



the **Link**



Winter sports and....
HST • pg 4

ITCHY ANSWERS

sex & relationship
answers
at your
fingertips
• pg 10



December 1, 2010

Issue 46-7



Great gift ideas for students
on a budget • pg 6

Less Christmas Spending Doesn't Mean You're a Scrooge

Arrange a holiday budget and don't feel guilty about it

Brenna Temple
Editor



Christmas is coming. For many of us, this means we'll have to plan around a budget, or a lack thereof. We'll write our Christmas lists as we scramble to understand how we can buy presents for everyone and their dog. This may as well lead

us to contemplations of whether or not we can live off white rice with margarine come January thanks to the vapid, gaping hole most commonly known as the student wallet.

If this scenario sounds all too familiar then don't worry, you're not alone. In fact, buying presents you can't afford isn't a case that's isolated to college students. A recent TD Bank holiday survey says that one third of Canadians buy presents they know they can't afford. And according to TD Bank's Senior Vice President Carrie Russell, it's easy to overspend.

"There is a certain 'magic to the season' and it's easy to get carried away. However, it's important to remember that squeezing all holiday spending into one month can put a lot of pressure on your budget," says Russell in a TD Bank

press release.

But not having much of a budget to work with doesn't mean you have to give your family coal or ditch out on Christmas altogether. It just means you need to get organized and focus on telling yourself that just because you can't give big this year, doesn't mean that you're a bad person.

"It's not about being a Scrooge, but rather avoiding common holiday shopping mistakes," says Russell. "You can stay on budget and enjoy what the season is supposed to be all about—without worrying about the months that follow too."

Perhaps the worst part of trying to buy great presents for people under large amounts of pressure is that we often make huge holiday shopping mistakes. According to the survey, 23 per

cent of Canadians throw their gift purchases onto credit cards. It doesn't take rocket science either to realize that you could end up paying off this debt over the course of the next year. As well, one in 10 Canadians stated they bought gifts for people they knew they wouldn't like. The most stunning statistic? Forty-eight per cent of us reportedly shop for ourselves when we hit the mall for Christmas gift purchases.

When looking at information like this it's no surprise that we walk away from our Christmas celebrations carrying significant amounts of stress. But for many of us, that stress could have started as early as November when the Christmas campaigns start springing up. According to the survey, 35 per cent of Canadians spend time stressing about

whether or not they can even afford the presents they're planning on buying. For a holiday that's supposed to be fun, we sure spend a lot of time worrying. And for a student who's already distracted with hours of December exam studying, that's not an easy burden for anyone to carry on their shoulders.

This year try to be reasonable in your choices. Check out our Christmas spending guide to avoid going over your credit card limit. Both you and your wallet will thank us for it in January when it's time to get back to the books. Happy holidays!



Check out the Link social media!

The Link Blog

www.bcitstudentnewspaper.ca

Facebook & Twitter

BCIT Link

bcit_link



Campus Query

How do you deal with the stress of school?

Chad Klassen | Assistant Editor



Dustin Jensen
Media

I'm going to Mexico in 10 days actually . . . Los Cabos, and then Sun Peak after in January sometime. Family trip. I usually go with the family once or twice a year.



Daria Naslova
International Business

As soon as I'm done my finals I'll figure it out. That's what we're focused on right now. I'll gather around friends and family.



Jenny Morgan
Geomatics

I've got a bunch of errands to do. I'm getting married next year and I have to plan for that. Probably going to go on a bit of a vacation skiing and head down to Oregon on a driving trip.



Angie Milosz
Financial Management

Just going to spend time at my mom's. My dad's probably going to fly in from Ontario. I'm Polish, so we're probably going to have our big dinner on Christmas Eve.



Nick Juryn
Geomatics

Going home. I'm from Grand Prairie, Alberta. Going snowmobiling and drinking my ass off.

the Link

SE2 - 281
3700 Willingdon Ave.
Burnaby, BC, V5G 3H2

Phone: 604.456.1167
Ads: 604.432.8974
Fax: 604.431.7619

The Link is the student newspaper of the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Published bi-weekly by the BCIT Student Association (BCITSA), The Link circulates 3,000

copies to over 16,000 students, faculty and staff.

Publications Manager:
Alicia Agarrabeitia
publications@bcitsa.ca
604.456.1167

Editor:
Brenna Temple
linkeditor@bcitsa.ca

Assistant Editor:
Chad Klassen
linkassistanteditor@bcitsa.ca

Culture Coordinator:
Sarah Massah
linkcultureeditor@bcitsa.ca

Link Writers:
Colin Hope
Jessica Rivers
Zameer Karim

Contributors:
Amy Wilding
Andrew Button
Jim Moore
Luvia Petersen

Sonia Stirling

Advertising Sales:
Dan Close
marketing@bcitsa.ca
604.432.8974

The views in **The Link** are not necessarily those of BCIT, BCITSA, the Editorial Staff, or the Publications Manager. As a member of Canadian University Press (CUP), **The Link** adheres

to the CUP code of ethics and will not publish any material deemed by the editors to be sexist, racist, homo/hetero phobic or in poor taste.



News In Brief

Brenna Temple
Editor

BCIT Electrical Students and Staff Volunteer for the Tenth Consecutive Time

Did you know that the lighting display at Vancouver's St. Paul's Hospital was partially put together by BCIT Electrical students and staff who volunteered their time?

They worked in collaboration with volunteers from Vancouver's Princess Margaret Secondary to help set up the display known as the Lights of Hope fundraiser that's made from donated materials.

"Electrical Foundation students dedicated over 800 hours to the cause and were responsible for tasks such as testing, set-up preparations, and wiring the display," said the website.

"Students were led by Don Zaklan, instructor of the BCIT Electricity and Industrial Electronics Foundation program at Princess Margaret Secondary."



Retired BCIT Applied Research Dean receives Advanced Technology Award

The retired Dr. Norman Street was appointed as BCIT's Dean of Applied Research in 1995 but he recently received the Advanced Technology Award from the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of British Columbia. An award like this isn't easy to come by either according to the organizations executive director John Leech.

"Each Advanced Technology Award recognizes exceptional achievement, and they're not given lightly," said Leech as quoted from BCIT's website. "They acknowledge significant contributions made by members and non-members alike, to promote pioneer efforts in technology, and to apply and adapt advanced technology to new uses."

