

CAMOSUN'S STUDENT VOICE SINCE 1990
OCTOBER 1ST, 2014 ISSUE 3, VOLUME 25

Nexus

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NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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editor's letter

A new semester's voices

One of the best things about when the semester starts picking up is that our issues start filling up with new writers. This time around, we've got a ton of new writers trying their hand at writing for us. The paper thrives when there are new volunteers involved, and more is always merrier. This issue we're certainly feeling merry.

Just take a look at our columns section on page 10. We've got new contributing writer Andrea Valentine-Lewis writing about drinks in her new *Booze Cruise* column. We've got another new contributing writer, Keagan Hawthorne, writing about literature in *Lit Matters*. Who will be our next student columnist? Will it be... you? (All Camosun students are eligible to write for us, so get in touch if you're interested!)

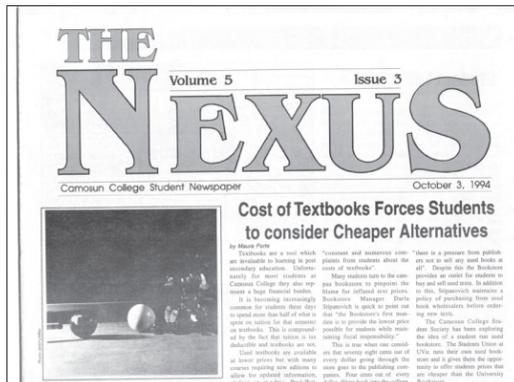
A new contributing writer, Erin Blondeau, tackled the feature story this time around. That is absolutely no small task, and it's those over-the-top declarations of commitment that we love so much around here. Head over to page 6 to see Blondeau's story about the intersection of art and commerce, and how Camosun arts alumni deal with the two often-opposing forces in their lives and careers.

Meanwhile, on page 2, new contributing writer Sera Down wrote about what your student society has been up to; page 3 sees new contributing writers Rebecca Davies and Tiffany Storry catching up with some interesting Camosun alumni, and... you know what? I'm out of room, and there's several more new writers to mention. That's a good problem to have, and our doors are always open for more writers.

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

flashback

20 years ago in Nexus



Clock concerns: An opinion piece titled *Wake Up!* in our October 3, 1994 issue brought up an interesting point: facilities at Camosun just aren't open early (or late) enough, according to writer Patrick Isaac. What do you think, now that two decades have passed? Has Camosun got the hours for the computer labs and libraries nailed, or do they still need tweaking?

Yeah, stools: Talk about the anti-climax: a news story in this issue opens with the sentence, "A dispute between the management and employees of the Lansdowne Cafeteria exploded into confusion and resentment early last week." Wow! Sounds intense! Read on: "At the centre of the controversy were

the stools which the cashiers sit on while they work." Turned out the stools had been removed for what was called aesthetic purposes. This oddly compelling story (reminder: this was not our April Fool's issue) goes on to say that one employee "could not tolerate the eight-hour shift on her feet."

Never forget: It's normally entertaining reading the old issues of the paper, but I was suckerpunched here, as this issue contained a memorial for Andre Castet, a Sidney youth who was killed in 1994. Castet was a classmate of mine back when we were kids. I hope that the words of writer Melody Peterson still hold true: "Don't let Andre's life and death be in vain."

open space

In defence of voluntourism

ANDREA VALENTINE-LEWIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Voluntourism, a combination of volunteering and tourism that has taken some flack within the media, is actually a positive way for students travel to third-world countries while immersing themselves in a different culture. I would know, because I've done it.

In third-world countries there are many organizations established to host volunteers in an assortment of different projects. They focus their work in different areas, including orphanages, health care, teaching English, environmental sustainability, and the project that I worked on this summer in Guatemala: animal care.

My volunteer hours were based in an animal shelter in the foothills of a mountain in rural Guatemala. At this anti-euthanizing shelter, which rescues sick animals from the street, there were 315 dogs and more than 100 cats.

I had a dirty job in my project. I was assigned to clean the cages of the sick animals in the shelter, walk dogs that had never been trained, and assist in the spaying/neutering of cats. I could've stayed for 12 hours a day and there still would have been work to do.

Before I signed up for my project, I was warned continually about the controversies of voluntourism. Many projects charge volunteers heaps of money to come into

their community and lightly assist with building houses and teaching classrooms without the proper experience.

The famous argument against voluntourism is that the volunteers only want the perfect Facebook profile picture to prove they are good people: for example, the white girl surrounded by African orphans. Do I have a picture with six-week-old puppies? I do. But is that wrong? No.

My project at the animal shelter wasn't expensive. It didn't require any skills that I didn't already have. I felt physically exhausted after every day of work, and I certainly didn't have fun while cleaning out the floors of the animals' cages.

Did I make a difference? Yes, I did. I relieved some of the tasks from the dedicated, passionate workers at the clinic. I provided genuine affection for animals that were itching for love.

On my time off from working at the shelter, I shopped, travelled, and ate out. I refrained from bartering in excess and provided genuine Guatemalan vendors with money, which only helps their economy.

But because of the backlash against voluntourism I feel like I have to apologize for having a great time. Whatever. I had a wonderful time.

And, for what it's worth, I'm currently fundraising for the shelter to continue to help from afar.

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

letters

Pride perspectives

I was very touched and intrigued by Matt O'Connor's article regarding Pride ("Keeping Pride political," September 17, 2014 issue).

I guess I just wanted to say thanks to Matt for writing something about this issue. The commercialization of Pride and the stereotyping of the LGBT community, which I think is intrinsically linked to Pride, is an issue I have difficulty reconciling myself.

Many times, when dealing with heteronormative folks less educated in the variety of sex/gender-identity aspects of humanity, I feel that my

own perspectives (and indeed, many truths) are overshadowed by this strange model our culture now has of what it "means" to be LGBT. It's a difficult thing to express, and a difficult topic to delve into. It's difficult to point out the aspects that are dysfunctional in something (like Pride) that was born out of good intentions and (at least originally) at its core exists to promote equality and education.

I just wanted to acknowledge the impact that seeing something like that published had on me. You guys rock. Keep doing this kind of stuff.

BAYDEN WOODLAND
CAMOSUN STUDENT

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Nexus prints letters that are 250 words or less. *Nexus* reserves the right to refuse publication of letters. Letters must include full name and student number (not printed). *Nexus* accepts all letters by email to editor@nexusnewspaper.com. We reserve the right to edit all letters.

OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "This is a newspaper, not a hospital."

COVER IMAGE:
"The End of Choosing Sides," clay sculpture, by Caleb Speller (calebspeller.yolasite.com).

SPEAK UP

What would you like the Camosun College Student Society to do for you?

BY GILLIAN SELLMAN



TAYLOR HYNDMAN

"I'd like the student society to host more Pride events."



LOGAN THACKERY

"Creating more of a community within the student body. I feel like people just show up to class and then go home."



ERIC SCOTT

"Reduction of parking costs on campus."



COURTNEY WILLIAMS

"I'd say just work on a better medical plan for students."



LUIS SANCHEZ

"I think parking should be free, or at least cheaper than it is now."



CHAD HARTLEY

"I think the student society is doing a great job already."

advocacy

Camosun College Student Society meets with government to address concerns

“Education is essentially a right, and our current government does not prioritize postsecondary education.”

RACHAEL GRANT
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Rachael Grant of the Camosun College Student Society: Camosun is “chronically underfunded.”

SERA DOWN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Members of the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) recently met with government officials to discuss and mediate student and institutional concerns.

On Friday, September 5, the CCSS members met with MP Murray Rankin. Then, on Tuesday, September 9, they met with NDP Advanced Education Critic Kathy Corrigan, MLA Rob Fleming, and MLA Carole James.

Hot-button issues include the repatriation of funds to trades programs pertaining to the liquid natural gas industry and continual cuts to domestic ESL programs, as well as general issues of funding, grant availability for low-income students,

and the spread of student services over multiple institutions.

