes him a real asset.

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Trapp is making his ECHL debut and spent the last four years hammering it out in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), where he played for the Sacred Heart University Pioneers.

During Trapp's final season with



the Pioneers he rang up 33 points in 36 games.

Morrison and his staff were also busy this summer ironing out a different kind of contract—an extension to their affiliation agreement with the Vancouver Canucks.

Morrison and Canucks general manager Mike Gillis renewed their agreement, which will see the Salmon Kings hockey operations work alongside Gillis and his scouts and coaching staff to develop future National Hockey League (NHL) and American Hockey League (AHL) players for another year.

The Salmon Kings also renewed their affiliation with the Canucks AHL farm team, the Manitoba Moose.

Both relationships help the Salmon Kings with the promotion of their club and give the staff insight into how to run a professional and successful hockey team.

The Salmon Kings' first home games don't begin until Oct. 21

when they face off against Bakersfield for a three-night stint at the Save-on-Foods Memorial Centre.

The Victoria ECHL hockey club is also blowing out Salmon Kings season tickets to students for only \$424.

Golfers ready to drive

KRISTIAN DART
STAFF WRITER

The Camosun College Chargers golf team is off and swinging. Professional Golfers' Association golf pro and head coach John Randle recently held tryouts at Arbutus Ridge Golf Club and 24 spiked-shoed athletes showed up to putt their way onto the team.

Randle had the heavy task of cutting the group of 24 into an eight-person roster.

The 2009 Chargers team will see the return of third-year veteran Kevin Waltz from Quilicum Beach and the addition of seven new players, including Zander Ritson from Victoria, Josh Benloulou of Salt Spring Island, and Terrance Drader from Kamloops.

The Chargers finished fourth

out of nine teams in the British Columbia Colleges' Athletic Association last season. They were just two points shy of the bronze medal, which was won by their Nanaimo rivals, Vancouver Island University.

The Chargers hope to recapture the championship title they held a year ago.

They have their first tournament Sept. 19–20, hosted by Selkirk College at the Castlegar Golf Club.

Results were not available at press time.

Meanwhile, the four other Chargers teams—men's and women's basketball and volleyball—recently held tryouts and are now practicing and eagerly gearing up for their first exhibition games, which begin at the end of the month.

Overheard at Nexus

Who hasn't walked into a conversation at precisely the wrong time—what did he say about anal beads? Or eavesdrop on a conversation that was like smelling someone else's fart? At *Nexus* we do a lot of that, so here's what's been overheard at *Nexus* . . .

"Can we dress up a pig? Please?"

"I'm not familiar with the term 'poop chute.'"

"LOL seriously needs to be retired—it's messing with my high!"

"Yes, you heard correctly, he will be getting his balls laminated."

"Can I spray your feet?"

"My ass is so sore!"

"We're gonna see 9 at 7:30 at the Cap 6!"

"My favourite word for 'vagina' comes from the French. 'La nounne.'"

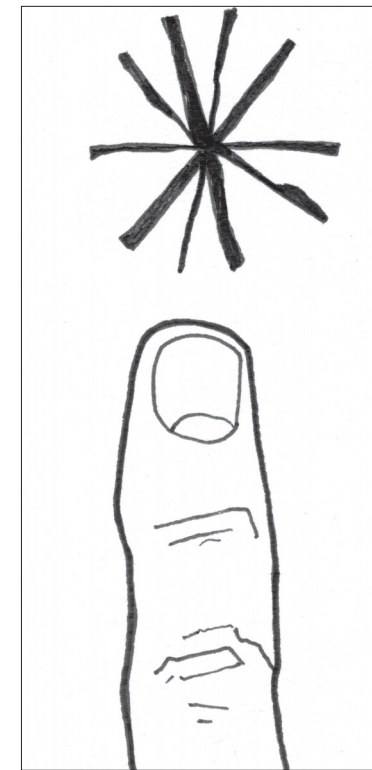
"I gotta tidy up the office—naked girls are coming over!"

"You had me at 'ninjas!'"

Inter-Course

By Keltie Larter

Analingus anyone?



he's about to come and then stick your finger in his ass . . . well, sort of.

