

THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

December 1, 2004
Volume 12 Issue 46



Nature Notes

Keeping warm, the way animals do

AUSU Council Meeting

Student Coverage

Turn That Smile Upside Down

Keeping it Real

Plus:

Lost & Found

The Good Life

Dear Barb

Taking Notes

Canadian Fedwatch

Primetime Update

AUSU This Month

Flicks & Folios

and much more...

THE VOICE

Nov 24, 2004

Volume 12, Issue 45

Welcome To the Voice PDF

The Voice has an interactive table of contents. Click on a story title or author name to jump to an article. Click the bottom-right corner of any page to return to the contents. Some ads and graphics are also links.

ARTICLES

NATURE NOTES: How the Wild Things Stay Warm

Zoe Dalton

NOVEMBER 2004 AUSU COUNCIL MEETING

Stephanie Antscherl

TURN THAT SMILE UPSIDE DOWN

Busby LeClair

COLUMNS

CANADIAN FEDWATCH!

Karl Low

THE GOOD LIFE: From Routine to Ritual

Janice Behrens

AUSU THIS MONTH

SISTERS OF THE EARTH

Wanda Waterman St. Louis

DEAR BARB - Keeping off the weight

Barbara Godin

LOST AND FOUND - Time to take responsibility

Bill Pollett

PRIMETIME UPDATE

Amanda Lyn Baldwin

FROM WHERE I SIT: Venting

Hazel Anaka

FLICKS & FOLIOS: Secret KGB UFO Files

Laura Seymour

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEARCHING FOR INTERNSHIPS

Contributed by Lonita Fraser

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Contributed by Zil-e-Huma Lodhi

VOICE EVENTS LISTINGS

Contributed by Lonita Fraser

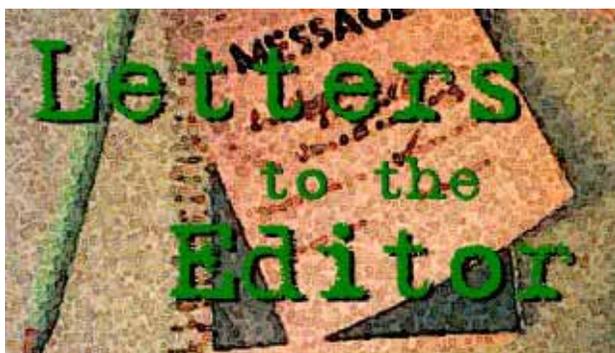
CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS

Contributed by Lonita Fraser and The Insider

FROM THE READERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CLASSIFIEDS!



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THE VOICE

2nd Floor, 10030-107th Street,
Edmonton, AB T5J 3E4
800.788.9041 ext. 3413

Publisher Athabasca University
Students' Union

Editor In Chief Tamra Ross Low
News Contributor Lonita Fraser

Regular Columnists:

Debbie Jabbour, Karl Low, Laura
Seymour, Amanda Lyn Baldwin,
Hazel Anaka, Larry Seymour,
Bill Pollett

Contributors to listings columns:

Zil-E-Huma Lodhi, Lonita Fraser

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WWW.AUSU.ORG/VOICE**

The Voice is published every
Wednesday in html and pdf format

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Special thanks to Athabasca
University's *The Insider* for its
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NATURE NOTES:

from the backyard to the biosphere

By Zoe Dalton

How the Wild Things Stay Warm

It was hailing today. First the rain was coming down. Then, as the temperature dropped, the rain turned to hail, and the bone-chilling cold started to set in, I began to think about how hard it must be to be a wild thing during our frigid winters. How on earth can so many species make it through the long, cold season? Many wild animals migrate to warmer climes when the going gets tough, but many others must begin at this time of year to pull out of their evolutionary tickle trunks the tricks they use to cope with the harsh, cold climate we share.

From geese to toads, and from turtles to foxes--the wildlife we know and love has a dazzling array of adaptations to deal with what we try our darndest to avoid: the cold. How can an Arctic fox look so cheery and care-free as it trots along through the snow on a -30°C day? How can a duck casually pop into the frigid lake, just feet from a sheet of ice? How can a salamander, with skin so delicate that human handling can cause serious damage manage to it, survive the long winter months?

The first thing to know about staying warm is that the concept has a name: thermoregulation. While there are a couple of different ways of classifying animals according to how they maintain their body temperature, animals fall into essentially one of two groupings: endotherms vs. ectotherms.

Endotherms are the birds and mammals: the animals that maintain their body temperature, well, let's say internally. Ectotherms (all the other animals) rely on the external environment to regulate their temperature. Ever see a really tired-looking fly by the window in December? If it isn't buzzing around incessantly, doing its bug thing, then the animal is probably too cold; this ectotherm likely doesn't have enough externally-derived heat to get its body going. How about the turtle, sunning itself on the log? It isn't just a beach bum: turtles, like all ectotherms, actually need the sun's warmth to fuel their activities.

So what do ectotherms do, then, to survive the cold winter months? Turtles, resourceful critters that they are, burrow into the mud and enter a state similar to what we know as hibernation. All of the bodily processes slow way down, and in the pretty much thermally-stable below-ground environment, the turtle is able to squeak by and survive the winter. Hibernation-like behaviour in thermally-protected places is really the only way that ectotherms can survive the cold.

However, another ectotherm adaptation has little to do with survival of the current generation. Some species of insects, for example, will lay their eggs in the fall. The adults' life may well come to an end at that stage, but their offspring are able to carry on. Hidden well under leaf matter, bark, or some

other protective shelter, the undeveloped young can wait out the winter, only starting up the metabolic engines when the conditions improve come spring.

For the most part, endotherms aren't afforded such luxuries. A few species (e.g. the Black Bear and the Groundhog) do go into full hibernation in protected underground dens, only awakening when the sun begins to stick around for a little longer and food sources spring to life once again at the end of winter. But many animals remain fully active during the long, cold months.

Shelter does play an important part in the survival of many species of wildlife: cavities in dead trees; thick nests lined with leaves, fur and other insulating materials; and even simple depressions in the snow help birds and mammals to keep the cold out and the warmth in.

However, retreating to nests, dens and cavities is a behavioural response to the cold. Animals that remain in our part of the world for the winter also have many physiological ways of maintaining their body temperature. Growing a fur coat so thick that physical exertion can actually lead to overheating is the compensation mechanism of choice for animals like the Arctic fox. With layers of hairs that act to trap air and keep it still (thus becoming one of the best insulators around), the typical mammalian response of growing a specialized winter coat transforms what could seem an animal's worst enemy (the air around it) into its best friend.

The feather structure of birds acts in a similar way, trapping air between layers of perfectly-aligned overlapping barbules (individual hair-like elements of a feather). Constant preening (running the beak along the length of the feather) ensures that any misalignment is instantly repaired--thus getting rid of any pathways through which air could begin circulating. Preening is thus a critical winter activity. Preening also serves to continually spread a bird's natural oils throughout the feather structure to repel water. Essential for aquatic birds in particular, all endotherms must take advantage of their natural oils to keep frigid, heat-stealing water at bay.

One of the other main mechanisms wild animals use to stay warm is something we all love to hate: fat. While we humans may have a particular phobia of this very practical substance, fat is in, for much of the animal world. In fact, for the whales and seals that playfully loll in arctic waters, fat is phat: these animals' survival very literally depends on just how much tubba they can pack on. With incredibly-efficient insulating properties, layers of body fat help to ensure that the core temperature of these animals remains constant, despite their very frigid external environments.

So fur and feather, mud and fat, holes in the ground and air in a trap: these are the tricks of our wild friends. Winter can be a tough time for many creatures, but the adaptations with which evolution has furnished the wild things sure help to make the coming season a little easier to deal with.

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If California slides into the ocean
Like the mystics and statistics say it will
I predict this motel will be standing
Until I pay my bill
"Desperadoes Under the Eaves," Warren Zevon

TURN THAT SMILE UPSIDE DOWN

Busby LeClair



Let's face it, a good chunk of the time life is not exactly tea with the freakin' Queen.

We've got war, poverty, disease, rap music, whack-jobs in the White House, corporate welfare cheats, rap music, puffy-lipped pretty boys and silicon boobed floozies shilling every type of shit you can imagine 24/7, GMOs, rap music, hantavirus outbreaks and Ralph Klein. Did I mention rap music? And to top it all off, Christmas is on the way, which means I'm supposed to be all positive for the next six weeks. Plus the price of good whisky is getting beyond my reach. Like Norm from Cheers once said, "It's a dog-eat-dog world, and I'm wearing Milkbone underwear."

Misery, as they say, loves company. There's nothing worse when you've got a bad case of the down-and-outs than being forced to endure the company of some upbeat Anthony Robbins-type asshole who doesn't even have the decency to admit that he's as scared as the rest of us. So, as far as I'm concerned, you can keep your Dr. Phils and your Deepak

Chopras, and give me people who know how to call a tumour a tumour.

As anyone who has ever fallen madly in love with blues music knows full well, there's nothing like listening to somebody opening up the dark night of their soul to you to make you feel just a little bit better. If you're ever dumped from a relationship in the middle of November and find yourself moving a Naugahyde recliner and soggy cardboard boxes at midnight in the middle of a freezing rainstorm with nobody to help, try listening to Luther Allison or John Lee Hooker, and tell me they're not salve for the soul.

By the same token, when the world is going to all to hell, nothing cheers me up more than a good, jaundiced bit of cynicism like that little gem from Mr. Zevon quoted above. Before he died of cancer a couple of years ago, the wickedly sharp-tongued singer had carved out an impressive career writing intelligent pop songs about werewolves, fraud artists, crooked politicians, homicidal maniacs, and violent rednecks. His songs, I can tell you, will be in pretty heavy rotation around my house for the next few weeks.

As a little band from Georgia once said, "It's the end of the world as we know it, and I feel fine".

AUSU November 2004 Council Meeting Notes Student Coverage

Stephanie Antscherl

This year's convocation was a hot topic at this month's AUSU council meeting. AU has some concern over the large number of graduates this year, (major concerns over this include fire code violations, and hours-long ceremonies.) The council is anticipating solutions that could include mixed ceremonies for graduates and undergraduates, or a three-day-long convocation.

One council member pointed out that as a distance-education institute, graduates have spent a significant amount of money on their degree, as well as travel/accommodation to the graduation ceremonies (especially since typically, they are bringing family as well.) With approximately 250 grads this year, having a mixed crowd [of grads and undergrads], along with hours-long recognition, graduation, and presentation ceremonies, families would have a difficult time connecting at the post-ceremony luncheon. AUSU council members generated several ideas to alleviate the potential problems, such as forgoing the traditional graduate gift-giving ceremony, instead increasing the budget to promote a separate, AUSU-sponsored luncheon, which would also give AUSU a chance to establish itself separately from Athabasca University. Some council members disagreed with this suggestion, arguing that because students have invested so much time and money on an AU degree, the traditional gift is tangible nostalgia--students should feel as though they're "getting something" in addition to the degree they've worked so hard for.