CCSS external executive Rachael Grant says that while there has been progress through these meetings, there are still unaddressed issues.

“Various institutions, including Camosun, are chronically underfunded; we are 49-percent funded by the government every year, and the rest is derived from student fees. That’s an issue; that’s less than it used to be,” says Grant. “We have buildings that are literally falling apart... there’s no more fat left to skim.”

Grant says many of Camosun’s older buildings go without maintenance as funds are redirected to cover for curriculum cuts and to cap tuition fees.

The CCSS is also battling to reinstate grants and bursaries that previously assisted low-income students and applied to the majority of programs offered at the college. That grant money has been shifted away from general studies to supplement BC’s Skills for Jobs Blueprint, which puts priority on trades useful in the growing liquid natural gas industry, says Grant.

“It’s not incredibly informative and in some areas it’s lacking... it states liquid natural gas is the future of higher education,” says Grant of the Blueprint. “[Funding] shouldn’t be influencing students’ dreams. You can have the education you always dreamed of, if it’s in the trades. Education is essentially a right, and our current government

does not prioritize postsecondary education.”

In an email statement to *Nexus*, Minister of Advanced Education Amrik Virk reinforced his ministry’s focus on a long-term collaborative effort to “maximize the government’s investments in BC education,” which includes implementing B.C.’s Skills for Jobs Blueprint.

“It is a challenge that I know Camosun College will rise up and meet,” says Virk.

But this severely limits the freedom of institutions to provide equal funding to every department, according to Grant, forcing them to spread the remaining resources thin.

For students at the college, these issues may not be immediately ap-

parent, and some aren’t yet aware of the CCSS’ efforts.

“I have no idea what the student society does. I only heard of them during the first week of classes,” says second-year Criminology student Troy Philip.

Other students are more enthusiastic about the CCSS advocating on their behalf.

“Funding is definitely important,” says first-year Criminology student Jane Egan.

The student society’s talks with government officials will continue throughout the remainder of the year, says Grant, putting pressure on the government to provide funding to the college, which is currently operating at 98 percent enrollment capacity.

NEWS BRIEFS

Chargers take charge

A group of 15 Camosun College student athletes have been awarded prestigious National Scholar Awards from the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association for achieving academic honours during the 2013/2014 season. Lachlan Ross, Harrison Mar, Brianna Larson, Elyse Matthews, Rachael Bakker, Olivia Bakker, Amy Acheson, Alex Sadwoski, Lucas Dellabough, Cameron Fennema, James Poirier, Jamie Rodstrom, Olivia Redden, Kelsey Clarke, and Morgan Marshall were all recognized for showing that they have what it takes to balance academics and athletics.

Morningstar proves tough for all

The Camosun Chargers played two very difficult rounds of golf at Morningstar Golf Club in Parksville during an event hosted by the Vancouver Island University Mariners, who won the two-day event with a score of 618. The Chargers came in a close second,

at 627, and the Kwantlen Eagles came in third with a score of 634. Two tournaments and four rounds down, the University of the Fraser Valley has stayed in first place with a combined tournament score of 1199, Camosun and VIU are tied in second in with 1204 each, and Kwantlen is in fourth with 1233. UBC Okanagan and Douglas College round out the conference with scores of 1235 and 1319, respectively.

Utilize ur U-Pass

Camosun College is urging students to make the most of their U-Pass student cards. The cards, which double as bus passes, can be picked up at the Lansdowne or Interurban libraries. Students can purchase a new student card for \$15 or update an old one for free at one of the new U-pass kiosks accessible outside of library hours.

Relevant and important discussions

The Fraser Institute is putting on a free student seminar exploring

public policy issues, such as the Supreme Court of Canada’s ruling on prostitution and the proposed Bill C-36, protection of Canadian media, energy issues for the West Coast, and Canadian cyber security. These are some pressing issues to discuss amongst peers and learn about from guest speakers, most of whom are professors. Attendance includes lunch, door prizes, and subscriptions to the *Canadian Student Review* and *The Quarterly*. This event is being held at the Delta Ocean Point Resort (45 Songhees Road) on Friday, October 3 from 9 am until 3 pm. Go to freestudentseminars.org to register or find out more.

Shovel-ready seniors housing

Saanich Council has voted unanimously in support of building 45 supportive housing apartments for seniors over the age of 55 who have been homeless. The Cottage Grove development has received a \$112,000 grant from the city and

the \$1-million property purchased by the Cool Aid Society is ready for the start of construction. According to the Cool Aid Society, nearly half of the 375 people they house are over the age of 55. Cottage Grove will be built at 3207 Quadra Street, just north of Tolmie.

Big move for museum

The Maritime Museum of British Columbia has called Bastion Square home for the past 49 years, but it looks as if this ship is set to sail. An upcoming move will bring the museum closer to the Inner Harbour and potentially invite more visits from tourists. A six-month lease has been signed with the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority for the causeway level of the historic Steamship Terminal, and museum directors are hopeful this will turn into a long-term lease. The museum will be closing its current location on October 21 and will not reopen until the New Year. In the meantime, the museum is asking for suggestions as to where

it can temporarily showcase some artefacts throughout the city.

Local brewery world-beer winners

Victoria-based Vancouver Island Brewery has recently taken home three silver medals for tastings. Their Beachcomber Summer Ale, a seasonal beer, won a silver medal in the Hefeweizen category, and Black Betty, a blackberry saison/farmhouse ale, also seasonal, won silver in the Burgeoning Fruit category. Their recently launched Sabotage India Session Ale also won a silver medal in the American IPA category. Vancouver Island Brewery is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

-MATT O’CONNOR

Got a news tip or a story that we should be covering? Let us know! editor@nexusnewspaper.com

alumni

Former student becomes living statue

TIFFANY STORRY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Among all of the artists, musicians and street performers in downtown Victoria, one who stands out is actually a former Camosun student. Yes, the Copper Cowgirl, who sheriffs crime by standing absolutely still in the Inner Harbour, is actually Claire Bezuidenhout, a recent Camosun grad from the Community Support and Education Assistant program.

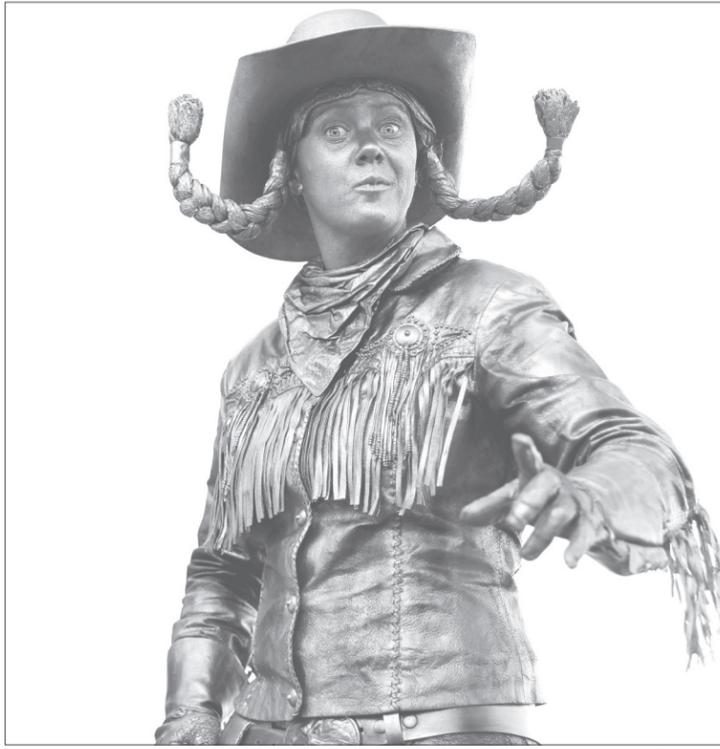
"I loved it; I love Camosun," says Bezuidenhout, who graduated with an Associate of Arts degree in 2007 and a certificate in Community Support and Education Assistant in 2014. "I think it's friendly, and it's a great way to start your education journey."