BCIT Nursing Instructors Receive Award for Article

For BCIT nursing instructors Eileen Shackell and Mary Gillespie it was an article related to oxygen that won them the 2010 Edwards Lifesciences Editorial Award.

The article, called *The Oxygen Supply and Demand Framework: A tool to support integrative learning*, won for its ability to help people learn according to the organization's director, Ruth Trinier.

"The article provides a very thorough description of a tool that has supported your learners to understand physiological concepts and apply this knowledge to the care of the critically ill," said Trinier as quoted on the BCIT website.

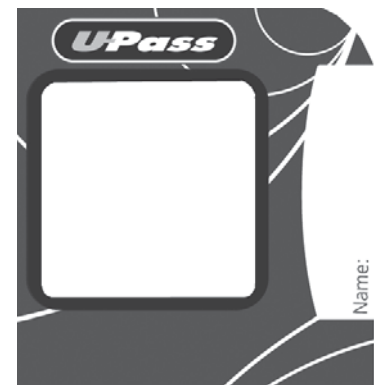
"This presentation of an educational strategy in a clear, well-written and fully supported format is deserving of first prize."

Student Referendum Will Decide if the U-pass Program Passes in January 2011

BCIT students will decide if they get to use the U-pass in a January 2011 referendum.

The referendum, slated to occur from January 7th to January 17th, will allow students to vote on whether or not the \$30 per month transit pass will be made available to BCIT. The BCIT Student Association (BCITSA) is excited to welcome the voting process into campus doors according to President Jordan Harris.

"We are excited to finally have a contract that will work for BCIT students and we are looking forward to having all eligible students vote on this important issue," said Harris as quoted on the BCIT website.



BCIT's United Way Campaign Raises More Than \$80,000

Thanks to donations and various fundraising events, BCIT's United Way Campaign has earned more than \$80,000 so far.

Its biggest success was the silent auction which earned just over \$7,100 according to the BCIT website.

"One of the biggest BCIT United Way fundraising events held to date was the legendary Silent Auction. This year's auction was an amazing success with a total of \$7,192.00 raised for the United Way – more than ever before," said the website.

The silent auction was successful because of the hard work of volunteers according to the silent auction committee chair Emery Biggar.

"The success of the auction is due in large part to the help of long-time committee members Denise Wilkes, Cathy Hyska, Christine Zapisocki and Monica Lueg—as well as all the other auction volunteers," said Biggar as quoted on the BCIT website.



Photo from bcit.ca/update/node/1304

Will the HST create a Wintery Blizzard on Local Mountains?

Chad Klassen
Assistant Editor

The Abominable Snow Monster – also known as the Harmonized Sales Tax – is making its cold presence felt and has some wondering how it will affect ski resorts on the Coast.

Before July 1st, lift passes and ski and snowboard equipment were not subject to the seven per cent provincial sales tax. Yet, like many other recreational activities, consumers are now being forced to pay the extra tax to continue their passion – whether it's on the ice or the slopes.

And while some of the price increases are inflationary, winter sport enthusiasts, including many students, are taking notice.

“[Money's] definitely a factor,” says BCIT student and snowboarder Colin Hope. “The prices keep going up, it's not getting any cheaper, equipment's expensive, food's expensive because you're eating up there. The HST makes everything more expensive and a bit harder to spend.”

Despite the economic realities, Hope doesn't think a few extra bucks will deter those who have been eagerly awaiting the winter wonderland.

“It's probably going to affect some young people who are on a fixed income, but most of my friends are going to go anyways because they're pretty diehard skiers,” he says. “I'm sure they'll be a lot of people that won't because it costs more now.”

Others like Julia Montague sport new gear and can't wait to try it out over Christmas, regardless of price hikes.

In fact, the equipment she bought on clearance was subject to the HST, but Montague put on the blinders knowing it was a great deal.

“I honestly didn't even look at my bill because it was on sale. I was like ‘here, take my money. I don't want to know.’ It was way cheaper than I would've paid, so I try not to think about it,” she says.

“I'm kind of stupid with my money when it comes to skiing, whereas every other aspect of my

life I'm penny-pinching.”

The Link takes an in-depth look at how the HST will affect your skiing trip this winter.

Whistler Blackcomb

The Olympic city will be buzzing over the break. Locals will be driving up the Sea to Sky to take in some great ski conditions, but tourists from around the world will also converge in the Village. As for price at the world-renowned resort, it won't be cheap especially with the additional HST.

Full-time students between the ages of 17 and 29, though, can take advantage of a season pass for \$670.88 (including the HST). It gives them unlimited access through May 2011 at well over half the price of the regular pass (\$1,902.88 with HST).

If you've got left over cash from your student loans, all you need is evidence of the program curriculum, as well as student and government ID, to prove you're in school.

But look back to last winter and you realize how much more expensive skiing at the world-renowned resort has become. Whistler raised the student rates by \$200, but even with just GST the pass was \$418.95 for access throughout the winter, compared to the \$1,605.45 for the adult season pass.

Another option is to buy an EDGE card, which grants skiers and snowboarders discounted rates on day and weekend passes every time they visit.

A one-day lift ticket with the pre-paid pass works out to be \$86.24 for Canadian residents, including HST, compared to the regular \$105.28 rate per day.

BCIT student Colin Hope has one and wants to make it up the Sea to Sky over Christmas, but the North Vancouver native lives at the base of Seymour and says he'll likely stick to the local mountains over the break.

“I'll hit up Seymour because it's two minutes away from my house. I usually head up for a cou-

ple hours and come back down,” says Hope. “A lot of my friends are usually up there anyway, so I don't have to worry about finding people.”

Mount Seymour

Like Whistler, Seymour offers students 19 years and older their own rate for the season, working out to be \$648.48 with HST. There was no price comparison available on student passes from the last year, but even assuming basic price remained level par, skiers are paying more purely based on tax increases. Day lift passes are only 50 cents more – \$49.84 with HST compared to \$46.20 a year ago.

A book of five day pass comes in at a price of \$222.88 for those who still want to hit the slopes but don't have a huge bankroll.

Cypress Mountain

At Cypress, the prices have risen a year after hosting the Freestyle Skiing and Snowboard events in February.

Granted, pass holders were given a break on ticket prices last winter (\$271.95 with tax) with the expected interruptions due to the Olympics.

But for the 2010-2011 season, prices are back to where they were two years ago when they hovered around \$1,281.21 including tax.