It's true that anal penetration can often be very pleasurable for men due to their prostate glands being in close proximity to their rectums. But it's also true most guys I've known, even the really open-minded ones, are very nervous about anyone touching their bum holes. As far as I can tell, it's some ridiculous idea that somehow indulging in anal play makes them gay.

Anyway, the best way to go about it is to slowly introduce a little tongue action to the area. Next time you're going down on your man, try licking his perineum—the place between his balls and his sphincter—while stroking the shaft of his penis with your hand. Trust me, he'll like it.

At this point, if you're feeling adventurous, you can start to make your way further south and try licking him where the sun don't shine. Depending on how he reacts, you might have to stop here and let him get used to the idea for a while. Going too fast with any of this may freak him out and that'll be the end of that, so just take it slow.

If, at any point, he expresses discomfort with what's happening, stop what you're doing and try again another time. But if he goes for the tonguing, then you can start to play around the area with your finger. I'm not talking penetration here, just a little light, circular stroking.

Keep licking his perineum and balls. At this point you may want to make sure your finger is well lubricated with spit, so that when he starts to come, you can easily, but not too forcefully, insert your finger into his rectum.

At this point you may want to make sure your finger is well lubricated with spit, so that when he starts to come, you can easily, but not too forcefully, insert your finger into his rectum.

He'll be too distracted by his orgasm to put up much of a fight, and chances are it's going to feel really, really good once it's all happening. Afterwards, he may feel a little insecure about having had his man-cave explored for the first time, so be sure to give him lots of love and let him know how turned on you got pleasuring him.

Basically, reassure him that you still think he's a big, strong, un-gay heartthrob. Good luck, and happy plundering.

E-mail nexus@nexusnewspaper.com any questions you'd like to have answered.

Dear Keltie,

My boyfriend and I have been together for many years now. We've experimented with anal sex and I like it. I've read that anal penetration can be really pleasurable for men too, so I'd like my man to try it, but I'm not sure how to go about it, and I'm worried he's going to flat-out say no. Any suggestions?

Dear Worried,

All you have to do is wait until

Maude's September Specials

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- Appy Specials (4 pm)
- Martini Mondays \$5 / Vancouver Island Specials
- Black Tuesdays
- Lighthouse Fuse Ball Giveaway
- \$6.95 Classic Beef Dip & Fries (4 pm)
- \$4.75 Rip Tide / \$4 Jager
- Wing Wednesdays
- .35¢ Wings (after 2 pm)
- Blue Buck / Rock Creek Cider Specials
- Thirsty Thursdays
- Rock Paper Scissors Tournament Starting in Oct.
- \$6.95 10" Pizza (4 pm)
- \$6 Double Hi Balls
- TGIF Fridays
- Imports Stella, Guinness, Strongbow \$6.50
- Buckets of Bud Lite Lime / Corona \$19.95
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- Burger and a Beer \$9.95 All Day
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Feed Me, Please!

From fast food to fine dining

by Brendan Kergin



For any student, a food budget is an important thing. We have to keep a close eye on eating out at restaurants and make sure the milk in the fridge hasn't gone bad and robbed a 7-11.

In keeping with this struggle of bills versus dills, Nexus assigned me the duty of acquiring free meals and reporting on them. Be it stealing my sister's lunch or fine dining on a restaurant's bill, the goal is to keep the bottom line at \$0.

This might sound difficult, and it most likely will be, but our first review is sheer extravagance.

The Mark is a charming little place with 28 seats in the middle of the Hotel Grand Pacific. It's an excellent strategy to keep the riffraff out. In fact, I'm probably the first person to wear jeans in this place since construction finished.

Our hostess leads us into the gorgeous, wood-paneled room with candles and finely carved everything. After sitting down, she even offers to prepare our napkins for us.

Our waiter is extraordinarily proper and respectful, showing off a bottle of Norwegian sparkling water like a finely crafted cabinet.

He's also well informed, explaining the gravel on our table is actually a very special type of salt from the Atlantic coast of France.