One council member, who'd had experience with convocation, admitted that while she loved the gift she received upon her graduation, in the long run, it was unimportant--she suggested that a meaningful congratulatory card recognizing her efforts would be just as meaningful **(ed. especially since traditionally, December grads did not get their gifts until the following June)**-- and that it might be accompanied with a small token, such as a pin, or key chain. After much discussion, the council's prospective decision for this year's convocation is to forgo gifts (although keeping the honoraries), increase the budget for an AUSU luncheon, so that families can comfortably gather. Post-ceremony, a congratulatory note and/or gift will be sent to the graduates.

Moving along, the subject of the new federal privacy legislation (FOIP) was introduced. The legislation regulates the collection of personal information from AU staff and students. As a student, you are entitled to your privacy, and response to any surveys or focus groups is not mandatory--it is an opportunity to voice your opinion. Recently, several AUSU committees have launched research and implementation efforts to provide groups and services that are tailored to student's interests. However, even if the committee is gathering information on behalf of the AUSU council, under the Canadian Privacy Act, AUSU's clubs and groups are not recognized under the legislation. To prevent any incidents, the council appointed Privacy Officers, (Tamra Ross Law, primary.) to oversee all outgoing documents.

What this means to you, the student, is that, say for example, you belong to the AUSU Sports Club--the club is looking to tailor their efforts towards members' preferred sports, and they send a survey to their members. The AUSU privacy officer oversees the content, and if you have any questions or concerns about your privacy via the information collected, there is a contact for you to address. **(ed. The appointing of a privacy officer is a legal requirement of any government regulated organization (which AUSU is), and this appointment fulfills that requirement. The name of the privacy officer will soon be included on all AUSU forms and surveys, along with a phone number so that students may contact the officer for information relating to the AUSU privacy policy).**

Lastly, to briefly update on the rest of the meeting's activities, the council spent time reviewing various administrative updates, resolving communication issues and procedures, and approving or amending policies throughout Legislative, Clubs and Groups committee, funding, etc. The council also delegated committee status for the Newsletter, Planner, Web, and Convocation committees, each labeled ad hoc, the history of each being a necessity for future student councils. As well, the Finance Committee is in the beginning stages of investigating investment opportunities. Matters to consider include investing in ethical companies, and high-risk, vs. low-risk investments. (Because low-risk investments take longer to produce results, it was suggested that the committee mix assets, investing in both high and low risk.)



The Late Returns

Regular readers of this column probably noted that it was missing last week and may be wondering why. The reason is my own fault, as I was eagerly awaiting the new Alberta Cabinet appointments to inform you all with the latest news about what this meant for you and me.

Unfortunately, I forgot to tell our editor about this and so missed the deadline to submit my article. Which means that here we are a week later and it's old news by now. Still, I've never let that stop me before.

Is There Justice?

As you probably know, if you take an interest in these things, Alberta had its regular re-election of the PC party recently. Given that the PC party has been in power since I was born, this comes as no surprise to me.

This one didn't quite go as planned, however. Plagued by what was essentially a non-campaign and coasting on their laurels, the PCs lost some of the momentum they've had in previous elections, which translated to a loss of 13 seats in the legislature.

While the PCs maintain a comfortable majority, having 61 of 83 seats, this is a serious indictment of the government's post-debt policies. Considering that this government was able to boast about finalizing payments on the debt, and with an employment rate and economic growth rate that is the best in Canada, for the incumbent government to lose seats is a sign that anybody who's actually watching the government is concerned.

With this loss of seats comes a Cabinet shuffle, as one of the cabinet ministers was not re-elected. The Premier has taken his cue from the election to make some changes in "business as usual"

For you and I, probably the most interesting of these changes are those that happened to the Learning Ministry. The Honourable Dr. Lyle Oberg is no longer here, instead moving to Infrastructure and Transportation, where I am sure he will do his level best to fill pot-holes across the province with the same stuff he used to foist off as being beneficial to post-secondary education. No doubt we'll see a comprehensive transportation plan across the province and perhaps the formation of a Provincial Infrastructure Board to have oversight of road development everywhere.

In fact, one could say that Dr. Oberg was responsible for the demise of Alberta Learning. He certainly oversaw its dismantling, as now instead of one united Ministry of Learning we have two ministries: the Ministry of Education, which deals with kindergarten to grade 12, and the Ministry of Advanced Education which deals with post-secondary issues.

Having a more specialized ministry to deal strictly with post-secondary issues makes a lot of sense when you consider how diverse it is. The idea of unifying required schooling with post-secondary was never something that seemed it would take off, and indeed it hasn't. For our new Advanced Education Ministry, we have been given the Honourable David Hancock as the Advanced Education Minister.

Mr. Hancock was formerly Alberta's Minister of Justice, and from all reports he's one of the better MLAs available. He is responsible for, among other things, the Alberta Inter-dependant Couples Act. This Act is essentially a way to give non-traditional couples access to the legal rights of marriage without having to give them the ability to legally marry. Personally, I think it's a ludicrous distinction to be making, but given the electorate base the PC party has to work with, they may have had little choice.

Some other interesting points are that Mr. Hancock was also on the two most influential committees in the legislature--the Treasury Committee and the Agenda and Priorities Committee--and remains on the Agenda and Priorities committee this time around. In addition, he's also picked up the vice-chair position of the Employment and Education policy committee. He was leader of the commission that drafted Alberta's 20 year strategic plan. In other words, this is a person that the government seems to look to for guidance, which means if he has any ideas for post-secondary education, chances are good that they'll be heard.

Unfortunately, his ideas for post-secondary education are still unknown. If you read his campaign statements, he claims that "We need to make education affordable so cost is not a barrier to access, and we need to expand the student capacity in our colleges, universities and technical schools to meet the growing demand and to ensure prospective students aren't turned away for lack of space." This sounds promising, until you read the rest of his statement which basically touts how well things are going already.

Similarly, in the 20 year plan, his comments on post-secondary education are limited to the standard: "Government's job is to make sure that opportunities for post-secondary learning are accessible and affordable. That will mean increased investment to expand learning opportunities to create more spaces at Alberta's universities, colleges, and technical institutes." To me, this sounds like the BC strategy. More and bigger buildings, not smarter investments in distance education, lowering tuitions, or improving the student loan systems.

Mr. Hancock also seems to be a very large proponent of the "Do It Yourself" methodology, having noted it several times in the 20 year plan, and actively promoting it in the Justice System by developing an advanced mediation system so that people would not have to use the courts.

Unfortunately, while "Do It Yourself" is a fine ideal for university, in the end it's not practical unless you're willing to go the route of DeVry. As for students, anybody on student loans will be able to tell you that a "Do It Yourself" strategy just wouldn't work--education is simply too expensive for most people to afford on their own.

My hope is that Mr. Hancock will re-examine the student loans system and realize that while the yearly amounts have been increasing to keep pace with tuition inflation, the over-all lifetime amount has not. For Alberta students, it would also be good if student finance could recognize the uniqueness of AU, and grant funding for the full six months of a course. In an ideal world, it would be wonderful for Mr. Hancock to realize how distance education can solve so many of the problems of access to post-secondary education and devote money to developing better systems of doing so and giving institutions the ability to deliver them.

My fear is that we'll see a system much like British Columbia's, where the money is put into buildings instead of education, where grants will be taken away in favor of increased loans, and where universities will be expected to generate larger operating revenues for themselves by commercializing research.

In either event, one thing we can rely on is that the appointment of Mr. Hancock to this ministry means that some changes are definitely in store. It's just a matter of seeing which way they go.

Bush Blew By Because of Byrd

A lot of people think the recent visit of President Bush to Canada was because he wants help in Iraq, or Canada's agreement to join in an Anti-Ballistic Missile defense system (because terrorists are well-known for their use of ballistic missiles), or simply to try and make it seem like he's not a religious crusader in an arrogant imperialist's clothing. But I expect the real reason is a lot more pressing for President Bush, and it isn't one that the media has given a lot of attention.

The WTO has recently approved the final part necessary to allow Canada to retaliate for the application of the Byrd Amendment. For those of you who don't follow this column, the Byrd Amendment basically allows the United States to take any duties they impose under WTO for product dumping under the free trade act, and give them directly to the corporations affected--In essence giving those corporations a double-boost. They've been doing it for years, and the rest of the world has been protesting for years. Finally we've reached the point where action can be taken.

The government of Canada now wants us to make a choice--we can choose to apply retaliatory duties to any imports from the US that we desire, or we can choose to suspend any injury tests if we feel they are dumping their products on us. The latter means that Canadian companies do not need to show that products being exported from the US are actually hurting their business to have duties applied. You can choose to comment, if you like, and tell the government which way you think they should go, or which products you think should have duties applied to them.

For Bush, this could be devastating, as we are the United States' largest trading partner and should his electoral base be hurt by our retaliation, the Republicans will see the results in their next election of Congressional and Senatorial seats in two years.

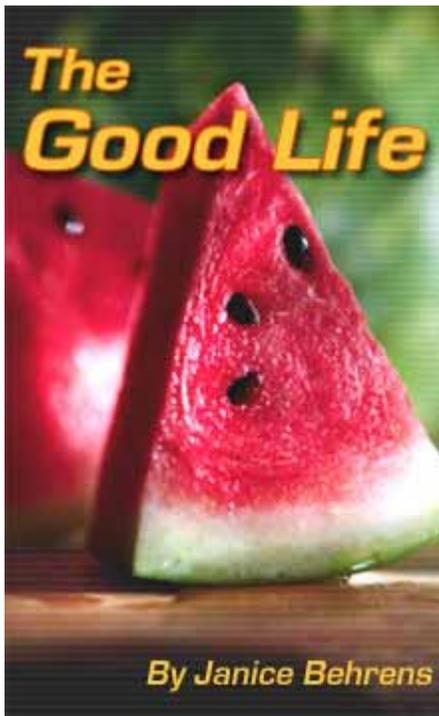
Personally, I'm going to tell the government that we should apply tariffs to all US agricultural products, to compensate for their supposedly legal subsidies in that area. That this would happen to target the mid-western states the most, the areas where Bush received the majority of his votes from, is simply a coincidence.

Honest.



WRITE FOR THE VOICE!

Contact The Voice editor at voice@ausu.org for details on writing for The Voice. Provide a sample selection of writing and preferred genre.