And while the mountain's charging less for unlimited downhill skiing, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, the HST bumps the total up to \$1,346.24 in the end.

However, Cypress has discounted rates in the form of a Gold Medal card that offers students cheaper rates. The initial up-front cost is \$76 with the extra 7 per cent tax (lift ticket included in the charge), but a day pass drops to \$52 with the card compared to the regular rate of \$65 and \$70 during peak period (Dec. 26-Jan. 3).

Grouse Mountain

Grouse is the one local mountain that didn't raise their prices from a year ago. The lift tickets remain

at \$55 per day plus tax, and only the HST has increased the rates slightly.

The season pass, which was \$866.25 including GST for the 2009-2010 season, wasn't raised a cent either, but the unpopular BC Liberal tax now has it at \$924.

Some like Montague have resorted to buying night passes at place like Grouse, where they're selling for \$576.80 including HST. She also has a Gold Medal card for Cypress as well.

“The Whistler student pass is so cheap and I totally wanted to buy it, but I can't really justify it on a shitty student budget,” says Montague. “I'd rather be going to Cypress, too, but again it's more expensive than Grouse.”



Rippin flake
all day at...

Apex

MOUNTAIN RESORT

Chillaxin'
all night at...

PENTICTON
LAKESIDE
RESORT


ROOM \$75 + PASS \$45 = \$120

www.pentictonlakesideresort.com

21 LAKESHORE DRIVE W, PENTICTON, BC, V2A 7M5
1.800.663.9400


U-PASS?

Universal Bus Pass




YES NO

For more information visit www.bcitsa.ca



BCITSA in collaboration with BCIT present:




White Rose

Anti-Violence Campaign

December 1st to 3rd

Roses will be distributed to BCIT students as a reminder to never commit, condone, or remain silent about violence.

Special thanks to
Campus Mediation Services




Executive Weigh In

A message from your School of Health Science Chair: Jim Moore

Where did the last three months go, it only seems like yesterday I showed up in shorts, sandals and a nice tan as I walked in to my first class of the year. Now I am white, pasty, tired, have an ugly moustache and am getting ready for finals.

Over the past three months the BCITSA has made quite a lot of strides: the very successful November campaign, the sanctioning many new clubs, several successful events, and an expansion of the professional mentorship program to name a few.

With finals on the horizon I would like to remind all of you to study hard and try to make the most of the last few weeks of the fall semester. Unfortunately this process is very tiring and stressful. So I would like to remind all of you to check the Zen Lounge put on by the BCITSA. The Zen lounge during finals week is where you can go to relieve some your stress with a free massage and sound healing meditation. It will be located in the great hall and library for your convince so stop by and take a load off.

Social media: BCITSA



Uconnect


Zen Lounge

Shiatsu massage therapy
Great Hall & Library
December 7
11 am - 2pm

FREE for BCIT students only

Sound healing meditations
Council Chambers
December 8
11 am - 2pm

Give your stress wings
and let it fly away.
~Terri Guillemets



SALE

BUY ONE, GET ONE 50%

GEARED UP



All clothing, bags, and gifts: mix and match!

*2nd item must be of equal or lesser value



Deck The Halls for Months of Debt

Affordable gift ideas that won't break your student-sized bank account.

Brenna Temple
Editor



Cut the Coffee

I can't believe I'm saying this, but if you cut your specialty coffees, you could save yourself about \$25 a week or \$100 per month. Now imagine what you could use that money for. Perhaps you could spend it on a few T-shirts, a new computer game, or tickets to a play for someone's Christmas present. I know it seems a little rash but don't worry—I don't believe in cutting anyone off from their coffee supply without a replacement. Try out the Black n' Decker mini coffee maker. For about \$20.00 at your local London Drugs this cute little java machine comes accompanied with a travel mug so you can grab it and go. It's a really cheap way to get rid of an expensive habit. Speaking of which, this coffee machine makes a great Christmas present for any student or person who's riding solo.

Christmas Crafts

I titled this segment the way I did for the purpose of giving myself a laugh. Whoever tells you that gluing glitter onto a mug makes a perfectly nice Christmas present is either broke or full of crap. Do not, I repeat, do not give your family or friends a craft unless it's one done by some sort of professional. Let's face it, if your dad really wanted a construction paper Christmas tree decoration then trust me, he'd convince a five-year-old to do it for him. In-

stead, try something that people actually like. Like baking. Everybody loves scrumptious cookies, cakes, you name it. There are tons of yummy Christmas cookie recipes online. What are you waiting for? Throw away your glue gun and get to finding that apron!

Arrange a Gift Exchange

... and put a price limit on it! This way everyone gets something but you can eliminate any extra pressure to buy a pricey present. This will come in handy if you're forced to buy presents for your large extended family or a big group of friends. First off, get everyone to draw a name from a hat so they can buy a present for just that person. A \$20 limit is pretty reasonable or you could make everyone buy funny presents only. Afterwards anyone who wants to trade their present with someone else can do so to better suit each person's personal needs.

Personal Care Gifts

Gift baskets are the new way to make practical gifts cool. It sounds lame but the truth is that any student or family will appreciate a cute gift box full of things they enjoy or need. Also, it's a good way to show someone that you know them really well. Burn a CD with their favourite songs, throw in some girly razors or even a bottle of wine. If you're worried

about looking cheap then try to include at least one notable present like a wallet, then surround it with chocolate, movie tickets, a Starbucks gift card or even some homemade peanut brittle that even the most judgemental Christmas Grinch would love.

Winners

Winners is a godsend. First of all, have you checked out their Christmas aisle? The most beautiful part of this store is that a large portion of it quickly becomes dedicated to holiday gifts. I know what you're thinking—tacky. Don't get me wrong, there's some pretty bad stuff but if you bypass the styrofoam wreaths then it's quite possible that you'll strike gold. You can find everything from chocolate fondue kits to fancy-schmancy wine glasses. It's also a good way to find decorations like candles or Christmas tree decorations to get your house ready for the holiday season. Check out Metrotown's Winners, it's just a hop, skip, and a jump away from campus.

Outlet Malls

Outlet malls are like books—you shouldn't judge them by what they look like on the outside. At first the strip mall designs will make you want to run, but when you get inside a great one, there's no turning back. The first step to visiting an outlet mall is convinc-

ing someone to go with you. This is not for the purpose of having a friend there to Christmas shop with you (although they're free to do so,) but rather so they can prevent you from shopping for yourself. The best part about shopping at an outlet mall is the obvious ability to leave with designer items for ridiculously cheap prices. It's the best way to buy your sister a Coach wallet that isn't a knock off. Hallelujah.

