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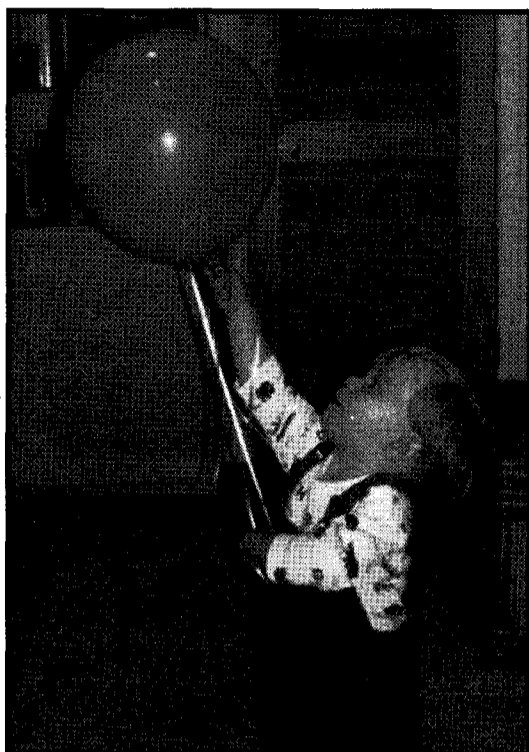
Not making sense to people who like nonsense since 1962



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A world of Good & Bad // Mastering the Art of Long Distance Relationships // Horoscopes

The Editorial Voice



back was that I was required to wear a uniform. Some may see this as beneficial as you wouldn't have to worry about spending a great deal of money on clothes. However this is untrue, popularity amounted to how great you looked in that uniform (trust me there were countless ways to be "cool" in a quilt, dress shirt, knee highs, and dress shoes).

Peer pressure, I have two words for you, back off!

It was not easy to

sure I was grounded for half of my teenage years, and I certainly did enough chores in an effort to reduce my long month of punishment.

Each year in high school also brought about a new year in self-discovery. One particular friend was so horrible that I dropped her and started on a new path. I was to find people I could relate to, people who had drive, ambition, courage and a genuinely good heart. So I joined the student council and prom committee. I felt involved and loved the responsibility each club evoked. I met great people, got to know the staff and teachers, and formed a wonderful bond with my principal, a strong and brilliant woman. Most of all I was making my mother proud. That meant more to me to see her smile when I told her of my achievements then to see her frown after coming back from one of those dreaded parent-teacher interviews. I was finding myself then, knowing that if I could make my mother smile like that for the rest of my life that I was on the right track.

I swear my friends screamed the birthday anthem when I turned the golden age of all ages, the drinking age! I was 19 and in my first year of university, life could not get any better. Milwaukee was where I was christened into the bar life (a year later this bar also graciously christened me towards my first punch to the face). Being legal allowed me to venture anywhere my teenage heart never could let me into, that is of course any place selling alcohol.

Then I hit the age of "20" and thought to myself, okay I am definitely not a teenager any longer. Does this mean I'm an adult? I was suddenly feeling

old, or older to say the least. I suddenly wanted to be that screaming teenager fervently wishing I were 20 years old. I no longer had an excuse to be a child as I'm pretty sure being twenty pointed steadily towards maturity. I joined the campus newspaper at this age, and found a passion in writing.

Then another September 26 rolled around and made me legal anywhere at the age of "21". Great, now I can go to the United States and party. However I am a starving student, how would I get myself down to the states with no money? Thanks 21, great number you are. So here I am, left with just one more year of an age that is truly celebrated.

It is interesting to note that when we are young we cannot wait to gain another year on our life resume. It is that one-year that will allow us to do so much more, to become responsible for so much more and to experience so much more. But as we age, and are forced to advance into a responsible, mature member of society the amount of candles on the cake seems to decrease in importance. I can't remember how many times I've celebrated my mothers 30th birthday (just joking Mom)!

Later on in life age seems less definitive of who we are and what we can do, but more of a reflection towards what we have done and who we have become. So the age factor no longer scares me. How is it that I am so willing to grow up you may ask? Well my mother is still smiling with pride, so I'm confident that I'm doing something right with my age.

-Ashley Beaulac
Editor-in-chief

Happy Birthday to you, happy birthday to you, this is the last one you'll ever count, happy birthday to you. I think I may be getting old. Today I turned 21, and (as it was pointed out to me by one of my friends) it is the very last of the truly celebrated birthdays.

Can everyone remember his or her own entrance into teenage hood? It was exciting, that age of 13. You instantaneously moved out of your "childhood" and deliriously stepped into the life of the cool and suave "teenager". I can even remember being so excited to be a teenager that at the age of 12 I called myself a "pre-teen". But what did the years of teenage hood actually hold for me? I would have to say endless stress and peer pressure, rebellion and self-discovery.

I choose Msgr. Paul Dwyer Catholic High School; confident it would send me away later in life to a great university. The only hold

be a teenager, an age with an aim devoted towards proving oneself to his/her peers. Should you accept that cigarette when you're offered, drink at that party or skip class only to end up hanging out at a donut shop all day? Should you join a club, steal your parents car, mouth off to that teacher or should you actually study? Remember going through all of these predicaments as a teenager? I do. Although I have never picked up a cigarette or tried drugs I did make some bad choices in friendships and I definitely struggled through math class.

Endless issues of trust, responsibility and just how "grown-up" I was never faded in my house as a teenager. "Why can't I stay out till midnight like the rest of my friends?" or "I am old enough to do that, trust me!" Typical responses included: "You are coming back at 10:30 pm or else your not going at all" and "I'll trust you when you have a roof over your head and pay your own bills." I'm pretty

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THE INSIDE SCOOP:

● Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday October 5th at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

● Pro Tem is always welcoming new writers to contribute towards various sections including: Opinions, Metropolis, Campus Coverage, Arts, World Issues & Politics

● Nominate a professor of your choice to be interviewed and published in Pro Tem. Next edition will have Professor Barry Olsen's interview. Send an email to us!

● Pro Tem would like to welcome:
1) Dan the cartoonist
2) Ely the advice columnist
3) All our new contributors
4) Josee Caza, our photographer

Divide your millions and be done with it

When hockey returns, what will it look like?

So the NHL lockout is here and professional hockey is put on hiatus as a bunch of millionaires argue over how to split the money we give them. We watch as they wage a public relations war through the media, desperately trying to get you to agree with their side so they can use your support as a bargaining chip. Each side cites a different cause and suggests a different solution, but the real problem is that all negotiations have been cut off, both owners and players being entirely unwilling to compromise their positions. Yet, talks will eventually begin and the question remains: will they address ALL the problems of hockey or just the financial? What will be some of the features of the new agreement? How much will change? Here are some ideas that may emerge from this labour dispute:

Increased profit sharing

This may best be done through some kind of luxury tax system, which would still allow teams to sign an expensive lineup, though it would come at a price. If the Leafs want to keep signing guys like Robert Reichel for \$3.5M a year they could, but they would be taxed based on their total payroll and a few million would go to the poorest team in the league, helping them stay competitive.

The Olympics

In exchange for easing their position on the luxury tax, players should be given the unconditional right to represent their countries in the Olympics. The NHL needs to realize that the excitement of having the world's best players compete in international competition is actually GOOD for the game of hockey...thereby making the NHL more profitable. Which seems to be all that is really

cared about at the moment.

Rule changes

Things would be a little more exciting and offensive if the game was opened up. The removal of the red line would allow for longer passes making it difficult to play the trap. Other rules would protect players physically, such as no-touch icing and minor penalties for contact to the head. Regardless of the economic outcome of this hockey stoppage, hockey could have a very different form when it returns...it'll be interesting to see where they take it.

Make the ice bigger

Why not? Seriously. If we're talking about opening it up why not expand to international sized rinks? Many star players have said that they prefer the larger surface, and it's not just the Europeans talking. I now find the open ice preferable,

though it could be because of all the gold medals Canada keeps winning on it. While this change not likely to come just yet, the NHL should be considering it as a way to improve the game.

Better teams or better places?

Teams like Nashville, Atlanta, Carolina and Florida still haven't managed to create a solid fan base in their cities. Hockey just doesn't sell well to people who rarely see snow and care more about college football and NASCAR than the NHL. Maybe some of these teams should be thinking about moving to markets where hockey is already popular. I'm

pretty sure Winnipeg would love to have the Jets back and there's probably a couple other places that could make a solid bid...given the right economic system comes out of this mess.

-Noah Brotman



Re-taking failed courses

Grades, whether you like or not are a critical, in any student's university career. Inevitably they often determine the path we take, whether it is admission into grad school, or simply completing our four years. Grades are factored into our futures, and academic standards have become a benchmark, representing a university's credibility. Recently in an effort to reaffirm academic standards York University has taken action with a new senate policy initiative.

As of May 23, 1998 York's senate unanimously passed legislation stating the following: "Students are allowed to repeat a passed or failed course once for an academic degree or certificate credit." Six years later this policy has come into effect for all undergraduate York students, with the exception of the Bachelor of Education Program.

We can only repeat a course once, and we also do not get

priority in enrolment.

This is genuinely a fair policy, and represents the university's mission to achieve higher standards in learning. As students we are privileged and paying to be here, and our grades determine our intellectual capacities in accordance to university standards. The university may well have a great sense of community among the faculty and students. But it is a competitive atmosphere, which is fostered and encouraged by York University. Sure the university wants all of us to succeed at whatever we may choose to do, but the reality is the university must maintain a standard of academic integrity. Allowing floundering students to stay at the university is a detriment to the student and the reputation of the university.

If higher standards were not met York University would not be comparable to other Canadian Universities.

Degrees from York University could possibly be perceived as "dumb down" if our academic criteria became more relaxed. Prospective employers or other universities might see a York University degree as somewhat questionable if our academic standards were lower. Thus, this new policy initiative is in our best interest, because it defends the status of York University and assures us of competitive degree.

-Jena Weber

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Mastering the art of a long distance relationship

THEATRE GLENDON

So you spent every minute you had between the juggling of both your full-time summer jobs with each other, and now the crisis creeps in. The school year is about to start and your moving back to the big city, quick to leave your sweetheart behind.

