

TEN THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT CAMOSUN

(Lansdowne edition) page 6



Student society concerned over government comments: 3



New Camosun club wants to help people get fit: 4



A look at Victoria's slam-poetry scene: 8

NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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

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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: "You got a haircut! It looks so dorky!"

COVER PHOTOS:
Student Society: Jill Westby/*Nexus*
College exercise club: Jill Westby/*Nexus*
Slam poetry: Provided

student editor's letter

Getting to know your home

We decided for this issue to pursue an idea that's been on our list of potential stories for a very long time: a look at 10 interesting things you might not know about Camosun College. This time around, we stuck to the Lansdowne campus; Interurban, we're coming for you next! If you've got some tips about neat things students might not know about at Interurban, let us know.

Whether you're curious about the turtle that inhabits the foyer of Fisher, the meteorological station on the roof that transmits data wirelessly to the geography department, or the best place to make out on campus, we've got it. Head over to page 6 to find out some interesting things about the place you probably spend more time at than your own home.

Turn to page 3 to see a news story on concerns the Camosun College Student Society has about recent comments made by the minister of advanced education, written by my fellow student editor Pascale Archibald. Back in our arts section, contributing writer Alexis Koome gives you a glimpse of the slam-poetry scene in Victoria, in case any performance artists out there are looking to feed their habits; check it out on page 8.

On page 4, you might find the kick you need to stick to your exercise routine: some very dedicated Camosun students have opened a Camosun-based exercise club to the community, and we caught up with them to find out the details. We've also got comics, columns, news briefs, and more all packed into this issue. Enjoy, and, as always, let us know what you think!

Adam Marsh, student editor
adam@nexusnewspaper.com

flashback

25 years ago in *Nexus*



Cafeteria chaos: One of the main cover stories in our March 5, 1991 issue looked at a strike that almost shut down the Lansdowne cafeteria. But not quite: a one-year contract was agreed upon between Beaver Foods, who owned the cafeteria then, and their workers. The Camosun College Student Society stepped in and suggested mediation between the two sides, which worked.

Students then, students now: In the *Peer Support* column in this issue, the writer looked at the state of the student populace at the time. And it's funny: it sounds like they were talking about the state of the student populace in 2016 during exam time. "I have seen this week,

in the halls and in the cafeteria, many long faces, many weary eyes, many stressed-out people. Midterms, papers due, lab reports, quizzes—the list is endless." Ring a bell?

Man in the window demands made: The ongoing situation with the "man in the window" cardboard cut-out continued in this issue, with the cut-out's captors writing a letter to the editor of *Nexus* explaining what they wanted. The letter laid out the demands for the cut-out's safe return to the A/V department at Camosun: turning the Carey Road campus into a common parking lot for Camosun's other campuses, with a shuttle bus running to Lansdowne and Interurban; also, the elimination of all parking fees. If these weren't met, the cardboard cut-out would be turned into "pizza crust," which only furthers our ongoing confusion at this whole story. Was pizza crust made from paper in 1991?

update

In "Camosun student starts petition protesting potential tuition raise" (February 17, 2016 issue), Camosun student Blair Roche said that there was a Ministry of Advanced Education-set mandatory fee rate for new instructional programs, not amendments to existing programs. Roche has contacted *Nexus* to let us know what he meant to say was that there is an exception to the ministry's maximum fee increase rate of two percent for new instructional programs, not amendments to existing programs.

open space

Government misses mark with MSP

PASCALE ARCHIBALD
STUDENT EDITOR

On February 16 finance minister Mike de Jong announced BC's 2016 budget and this government's plans for the Medical Services Plan (MSP) in the province. There was a great effort on the government's part to reduce the cost of MSP payments for low-income families, but they're missing the mark.

Green Party of British Columbia leader Andrew Weaver brought a petition created by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) to the government as the budget was being created; the petition asked for a change in how MSP premium payments are collected. More than 60,000 people signed the petition calling for the premiums to be scrapped and integrated into the already existing income-tax process.

CTF BC director Jordan Bateman spoke about this on CBC a few days before the budget was released. He argued that collapsing MSP premiums into the income-tax system would actually save a substantial amount of money—he estimated it to the sum of \$100 million per year, based on the bureaucracy costs.

Bateman went on to say that at the very least, tying health-care payments into the income-tax system

would eliminate charging someone who makes \$35,000 a year the same as someone who is making \$300,000 a year, which is still the case in this new budget.

BC premier Christy Clark has called the MSP system antiquated and has said that the way people pay for it doesn't make a lot of sense. However, BC's Liberal government has shut down the CTF proposal; in the budget's release speech, de Jong said the government didn't want BC residents to think health care was free.

The citizens of BC don't need our government teaching us a lesson we don't need on the cost of health care. We need fair taxation, and, currently, the MSP premiums are not fair.

In the truly global, connected world we live in, I think Canadians are extremely grateful for our public health-care system, and if we ever forget, all we need to do is take a look across the border to see just how fortunate we are to have a government that believes in public health care. The finance minister was not appointed to teach the citizens of BC a lesson in finances. There is absolutely no reason for not seriously looking into the effectiveness of amalgamating health-care payments into the income-tax system.

letters

The debate continues

Thank you for the fair and balanced article on 40 Days for Life ("The dividing debate," February 17, 2016 issue). It was interesting that student opinion on your campus was not only against the pro-life theme of 40 Days, but also against permitting pro-life demonstrations on campus. The thinking was simple: since I'm pro-choice I'm against giving the other side an opportunity to express itself. Added to that from a spokesperson for your student organization was this: yes, we are for free speech, but only until it upsets someone.

We get the same argument out at the abortion clinic: please do your vigil anywhere but here, because these young women might be traumatized as they go into the clinic. But of course we are at the clinic because that is where we can deliver our witness to women actually on the verge of getting abortions.

Pro-life students deliver the message on campuses because there is nowhere better to find a high concentration of single, sexually active men and women likely to conceive an unwanted child and be considering abortion as the easiest alternative. Who better, and when better, in both cases, to be presented with ideas that challenge their thinking.

By the same token, if the student society doesn't like a policy of the Camosun administration, they should protest it in front of the provincial Legislature, not the administration's office, because the latter might upset the administrators whom you are criticizing. After all, Camosun should be a safe space where people should not be confronted with ideas that stigmatize or condemn them.

STEVE WEATHERBE

CHOOSE LIFE VICTORIA/40 DAYS FOR LIFE

SPEAK UP

What would you like to see changed at Camosun?

BY ADAM MARSH



MOHAMMED ALELAIWAT

"Tuition for international students is so expensive."



TANIESHA BRAMLEY

"Tuition and prices in the cafeteria and for books."



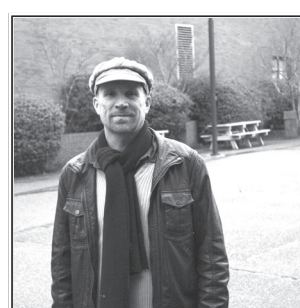
ABBY RITCHIE

"Textbooks for sure, because some people can get scholarships, but textbooks aren't usually covered."



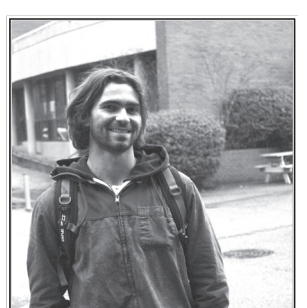
SARAH JANSEN

"I'd like more microwaves."



IAN ROSS

"Tuition levels and/or funding. Right now I've got enough for my tuition and materials, and nothing for rent and food."

