

the *Link*

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ABOUT THE LINK

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THE LINK

Room 281 - Building SE2
3700 Willingdon Ave.
Burnaby, B.C. V5G 3H2

PHONE

604.456.1167

FAX

604.431.7619

PUBLICATIONS MANAGER

John Morrison III
publications@bcitsa.ca
604.456.1167

ADVERTISING SALES

Andrea Lekei
sales@bcitsa.ca
604.453.4072

EDITOR (INCOMING)

Christina Jung
linkeditor@bcitsa.ca

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Chad Klassen
linkassistanteditor@bcitsa.ca

CULTURE EDITOR

Dave Swanson
linkcultureeditor@bcitsa.ca

THIS WEEK'S CONTRIBUTORS

Laura Chow, Di Daniels, Andy Fang, Thorstan Gerlach, Josh Koonce, Carl Kooka, Arshy Mann, Andrew McLachlan, Ian Merkley, Blake Morneau, Binh Nghiem, Adam Petrash, Christopher Porter, Benjamin Ripley, Reid Standish, Britney Tiplady

Cover photo: Brent Granby

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Write, photograph, or illustrate for The Link! E-mail publications@bcitsa.ca for more information.

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SFSS President Jeff McCann walks past the SFSS staff's picket line.

Andy Fang

SFU student society ends staff lockout

Agreement marks the end of months-long labour dispute

ARSHY MANN

CUP Western Bureau Chief

VANCOUVER (CUP) — More than three months after Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) staff were locked out, the workers have returned to their jobs.

The SFSS and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), which represents the 15 formerly locked-out employees, finalized an agreement on October 11, which sent staff back to work immediately.

The new agreement will see that there are no reduction in wages or hours for current employees, but also stipulates a lower wage structure for new hires.

"We wish it had been three months ago, but we're pleased that it's over," said Richard Overgaard, national communications representative for CUPE. "I know [the staff] are happy to get back to work. They like their jobs, they like their work and they like the support they provide students."

"I think the deal that we reached is in the best interests of students and the society in general," said SFSS President Jeff McCann.

According to Overgaard, this agreement marked significant movement away from an offer the SFSS board made at the beginning of September.

The lockout, which began on July 10, was the result of two years of failed negotiations between the SFSS and CUPE after their collective bargaining agreement expired in 2009.

The new agreement, which was arrived at during a mediated bargaining session at the B.C. Labour Board on Friday, will last for the next three years. The SFSS was originally hoping for a five- or six-year agreement.

"If the union was going to take concessions, they were going to want a shorter term ... [for] the opportunity to renegotiate earlier," said McCann.

Under the new deal, SFSS staff will receive no wage increase for the next two years, but a one per cent increase in the third year.

Also, wages for student employees will be lowered from \$21.98 per hour to \$14.50.

"[This means] we can hire twice as many students and give more opportunities for students, but also provide more services by bringing down their wage rates," said McCann.

Current employees will also have the number of hours they

presently work grandfathered in. However, if an employee quits, the SFSS reserves the right to not rehire, or also to rehire an employee under a lower wage rate or for fewer hours.

Returning to work

Overgaard said that he wasn't surprised that union was able to compromise with the student society.

"In all fairness, I think we always knew there was a deal to be had, right back to the first day of the lockout.

"I think what happened was that over the course of September, the wind changed, and the board was under increasing amounts of pressure to end the lockout."

Wages for student employees will be lowered from \$21.98 per hour to \$14.50.

Both parties, however, stated that they were relieved that the staff were back to work.

According to McCann, now that the lockout is over, the SFSS will be able to focus on some of the projects that they

were elected to do, including increasing the number of food outlets on campus and advocating for a reduction on interest rates for student loans.

"Now we basically look at the next 203 days and try and figure out what our priorities are going to be and how much we can accomplish between now and then," he said.

Both McCann and Overgaard said that now that the lockout is over, they hope that staff and management will be able to work together.

"I'm not going to ignore the fact that certain things were said and that labour disputes are an ugly thing inherently," said McCann. "But once we start picking back up on projects, I think that comfort level is going to resume.

Despite the turmoil of the past three months, Overgaard sees at least one upside to the labour dispute.

"Whatever side of the argument people are on here, I think our members, through the work they did on the picket line, actually educated a lot of students about what they do and the value of their work," he said.

"Hopefully folks go in and thank the staff for the work they do. I know they'd really appreciate it.

BCIT considers integrating tablet computers into the classroom

Technology such as the Apple iPad could enhance the student experience, says BCIT administration

CHAD KLASSEN
Assistant Editor

Vice President of Education and Research Paul Dangerfield is considering how the power that technology can improve the student learning experience.

After all, it is the British Columbia Institute of Technology.

"I think we need to look at it," says Dangerfield. "My iPad came out of the international office that's doing some work on how to deliver ESL and Cantonese using an iPad as the platform, so we're already doing a lot of that."

CDI College in Vancouver started providing iPad to all its students in September as part of the largest post-secondary initiative in North America.

It may be a while before students get free iPads, but Dangerfield wants to move closer to that kind of learning – and look at other e-learning technologies.

"It has the potential to change the whole dynamic, so we need to be aware of it," he says. "We do more online than anyone else. We probably use more technology than anyone else, but we need to make sure we're doing a better job of it."

At a presentation to BCIT instructors, Dangerfield explained the potential that technology has on their ability to improve results and learning in classrooms in every program.

He focused on the "disruptive" nature of technological learning tools and explained how teachers need to be aware of them.

However, they have the potential to affect the sustainability at post-second-



Tablet computers could replace cumbersome textbooks.