Bezuidenhout started the downtown statue act in 2007 and she says it's a great way to perform, make a living, and travel. Having done two years at a theatre school in France, performing is something that she enjoys and finds rewarding, and street performing became an offshoot of her studies.

"I really just love having interactions with people on the street and making a normal day fun and extraordinary," she says. "You get to see a playful side of people."

Allowing people to lighten up and enjoy the act is clearly a plus to standing still all day. Bezuidenhout often attempts to get people to join in on her western theme, with some positive results.

"One day a guy just totally got



Claire Bezuidenhout, Victoria's Copper Cowgirl, hard at work.

into it with me," she recalls. "He looked like a normal business guy with a suit and tie and then he just saw me and I proposed a quick draw with him. He got into character and we did a little shootout and he got other people involved, and then he straightened his tie and kept on walking."

And while there are some great interactions during her performance, there are also times when being a living statue can shock people.

"I do look like a real statue, and then I'll suddenly move and they'll

get scared and drop their coffee," she says.

Bezuidenhout has attended an impressive amount of worldwide busker festivals, for which she has travelled to countries on the opposite side of the world, such as New Zealand and Australia. She has also performed in France, Spain, and the United Kingdom, and hopes to bring her act to the United States soon.

"I love performing very much," she says. "It's a great combo of making people laugh, travelling, and expressing myself artistically."

sports

Camosun alumnus latest addition to Victoria Royals

REBECCA DAVIES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It hasn't always been about sports for Camosun alumnus Adam McKinnon. Recently hired as the manager of communications and hockey coordinator by the Victoria Royals, McKinnon took a year off after completing high school to work in England at the Royal National Institute for the Blind. There he found another passion: working with children.

"Their faces light up and you know that regardless of what's going on, they're happy to see you," says McKinnon. "As an 18, 19-year-old, that's where I ended up falling in love with working with kids."

McKinnon knows how important sports are for children: he grew up playing hockey and soccer in Victoria. His knowledge of the importance of physical activity and his newfound interest in working with children were a perfect fit.

After McKinnon returned to Canada, he discovered the Sport Management Program at Camosun College. It was an easy decision for him to enrol in the program, and the networks he gained through interning with Victoria's previous hockey team, the Victoria Salmon Kings, helped lead to his current position with the Western Hockey League Victoria Royals.

"If something's going to be my career for the next 20, 30, 40 years, I want it to be something that I love," he says. "The Salmon Kings gave me knowledge that I have now, and the skill sets I'm able to take into this job. Without that internship, probably none of this would have happened."

McKinnon has a multitude of responsibilities in his new position with the Royals, ranging from managing all social media and press releases to organizing all aspects of team travel and media requests.

Although it's a lot of work and doesn't leave him much time to keep working with children, he's happy to do it. As a Vancouver Canucks



Adam McKinnon

fan, being a hockey coordinator is a dream job, and McKinnon is adjusting well.

"It's been a real whirlwind couple weeks since I took the job. It's a lot of work but it's getting easier every day," he says. "It's a great organization and they've done nothing but help to support me."

The chair of Sports Excellence at Camosun, Andy Van Neutegem, taught McKinnon throughout his two years at the college and was there when McKinnon received his Bachelor of Sports and Fitness Leadership in 2012.

"As with all of our graduates, we are very proud of Adam, who has worked hard in his studies and taken full advantage of our curriculum and internship opportunities to secure his position with the Royals," says Van Neutegem.

After returning home and discovering the sports program, McKinnon chose two different paths for his internships: being a media coordinator for the Salmon Kings, creating the connections that led to his current position, and working with kids at the Westshore Parks and Recreation sports camp.

Perhaps he'll even find a way to start working with kids again, when things settle down at his new job.

"In this day and age it's just about getting kids outside and keeping them active, and that's a big part about educating kids these days," says McKinnon. "Just the way society is, there's not as much emphasis on physical activity as maybe there once was."

eyed on campus

Naming ceremony at Lansdowne

On Friday, September 26, Camosun College Aboriginal Education and Community Connections held a naming ceremony at Lansdowne campus. To recognize 23 years of providing education

and service to Aboriginal students, Camosun has renamed its Aboriginal education department Eye? Sqâ'lewen - Centre for Indigenous Education and Community Connections.



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

CHARGERS GOLF

2014 Season Underway



Tied for #2 in PACWEST action

L-R: Matt Matheson, Scott Merriam, Jarred Callbeck, Michael Flegel, Brett De Vries, Brady Stead, Grant Maskiewich, Head Coach John Randle



For official standings and leaders, go to the PACWEST website: www.pacwestbc.ca

For national rankings go to the CCAA website: www.ccaa.ca

For updates follow @camosunchargers and @randlegolf



Find the Chargers at www.camosun.ca/sports/chargers

environment

Local company Anian Surfboards goes off the grid

“We’re breaking ground by running a store that’s off the grid.”

NICK VAN BUREN
ANIAN SURFBOARDS

PASCALE ARCHIBALD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Locally owned and operated, Anian is a Victoria surf shop that sells Canadian manufactured surfboards and clothing, and, if that’s not cool enough, they are also currently in the research and development stage of manufacturing their own wetsuits. But what makes Anian truly unique is how they source their power: solar energy.

Anian, founded in 2013, initially faced the hefty price tag of at least \$5,000 to install a power hookup in their industrial lot location at 516 Discovery Street. Understandably, the hefty cost of tapping into the grid made owner Nick Van Buren think about alternative sources of power.

After some research, Van Buren was able to find an option that worked for him: an entire solar-power system for \$1000, a fraction of the hookup charges.

“We just need to upgrade and get a better system, then we are off the grid and there is no power bill,”



PASCALE ARCHIBALD/NEXUS

Nick Van Buren (right) and brother Peter are taking Anian Surfboards off the grid, thanks to solar power.

says Van Buren. “And we’re breaking ground by running a store that’s off the grid.”

Anian began construction in 2013 on a 2,000-square-foot lot in downtown Victoria. Three very small buildings, five solar panels, one battery bank, and a pure cell inverter later, they were in business. Van Buren’s brother, Peter, currently in his second year of Camosun’s Environmental Technology program, was instrumental in the design

and construction of the shop and is Anian’s lone employee.

According to Statistics Canada, the average Canadian household uses 30,420 watt-hours per day. In comparison, Anian’s current power consumption is equal to 875 watt-hours, which means they are quite limited in what they can do with their available power.

With their current solar-power system, they can run four lights continuously, but for the construc-

tion of surfboards and occasional power-tool usage, other power sources are needed. For obvious reasons, they are hoping to upgrade the system.

Additionally, the power generated by the solar panels is difficult to maximize, says Van Buren.

“The tricky thing about solar panels is they’re designed to convert a certain amount of energy, but if you don’t have a perfect system or exactly the right grade of cables, you

won’t,” he says. “You’re not actually running on panels; you’re running on batteries, and the panels are recharging the batteries. If you have any problems with your batteries or cables, you’re losing energy at every connecting point. The whole system has to be really well put together to work properly.”

Anian is currently running a campaign at anianmfg.com in an attempt to raise money to upgrade their current solar-panel system.

gaming

E-sports challenge conventional sports for popularity

MAC CLOHAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Video games are big business. In 2013, consumers in the US spent over \$20 billion playing video games. That’s double the amount they spent on going to the movies, and slightly more than the combined revenues of the NFL, NBA, and NHL.

Inside this 40-year-old industry, a new sector, electronic sports (or e-sports), has seen intense North American growth over the last five years.

E-sports are modelled after professional sports leagues: professional players, usually signed to a sponsored team with some sort of financial compensation, play video games and compete against each other as commentators talk over the action for the entertainment of the audience.