From Routine to Ritual

My partner, Bill, has pinned a quote on the cork bulletin board behind our messy Ikea desk. It's from Samuel Beckett, the Irish playwright, and it says "Routine is the cancer of existence". I take it to mean that when we are stuck in a rut, just going through an endless series of unenjoyable daily activities, we are eating away at the quality of our lives. Yet, for every one of us, routine daily activities are unavoidable.

I'm writing this article just after Bill and I have finished washing the dishes. It was a chore that I absolutely despised when I was growing up. Coming from a family of six kids, there was an endless supply of coffee-stained cups and plates with scabbed on meatloaf and mashed potatoes to contend with. There were constant battles with my siblings about whose turn it was to wash and to dry. Now, washing the dishes has become a pleasure.

Before you tell me to "get a life", let me try to explain. You see, the difference between washing dishes when I was young and washing them now is all in the mental approach I take toward them. Growing up, they were a miserable routine--a chore that ate up time that could be better

spent by playing basketball in the driveway or watching television. Now, dishes to me are no longer a chore or a routine, but a ritual.

My sister gave me a book a few years ago called *Time Shifting*, by Stephan Rechtschaffen, M.D. It's about ways that we can relieve the constant stress of time pressure that most of us feel in this increasingly speeded-up world. The basic premise was to practice what the Buddhist's call mindfulness--the conscious experience of living in the moment, paying careful attention to the world around us. It was an eye-opening book for me.

One of the specific suggestions in the book was about treating household chores as an opportunity for meditation and contemplation. "If we push away the mundane", he says, "we push away the present". He goes on to quote the Buddhist teacher Thich Nhat Hanh, who has said "If I am incapable of washing dishes joyfully, if I want to finish them quickly so I can go and have dessert, I will be equally incapable of enjoying my dessert. With the fork in my hand, I will be thinking about what to do next, and the texture and flavour of the dessert, together with the pleasure of eating it, will be lost. I will be dragged into the future, never able to live in the present moment". Well, the possibility of enjoying dessert *even more* caught my attention!

Most nights we eat dinner together as a family. Because I generally walk home from work--a ninety-minute trek--it's seven-thirty or so before we all sit down to eat, and around nine o'clock or nine-thirty before our daughter is finally bathed, read-to and tucked away in bed for the night. By the time Bill and I get around to filling the kitchen sink with hot, soapy water, it's typically ten 'clock or later. After a long, hard day, the temptation is to quickly and impatiently rush through the dishwashing, or ignore it altogether, so we can get on with working on a project or settle down for the night with a book or video. For the first few years of our relationship, this was how we approached things. With this mindset, dishwashing continued to be a stressful and unpleasant experience for both of us. Bill and I also missed out on an opportunity to connect with each other and discuss the minor and important events of the day, as we slipped into our own isolated projects and activities.

Now, though, we approach things differently. We spend the time doing this chore talking things over together. We make a pot of tea or pour ourselves a glass of wine. We keep a radio on the kitchen table, and sometimes we listen to a concert or documentary on CBC radio. I try to pay attention to the enjoyable warmth of the water on my hands and even the smell of the dishwashing liquid. Nowadays, I feel that the time I spend doing this activity is a way of keeping myself feeling grounded.

A few months ago, I had a very bad day at work. My family was away for the week, so I was alone at home and feeling a bit sorry for myself. I normally really enjoy cooking, but I just didn't feel inspired. Everything seemed like too much trouble. I eventually just dumped a can of tuna on some wilted lettuce and poured some salad dressing on top. I fell asleep in front of the TV, watching some mindless crime show, and woke up feeling tired and grumpy the next morning.

Naturally, I had an even worse day at the office. It seemed that I was overwhelmed with paperwork, and unable to concentrate on anything. That night I decided to do things differently, though. I stopped at the produce store and the butcher shop on the way home. I don't often eat red meat, but I had a craving for good juicy steak. I put on some good music and burned some incense. I cut some fresh tarragon and basil to throw into a salad, and paid attention to the fragrance of freshly crushed garlic cloves and freshly sliced lemon. When I sat down to dinner, I lit a candle and had a glass of crisp white wine. After dinner, I took out a knitting project that had been stalled for several months, and eventually went to bed with a P.G. Wodehouse novel that made me laugh out loud. Overall, it was a completely enjoyable evening, and a total contrast to the night before. I made a mental pact with myself that night to make these events a ritual whenever circumstances gave me the free gift of an evening to myself.

Whether we're cooking dinner, washing dishes, doing some mundane aspect of our jobs, parenting our children, or fixing a leaky tap, the difference between ritual and routine is whether we are actively engaged in what we're doing, or simply going through the motions. It depends on how we look at it. As with everything else, we tend to get out of all experiences what we are willing to invest in them, so the choice is up to us. When we are willing to put some effort into transforming our routines into rituals, then we are engaged in the business of truly living.

Reference

Rechtschaffen, Stephan, M.D. *Time Shifting: Creating More Time to Enjoy Your Life*. New York: Doubleday, 1996.

CHECK IT OUT

Lonita Fraser

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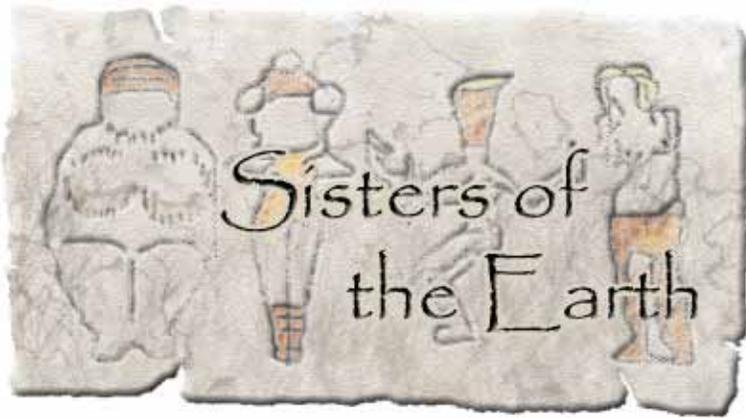
This site provides all sorts of information about education and educational resources across Canada. Though somewhat geared toward international students, the site is, regardless, useful to all persons seeking to further their learning. All the resources you can find on this site are Canadian, and vary from governmental resources at the federal and provincial levels, as well as other organisations and businesses geared towards learning. Each resource link is accompanied by a brief description, and includes pointers to Canadian universities, distance programs, information on studying in Canada, and information on the country itself.

DistanceEdCanada - <http://www.distanceedcanada.ca/>

As well as providing a database of distance oriented courses and programs at various Canadian institutions, this site also provides links to many types of learner resources which include everything from research tools, to library services, and links to other educational databases.

Peterson's Education Portal - <http://www.petersons.com/>

This site provides a wealth of links and information for learners. It includes practice tests for the SATs and TOEFL and others, essay writing and editing tools, resume resources, college and university information, an online bookstore, and many course-related sites to augment the learning experience.



THIS WEEK IN GLOBAL WOMEN'S NEWS Wanda Waterman St. Louis

Breaking the silence in India

Recently several NGOs from across fourteen districts in the Bundelkhand region in India have come together under a network called *Samaan* (meaning "equal") to raise public awareness of violence against women.

One of the most effective advocates for change in India is politician Gayatri Devi, now 75 years of age, lawyer and elected MLA from Bijawar. Devi has prompted a second line of women leaders to not only speak out against VAW but also to initiate public action to break the silence.

- <http://www.hindu.com/mag/2004/11/21/stories/2004112100370400.htm>

What altruism!

Reem Al Faisal

"As a Saudi woman I would like to thank the honorable men and women of [the United States] Congress for their concern and their tireless quest to protect and liberate the women of the world. ...However, if Congress is so busy fighting to liberate the women of the world, do they have time for the concerns of the women of the United States of America who elected them? After all, the median weekly earnings for full-time female workers are only 76 percent of their male counterparts in the United States. ...As for single-parent families, women are more likely to be the ones left to take care of children while the man leaves and rarely pays alimony. That is why 40 percent of all families headed by single mothers live in poverty. ...Oh, and while we're at it, how many women are in Congress compared to the number of women in the population at large? And why haven't we seen a woman president or vice president in the USA yet? ...Corporate America of course never hesitates to use women's bodies as gimmicks for selling everything from wood polish to cars...Women are asked by the American media to bare it all or force themselves into being eternally 18... Does Congress think it is not important to protect these women from grave dangers to their health and even possible deaths? Every day four women die in the USA as a result of domestic violence, that is 1,400 a year. ...But don't you worry, Congress. I'm sure US women can suppress their aspirations for a better life while you neglect the true responsibilities of your office, to solve the problems of the women of the world. Meanwhile I thank you for valuing my rights over those of your countrywomen. What altruism!

- <http://www.arabview.com/articles.asp?article=290>

The plight of First Lieutenant Jennifer Dyer

In October we heard about the rape and subsequent ill-treatment of First Lieutenant Jennifer Dyer at the hands of the American army. The details can be read here: <http://oldamericancentury.org/jennifer.htm>

According to Jack Dalton, who is following her case: "It was not until what happened to her hit over 90 national print newspapers did the Army finally say that she did not have to return to Camp Shelby but could report to Fort Dix, N.J...The Army released a press release a week ago about this but what the Army left out of the release was a statement it made a couple of weeks earlier--that if Jennifer needed additional rape counselling that they, the Army, would ship her to the Eisenhower in-patient mental health treatment facility for an "undisclosed" length of time..."

In the meantime the Article 32 hearing for 1st LT Michael Hall on charges of rape, conduct unbecoming an officer and adultery has been postponed until sometime in December." If you would like to donate something to help off set her Jennifer's fees, check out the above link

Chocolate Heals!

May Hold Cure for Coughs

Mon Nov 22, 2004 01:44 PM ET: A recent study found that theobromine, an ingredient found in cocoa, was nearly a third more effective in halting persistent coughs than codeine, currently considered the best cough medicine. They also found that unlike standard cough treatments, theobromine caused no adverse effects on the cardiovascular or central nervous systems.

- <http://olympics.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews&storyID=6888212>

Women demand right to negotiate safe sex

Women leaders in Ghana recently suggested that a major way of cutting down the HIV/AIDS prevalence level among women was for them to have the right to negotiate safe sex. It was noted that cultural practices which give exclusive sexual rights to men and very little power to women to negotiate safe sex, have been identified as one of the major causes of sexually transmitted infections.

Statistics show that globally 36 million people are infected with HIV/AIDS and 55 per cent of the cases are females between the ages of 15 and 49.