Photo courtesy of Stanford University

ary schools like BCIT, he says, because students already have the tools online to educate themselves.

“It’s a whole different way of learning.”

– Paul Dangerfield
VP Education and Research

"The example that's always used is what Netflix has done to Blockbuster. It came along and changed everything," says Dangerfield. "E-learning, teaching excellence, delivering student outcomes,

delivering what students really want, those things have a real potential to change everything if we don't pay attention."

It means teachers need to have an open mind about the ever-changing world of technology.

"It's tough to be current all the time, but it's important to be in touch with the students," he says. "[Sometimes] there's technology that the instructor doesn't know anything about but the student in the classroom does. How do we engage that student? It's a whole different way of learning."

"Look at the iPad. When are we going to use them, when are they going to be-

come mainstream? I think it's almost there, so when are you actually going to move to it."

Dangerfield hasn't pegged a date when BCIT will introduce the iPad, but he says a widespread introduction of the technology is in the works.

"What I wanted really to do is engage in a dialogue around what some of the things we can work on are. What are some the initiatives, exciting things we can work on to improve the quality of our programming?" says Dangerfield. "We've got great programs, but we can always get better."

The iPad could be one of those tools to make the BCIT experience better.

NEWS BRIEFS

Letter from LSD inventor to Steve Jobs released

Steve Jobs, the recently deceased Apple CEO, was candid about his experience with LSD calling it "One of the two or three most important things I have done in my life."

In 2007, this statement prompted the late Swiss Chemist and inventor of LSD Albert Hoffman, to write a letter to Steve Jobs asking him to fund research for the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies.

"I am writing now, shortly after my 101st birthday to request that you support [Dr. Peter Gasser's] proposed study of LSD-assisted psychotherapy in subjects with anxiety associated with life-threatening illnesses," Hoffman asked of the Apple founder.

Although Jobs did not choose to contribute, he did credit LSD for to his creative thinking in the realm of computer technology.

– Dave Swanson

New program helps teach BCIT students how to treat cancer

A state-of-the-art virtual projection training system called Virtual Environment for Radiotherapy Training (VERT) is now being used in BCIT classrooms to create life-size visualizations of the human body here at BCIT.

VERT will teach students cancer radiation therapy techniques in a safe and cost effective manner. Access to this technology at BCIT will free up equipment in BC hospitals helping foster a more efficient provincial health care system.

"This new technology will help educate a wide array of health care professionals with the outcome being exceptional care for cancer patients across the province," says Dr. Ivo Olivetto, Vice President Radiation Therapy and Functional Imaging at the BC Cancer Agency. "We are a proud participant in the VERT program at BCIT."

– Dave Swanson

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Smokers: easy political scapegoats

Do Canada's cigarette packaging warnings truly make a difference?

IAN MERKLEY

Wilfred Laurier University

WATERLOO (CUP) — This December will mark the tenth anniversary of the government of Canada forcing cigarette producers to place a label containing a graphic image and health warning on cigarette packages. This law requires the graphic images to consume 50 per cent of the front and back of the package. The government recently announced that it plans to increase the size of the health warnings to 75 per cent. However, it's doubtful that increasing the size of the images will actually have any noticeable impact on the prevalence of smoking in Canada.

I do not smoke and do not plan to smoke. In no way do I advocate it. I am also in no way against applying labels

warning consumers about the dangerous side effects of products. In a free society, the consumer and producer mutually consent to exchange one item for another. However, neither party should misrepresent the product it proffers.

Look inside your medicine cabinet. The warnings on the bottles are very different from those on cigarette packages in both size and depictions.

Like nearly all other Canadians who are able to purchase cigarettes, I already know the dangers of smoking. The effectiveness of the labels is questionable. To see just how effective these graphic warning labels actually are, I looked at statistics from both the United States, which does not have these labels, and Canada, which does.

I looked at the period between 2001, when the labels were introduced, and 2009, which was the date of the most recent American figures. It

turns out that between these dates the number of smokers in Canada declined by 3.8 per cent. In America, it declined by 2.2 per cent. So Canadians had reduced the percentage of smokers by more than Americans. However, can this 1.6 per cent be attributed to these pictures and warnings alone? That is unlikely.

There is a nasty double standard when it comes to cigarettes versus other potentially dangerous vices.

There are a number of factors this decline could be attributed to, including higher taxation on cigarettes and more laws to make the life of a smoker miserable (such as a ban from restaurants). It could

also be attributed to the difference in culture.

Even if we like the idea of graphic warnings on cigarette companies' packaging, why expand it to 75 per cent of the packaging? What now makes 50 per cent unacceptable? Proponents of the size increase argue that people are now immune to the old pictures. Why not just get new pictures and keep the previous size? Pictures that are more graphic should be equally effective. Fifty per cent was a lot to ask of the cigarette companies; 75 per cent is just getting out of hand.

There is a nasty double standard when it comes to cigarettes versus other potentially dangerous vices.

Drinking alcohol in excess increases the chances of liver problems and could, in extreme cases, kill the drinker due to alcohol poisoning. I do not see a picture of a dying person on a beer bottle.

Fast food could lead to obesity and you could have a heart attack. I do not see a depiction of someone suffering from a heart attack on the packaging when I buy a cheeseburger. Using a computer for too long may damage your eyes, and yet there are no depictions of people sheltering their eyes in agony covering 50 per cent of computers' packaging.

I hope I did not give any altruists ideas.

There is little, if any, evidence to suggest that this labelling law will do any noticeable good, and this law against the tobacco companies appears to have been passed because of pure populism.