The meal is already better travelled than I am and we haven't actually consumed anything yet. I don't think my tongue is properly trained for the forthcoming experience.

Luckily, bread arrives, and I feel a little more at home. Then I see coloured lumps of butter. Pesto, sun-dried tomato, and plum-flavoured scoops sit there and I feel obligated to eat a whole loaf and all of the butter or risk feeling guilty about the kids in Africa.

As we look through the menus, fanciness comes up and smacks us in the face again with a list of foods we've never heard of. Char, squab, and sablefish?

To translate the gastronomical vernacular, chef Michael Minshall comes out to explain. And then, if we had any further questions, he hands out business cards. Chefs with business cards? This is madness!

We get around to eating as our appetizers arrive. Being on the west coast, The Mark goes with fresh and local ingredients, and seafood populates the plates. Raw tuna and poached scallops are placed carefully on gigantic white plates with sauces, vinegars, and oils painted across and around the centerpieces. I almost licked those damn plates.

Afterwards, a small dish arrives, compliments of the kitchen. Sardines with a light dressing on a couple shards of lettuce; this is what sardines should taste like—fresh. And I thought they only came from a can.

Soon entrees arrive and again there's a massive amount of plate, but these aren't tiny meals. They also aren't huge, but they are very satisfying. I went with the black cod... er, sablefish, and my compatriot dined on char (a trout that looked and tasted like salmon). Despite depleting the sea of a few fish for our dinner, The Mark has the approval of the Vancouver Aquarium's Ocean Wise program for sustainable and ocean-friendly food practices.

All in all the meal is amazing, way better than anything I've had in... years, probably. The fish is stunning, the pasta is rich, the sauces flavourful...

There are only two downsides to the entire meal. It's incredibly oily, but all the oils taste sooo good. And the price—appys would've been \$16 and entrees start at \$32.

If you have a trust fund or want to guarantee your romantic date has a happy ending, The Mark is perfect. Otherwise, this place is going to remain the domain of the rich.

The Mark - Hotel Grand Pacific (463 Belleville), 250-380-4487, themark.ca

YOUR OPINION GOES HERE

Open Space is a forum for Camosun students to share opinions and thoughts. Open Space accepts submissions from Camosun students. Submissions to Open Space should be 400 words or less. Responses to previous articles in Nexus should be 250 words or less.

NEXUS 250-370-3591 nexus@nexusnewspaper.com www.nexusnewspaper.com

Understanding intersex people

CRISTIAN CANO PRIDE DIRECTOR

Caster Semenya, the South African runner who won the women's 800-metre dash at a world championship in Berlin, is in the middle of one of the most embarrassing controversies of all time.

After winning the gold medal, athletics officials raised questions about her sex, forcing her to take an invasive gender test.

The media has shown a shocking lack of respect and knowledge about the matter.

Some large newspapers have referred to her as a "hermaphrodite," which is a derogatory term when talking about humans, and



some people have even called her a "thing."

This whole story is a perfect example for us to realize how much we still have to learn about gender and sex.

So many people and organizations are still confused about the difference between gender and sex, even Camosun College. In fact,

Camosun's application for enrollment asks for gender, but only gives male and female as options.

Separating humans into male and female might be a good way to analyze statistics, but the truth is that it's nobody's business what a person's gender or sex is.

Next time you see a person who makes you wonder what hir gender is (hir is a gender-neutral third-person pronoun that replaces her or him; ze replaces he or she), just remember that it doesn't matter. If you want to be friends with that person, all you have to do is ask how ze identifies.

Semenya identifies as a woman, so that's who she is.

Stress and school—know your limits

NATALIE SCHLOGL WOMEN'S CENTRE STAFF

School is back in session and students are left trying to settle in and build a schedule that works for them.

The first week always brings uncertainty as we run around campus and try to find the room our class is in, get in line for books we need, find out how much we need to pay for classes, and then scan the outline to see how much work there is to do and when or where to start.

But school is only one piece of your life and for most people there are other areas of life that need time.

Finding a balance between school, family, friends, work, and

play can be difficult and it is always changing, depending on what is going on in each area. There are lots of ways you can recharge and relax, but sometimes you need help; who doesn't, sometimes?