A Holiday Affair

No, I don't mean the kind where you go to town with a mistletoe. Plus, that wouldn't save you money, would it? What I'm referring to is a Christmas event that you can do with your family or friends in lieu of exchanging presents. And don't worry, if you're embarrassed to bring it up then chances are there will be at least one person who's relieved they don't have to buy you something. The best time to do this is if you're really broke. Instead of buying gifts put together a skating or bowling party. You'll get to have a good time and your wallet won't be empty at the end. Remember to remind everyone about the B.Y.O.E. rule (bring your own eggnog).

In the Name of Love

Perhaps one of the most stressful times of Christmas includes

having to buy your lover a present. You want to show them your appreciation but you might not have the money to buy them the things you'd like to. First of all, if they really love you then they'll understand that your budget's a bit tight this year. Try serving them breakfast in bed or giving them a massage. Another popular way to show them you care is to craft them homemade certificates so they can receive a quick coffee delivery, dinner, or walk in the park with you whenever it's needed. Even you'll be thankful for them when school amps up in January because you'll be forced to spend quality time together even after the holiday season is over.

Be Selective

Create a list of people who you want to buy presents for. Next, cross out people who you don't need to buy presents for. Do you really have to buy your Aunt Mildred a bonsai tree? Does your ex who you obligatory call your "friend" really need that T-shirt? If you're feeling bad then you can always supplement these gifts with Costco greeting cards so they don't think you forgot about them this year. If a card just isn't enough then team up with family members or friends to pitch in for something pricier. This way that person gets what they really want, and each of you can throw in an affordable amount of moola. Brilliant.

Alouettes building dynasty with repeat

Back-to-back championships help Montreal shake the Grey Cup curse

Chad Klassen
Assistant Editor

It wasn't too long ago the Montreal Alouettes were building quite the losing repertoire in the big game.

Despite earning their spot in the Grey Cup year after year, the franchise's mantra was dropping the ball in the biggest moment.

Before last season's too-many-men miracle, the AIs were dreadful in the Grey Cup – with only one win in six opportunities.

Whether it was the Lions (2000, 2006), Eskimos (2003, 2005) or Stamps (2008), Montreal just couldn't beat the "Best in the West" in late November.

But with consecutive Grey Cup wins over Saskatchewan, the Alouettes are back in the conversation as one of the CFL's great dynasties.

While it's likely no team will surpass Edmonton's great dynasty of five straight Grey Cups (1978-1982), Montreal's eight appearances since the turn of the century is impressive. More importantly, the AIs now have three rings to show for it.

In the process, they became the first team since the 1996-1997 Argonauts to win back-to-back Grey



Future Hall of Famer Anthony Calvillo has redeemed himself after past struggles in the Grey Cup.

Cups – both repeats which wrapped up at Commonwealth Stadium against the Riders.

There are close comparisons between the championship teams, most notably at quarterback with Doug Flutie and Anthony Calvillo leading the way.

Both are among the greatest CFL quarterbacks of all-time and keyed each of their team's successful quests to repeat as champions.

For his part, Calvillo's been around for each of Montreal's eight Grey Cup showings and is largely

the reason they've won two championships in as many years.

The 17-year veteran marched his team all the way back from 16 points last year to set up Damon Duval's last-second field goal.

In 2010, while the game wasn't the offensive shootout everyone expected, Calvillo threw for 336 yards and took over in the second half. His short passing game worked brilliantly to keep the ball out of Saskatchewan's hands.

But when the time called for it, he went deep and connected with

Grey Cup MVP Jamel Richardson for a 37-yard catch. The key play set up Avon Cobourne's second score of the contest to stretch Montreal's lead to 21-11.

His counterpart, Darian Durant, was shut down most of the game and made the most crucial mistake with a game-clinching interception in the final minutes. The Riders' QB wasn't as effective in his second Grey Cup start as he was in 2009.

Regardless, it was all about the Alouettes and Calvillo, who joins

an elite group as only the sixth quarterback to lead his team to back-to-back titles. The feat's helped him shed some of the Grey Cup skeletons that haunted the team earlier in the millennium.

It's a bittersweet moment for Calvillo, who will face an even stiffer battle in the offseason repairing a lesion in his thyroid. But if he can overcome this health setback and return for an 18th season, Montreal will have a shot at a third straight Grey Cup next year in Vancouver.

Where's the plan in Cowtown?



Colin Hope
The Link

Perhaps all Jarome Iginla needed to get his game on track was getting rid of Olli Jokinen.

Since the flaky Finn cross-checked Wojtek Wolski in the face, earning him a three-game time-out, the struggling captain got rolling again.

Iginla scored six times during the three-game stretch, and continuing that output is obviously essential to the Flames' success.

But it seems management has no desire to bring in anyone with the skill to help the team's heart and soul player. Year after year GM Darryl Sutter's unusual trades and free-agent acquisitions make Iginla's stay in Calgary less likely.

Going back to 2005 – the last time the Flames won the Northwest Division – Sut-

ter has gradually torn apart what was a gritty, rough and tumble squad, replacing them with aging spare parts from the worst franchises.

After missing the playoffs last spring, many expected the Flames to re-tool, building a faster, younger squad around Iggy and Kiprusoff.

Instead, Sutter signed two former Flames, Olli Jokinen and Alex Tanguay, who had failed previously in creating chemistry with Iginla. How's that saying go again? Insanity is trying the same thing twice and expecting different results.

Last season, Calgary was fleeced by Brian Burke, who somehow convinced Sutter to take on almost half of his horrible Leafs team.

The Flames sent Dion Phaneuf, Keith Aulie, and Freddy Sjöström to Toronto, receiving Ian White, Matt Stajan, Jamal Mayers and Nik Hagman in return.

White and Hagman are solid NHLers, but they aren't first line talent either. Stajan is best known for getting his bell rung every 15 games, and Mayers is in San Jose.

Adding Steve Staios from the Oilers for a third-round pick was another gem. Staios has been a solid minus-46 the last three seasons, while providing almost no offense. That's definitely a guy you need to take that next step, right?

Sutter has rebuilt the Flames once before, and will need to do so again if he wants to stay in Calgary past this season. To do so, he needs to pull the plug on his club, sending either Iginla or Kiprusoff elsewhere for a hefty bounty of prospects and picks.