- <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=70510>

The Juarez Women's Murders

By Kent Paterson

Investigations continue on the more than 400 women and girls who have been murdered in Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua state since 1993. According to Amnesty International and press accounts, little progress has been made. Police have arrested no credible suspects, but those believed to be scapegoats remain locked in jail. The murders continue. Patricia Cervantes and other victims' relatives recently embarked on a mega-tour of 54 U.S. and Canadian cities, dubbed the International Caravan for Justice in Juarez and Chihuahua.

- <http://www.americaspolicy.org>

Babies conceived of rapes by janjaweed militiamen

By Sudarsan Raghavan

In the troubled province of Darfur, pro-government Arab militias called the janjaweed have raped countless black African women. Suad, a member of the Zaghawa tribe, and recently raped by three militiamen, was told by her attackers: "We want to change the color of your children."

- <http://www.bradenton.com/mld/bradenton/news/world/10272363.htm>

Sex Abuse by Peacekeepers

U.N. peacekeepers have been accused of sexually abusing the very population they were deployed to protect in Congo. It is believed that few of the suspects will face serious punishment; although the United Nations often asks nations to discipline their peacekeepers it has little power to enforce such discipline. Jane Holl Lute, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, says, "It's obvious the measures that we have had in place have not been adequate to deal with the changing circumstances."

- http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=535&ncid=535&e=12&u=/ap/20041124/ap_on_re_as/punishing_peacekeepers_1

Banned from driving a car, Saudi woman becomes pilot

Hanadi Hindi, a 26-year-old Saudi, will soon become the kingdom's first accredited woman pilot after signing a contract with the fleet of Prince al-Walid bin Talal, a billionaire Saudi businessman and nephew of King Fahd. The ban on women driving in Saudi Arabia was made official in 1990 after 47 women demonstrated against what was then only a customary law by driving a convoy of cars in Riyadh.

- <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,3-1373382,00.html>

Men with white ribbons

UNIFEM, organisers of the White Ribbon Day in Australia, said it represents a personal pledge by men not to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women. On November 25 South Australian men were among 150,000 nationwide who wore white ribbons to take a stand against violence in women's lives. They were taking part in the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the largest international effort by men to end violence against women.

- http://www.theadvertiser.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,5936,11502544%255E2682,00.html

Cyber Dialogues For Gender Justice

Join women in South Africa for a Cyber Dialogue, a real time, interactive, online discussion at <http://www.cyberdialogues.co.za>. The cyber dialogues are part of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign and will happen every day from 13:00 - 14:00 (S. Africa time) starting on 24th November 2004. The theme for the day will be Taking Stock: Balancing the Scales and it will include a discussion on the achievements and progress made in the gender justice struggle over the last year and will identify the challenges that still need to be met in moving forward. The South African experts and decisions makers that will be there to answer questions are Deputy Minister of Correctional Services: Cheryl Gillwald, Speaker City of Joburg: Nandi Mayathule-Khoza and Martha Seloane, a survivor of gender violence. If you would like to know the times of cities around the world, go to <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/>

United Nations Trust to Eliminate Violence Against Women gives grant to Fiji's WAC

The United Nations Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence Against Women will provide a grant of US\$50,000 to Fiji's Women Action for Change (WAC).

The Trust Fund is a mechanism established by the UN General Assembly in 1996 and administered by UNIFEM. UNIFEM has received up to US\$17.5 million in requests, with only about US\$1 million to give out each year. Donors to the 2004 grant-making cycle include Japan, Denmark, Finland, Trinidad and Tobago, as well as NGOs and private individuals. For more information on the Trust Fund, go to: <http://www.unifem.org>

Our Tunisian Sisters in Government and Work Force

Tunisian women have been active in public life and the work force for decades. Hela, a 25-year-old electrical engineering student from Tunis, says, "If you are a woman, you can do anything... In Tunisia, you can see women everywhere, in every field, in politics including ministers and ambassadors. They are very active in the government."

Tunisian history changed dramatically when a leader named Habib Bourguiba helped the country gain independence from France in 1956. As the first president, Bourguiba was determined to foster a modern society based on a relaxed interpretation of Islam. Part of his agenda was a series of measures that earned him the title "liberator of women."

- <http://www.voanews.com/english/NewsAnalysis/2004-11-23-voa58.cfm>

Loans For Poor Women In India

The Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RKM) has disbursed loans to 500,000 poor women through more than 1,100 non-governmental organisation (NGO) partners and other agencies. The RKM was established in 1993 under the administrative control of the department of women and child development in the Union HRD ministry. Initially, it had a one-time corpus fund of Rs 3.10 million. It is managing its credit programme by rotating its fund by four times through NGOs, women's development corporations and state government agencies.

- http://www.financialexpress.com/fe_full_story.php?content_id=t126

AUSU THIS MONTH



AUSU Christmas Hours

Over the Christmas Holidays, AUSU will be closed for the same duration as the university. Our hours will be as follows:

Dec 24, 2004: office closes at 3:00 pm, MST
Dec 25, 2004 through Jan 3, 2005: Office Closed
Jan 4, 2005: Office open at 8:30 am, MST

Are you in Need of Financial Assistance? AUSU Can Help You

AUSU has many financial assistance, emergency and computer bursaries available to help students in need. Every year AUSU will give away 10 financial assistance bursaries, \$6000 in emergency bursaries and \$4800 in computer bursaries.

Visit our website at <http://www.ausu.org/services/scholarships.php> to find out if you qualify for a bursary and to fill out the online application form.

The next deadline for submitting applications for these bursaries is December 1, 2004.

AUSU's Student Association Status is now Formalized Under the Law

AUSU has operated officially since its creation as the students' union for Athabasca University under the *Societies Act of Alberta*. Under the new *Post-secondary Learning Act* each University in Alberta must have a students' association established by an order in council. On September 13, 2004 the Lieutenant Governor approved an order in council which states:

The Lieutenant Governor in council establishes and incorporates a students' association to be known as "The Students' Association of Athabasca University" to provide for the administration of students' affairs and the promotion of the general welfare of students consistent with the purposes of Athabasca University.

Student Mentors Available to Help New Students

If you are a new student looking for someone to help you adjust to life as an Athabasca University student, contact the AUSU Mentor Program. The Mentor Program pairs together new students with experienced students who will help them find their way around AU and AUSU. By participating in this program you will be able to meet someone new and learn from them.

You can find more information about this program on our website at <http://www.ausu.org/services/mentors.php>.

*Does the pressure of having to
study alone keep you up at night?*

AUSU STUDY BUDDY



Dear Barb;

I have had an ongoing battle with the same 20 pounds for as long as I can remember. I try all the latest diets and lose the weight. However before I know it I've gained it back. With the holiday season fast approaching I fear I may put on even more weight and not be able to take it off. Do you have any suggestions on how I can change my lifestyle in such a way that I will be able to lose this weight and keep it off permanently?

Becky in Chatham

Hi Becky,

Losing weight and, more importantly keeping it off, is an ongoing struggle for many people. Unfortunately there is no magic pill or potion I can suggest. The only true way to manage your weight is to reduce your caloric intake and increase your activity level.

An important starting point is to analyze your diet. Are you eating three meals a day? Many people skip breakfast or lunch, thinking this is the way to lose weight, but this is far from the truth. Skipping a meal will only make your starving body crave more food; therefore you will eat more at the next meal. You need to eat a balanced diet, including lots of fruits and vegetables. Following the recommendations outlined in Canada's Food Guide will assure that you receive a balanced diet of fruits, vegetables, meats, grains and milk products.

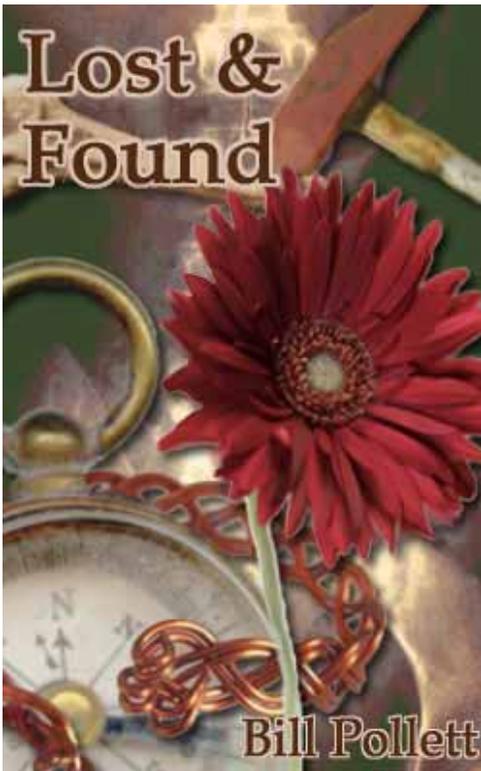
Furthermore think before you eat. Some people snack while sitting in front of the TV, not realizing how much they are actually eating. Also at mealtime, sit at the table and eat your meal slowly, while paying attention to what you are eating. In addition, trade high fat, sugary snacks, for fruits or other high fiber choices, such as popcorn or low fat cereal bars.

Along with these diet changes you will need to incorporate physical activity into your schedule. Working out will not only increase your muscle mass, but also boost your metabolism. As a result you will burn calories more efficiently. As well, join a fitness club, or exercise class. If you are a person who prefers to exercise in your own home there are many videos and DVDs available that you can use as a guide. Some are presented by famous actors or sports figures and include weight training, high or low impact aerobics and stretching etc.

However before making any dramatic changes to your diet or lifestyle, you should consult your doctor, to make sure you don't have any underlying health issues. It is important that you make sure you are in good health before making changes that could impact on your well being.

Good Luck Becky and remember, moderation is the key to success.

E-mail your questions to advice.voice@ausu.org. Some submissions may be edited for length or to protect confidentiality; your real name and location will never be printed. This column is for entertainment only. The author is not a professional counsellor and this column is not intended to take the place of professional advice.



TIME TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

Hard to have faith in people sometimes.

Back in grade twelve when I was pumping gas at the Esso station, we used to have a big sign at the back of the toilet, printed on cardboard in red block-capitals outlined in black: Do Not Flush Paper Towels. Every day one of us workers had to unplug the toilet, which would be jammed with paper towels. Other times, I thought we should have been more specific and had a larger sign saying: Do Not Flush Paper Towels, Diapers, Bottle Liners, Sanitary Napkins, Boot Innersoles, Sandwich Bags, Paper Coffee Cups, Chocolate Bar Wrappers, or Used Car Parts.

People were always driving into each other, poking each other in the eye, walking into walls, knocking over display stands, backing over the vacuum cleaner, driving off with the pump still in their gas tanks. It was like a cinema verite version of a Keystone Cops film. It's amazing we never had a maiming, explosion or fire during the time that I worked there.