You kiss and hug and kiss and hug some more. Words fly around the room proclaiming your endless affection for one another, then the pushed promises take flight. "Don't worry we'll still see each other all the time, nothing will change" and "I'll make every effort to call, email and see you!" Please! Did you actually think it was going to be that easy? Don't be so naïve.

So you're sitting alone in your residence room thinking to yourself if this relationship is even worth it. Exactly how much of an effort is your sweetheart going to make, will you be missing out on anything by being "tied down" or will the stress of not seeing each other eat away at your great relationship? This is the time to seriously re-evaluate the relationship you have with your significant other.

A long distance relationship should be hung up on and the line cut off when the relationship isn't that serious in the first place. Your going to encounter enough stress as it is with school, a place of employment and other life instances. It's also a time to go out and experience what your new surroundings have to offer; nobody should selfishly hold another away from that.

Other scenario's of failed long distance relationships appear when there is no effort from one or both partners to make the relationship work, perhaps then its time to call it quits. If he/she is not willing to make it work then the relationship was not that serious to begin with and there is no point

stressing yourself out over it. Lastly if there is no trust, the relationship cannot be solid in the first place. Your going to be without one another more then you are with one another, can you remain calm when he/she is no where to be found on a Friday night?

A long distance relationship that should by all means be kept (provided you get yourself a good phone plan) is one where the relationship is serious (i.e.: your both in love), you both make an equal effort to keep your communication levels up to par and you truly trust one another.

So of course it's going to be hard (for all those couples still with me), at least in the beginning. Each partner needs time to adjust to the changes that are taking place within the relationship, and depending on the individual the adjustment period varies. When the relationship is truly worth it then each partner will be patient, kind and understanding in this situation. However being "patient, kind and understanding" doesn't always happen and one of those characteristics may get abused. This is when "stuff" tends to hit the fan.

So when alas you are feeling at your wits end, know that there is still hope. When there are huge gaps between the times you do see one another there is a better way to cope then by moping around. Immerse yourself in your academics, join a club, work out at the gym, have a night out with friends, record your feelings in a journal, watch a movie, breathe, relax, the world will not end here. Making the best of a somewhat crummy situation will in turn make both you and your sweetheart less stressed. Soon enough your both going to become extremely busy whether it's with a huge course workload or his full time crazy shifts at work. In a perfect world

no such things would ever interfere with the kiss and hug relationship you're used to, but this is not a perfect world.

Let it be known that there are tricks to the trade of a long distance relationship:

1) A good phone plan: Visit www.callzone.ca for a flat rate fee of \$23, then you can, if the area qualifies, call your sweetheart as much as you want, whenever you want, for a full year!

2) A web cam: Sometimes it's not easy not being able to visibly see each other so get yourself a web cam, they're getting cheaper by the minute.

3) Surprise Visits: Always a winner.

You need an education; he needs to work sporadic shifts to cover his educational debts and you my friend need to deal with it. Relish the time that you both can afford together and take hold of the time you don't have by investing your efforts into something important, like school. If both partners understand that this is a temporary roadblock on the path of life, the relationship will be forever strengthened and the stressors of being apart will begin to minimize. So get yourself a good long distance phone plan, a web cam, hone your writing skills, and pull it together. If you've found such love in your life like I have you won't let the miles between you hurt the wonderful relationship you've both worked hard to have.

-Ashley Beaulac

One Butterfly

A unique look at the salem witch trials

Theatre Glendon, in conjunction with the Drama Studies Program of Glendon College, is presenting "One Butterfly" to the student population. This production strives to be an innovative, multi-media exploration of freedom, repression, and surveillance that uses the notorious Salem witch trials as its basis.

"One Butterfly" is the first in a series of two 'Return Engagements' in which graduates of Glendon's Drama Studies program return to the college to showcase new plays that they currently have in development. The second production in the series, 'Goodnight Ladies,' is an unusual comic play that integrates clown techniques with texts from William Shakespeare. This production will run for two nights in early October in conjunction with a workshop called "Clune". "Clune" is an approach to performance that draws heavily on the ideas and techniques of Jacques LeCoq, a renowned French actor and teacher whose school in Paris has become an international center for actor training. "Goodnight Ladies" has already been presented in various Toronto venues. It was conceived, directed and performed by Stephanie Lawlor; a Glendon alumni from the mid-1990s.

Melissa Major, a graduate of Glendon's Drama Studies Program, composed "One Butterfly". Her play 'Art is a Cupboard,' won the prestigious President's Award for best play written by a York student last

year. 'One Butterfly' began as a 30-minute presentation in Theatre Glendon's 'Fridge Festival' last April where it was a sold-out hit.

For its new, full-length incarnation, the playwright has completely reconceived the show. The show uses the expertise of director, Alexander 'Sasha' Lukac, a theatre professor at Glendon, a company of 8 actors, and Duncan Appleton, the Technical Coordinator of Theatre Glendon. Appleton has designed the sophisticated tele-visual environment that the script demands.

Even though it has already pre-viewed, the production is still running from Wednesday September 29 till Saturday October 2nd. The show starts at 8pm and the tickets are \$12, but students pay a mere \$6. So go out and show your support for Theatre Glendon and all the wonderful creators of "One Butterfly".

-Ashley Beaulac

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pro tem: The radio show

Pro tem now has a radio show that will run weekly on 89.9 CKRG Radio Glendon. The show runs from 2-3pm on Mondays. Zac and Marya, editors at Pro tem, will be hosting and playing their favorite tunes while informing on hard-hitting news that

impacts the campus. Since hard-hitting news is in short supply, it will probably mostly be music! That's no reason to be a hater, so support Pro tem and CKRG by tuning in!

-Zachary Fillingham

The United Nations club

The United Nations club will be meeting at 6:15pm on Tuesdays at the Senate Chamber. Everyone with an interest in diplomacy or the United Nations is welcome. The purpose of the club is to discuss issues that are pertinent to the global agenda, such as: Refugees, the environment, terrorism, and AIDS. Members are divided

up into national delegations to debate and discuss issues within the context of the United Nations General Assembly. Due to a shortage of funds, a fee is required to join the club this year, but anyone can easily drop in on a meeting and check it out. Hope to see you there!

-Zachary Fillingham

Parking service changes

As many of you may have noticed, an effort has been made to improve the parking services at Glendon. During the month of September the parking services have predicted that things will be a little difficult until commuters and guests become more accustomed to this new system. Drivers can help traffic run more smoothly by following these easy steps.

Those who have access cards will be able to enter the campus by the main entrance. We ask that they please keep to the right upon entering. They will be able to exit the campus by either the main entrance or Lower Lot F.

Those who pay daily are charged by the half hour and are required to pay upon exit of the campus. The kiosk attendant will scan your ticket and charge the appropriate amount. Those who arrive after 3:30 pm will be asked to pay a flat fee upon arrival and will be able to leave after their ticket has been validated. Daily Pay customers will be able to

enter Lot F through the main entrance only. Upon arrival, they will receive a ticket from the ticket dispenser and will have to proceed directly to the terminal at the top of the hill. They will then have to insert the ticket into the terminal to be able to go to the lower lot. There is a 5 minute time period between the time you received the ticket to the time you insert it into the terminal. Once this time has elapsed the system will not allow the ticket-holder into the lower lot.

Delivery drivers will have to report to the kiosk attendant before proceeding to the Lower Lot F or to Proctor Field House. Short-term deliveries will have a 15 minute grace period before being charged by the half hour.

All in all, parking services hope that this will improve the parking experience at Glendon and better serve students, faculty and guests.

-Ashley Jestin



The diary of a Glendon exchange student

Jozina Vander Klok is a Glendon Student who is studying in France for her third year. She will be writing a regular column in Pro Tem in hopes of promoting the exchange program York University has to offer.

Putting it simply, going on an exchange will change your life. You will meet so many people from all over the world. Those are just a few of the motives for me to study abroad for my third year at Universite de Savoie, in Chambéry, France, and now I am actually experiencing these sentiments!

The first weekend in France was spent sleeping off jetlag, exploring the city, meeting people, eating baguettes, unpacking and getting organized in my new home for a year. An orientation course started early Monday morning September 6th, with a language course every morning and conferences in the afternoon.

My days passed practicing my comprehension orale and then learning about the Office de Tourisme or the Conseil General de France, and of course meeting new friends over une verre at an outside café or terrace! One day was spent in Annecy, 45 minutes north of Chambéry, tasting four different wines at a vineyard, and trying different cheeses at a fromagerie. To date, I have met students from South Korea, Germany, Italy, Latvia, England, Wales, Scotland, Poland, Holland, Estonia, United States, Spain and Mexico. In the European Union, all exchange students are called ERASMUS, which is the programme of university exchanges. I am with the programme Ontario/Rhone-

Alpes (ORA) through York International at the Keele campus. Fun stuff!

The real beginning was when I had decided to go on an exchange. I attended an information session in November, filling out application forms, writing an essay, finding out where to study, what courses I wanted to take. From there, I had an interview, and also a language assessment test. After being accepted to be a candidate for an exchange programme, the agonizing wait on the acceptance from my host university started.

Orientation on how to be prepared for your trip abroad is next, and then the crazy amount of paperwork commences. Long form birth certificate, student VISA, passport, guarantee of health insurance, plane ticket and justification of resources from your bank are just a few of the things that I had to take care of. Most of this needed to be en francais. I made sure to photocopy everything and to not forget the originals! Then I had to pack for a year. What clothes to bring, what photos, what books, do I really need this necklace? Every pound counts! I then realized that during this whole rush of events I had to do the most important of all, the goodbyes!

So what should YOU do if you are interested in going on an exchange? Attend an information meeting at Glendon, even in your first year. They are usually held

in November, watch out for the signs. Once you have decided where you would like to study, start researching the different universities you can attend. Even if you really want to go on an exchange to a university that is not affiliated with York U, you still can go there, but all the paperwork is up to you. I really recommend going with a programme that already is established with York University, then you also have a support line in case anything goes wrong. I wish you all the best in the busy season of September...A la prochaine!

-Jozina Vander Klok

The secret behind secret shopping



University is a wonderful time of growth and expansion of the mind. It challenges students academically and personally, and is a great impact on their life. University though, for many students, is also a time of great financial burden, and brings to mind many movies, television shows and even commercials that play upon the image of the “poor student”, trying to scrounge up enough money for food. Students become quite astute, though, in finding ways to “perk up” their restrictive budgets, taking advantage of free samples in grocery stores, and invitations to dinner whenever possible, not to mention many other countless devices.