Sponsors pay big money to fund these tournaments so they can advertise to the millions of spectators that watch the game. In 2013, the top three e-sports games awarded \$13 million in prizes alone. The same year, 32 million people watched the world championship of *League of Legends*, currently the most popular game in e-sports. That’s 1.5 times more eyeballs than the Stanley Cup finals.

When *Starcraft II* was released

in 2010, it was at the vanguard of the nascent e-sports scene. Within a year, three leagues were hosting online and live tournaments that were drawing attendance numbers in the thousands.

Maru Kim, a professional Canadian *Starcraft II* player on team Root Gaming, better known by his gaming name “MaSa,” got his e-sports start in 2010.

“I would say it is a pretty difficult game, but as you’re learning it, it gets really fun,” says Kim.

Kim has been playing for the team Root Gaming for two years and recently competed at a live tournament in his hometown of Toronto. Despite the pressure, he enjoys playing the large tournaments.

“I think I feel a lot more pressure and I get really nervous,” he says. “When there is a crowd around you, you want to show them what you are capable of.”

No longer at the top of e-sports ladder, *Starcraft* has seen declining numbers the last few years, and two of the leagues that carried it have folded.

“They have to figure out how to attract the audience again,” says Kim. “It would be perfect having a bunch of casual gamers watching the pro gamers.”

The competition from other

“You don’t have to run around a field to be an athlete.”

THOMAS “SNEAKY” BOCCINFUSCO
E-SPORT PLAYER

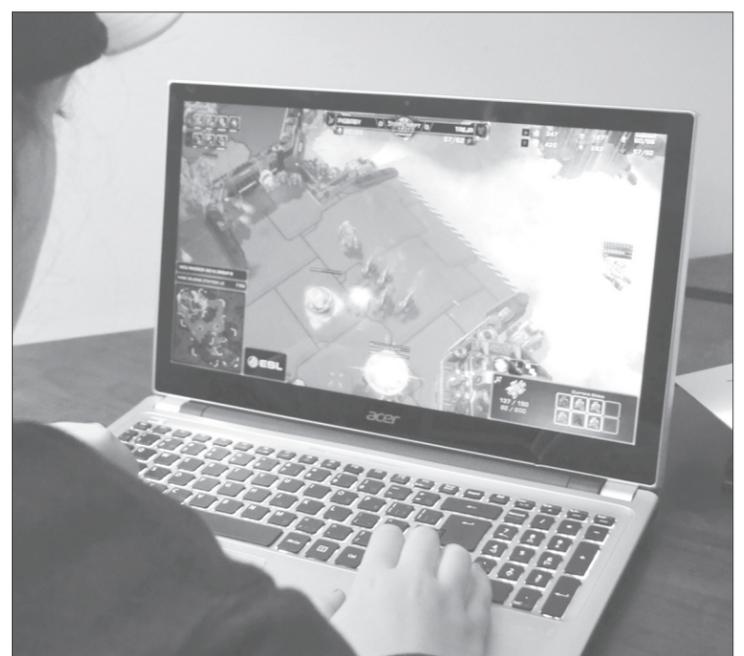
games is “hurting *Starcraft*, for sure,” he says, “but that needs to happen so *Starcraft* can develop.”

The new kid on the block is a game created by gaming company Blizzard that’s not yet released to the public: *Heroes of the Storm*. Thomas “Sneaky” Boccinfusco and Andrew “Grim” Nan are Canadian teammates on Team Curse. In the same genre as *League of Legends*, *Heroes of the Storm* is a multiplayer online battle arena, or MOBA.

“Unlike other MOBA games, it is completely team-based. Everybody is the same level. If you start falling behind, everybody falls behind. If you start getting ahead, everybody gets ahead,” says Boccinfusco.

Each game of *Heroes of the Storm* is about 20 to 30 minutes, so it’s very action-packed, points out Nan.

Dedicated athletes (“You don’t have to run around a field to be an



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

E-sports are becoming a very popular pastime in North America.

athlete,” says Boccinfusco), the two players practice for six hours a day and run over strategy and theory in their downtime. They are banking that when *Heroes of the Storm* explodes, they will be able to dominate the game.

Nan is less pessimistic of the crowded market and says *Heroes of the Storm* will fulfill a certain niche in the gaming scene.

According to Boccinfusco, e-sports are the same as regular

sports, and there are hardcore fans of different types of games.

“Like traditional sports, you can be a fan of hockey, baseball, football,” he says. “It can be the same thing, you can be a fan of *Defense of the Ancients*, *Heroes of the Storm*, or *Counter-Strike*.”

The landscape of e-sports hasn’t settled yet, but with billions of dollars and millions of players at stake, the future is full of potential, profit, and entertainment.

The artist

Creating a living as an a

What do professional artists do, exactly? Do they spend their days sitting cross-legged in a loft-style brick apartment in the city, wearing smocks and throwing paint on their canvases? And can they *really* make thousands of dollars for each painting? As a designer and photographer unfamiliar with the scene in Victoria, I found myself intrigued by questions that are so often asked, but seldom examined. Tracking down Camosun alumni and pros, as well as others working as artists, I tried to get to the bottom of what exactly it means to be a working artist, as well as what it's like balancing art with commerce, and theory with reality.

Making it in Victoria

Ealeb Speller studied in the Visual Arts program at Camosun and has been working as an artist for close to a decade. After speaking with him and his professors, it's clear that Speller's wisdom and innovative personality inspires the untiring originality in his work. His art has been displayed from Victoria to Toronto, and he recently had a book of artwork published by Decoupage Publishing.

Whether it's creating works of clay, drawing, painting, or even reconstructing bicycles from recycled material for his bike business, Dingus Bikes, Speller is an artist in its fullest sense.

But the art scene in Victoria is fierce and unrelenting. Being a professional artist in Vic City, one needs to "be able to cobble together many different approaches, or many different avenues of income generation," says Camosun instructor Joseph Hoh, who was an instructor of Speller's.

Yet, despite the pressure of financial worries that most would associate with being an artist, Speller says he never has a "depression of creativity" or a moment where he wants to give up. When asked if he ever has any doubts about his work, Speller portrays true tenacity. "I don't have any doubts about what I'm doing; sometimes I have doubts about how I'm doing it," he says.

Hoh agrees that when it comes to creating art, it's all about the process.

"When I do design work, I always try not to be bound by that [style], bound by the outcome," explains Hoh, "but really let the *process* guide me towards the outcome."

Art versus money?

Once an artist has found a process that works for them and they decide to sell their work, another challenge is finding harmonized relationships with clients.

"There's a fine line between making enough money and having too much work," says local artist Luna Milly.

The struggle of having too many projects on the go at once is all too familiar; surely, many students can relate to it.

On the contrary, if an artist can escape society's primary perspective of thinking financially, it can open them up to a "totally different perspective of what life is," says Speller.

Speller recognizes that there are always bills to be paid, but he allows little room for distraction when it comes to money.

"You aren't thinking of those kinds of things," he says. "Well, I'm not, as an artist."

But Speller also isn't relying solely on his art for financial stability; he also sells refurbished bicycles (which is an art form of its own).

Although Speller has valuable insight when it comes to finances, the truth is that artists (or anyone who is self-employed, for that matter) face challenges in the workforce. For example, there is no unemployment insurance, no paid sick days, and certainly no pension plan.

"That's something people need to think about, as they get older, when they're making art for themselves," says another former teacher of Speller's, Camosun instructor Brenda Petays.

Is a little bit of financial concern enough to sway someone away from the dream of becoming a successful artist, designer, or photographer?

"Some people can be very successful," assures Petays. "The work that they make can purposely have an appeal for the public, and it's very popular and easy to make sales. Other people can be making work that's more difficult to understand, or maybe it's more difficult to like, aesthetically."

With that, can a resourceful artist become popular and still create soulful art? Must there always be a line drawn between the two?