I would advocate repealing the labelling law completely, or at least not increasing the size of the health warnings.

After all, tobacco does not damage peoples' eyesight, so an increase in the size of the picture will not change peoples' level of awareness.

step into character & SAVE!



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One man's trash is another man's tragedy

Toxic chemicals found in electronic waste is harmful the health of people in developing nations

DAVE SWANSON

Culture Editor

Do you remember that old Walkman you used to rock back in grade six? How about your family's first computer that ran on Windows 95?

I am sure the only old electronic you didn't misplace or throw away was your Super Nintendo because, let's face it, everyone gets the urge to play Mario Kart a couples times a year.

The truth is, the majority of our old electronics were probably stored in our garage for several years before you threw them in the trash.

Unfortunately, our old televisions, music players, computers, and cellphones didn't disappear. In all likelihood they were shipped to a developing country and are now causing major health and environmental problems in the form of electronic waste.

Wealthy regions including North America and Europe consume large quantities of electronic goods built with a limited life cycle. This planned obsolescence has created our disposable culture; one in which we continuously discard used goods as newer versions of the same product become available.

Corporations like Apple and RIM upgrade existing product models in only a matter of months and invest millions in elaborate advertising campaigns that simultaneously create demand for their new product and extinguish value for older models.

Once convinced a product is out-dated or if the product has simply reached the end of its short lifespan, consumers will trash their older model for a newer version without understanding the global impact of their actions.

In 2009, the United Nations estimated the global

e-waste produced that year was between 20 and 50 million tons.

Affluent countries responsible for producing the most e-waste are actually selling the majority of it to poorer countries like India, China, and Ghana. The growth of e-waste export is so rapid that that in 2020, it is predicted that e-waste from mobile phones in India landfills will be 18 times greater than in 2007. E-waste is shipped to countries like India because it actually cost less for these nations to export their e-waste than to dispose of it domestically.

Electronic goods contain valuable resources like gold, silver, and copper which are used to support a poorer country's the production chain. People in developing nations burn the waste to extract and salvage these materials, releasing hazardous chemicals like mercury, barium, lead, and arsenic into the atmosphere. These toxins can cause attacks on the nervous system, seizures, high blood pressure, retardation, and digestive problems for those living in close proximity to e-waste landfills.

Furthermore, the chemicals that leak from e-waste dumps have been known to contaminate surrounding land, rendering it useless. Of course, toxic soil is extremely hazardous for those farming land and is a major detriment to the local agricultural community.

In 2009, the United Nations estimated the global e-waste produced that year was between 20 and 50 million tons.

In 1995, the Basel Ban, an international treaty intended to reduce the trade of hazardous waste between nations, was amended to forbid the transport of toxic waste. Unfortunately, the treaty has not



This is not a bowl of candy.

Photo courtesy of Josh Koonce

decreased the quantity of e-waste exported to developing countries as nearly 80% of all e-waste in the United States; the largest global consumer of electronic goods, still makes its way to developing nations under the pretence of an electronics donation.

Realistically, reducing e-waste exports is dependent on making some systemic changes in Western culture. First, governing bodies need to invest in e-waste recycling plants at home.

Recycling and extracting resources from e-waste only uses a fraction of the energy needed to mine new materials so, in the long-run, it

may prove financially beneficial for developed nations to extract these valuable resources.

This planned obsolescence [of western technology] has created our disposable culture.

Even if domestic e-waste recycling is not profitable, it is the government's responsibility to apply a safe disposable tax to electronics manufactures to ensure that they bear the financial

burden of paying for e-waste recycling plants.

Second, the consumer has a responsibility to understand the impact of his purchases and recognize his urge to over consume is based on a synthetic demand created by advertisers. He needs to reduce the frequency with which he buys electronics and needs to actively seek out e-waste recycling options when the electronics he owns break.

Only after this issue is internalized and the situational variables that produce e-waste are identified, will we see a reduction in the negative global impact of e-waste.

Zombies need new dimensions

Enough with the boring brain-eater already!

BINH NGHIEM
UBC-Okanagan

KELOWNA (CUP) — If zombies retain some basic primal instincts like the need to feed, don't they also need to sleep? Have crazy zombie orgies? Maybe even murder each other for fun/territory? And what's with eating only live flesh? Zombies are so ultra-gory violent, yet never kill each other (for flesh or otherwise). What's up with that?

Is dead meat not good enough for the undead? I mean, when they are alive they eat dead meat (vegans and vegetarians aside), but when they become "undead" they all of a sudden develop such a snobbish attitude toward what food they will consume.

If you're so damned hungry, why hold out for living humans? There are millions of potential meals mindlessly walking about all around you. Just start eating each other already! Hell, if I was a zombie I would probably exclusively eat other zombies because they are so readily available and trusting. It would go down something like this:



Popular zombie television program The Walking Dead fails to deal with issues such as vegan zombies, zombie orgies.

Image courtesy of AMC

Random zombie: "Ggrrraww rrawar human brainrwarggrgr."

“Would vegetarian and vegan humans turned zombies not continue their dietary ways?”

Me: "Yes, grrrgrgr over there in corner grgrawwa." (I point at a dark cor-

ner. Random zombie walks to dark corner. I attack and eat his brains. Covered in blood, I walk to the other zombies.)

Me: "Grggrrawawa human survivors graww kill one of rawww own."

It would be the perfect crime.

The zombie or zombies who execute this plan might in turn become zombie chieftains who ensure the survival of their kind by not being so damned picky about what to fricking eat, teaching them to swim, starting a

zombie civil war, using the internet to search for zombie porn — you know, primal urges and zombie needs other than eating.