At Camosun there are wonderful counselling areas—located on the second floor of Dawson Building at Lansdowne and the second floor of Campus Centre at Interurban—where knowledgeable counsellors see many types of issues every day.

Two types of counsellors are available to assist domestic and international students with personal, career, or education concerns—learning skills counsellors and regular counsellors.

Other great services include a writing center, where you can sign up for help with assignments to a maximum of two half-hour appointments a week.

Also available are an online career website, free lunchtime workshops, a career-resource library, and a .5 credit Learning Skills course where you learn about all learning strategies.

Also, for all of the ladies out there, come by the Women's Centers on the first floors of the Richmond House at Lansdowne and Campus Centre at Interurban and have a relaxing time sipping tea, chatting with other women, and enjoying yourself in our spaces. We are here for you, too!



The external voice: News from the CCSS

Why volunteer at the student society?

As the first weeks of classes have passed and I have spoken with hundreds of students, many have asked me, "What can I do to help?"

The simple answer is to volunteer with us. We can use fresh ideas, a helping set of hands, and a network that can let other students know we're here to help.

As an example, we have soup and salad kitchens we could use some prep help with if you like working with food. Our events could use some promotion if you like talking with people. And we can always use fresh ideas if you're an idea person.

Whether it's 30 minutes or two hours, either one will let you know more about your campus and you'll meet new people to network with who share common interests.

Matteus Clement, CCSS External Executive matteusclement@gmail.com

IN MEMORY OF Parmpreet Dhami

1989-2009

A brother to all Camosun Students, taken too soon from his journey

CCSS Camosun College Student Society Standing up for Student Rights! Local 75 of the Canadian Federation of Students



By Shane Scott-Travis

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24 TO SUNDAY, SEPT. 27

Rifflandia Music Festival MileZero's answer to Bumbershoot is an ever-growing spectacular that's sure to give even the most jaded musical snooty patootie a woody. This four-day event offers a huge cross-section of amazing artists, including Beach House, Buck 65, Final Fantasy, Holy Fuck, Mother Mother, Pink Mountain-tops, and the always dreamy Tegan and Sarah, to name a few. Visit rifflandia.com to get the full roster and route. Ooh, maybe heaven is a place on earth!

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

In-Flight Safety, Library Voices

ELEMENT, DOORS AT 9 PM Some sugary sweetness is coming

Phlegm By Shane Scott-Travis



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By Shane Scott-Travis

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

Chef's Table

Aramark Food Services, the company that runs the Lansdowne cafeteria and Interurban snack shack, wants Camosun students to discover and discuss food services at both campuses. This forum, on a first-come, first-served basis, will open a dialogue for students and Qs and As will get volleyed around. The Chef's Table will take place from 12-1:30 pm at Lansdowne's Campus Caf on the last Friday of each month, and at the same time in Interurban's Campus Centre 321 on the first Friday of the month. The Swedish Chef will not be attending, unfortunately, but was quoted as saying, "Gersh gurdy morn-dee burn-dee, burn-dee, flip-flip-flip-flip."

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

Camosun student project showcase

Mechanical Engineering Technology students have been hard at work all summer long; not on their tan lines, but on their final projects. With their travails finally behind them, these techies are ready to exhibit their creations en masse. Expect the unexpected from these promising young minds. Unless you were counting on seeing an automated Ping Pong trainer, for instance. The showcase runs from 10 am to 2 pm at the Interurban Campus' outdoor basketball court and a BBQ lunch will follow. See you there?

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

Donald Street Farms tour workshop

Interested in a little avant-gardening? You won't want to miss this hands-on urban agriculture workshop put on by the Lifecycle Project. Growing your own food in neighbourhood plots may be the most effective form of activ-

ism you can participate in. From 1-5 pm at 3511 Donald Street. E-mail uahub@lifecyclesproject.ca for info.

THURSDAY, OCT. 1

Queer Octoberfest dance

Got new moves you want to try on the dance floor? The South Island Pride Community Centre is organizing this shaker at the Victoria Event Centre at 6:30 pm.