The difficulties: how

Aside from queries about artistic process, an artist is finding the constant demand for new work. Milly keeps her creativity fresh by enjoying drawing. She uses the time she spends on her works to over 20,000 followers. "It's nicer when you make something that you're excited," admits Milly. "And when somebody actually says 'I love it,' that's happiness."

Perhaps this feeling of elation is why many artists choose to work full-time, despite the struggle that could potentially be looming ahead.

"When you're doing commission work all the time, you're passionate about," warns Milly.

Many artists entertain a spiritual state of mind while making their art.

"When I read the source of inspiration that I believe in, when I can feel my artwork distancing myself from that," Speller's disposition is enticingly positive, and it's clear how he balances those heavier things or themes with humour.

Having a positive attitude can really help an artist stay motivated and move forward.

"Being an artist is like being a gambler," says Hoh. "The questionable unknown of what one is about to do, knowing what will happen in the future could be thrilling, and you would be willing to gamble away your career stability."

For most artists, it's difficult to distinguish "art" and "commerce." It may be more difficult for a young artist.

"They may still be figuring out how to relate to the world," Hoh says.

Expert's

Whether you've been creating art for years, confidence in your work is crucial. "You need to be confident in your work," says Film Festival graphic designer. "It's really good questions."

It may seem straightforward, but it's not uncommon for an artist to be looking eye-to-eye on something, and then when it comes to the final result, it's a different result.

"At the end of the day it could end up being that the work is somewhere else," says Goa. "And every single designer has to deal with it."

According to Goa, criticism should be taken with a grain of salt. "With a particular design, photograph, or art piece, it does get criticized."

"Having a thick skin is also really important," he says.

Artist's dilemma

Artist or living to create art

*By Erin Blondeau, contributing writer
Photographs by Jill Westby/Nexus*



How to stay motivated

freedom, one of the most strenuous tasks of being an artist is the desire and devotion to be steadily creating work. Following by doing daily sketches of things she actually loves, she uses the popular social-media outlet Instagram to showcase her work to her followers. "You really like and you're happy doing it, and you feel like you really likes it enough to buy it, you're like, 'this is actual passion,'" she says. "I want to use their passion and become self-employed, regardless of the cost." "It's hard. It's more about the money and not so much about the art. It's about creating their work. Speller, for one, is in touch with her passion. "To be true, the Bible, it guides me," he explains. "And to be a guidepost, I am cautious of it." "It's clear that he's not seduced by negativity. 'Artwork is a journey,' he says. "I want to develop their style, but it doesn't mean a victory is

"You are never sure of the outcome." "The joy of creating could be what drives some artists. Not knowing when the best works of art are created, but the joy of creating in order to follow your dreams?" "I don't know 'life,' because they merge into one. Petays says this is the best way to find meaningful work," she says.

Advice

for decades, or you're a young artist like Milly, being able to find what you're bringing to the table," says Victoria Simeon Goa. "You need to be able to listen and ask for a designer and a client to believe they are seeing the same time to complete the project, the client is expecting a certain result. They say, 'Well, I don't want any of this,' and they go on to the next world has experienced that." "It's a grain of salt. Just because someone may not agree with you doesn't mean that it's not good." "I want to stay motivated."

Although the life of a designer may look a little different in comparison to the life of an artist, there are many similarities. Commission or freelance artists and graphic designers are both hired by clients to create a finished product that meets (or, preferably, exceeds) their expectations.

"The hardest thing about working with clients is working with yourself, because the real challenge is to take your own preconceived notions about something and work with them," says Goa.

Hoh says working for a client, instead of for yourself, can be good for artists.

"To always be bound by what you like to do is always problematic, because then you always do the same things," says Hoh.

It may be a tough concept to grasp, but Goa makes a valid (and somewhat depressing) statement.

"I think the major thing is that you can't fall in love with your ideas," he says. "You have to sacrifice."

What Goa means by this is that you need to be willing to change an aspect of your art or design. He refers to a disturbing phrase: "Kill your darlings." By killing your darlings, you're allowing yourself to reach for a whole new level of creativity, says Goa.

Many an art professor has been heard saying, "Kill your darlings. Get rid of everything you don't need." Although it's easy to agree with this statement to an extent, one only needs to be reminded of Vincent Van Gogh. Van Gogh is, of course, one of the world's most renowned and celebrated artists from the mid- to late-19th century. During his life, however, he wasn't as celebrated.

Throughout his lifetime, Van Gogh was ridiculed, and it's been said that out of the over 900 works of art that he created, he only sold one while he was alive. If Van Gogh had "killed his darlings" and had taken all criticism seriously throughout his life, he may have never created such inspiring and groundbreaking masterpieces.

Chasing certainty

Although most artists dream of being financially stable, most of them wouldn't give up their dreams of becoming an artist in exchange for a secure bank account. But maybe we don't need to choose between the two. It must be possible to become a successful artist *and* be financially sound, because anything that can be dreamed of can be achieved.

"Don't take on everything," warns Milly. "Just because it's money, doesn't mean it's something that you're going to enjoy doing."

So, if you're going to become a working artist, don't chase income. Let your creativity flow freely and don't be bound by style, as Hoh advises.

And if you're ever unsure of your future as an artist or the value of your work, rethink your process of creating.

As Van Gogh once marvelled: "I don't know anything with certainty, but seeing the stars makes me dream."



theatre

Belfry's latest production looks at rez life for women



DAVID COOPER

The Rez Sisters follows the lives of seven women on conflicting paths.

ANNIE LUKE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"It's hard to be an Indian woman in this fucking country," says character Emily Dictionary during the Belfry Theatre's production of *The Rez Sisters*.

The play, written by Manitoban playwright Tomson Highway, is set on an Indian reserve where seven women cross on conflicting paths that throw them into humorous and turbulent—and defining—situations.

"The biggest bingo in the world" is the consistent motivation for these women, as they each envision what they would do if they won the grand prize.

"Some of the actors are mothers, are grandmothers, are not," says Lisa Ravensbergen, who portrays Annie Cook, a fast-talking, heart-broken character in the play. "Some spoke the language, some used to, some never did. In the cast there's a lot of affinity and empathy."

Ravensbergen and Tracey Nepinak (who plays character Philomena Moosetail) agree that working with this particular cast, not to mention director Peter Hinton, has been an engaging process.

"I love working with Peter. I've never worked with this process. We've spent a lot of time discussing the characters and what's going on," says Nepinak, who previously performed in *The Rez Sisters* as character Veronique St. Pierre in

a 2004 Winnipeg Prairie Theatre Exchange production.

In this latest incarnation of the play, Nepinak portrays Philomena Moosetail, a woman who conceived a child from an affair and proceeded to give her baby away. In the play, Philomena represses her emotions by maintaining surface appearances, such as the glamorous porcelain toilet bowl she dreams of buying if she wins the bingo event.

"Some spoke the language, some used to, some never did. In the cast there's a lot of affinity and empathy."

TRACEY NEPINAK
THE REZ SISTERS

"It just renewed my love for this play even more," says Nepinak, going on to describe the reality-based, poignant characters she was able to discover with Hinton's guidance. "It's a beautiful metaphor for our history."

Losing her lover to her sister, the Cook character is described as having a cloud of dust that follows her fiery gait, explains Ravensbergen.

"I feel like she's always running towards love. What she thinks is love. What she hopes is love. And

she's running away from the pain of love. What was taken from her," she says.

The moral relevance of *The Rez Sisters* to today's First Nations reservation conditions are apparent as the actors illustrate scenes with spoken and sung scripts. Ravensbergen says the play's ensemble cast has the all-encompassing ability to deliver raw performances.

"In the Aboriginal theatre, where the characters are Aboriginal, I really do feel like there's a richness, an empathy, a pride that inherently affects the work," she says. "It's a kind of honour that we're able to give to the script."