On a side note, would vegetarian/vegan humans turned zombies not continue their dietary ways? I mean, if zombies eat humans for survival only, wouldn't nuts/fruits/veggies fulfill other zombie nutritional needs?

Dear Hollywood producers, directors, actors/actresses and writers: stop making films about the survival of a

small group of humans who face complex existential questions of murder, betrayal, manipulation and what it means to be human. Instead, make a movie about a zombie that evolves from his/her zombie group. This zombie might inadvertently become an ally to the survivor group, adding a nice twist.

Imagine a group of survivors running down a street. Zombies are attacking and eating each other in the background. It's a nice touch of pragmatism, don't you think?

CAMPUS QUERY

What do you think of the Occupy Wall Street protest?



MOHAMMAD VAHEDIFAR
Environmental Engineering

I think that most people do not have that much knowledge about it. From what I saw in the news, most people have a wide variety of concerns but they do not have one specific goal that they want to protest against.



REZA FILSOOF
Electrical & Computer Engineering

I think the protest is a great idea but only as long as they keep it legal so they are not forced to stop protesting because the wealthy people get to control and the poor people never get richer.



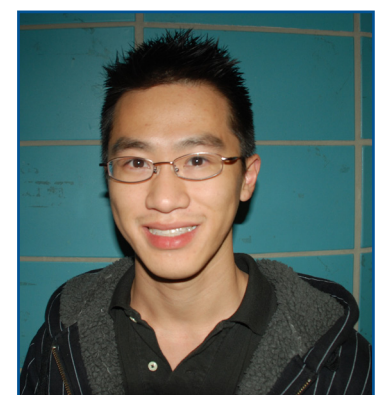
CAITLIN KEHOE
Marketing Management

I don't think that [the economy] should be left up to the top one per cent [of the population]. Just because they have money, doesn't mean they should rule the entire economy. It should be based on what the people want.



MARY-ANN LIU
Marketing Communications

I am aware of the situation but I do not know much about it.



CELVIN CHAN
Mechanical Engineering

They have a reason to protest because there are a lot of corrupt people ruining the economy. But then, there really isn't an end cause to what there are doing. They don't really have something they want.

OCCUPY



PHOTO: Reid Standish

VANCOUVER

VANCOUVER JOINS THE OCCUPY WALL STREET MOVEMENT TO FIGHT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

On Saturday October 15, close to 5,000 Vancouverites gathered at the Vancouver Art Gallery to join the New York City "Occupy Wall Street" protest and communicate their own distaste with the local inequality issues. Over 1,500 cities in 80 countries across the world held general assemblies and mass marches in urban city spaces to express their dissatisfaction with the current state of global politics and economic disparity.

The focus of the Occupy Wall Street movement and the October 15 Global Day of Action was to protest an unjust, oppressive and broken social system that prioritizes corporate interests

above public welfare. This global demonstration was organized to object faulty governance in developed nations that has allowed society's wealthiest 1% to gain control of the world's financial resources and possess a frightening amount of political influence.

On July 13, a Vancouver-based Adbusters.org initiated a campaign encouraging Americans to take a page out of Egypt's political playbook and organize a sit-in, or occupation, in the New York financial district on Wall Street starting September 17. Adbusters believed the occupation of Tahrir Square in Cairo was the crucial in realizing Egyptian political reform

and, ultimately, ending former dictator Hosni Mubarak's 30 year rule.

WE ARE THE 99 PER CENT.

- Occupy movement slogan

The Wall Street protest is now in its fifth week and, while it is gaining support, mainstream media continues to report that the movement is disorganized. Of course, this comes as no sur-

prise as large, cooperative, grass-roots events are difficult to manage; there are very few financial resources and true democratic consensus is time consuming and difficult to reach.

During the first few hours on Saturday morning, it was clear the Occupy Vancouver procedural communications was slightly chaotic. It took several hours to reach a consensus on hand signals, assembly topics and voting protocol. "At the beginning there may have been too much talk about procedure. It was a little slow to start," said an activist who asked not to be named.

However, by the early after-

BY DAVE SWANSON

noon the event gained momentum. Several general assembly meetings and group marches were organized, both of which saw high participation. The largest march during the rally consisted of nearly 2,000 people guided by police escorts. They avidly sported thought-provoking, ironic signage while dancing to a mobile drum line that was heard chanting “We are the 99 per cent,” from several city blocks away.

Occupy Wall Street movement and its satellite supporters do not have a singular, unified demand and, therefore, cannot expect any tangible change. During Egypt’s early 2011 internal conflict, protestors occupying Tahrir Square had a distinct demand: to remove Mubarak from power. At the rally, there was a wide range of issues on display. The most prevalent topics included starvation, environmental degradation, war, debt, bank bailouts, rent prices, corporate greed and government indifference.

Antony Ellis, an elderly European immigrant said “I am poor. I have a healthy problem. The government does not care about me. The medical service is very bad. When I am sick, they do not let me stay in the hospital. The government treats me like I am worth nothing. It hurts me.”

I DO THINK THAT WE NEED TO HAVE SOME KIND OF OVERARCHING AGENDA.

- Joshua Blakeney
Occupy Vancouver speaker

At first glance, it might appear that there isn’t a cohesive voice resonating from this movement. However, on closer inspection it is clear these issues stem from deep seeded systemic ineptitude anchored in power retention and self-interested decision making. Each issue is a symptom of irresponsible state management. Both the public is having difficulty recognizing this because Western society has a very individualistic value system which ultimately trains people to see situations in isolation or as mutually exclusive.