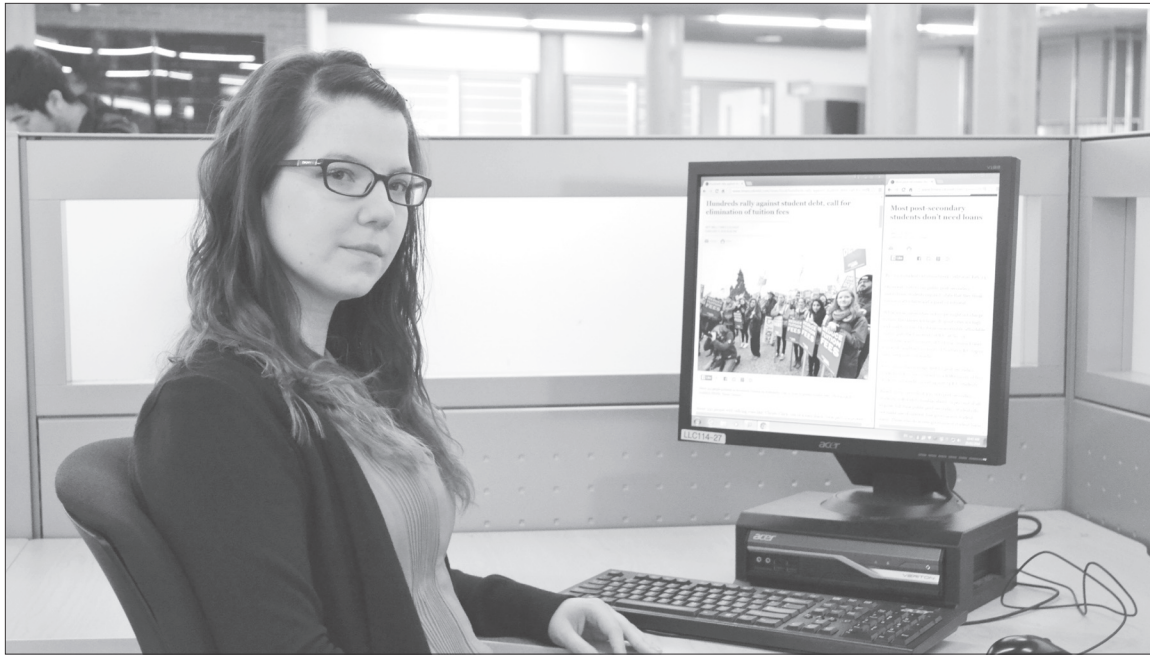


CURTIS WARREN

"I'd like to see some better couches in the library for studying."

student issues

Camosun College Student Society concerned over minister of advanced education's comments



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun College Student Society external executive Andrea Eggenberger.

PASCALE ARCHIBALD
STUDENT EDITOR

The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) claims that minister of advanced education Andrew Wilkinson made statements regarding BC student debt in a February 3 *Times Colonist* article that were misleading or unrealistic.

Specifically, the CCSS is concerned about Wilkinson's claim that 61,000 students receive financial assistance. The CCSS says that this is representative of less than 20 percent of students enrolled in postsecondary in BC.

The minister has also been quoted saying that 70 percent of eligible students in the public postsecondary system do not make use of loans from the BC government, and cited a 2014 survey conducted by BC Stats.

But CCSS external executive Andrea Eggenberger is confused by the numbers Wilkinson came up with in the article. She says

that, looking at the same data, she has come up with very different figures.

"This 2014 student outcome survey from BC Stats clearly states that over half of students use loan funding for their education, and 50 percent of those students use combined borrowing methods," says Eggenberger. "There is no way that 70 percent of eligible students, as Andrew Wilkinson said, don't make use of loans from the BC government, because, according to this survey, they do."

The Minister of Advanced Education declined to speak on the phone to discuss the specific concerns the CCSS has; he replied to *Nexus*' request for an interview with a statement via email.

"A postsecondary education is one of the smartest investments that you can make, whether it is a diploma, a skilled trade, or a degree," says Wilkinson. "There are a range of initiatives to keep postsecond-

ary education affordable and accessible for all students. Initiatives range from more than \$10 million in up-front, non-repayable Adult Upgrading Grants this year alone through to open textbooks that have saved over \$1 million for more than 11,500 students. For students who do access government financial assistance, the Repayment Assistance Plan allows low-income applicants to pay back what they can reasonably afford, and for some borrowers, the principal may be reduced or eliminated entirely."

According to the ministry, there are 430,000 students enrolled in public postsecondary education, and only 180,000 of them are full-time (and therefore eligible for student financial aid). The ministry says that only 45,000 of those eligible students received financial aid, which, they claim, works out to be 25 percent of the student body.

The CCSS is also concerned about statements made by the min-

"There is no way that 70 percent of eligible students, as [minister of advanced education] Andrew Wilkinson said, don't make use of loans from the BC government, because, according to this [BC Stats] survey, they do."

ANDREA EGGENBERGER
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

ister regarding the mandated two-percent tuition-fee-increase cap. The CCSS says that students attending Camosun are witnessing the Ministry of Advanced Education's allowance of tuition-fee increases that go above and beyond the two percent.

"Where government funding once totalled 80 percent back in 2001, it now only funds 49 percent, and the rest is coming from students," says Eggenberger. "The college is trying to get around this two-percent tuition increase by implementing fees, and the government has been letting them do this."

But there is a dispute regarding the numbers: the ministry says that colleges in BC are staying within the two-percent increase, but student groups have been vocal in their belief that the institutions are raising tuition above the two percent.

The ministry cites Statistics Canada, saying that tuition increased by only two percent and that it was less than the national average of 3.2 percent.

The final point of contention the CCSS has with the statements in the *Times Colonist* article is that the minister referred to student loans as interest-free. The CCSS

claims this is misleading; they said in a press release that interest kicks in after graduation, and students are expected to pay prime plus two percent. (It was later brought to their attention that the interest rate had been increased to prime plus 2.5 percent.)

The ministry says that the quote from Wilkinson about "interest-free government student loans throughout their studies" is accurate because student loans are interest-free while the loanee is at school, with interest of prime plus 2.5 percent starting on completion of a person's studies.

The CCSS argues that even though student loans don't accrue interest while a person is in school, it is misleading to students to hear the words "interest-free" when referencing student loans, as the loans do end up acquiring interest. The CCSS goes on to say that they would like to see student-loan management systems that other provinces use implemented in BC.

"There are three provinces in Canada—PEI, Nova Scotia, and Manitoba—whose loans are interest-free," says Eggenberger. "Ours are not because we have interest while we are paying back our loans."

NEWS BRIEFS

Camosun Chargers check-in

The Camosun Chargers men's and women's volleyball teams wrapped up the season with an exciting pair of back-to-back match-ups against the Vancouver Island University (VIU) Mariners. The island rivalry series began in Nanaimo on Friday, February 19; both men's and women's volleyball teams lost. The final match between the opposing teams was at the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence on Saturday, February 20; the women's team lost again, but the men managed to pull ahead for a win. Camosun's basketball squads

also headed into the home stretch on the weekend, with both men's and women's teams facing off against the Kwantlen Polytechnic University Eagles on Friday, February 19, where both the Chargers women's and men's basketball teams won. On Saturday, February 20 they played the Columbia Bible College Bearcats; both Chargers teams won again. For Chargers scores since we went to press, see camosun.ca/sports/chargers.

Chargers coach picked for Team Canada

Camosun Chargers women's volleyball head coach Chris Dahl has been selected to work for the

Team Canada Youth Development Program. Dahl guided the Chargers to their first-ever Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association medal last March at the 2015 CCAA women's volleyball national championship in Longueuil, Quebec. He was also named the CCAA Women's Volleyball Coach of the Year in 2015.

Provincial student organization says new BC budget no good for students

The message from the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators (FPSE) and Canadian Federation of Students-BC (CFS-BC) is that the

2016 BC budget delivers another year of flat funding to BC's colleges and universities, and that's no good. Both CFS-BC and FPSE say that the BC Liberal government has failed to address the growing funding crisis in the postsecondary system. The FPSE said in a press release that this neglect is incredibly short-sighted at a time when the same government is predicting that nearly 80 percent of future jobs will require some form of postsecondary education.

Have you got bats?

The Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT) would like the public to report any sightings of bat activity during the winter months. If you

saw bats or had them hibernating on or in your property at any point this winter, please let HAT know by calling the Bat Program Hotline at 1-855-9BC-BATS; hit extension 12 for Vancouver Island. Visit hat.bc.ca to learn more.

-PASCALE ARCHIBALD

Got a news tip for us? Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com.

Want to be a news writer? Then we want you! No experience necessary. Come write news for your student newspaper.

Get in touch with us today to get started!

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

While you're at it, we're also on Facebook and Twitter, you know...

Find us as nexusnewspaper on all three. See you there!

college

Camosun Exercise is Medicine club joins fight against diabetes



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Members of Camosun's Exercise is Medicine club offer their services at the college's Interurban campus.