The Rez Sisters
Until October 19
\$24.75 and up, Belfry Theatre
belfry.bc.ca

Let us know what you thought about this story or any others that you read in the paper! Email your thoughts to editor@nexusnewspaper.com, or join the fun over at Twitter (@Nexusnewspaper) or find us on Facebook (Nexus newspaper) to leave your comments there. Join the conversation and make your voice heard!

music

Poison Idea still kings of punk

JASON SCHREURS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

It's the age-old cliché in punk rock for a band to decide to settle down in their glory years and clean up their act in order to continue playing and making music. But in the case of legendary Portland punk/hardcore band Poison Idea, cleaning up was a necessity.

After years of alcoholism that saw the loss of his best friend and guitarist Tom "Pig Champion" Roberts in 2006, vocalist Jerry A. (real name: Jerry Lang) finally decided that enough was enough.

"We kind of hit a wall a few years ago," says Lang from his home in Portland. "We started playing when we were young and kept going at that pace, and going at that pace, and eventually you wind up beat down, and I just came to the conclusion that I had to change my lifestyle if I was going to continue doing this."

Widely considered one of America's best old-school punk bands, Poison Idea has fought through perpetual lineup changes with Lang being the only constant over the 34-year history of the band.

"I don't plan on doing this forever, but there are a few things I haven't done yet that I always wanted to do, and as soon as that's done, I'll be happy," says Lang. "But we can't keep doing this band if we're all getting fucked up, sleeping

"I just came to the conclusion that I had to change my lifestyle if I was going to continue doing this."

JERRY LANG
POISON IDEA

on floors, driving 28 hours to the next show, jumping onstage and playing, driving 28 hours to the next show... It takes its toll on you. So I just decided there needs to be rules, which I've always hated, but they need to be instilled: no drugs, no drinking before a certain time of the day..."

The band heads into the studio next month with Joel Grind of Portland thrashers Toxic Holocaust to attempt to record their first real album since 1992's *Blank Blackout Vacant* ("We'll wave it up the flagpole and see who spits at it," jokes Lang). We say "real album" because 2006's *Latest Will and Testament* wasn't supposed to be released, according to Lang, until a German record label took matters into their own hands.

"We sent it to them as a demo



JASON CHARLES

Jerry Lang: it's time for change.

and it was never intended to be put out the way it is, so we'd like to put out a real record again," chuckles Lang. "A lot of people liked that recording; they thought it was raw and punk rock and stuff, and I guess it is, for a demo tape. You can't get much more raw than that!"

Poison Idea
Saturday, October 4
\$20, Victoria Event Centre
cloveandanchor.com

music

Steve Adamyk Band praises tight-knit punk scene

JASON SCHREURS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

By the sounds of it, Ottawa's punk rock music scene is a lot like Victoria's, which should bode well for Ottawa punk group Steve Adamyk Band's upcoming show in town.

Around the same size as Victoria, Ottawa's underground music community is tight-knit enough that Adamyk and his band have gotten the local support that has allowed them the chance to release three albums to date and to be able to tour regularly.

"The scene we're part of in Ottawa is extremely unique," says Adamyk. "I like to think of it as a product of the size of the city that we're in, in conjunction with a lot of the right people here at the right time. And because Ottawa isn't a huge market like Montreal or Toronto, there's not really a lot of room for people to compete with each other, so everybody's friends here."

Adamyk played in other Ottawa punk bands before settling on his namesake band ("No matter who quits the band, I can keep it going and no one will ever question who's involved, because it's always going to be my name," he reasons), a trashy punk garage concoction rooted in '70s punk, '80s power pop, and the melodic punk rock that followed.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Steve Adamyk (second from left)

Adamyk says that Ottawa has always had a strong punk scene with dedicated, inventive people who aren't afraid to troubleshoot the drawbacks of living in a smaller city.

"Even if there aren't a lot of venues for bands to play at, people will come up with other solutions and help each other out," he says. "But the main part of it is there's a huge punk scene in Ottawa that can't be ignored, and even the bands that don't fall into that punk genre are also friends with us. Everyone plays shows together and helps each other out, and no one's competing for opening slots or venues."

Steve Adamyk Band
Thursday, October 2
Logan's Pub
steveadamykband.com

Read an extended version of this story, along with an Alan Jackson concert review and a review of Walking with Dinosaurs, at nexusnewspaper.com!

music

The Garden continue to confound and confuse



“Most of the stuff comes straight out of us as empty-headed as possible, so it comes out genuine.”

FLETCHER SHEARS
THE GARDEN

RYAN BUSSARD

The twin brothers of The Garden like to confuse with their wardrobe and their short songs about tall men.

JOSH TRAILL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

California-based twin brothers Fletcher and Wyatt Shears have impressed and confused the music world in equal amounts since they began their band The Garden in 2011.

The Garden are anything but a normal punk band, and they definitely have their own style, rocking an overtly feminine wardrobe and blasting songs just over a minute long about subjects as varied as eight-foot-tall men and the lifestyles of paperclips.

“As far as influences on our music, there are a lot of backbone bands that help the style we have, but as far as creating and progressing, most of the stuff comes straight out of us as empty-headed as possible, so it comes out genuine,” says Fletcher.

Listening to a full album by this band only enforces that they really do create their own style and sound, but this doesn’t mean that The Garden doesn’t hold any direct influences within their music.

“During high school, The Minutemen were our idols,” ad-

mits Fletcher about the legendary California jam punk band.

Finding new popularity, The Garden have obtained fan bases in all areas of the world, and they’ve been able to tour Europe and Japan in the process.

“The response is really, really good when we go over there, almost better than the US,” says Fletcher. “I’ve been wanting to go to Singapore lately.”

Living in the internet age and having accessibility to any music being released in the world opens up opportunities for even small

bands like The Garden to tour the world. This new age of music also lets artists connect to one another with ease, and collaborations which might have been impossible before are becoming easier and easier to set up.

“If I could have a vocal, I would really love to have Del tha Funky Homosapien’s vocals because it’s a really strong voice, and I think it would be really cool to do something with that,” says Fletcher when asked who his dream collaboration would be with.

And The Garden aren’t just an

interesting musical group; they also get into some pretty odd situations; take, for example, a tweet Fletcher recently wrote about Wyatt getting his arm stuck in a sewer.

“The traffic had to stop for a while, the cops showed up and had to get him out,” he laughs. “He kind of liked it; everyone was paying attention to him.”

The Garden
Friday, October 10
\$15, Upstairs Cabaret
timbreconcerts.com

New Music Revue



VKNGS
VKNGS
(Noyes Records/Acadian Embassy Records)
3.5/5

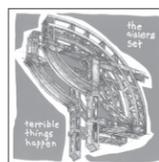
Halifax, Nova Scotia-based post-hardcore/noise-rock band VKNGS have released a full-length self-titled debut album that’s been eight years in the making.

The album, with seemingly random numerical track titles, is an intense mix of drums and guitar, melody, and screaming, otherwise known as “aggression.”

VKNGS have a more mature sound than most bands in their genre. Yes, it’s angsty, but it’s nothing like what I was listening to back in high school, and probably not something I would have enjoyed during that time of great angst in my life either.

The album had an even balance between vocals and guitar, with neither one overpowering the other. And while I don’t quite have the ear required for understanding the lyrics in most of VKNGS’ songs, this was an easy album to have playing in the background, and I was certainly intrigued enough to listen to it all the way through without stopping.

-MATT O’CONNOR



The Aislors Set
Reissues
(Slumberland/Suicide Squeeze)
2/5

San Francisco indie pop group The Aislors Set, who formed in 1997 and disbanded in 2004, have reissued three albums to coincide with their reunion tour.

Unfortunately, this trilogy of discs was lost on me after listening to *Terrible Things Happen*, which held terribly true to its title. I really struggled getting through the album, as all 14 songs had zero differentiation, agonizingly slow tempos, and forever droning vocals from Amy Linton.

The Last Match and *How I Learned to Write Backwards* had much greater variety, if only thanks to the contribution of vocals from other band members and a more diverse array of instruments. The songs had varying lively tempos with lyrics telling a story. Still, they really only stood out in comparison to the tunes on *Terrible Things Happen*.