Joshua Blakeney, a graduate student at the University of Lethbridge and speaker at the Occupy Vancouver rally believes the media continues to report the as disorganized and fractured because they are trying to discredit it. However, he was quick to point out that it is important the do engage opportunities like this even when they are not completely structured.

‘I do think that we need to

IT IS DEMOCRATIC AND THAT IS GREAT.

- Constable Jana McGuinness
VPD spokesperson

have some kind of overarching agenda otherwise those in power can dismiss us, but I think today is about developing causes that people can gravitate towards,” Blakeney told *The Link*.

So what can we hope to accomplish from Vancouver’s and other urban occupations? It is not clear if a definitive demand will be reached but even if one does not materialize, these general assemblies will have an extensive social benefit. They provide a forum for the public to table important issues that do not receive adequate attention in mainstream culture and are a visible representation of the socially marginalized.

General assemblies are mass workshops that help people reformat the way they think and give people the necessary skills to thoughtfully analyze their political environment. They empower people through conversation and facilitate an important discourse in a compromised public sphere, injecting it with strength and direction.

When asked to comment on some of the frustrations protestors were expressing during the these assemblies, Vancouver Police Department spokesperson Constable Jana McGuinness said, “There are many different voices here, many different causes being expressed today and that is the society we live in. It is democratic and that is great.”



PHOTO: Dave Swanson



PHOTO: Dave Swanson



PHOTO: Britney Tiplady



PHOTO: Christopher Porter

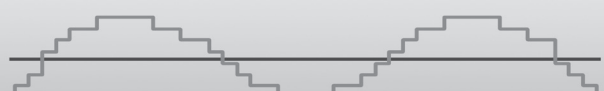
FOR THE RECORD LOVER

The science behind analog vs. digital

I. Analog



II. Digital



ADAM PETRASH
University of Manitoba

WINNIPEG (CUP) — Last time, I said I wasn't going to go into the science of why vinyl is better because not everyone can relate to science but everyone can relate to the emotions of the human condition.

But let's face it: If you're a geek like me, science is cool.

The reason vinyl sounds better all comes down to analog versus digital. If you know anything about analog and digital wavelengths then you'll know what I am referring to. If not, allow me to explain.

Analog wavelengths are as pure as it can get. Sound is, by nature, analog; it's continuous. To better explain this, imagine a green-covered rolling hill in the countryside. Now take a pencil and trace the outside of that hill. You now have a bell curve, right? This represents what an analog wavelength looks like.

With digital, the sound is not continuous; it consists of a series of shorter sounds. Now, take that same green-covered hill, but this time, instead of tracing the hill accurately, draw stairs into the left side leading up to the top of the hill and back down the right side. This represents what a digital wavelength looks like.

As you can see, it's missing pieces of that hill, thus making the argument that analog captures a more organic, truer representation whereas, regarding digital, subtleties are absent.

Now I get that these days with all the latest advances in

digital technology there's the argument that no one can tell the difference anymore. That yeah, sure, if it was recorded on analog it's a safe bet that it sounds best on analog. But who records on analog anymore? Well, you'd be surprised. Bands like the Black Keys, Bright Eyes, Death Cab For Cutie, Jack Johnson, among many, many others still choose to record using analog.

I know others would say if it was recorded digitally than it has to sound better on CD or MP3, so why buy it on record, you're not missing anything? Point taken. But the truth, in short, is that it's all subjective. How we interpret music, as we do with most things, is all personal preference. For me, I'm an audiophile at heart. I believe vinyl to sound full and warm and that it creates an atmosphere digital continues to lack. But that's just me.

Go and conduct your own science experiments.

Go up into the attic, or down into that crawl space, or out to the garage and get your parents's (or any other family member's) turntable that's sitting there just collecting dust. If no one you know has one, find one. Then just make your way down to your local record store and discover all the old, collectible and new LP's they sell. Conduct your own science experiments, then go and find out for yourself why vinyl very may well be, in your own opinion, better.

So come on and discover your own little wonders.

Because you're never too old to rediscover magic.



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A cornucopia of collaborations

Looking back at some of the most memorable supergroups

BLAKE MORNEAU
University of Victoria

VICTORIA (CUP) — This year has brought us some high-profile musical collaborations. Jay-Z and Kanye West dropped “Watch the Throne” this summer, and fall brings both the Lou Reed/Metallica collaboration “Lulu” and the bastard child that is Super-Heavy, a group that includes Mick Jagger, Damian Marley, Joss Stone and Dave Stewart (the uninteresting Eurythmic). With the plethora of interbreeding, now seems like as good a time as any to take a look back at some of the more memorable collaborative efforts of the last few years.

1. The Dead Weather

Another of Jack White’s seemingly neverending stream of projects, The Dead Weather gathers up White, Alison Mosshart of The Kills, Dean Fertita of Queens of the Stone Age and White’s Raconteurs cohort Jack Lawrence, to create eerie, dark and spacy blues-rock. They’ve released two albums thus far, including their stunning 2009 debut *Horehound*. With the White Stripes now defunct, we can only hope that White has enough time between projects to get this band back together.



Members of *My Morning Jacket*, *Bright Eyes*, and *M. Ward* make up *Monsters of Folk*. Photo courtesy of WFUV Radio

2. Oysterhead

Stoners around the world rejoiced when Phish front man Trey Anastasio teamed up with bass god Les Claypool of Primus and Stewart Copeland of the Police for 2001’s *The Grand Pecking Order*. At first glance the players don’t seem to fit, but each guy is a virtuoso and the result is an album that is danceable, challenging and endlessly fascinating.