ADAM MARSH
STUDENT EDITOR

Camosun College is offering a new club that focuses on how exercise can help those living with type 1 and 2 diabetes.

It's called Exercise is Medicine, and club founder Hannah Flahr, who is also a Sport and Fitness Leadership student, says that the club filled up fast.

"Diabetes is on the rise, and the

effect of exercise on diabetes is really prominent in the research right now. It's widely researched across Canada and the world," says Flahr. "So rather than create a program for kids or some athletes, we thought, 'Why don't we create a program for a chronic disease?'"

Exercise is Medicine program facilitator and Sport and Fitness Leadership student Melissa Rollin says that they have learned a lot

about the impact exercise has on diabetes, and they're eager to share that information.

"In our class, we learned all about the effect that exercise has on diabetes—both type 1 and type 2—so we're bringing that information and resources from Diabetes Canada into the sessions."

According to Flahr, each session begins with a 15-minute talk on diabetes education, followed by

"It was really nice to see that we're putting something out there that is the kick in the butt that somebody needed."

MELISSA ROLLIN
EXERCISE IS MEDICINE

45 minutes of circuit training and body-weight exercises.

"It's about six to 10 exercises," says Rollin. "We have additional dumbbells that they can grab if they want more weight, and when you do it in a circuit style like that, you're doing your resistance training, but you're not stopping. It's cardio, so it's getting the blood flowing."

All volunteers in the club are Camosun students. Rollin says posters and sign-up forms were taken to various gyms throughout the city.

"Some of us students knew doctors, so we would bring the poster with the registration information to the doctors office... it was advertised widely in the community so that we would have lots of different people. Throughout our program, people who work at Camosun have opportunities to pair up with students to get trained, so we wanted to make

sure that the whole community would be involved as well."

Rollin says it is rewarding to watch people with diabetes—many of whom have lived relatively sedentary lives—get moving again.

"It was really nice to see that we're putting something out there that is the kick in the butt that somebody needed, and we're there for them to help them through this."

Rollin tells one story of one of the group members saying he was "allergic to exercise," but then realizing during a session that it actually felt good to be moving.

"It's great to see that they're growing and the exercise is sparking an interest and a passion in them," says Rollin.

She does admit, however, that it's sometimes a challenge to find what she calls "adaptations" to the exercises in order to cater to everyone's needs.

"We'll have different heights for the steps, different weights, just to make sure everybody is moving. And with so many of us there, we can all brainstorm and just try and think of a different exercise that will stimulate the same muscle group, so that everybody can keep moving through each exercise as a circuit."

Exercise is Medicine is being offered at the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence at Interurban campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7 pm.

know your profs

Camosun Carpentry and Trades program coordinator Christian Allen teaches for the students

ADAM MARSH
STUDENT EDITOR

Know Your Profs is an ongoing series of profiles on the instructors at Camosun College. Every issue we ask a different instructor at Camosun the same 10 questions in an attempt to get to know them a little better. Do you have an instructor that you want to see interviewed in the paper? Maybe you want to know more about one of your teachers, but you're too busy, or shy, to ask? Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com and we'll add your instructor to our list of teachers to talk to.

This issue we talked to Camosun Carpentry and Trades program coordinator Christian Allen about the importance of tradespeople in society, why his job is so satisfying, and his love of barbecued ribs.

1: What do you teach and how long have you been at Camosun?

I was primarily a carpentry instructor for my first few years at the college and am now a program coordinator in the Trades Development and Special Projects department. I continue to teach safety and carpentry-related courses as my schedule permits. I've been at Camosun since the summer of 2008.

2: What do you personally get out of teaching?

I get a great deal of satisfaction from watching, and being involved in, the growth of our students.

When I'm teaching apprentices, it's very rewarding to see their levels of skill and confidence grow as they progress through their apprenticeships. As trades instructors, we're teaching our future colleagues. That's a rare and enjoyable interaction for an instructor to be able to have. These days, as a program coordinator, I manage and teach in trades programs that link the college with various high schools in the region. The challenges and rewards are very different in this venue, and I enjoy watching the students' growth and maturation over their five months in our program. It's especially great to see them in the halls at the college a year or two after high-school graduation, pursuing further studies and carrying on with the work that we started together years ago.

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

I want my students to know how focused my colleagues and I are on helping them to succeed, and to see the amount of work we put in to create and deliver relevant, effective programs. We aren't forced to do this extra work by an employer or a government agency; we do it because we care about our students and about the courses we're teaching. In my case, when I teach carpentry, I have a great deal of pride in my profession and want to help my students become excellent carpenters.

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

Hmm... have you seen the state of my office? It is truly shameful.

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

I love meeting students years after we've worked together and hearing about where they've gone in their lives and careers. I don't know that they're aware of how much it means to us as instructors when they approach us on the street or in a grocery store to shake our hands and talk to us, always with smiles on their faces. No other job I have done has ever given me so much satisfaction.

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

As a former term instructor, repeatedly having to leave the college and find other work when enrolment declined or a course ended. After having found my dream job here, it was very difficult to have to leave it and have no idea when I might return. I'm very glad that those days are behind me.

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

Focusing specifically on the trades, it's my hope that our country sustains its current emphasis on promoting and funding trades training. Too often, it has been treated as a passing fad. Regardless of the state



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun's Christian Allen says trades are an important part of society.

of the economy, we will always need skilled tradespeople, and the only way to ensure an adequate supply is to maintain consistent training programs. Skilled tradespeople don't appear instantly when demand is high—it takes time to train and develop an apprentice into a certified tradesperson. From secondary schools through to colleges and employers, it's important that we continue to promote the trades as a viable, respectable career option, and to enable those who are interested in pursuing a trade to get the on-the-job and academic training that they require.

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

I enjoy working in my yard and garden, pattering away on never-ending house renovations like a

typical carpenter, and playing in a rec hockey league. I'm a mediocre but enthusiastic guitar player, and I'm looking forward to restoring a classic car or truck when I finally find the time.

9: What is your favourite meal?

I love cooking because... well... I love eating. Barbecuing ribs in a chipotle bourbon sauce is a favourite pastime, but the Prawn Broker at Pagliacci's or anything from Da Tandoor is definitely hard to beat.

10: What's your biggest pet peeve?

As "paperwork for its own sake" was described by Gordon Alexander, my Camosun College Canadian Literature instructor in 1995: administrivia.

event

Newcomer LANtasy fills gap in Victoria's convention scene



“It’s nice for people who don’t always get the chance to come out to big events to meet new people, socialize, and have fun.”

JEFF PEDLOW
LANtasy

The “LAN” in LANtasy stands for “local area network,” which is a term for when multiple computers in the same room are grouped together.

PHOTO PROVIDED

JAYDEN GRIEVE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The past 12 months have been tough for the Victoria convention scene.

GottaCon announced in July that their most recent convention would be their last; in October, IFCon was cancelled abruptly only days before it was to happen. But a new event has sprung up to fill in some of the gaps left behind by those conventions.

The non-profit LANtasy Gaming Society is putting on LANtasy at Pearkes Recreation Centre. The group used to be in charge of the LAN (local area network) events—a big network of computers in the same room—at local convention GottaCon, and with GottaCon’s cancellation decided to put on their own event.

“Our event is a ‘bring your own computer’ LAN event,” says Jeff Pedlow, one of the three directors of the LANtasy Gaming Society. “People will bring their own computer from home, and we will network them together with a range of

electronics so people can play games together in the same room.”

Despite its name, and despite being the biggest LAN party in all of western Canada, Pedlow wants to stress that it’s an event for people who like all different kinds of games. There will be tabletop minis, board games, RPGs, cosplay, and more, as well as various types of vendors.

“Our presenting partner is Gigabyte,” says Pedlow. “They’re a large computer company. We’ve got a graphics card company and some local shops that are also sponsoring the event, as well as exhibitors who range from LARPing groups to merchandising cosplay sellers to other conventions. You name it, we’ve got it.”

Pedlow says the event planning is going well and that sales have been very positive, despite some of the stigma that might still exist after IFCon’s cancellation.

“What happened really affected the community, and it gave us and other conventions a real black eye,” says Pedlow. “It is a little more of a pain in the butt for us to get things

together. A lot of us are paying out of our pockets just for love of the event, and we are all doing this on a volunteer basis.”