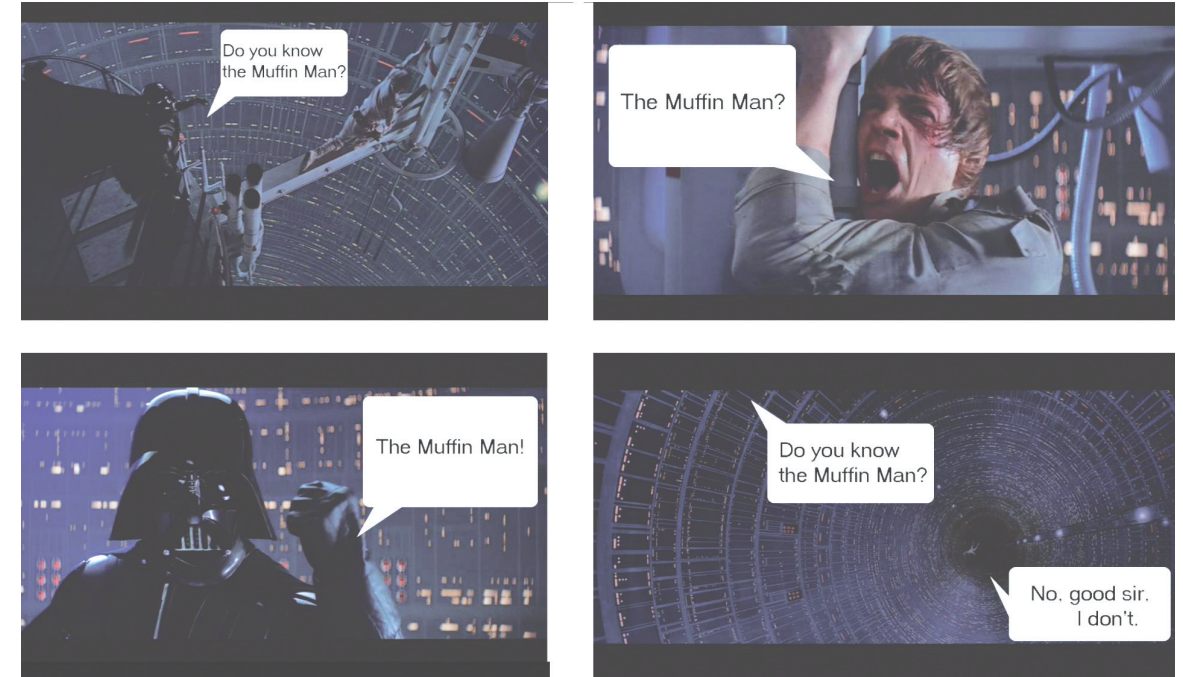
classifieds

Wilderness Committee is seeking environmentally aware, outgoing people to join our canvass team. Flexible days, fresh air, and fun. Great job for students. Call Brendan at 250-388-9292 between 2-4 pm, Monday to Friday.

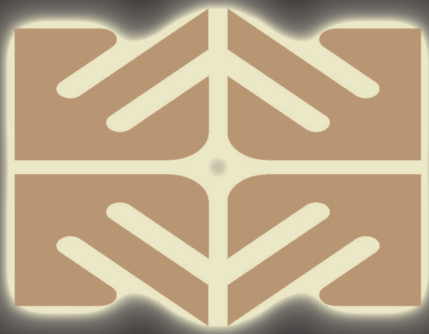
Rules

EACH REGISTERED STUDENT AT CAMOSUN IS ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO 40 WORDS FREE PER SEMESTER. This can be in the form of a 40-word ad, or two 20-word ads. Drop off your ad at the Nexus, Richmond House 201, Lansdowne, e-mail it to nexus@nexusnewspaper.com, or call the ad in at 370-3591. Please include your student number and contact information. SMALL PRINT: Nexus reserves the right to refuse ads for any reason. No sexist, racist, homophobic, or otherwise derogatory or slanderous ads. Business-related ads are \$15 for 20 words or less, 50 cents per extra word.

Darth & Luke By Alan Piffer



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