3. John Legend & The Roots

Ultra-smooth neo-soul star John Legend recruited the reigning champions of live hip hop to help him explore the history of politically charged soul music for last year’s *Wake Up!* Black Thought’s rapping is used

only twice on the album and to great effect. The only original track is the glimmering, fragile “Shine,” a track to remember disenfranchised members of our society. The song holds its own, even next to tunes by past soul giants.

4. Street Sweeper Social Club

In 2006, Boots Riley of The Coup teamed up with Rage Against the Machine’s (RATM) Tom Morello to make furious party music for the masses. The annoying high school anger moments that populated RATM’s classic work are traded in for Riley’s party-friendly, hopeful rhymes. Both men are known to be quite militant in their political stances

and they bring their passion here to create funky, powerful music that does the unthinkable: it makes the rap-rock hybrid sound healthy and vibrant again.

5. Monsters of Folk

I’ve never been a huge Bright Eyes fan; Conor Oberst consistently bugs the hell out of me, no matter how much I try to like him. But I have to give it to him here — this is a wonderful project. Oberst brings along his Bright Eyes partner Mike Mogis and joins up with indie-folk hero M. Ward and My Morning Jacket rock god Jim James to make beautiful and haunting folk-rock. Maybe if enough fans say “please” we’ll get another record out of them.

MOVIE REVIEW

THE IDES OF MARCH



In the world of politics one thing is evident: it’s a dirty game. In George Clooney’s *The Ides of March*, his fourth directorial effort after 2008’s *Leatherheads*, there is enough backstabbing to fill a Shakespearean drama; leaving one to wonder if it’s possible for any politician with hopes of winning a campaign to remain true to their original values.

The *Ides of March*, adapted from Beau Willimon’s 2008 play *Farragut North*, takes place within the Democratic primary campaign as two opponents vie for the pivotal swing state of Ohio. What happens behind the curtain is the crux of the film.

The story centers around Stephen Meyers (Ryan Gosling), the idealistic press secretary for Pennsylvania Governor Mike Morris (George Clooney), whose job it is to blur fact from fiction. Meyers soon finds himself in conflict with Morris’ veteran campaign manager Paul Zara (Philip Seymour Hoffman) after he meets with Tom Duffy (Paul Giamatti), the campaign manager for Senator Pullman, an act Zara views as a betrayal. Adding to Meyers’ problems is Molly (Evan Rachel Wood), a young intern who is hiding a secret that could sink the whole campaign.

The characters in the film are all flawed. They are cynical, treacherous, and played to perfection. Gosling and Clooney are excellent, handling difficult roles with chilling calm as we see idealism shattered and reflected as pure image.

Though *The Ides of March* may not shed new light on what most of us already know about politics, the performances make this sleek and sexy movie worth the watch.

— Thorstan Gerlach

UPCOMING MOVIES



October 28

IN TIME

Directed by Andrew Niccol
Stars Justin Timberlake, Amanda Seyfried
Set in a dystopian future where people stop aging at 25 and where the currency in use is time, *In Time* fits the classic model of a science fiction thriller. *In Time* surely has the star power to attract more than just the usual sci-fi fans.
Running time: 127 minutes



October 28

THE RUM DIARY

Directed by Bruce Robinson
Stars Johnny Depp, Amber Heard
The Rum Diary, based on the novel of the same name by Hunter S. Thompson, tells the story of a journalist who moves from New York to Puerto Rico to write for *The San Juan Star*. *The Rum Diary* is the film to see for all of the Johnny Depp and Hunter S. Thompson fans out there.
Running time: 120 minutes

— Carl Kooka (Cape Breton University)

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Executive Weigh-In



**A message from BCITSA
Health Sciences Chair
Laura Chow**

It's getting to the time of year in which students become so engulfed in school and work, that any trace of having a life prior to the end of summer has vanished. It is midterm season and if your schedule's anything like mine, I'm guessing deadlines and due dates have just crept up on you.

It's important for students to find an outlet for stress, especially this time of year. Whether it's going to the gym, hanging out with friends, or going out for coffee, everyone needs to have a way to get away from the stress that often characterizes BCIT.

Taking a mental break can be good for you and may help you be more productive in the long-run. Have you ever tried working on a problem for hours on end, only to put it down, look at it again the next day and solve it within minutes? This is a perfect example of how taking a few minutes every day — or an evening over the weekend — to relax without the stress of school can make a huge difference.

I challenge everyone to try to introduce something new and step out of the comfort zone that is school and work — try a new extra-curricular activity or going to a social event! It can be a great way to integrate the work-school balance if you're reluctant to take the time yourself. Making the commitment to go to an event can make it easier to justify taking that time away from school.