In fact, everyone enjoys getting things for free; it evokes a sense of importance and privilege. Aside from key chains, fridge magnets and other small trinkets however, there are not many “freebies” in our society, largely run, as it is, on commissions and mark-ups of the retail world.

There are ways to use this customer-focused industry though, to one’s advantage. The stores and restaurants, after all, are aimed at pleasing and attracting customers in order to continue and increase profit. It then follows that they need to have some mechanism in order to judge how their customers and the population as a whole view them. Enter the Secret Shopper!

Across North America, thousands of people are using their spare time going to movies, getting oil changes, eating at restaurants and traveling by train, all for free!

These people are known as “secret” or “mystery” shoppers. Secret Shoppers are hired by market research firms to go shopping and evaluate everything from the service they receive, to the cleanliness of the restroom facilities.

“Mystery shopping is the process of assessing the performance of each company’s main service providers from the point of view of the average customer,” stated CV Market Research. “The purpose...is to help businesses increase sales and improve employee customer service awareness”. This type of research is exceedingly helpful for customer-oriented businesses.

Research done by CV Market Research, a Canadian company based out of British Columbia, shows that “for every customer who complains to you, there are 26 customers who do not complain. Of this number 75% will express their dissatisfaction by never buying from you again...dissatisfied customers will [then] tell ten to twenty people [about their poor experience], [while] satisfied customers will tell only three to seven people”. This means the company will lose most of its business without even knowing it.

Market research firms have found a way to combat this problem. Forget about the comment cards, they’re hiring spies instead! Mystery shoppers sign up for as few or as many assignments as they like, and then complete the shops at the time and date specified. The shopper is paid by the research firm to act like an ordinary customer out

shopping. No one knows they are really looking for burnt out light bulbs, timing how long it takes for their meal to arrive, or making note of any smudges on the window.

“The idea,” said one mystery shopper “is that customer service representatives have to treat every customer well because any one of them could be a secret shopper. Generally, the employees [waiters, cashiers etc.] are working part-time and aren’t out to make a career of what they’re doing. They won’t necessarily give customers the best service unless there is a strong deterrent not to give them bad service.”

Later, after they’ve finished their assignment, the mystery shopper fills out a questionnaire and sends it back to the research firm. After all the questionnaires have been completed, analysts look at the data from all the shoppers and create a report for their client. When the company finally receives the report from the research firm, they are able to make improvements to their customer service in order to better serve their clientele.

While doing a restaurant assignment, the mystery shopper is supposed to time how long it takes for their meal to be brought to them after they’ve ordered. In this case, the questionnaire tells the shopper that they must act like they’re in a rush and communicate this to their server. On one such shop, a secret shopper waited over forty minutes until their meal arrived, knowing that their assignment called for the whole meal to be completed in less than fifty minutes. “These kinds of slip ups aren’t very common, and you feel bad having to report who your server was since it was likely a mix up in the kitchen and not on the floor.”

“Generally restaurants score quite well,” stated an experienced mystery shopper, “in all my assignments, I’ve never seen the chef leave the restroom without washing his hands, or gotten a foreign object in my food. None of that

stuff you see on TV happens, but the restaurants never score perfectly either, you need to be on the lookout for the small things, which is usually where they lose points.”

The advantage for the company is knowing the quality of service of their establishments and of the customer experience. The advantage for the secret shopper is quite obviously all the free meals, services and products that come as a part of the job. The mystery shopper initially makes an out-of-pocket purchase, and is later reimbursed for their expense. This means that they do not earn any “income”; an ideal situation for students on OSAP, as it will not affect their loan amount.

Mystery shopping is certainly a unique way to get freebies,

“since I began secret shopping, I’ve eaten out more than I ever have in my life,” commented one shopper “it helps to pay for things I need anyway, like oil changes, food and clothes.”

There are only about 200 mystery shoppers in Canada, a very small number for a country with a population of 30 million! And yet every large franchise needs mystery shoppers. They are the front lines, ensuring that the customer comes first every time and that they are always considered “right”. Hidden beneath the mask of ordinary consumerism, these everyday people are mystery shoppers, and, they’re out there.

-Virginia Torrie

Summer of slush An intern’s story

It was in April that I began my internship at Key Porter, a few days after my last exam of the year. During the days off I had before beginning, I had some time to breathe and seriously consider the possibilities of what lay before me in the summer. I knew that internships were hard to get and I knew that I was extremely lucky. It was highly possible that I had just stepped a foot in through the door of my future career. This idea excited and relieved me. Yes, I thought, I want to be an editor. After all of the countless hours I have spent pondering what I will BE, at long last, I have thought of the most wonderful career for me. Yes, an editor is what I will be. Well, maybe.

As I walked from Union Station to Key Porter on my first day, I gazed up at the tall buildings and smiled at the beggar outside of the Hummingbird Center. “Yes I can spare a dollar, here you go”. These sights of Toronto were not new to me; I have lived in this city all of my life.

Yet they looked different, and made me feel unlike they had before. The traffic with its screeching and honking did not make me nervous and the slow walkers I had to dart around received smiles from me. I was happy about my prospects of that day. I was going to ‘work’ at a publishing company and it was going to be interesting. I had decided not to consume myself with whether or not this would lead to my future career, but rather, view it as an incredible learning experience that I would benefit from, whatever the outcome.

That positive feeling did not leave me throughout that whole first day. I met, and tried desperately to remember the names of, the personable staff. Key Porter is a small company, but it still maintains a sense of having to do a big important job. Anyone who is around will sign for a delivery and send the courier away with a warm smile, ut that delivery will be dealt with immediately—deadlines never cease. There is a swirl

of ideas and fast thinking brightness that creates a breeze at Key Porter. It is refreshing.

EventhoughIwasfilingarticles and filling out delivery forms I was proud, and besides, I knew that there would be more. And there was. "The Slush Pile". I would have to say that seventy-nine percent of my time at Key Porter was spent sloshing through the slush pile (unsolicited manuscripts). When the job was put forward to me, I thought, "what fun! How interesting!" But I was rather suspicious too after all why would they entrust me with this important job when I have only been here one day? Well, I soon discovered the desperate pawn-off it must have been to give me that job.

Unsolicited manuscripts about 'how to befriend bunnies' for adults, 'the trials and

tribulations of a goat named Bob', 'how to make candles', 'how to make chocolate chip cookies', 500-page memoirs of ordinary, unknown people. And how curious I always was when the sample sent in was without a chapter one; the writer deciding it best to start me off at chapter two— did the writer herself not like chapter one? Occasionally, though, I would come across a manuscript that Key Porter would like (the specifics of what they were looking for were explained to me extensively), and I would put it into the short pile, hopeful that I had found a gem. The slush pile really was not that bad though. I began to regard it as a comfort, like Kraft dinner. The supply never diminishes, someone always replenishing it, and once you have come to accept its limits, it is rather enjoyable.

There were other duties that were gradually passed my way, once I had proven that I could indeed spell, form a relatively intelligent sentence and read every word more than once. Yes, most of it was the grunt work. For example, I had to thoroughly read through a 600-page book for the purpose of finding a man's name. In the end, I found the name twice. But meticulous is part of my nature, so I really did not mind the task, nor did I mind proofreading or typing out changes to manuscripts already proofread. A keen eye is intrinsic in publishing, and I felt that my somewhat-keen eye was getting a beneficial workout.

I suppose there was still a skip in my step as I would make my way to Key Porter from Union Station. I was still learning new things, and maintained the pride when

telling an asker what I was doing for the summer, but here is the truth: that skip in my step was done consciously. About two months into my term I discovered that the book-publishing world does not hold a career for me. I still wanted to be excited about my summer position. I still wanted to be happy about interning, but the industry is struggling, particularly in Canada. It is a rather sad situation, and I believe that many people feel quite helpless about it.

Before I end my article, I would like to stress the importance of interning. If you are able to acquire an internship, then seize it. You will learn a lot about yourself, interesting information, transferable skills and, here is the big one, whether or not that particular career path is for you. It is true that I struggled financially for those few months, and when

I passed that same beggar near the end of my internship and he again asked me to spare some change, I laughed and exclaimed, I don't have any money! I'm an intern! And even though I was near broke, and my hopes of the final-discovery of my future career were shattered, I still managed to take much away from my experience: kind contacts to possibly pursue and a narrower scope to seek out what I want to BE.