With the arrogance of youth, I used to look on these human foibles with a sort of sneering contempt. Conveniently forgetting the endless string of thoughtless, awkward, deluded, reckless and just plain goofy behaviour I displayed on a daily basis, I chose to see the faults of others as proof of my own superiority. If I failed a math exam, cheated on my girlfriend and set fire to the couch by falling asleep with a lit cigarette in my mouth--in the space of one particularly bad week--there were extenuating circumstances, and somehow someone else was to blame.

I think that there are two basic and disturbing messages here about humanity. The first is, human beings are not necessarily the sharpest pencil crayons in the cosmic Crayola box. We have a tendency to cause a lot of pain and worry to those around us, a lot of clumsy and ill-considered damage. The second important point about us is, when it comes to taking responsibility for our own goofiness, our own actions and circumstances, we choose not to be honest with ourselves.

I know from personal experience how easy it is to blame personal unhappiness and misfortune on forces and circumstances beyond my control. I would have passed that test, gotten that job, tried harder, behaved with more maturity, treated that person more kindly, etc., etc., *if only* (fill in the blank).

As dangerous and damaging as this universal tendency is on an individual level, it's far worse when it's played out on a global political / economic level. Think of the refusal of the U.S. to accept responsibility for the moral quagmire they've gotten themselves stuck in in the Middle East by virtue of a half-century of manipulative, exploitative foreign policy. Consider that, despite dire warnings of fast-approaching environmental devastation, automobile manufacturers are producing what can only be called lethally effective global-warming devices on wheels, and *we're buying them* like (as will probably be the case) there's no tomorrow.

Even the lowliest rodent has more sense than to consciously crawl into a small dark space and suffocate in its own excrement. We, on the other hand, think that all our problems will disappear if we just keep on flushing.

It's time to reconsider and to take responsibility for our own actions.

Primetime Update

Week ending November 28, 2004

Amanda Lyn Baldwin

WHAT'S NEW ON PRIMETIME?

THE AMAZING RACE

Last week, eleven teams set out for Iceland, from Chicago. Two of the couples, Lori/Bolo and Jonathan/Victoria were at each other's throats the whole way, while Adam and Rebecca put the wrong fuel in their SUV and lost valuable time. Gus/Hera and Avi/Joe decided to work together, but when it was crunch time Avi and Joe lost their trust; they ended up arriving in last place and were sent home. This week, teams depart from Iceland. Haden and Aaron are the first to take off, while Gus/Hera are the last.

1st Clue: Fly 100 miles to Oslo, Norway and then drive 35 miles to Holmenkollen Ski Jump to find the next clue. All ten teams get on a single plane to Norway, with a short stop in Copenhagen. Jonathan and Victoria explode before their even out of the parking lot, and Meredith and Maria have a really hard time driving the standard SUV. They even use the word "can't." Later, they laugh about it.

ROAD BLOCK: Only one team member can perform this task (one team member can perform a maximum of 6 roadblocks in the entire race). This roadblock forces one person to climb to the top of the highest ski jump and ride a zip line 1000 ft to the bottom, to receive the next clue. It's on the zip line that I realize Adam may either be homosexual, or a definite Momma's boy. Mary-Jean gets mad at her 69-year-old husband for breaking their deal that she would do the tasks that didn't require strength.

Jonathan physically pushes Victoria to get her out of his face, and then slams her head in the hatch of the SUV. He later tells her that she has problems that she needs to look inside herself and change. Even Lena and Kristy agree that Jonathan has issues.

2nd Clue: Drive 50 miles to a Viking village for the next clue. Once here, teams must divide into two teams of ten (five teams per boat), and race across a lake for their next clue. The boat with five young teams and the muscular wrestlers wins hands down, however, their only advantage for winning seems to be time. On the second boat, with aggressive Jonathan and emotional Meredith and Adam, we see some tears of frustration coming from Victoria.

Later, Adam blames his lost glasses on Rebecca, which also brings her to tears. At the train station she tells him that she's losing her feelings for him, which brings him to tears. AND, Freddy and Kendra lose a piece of their clue on the road so they go back and take a second clue, which later incurs them a 30 minute penalty.

3rd Clue: Take a train 200 miles to the town of Voss, drive 5 miles to a marked bridge for the next clue. Don and Mary Jean get a senior's discount.

DETOUR: Endurance (roller-ski 1.75 mile course to receive the next clue) or Accuracy (complete three traditional games--basically bowling with sticks, axe throwing, and archery--to receive the next clue). The roller-skiers have a hard time staying on their feet. Lori and Bolo even change their minds and go for Accuracy instead. Gus and Hera are the first to complete the detour, which is amazing since they were the last team to arrive on the last leg of the race. I've never heard so much useless bickering between a couple.

PITSTOP: After completing the roadblock, teams must drive to Nesheims Tunet, a 1000-year-old traditional farm in the Norwegian country side. The last team to check in MAY be eliminated (remember there are a few non-elimination rounds). Don and Mary-Jean take the wrong car--Adam/Rebecca's, actually--and Lena and Kristy go the wrong direction. Order of arrival: Kris/John (win cruise to Alaska), Jonathan/Victoria, Gus/Hera, Hayden/Aaron, Lori/Bolo, Adam/Rebecca, Don/Mary-Jean, Freddy/Kendra (after 30 minute penalty), Lena/Kristy, and finally Meredith/Maria are eliminated from the race.

Next week: Jonathan and Victoria reach the boiling point, and a grueling detour brings Lori/Bolo and Don/Mary-Jean to their knees.

THE TEAMS:

Kris/John	Long distance dating for 1 year
Lena/Kristy	Sisters/Models
Lori/Bolo	Married/Professional Wrestlers
Don/Mary Jean	Married/Grandparents
Hayden/Aaron	Dating/Actors
Gus/Hera	Father/Daughter
Jonathan/Victoria	Married/Entrepreneurs (He's a dictator)
Freddy/Kendra	Engaged/Models (He's 10 years older than her)
Adam/Rebecca	Ex/Lovers (trying to rekindle) Hell Boys

GONE HOME:

Avi/Joe	Best Friends (guys)
Meredith/Maria	Best Friends/Roommates

THE APPRENTICE 2 Thursday, Sept. 9th, 2004

Last week Mosaic sent Kelly to Apex (to even things up), and teams had to develop an in-store promotional catalogue. Maria and Wes clashed big time, while Ivana came up with an ingenious idea for a "fit wheel," which won them a trip to see Billy Joel. Wes and Maria conflicted more in the boardroom, and Trump dramatically fired them both.

This week, the remaining competitors realize that they're the final six. Sandy realizes she's the only one left who does not have a college education. Ivana and Jen fight over the project manager decision. Ivana complains that she's earned it, where Jen hasn't, and that Jen keeps taking credit for Ivana's work. But, they end up drawing names out of a hat, and Kelly gets it. Apex discusses who would leave (Jen is in the other room) if they had to give someone up, they decide they don't really enjoy working with Jen.

When trump tells them to get rid of one team member, they immediately announce that Jen will go to Mosaic. It's funny, everyone else kind of has their little persona developed, and whereas all we know about Jen is that she's blonde. Come to think of it, we don't really know Kevin either.

THE TASK: Head to Pepsi headquarters in Westchester, and design a new bottle and marketing campaign for Pepsi Edge. As determined by the creative guy from Pepsi, the team with the best campaign wins.

MOSAIC: Sandy, Andy, and Jen develop a tag line ("The edge of both worlds"), and a purchasing incentive (collect bottle caps from different countries and once you have all the countries on one continent, you win a trip to that continent). Andy drinks lots of Pepsi, and gets extremely hyper. In connection with their travel theme, Sandy comes up with a bottle shape that's spherical (like a planet). However, Jen M feels that it would be too hard to grip.

Andy gets annoyed with the turtle speed of the design team, and offers them each a hundred dollars as an incentive. Later, the pizza comes, and Andy refuses to let anyone eat until the deadline is met. In the presentation, all three team members lose their speaking abilities and mostly embarrass themselves.

APEX: Ivana is immediately thrilled to be rid of Jen, and later her mind wanders to sexual issues in the design room. Kelly (PM) designs a bottle that has a hole in it. The team is very casual and calm, and it makes them think they've forgotten something. They've carved "edge" into the side of their bottles.

THE SCORES: The presentation is done in an amphitheatre, in front of Pepsi's entire marketing team. Mosaic's presentation is more inclusive, more details, however, their idea of putting globes on their bottles is lame. Apex is simple, innovative, and eye catching. On the basis of creativity, Apex wins. As a reward, they board Trump's personal helicopter to the race track, where they'll race Lamborghinis. Kelly, as the project manager, is exempt from the boardroom next week, and thus has become the first member of the final four.

BOARDROOM: The executives totally smash the globe idea. Andy says Sandy was the least creative, which Sandy argues against wholeheartedly. He later says that Jen is smarter. I think Andy has a crush on Jen, because I didn't see her

do anything. Sandy reveals Andy's choices to withhold the pizza to the design team, and to offer them cash incentives. Trump criticizes the team's inability to stay united after a loss.

Carolyn questions Jen's ability to fly under the radar. Jen and Sandy argue about who did a better job. They totally bicker in front of the executives. I don't understand half the stuff they say; the girls have gone completely ultrasonic. Andy is criticized for taking all the crap the girls dish out, and being unable to defend himself (he's a debating champion, remember). Andy is fired. After taking some time to think, he leaves the boardroom, and Trump announces that Women are tougher than men... Nice.

Next week: TWO episodes will air. The first will be a "never seen before" footage thing, and in the second we find out who can sell the most chocolate. Sandy and Jen use sex appeal, but Ivana drops her skirt.

Mosaic

Jennifer M (30) - Attorney
Sandy (28) - Bridal Salon Owner

Apex Corp.

Ivana (28) - Venture Capitalist
Kevin (29) - Law Student
Kelly (37) - Software Executive

You're Fired!

Rob (32) - Corporate Branding Salesman
Bradford (33) - Attorney
Stacie J (35) - Restaurateur
Jennifer C (31) - Real Estate Agent
Pamela (32) - Investment Firm Partner
John (24) - Marketing Director
Stacy R (26) - Attorney
Elizabeth (31) - Consulting Firm Owner
Raj (28) - Real Estate Developer (guy in red pants)
Chris (30) - Stockbroker
Maria (31) - Marketing Executive
Wes (28) - Private Wealth Manager
Andy (23) - Recent Harvard Grad (nationally ranked debater)

SURVIVOR: VANUATU - Thursdays - 9pm on CBS

Last week, after winning a random picked team reward, Chad, Chris, Eliza, and Amy experienced some cultural treats including some half-raw cow, and alcohol that goes to Chad's head. The rest of the tribe, however, was left at camp to experience a rain storm. After Twila won immunity, Scout tried to sway her vote to align with the guys to oust Eliza. In the end, however, the women stuck together and got rid of Chad.