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WHAT: Rotate-a-Date - a speed dating event for singles at BCIT supporting the BC Cancer Agency
WHERE: Professor Mugs Pub - BCIT Campus
WHEN: Thursday October 27 from 6 to 8 pm
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SIGN-UP: Facebook: Rotate-a-Date



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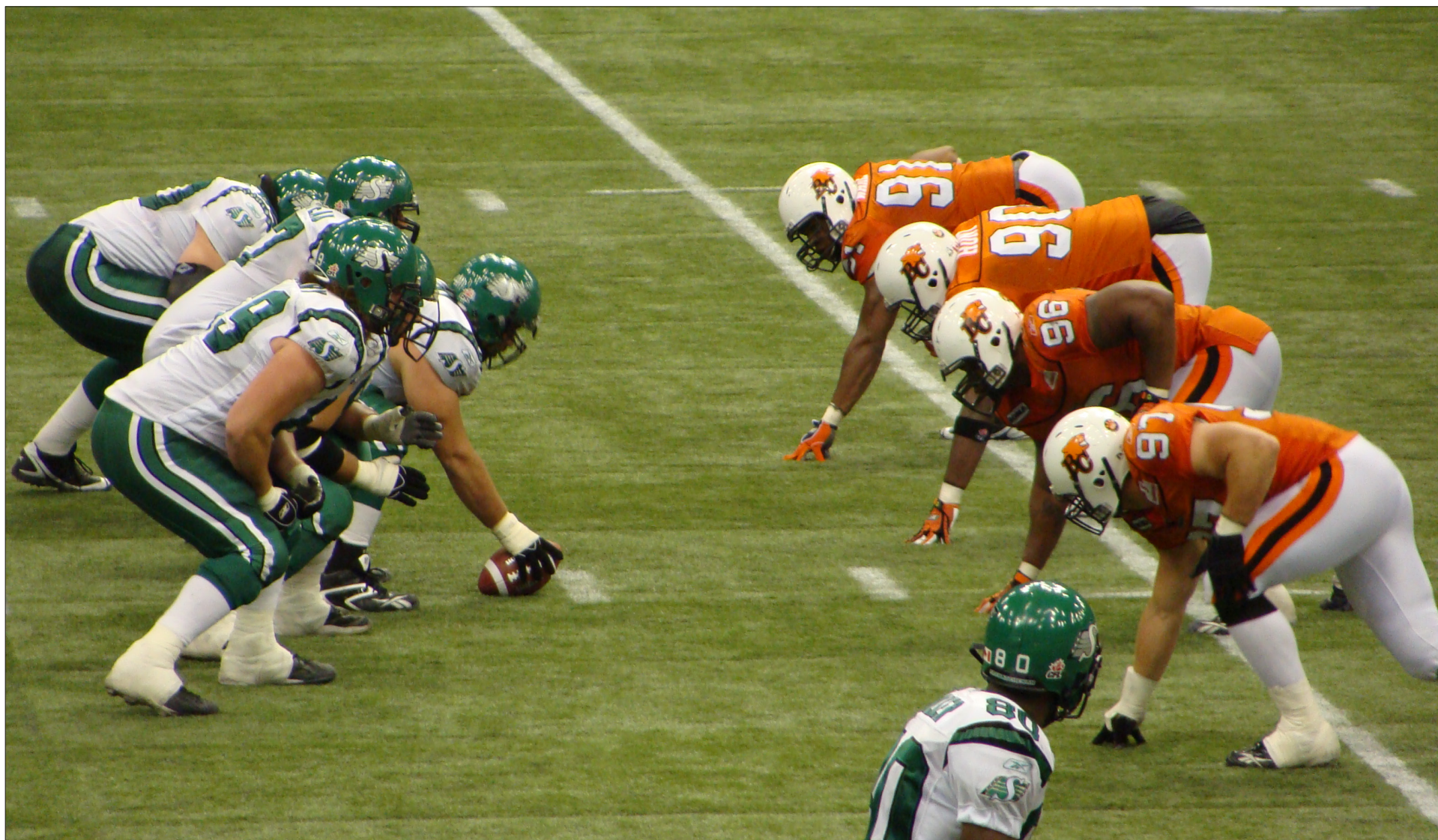
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The Lions' offensive line faces off.

Photo courtesy of Flickr user radiobread

BC Lions by the numbers

57

seasons since 1954

9

Western Division
championships

5

Grey Cup
championships

8:10

2010 win:loss ratio

Lions welcome return to BC Place

Lions regaining home-field advantage as they approach critical period part of season

CHAD KLASSEN
Assistant Editor

The B.C. Lions are picking up their game at just the right time. Not only because there is three games remaining before the CFL playoffs but also with the recent opening of the renovated BC Place.

The Leos are the hottest team in the league and have yet to lose in the new stadium, winning both games against their Western rivals to move into first.

Overall they've won eight in a row, and that bodes well as they push towards November and the 99th Grey Cup game at BC Place.

The CFL is a league that rewards teams playing their best football in the fall as cold

weather starts to hit across the country.

Even if a team's hampered by a slow start, it doesn't matter. It's all about peaking, and the Lions certainly fit that bill.

Not to mention, the recent winning streak couldn't be coming at a better time with the \$563-million stadium re-opening. Fans have witnessed a pair of epic games that have been significant in the standings.

The stadium-opening win against Edmonton pushed the Lions past the Eskimos for second place. Then, eight days later against the Stamps, Paul McCallum kicked the Leos into first in the West on a record-setting night.

McCallum broke the CFL record for consecutive field goals with 30 – and his fourth of the game from 53 yards to send the stadium into frenzy.

The game-winning field goal capped off B.C.'s rise from the dead after that 0-5

start.

There's still work to be done, but the remarkable turnaround is alive and the Lions are Grey Cup contenders again in a year Vancouver hosts the big game.

That's what everyone

“BC Place has been an incredibly loud, hostile place to play and provided the best home-field advantage in the 1980s and mid-2000s.”

around town was so excited about coming into the 2011 season. We all knew BC Place would be finished in time for the Grey Cup – and given last season's final push to the playoffs, it wasn't out of the question they would build on

that and have a great shot at the championship.

The winless start was demoralizing for both the team and city, but the faith is back and B.C. has as good a chance as Edmonton or Calgary to represent the West in front of the home fans.