But given Sutter's penchant for bringing in other team's scrap, the Flames may look more like the Maple Leafs, or even worse the Islanders in the near future.

Love & Other Drugs

Movie Review

Sonia Stirling
BCIT Alumni

Love and Other Drugs is a surprisingly solid, modern romantic comedy with emotional depth.

Since I'm not a huge **Anne Hathaway** fan, I was a bit skeptical of this romantic comedy, co-starring the yummy **Jake Gyllenhaal**. But I had a male side-kick with me to hopefully give me some male perspective as well.

I was totally expecting my sidekick to roll his eyes throughout the movie and be overcome with boredom, but I was wrong. This film seemed to have something that both sexes could relate to. It wasn't your stereo typical boy's meets girl, then screws up, and loses girl, and wins her back with a cheesy romantic gesture. **Gyllenhaal** plays a cocky Pfizer drug rep and ladies men who can sweet talk his way all the way to China and back. **Hathaway** plays a free spirited waitress with Parkinson's disease, and commitment issues.

The secondary story to the primary romantic one is the pharmaceutical wars. Around the time

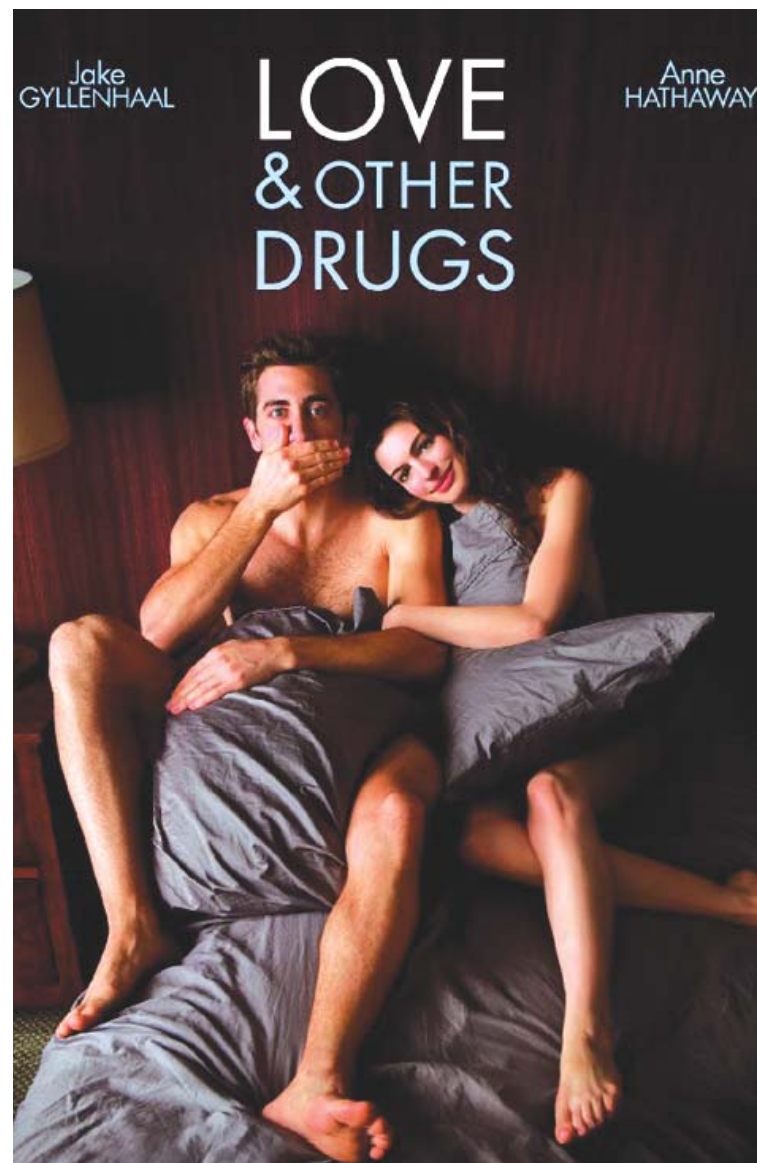
when antidepressants like Prozac and Zoloft were competing for shelf space in the doctor's office and Pfizer introduced the little blue pill; Viagra. **Gyllenhaal's** character was under pressure to push as many Pfizer drugs as possible on the medical community. It was actually a little scary how much like car salesmen these reps are. No moral code only the bottom line. In his quest for the title of top salesman, his focus wanes when he meets **Hathaway's** character and they start a lustful affair. At her request, it starts out no-strings-attached. Due to her illness, her belief is that staying emotionally detached is in both parties' best interest. Which you would think is every guy's dream situation. But things change and someone inevitably gets attached, as in real life. The role reversal here was refreshing to see in this instance, as I think it is more telling to the reality of the modern, professional woman. Maybe it's the feminist in me but, I like the idea of having the male swoon for once, at a woman's strength and independence, instead of being intimidated.

It's not to say the movie was

all about the strong female. Both genders were represented fairly, and with equal vulnerability, which is why I liked it. Hathaway's character had a few moments of fragility that seemed endearing. Even the supporting characters like **Oliver Platt** who played **Gyllenhaal's** mentor broke the hard money hungry shell, and had a personal life-changing realization in the end. Actor **Josh Gad** played **Gyllenhaal's** brother and provided side splitting comic relief. He definitely has the **Jack Black** shtick down.

Although I appreciate the two different stories director **Edward Zwick** was trying to tell with the warring drug companies and the complicated love story, it seemed a little confusing, making the plot a bit muddy.

Whatever the director's intention for a lasting sentiment, I'm sure everyone will have a different interpretation. Mine was this: we all need someone whether we want to admit it or not. And it is not such a bad thing. Let it be a lesson to all men and women who are afraid to fall. Love is inevitable whether you have a disease, commitment phobias, or emo-



tional baggage. There is no drug for the lovesick heart.

Oh, and my male sidekick gave it two thumbs up, no complaints.

Which can only mean the cheese factor for this rom-com is minimal enough to be enjoyed by the guys as well.

Artist Spotlight: Dirty Projectors

Jessica Rivers
The Link



Know what you're thinking. **Dirty Projectors**? Nice hipster name, why don't I just wear some lens-less oversized glasses and write my independent screenplay at Starbucks on my Macbook whilst telling everyone that I'm into bands they've never heard of. Well, that might not be exactly what you're thinking, but that was basically my thought process when I first heard of them. It was by chance, they opened for **TV On The Radio** at Malkin Bowl a couple of years ago, and I was less than excited for their set. Until they stepped onstage.