This week, Chris is the only guy left, which immediately reveals Scout's manipulative ways. The women turn around and question Chris's motive to do this. When questioned, Twila throws the blame in Scout's direction. Later, Scout is questioned too, and she lies saying that everything was Chad's idea. Leann and Ami opt not to take Scout to the final four.

REWARD CHALLENGE: Score points by answering questions about the past correctly. Highest score wins.

The prize: 1 hour real time email chat with a loved one from home (webcam). Of course, Probst gives each of them a one minute taste. Twila sees her son, and breaks down completely. Leanne sees her best friend, Eliza sees her mother, Julie sees her good friend Justin, Scout sees her life partner Annie (I didn't know Scout was a lesbian), Ami sees her girlfriend Krissy (lesbian as well?), Chris sees his girlfriend Laurie and expresses quite a bit of emotion and we find out that the couple is to be married.

The challenge questions are as follows.

1. In the 7th immunity challenge, who broke the most tiles? (Rory)
2. In the great escape challenge, who was the first man to begin assembling his ladder? (Chad)
3. In the 2nd immunity challenge, blindfolded puzzle search, who sat out? (Dolly)
4. In the first immunity challenge, there were four symbols used in the puzzle, identify them (Pig Head, Coconut Tree, Volcano, Palm Tree)

After question 4, Chris and Twila have 3, everyone else tied at 6.

5. In the first reward challenge, which survivor fell into the water the most? (John K)

Julie and Eliza are now tied at 7.

6. (Sudden death) in the 3rd reward challenge (memory game); name the matching pairs of Items. She who names the most wins. Julie's mind draws blank, and Eliza wins with grapefruit.

BUT, the twist--instead of just an online chat, Eliza's mom gets to spend the night with the survivors. All the family members come out, and embrace their respective survivors. I still don't know who is hetero versus homosexual though, because there are no passionate kisses. Eliza and her mom aren't exciting people; it's totally boring, until mommy leaves Eliza with the shirt off her back (it has sleeves), and travels home in her bra. Later, Ami gives Twila hell for not exposing her conversations with Chad and Chris. I don't know what they're so worried about though, if they've already decided that Ami, Leann, Julie, and Eliza will be the final four, they've got the numbers to pick off the other three easily.

IMMUNITY CHALLENGE: Run in pairs (Surprise! It's each one with their family member) Each pair is designated a colour, loved ones are blindfolded, survivors verbally direct their loved ones through a rock-like maze to retrieve three bags of puzzle pieces. Once all are retrieved, blindfolds are removed and the first team to assemble their puzzle wins immunity. Yeah, Scout and Ami are definitely both lesbians (Who knew?). Ami and Krissy are the first to finish retrieving the bags, followed by Chris and Laurie. Scout and Annie, are then added, followed by Justin and Julie, Twila and James. Ami and Krissy win.

TRIBAL COUNCIL: Before they leave, we find out the mystery of the women's bickering. Ami, Leann, Julie, Twila, and Scout convene in the woods and debate as to whether to get rid of Chris or Eliza. They all agree that Chris deserves to stay more than Eliza does, but they can't risk his ability to win future immunity challenges. Nevertheless, they decide to ditch Eliza and go tell Chris the good news. Chris tells the camera that he's living in a tornado... he doesn't do a damn thing to change the game, but somehow he's off the chopping block. Then Twila and Chris talk about getting Scout and Eliza on board to get rid of the powerful three. Chris then goes to Eliza, who suggests that Scout and Twila may be lying to the both of them.

At tribal council, Sarge and Chad (the jury) are brought in. If I get what I want, the vote should be four to three for Leann over Eliza. In the end, Leann goes home (serves her right for not giving her all at the immunity challenge). I'm glad it happened this way because I was scared what the show would come to, with half a dozen women alone on an island. However, now that we know two of them are homosexual, it might get interesting when it comes down to alliances.

Next week: The women bicker some more, and a surprise is granted at the reward challenge.

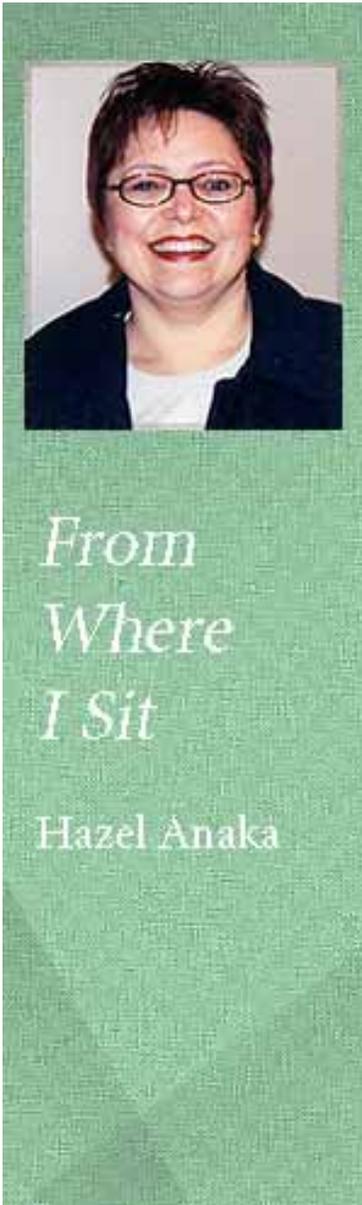
ALINTA

Chris	33	Highway Construction	
Julie	23	Youth Mentor	
Twila	41	Highway Repair	
Ami	31	Barista/Model	
Eliza	21	Pre-Law Student	
Scout	59	Rancher/Entrepreneur	(artificial knee)

VOTED OUT

Brook	27	Project Manager
Dolly	25	Sheep Farmer
John P	31	Sales Manager
Mia	30	Finance Manager
Brady	33	FBI Agent/Ex Military
Travis	33	Loss Prevention (Bubba)
Lisa	44	Real Estate Agent
John K	22	Model/Mechanical Bull Operator
Rory	35	Housing Case Manager
Lea	40	Drill Sergeant
Chad	35	Teacher (Artificial leg)
Leann	35	Research Assistant

If there are any other shows you want updates on, or any comments you wish to make, please email me at abaldwin@shaw.ca!



Venting

Every day for the past 35 or so years, I've read the Edmonton Journal. I've seen editors, columnists, reporters, cartoonists come and go. I've seen the paper shrink and grow. I've seen the addition of Sunday issues and color to its pages.

One of my favorite new features is Venting which appears Mondays. Venting is defined as "to give free play or expression to an emotion or passion." Recently I wrote to Terry McConnell who compiles the submissions for some background scoop. He kindly let me gush on about how much I love the wittiness of the contributors. I offered my take on the public service this feature provides and how difficult it must be to deal with the crackpots who write in.

According to McConnell the feature debuted November 18, 2002 after he pitched the idea during a redesign of the City section. He typically receives between 80 and 100 vents each week with an average of 25 making it into the print version and about 15 appearing online. Between 6 and 10 Vents appear in Sunday's Sports Vents.

I've likened Venting to a print version of the local coffee shop where every opinion, no matter how inane, disparate, off-the-wall, narrow-minded, witty or brilliant gets equal play. In a sense, it provides a microcosm of Edmonton and Alberta life. It gives people an immediate chance to comment on what happening in their city, their province, their lives. It takes on a conversational quality when some vents one week lead to rebuttals or answers or clarifications the following week.

I questioned whether the protection of anonymity brought out hatred, poor taste or just plain dumb comments. "I stay away from the really mean ones and those that sound just plain miserable. It has to offer readers more than just a glorified bitch session. I avoid vents that personally attack people who have no forum to defend themselves. Politicians, large corporations and even the Journal are fair game," says McConnell.

Regular readers of Venting will know that poor driving habits get an awful lot of ink, week after week. While there is no scientific proof to support it, I can't help but believe that Venting helps defuse some road rage. Or ignorance, or retail tantrums or random acts of incivility.

Here are some recent ones that made me smile:

"As far as our politicians are concerned, FOIP doesn't mean freedom of information but "F___Off, It's Private."

Or "People see an older couple like us holding hands and they think of rekindled love. Actually, we're just trying to not get lost."

Or "If Tim Horton's is so Canadian, how come the pylons in their restaurants warn patrons that the floor is wet in Spanish?"

So rather than chew out a cashier, cut off a fellow driver or go to the coffee shop to bitch, give your brilliant comments a wider audience in Venting. It's safer and much more fun, from where I sit.

[ed. Want to vent to Voice readers? Send your quips and quibbles to voice@ausu.org for inclusion in a future Sounding Off column.]

**Reprinted with permission*



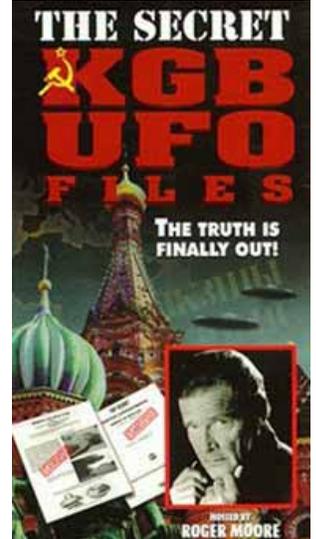
Secret KGB UFO Files Film Review

By Laura Seymour

The month of December is dedicated to unique occult films that make me curious about interesting phenomena. The world is filled with interesting mysteries and some people have actually sunk money, time and energy into trying to unravel them.

The first of these unique projects is one I picked up in a cheap DVD bin for about 7 bucks. I figured it was worth a laugh but the laugh was on me. Former James Bond himself, Roger Moore, narrates the TNT television special. The still handsome Mr. Moore shows us some startling film footage and careful research.

The film depicts the fiery crash of a UFO (let me be really clear. I'm NOT saying extraterrestrial craft I'm saying "unknown flying object"). This object supposedly smashed up in Russia in March of 1969. In the film footage (a chunk showing footage of the interior of the craft is still not found and released to the public) we can see a troop of Russian soldiers arrive and take orders to guard while the craft is filmed and investigated. Two cameras document the event and then the fun begins. The TNT project picks apart the film we see. First, they ask the questions we need answered: Is this an authentic 1969 film with real Russian soldiers? The weapons, film and clothing are analyzed as well as the surrounding areas, by experts of Russian culture. This impressed me. The experts say that the film itself is marked with a clear marking from a known Russian film lab. The weapons are dated and analyzed as proper era Russian weapons. The clothing is correct-issue for the era and the use.