He says that this event is really for the gamers and hopes that all different kinds of people will come out to enjoy the event. Pedlow says they are expecting people from every age bracket and that if this is someone’s first time, there’s plenty of opportunity to learn new games. Overall, he thinks it’s shaping up to be a first-class event.

“The proof is in the pudding; people are coming out in droves,” says Pedlow. “It offers a little something for everybody. It’s nice for people who don’t always get the chance to come out to big events to meet new people, socialize, and have fun.”

LANtasy
Saturday, March 12 and
Sunday, March 13
\$25-80, Pearkes Recreation
Centre
lantasy.com



WIN LANTASY TICKETS!

We have four LANtasy weekend passes to the RPG and board game tables to give away to the first four readers who email editor@nexusnewspaper.com and tell us what their favourite story is in this issue of Nexus. Go!

PHOTO PROVIDED

LANtasy will offer something for fans of RPGs, board games, LARPing, cosplay, and more.

Education Council & Board of Governors ELECTION

Representation is important!

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

The nomination period is from Wednesday, March 9 through Monday, March 21, 3:00 pm.

The election will be held Monday, April 11 and Tuesday, April 12 from 9:00 am – 7:00 pm, and Wednesday, April 13 from 9:00 am -12:00 pm.

For more information, see posters around campus, the Camosun.ca website, or call 250-370-3860.

10 things you didn't know

(Lansdowne)

Story by Adam Marsh, student editor

Photos by Greg Pratt, managing editor

Camosun College opened its doors in 1971; in the past 45 years, countless students have roamed the halls and fields of the Lansdowne campus. During that time, stories have been told and myths have blossomed: tales of, for example, ghosts, underground tunnels, and, uh, turtles. Naturally, there are lots of unanswered questions, and we're here to answer them.

Some of the buildings students walk in—with bags heavy enough to give them chronic back problems later in life—have a story worth telling. Full-time students probably spend more time around campus than they do anywhere else, so we wanted to give students a chance to get to know their home away from home.

We're going to be doing this for Interurban, as well; if you have any tips about interesting and unknown aspects of that campus, email editor@nexusnewspaper.com today to let us know.

Let's go underground

Next time you're walking between Ewing and Young, stop for a second and look at the ground. What you can't see is that underneath the concrete there is a tunnel connecting the two buildings. It's not exactly a decorative feature on campus, but Camosun supervisor of building services Graham McKinnon says that it's been in use since Ewing was built, in the 1960s.

"It's used for services," says McKinnon. "The heating water for the boiler runs through the tunnel; that's the heating for Ewing as well. Then we've got domestic hot water that goes over there, too, and then there's some electrical pipes as well. There are all sorts of different services that go through there."

If you're thinking of going on an adventure, you're out of luck (uh, not that we tried, really): it turns out the tunnel is only accessible to workers through the Young boiler room. And it sounds like getting through it is quite an adventure.

"You could physically get through it," says McKinnon. "It's not like it's just big enough for the pipes; you can walk through it. From Young, you're standing up, and then you can walk probably three-quarters of the way down, and then you're kind of on your hands and knees, but you can get over to Ewing."

McKinnon says there has never been a serious incident regarding the tunnel in the 18 years he has been working at Camosun, and he answers the question on everyone's minds: no students have ever been stuck in it.



Is that... a turtle... in Fisher?

Yes, you read that right: there is a live turtle in the foyer of Fisher, outside the cafeteria. The turtle must like watching the world go by from the cozy confines of Camosun's little indoor pond. Well, we're guessing that the turtle likes it; we really have no idea.

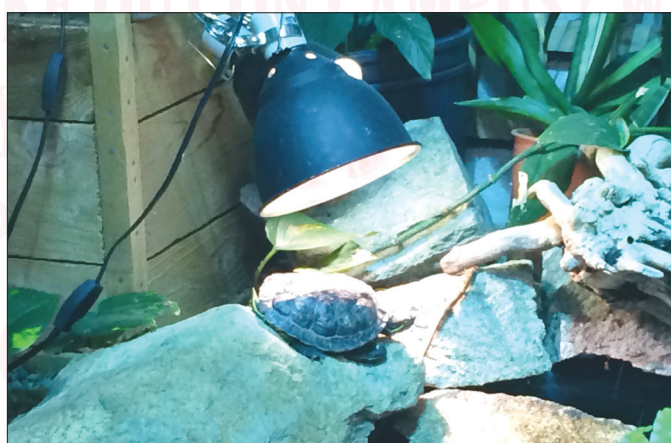
Arts and Science student Navjot Singh says it's nice to see a turtle there on his way to class.

"That's not a bad thing. We feel good. We're just going by the Fisher building and we just see a turtle there. It's a good thing. We are not hurting them."

Many students were shocked that a turtle was being kept inside the school, but first-year Social Work student Sydney Cordero says it is okay, as long as the turtle is "tended to regularly."

"I don't know its real living conditions," she says.

We can reveal that its real living conditions are not the inside of a college in Victoria, BC, but it appears that the majority of students are okay with a turtle keeping an eye on the happenings of first-floor Fisher (Camosun does ask that people do not throw coins or other objects in the water, for the health of the turtle). Oh, and the turtle's name? Bubbles.



A hospital on campus

It might be covered in scaffolding and best approached with a hard hat these days, but the Young building is actually a historical monument, and it's right here at Camosun.

"I heard it was an old school, and then a hospital," says Singh. "It was used as a hospital during the war."

It's true: what is often regarded as the nicest building at Camosun was once used to treat wounded soldiers who had returned from the war. Next time you're sitting in Young stumped on a multiple-choice question and wishing you didn't have to sit in front of chalkboards all day, try imagining some soldier lying there all wrapped up in bandages. Maybe class isn't so bad.

"It's cool that we have something historical on campus," says Early Learning and Child Care student Tatianna Matrick.

Cordero agrees, adding that it's good that it's still being used.

"It kind of serves as a monument, and that in itself is pretty cool that we haven't demolished it."



The secrets on Fisher's roof

It's not exactly in your everyday line of sight at campus, but there's a weather station on campus; it lives on the roof of Fisher. According to Camosun

Geography and Environmental Technology instructor Chris Ayles, the data it gathers are transmitted wirelessly to the geography classroom. Camosun then sends the data to UVic, where they are posted on the school-based weather network. But don't think just being a Camosun student gives you access to the weather station.

"The students who want to work directly with the weather station need to take one of my classes in Environmental Technology or Geography," says Ayles.

With a station set up on a roof comes unique problems, which Ayles knows all too well. "I had to replace it recently because it broke," he says. "Sometimes the wind knocks it over, which is kind of sad. Some workers took away the cinder block that I had holding down the base."

Most students don't know such a station exists at Camosun, and reaction is mixed on whether it's a good use of money and resources.

"If it's put toward certain programs, maybe," says Cordero. "Otherwise, not so much. It's just information for them."

"It's good to know about the weather," says Singh. "It's not a waste of money."

The ghosts of exams past

Some people roll their eyes when they hear the words "paranormal activity," but others are not surprised to hear that some of the patients from when the Young building was a hospital might still be roaming the Young halls.

Second-year English student Chad Hartley says he has a friend who is a former Camosun student who swears he saw "a white mist shape close a door at the end of the hallway" on one of the floors of Young.

Singh prefers logical explanations to the possibility of ghosts in Young.

"Students are always coming in and



Now about Camosun (the edition)

of there; even in the night there are classes. Come on. If it were haunted, it could be haunted 24 hours a day. Why only night? That would mean that the ghosts always have a watch.”

Cordero is not so sure, but she does not shoot the idea down entirely. “I’m not in there too much, but I don’t think I’ve ever seen any paranormal activity there. It would be cool, though.”

Either you want to believe that some old war vets are still in Young, watching all go about our days, or you don’t. But if you’re curious, go for an evening stroll in what is possibly Camosun’s most haunted building, and let us know if you come across anything otherworldly (hop on over to the Richmond House for an extra dose of ghostly activity; there has been much alleged paranormal activity in the building on the edge of campus over the years).

Sneakin’ smooches

It’s nice to stop for a breather during the hustle and bustle between classes, but in this case, it’s not to marvel at the historic beauty of the school. To be frank, it’s nice to sneak a smooch in sometimes. And Lansdowne’s got a ton of good spots to do just that.

Students we spoke with said that some of the best spots to get the lovin’ are Fisher’s stairwell and the main grassy area in front of Young.