At first glance they appear similar to **Arcade Fire** or **Broken Social Scene**, and in a lot of ways they're similar. They're just a notch or two weirder. As a six-person group (three guys, three gals), **Dirty Projectors** have a lot of variety and complexity to their sound. Their harmonies are as sophisticated and tight as a barbershop quartet, the females in particular having some serious vocal chops. The band has released seven full-length albums, the most recognizable and successful being 2009's *Bitte Orca*. The album, along with most of the band's work, can be classified as "experimental rock", with R&B and, stay with me here, **Phil Spector** "wall of sound" influences. Both *Pitchfork* and *TIME* ranked *Bitte Orca* number 2 on their best albums lists in 2009, and for good reason. Take a listen to "Stillness Is The Move". I've yet to recommend anyone listen to that song and have them dislike it. For **Black Flag** fans, they also covered a re-imagined version of "Rise Above" in 2007. In my mind, it didn't work. They're much stronger with their own material. If space permitted, I could go into some pretty impressive musical accomplishments and collaborations for every member of the band. Instead, I implore you to check it out yourself, you will not be disappointed.

The Great Gatsby

It's not just flapper dresses and rum-runners

Sarah Massah
Culture Editor

For some, *The Great Gatsby* brings memories of high school book reports and novel studies. But for others, who didn't just read the Cliff Notes, **F. Scott Fitzgerald's** novel is an intriguing glimpse into an era of decadence known as the roaring twenties.

I'll be honest, when I first got the book in my English class it took me three tries before I got past the first page, I had to re-read it and then force myself to read

the prologue before I could continue on.

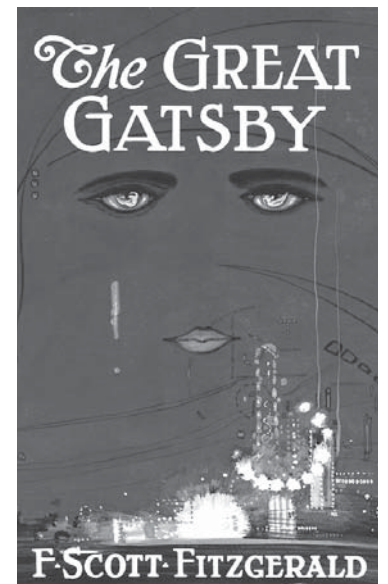
But when I finally did, I was hooked. This book has it all; unrequited love, betrayal and murder. The story unravels through the perspective of Nick Carraway, a Yale graduate who has moved to New York to work "in the bond business." However, Carraway's plans change when he meets his new neighbour, Jay Gatsby. Gatsby personifies all the superficial aspects of the 1920's; he is a mysterious millionaire, suspected of being a bootlegger, throwing lavish parties where

guests indulge to their every desire. As Carraway delves deeper into Gatsby's life, the pair forms an odd but close relationship.

Gatsby's obsession with Daisy Buchanan is the crux of the story. Daisy is Carraway's cousin and she is married to Tom Buchanan, a football hero who comes from old money. Gatsby and Daisy knew one another when they were younger, prior to going to war, and as the story continues it becomes clear that everything Gatsby has done, the entire empire he has built, has all been to attract the attention of Daisy.

Now, I'm not going to spoil it for you, but this book is a must-read, at least once. I have read it over ten times and I never get sick of it. Plus, there is a remake of the book coming out with Australian director **Baz Luhrmann** at the head. I have to say, if the rumours are true, I'm pretty excited for the new take on my favourite book. As of right now, **Leonardo DiCaprio** is set to play Gatsby, **Carey Mulligan** as Daisy Buchanan (thank god, **Blake Lively**, really?) and **Toby Maguire** as Nick Carraway.

So take my advice, while



you're recovering from your egg-nog hangovers this Christmas break, take some time to read the book, at the very least, you'll look smart while you do it.

Newfoundlander Releases Album in Hong Kong

The guys of Milkteeth have worldly ambitions

Andrew Button
The Muse (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — A Newfoundlander, a Belgian and a Chinese man walk into a bar. No, it's not the set up to a bad joke, but the founding story of the band Milkteeth.

A fresh and dynamic Hong Kong-based musical project, Milkteeth blends bluegrass and rock with European folk influences to create a totally original and compulsively listenable brand of acoustic rock.

Fronted by former sex writer and St. John's resident Joey Basha, the band has just finished recording its first EP, *Chance*. The album, mixed by music veteran Koya Hisakazu in Hong Kong's Mark One Studio, features seven songs written by Basha, who sings and plays guitar, with Theo Chan on drums and violin and Jeroen Brulez on bass.

"The line-up we have now came about after a series of changes," said Basha. "In the first few months, it was a bit of a revolving door situation, but it really solidified when we all met at a local bar where there was an open stage on which any musician could get up and fuck around. So, in fact, the band came about in a very casual way."

Soon after meeting up, Basha, Chan and Brulez started playing shows in Hong Kong.

"It's gotten up to about 25

shows," he said. "We've had to step back and start turning down offers, unless we're really keen on the other acts."

Soon after they started performing, Milkteeth began recoding and pursuing distribution options. The release of their first EP is an important step in the band's efforts to reach a wider audience around the globe, an effort which has also included the launch of a website, the release of a press kit and performances everywhere from Hong Kong to St. John's.

"We have actually approached a lot of labels and distribution companies," Basha said. "You'd be surprised how much of a hustling job it is to get companies interested — putting together press kits, making yourself presentable. It's all a matter of trying to turn yourself into a viable product."


And a viable product they are, if their first EP is any indication. Featuring ingeniously written and passionately performed songs, from the playful "Jolly Shandy" to the wistful "Edging," *Chance* is an eclectic and memorable collection

of folk-inspired rock. The album is upbeat and tinged with longing and gives a bittersweet feeling, like having a great time but wishing a certain someone was there to enjoy it with you.

Themes of separation and return, disagreement and reconciliation, come up repeatedly, which, along with the music's inviting tone, makes the EP very much the kind of thing you could find yourself listening to on constant loop after a breakup.

Perhaps this has something to do with the fact that all three members are expatriates living in a city dominated by high finance and business. As Basha explains, being a foreign musician in Hong Kong puts you at a distance, not only from your hometown, but also from the city establishment.