Next is amazing footage of a Russian MIG fighter jet apparently chasing a UFO. Then, just as the MIG pilot is told to lock on and shoot down the UFO, the jet itself is destroyed by the unknown craft! The pilot clearly moves inside the cockpit and the footage seems eerily real. I sat amazed. I then became curious. What did they tell the widow of the MIG fighter pilot? What happened to the remains of the craft? How did the UFO know the MIG was going to fire on it? Were the occupants monitoring the human conversations? Did they have to contact their own chiefs of command prior to shooting down the earth fighter craft or were they simply told, "defend yourselves if necessary"?

In a most interesting twist we then see a Russian version of the alien autopsy film that became such an American controversy. There are some SERIOUS differences between the Russian and American versions. The American film footage had the team covered in sterile white gowns, gloves, mask etc. The film was later decided to be a hoax for one reason--which annoyed me: the fingers used on an instrument in the autopsy by the surgeon were incorrect! Hmmm ok. I remember clearly watching the finest Hollywood special effects people puzzle over how the cutting and slicing were faked on the film. These effects masters stated, on film, that they couldn't create those effects to this day, and yet the fingers were wrong with the autopsy tool so it had to be a fake! Moan...

In the Russian version there wasn't much left of the apparently purplish carcass (no head, legs or hands) and the torso yielded little information on camera. The people attending the autopsy were ungloved, and mask-less. The TNT experts were asked if this made any sense and they stated that it was standard because of the poverty experienced in Russia. They also showed more modern footage from a well known medical establishment that seemed to prove where the autopsy took place. To quote *Star Trek's* Mr. Spock, "Fascinating."

This film is still available on DVD and despite the sound quality going up and down in my copy I recommend this for anyone fascinated by mysteries. There are many interesting moments and Roger Moore does a great job of being relaxed and asking the right questions for the viewers.

Look at this website for more information and some great still photos: <http://ufocasebook.com/russia1969.html>

Laura Seymour first published herself, at age 8. She has since gone on to publish a cookbook for the medical condition Candida. She is working toward her B.A. (Psyc).



Searching for Internships

Lonita Fraser

National Democratic Institute - Internships at the National Democratic Institute

Job Location: Washington, DC, United States

Job Description: Administrative Fundraising/Development Program - Asia, South Asia Central and Eastern Europe Central and West Africa (CWA) Citizen Participation Programs - Democratic Governance Eurasia Department Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Program - Southern and East Africa (SEA) Programs Women's Political Participation Programs. No phone calls please

Job Requirements: Please see our website for more information regarding each position at <http://www.ndi.org>. This position pays \$6.15 per hour. Only those applicants under consideration will be contacted. We expect a minimum commitment of at least roughly 20 hours per week.

Application Instructions: Apply now using our on-line resume tool. Please refer to the internship in the cover letter.

Contact Information: Lisa Langman, Recruitment Coordinator, National Democratic Institute, 2030 M. Street NW, Fifth Floor, Washington, DC 20036 - Phone: 202-728-6328 WWW: <http://www.ndi.org>

Kelly Scientific Resources - INTERN-CHEMISTRY LAB TECHS

Job Location: Ontario, CA, United States

Job Description: We have a great opportunity for an internship with a company in Riverside specializing in environmental testing! This is an exciting opportunity for an undergrad to gain experience as a chemical lab technician. Job duties will be to perform sample preparation, working with metals and inorganics in the chemistry department.

Eligibility: Must be pursuing a degree in Chemistry or related field; Work Mon-Fri, from 4pm-8pm; Salary \$9.00/hr.

Job Requirements: B.S. degree in Chemistry or related field in progress; Lab experience, such as chemical and physical analysis, highly desirable!

How To Apply: Respond immediately by accessing the following dedicated online response form which will allow you to cut and paste your resume. This form will go directly and immediately to the hiring authority for this position. Access the online response form at: <http://64.89.40.26/servlet/resp/rf?jobid=1464757&boardid=1113>

Contact Information: Recruiting Manager, Kelly Scientific Resources, Palm Brook Corp Center, Ontario, CA, United States 91764

Bronx Council on the Arts - Artist Services Internship

Job Location: Bronx - NY, NY, United States

Job Description: Work with the Program Director in managing the operations of the BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) individual artist grant and assist in planning of the inaugural Bronx Artist Biennial taking place June 2005. You will assist the curator/festival planners in a variety of administrative areas, which include working with emerging and established artists, communicating with print and electronic media, data entry, and other duties as required. You'll learn first hand the ins and outs of a successful artist grant program and arts event planning. Some of the benefits of the internship will include: Assist with marketing, "outreach", and press release; Hands on learning about artist grants and the grant making process; Learn more about the wealth of artistic talent in the Bronx; Interaction with contemporary visual, performance, literary and media artists; Assist with event planning, design and implementation.

Job Requirements: Preferably a BFA/BA or MFA candidate; Passionate about contemporary art; Strong written and verbal skills; Strong Communication & Interpersonal skills; Advanced computer skills; Self Starter; Basic graphic editing with Photoshop is a plus; Layout skills are also a plus

How To Apply: Please email your resume to melissa@bronxarts.org with "Artist Services Internship" in the subject.

Contact Information: Melissa Calderon, Artist Services Coordinator, Bronx Council on the Arts, 1738 Hone Ave Bronx, NY, United States 10461

Phone: 718 931 9500 FAX: 718 409 6445

Email: melissa@bronxarts.org WWW: <http://www.bronxarts.org>

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

SHELL CANADA ABORIGINAL SCHOLARSHIP

Award Amount: n/s

Deadline: n/s

Administrator: National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation

Notes: Preference given to students studying business, engineering and science.

Contact Information:

National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation

70 Yorkville Avenue, Suite 33A

Toronto, Ontario M5R 1B9

Phone: (416) 926-0775 Fax: (416) 926-7554 Toll Free: (800) 329-9780

Web Site: <http://www.naaf.ca> E-mail: naaf@istar.ca

UNIVERSITY WRITING SCHOLARSHIP - UNDERGRADUATE

Award Amount: n/s

Deadline: n/s

Administrator: Elder & Leemaar Publishers

Notes: Up to \$10,000 available. Students must submit an essay no longer than 500 words on **one** of the topics listed at <http://www.elpublishers.com/content/uwsotherscholarships.php> to be eligible for the scholarship. Please visit the Web site to determine the topics for each semester. **Fall Semester** (September-December) Deadline: December 20, 2004.

Contact Information:

1124 Holdom Ave

Burnaby, British Columbia

Canada V5B 3V6

Web Site: <http://www.elpublishers.com>

Application Address: <http://www.elpublishers.com/content/univsubmit.php>

PETER ELZINGA FAMILY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Award Amount: n/s

Deadline: June 1, 2005

Administrator: Peter Elzinga Family Foundation

Notes: For Alberta Students. Award ranges from \$200 to \$2000. Awards are intended to assist anyone who has been away from formal education and/or any student continuing their education. Available for full or part-time study. For application forms and more information e-mail: pandpelzinga@shaw.ca

Contact Information:

The Peter Elzinga Family Foundation

2500-10303 Jasper Ave NW

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3N6

E-mail: pandpelzinga@shaw.ca

Voice Events Listings

On and off campus events worldwide

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with the word "events" in the subject line.

british Columbia

WHISTLER FILM FESTIVAL - 4-7 DECEMBER 2004

In spectacular surroundings, the annual Whistler Film Festival takes place for the third time in 2003.

The festival is about experiencing the adventure of film. Highlights include four days of screenings, filmmaking workshops and appearances by filmmakers. The event is an international competitive event, with around 60% of the films being Canadian. Details of the programme will be available on the festival website as soon as they are released.

For more information:
Fax +1 604 938 3209
info@whistlerfilmfestival.com

ontario

ONE OF A KIND CRAFT SHOW 25 NOVEMBER - 5 DECEMBER 2004

Wed 5pm-10pm; Thu & Fri 11am-10pm
Sat 10am-9pm; Sun 10am-6pm
Cost C\$8

This event at Toronto's National Trade Centre, held twice a year each spring and Christmas, features hundreds of artisans from across Canada selling hand-crafted works, from jewellery, pottery, woodwork and glass to ironwork, clothing and visual art.

National Trade Centre
Exhibition Place, Strachan Ave, Toronto, ON, Canada
Tel +1 416 263 3000 Fax +1 416 263 3029

FIRST NIGHT TORONTO 29-31 DEC 2004 1PM-8PM; 31 DEC 2PM-12AM SKYDOME - COST C\$12.50

The magnificent SkyDome springs to life as the masses descend to count the New Year in during the annual three-day festival, First Night Toronto.

This event is growing in strength and promises more than 500 performers in about 70 shows on 20 stages around the

Skydome. Music, theatre, dance, storytelling, magic, an imagination market, a people's parade, skating and an ice show spectacular are all on the bill. The midnight laser, lights and fireworks provide a fitting climax to the fun.

Contact Details
info@firstnighttoronto.ca

saskatchewan

Government House Historical Society Victorian Tea - REGINA. SK Tel: 306-787-5363; Fax: 306-787-5714

Enjoy a traditional Victorian Tea in Saskatchewan's unique and elegant Government House Ballroom. Tea served 1 - 4pm. 2004 dates: Dec 4 - 5 (reservations required for Dec dates only). Government House tours available. Groups of 8 or more, please call ahead. Due to construction, please call to confirm times. Mar 13, 2004 to Dec 6, 2004

international

FANTASY ARCHITECTURE: 1500AD-2036AD 1 October - 21 November 2004 (not Mon) Tue-Sat 10am-5pm - Sun 12pm-5pm Walsall, West Midlands, England

New Art Gallery - Gallery Square
Walsall, West Midlands, WS2 8LG England
Tel +44 (0) 1922 654 400 Fax +44 (0) 1922 654 401
Email info@artatwalsall.org.uk

Imagined buildings, structures and schemes, from Renaissance set designs to 21st-century masterplans, are the focus of this touring exhibition visiting the New Art Gallery in Walsall. Featuring the work of visionary figures as diverse as Inigo Jones, Joseph Paxton, Robert Adam, Sir John Soane, Sir Edwin Lutyens, Archigram and Foreign Office Architects, the exhibition includes a wealth of historical and contemporary drawings. In addition, there are paintings, models, collage, film and computer renderings of designs for buildings that might have, or could still, radically change the face of our cities forever.