-Christina Palka

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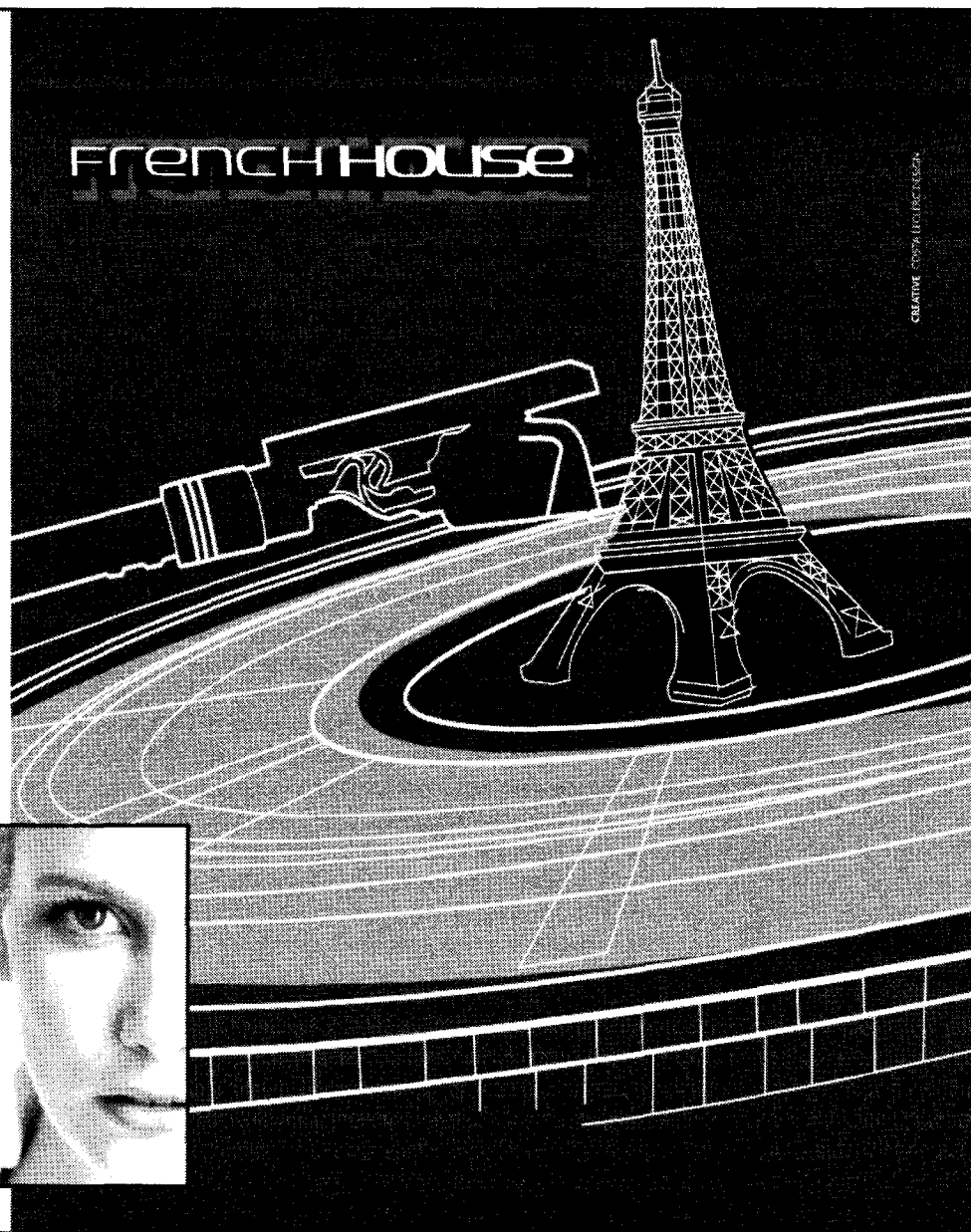
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"C'est comme si je n'avais pas encore atterri!"



Ils sont arrivés à la fin du mois d'août dernier au Collège de Glendon en provenance de l'étranger : France, Allemagne, Espagne, Japon, Mexique, République Dominicaine, Cap Vert, Île Maurice, Turquie...pour bénéficier d'une journée d'intégration à la vie du Collège. Qui sont-ils ? Oui, vous avez deviné, ce sont les étudiants internationaux. Aujourd'hui, ils commencent à faire leur nid sur le campus de Glendon et prennent de nouvelles habitudes.

Ces étudiants fraîchement débarqués doivent s'organiser en se fixant chaque jour des objectifs. Vous allez me dire que pour chacun de nous, étudiant ou pas, chaque jour est un nouveau défi ? En tout état de cause, pour les étudiants internationaux, la situation est particulière puisqu'ils ont perdu tous leurs repères habituels. Dressons ensemble leur portrait :

Des profils différents

Ils sont âgés de dix-huit à vingt cinq ans et présentent donc des parcours scolaires très différents. Certains commencent leurs études supérieures au Collège Glendon et souhaitent obtenir le diplôme canadien, tandis que d'autres y effectuent leur dernière année d'étude et profitent d'une convention d'échange entre établissements supérieurs. Ceux-là obtiendront le diplôme de leur pays d'origine à la fin de l'année scolaire. Cette année, ils proviennent en majorité de pays européens. La nationalité

française et la nationalité québécoise sont les plus représentées, liens historiques et géographiques obligent !

Des aspirations communes

Bien que leur profil soit très différent, ils partagent les mêmes aspirations. En venant à Glendon, ils espèrent une sorte de reconnaissance pour cette année passée à l'étranger, vécue pour certains comme un sacrifice et pour d'autres, comme une réelle opportunité de vivre de nouvelles expériences. Tous ont en commun un objectif : celui d'améliorer leur anglais qui est souvent leur deuxième ou troisième langue, après le français, l'espagnol, le catalan, le portugais, l'allemand, le japonais ou autre ! S'asseoir à leur table à la cafétéria est un pur moment de plaisir : on y entend parler plusieurs langues à la fois et on se sent tout à coup comme le témoin privilégié de la réalité de la « diversité culturelle » ! Ils ont choisi Glendon car ce collège propose des cours qu'ils n'ont pas la possibilité de suivre ailleurs. Le programme d'Etudes Internationales, en particulier, remporte beaucoup de suffrages. D'un point de vue professionnel, cette expérience est souvent très appréciée des employeurs. Enfin, ils souhaitent lier des amitiés sincères avec les étudiants canadiens. Un étudiant s'est ainsi exprimé, après la Frosh week : « je suis vraiment content ici, je me suis déjà fait beaucoup d'amis canadiens, je fais la fête avec eux, et j'essaie de profiter au

mieux de la chance que j'ai d'avoir été sélectionné. Je me sens vraiment très bien intégré ».

Des difficultés d'adaptation pour certains

Or, pouvoir s'intégrer si rapidement n'est pas donné à tout le monde. L'intégration peut-être plus ou moins difficile selon les cas. La vie quotidienne à Glendon est très différente de ce qu'ils ont connu jusqu'alors ! « C'est comme si je n'avais pas encore atterri ! » m'a dit une étudiante avant le début des cours. L'anxiété ou l'excitation du voyage s'est éteinte et la frénésie des premiers jours est retombée. Le moment est venu de se fixer des objectifs et de se prendre en main pour organiser sa nouvelle vie. Au départ, tous les petits inconvénients ou imprévus de la vie sont vécus plus difficilement qu'à l'accoutumée. Comme cet étudiant qui, en pleine nuit, cherchait fébrilement ses clés sur le campus ! Heureusement, il y a toujours quelqu'un sur le campus pour vous aider. Parfois, il arrive que certains d'entre eux éprouvent une certaine nostalgie « j'ai le cafard », avouent-ils, en pensant aux amis qu'ils retrouvent d'habitude à la plage ou au café du coin. Et puis, ils se trouvent des passe-temps : aller au club de sport, jouer au foot sur la pelouse du campus, organiser une soirée vidéo dans la salle commune des résidences, ou bien organiser des repas « internationaux » comme par exemple manger un plat japonais avec du vin français et terminer par de la glace au chocolat canadienne... hum...un délice, si, si, je vous assure !

Le sentiment de frustration peut venir de la barrière de la langue et de la différence de système éducatif. Le jour de la rentrée, une étudiante m'a confié : « je suis totalement terrorisée à l'idée de faire un exposé en anglais, j'ai un accent ridicule, je n'y arriverai jamais ; en plus, cela compte pour ma note finale ! ». Une autre m'a expliqué

qu'elle se sentait mise à l'écart par ses camarades de classe qui ne prenaient pas le temps de l'écouter. Les remarques concernant les méthodes d'apprentissage sont différentes selon les étudiants interrogés : certains pensent que les devoirs à la maison sont trop importants et préfèrent être plus libres dans l'organisation de leur travail mais sont satisfaits du contenu des cours, d'autres viennent tout juste de repérer des cours dont le niveau est adapté à leur profil car ils trouvaient les cours trop faciles. Chacun s'adapte donc petit à petit au système éducatif canadien. La motivation est bien présente. J'ai même entendu dire : « j'étudie six heures par jour, je vais prendre de l'avance dans les devoirs, car je veux obtenir une excellente note à la fin de l'année pour pouvoir continuer à étudier au Canada l'année prochaine ». Pour ceux qui bénéficient d'une bourse d'étude, les bons résultats sont nécessaires. Par contre, un autre étudiant m'a dit qu'il travaillait le soir après les cours avec une camarade canadienne car il avait des difficultés à comprendre le travail demandé par le professeur.

En général, les étudiants internationaux se sentent aussi défavorisés sur le plan économique puisque le niveau de vie leur semble élevé par rapport à leur pays d'origine. Certains se plaignent du coût de la nourriture ou de celui des activités culturelles telles que le cinéma, le théâtre ou même du prix des livres. Les boursiers doivent apprendre à gérer leur budget mensuel. Les autres doivent trouver des petits boulots pour arrondir les fins de mois. Or, les étudiants internationaux ne sont autorisés à travailler que

sur le campus et les postes sont limités. Une étudiante a obtenu un emploi au club de sport, mais la plupart d'entre eux cherche encore des postes de moniteur ou monitrice de français par exemple. Ce qui m'a le plus touché, c'est le fait que certains ne savent même pas quand ils reverront leurs parents parce qu'ils n'ont pas les moyens financiers d'envisager un aller et retour dans l'immédiat : « peut-être dans deux ans, trois ans...je ne sais pas ». D'autres, plus chanceux, ont de la famille à Toronto avec qui ils passent les week-end !

Finalement, ces étudiants ne sont pas si différents des autres. Ah si ! Ils ont des horaires de repas et une façon de cuisiner différents. Une étudiante m'a fait remarquer que le plus difficile pour elle était de s'habituer à la nourriture de la cafétéria et aux horaires des repas. Mais, à part ses petits détails, ils veulent tous participer à la vie du Collège Glendon et réussir leur année d'étude.

Étant moi-même étudiante internationale, je ne peux que vous encourager à aller à la rencontre de l'autre. Après tout, ne partageons-nous pas tous les mêmes aspirations ? Les échanges sont toujours enrichissants ; Voltaire, en son temps, l'avait bien compris et nous y invitait déjà.

-Geraldine Marie



new friends, new perspectives

Tuition hikes will keep international students at home

MONTREAL (CUP) – After graduating from high school in 2000, I moved from a small town south of Boston, Massachusetts, to Montreal, in order to attend Concordia University. I am fortunate enough to come from a middle-class family, and my parents could afford to pay for my university education. They were tickled pink to see how much cheaper it was to send me to Canada for school – especially since my second choice was Northeastern University, where tuition would have cost over \$23,000 a year.

This meant I wouldn't have to take out loans and be burdened with debt after I graduated. But not all international students are as fortunate. Many students struggle to pay the extra costs it takes to come to Montreal for school. While I save money by coming here, many students are from countries where university is free or very economical. Quebec universities are not exactly encouraging international enrolment by jacking up the prices just for us.

NOT JUST TUITION

Even without the higher tuition fees, international students already face a number of financial obstacles. It costs \$100 to apply for a Certificat d'acceptance du Quebec, a required document any student must obtain before applying for a student visa. One would then pay another \$125 to apply to the Canadian government for a visa. Of course, it costs another \$125 for each spouse or child that will be accompanying the student.