"This is a very money-oriented place," he said. "Since we're not bankers or business men, we're automatically considered rebels. And I like that; it's the perfect mix of metropolitan cool and Chinese culture."



Evolution 107.9
Altering Radio

Evolving 20 - November 27, 2010

1. The Tom Fun Orchestra - Miles Davis
2. Ray Lamontagne & The Pariah Dogs - Repo Man
3. Jess Hill - Orchard
4. Treelines - Ghost Towns
5. Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin - All Hail Dracula!
6. k-os (ft. Sebastien Grainger) - Black Water
7. Jeremy Fisher - Alison
8. Analog Bell Service - I Guess
9. Neon Trees - 1983
10. The Mountain & The Trees - Up & Down
11. Florence & The Machine - Cosmic Love
12. Michael Bernard Fitzgerald - Brand New Spaces
13. of Montreal - Coquet Coquette
14. !!! (chk chk chk) - AM/FM
15. The Dears - Omega Dog
16. Foals - This Orients
17. Arcade Fire - Sprawl II (Mountains Beyond Mountains)
18. Math & Physics Club - We're So D.I.Y.
19. Belle & Sebastien - I Want The World To Stop
20. Grinderman - Heathen Child



ITCHY ANSWERS

Answers to all your burning
Sex and Relationship questions

Drake Winters & Olivia Starling
The Link

I've been going out with my girlfriend for about three months now and the sex has been great. A night or two ago, she suggested some "back door play". The scary thing is, she wants to eat out my ass. What am I suppose to do about this? I don't know if I want it or not. I'm feeling especially inspired to answer this as I myself had some 'bdp' just the other night. Also, I was having a 90's moment and watched **Anne Wheeler's** movie *Better Than Chocolate*. The hot younger brother character, Paul, enjoyed receiving some 'bdp' whilst fucking the sexually charged character Carla. What's good enough for Paul, is good enough for me! Fortunately, like most things in life, there is one sure-fire way of knowing if you will like something – TRY IT. Take it "Step by Step" - there is no need to rush into the anal play. Here is how:

Step 1 - You can have lots of

fun! Laugh, enjoy each other, and communicate about what you are willing and not willing to do beforehand so you create a safe fun environment to play in.

Step 2 - There's so much you can do. Come prepared. Bring your lube, vibrator, and latex glove along so that the experience can be clean, fun, and painless.

Step 3 - It's just you and her. No one is rushing either of you so before the penetration part even begins have her play with the outside area to warm things up a little. If 'eating out your ass' is one of the things you are willing to do, let her go down there for a bit and see how that feels.

Step 4 - She can give you more. Now that she has familiarized herself with your area and you are both turned on and enjoying yourselves, give her the green light to enter. Nice and slow is the key; have her start small with either her baby finger or a small anal sized dildo.

Step 5 - Don't you know that

the time has arrived? Now that she has been in, checked out your back door space and you have both enjoyed your experience you can start implementing your 'bdp' during sex. Have fun!

I've suggested to my boyfriend that we use lube and he got really offended. It's not that he doesn't turn me on but sometimes, I run out of juice and need some help. Plus, lube can be used for other things too. What can I do to make him accept lube?

Go get a shirt made that says NO LUBE = NO SEX and wear it around the house. Then don't be surprised if a Costco size container of lube ends up on the nightstand. Make a t-shirt in his size that says SLIPPERY WHEN WET and you can wear them together and even get your Sears christmas photos taken in them. What a great xmas card!

If that doesn't work you can try

talking to your partner about the benefits of lube. Help him understand that this is not because of something he isn't doing, but that it will ultimately make everything that much better! Like icing on a cake or blue ray for a movie. Lube helps a great thing be a bit more great and what is wrong with that? You could also tell him that not every woman gets as wet as the next or stays as wet. Tell him that it is a comfort thing for you and there is no reason why you should be in any form of discomfort. Make it fun, pick it out together, or surprise him with a flavor of the month.

My boyfriend wants to "make love" and I want to fuck like animals. Every time I try to spice things up he tells me to calm down in this soft, sensual, super irritation voice. How can I get him as amped up as me?

If your boyfriend wrote in do you think his question would sound a

little like this...

"I love my girlfriend very much and I enjoy showing her just how much by making love to her except she always wants it hard and fast and I'm not into that. How can I get her to make sweet sweet Barry White love to me?"

Have you both tried compromise? Make the sweet love first and then pounce on him and tell him you are running the show. Fuck like animals and then slow it down again, sort of like a cool down if you will! Switch it up, keep it hot, fiery, and unpredictable. Let him light a candle from time to time and he has to let you scratch him and throw him around a little bit. Make a mix CD with both types of music on it and see what happens from track to track!

Drake and I love hearing from you so keep emailing us your scratchy questions at itchyanswers@hotmail.com



Who's next to lead the Liberal party?

There's been speculation, but few have insight into who will take over as the next Premier of B.C.

Zameer Karim
The Link

The BC Liberal Party is now into their first leadership race in 17 years, and many are wondering who's got the best chance at leading the Province for the next few years.

Two combatants have officially entered the leadership race that will come to head next February.

Former Health and Education Minister George Abbott has thrown his name into the hat and is seen to be the lone non-Lower Mainlander in the run for the Liberal leadership.

Abbott has kept his nose clean for the time he's been in the B.C. Legislature. He's one that's a very

capable lieutenant, but he hasn't really gained enough support province-wide for his bid.

Yet, Abbott may have an advantage in the new proposed leadership rules that will give each riding in the province equal weight, regardless of the size of its membership. A riding in the Burnaby area with 1,000 members will have equal say as a riding that covers Fort St. John, which may have as little as a hundred Liberal members.

The only other official candidate is Moira Stillwell, a relative newcomer to B.C. politics. The doctor from St. Paul's Hospital had an early jump on the leadership campaign as the first player to announce her intentions.

But as we grow nearer to the February leadership vote, more of the high profile candidates are expected to enter the race.

Most recently, Health Minister Kevin Falcon, who's been in Gordon Campbell's cabinet since 2001, declared his intentions this week and could be an early front-runner.

Quite politically savvy, Falcon will have support from the old guard of the BC Liberals and is in the best position of any sitting MLA to take over the reins of the party and the province. He's held multiple cabinet positions, including transportation and his current transportation, and been silently campaigning for Campbell's job for a few years now.