If you dig the sound of Violent Femmes but want something suckier, The Aislors Set is for you.

-MATT O’CONNOR



U2
Songs of Innocence
(Island)
2/5

If you use an Apple product, you may already own U2’s new album, even if you don’t realize it (check your iTunes!).

This is the 13th album by the rock band, but it doesn’t have the same classic rock quality as their past albums. *Songs of Innocence* is an attempt at modernization while also trying to stay true to their roots; however, it just doesn’t mix right.

This album sounds more personal than their recent records, with many of the songs dealing with their families and childhoods, but it just feels like a mashup of their previous work and the styles of bands like Coldplay and Keane. The album’s message gets lost in the overproduced vocals on certain songs.

Overall, the album wasn’t great, but there are a few songs, such as “Sleep Like a Baby Tonight,” that got me tapping my feet along. But even those weren’t enough to change my mind on the album in its entirety.

-TIFFANY STORRY



Counting Crows
Somewhere Under Wonderland
(Capitol Records)
4/5

For their sixth studio album, pure American rockers Counting Crows have taken a step back, with fantastic results. Their last album was back in 2008, after all; they’ve had time to rethink what makes them great, and here they deliver with astonishing results from the second the album begins.

Indeed, opening track “Palisades Park” is a phenomenal journey through everything that makes the Crows so special: an evocative, moody, trumpet-led intro takes its time before the song itself, a sprawling, lyric-led journey, begins. It ebbs and flows and, man, the band hasn’t sounded this much like themselves in a long time.

The only downside is the rest of the album doesn’t match up to the opening track, but there are gems to be found. “God of Ocean Tides” is a gorgeous acoustic number, while straight-up rockers like “Earthquake Driver” are simple, no-nonsense, and catchy.

Rock and roll is alive and well all over this moving and fun album.

-GREG PRATT



Punch
They Don’t Have to Believe
(Deathwish Inc.)
4.5/5

Fans of hardcore/punk have taken notice of Punch’s simple name since their inception in 2008, but now with the release of their third album, *They Don’t Have to Believe* (released by hardcore biggie label Deathwish Inc., which is run by Converge’s Jacob Bannon), the San Francisco five-piece will hopefully be heard by a larger cross-section of underground music fans. Hopefully because their blazing brand of fastcore with screamed vocals and sporadic moshpit breakdowns is really quite awesome.

Led by the downright hellacious screaming of vocalist Meghan O’Neil, the band rips 15 songs to shreds in 20 minutes (thus, fast-core). Fans of fast, heavy sounds with smart lyrics will love this (if you’re into Minor Threat or Black Flag on hyper-speed, this is your jam), but those who haven’t been exposed to Punch’s brand of screamy hardcore will probably run in the opposite direction. Scare your parents, scare your neighbours, scare most people...

- JASON SCHREURS

Lit Matters

words and photo by Keagan Hawthorne

The question of why?



The answer to that vague and hair-pulling question can be found here.

“Information is endlessly available to us; where shall wisdom be found?”

This is the question American literary critic Harold Bloom asks at the beginning of his book, *How to Read and Why*. Bloom isn't the only person to ask this question and then find the answer waiting in literature.

“If I were a young person today, trying to gain a sense of myself in the world, I would do that again by reading,” said author and poet Maya Angelou. Meanwhile, poet Emily Dickinson said she knew “nothing in the world that has as much power as a word.” Charles Bukowski,

a famously grungy 20th-century poet, said, “Without literature, life is hell.”

The aim of *Lit Matters!* is twofold. I want to look at the different ways authors have chosen to answer the question: “Why does it matter?” Why struggle with the diction of a poem, or with a challenging novel, when, with a tap on our phones, we have instant answers to any question we can dream of?

This question goes all the way back to ancient Greece. We find answers in poems, novels, essays; even in the lives of their creators. Literature offers us lessons about life and ourselves that are different

from those of psychology, technology, or the flash-bang-boom of Hollywood cinema.

I also want to explore the lives and works of writers who have embodied the enduring answers to those questions. Through this, I hope you, the reader, will become familiar with some lesser-known authors and their works, possibly discovering new inspiration in the process.

And, finally, I wish to simply communicate the joy of reading good literature.

“Reading well,” said Bloom, “is one of the great pleasures that solitude can afford you.”

Booze Clues

by Andrea Valentine-Lewis

Cocktail perfection at Little Jumbo

Little Jumbo is a relatively new cocktail lounge/bar in town, but since it's run by some of Victoria's booze pioneers, it's already a hot spot. Located down a secretive alley on lower Fort (506 Fort St.), Little Jumbo seems modest from the outside, but as soon as you walk in it's a whole other story.

Almost every time I visit Little Jumbo the same staff members are there to greet me. This provides me with yet another thing to look forward to (the next is my favorite beer, which Saltspring Island Ales brew specifically for Little Jumbo).

Little Jumbo's main bartender,

Nate Caudle (a former resident of Clive's Classic Lounge), says that there's lots to look forward to on their new fall menu, which launches October 8.

When I think of fall, many toasty images come to mind. Those images secrete specific scents, aromas, and flavours. Judging by one of their three upcoming cocktails, Little Jumbo has managed to nail it.

The Big Gay Pumpkin

(by Kyle Gilfoyle)

- 1 1/2 oz Mount Gay amber rum
- 1/2 oz Grand Marnier
- 1/2 oz simple syrup

- 1 heavy scoop pumpkin ice cream
- 2 1/2 oz milk

Pumpkin ice cream! This'll be a boozy pumpkin milkshake. Sounds like the perfect start to a fun and intimate fall evening. Two straws, please.

Little Jumbo's menu provides choices for cocktail connoisseurs, as well as more accessible cocktails. As we approach autumn “people don't mind a stronger drink with dark spirits and spices to warm the soul when those nights get a little colder,” says Caudle.

We look forward to it.

Rate Your Profs word search

- ACCURATE
- ADMINISTRATION
- ANONYMOUS
- BEEF
- BUSINESS
- CRITIC
- DOWNFALL
- DOWNSIDE
- EVALUATIONS
- FEASIBLE
- HELPFUL
- IMPROVEMENT
- LEGIT
- PROBLEMS
- RATE
- REPRESENTATION
- REVIEW
- SAMPLE
- SHAME
- TROLLS

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Y	S	N	C	B	C	O	W	M	A	J	X	K	G	V

Last issue's feature story about professor-rating websites was so much fun we figured we'd revisit it for this issue of our word search.

So, find all the words above, pulled from that story (see nexusnewspaper.com if you missed it!) in the puzzle to the right.

Bring the completed puzzle in to the Nexus office for a prize!

Age of Geeks

by Vishal Pandey

Time for some iBugs

We aren't even halfway through the fall and it's already been an awesome season for mobile technology: there were the announcements of the Xperia Z3, Note 4, and new Moto X, and now Apple has unveiled the latest member of the iPhone family: the iPhone 6.

While Android and iOS are two very different systems targeted at different kinds of users, it is still interesting to see how the latest from Apple compares to the greatest Android handsets, especially considering the fact that Apple has finally closed the display-size gap.

We will have a good idea of how the latest and greatest from Apple compares to its Android counterparts in upcoming weeks.

But for now, let's have a quick look at the news related to iPhone's release and some of the initial feedback.

Just three days after its launch of September 19, Apple announced it had sold over 10 million new iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus models.

Since the launch of iOS 8 for iPhone 5s, 5c and 4s, many users have reported unresponsiveness and overall sluggishness with their phones. Users also reported drops

in wifi connectivity and issues with third-party keyboard apps, among many other problems.

Apple pushed through a new update (iOS 8.0.1) in an effort to fix all the bugs, but instead it resulted in freezing many phones. Apple recalled the update within an hour after users reported frozen phones.

Apparently, the faulty update resulted in loss of cellular network and disabling of the touch ID, so users weren't able to unlock or use their phones.