All these fees are non-refundable, and Citizenship and Immigration Canada reserves the right to refuse the application if any documents or information are missing. A person could be out the application fee just because they forgot to include a passport style photo. To add to their financial woes, international students are generally ineligible to work in Canada. And I can tell you from experience: on-campus jobs – the only ones we're allowed to have – are hard to come by.

Financial aid and bursaries are another method of cutting costs, but with all the paperwork international students have to fill out, it is hard to find the time and energy to apply. It takes time before these cheques are issued. International students need money up front to pay for rent and groceries and their already significantly higher tuition.

International students are required to pay \$480 per year for a health insurance plan even if they already have health insurance. And don't get me started on the ridiculously long wait every year just to get your new health card for this mandatory policy!

HOUSING WOES

In addition to all the financial and bureaucratic headaches of moving to Quebec, international students also face the added stress of leaving home and coming to a new place. When I was applying to Concordia, the pamphlets I received claimed that arriving

two weeks in advance would be enough to find an apartment and get settled before starting class. But anyone who has lived in Montreal for two weeks knows it takes longer than that to find an apartment. And we are given no priority over other students for rooms in the miniscule residence.

Many factors already discourage students from coming to Quebec to study, even without charging them an arm and a leg for tuition.

If tuition for international students is deregulated, it could end up costing someone like me the same as it would at a university back home -- plus I wouldn't need a visa, CAQ or separate health plan, and I could get a part time job.

If international students get too discouraged, we may start choosing to stay at home or go elsewhere in Canada. And, there is more to lose than the extra money we bring in. I don't know how much diversity an Irish Catholic Bostonian adds to the Concordia campus, but what about the students that come from Bangladesh, Lebanon, Russia, Ghana and other countries and cultures? These students bring with

them their languages, ideas and lifestyles. If international fees go through the roof, Concordia could suffer from a more homogenous and less diverse campus in return. Quebec, and especially Montreal, is an amazing place to go to university and has a lot of new and exciting experiences to offer international students. Overwhelming debt should not be one of them.

-Janet Forest

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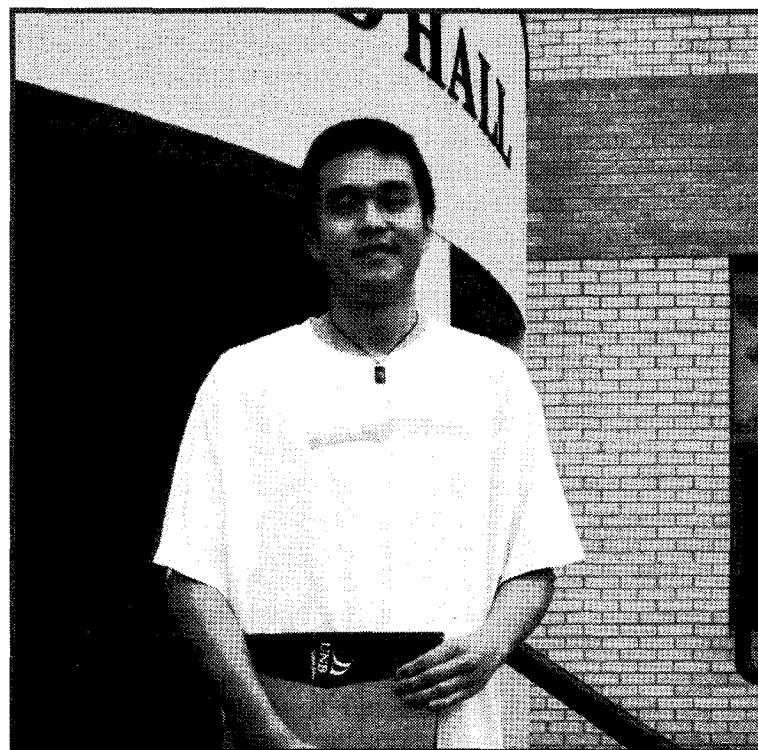
International students get off-campus work in New Brunswick

SAINT JOHN, N.B. (CUP) – A new pilot project in New Brunswick allows the province's international students to apply for a work permit. Many international students filed into a University of New Brunswick at Saint John lecture theatre earlier this month to hear the acting director of the university's international office, Peter Donahue, confirm details of the project, in the works since March. New Brunswick is only the second province, after Manitoba, to offer such a program. Kai Wu, secretary of the university's Chinese Students and Scholars Association, said he looks forward to the opportunity to pull his own weight. "I have been here for three years without a job and have had to rely on my parents to pay for all my expenses," he said. "I am 22 years old, and I feel like I should

be working to help pay." Students were able to begin filing applications for the permits Sept. 15. They will be able to search for work immediately following the filing of their applications, but they will not be able to begin working until their work permits arrive. There are restrictions on the amount of hours a student is allowed to work. An international student with a work permit is only eligible to work for a maximum of 20 hours per week during regular academic sessions and full-time during regularly scheduled breaks. To ensure that the maximum hours of work are not violated, students will be asked to supply their pay stubs. Donahue, along with student advisor Bonnie Sudul, will be keeping a close watch on the project at the university and will be auditing the hours worked. If a student

exceeds the maximum hours worked per week, they will lose their permit. An audit to determine whether students are meeting these conditions appropriately will be conducted by Citizenship and Immigration, and if not, a one-year waiting period must be observed before an offending student can reapply. The success of the pilot project will be determined after two years, when a decision will be made whether it will continue. According to Wu, the benefits of the program are more than financial. In the past, he says, international students lacked opportunities to put their education to good use. "It is not fair," Wu said, "that an international student that graduates, generally graduates without work experience."

-Emily Casaluca



Kai Wu of the Chinese Students and Scholars Association is pleased he'll have the opportunity to work.

The Manchurian Candidates

Political action committees power the money train. All aboard!

The United States presidential election race is upon us, and the two contenders are Democratic Senator John Kerry and incumbent President, George W. Bush. One may ask, "Why would I as a Canadian care about some American election?" The answer is simply that our boat is tied to that of the United States of America; that is until we figure out a way to speed up the continental shift and move to Europe. So the question of who is better still remains and the answer is that they are both equal. Both Mr. Bush and Mr. Kerry have been bought by the corporations, which have dumped millions upon millions into the coffers of both candidates, directly and indirectly.

We'll start with Mr. Kerry, the up and comer. John Kerry is married to the heiress of the Heinz fortune. Yes, that's the same Heinz you put on your fries and smear on your burger. Right off the bat, he's directly associated with a billion dollar company. This is before the Political Action Committees have gotten a chance to get their hands on him. In an article for CBS, written by Beth Lester, it is outlined how the Kerry campaign is keeping track of donations made.

The reason these efforts are being made to keep an eye on these donations is because Political Action Committees or PAC's can only make a \$5,000 contribution per candidate per year, but they can make up to a \$25,000 contribution to the DNC, the Democratic National Committee. The DNC in turn gives the money to Kerry. The Kerry Trustee Leader Board is tracking donations made to Kerry since March 1st. This board is assembled especially to give recognition and encourage people to give more than the \$2,000 minimum. The money doesn't have to be given directly either because there is no limit on fundraisers and those all too familiar ads by the friends of whichever

candidate denouncing the other.

So why would Kerry's people be tracking these activities by PAC's as well as affluent individuals? What's the recognition for? The answer that becomes evident is that they have all bought a piece of Kerry, should he become the President of the United States.

So we turn our attention to the abolisher of evildoers himself, George W. Bush. This is where things get very interesting when it comes to campaign finance. Dubya raised 191 million dollars in the 2000 election year campaign against Al Gore, who raised 133 million, according to the Federal elections Committee. That was then and now Bush is the incumbent, which in terms of PAC's means he gets more money. The reason for which he gets this extra cash is that incumbents are more likely to get re-elected.

Then we have Dubya's friends, those same friends that made that commercial questioning John Kerry's service in Vietnam, who can contribute all they want through commercials as long as they have no links to the Bush campaign. However, if there are improprieties during a campaign the Federal Elections Committee will step in, well not quite.

The FEC is so under funded that it takes this company almost six months into a presidency to find out what previously occurred. Furthermore, the penalties are slaps on the wrist, or more specifically a fine. So every regulation has a loophole, which can be used to suit the needs of whomever the candidate may be.

What is truly disheartening is that the money doesn't stop with the presidency, but continues prominently in the House of Representatives and Senate to a lesser extent. Essentially, everyone is

bought off by companies through PAC's in order to ensure that nothing goes against them on Capitol Hill and in the White House.

The most recent example of interest groups getting their way is the lifting of the ten-year ban on assault weapons. The house should have renewed the ban and have the President sign it, but they didn't. The reason why they did not extend the ban, as common sense would lead us to believe, is because the PAC's representing the gun industry "paid their dues" and this is how they are repaid. The ban was in the best interest of the people but not in the best interest of the gun industry. Sadly something had to give and unfortunately the people's purse doesn't have all that much to give in terms of cold hard cash.

-Robert Zanfir

A world of good and evil

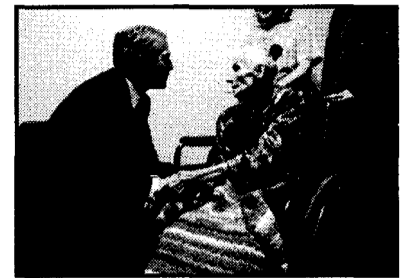
The dangers of moral rhetoric in the age of Pax Americana

The ever-increasing use of Manichean terminology in the political discourse of the United States is cause for alarm. Within the speeches of George W. Bush there is a theme that is constantly re-visited: The United States is a bastion of freedom and liberty in the world, facing an evil force in the form of terrorism. The problem herein is not due to labeling terrorist attacks as "evil" per se-- as attacks on innocent civilians can certainly be deemed as such, moreover, the problem lies in how this label is applied.

Within both the White House and the media, terrorism is regarded as a unified evil force. It is for this reason that the terminology earns the 'Manichean' label. Manichaeism is a dualistic philosophy that divides the world into matter that is intrinsically good or evil. These two powers are independent of each other while sharing a state of constant opposition. In short, they are perpetually engaged in a binary battle. Applying this "unified good versus unified evil" ideology to the War on Terrorism will have dire consequences on the presumed goal of the war: To abolish terrorism.