Back at the *Nexus* office, managing editor Greg Pratt says that while he would obviously never encourage such behaviour, he does remember his time at Camosun being punctuated with a smooch—yup—the Fisher stairwell, and the story ended well: the recipient of that kiss so many moons ago is now his wife. It’s a Camosun love story, and that doesn’t just involve manic, hushed groping in the library.



What shape is the pond?

Wait, we have a pond at the Lansdowne campus? We sure do, and it’s in the shape of a figure eight.

Numerous plants and shrubs grow around this totally hidden feature of Lansdowne, and there’s also a bench to sit on and enjoy some peace and quiet if you do decide to track this spot down. So where is it, exactly? The pond is located in the Garry Oak patch behind the Wilna Thomas building. If you’re feeling overwhelmed with your workload, or in need of a quick catnap in the spring semester, this is a perfect secluded place to catch your breath. Or at least it was, until we went and told everyone about it. Oops.



Parking problems

In a recent issue of *Nexus*, Camosun student Thomas Nicolson called parking fees “more of a stab in the face” than tuition fees. Sure, even though gas prices are comparatively low now compared to how they’ve been in recent months, having a car is a luxury that many students simply can’t afford, and parking just adds to the financial strain.

Robbins Parking is the company that takes our cash for the privilege to park in various spots throughout the city, including the college. So where does all your parking money go to? At Camosun, Robbins’ cut is less than 12 cents of every dollar students spend on parking. Five cents goes toward student U-Passes, and 83 cents goes toward education and student and administrative services.

University Transfer student McKenzie Loggin thinks student



complaints about the parking prices are “pretty warranted” but says that it’s one of the things the college just “needs to do.” (Both Camosun College and Robbins Parking declined to speak with *Nexus* about parking on campus for this story.)

“I think it’s one of the things that they can probably capitalize on, because students have to find a way to get to school,” says Loggin. “It’s not like they can really not come to school; for a lot of people it’s a large commute, so I think it’s probably their way of saying, ‘Okay, this is something we need to do, so we could probably amp up the prices.’”

Buttons on the walls

I know, I know: you see a button and it’s really, really hard to not press it. But these aren’t for fun and games. The emergency buttons at designated spots around campus are part of the Walk Safer program at Camosun. If you’re not sure about walking back to your car after a night class—or any other time—these people will give you a ride to make sure you get home safe. Thankfully, says Camosun security, there has never been a serious incident on campus where someone in need of help has pushed the button.

If you’re ever feeling on edge after a night class, hit the button, wait for their arrival, and hop on the back of the Walk Safer golf cart; they’ll give you a ride right to your car.

Minkyu Lee, a first year Computer Science University Transfer student, says he’s never seen a dangerous incident on campus. “I haven’t seen anybody using it.”



Buyback blues

Textbooks are one of the biggest thorns in the sides of students, whether it’s reading them, buying them, or reselling them. When it comes to trying to get rid of them, many students simply post what they’re selling at the end of a term on Facebook, or linger outside the bookstore at the beginning of a term. Either way, the fact of the matter is that selling your used textbooks is a pain.

Despite the fact that students are often told they will be able to resell their readings, many do not see a cent back for their books. The bookstore can’t sell anything that is deemed outdated. It also won’t buy books if the course isn’t being offered within a certain time frame. Much like smartphone updates, new editions come out faster than students can buy them; sometimes there is only a page or two that is slightly different, but it’s enough of a difference to be denied resale on a technicality.

As frustrating as those technicalities are, many students who can’t afford textbooks will be more than happy to take one that the bookstore can’t. Take a look through the readings. If the differences are minute enough, some less-by-the-book students would be happy to take it off your hands to save some money.

Sometimes a course finishes and is not offered again until the spring or fall, by which time there will more than likely be a few changes, but be patient. One person’s trash is another’s treasure.



spoken word

Slam poetry spreads throughout Victoria

“It’s a beautiful,
beautiful freak show,
and I love it.”

SHAYNE AVEC I GREC
POET



PHOTO PROVIDED

Local poet shayne avec i grec has seen everything the local slam-poetry scene has to offer, and he loves it.

ALEXIS KOOME
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Slam poetry has found its voice in Victoria throughout the last decade. Starting in 2005 as a monthly open-mic night at Solstice Cafe, it is now a staple in the local arts scene. A familiar name within Victoria’s growing poetry community is shayne avec i grec. A member of Victoria’s first slam-poetry team in 2005 and currently the programming director for the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word (CFSW), he noticed the art form gain momentum through students.

“The first year it was just an open mic once a month that I was attending regularly; then in 2006 I offered up some ideas and ended up at the organizational meeting,” he recalls. “I was on the team in 2005 and coached the team in 2007, then was venue coordinator of CFSW in

2011, and was basically personal assistant to the festival director in 2012, and then on the Victoria slam team again in 2013.”

In 2003, after catching a video of spoken-word poet Shayne Koyczan on CBC, avec i grec made his way to a fundraising slam Koyczan held at Cafe Du Soleil in Vancouver. He says the blooming Vancouver poetry scene caught his attention at the perfect time.

“There were so many performers that night who I’ve come to know and who are still hugely involved in poetry. That was pretty much when I started writing, that night, on the bus ride home,” he says. “The slam scene in Victoria was sort of due to the serendipity of the poetry hub instigating an annual event, and my moving over from Vancouver with all these ideas and connections.”

Almost simultaneously, CFSW

was born in Ottawa in 2004 as the “spoken wordlympics.” In 2007 Victoria was able to send their team across the country to compete in Halifax. When slam poetry was still new in town, the open mic nights drew a bigger audience than the “competitive” slam nights, where poetry is given a score.

“We’ve sent a team every year since 2007, when we started having regular slams,” says avec i grec. “We went through this interesting inversion where originally people weren’t interested in slamming but wanted [poetry night] Tongues of Fire and the open mic. Now, slam seems to draw a larger crowd than the open-mic nights.”

The network of spoken-word events and happenings are all run under the umbrella of the Victoria Poetry Project, which began visiting high schools in 2007. Students

started frequenting the poetry events, and they soon became a weekly Thursday-night ritual. By 2012 Tongues of Fire had spread throughout the school district, and the first slam night of every month became reserved for youth poets under the age of 21.

“After doing more outreach and school stuff, we got into the youth slams,” says avec i grec. “A lot of them are comfortable coming out to the regular slams, but some feel a lot more comfortable focusing with their peer group.”

With the influx of student interest in recent years, Victoria became the first Canadian city to elect a Youth Poet Laureate in 2013. Under the mentorship of city councillor and Victoria Poetry Project member Jeremy Loveday, the Youth Poet Laureate performs at Victoria city and youth council meetings and

creates a local event geared toward involving other young artists.

“Ann-Bernice Thomas, our Youth slam champion from last year, was our first feature performer for this year’s Youth slam season and is now the current Youth Poet Laureate of Victoria... there’s definitely a trajectory that could be followed even though they don’t have their own festival,” says avec i grec.

Thursday, March 3 is the last chance for poets 21 and under to participate in this season of slam poetry for youth. The night will be held at Solstice Cafe on lower Pandora.

The all-ages slam will be at the same spot on Thursday, March 17, and avec i grec urges all local writers to come down, step up, and speak out.

“It’s a beautiful, beautiful freak show,” he says, “and I love it.”

review

The Sheepdogs, The Temperance Movement, and Monster Truck all rock Victoria

ALEXIS KOOME
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Saskatoon’s The Sheepdogs put on a show on Saturday, February 20 at Sugar that showed all of rock’s ragged glory. The place was completely packed, shoulder to shoulder. Every face was turned to the stage with unwavering focus; music history was being laid down.

The spectrum of instruments the band uses has grown alongside their evolving talent. Pedal steel guitar and killer trombone solos carry tracks like the chilling “Help Us All.” The band’s aligned musicianship is incredible.

Through the hushed crowd and heightened tinkling of the keys at the end of “Learn & Burn,” I couldn’t help but acknowledge the ghost of similarity between this band’s Currie brothers and classic southern rockers the Allman brothers.

When The Sheepdogs returned for their encore, they said, “We’re gonna cover a little tune for ya by The Allman Brothers Band.” They rocketed into the classic track “Whipping Post.” The boys adapted this song like the pinnacle of live Allman Brothers tunes that it is. They poured themselves into it; not the 23-minute jam from Fillmore East, but the studio version from the Allmans’ first album.