Apple will be releasing a new update to fix this as soon as possible. So if you have updated and are experiencing problems, just watch for the new update.

Although Apple announced that existing apps should automatically scale themselves to fit the larger screens on the iPhone 6 model, it's still not been properly implemented and some apps haven't adapted to the bigger displays.

That's just a quick roundup of the new iPhone. What do you think of the new iPhone and iOS in general? Love it or hate it? Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com with your feedback.

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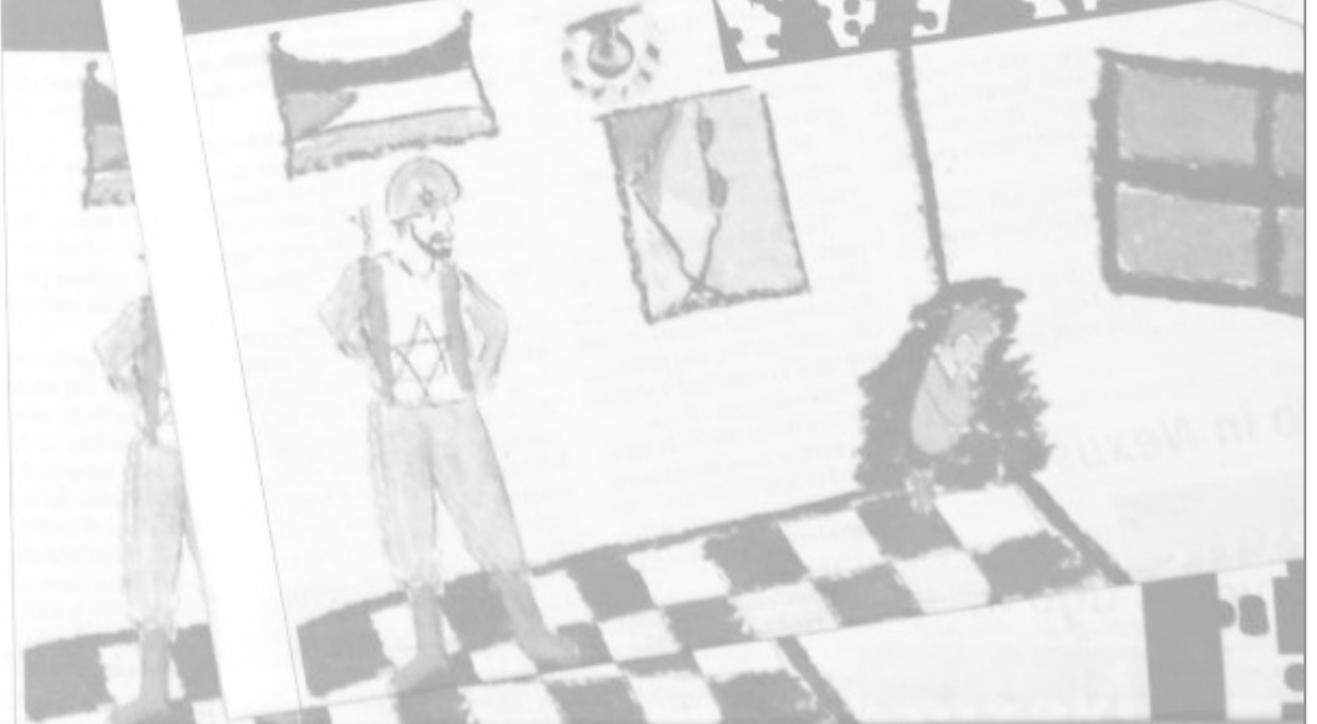
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what's going on

by matt o'connor

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Byrd and Waken in Merlin

North Carolina folk-music troubadours Jonathon Byrd and Johnny Waken, who've recently recorded a free album that can be downloaded through bandcamp.com, are currently touring through Canada and have hit the west coast. They will be performing with special guest Shari Ulrich at Merlin's Sun House, a 50-seater theatre inside an old home on Fairfield Road. Any talent coming from North Carolina is bound to be a toe tappin' good time. For more information, call 250-598-7488.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Lucky Bar sure to be Pack-ed

Vancouver rock duo The Pack A.D

is once again blessing Victoria with their presence. They will be bringing their queer magic to the stage at Lucky Bar. Advance tickets can be snatched up at Lyle's Place or Ditch Records for the low price of \$16.50. Doors are at 8 pm if you're super keen. Go to atomiqueproductions.com for more info.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Tribute to Queen Bey featuring Jay-Z

Head downtown to Lucky Bar on Yates Street if you're #flawless, #irreplaceable, or a #survivor, because this night paying tribute to Beyonce and her sidekick, Jay-Z, is sure to be a lot of fun for all the single ladies. Jokes aside, this should be a worthy night of great music and dancing with special hip-hop dancer guests

from Victoria's own Vibestreet Dance Studios. Tickets are available at the door or at ticketzone.com for \$12.50 and doors open at 10 pm.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

lessLIE's perspective on the YOUiverse

Coast Salish artist lessLIE brings you an exhibition of explorations into his perspective on the universe. The exhibit will include lessLIE's Coast Salish cosmograms, which are small graphic visualizations of the natural world, as well as some of his major works of art. The purpose is to give a visual explanation of the relationship and effect between the very small and very large, which lessLIE believes exists in all things. Duality? smALL runs until November 1 at Alcheringa Gallery (665 Fort St.).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Motorbikes and flash tattoos

Do you or someone you know have a motorcycle and want an excuse to show it off? Want to add a motorcycle-themed piece of ink to your tattoo collection? All proceeds from Urge Studios' Motorcycle Cruise and Flash Tattoo Fundraiser go to the Foundation for Injured Motorcyclists. At 10 am, everyone is welcome to meet at Clover Point for the second annual Urge Ink & Ride, with all makes, models, and riders welcome. Pre-drawn flash tattoos will be available (first come, first serve) at Urge Studios on Cook Street for \$60 each (donations welcome) after the cruise, which will start at Clover Point and continue along the Dallas Road scenic route, eventually ending up back at the tattoo shop for coffee and inking.

bringing up many issues regarding sustainability, environmentalism, and activism. All events are free and run from noon through 8:30 pm in the Student Union Building at UVic. Sign up over at community.creative-lyfortheplanet.org if you are interested in volunteering at the event.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

Prison theatre

Canada's only inmate-run prison theatre company, William Head on Stage, invites the public to enjoy their "heartfelt contemporary fable," *Time Waits for No One*. Inmates have worked all summer with director Kate Rubin to bring this play to the public, which is inspired by author Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*. Public performances begin October 10 and run through to the second week of November. William Head prison is located in Metchosin (a 35-minute drive from Victoria). Tickets are \$20 and must be purchased prior to the show at MyChosin Café, or at TicketRocket located inside the Intrepid Theatre at 1609 Blanshard Rd. Go to whonstage.weebly.com for show times and other information.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

Roll Into Lacey-Lou Tapas Lounge

If you've been to Lacey-Lou Tapas Lounge on Broad Street, you know what a creative community space it is. From 8:30-10 pm, Victoria's The Rolling Capones, with special guest Aiden Snider, will bring you a night of folk, rock, and jazz. There's no cover fee for this show; however, you are encouraged to buy a few drinks and maybe even try something off of the menu (the bacon-wrapped dates are recommended).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

CRD encourages courteous cruising

Next Wednesday is Bike to Work Day, and the Capital Regional District is offering those who take the *Cruise with Courtesy* pledge a chance to win some awesome, bike-related products. This initiative aims to teach citizens that no matter what form of transport you are using, we all have the same rights and responsibilities on roads and trails. Pledge your allegiance to courteous cruising at crd.bc.ca and be entered to win.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

Get down to Earthfest

The University of Victoria Sustainability Project will be hosting a day of workshops, music, food, speakers, discussions, and film screenings,

Mention this ad at your next appointment at any location and be entered to win a 60 minute massage

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