The first obvious bi-product of Bush's approach is that it is an over simplification of very complex problems. To describe terrorism as a unified evil force is to also suppose a unified response. From what we have witnessed so far in Afghanistan and in Iraq, this response is the traditional interstate war. From these two wars alone, it has become apparent that the rhetoric of one conflict can easily carry over into another. When their forces were in Afghanistan, the United States was "punishing evil", while currently in Iraq they are "bestowing the gift of goodness". The evildoer rhetoric used leading up to the war in Afghanistan was so seamlessly utilized in its sequel that even in September 2004, 43% of Americans believe that Saddam Hussein's regime was 'directly involved' in the 9/11 attacks, according to a Newsweek poll. Although this statistic is impacted by the complicit behavior of the American media, it nonetheless reveals a troubling continuity of justification for the conflicts in the eyes of the American public.

Have these two wars reduced terrorism in any real way? The first may have largely destroyed Al-Qaeda in its previous form, but there is no question that the organization's ranks will swell again. Afghanistan remains in a state of anarchy outside of Kabul, and as a result of the war, Iraq will require tremendous amounts of resources and political will



to achieve any semblance of stability. There can be a strong argument that neither war reduced the global threat of terrorism, in fact they likely increased it. Old paradigms are being utilized against a new phenomenon and opportunism is being masked with rhetoric that by its very nature is subjective.

The inevitable double standards evoked by playing the morality card is equally damaging to the struggle against global terrorism. Roughly 4,700 Afghani civilians were killed in the American bombing campaign. That figure, added to the 8,000-18,000 civilians who died of disease and starvation as a result of the cessation of humanitarian aid for nearly three months dwarfs the amount lost in the 9/11 attacks. Are we to believe that the United States government is the sole arbiter of which of these atrocities is 'evil' and which is 'collateral'? There needs to be substantial public debate on these issues, for they impact both our generation and that which follows. To downgrade this debate to "good versus evil" cripples it before it even occurs. There does not exist a more subjective terminology. We cannot treat terrorism as a unified evil force. Palestinians, Chechens, Al-Qaeda, Kashmiris and Xinjiangis are separate entities with separate grievances that demand different responses. By grouping national struggles for self-determination with murderous fundamentalism, many regimes have been able to step up repression under the guise of fighting terrorism. Following the moral logic of the United States, such a state would be 'virtuous'.

-Zachary Fillingham

Be there or be □

Music

ARCADE FIRE

An indie band from Montréal, A.F. is quickly becoming the next big thing. Their new full length has the critics raving, and personally, I even considered flying to Montréal just to see them live on September 30th. Luckily for all of us on a student budget, their gig at the Lee's Palace on October 1st is only 8\$ (advanced tix).

LEE'S PALACE - 8 \$ adv. @ HS, SS, RT - FRI, OCT 1 @ 12:00 (midnight)

FRANZ FERDINAND

Well, they're the reason I'm not going to the Arcade Fire show. Needless to say, probably one of the best bands around. These lads from Scotland definitely know their stuff. I must admit I bought the ticket mid August, being deathly afraid I'd miss them again (they played at the Kool Haus sometime in

June). By now the tickets are probably sold out, but hey, you never know...

DOCKS - 25\$ adv.

MORRISSEY

Again, most definitely sold out, but if you're willing to spend a small fortune to see the Legendary One, there are ways around that as well.

HUMMINGBIRD CENTER

INTERPOL

Their dark gripping songs are full of complex meaning and poetic soul. This is a band that won't leave you indifferent. Musically and lyrically they're way out there.

DOCKS - 20\$ - WED, OCT 13

DJ KRUSH

Japanese funky electro, borderline hip-hop, comes to Canada (wow that's a lot of musical categories, come to think of it). Worth checking out. Personally,

MOD CLUB THEATRE - FRI,

OCT 15

BLONDE REDHEAD

A power pop-rock band always worthwhile seeing. Prepare for an evening of awesome tunes and high energy show. I must admit I've never seen them live, but the stories I've heard from trustworthy sources have been more than positive.

OPERA HOUSE - FRI, OCT 22

LE TIGRE

My fave electronic punk-rock band combining feminist rhetoric with kick ass raw and energetic music. Seriously, even if you don't consider yourself a so called feminist, this band will still surprise and amaze you.

The girls are wicked & wild. Only setback is, Kathleen Hanna, the lead singer, is partially responsible for that orthographic nightmare riot grrrl (pardon my English major sensitivities).

THE GOVERNMENT - 18\$ @ TM, RT, SS - MON, OCT 25

MOUSE ON MARS

Currently my fave electronic group. "Mouse on Mars use rubbishy lo-fi equipment to distort clean, natural live sounds into a messy tangle.

They mix it with clear tones and send the whole shebang on its way with a hypnotic, repetitive, but memorable keynote riff" (http://music.hyperreal.org/library/discogs/mouse_on_mars/articles/tex3.txt).

LEE'S PALACE - OCT 27- 15 \$ adv. @ SS, TM, RT

Stage

THE DRAWER BOY

I actually read this play by Michael Healey in my first year English class (1520 with an amazing professor of mine, Skip Shand). It is, sort of, a continuation of another landmark Canadian play The Farm Show, as it follows one of the characters from the Farm Show (Miles, to be more specific) in his investigation of farm life while staying with two bachelor farmers whose lives he changes forever. Comic

and dramatic, bound to provide a good evening out. SEP 17 - OCT 2, TUE-SAT @ 8H00 PM - 400 NEWKIRK, RICHMOND HILL - TIX 14 \$.

THE HANDMAID'S TALE

This is an operatic adaptation from Margaret Atwood's novel about a woman, the Offered, who lost her husband and child and is now forced to procreate for the State's needs. Very Orwellian in its theme but told with more emotion and compassion.

SEP 29 & OCT 1-5-9 - UNDER 30: GOOD SEATS FOR 18\$ & 29\$ - @ HUMMINGBIRD CENTER

Other

SALON DU LIVRE

Septembre 30-Octobre 3, la francophonie présente son héritage littéraire. Les auteurs de partout du monde y participent. Pour plus d'informations visitez le site officiel www.salondulivredetoronto.ca N'y manquez surtout pas!

Review: Super Size Me

There is a famous photograph of a man staring blankly into the camera, his mouth stuffed with cigarettes. This photograph became a staple caricature of the anti-smoking campaigns of the 1990's. Super-Size Me, a documentary directed and starring amateur New York filmmaker Morgan Spurlock provides a similar message: by stuffing his mouth with a McDonald's French fries.

The film, much like the photograph, has garnered international acclaim in its shocking depiction of a man wasting away while Super-Sizing himself on a month-long McDonald's binge, despite warnings from dieticians and doctors that he would die. Spurlock did survive, but it wasn't long before his story went from a late-night David Letterman anecdote to widespread hysteria on the dangers of fast food. This has raised many interesting questions: Should corporations be held accountable for America's declining health? Two overweight teenage girls thought so, which is why they decided to sue McDonald's but ultimately lost due to lack of evidence to support their gained weight. Seeing this, Spurlock took it upon himself to come up with some evidence of his own and document the entire thing.

Fast Food restaurants and corporate responsibility is a hotly debated topic that has graced the covers of Time and has been the subject of national

bestsellers (Fast Food Nation, by Eric Schlosser, is good place to start). But what's the point of watching some idiot stuff his face with McDonald's? Because Spurlock examines the corporate entities, the schools, the PR firms, the dieticians, the doctors and I would have not been surprised if he had also spoken to some morticians as well. The numbers speak for themselves: the second highest killer in America is attributed to poor diet and physical inactivity right behind smoking.

The message derived in demonizing the corporation also poses an interesting question: Are Fast Food chains becoming the next tobacco companies? In one interview, a professor wonders if one day it will be common to harass an overweight person for eating just as you would a smoker about smoking. But 5 years ago, could you see someone saying, "You know those things will kill you" after watching you bite into your Big Mac?

"You will never want to eat at McDonald's again" is what I would often hear from those who have seen this film. Watch Spurlock's transformation and I guarantee your next road trip will be filled with home made sandwiches and not a glance out the window towards any kind of fast food chain.

-Mike Ziarko



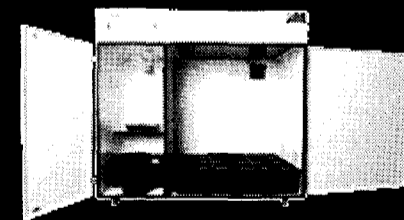
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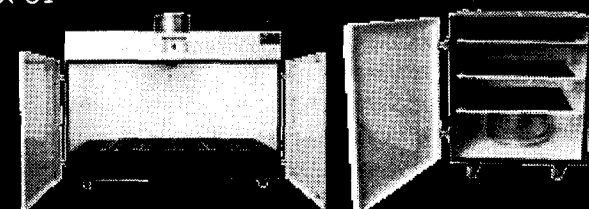
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RÉTROSPECTIVE CINÉMA

Les Amants du Pont-Neuf



Les Amants du Pont-Neuf (1991) Léo Carax
avec: Denis Lavant, Juliette Binoche, K.M. Grüber

Ce film n'est pas un film d'amour, et ce malgré le fait que l'amour soit au coeur de ce film. Il s'agit d'un film d'apprentissage. Certains, surtout parmi les sentimentaux, pourront estimer que la question "qu'appelle-t-on aimer?" ne les concerne pas, comme s'ils en connaissaient bien la réponse. Après tout, l'homme n'est-il pas cet animal doté de mythes amoureux, dont notamment Roméo et Juliette, Tristan et Iseut. Et n'avons-nous pas derrière nous des millénaires de réflexion amoureuse? Le réalisateur de ce film, Leos Carax, est catégorique: nous ne savons pas encore aimer. Le fait que nous jouissions de la faculté d'aimer ne garantit nullement que nous aimons. Car nous ne sommes capables que de ce que nous désirons. Le désir, chez nous, a été trop peu développé. L'humanité a dans le passé beaucoup joui et peu aimé. Nous traversons les champs amoureux à une folle allure, en quête de sensations fortes. Et très vite, nous

nous attachons à autre chose. Puis après, nous devenons blasés. Kierkegaard nous en avait déjà avertis. Le Pont-Neuf délabré (et en voie de réparation) témoigne métaphoriquement de l'urgence de l'apprentissage amoureux qui seul pourrait nous sauver de ce que nous ne savons pas encore. L'intérêt grandissant pour la sexologie ainsi que le nombre réel de sexologues et autres "experts" ne prouvent nullement qu'il y ait amour et qu'il existent de

vrais amoureux. Il se peut que le soi-disant amoureux, caressant l'illusion qu'il pense aimer, soit la personne la plus éloignée du véritable amour. Le soi-disant amoureux serait également le plus pauvre candidat à l'apprentissage de l'amour.