When the band exited the stage for good, I was left in the wake of a show so complexly colossal.

Then, on Tuesday, February 23, Ontario rock/metal band Monster Truck came through Victoria with British rockers The Temperance Movement in tow.

The Temperance Movement are touring supporting their new album, *White Bear*; they drew the crowd onto the dance floor by the

end of the first track. Lead singer Phil Campbell bounced and swayed around the stage, belting older tunes like “Only Friend” and “Take It Back” from their self-titled debut album. Their two guitarists passed solos back and forth, both boasting their talent playing slide guitar, which is a prominent style on *White Bear*.

The band left the crowd excited for the headliners, incessantly chanting for “Mon-ster Truck!” Drum kits and guitars were rearranged and exchanged as a sea of rockers closed in around the stage. The lights dimmed and Monster Truck filed onto stage.

Lead singer Jon Harvey bent into his bass guitar with fast-paced riffs to carry the sporadic and uncontrollable solos by guitarist Jeremy Wilderman, who bounded around the stage and onto the front row of



PHOTO PROVIDED

Brit rockers The Temperance Movement are proving themselves worthy.

speakers. The crowd quickly turned into a mob of headbanging fans that jumped back and forth with the solid and steady drumming that pounded through the air.

Keyboardist Brandon Bliss and drummer Steve Kiely carried each song from their seats, the latter behind a kick drum painted with the nickname “Cool Steve.”

The lively and energetic front-

men shook long, untamed manes over their frets as the crowd mirrored the enthusiasm tenfold.

The band of four, promoting their newly released *Sittin’ Heavy*, wowed the already-eager audience with a slew of fresh tracks. Under the shifting lights and billowing smoke, they put on a show to solidify their name in today’s rock and metal scenes.

movies

Film fest screens movies about paddling sports

“The films showcase a positive outlook about getting outside and enjoying nature.”

BRIAN ISAACS
OCEAN RIVER SPORTS

ORIANA SMY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Reel Paddling Film Festival, now in its 11th year, screens independent films about paddling sports. That’s right: the movies are all related to water, the environment, and paddling. This year, the main themes are kayaking and the most recent craze on the water: stand-up paddle boarding. This year also sees a change in venue, which organizers are happy about, as it means the potential for larger crowds.

“Typically we host the films at Ocean River Sports, but this year, with the Roxy Theatre as a venue, we’ll be able to accommodate a lot more people,” says Fred Pishalski, club meetings coordinator for South Island Sea Kayak Association (SISKA), who, along with Ocean River Sports, are involved in putting on the event.

The emphasis of the festival is to encourage audiences to explore rivers, oceans, and lakes, and to inspire viewers and paddlers to push physical, emotional, and geographical boundaries. There is a big



GARY MCGUFFIN/ONTARIO TOURISM

The Reel Paddling Film Fest will feature movies with lots of scenes like this, showcasing the beauty of nature and life behind the paddles.

focus on embracing the cultural and heritage aspects of the paddling environments.

“The films showcase a positive outlook about getting outside and enjoying nature,” says Ocean River Sports event organizer Brian Isaacs.

As the local event organizers, Ocean River and SISKA will choose eight films to be showcased for the screening. In previous years, some films focused on wilderness

conservation or safety on the water; this year it’s looking like things are going to be paddle-heavy.

“All films are nature-focused and have something to do with water, primarily ocean or river and paddle-oriented,” says Isaacs. “This year seems to have a very strong paddling focus.”

These adventure-filled films are inspiring and admired among the paddling community.

“It’s a great way to get paddlers

excited about the upcoming season on the water,” says Isaacs. “And it’s a great way to get out and see the world.”

SISKA is a non-profit organization that focuses on educating and informing paddlers about safety practices for all paddling levels.

“We provide an opportunity to share our passions with fellow paddlers,” says Pishalski.

All proceeds from the Reel Paddling Film Fest will go toward local

charities that focus on community programs that get paddlers out on the water.

“In the past it has gone toward associations and groups for paddlers with disabilities, and it stays within the community,” says Pishalski.

The Reel Paddling Film Fest
Wednesday, March 9
\$15, Roxy Theatre
reelpaddlingfilmfestival.com

review

Ice Bears and Islands inspires

ORIANA SMY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The presentation *Ice Bears and Islands* took place at the Roxy Theatre on Friday, February 19; the night described what started as a dream of adventure guide Jamie Sharp. The journey discussed was born in the summer of 2009, when he took a job as a kayak guide in Norway.

He heard about an archipelago made up of four islands situated along the 80th parallel, about half-way between Iceland and Norway, in the middle of the Arctic Ocean. When Jamie discovered that the journey had never been achieved before, he knew he had to do it. The question was, could he find a crew of characters willing to embark on the dangerous voyage?

The presentation took the viewer through the crew’s challenging trials, such as close encounters with walruses and polar bears, and the threat of glacial cliffs looming overhead for stretches as long as 160 kilometres at a time.

The stunningly harsh environment was nothing to take lightly. The edge-of-the-world adventure



PHOTO PROVIDED

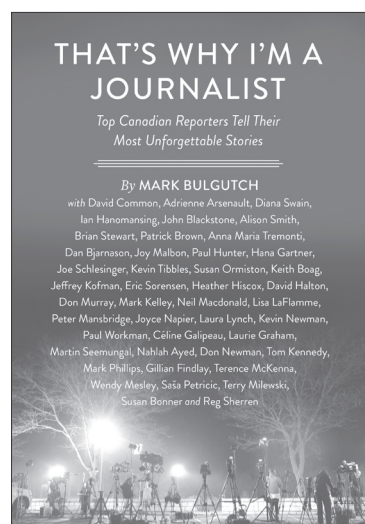
Adventure guide Jamie Sharp.

needed to be calculated with precaution. This was extreme territory—if something went wrong up there, it would go really wrong.

Sharp’s sense of adventure was contagious at this screening, and as the crowd of paddling enthusiasts gazed on in astonishment, I knew the wheels were turning and paddling expeditions were transpiring within each one of them.

review

New book stresses importance of journalism



GREG PRATT
MANAGING EDITOR

That’s Why I’m a Journalist is a collection of first-hand accounts from Canadian reporters talking about some of their most memorable experiences; the result is a—mainly—compelling and fascinating read.

The stories all focus on events that made the journalists in question have moments where they realized that their job matters. Maybe I’m a bit biased, as it’s my job too, but I agree with these people. Their job

does matter, and this book is a great look at why during a time when we need reminding the most. Given the overwhelming amount of “journalism” found online and the discouraging lack of journalism without snarky quotes placed around the descriptor, it’s vital to remember why real reporting matters. And those reminders are all over *That’s Why I’m a Journalist*.

Take, for example, this line from Kevin Tibbles’ account of an airplane crashing into the water next to a tiny Nova Scotia village: “On this day,” Tibbles remembers, “a fisherman told me he had found a child in the water and I found it almost unbearable.” No amount of celebrity gossip or one-sided opinion masquerading as news will hit the way memories like that do, and this book is full of them.

Now, I mentioned it was *mainly* a compelling and fascinating read; where the book falters is in its format. It simply introduces the journalist and then quotes them, oral-history style, for a few pages, then goes on to the next journalist. Unfortunately, while a book like this should be written excellently to

show the world that journalism still matters, what ends up happening with any oral history is that it comes across as sub-par writing (even the best journalists talk like the most relaxed town drunk sometimes). I would have loved to have seen Mark Bulgutch put this together as a narrative, intertwining his own words with those of the journalists.

Plus, this pains me to say, but a couple of the journalists don’t do us any favours as far as helping the public’s opinion of us goes; when one admits she casually refers to an interview where the subject cries as a good one, I almost shed tears myself, and they weren’t tears of joy.

Even though the format makes reading it sometimes difficult, the fact of the matter is this: journalism—real journalism—is a vital, important, and impactful job in any society, and Bulgutch has done an admirable job here in bringing that point to the public.

This book is a great reminder that journalism can create change and can impact lives in unexpected ways, for the interviewer, the interviewee, and those watching, reading, or listening to the story.

projects

Keegan Rice uses art as a tool to connect, assist



Victoria's Keegan Rice hard at work on one of his paintings.