However, the person who has quietly shrugged off rumours of her candidacy is former deputy Premier and current Vancouver talk show host Christy Clark, who would likely win the leadership competition and become British Columbia's next Premier.

Clark is extremely politically savvy, having sat as an MLA in both the official opposition from 1996 to 2001 and as a senior Cabinet Minister and Deputy Premier during the first term of Campbell's government.

Though she's been out of politics since 2005 after the birth of her son, she reappeared briefly to run for the Non-Partisan Association's nomination for Mayor of Vancouver when she at the time

still lived in Port Moody. She only lost by 69 votes to the eventual Mayor Sam Sullivan.

Clark has been gained notoriety over the last few years as a talk show host on CKNW. During that time, she's developed a large following – not pulling any punches and telling it how it is regarding any political issue. Not even controversial issues involving former colleagues, including Gordon Campbell, didn't discourage her from letting her opinion known to listeners.

The top candidates will make the next few months quite fun, with the speculation of who will lead our province out of the Olympic shadow.

**You can't
judge a book
by its cover,**



2011 Soul

**but that's
enough about
books.**

You want to graduate in style, not debt. Get instant savings on models like the 2011 Soul with Kia's \$500 Grad Rebate program*.

Check us out at facebook.com/kiacanada

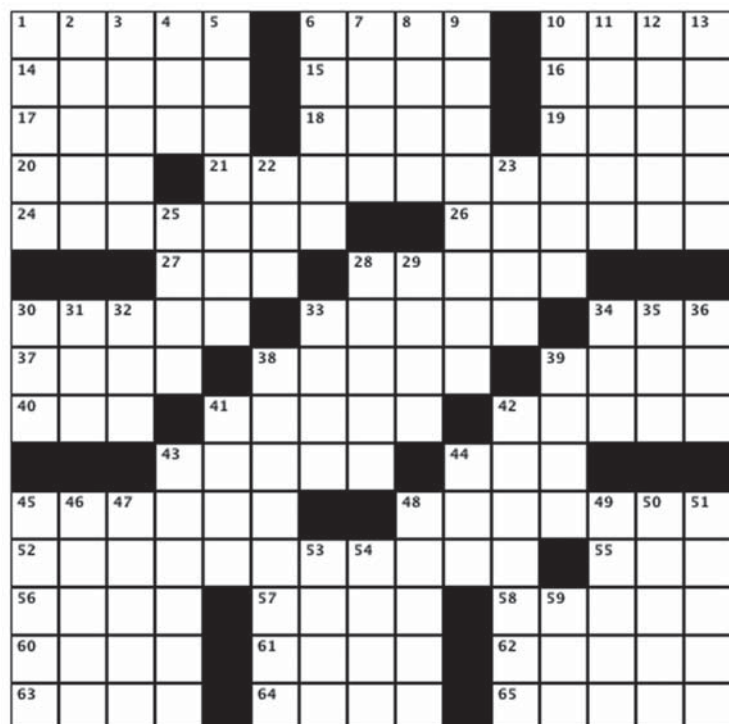


*Some conditions apply. See your Kia dealer for details. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1 White Rose @ ATC Bonobo @ Rickshaw Link Newspaper Vol. 46 Issue 7	2 White Rose @ Great Northern Way, Marine, and Downtown Campuses	3 White Rose @ Burnaby Vancouver Giants vs Calgary Hitmen	4 Vancouver Giants vs Chilliwack Bruins White Christmas @ Stanley Theatre (to Jan 2)	5
6	7 Zen Lounge SE2 - Great Hall Vancouver Giants vs Kamloops Blazers	8	9	10 Content Deadline for Link Newspaper Vol. 46 Issue 8 Vancouver Giants vs Spokane Chiefs	11 Vancouver Giants vs Swift Current Broncos	12 The Greenhornes @ Media Club
13 Student Council Meeting @530pm Council Chambers	14	15	16 Carrie Underwood @Rogers Arena Like a Martyr @ Venue	17 The 9th Annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Party Brian McKnight @Orpheum	18 Marianas Trench @Orpheum Theatre 8th Annual Film Festival 4 Peace mawvancouver.org	19 8th Annual Film Festival 4 Peace
20 Kid Koala @ Biltmore	21 First Day of Winter	22	23	24 Christmas Eve BCIT CLOSED	25 Christmas Day BCIT CLOSED	26 Boxing Day

CROSSWORD

Puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com (<http://www.bestcrosswords.com>). Used with permission



Across

1- Fall bloomer; 6- Agitate; 10- Romeo; 14- Dough; 15- Alleviate; 16- Soft ball brand; 17- High up; 18- I smell !; 19- Gnarl; 20- Letters on a Cardinal's cap; 21- Place in time; 24- Nuns; 26- Kitchen utensil; 27- Actor Stephen; 28- On top of the standings; 30- Expert; 33- More unfavorable; 34- CIA forerunner; 37- Dies ; 38- Goddesses of the seasons; 39- "___ sprach Zarathustra"; 40- Accelerate; 41- Business accounts; 42- Mix smoothly; 43- Refuse; 44- Go quickly; 45- Plea; 48- Sinning; 52- Extremely conservative; 55- Narrow inlet; 56- Shrivelled, without moisture; 57- Departs; 58- Chirp; 60- Bakery fixture; 61- Med school subj.; 62- Cavalry weapon; 63- Hotbed; 64- Back of the neck; 65- Adlai's running mate.

Down

1- Accumulate; 2- Conductor Georg; 3- Implements; 4- Mischievous person; 5- Heavy napped woolen fabric; 6- Joins; 7- Diamond cover; 8- Golfer Aoki; 9- Turned backward; 10- Short sock; 11- Russian revolutionary leader; 12- Became ice; 13- Later; 22- Baseball stat; 23- Church recess; 25- Corner; 28- Eating implements; 29- Some nest eggs; 30- Russian space station; 31- 100 square meters; 32- 6th letter of the Hebrew alphabet; 33- Courts; 34- Cheer for Manolete; 35- Nine-digit ID; 36- Turf; 38- Hoodlum; 39- Actor Baldwin; 41- German sausage; 42- Two wheel vehicle; 43- Respectable; 44- That girl; 45- Bad lighting?; 46- Annoy; 47- Trims; 48- Stickum; 49- Ain't right?; 50- Bridget Fonda, to Jane; 51- Ribbons; 53- Mrs. Chaplin; 54- Tide type; 59- Gives birth to.