D'où le fait que la question implicite qui traverse ce film suppose-t-elle intégralement à nous. Il nous faut apprendre ce que nous ne savons pas encore. Nous devons nous livrer à l'apprentissage de l'amour. Apprendre, c'est faire en sorte que chacune de nos actions soit la réverbération chaque fois de la révélation de l'essentiel. La nature de cet essentiel et le lieu d'où provient sa révélation spécifient l'apprentissage. Vouloir apprendre à aimer, comme le vouloir apprendre à penser, c'est désirer se tourner vers l'essentiel qui doit être aimé et pensé. Cela, cette conversion, s'inscrit dans le cheminement vers l'amour que la découverte de cet essentiel qui donne à penser.

Rares seront ceux qui se tourneront vers cet apprentissage. Car la richesse de l'amour (comme ceux de la pensée) se dissimule. Elle ne vise pas un savoir scientifique ou technique. Devant le visage enlaidi de Juliette Binoche, ce visage que nous contemplons, et qui nous contemple, nous sommes forcés de constater que nous n'aimons pas encore. Phrase à la fois lourde et légère. Lourde en cela qu'elle souligne notre indigence, notre solitude, notre détresse. Phrase légère, portant avec elle l'espoir de ce qui n'est-pas-encore. Si la fin du film fait dans le sentimentalisme simpliste du happy ending que nous rejetons, c'est que nous portons la responsabilité d'une conscience qui sait qu'elle n'a pas atteint l'essence de la pensée et de la vie amoureuse, l'origine (le concept est en soi problématique) de l'amour et les possibilités infinies qu'enferme cette origine. Tout cela, malgré les vents et marées de la commodification de l'amour, nous demeure bel et bien étranger. Étranger à l'essentiel, étranger à nous-mêmes et aux autres. Ainsi en est-il que notre insatisfaction

avec la fin du film de Carax nous force à nous poser deux questions: 1-) "Qu'appelle-t-on aimer?" 2-) "Il y a-t-il quelqu'un pour nous aimer?"

-Normand Raymond

Thème: Berlin

This fall Kinowelt Hall at the Goethe Institute features five themes in its film program. "Berlin", evidently enough, concentrates on one of the most famous German cities longtime divided between the capitalist West and the communist East. Some eleven movies portray Berlin in one way or another. One of those movies is a definite must-see.

GOOD-BYE LENIN!

In East Berlin during 1989 shortly before the fall of Communism, Alex's mother falls into a coma after suffering a heart attack. While being in coma, she misses the fall of the Berlin Wall and with it, the end of the communist reign. While for the most Eastern Germans this is a dream come true, for Alex's mother it would be the ultimate nightmare since she dedicated her life to promoting Communism (or at least what she thought Communism is). When she wakes up in the summer of 1990 she must not be upset. Otherwise, her fragile heart might just stop beating forever. In order to spare her the shock of such a gigantic societal change, Alex with the help of few close friends decides to re-create her beloved East-Germany, but for the better.

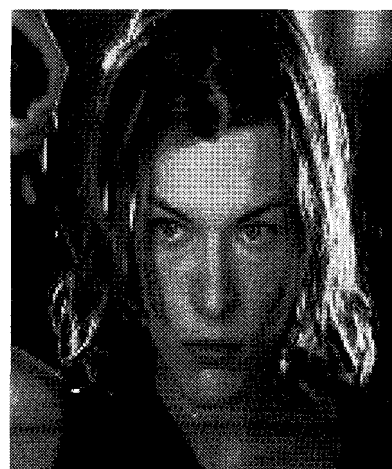
This movie is filled with hilarious scenes which are marvelously counter balanced by dramatic elements. Acting is nothing less than brilliant and cinematography is nothing less than breathtaking. Through mishaps of one young man trying to re-create the Communist regime, "Good-bye Lenin!" portrays the often hard transition Eastern Germans experienced at the fall of the Wall when two

halves were re-united to form, once again, a whole nation. This movie was the most successful German and best European film in 2003.

-Marya Repac

Thu, 14 Oct. 2004
Goethe Institute Toronto
163 King St. West
tix: 5\$ @ 8h00 pm
www.goethe.de/toronto

RE 2: Apocalypse review



Milla Jovovich as Alice

If there's one thing I fancy myself an expert on, its zombies. I played the Resident Evil games in high school and I own just about every Romero movie ever produced. You'd think it wouldn't be difficult to produce a good zombie flick. Just toss in a fistful of zombies, some terrified people to shoot at them, and an R rating. If you want to get fancy, actually develop those terrified people into interesting characters, and now you have a zombie masterpiece. Apparently, it IS difficult, because this movie was a goddamn disappointment.

The story is set in Raccoon City - a place that looks remarkably like Toronto. An accident in an underground lab run by the evil Umbrella Corporation looses a biological weapon on the unsuspecting public of Toronto. Citizens rush to the Bloor viaduct, the only bridge out of town, only to find that the city has been quarantined. Alice (Milla Jovovich) hooks up with a disgraced STARS member Jill Valentine (Sienna Guillory), and a disgruntled

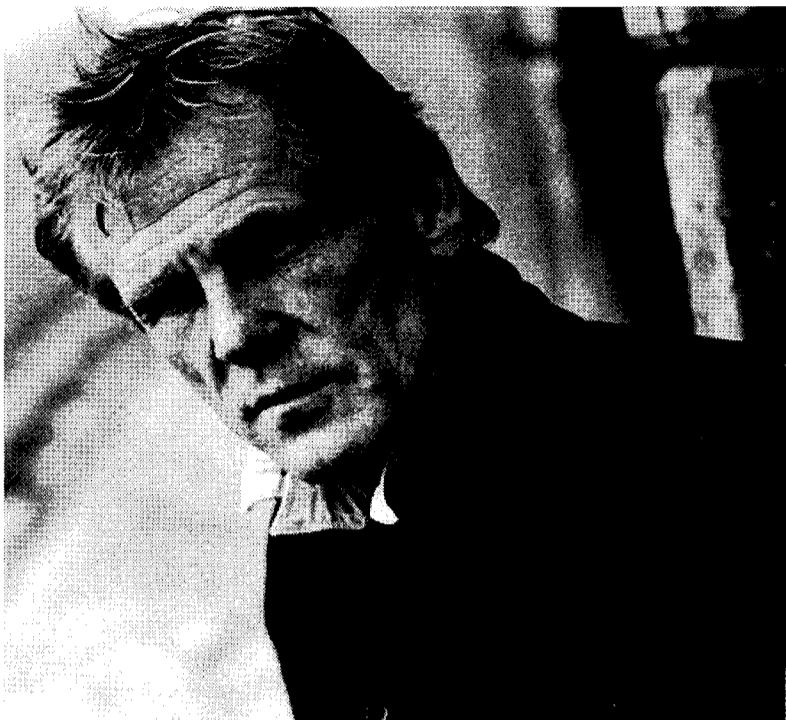
ex-Umbrella employee Carlos Olivera (Oded Fehr). The motley crew must escape from zombie-infested Toronto with the guidance of an Umbrella employee on the outside whose daughter is trapped inside Central Tech. Their efforts are complicated by the Nemesis, a huge trench coat-wearing monster that appears from time to time for reasons largely unknown.

The plot itself isn't that bad. The movie is bogged down by execution. The scenes involving zombies are lame and make-up effects are nowhere near the caliber of the 2004 Dawn of the Dead remake. Whenever there's a fight scene the director switches to seizure mode in the hopes that 0.5 second flashes of action will mask terrible choreography. The Nemesis is extremely well done, and looks exactly like it does in the game. The problem is they take some elements from the game, like the Nemesis, and leave others that clarify what the hell the point of the Nemesis is. Also, the evil corporation bit gets a bit ridiculous as you are exposed to around 3 different Umbrella execs that are equally insidious. Corporations may be evil sometimes, but their employees are still human beings, I'm told.

Anyways, all in all I'd give this flick 3/5 stars. That's just because I'm still full of nostalgia for the video games and I love to see any zombie movie, even the ones that blow, succeed.

-Zachary Fillingham

Toronto Film Fest: Nick Nolte sobers up



Festival and has become one of the surprise hits at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Exploring themes of forgiveness and the breaking free of past problems, the film follows Nolte's daughter-in-law Emily, played by Maggie Cheung (who won the Best Actress prize at Cannes), as she moves beyond the death of her husband and time in jail to find her own place in a world that is reluctant to forget her past.

And Nolte is no stranger to this kind of situation, having faced years of substance abuse himself which culminated in his much-publicized conviction two years ago of driving under the influence and subsequent rehab. Regardless of hurdles he may have encountered in his own life, when you get the chance to sit down and talk with Nolte, he invariably presents a number of surprisingly positive and interesting observations on life, and not only for those dealing with substance abuse problems. As Nolte told Pro Tem during a recent interview,

"Instant gratification doesn't

solve a problem. If I have a problem, say like my drinking, the only thing that can solve the problem is to know what is aggravating you, to know what is bothering you down deep. Instant gratification will serve only a few for an instant and then the rest will be miserable."

And that's why Assayas chose Nolte. Not only does he have a significant amount of talent for playing the part, but he also comes with a personal background of having dealt with a number of the same problems as the characters in the film.

Assayas explains that the film is not simply about the process of going clean but rather as being one of how you live your life after the bubble has burst.

"Today people are very polarized and stuck with conflicts of the past – but I would like people to realize that time heals, that people can be allowed to change, and that conflicts can be overcome," adds Assayas.

Nolte explains the overall theme of the film as he saw

it by saying that "everyone has this shadow or bag – and in this bag we're holding our problems and carrying them around. There comes a certain time when we have to open the bag and own up to what is in it – and it can take a lot of time to deal with this as we find anger, negative energy, etc. all bottled up inside."