BC Place has been a friendly to the Lions, especially when it opened back in 1983. The teams started 4-0 at BC Place after construction of the original stadium, and then hosted the Western Final – a 39-21 win over Winnipeg – on their way to the 1983 Grey Cup game.

At its best, BC Place has been an incredibly loud, hostile place to play and provided the best home-field advantage in the 1980s and mid-2000s – hands-down.

For the 2011 Lions, the stadium could be the difference in a championship season if the road to the Grey Cup has to go through BC Place.



First time skydiving! So stoked!



So many shoes!!! lol

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Dear Di

with Di Daniels (University of Ottawa)

Dear Di,

I know this guy who is hot, funny, ambitious, and we have the same interests. Lately the sparks have been flying between us, and I was pretty sure we were going to hook up, but then I was hit with the "girl code." My friend basically forbade me from ever getting with my crush because she has feelings for him (even though she knows nothing will happen between them as he's told her this before). What should I do, Di? Forgo my chances with this guy in favour of honouring my friend's selfish wishes? Or am I the selfish one?

— Girl Code Crusher

Dear GCC,

Do you really envision a future with this guy or are you simply hoping for a roll in the hay? If you're craving his cock but not his companion-

ship, I suggest you search for another sexy stud. Meaningless romps in the sack aren't worth damaging a friendship, especially because fuck buddies are a dime a dozen. You'll snag someone else in a snap.

On the other hand, if you're interested in this dude for reasons deeper than his dick—and your friend knows this—I am inclined to think she's being slightly unfair. Unless your pal's crush spans years and has inspired her to fill countless diaries with heartfelt poetry and unsent love letters, I'd say this guy is fair game.

In the interest of maintaining your friendship, I encourage you to sit down with your bud and hash it out. Let her know her feelings are important to you, but don't be afraid to ask for the same treatment in return. If your friend cares about you, she'll

want to see you happy—you should mean more to her than a guy who isn't into her anyway.

The moral of the story is this: Deeming exes to be off limits falls within the confines of reasonable friendship expectations; however, it's not OK for someone to stamp "do not touch" on the forehead of every person they've ever fancied.

Love,
Di

Dear Di,

My roommate loves masturbating, which is totally fine, because who doesn't? The problem is I keep finding her vibrator in the kitchen, the living room, and the bathroom. It's grossing me out and I don't know what to do.

— Move It To The Bedroom

Dear MITTB,

Looks like you've got a serial pseudo-exhibitionist on your hands! Your roommate probably gets off on the thrill of fondling herself in your shared living spaces, but leaving the evidence behind is extremely inconsiderate and downright disgusting.

Don't forget you pay half the rent, giving you every right to voice your opinion. Speak in a casual tone of voice so as not to put her on the defensive, but make it clear you're not cool with her toys popping up all over the common areas. Tell her how uncomfortable it makes you feel to discover her battery-operated boyfriend wedged between the couch cushions or perched on the bathroom sink. Let her know you support her self-love sessions, but simply can't stand her unhygienic habit any longer.

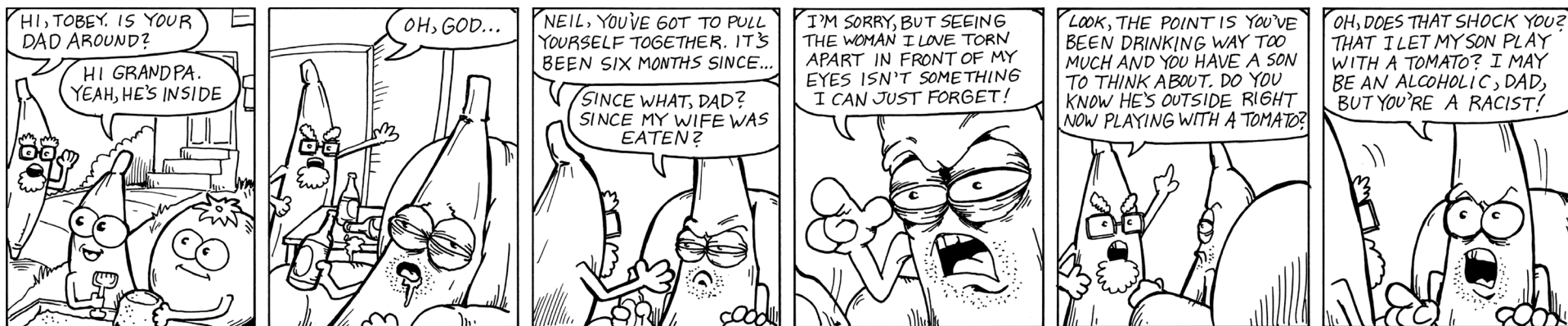
I know it's never easy to confront someone, especially regarding such a personal subject, but your roommate deserves a fresh dose of reality. Leaving her toys strewn across your space is rude and unnecessary—and you shouldn't have to put up with it any longer..

Love,
Di

Do you have a question for Di?
Email deardi@thefulcrum.ca



Single Dad Banana -- Benjamin Ripley (University of Alberta)



Children's Stories -- Andrew McLachlan (Simon Fraser University)



Article previews
to be placed

NEWS, pg 3

To catch reader's
interest

CULTURE, pg 6

Previews to
change weekly

VIEWS, pg 10

the *Link*

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CAMPUS BEAT



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There's a story here, and if I can get
you to look at this you'll probably
read some more!*

CULTURE



Something of note
There's a story here, and if I can
get you to look at this you'll
probably read some more!

HUMOUR



Say whaaaaaat?
There's a story here, and if I can
get you to look at this you'll
probably read some more!