FESTIVAL DES 38E RUGISSANTS 24 NOVEMBER - 4 DECEMBER 2004 GRENOBLE, FRANCE

Musée de Grenoble, 5, place Lavalette
Grenoble, Rhône-Alpes
38010, France

Tel +33 4 76 63 44 44 Fax +33 4 76 63 44 10

Contact Details: 38e Rugissants Organizer
+33 (0) 4 76 51 12 92

An extraordinary event to find in Grenoble, the Festival des 38e Rugissants (Festival of the 38 Roars, roughly translated) celebrates nomadic music in venues around the city.

The event is organised by the Musée de Grenoble and each year there is an incredible diversity of performers, from Taiwanese aboriginals to globe-trotting musicologists who have used their archives to mix together sound installations.

PIRATES IN PARADISE
25 NOVEMBER - 5 DECEMBER 2004
KEY WEST, FLORIDA USA

Festival Organizers
+1 305 296 9653, 201 William St, Key West, FL, 33040

Key West's seaport and harbour is transformed into a pirate stronghold during this festival. The event features tall ship sea battles, an arts and crafts show, sunset pirate sails, opportunities to dive the Atocha shipwreck site and non-stop, swashbuckling entertainment.

PENIS MUSEUM
NOW THROUGH APRIL 30TH, 2005
REYKJAVÍK, ICELAND

Institute of Phallology
Laugavegur 24, Reykjavík, Iceland
May-Aug: Tue-Sat 2pm-5pm
Sep-Apr: Tue & Sat 2pm-5pm
Tel +354 561 6663 / 566 8668 Fax +354 552 6466
phallus@ismnnet.is

A brave group of scientific entrepreneurs has set up the world's first Penis Museum (officially known as the Institute of Phallology) in Reykjavik - it's not for the squeamish.

The museum, as well as showcasing the rich diversity of nature's endowments, also has a gallery of phallological art and a section of "practical utensils" relating to the theme of the museum, whatever that means.

MR POTTER'S MUSEUM OF CURIOSITY - DAILY
BOLVENTOR, CORNWALL, ENGLAND

Jul-Aug 10am-7pm
Nov-Mar 11am-4pm
Sep-Oct & Apr-Jun 10am-5pm
Cost £2.50 concessions £2 family ticket £6.95
For more information: +44 1566 86838
jamaicainn@eclipse.co.uk

Mr Potter's "Famous" Museum of Curiosities in Cornwall is an experience of unadulterated madness, resembling more the result of a psychotic on the rampage at a car boot sale than a collection of relics of the past.

SHAMBHALA: SPIRIT OF TIBET PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT
SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2005

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Book Passages
(415) 927-0960 (800) 999-7909 Fax (415) 924-3838
51 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera
San Francisco Bay Area, California 94925

Exhibition of black & white documentary photographs taken in Tibet, December 2003-January 2004.

Reception: Sunday, November 14, 2004 - 4 to 6pm
Exhibit: November 14 to January 30, 2005

Store Hours:
10:00 am to 9:30 pm, Monday through Saturday
10:30 am to 9:00 pm Sunday.

Tibetans believe that Shambhala is the legendary hidden Kingdom. In their every day life, Tibetans practice the vision of Shambhala believing that it creates a society that enables them to express the dignity of human existence and a way to live meaningful lives. While the world around them has lost sight of the truth and religion, and has degenerated into power struggles, warfare, and materialism.

Photographer Jo Farrell is a black and white documentary photographer, born in London, England, who over the past five years has concentrated her work on Tibet and China. Her photographic projects are social and cultural anthropological studies, capturing traditions and cultures before they are erased from our memory forever. The work featured in this exhibit is from her recent trip to Tibet in 2003/2004 and captures the spirit of Tibetan life today.

<http://www.JoFarrell.com>

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with "events" in the subject line.



CALL FOR PAPERS - Urban and Rural Flows and Counterflows

February 10-12, 2005

Splendid Isolation: Urban and Rural Flows and Counterflows in Electronic Music and Related Media

Berlin, Germany

Held in conjunction with club transmediale.05

"The relationship between communication technologies and the city has been a long and complicated one, where the density of communicative activity has often been taken as defining characteristic of urban life. By contrast, rural areas have been idealized and marked by the relative absence of these technologies, a perception which tends to obscure the social and spatial consequences of communication technologies in rural areas. Out of this dichotomous set of associations has emerged a constellation of forces, ideas, images and experiences which have defined both the city and rural zones in unique and singular ways.

The history of art and music bears many traces of this productive tension, in which being immersed in city life and rural hermitage act as polar opposites. Popular music has been identified with contrapuntal movements that fluctuate between the celebration and derogation of both the rural and the urban. Within this interplay, various technologies, in particular electronic communication, have provided the principle forms of mediation between urban and rural areas, bridging and binding people and places in multiple ways and creating new hybrid territories situated within a shared mediasphere. In this context, the challenges of cultural production in and between rural and urban regions continue to be inflected by the specific demands of electronic/digital production, distribution and consumption.

This conference intends to address topics relating to the many debates and discourses produced by the intersection of cultural production, electronic arts/media, and social relations in urban and rural settings. We encourage artists, practitioners, journalists, writers and academics to participate in what promises to be provocative conference. In keeping with the overall themes of transmediale and club transmediale [BASICS], which investigate the aesthetic and ethical foundations of a hyper-potential culture, papers should address, but need not be restricted to, the following frameworks:

- * (Exo/Endo)Polis: electronic music, urban/ruraldynamics, and cultural politics
- * Refashioning Networks: circuits, nodes, communities, scenes and subcultures and extended milieu
- * Mediations: the rural/urban digital nexus, imagining/ representing nature in the city/the city in nature; electronic music and the experience of nature
- * Counterflows: fluctuating movements between urban and rural music subcultures
- * The Best of Both worlds: bridging the urban/rural divide
- * Splendid Isolation: productivity between seclusion, media networking and boredom; sound cultures beyond the major metropolises
- * Perforating the Mainstream: marketing the margin
- * Opposing Urbanity: f(r)actions of rural subcultures in the metropolis
- * The City and Its Other: critiques from the centre and periphery, speaking from and to rural and urban perspectives"

Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words and are due by November 15, 2004. Panel proposals are also welcome. Please submit them to: conference@transmediale.de

MEPHISTOS

March 5-6, 2005

Providence, Rhode Island USA

<http://www.brown.edu/Students/Mephistos/>

Mephistos is an international graduate student conference in the History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science, Technology and Medicine. The purpose of the conference is to stimulate open discussion among graduate students. The graduate community at Brown University, in association with the Committee on Science & Technology Studies, is proud to host the twenty-third annual edition of the event.

4TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PEER SUPPORT CONFERENCE

Details to follow...

Jan 14 - 16/2005

Provided by Lonita Fraser

2005 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities Honolulu, Hawaii USA

Jan 13 - 16/2005

Contact: Attn. Andrew Burge, 2005 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities
PO Box 75036, Honolulu, HI 96836 USA
<http://www.hichumanities.org/> humanities@hichumanities.org

The 3rd Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities will be held from January 13 (Tuesday) to January 16 (Friday), 2005 at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii. The 2005 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities will be the gathering place for academicians and professionals from the arts and humanities related fields from all over the world.

The main goal of the 2005 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities is to provide an opportunity for academicians and professionals from various arts and humanities related fields from all over the world to come together and learn from each other. An additional goal of the conference is to provide a place for academicians and professionals with cross-disciplinary interests related to arts and humanities to meet and interact with members inside and outside their own particular disciplines.

Topic Areas (All Areas of Arts and Humanities are Invited)

American Studies, Archeology, Architecture, Art, Art History, Dance, English, Ethnic Studies, Film, History, Landscape Architecture, Languages, Literature, Linguistics, Music, Performing Arts, Philosophy, Religion, Second Language Studies, Speech/Communication, Theatre, Visual Arts, Other Areas of Arts and Humanities, Cross-disciplinary areas of the above related to each other or other areas.

Contributed By AU's *The Insider*

- **iCORE (Informatics Circle of Research Excellence) Summit - Aug. 2005 -Banff.**
The second annual iCORE Banff Informatics Summit will bring together leading information and communications technology (ICT) researchers for three days. The field of informatics encompasses computer science, electrical and computer engineering, physics and mathematics. (403) 210-5335. <http://www.icore.ca/>.
- **Sheldon Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership Symposium - Oct. or Nov. 2005, Calgary.**
The Chumir Foundation promotes an active, involved citizenry and principled leadership. (403) 244-6666. <http://www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca/>.
- **InfraEDUCA 2004 - June 25-27 - Pragati Maidan, New Delhi -** The exhibition will be synergetic platform showcasing recent developments in Basic & Primary Education, Higher Education, Coaching Institutes, Specialized Courses, Vocational Training & Career Prospects, Distance Learning Systems, International Universities and Programs, E-Learning Tools and Educational Kits, Computer Education, Government Schemes and Programs etc. Details: <http://www.friendzexhibitions.com/infraeduca2004/index.htm>.
- **PISTA '04 - July 21-25 - Orlando, Florida -** Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are transforming our societies, therefore papers about research results, solutions and problems of the applications of ICT in Politics and Society are highly encouraged. Details: <http://www.confinf.org/Pista04/website/default.asp>
- **EDUTEX Bangladesh 2004 - July 28 - 30 - Dhaka, Bangladesh.** EDUTEX Bangladesh 2004 is the platform for you to promote your Institutions and services and to recruit students in Bangladesh. Details: <http://www.expam.com/bangladesh/>

Know of a conference that is not on this list? Contact voice@ausu.org with the details and we'll list it in Conference Connections.

classifieds

Classifieds are free for AU students! Contact voice@ausu.org for more information.

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AU BUSINESS STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (AUBSA) NOW ONLINE! The AU Business Students' Association website is now online at <http://www.ausu.org/clubs/aubsa/index.php>. If you are an AU business student, or a student with an interest in business, this club is for you! Contact aubsa@ausu.org for more information. It's free to join!

THE VOICE

2nd Floor, 10030-107th Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 3E4 -- Ph: 800.788.9041 ext. 2905 - Fax: 780.497.7003 attn: Voice Editor

Publisher Athabasca University Students' Union

Editor In Chief Tamra Ross Low

News Contributors Lonita Fraser, Shannon Maguire, Zil-E-Huma Lodhi

Regular Columnists: Debbie Jabbour, Karl Low, Laura Seymour, Amanda Lyn Baldwin, Hazel Anaka, Larry Seymour, Bill Pollett, Barbara Godin

Contributors to listings columns: Zil-E-Huma Lodhi, Shannon Maguire, Lonita Fraser

THE VOICE ONLINE: WWW.AUSU.ORG/VOICE

The Voice is published every Wednesday in html and pdf format

Contact *The Voice* at: VOICE@AUSU.ORG

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Special thanks to Athabasca University's *The Insider* for its contributions

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