"The film is about the process of getting clean – one in which you only break down when you are finally clean because it is at that point that everything finally comes together for you."

This is why Clean truly comes together as well – not only does it work as a film, but as the weights that the characters have been carrying around are revealed the audience begins to fully understand the message and how this in turn reflects the ideas of its creators.

-Chris Spraakman

Nick Nolte may not be the first person that would come to mind when needing advice on beating a substance abuse addiction. That, however, did not stop him from being cast as the father of a heroin overdose victim who goes on to help his daughter-in-law overcome addictions and move on with her life.

"It's like we come into this

world as a 360° bundle of everything – and we have to spend the first twenty years of our life trying to be good – and then it comes to a point where we realize that there's other parts of us that we have stuffed away," says Nolte.

Clean, a film written and then directed by France based Olivier Assayas was first released at the Cannes Film

Volt: on se laisse pas faire!

Relativement nouvelle émission sur TFO, Volt, vise un public adolescent de 15 ans et plus. Pour la saison 2004-2005, le motto semble être on se laisse aller, on ne se laisse pas faire et on ose parler des sujets, parfois un peu plus délicats, qui concernent vraiment les ados. En soi, Volt est un émission bien sympa qui combine les reportages sérieux et songés avec des sketch malins et des chroniques farfelues et flyées.

Du Lundi au Vendredi à 18h30 et minuit (reprise), Frédéric Choinière et sa gagnement cet show original qui fait penser au mélange de MadTV, Streetcents, Jonovision et, si on prend en considération la saison 2004-05, des classes de formation personnelle au secondaire (surtout avec un épisode traitant du 'coming out' à

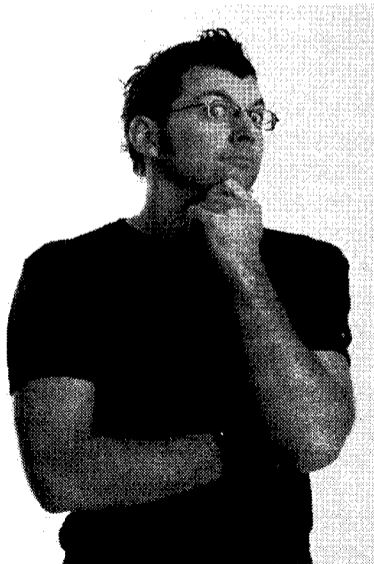
l'école secondaire). Aussi cette saison-ci, on y introduit une toute nouvelle chronique où les ados sont invités à partager leurs opinions sur les sujets qui les passionnent. En plus, Volt offre à son public l'opportunité de faire connaître leur opinion sur les sujets traités lors de l'émission ou simplement d'en faire des suggestions pour des reportages, des sketch et/ou des chronique, mais aussi d'en demander leurs vidéos-clips préférés en contactant l'émission soit par le téléphone au 1-800-901 VOLT soit par l'internet: www2.volt.tfo.org !

-Marya Repac

VOLT
du lundi au vendredi à 18h30
TFO
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La gagn des défoncés

Entrevue avec Frédéric Choinière, animateur à TFO



Frédéric Choinière se laisse pas faire

M : Qu'est-ce que, tu dirais, est le concept original de Volt? C'est-à-dire, quel en est le but de l'émission?

F : Avoir du fun, faire réfléchir,

donner de l'information sur les sujets divers, faire rire le monde avec des sketch. Volt est une émission sur la télé publique, donc on peut tout dire, le côté positif comme le côté négatif des choses. On n'est pas financés par un groupe d'intérêt spécifique qui nous empêchera de faire des commentaires qu'ils aiment pas trop.

M : Selon toi, quelles qualités doit posséder un bon animateur?

F : Je dirais surtout la capacité d'adaptation : être capable de s'adapter à une situation imprévue, à un invité et de le mettre en aise. Je dirais aussi qu'il faut être toujours curieux. Toujours vouloir à apprendre des choses nouvelles. Parce que si on n'est pas intéressé au sujet de quel on parle ça paraît et c'est pas intéressant pour

les spectateurs.

M : Et l'ambiance dans le studio?

F : Très naturel, très relaxe. On s'amuse, on a toujours du fun. Ça fait plusieurs années qu'on y travaille ensemble et c'est toujours un travail d'équipe. Les journalistes choisissent leur propre sujet. Il n'y a personne qui leur dit « fais ça ». L'ambiance est très décontractée. On est amis dans le studio et en dehors du studio.

-Marya Repac

Undergraduate ESSAY COMPETITION

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ELY INTRO: Ely comes to Pro Tem as a 4th year student from Keele Campus majoring in People Problematics. He grew up on a farm with his momma, whom he still lives with. Most of the advice given is from him, but take note that his mother is a great influence and may step in from time to time. If you have a problem you'd like Ely to solve please email him at: protem@gl.yorku.ca attn: Dear Ely.



Dear Ely

Question #1: Hey Ely, this is my second year in university and I am desperately trying to hit the books and party less. The problem is that my friends keep pressuring me to go out and party. I am fearful that if I say no to them that they'll no longer hang around with me. What would you do? -Jacob the Bookworm

Answer #1: Dear Bookworm, personally I never went out with my friends, because the weekend was spent with my mom playing scrabble. I reckon if I did have any friends that I would go out with them, lets say, once a week to party. School is important though too, it was the only thing I was allowed to participate in outside of the house. Make sure to take some time for yourself instead of just spending it with your books.

Question #2: Why is it that every commuter that goes to Glendon looks like they are about to walk down the red carpet to an awards show? This is a learning environment, not a fashion show! -Peeved, Jenny

Answer #2: Dear Peevin' Jenny, I have noticed this. Perhaps it is because they are in a fashion show and you are their clientele. If they want to match their fake Louis Vuitton purse to their cheap Le Chateau shoes to their freshly crimped hair who cares. People who are naturally confident don't need all that "accessorizing" to attract attention. Just think what they must look like in the morning eh? My momma says all you need is a good smile, I agree.

WORDS FOR NEERDS

Test your word knowledge! Find the correct meaning to the word and feel smart for a day.

- Aloof:**
 - to be scared
 - to be unsure
 - part of a plant
 - at a distance, especially in feeling
- Confect:**
 - to make or prepare from ingredients
 - to order a meal
 - to think of an evil plan
 - a part of confetti
- Concubine:**
 - a place in Scotland
 - an orderly person
 - a woman who lives with a man she is not married to
 - cucumber stem
- Destitute:**
 - a type of salt water fish
 - without means of substance
 - a very popular person
 - a wealthy man
- Fedora:**
 - a soft felt hat with a curled brim & a crown creased lengthwise
 - knickers
 - a long, elegant silk scarf
 - a 16th C bejeweled coat
- Gam:**
 - a herd or school of whales
 - a type of jam
 - a chess piece
 - a large canine tooth
- Limbus:**
 - to be very flexible
 - a knowledgeable youth
 - a slim person
 - a border, edge or limb
- Obstreperous:**
 - a bird relating closely to an ostrich
 - to have a lack of iron
 - resisting control in a noisy & difficult manner
 - absent minded
- Reneg:**
 - to go back on one's word
 - a battle ship
 - to recall an incident at a later time
 - to lack enthusiasm
- Trundle:**
 - a mail package
 - a long journey
 - to fall over something
 - to cause a circular object to roll

Uncle Hector's Comics



BEFORE T-SHIRTS

Aries (Mar.21-Apr.19)
Love ~ Actually your not too focused on that area of our life right now.
Life ~ Commit to change; it'll do you good.
Learn ~ The road of life is best traveled with a smile on your face.

Taurus (Apr.20-May 20)
Love ~ Seems scarce doesn't it? Do something with your hair, it'll catch that special someone's eye.
Life ~ Your stressed and everyone can tell. Relax for 15 minutes before attending engagements it will change the way you are perceived.
Learn ~ Save your money, meticulous inexpensive items add up.

Libra (Sept.23-Oct.22)
Love ~ Don't let your head get in the way of your heart.
Life ~ New beginnings are coming your way, they may not seem important at first but they will later.
Learn ~ Family is important.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.21)
Love ~ Friendships tend to blossom this month for you. Be careful.
Life ~ If your having serious doubts about a financial situation, take a day off and figure out a plan to get back on track.
Learn ~ Try to avoid confrontation; your temper will get in the way.

Sagittarius (Nov.22-Dec.21)
Love ~ Stop searching for that special someone, he/she will come to you.
Life ~ Its time to mellow out, get a grip and let past issues fade away.
Learn ~ Express your feelings through writing, its quite therapeutic.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)
Love ~ So it seems as if your dwindling in the romance department so put all your efforts elsewhere (i.e.: academics).
Life ~ Break away from bad habits; they'll catch up to you in the end.
Learn ~ Talk the talk just make sure you can walk the walk.

Capricorn (Dec.22-Jan.19)
Love ~ You need to be a whole lot pickier with who you date.
Life ~ Major changes are happening but your handling them well, keep it up!
Learn ~ Manners never expire.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
Love ~ Keep your eyes off the "taken" students they won't come around.
Life ~ Its on the "up" and "up" for you so live it up!
Learn ~ Keep an open mind to new idea's involving class presentations, it won't go your way all the time.

Aquarius (Jan.20-Feb.18)
Love ~ Some people are avid flirts so realize these flirtations are harmless.
Life ~ Think about organizing a trip with your best-friends, its about time for a pow-wow.
Learn ~ Start & finish your homework, your efforts tend to die down almost as soon as you start!

Leo (July 23- Aug.22)
Love ~ Long distance is tough so get a web cam.
Life ~ Hectic and unscheduled? Keep smiling things will calm down around mid-October.
Learn ~ Keep in touch with family and friends through snail mail it's a nicer touch then electronic mail.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)
Love ~ Your stubborn and it tends to get you in trouble with your significant other.
Life ~ Your finally picking up after long deliberations on where you want to head in life, nothing can stop you.
Learn ~ A friend needs you this month so spend time with him/her.

Virgo (Aug.23-Sept.22)
Love ~ You're a puddle of mush with your significant other. Do single people a favor and stop the PDA's!
Life ~ Feeling lost and disinterested in student life? Reward yourself and join a club.
Learn ~ A year membership at Proctor costs students \$10, shape up!