PHOTO PROVIDED

“If art is going to be sold for anything it should be going to a positive cause. I mean, it’s nice to have art for enjoyment, but it’s always better when the money goes towards something that makes a difference.”

KEEGAN RICE
ARTIST

ALEXIS KOOME
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For local visual artist Keegan Rice, the act of creating is not just a personal pastime; it’s necessary. Few hobbies or interests have established a prominent place in his life, but art has been a constant endeavour.

“I’ve always been into art, but I started really drawing a lot when I was a kid and my parents’ TV broke,” says Rice. “I couldn’t watch cartoons, so I made my own cartoons—I started drawing stories.”

Rice, who was raised in Saskatchewan, says that creating visual art became a top priority during high school. Greatly influenced by continuously vivid dreams, he began using drawing and painting as a distraction from the unhealthy habits his peers were drawn to. Craving a more tangible and lasting release, Rice found solace in the creative process.

“It was the thing that saved me, finding I can express myself while also having a positive impact on the world,” he says. “Later on, I ended up starting an arts collective to try and help other people who’ve had that kind of experience.”

The Creative Avenue Collective (CAC) is in its seventh active year, continuing to gain momentum

throughout Saskatchewan. While Rice studies at the Victoria College of Art, the CAC team strives to carry inspiration and ingenuity to different Canadian communities and artistic festivals. Still proudly tied to his collective, Rice says Victoria was the obvious choice when settling in one spot for school.

“When travelling, I kept coming back to Victoria because it’s really welcoming and there are a ton of artists,” he says. “Plus, it’s still a city but it’s a good size; it’s not as intense as Vancouver. It’s quiet here; I can focus. But there’s always lots going on, so it’s hard to get bored.”

With an ever-growing collection of original works, Rice says he’s happiest when creating for a cause. Whether it be a live painting event or studio time with the intent to donate, he associates art as a tool not only to achieve connection on a grand scale, but also to reach out and assist in any way possible.

“If art is going to be sold for anything, it should be going to a positive cause,” he says. “I mean, it’s nice to have art for enjoyment, but it’s always better when the money goes toward something that makes a difference.”

This year, a local group called Art for Revolution, who use art as a means to attempt to achieve social

change, contacted Rice and asked if he wanted to be involved. Naturally, he agreed. Just remembering how it felt to start collaborating and exploring within a creative community was all it took. Helping a cause that resonated with him personally, six of the nearly two dozen paintings he offered were selected to be featured.

“I’m really, really happy to be involved,” he says. “This year, Art for Revolution is raising money for an art camp to take place on Unist’ot’en territory for indigenous youth. When I was younger, people supported me through youth programs, and one of the first art lessons I ever took was at a youth camp in Regina.”

Rice knows every dime collected will be contributing to something special.

“They’ll end up working on a mural at the camp, which is awesome. When you do that, especially for your first time, you feel like you’re bonded with these people and you’ve all had this creative achievement.”

Rice’s artwork will be on the walls of Cenote Restaurant and Lounge (768 Yates Street) until March 15, along with selected paintings by two other artists involved with Art for Revolution.

beer word search

Beer week is here; get in the spirit of one of Canada’s favourite pastimes by finding the words below!

As an added bonus, if you find all 20 of the words on the left in the word search and bring it in to the office, you’ll get a free prize for your hard work!

- ANNUAL
- AWESOME
- BARTENDING
- BEER
- BELGIAN
- BREWING
- CRAFT
- CULTURE
- HANGOVER
- HOPS
- PALATES
- PUB
- RESPONSIBILITY
- REVOLUTION
- SELECTION
- SOCIALIZE
- TICKETS
- VICTORIA
- WEEK
- WHEAT

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

NEXUS
camosun's student voice since 1990

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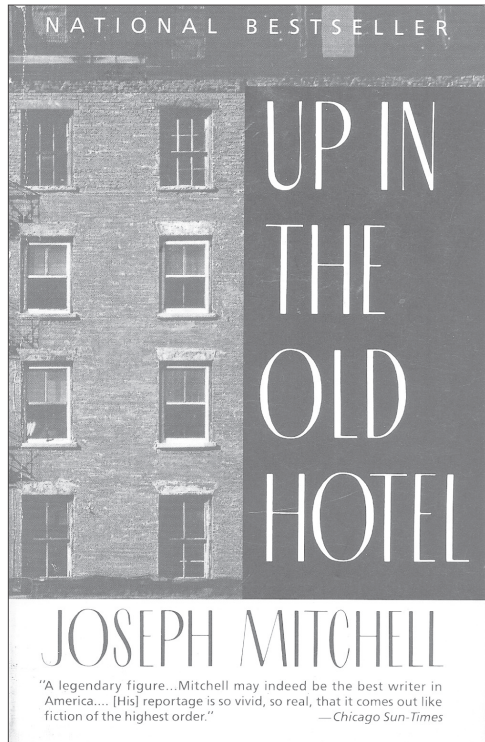
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Lit Matters

by Keagan Hawthorne

Joseph Mitchell's New York people



Although Joseph Mitchell showed up for work every day from 1964 to just before his death at age 87 in 1996, he didn't publish a single story in that time.

Joseph Mitchell was one of the greatest long-form magazine writers to ever work for *The New Yorker*, one of the greatest publishers of the genre.

Despite that, today he is almost as famous for what he ended up *not* writing: Mitchell suffered a 30-year writer's block at the end of his career, and although he showed up for work every day from 1964 to just before his death at age 87 in 1996, he didn't publish a single story in that time.

After joining *The New Yorker* staff in 1938, Mitchell quickly became known for his insightful, compassionate, and vivid portraits of hobos, fishmongers, gypsies, restaurateurs, shopkeepers, and barkeeps. The working class, the down and out, and especially the

eccentric: these were the heroes of Mitchell's reportage. His stories were often tinged with nostalgia for the better days before the increasingly bureaucratic world of post-war America. He wrote with sadness about restaurants, bars, and people who were forced to lose their essential characters in the process of modernization.

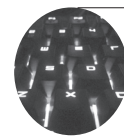
Mitchell became known for "an offhand perfection of style"—his stories flow so naturally the writing seems almost casual, and yet they are the result of a meticulous craftsmanship.

But his style as a journalist didn't come without controversy. Several of his "portraits" turned out to be conglomerates of many different people, and he never shied away from a generous creative

license when it came to developing characters through their dialogue. It's what makes his stories so compelling, what makes his portraits seem so vivid and real, but it would not stand up for a moment to today's strict journalistic standards.

Explanations for the long silence at the end of Mitchell's career range from the weight of success to depression. But I wonder if it didn't have something to do with Mitchell's own essential character, and a fear of what might be lost in the process of keeping up with the times.

Joseph Mitchell must-read:
Up in the Old Hotel, and Other Stories
(Public Library Oak Bay Branch: Paperback Fiction)



The Bi-weekly Gamer

by Adam Boyle

What is a sport? (part two)

Following up on last issue's topic, this article will continue examining what exactly can be considered a sport nowadays.

Anyone who watches professional *League of Legends (LoL)* will be well aware of a new team called Echo Fox. Originally known as Gravity, the team was bought by three-time NBA champion Rick Fox back in December. Fox sees e-sports as a huge investment; he has said that in a couple of years he expects it to be a \$2-billion industry. Fox also sees e-sports as a mirror to his own professional sport environment, with players, staff, and branding.

Gordon Hayward of the Utah Jazz is also a *LoL* player. Well known for openly calling out NBA stars on his blog and challenging LeBron James to a fight, Hayward has spoken a few times on how communication is important in both *LoL* and the NBA. He also states that people need to "be patient" and that

he sees e-sports' rise stifled by the older generation's view of gaming and the stereotype around it.

Last on the list, popular sports studio ESPN opened an e-sports branch just this past month.

ESPN was subject to controversy last year when they aired the finals of *Heroes of the Storm* on live TV. As a result, Twitter completely blew up with backlash about how ESPN shouldn't be showing "nerds" playing a video game. The best part for gamers was that all this squabble helped boost the viewership through the roof and showed the studio that gaming can be televised.

It will take a few years, but e-sports will become mainstream and also become one of the world's most watched sports. It may not be completely accepted now, but given the room and the chance to grow, people will accept it and, eventually, grow to love it.

contest

Find the hidden *Nexus* and win



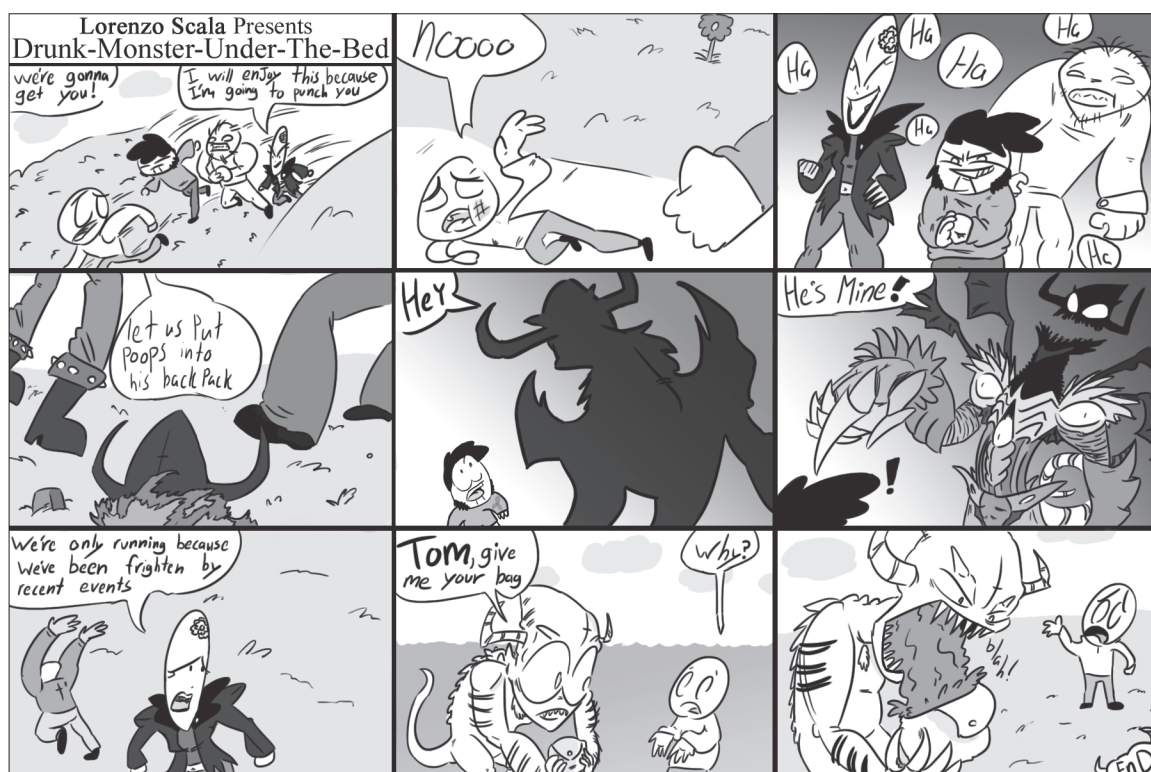
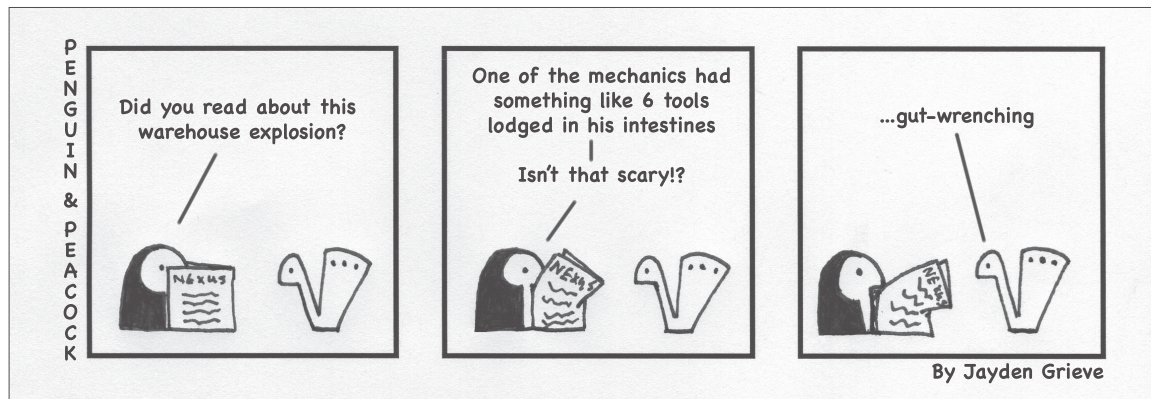
GREG PRATT/NEXUS

Who doesn't love a good scavenger hunt? Take your mind off your studies for a few minutes and see if you can find this copy of the last issue of *Nexus* that we hid at Camosun.

The first person to find this copy of the paper and bring it in to

our office (201 Richmond House, Lansdowne campus) wins themselves a free *Nexus* 25th anniversary T-shirt!

We'll give you one hint: this one is hidden somewhere on the Lansdowne campus (Interurban, we'll get to you soon). Happy hunting!



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what's going on

by pascale archibald

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Hell no we won't... wait, no more transfers?

Upset about BC Transit's decision-making process? Students often are, so let your voice be heard at this rally at 12 pm at the Legislature to let them know how you feel. This time around, the focus is on the bus pass for people with disabilities; search for "Raise the rates - leave our bus pass alone" on Facebook for more info.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Graphic Blandishments

March 2 is the last day for this exhibition of works in graphite by Ehren Salazar and GJ Pearson, being held at Dales Gallery and Framing Studio. For more info on this and other exhibits, check out dalesgallery.ca.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

AND SATURDAY, MARCH 5

One World

Pearson College is bringing One

World to the McPherson Playhouse for two nights. See 160 students from all over the world showcase their talents through an accumulation of dance, song, and international collaboration. Preview tickets are available for \$10; Saturday's tickets cost \$30. Show times are at 2 pm both days, with an additional show at 5 pm on Saturday. Visit rmts.bc.ca for more information on this and other events being held at the McPherson Playhouse and the Royal Theatre.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Spring signs

New blooms and budding new growth are out there waiting for you to stop and smell the flowers. Head out on a free guided hike this weekend at Mill Hill Regional Park in Langford and check out all spring has to offer. If you're interested in joining, head out to the information kiosk in the parking lot just off Atkins Avenue a little before 1 pm. The walk is expected to run from 1 until 2:30 pm. More information on this event and others like it can be found at crd.bc.ca.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Portugal brings to you...

...fado singer, guitarist, and composer Antonio Zambujo at Hermann's Jazz Club, located at 753 View Street. Head out for a night of bossanova, vocal jazz, folk music, and sounds from the region of Alentejo in the south of Portugal. The show starts at 7:30; tickets are \$27 in advance, or \$30 at the door. For more information, visit hermannsjazz.com.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8 AND

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Romeo and Juliet

This Shakespearean drama, being presented by Ballet Victoria, is driven by Prokofiev's score and original new music, as well as intensely physical choreography. Tickets start at \$30; see rmts.bc.ca for more.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11 UNTIL

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Liberal Party convention

The Liberal Party of Canada in Brit-

ish Columbia is hosting its 2016 BC Biennial and Policy Convention here in Victoria. If you're still awake at this point, then maybe you should register to attend. Visit events.liberal.ca to register.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Masked bandits!

Learn all about a day in the life of a raccoon on a free, all-ages guided walk out at Devonian Regional Park out in Metchosin. The walk is expected to run from 1 pm until 2:30 pm, and the meet-up location is in the parking lot just off William Head Road. For more information, visit crd.bc.ca.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Trackers training

Ever wonder about what animal left those tracks on the trail? Well, you can get an introduction to investigating the clues left behind by animals during this free CRD-hosted guided walk. Recommended for ages 8 and up, the walk will be around Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park in Saanich and is expected to run from 1 pm until 2:30 pm. If you're interested, meet just before 1 at the Nature Centre off the main parking lot. For more information, go to crd.bc.ca.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Trio from Toronto

Ontario's Pram Trio will be playing at Hermann's Jazz Club, to the delight of Victorians, on March 19. The show is at 7:30 pm; tickets are \$16 in advance and \$19 at the door. For more information about this show and others, check out hermannsjazz.com.

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Toronto's Pram Trio will be playing Hermann's on March 19.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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