

PRO TEM

le journal étudiant de Glendon | Glendon's student newspaper



**Happy
Consumerism!**

**Finding Love Online | P10
'In Your Face' Review | P14
Future Defining Horoscopes | P16
Fox Sued Over Borat Prank | P4**

EDITORIAL

PRO TEM

Pro Tem est le journal étudiant du collège Glendon. Publié pour la première fois en 1962, c'est la plus vieille publication de l'Université York. En plus d'être gratuit, Pro Tem est le seul journal bilingue en Ontario. As a full member of the Canadian University Press, we strive to act as an agent of social change and will not print copy deemed racist, sexist, homophobic or otherwise oppressive.

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Saisissez la chance de réagir à ce que vous avez lu dans Pro Tem.

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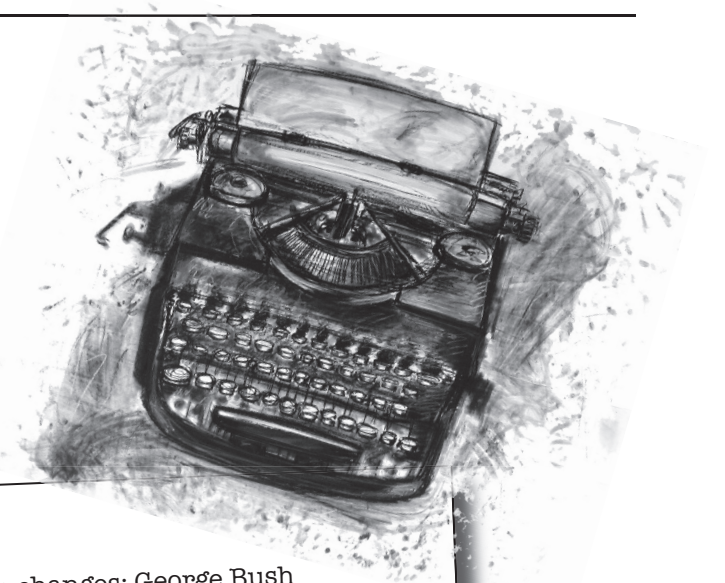
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Les lettres adressées au journal peuvent être éditées au niveau de la clarté ou du contenu. All copy appearing in Pro Tem is at the discretion of the editorial team.

Letter from the Editor



Recently, Pro Tem has undergone some changes: George Bush has joined the Editorial Team (only out of pity we assure you), as well as there have been some shifts in the Section Editors (for the better we also assure you.) In addition, you may have noticed that our logo changes every issue, or rather that we don't have one. We just insert generic themed images where ours used to be...

For those of you who read the paper last year, you may have observed that our frog and wasp logo has been missing. The reason being that we received a complaint from administration stating that a donor and members of the student body have submitted complaints that they find it offensive. To date, we have not received any documentation regarding the complaints that administration allegedly received. It's not that we want names because we don't, but an anonymous letter would be helpful or at least someone writing to the paper rather than the administration...because let's face it, the administration has no jurisdiction over a student run newspaper.

With good reason, our staff are upset about the loss of this logo and feel that it is an important part of Glendon history (it was designed by a Glendonite decades ago.) While some say it lacks 'professionalism' we question why people would expect a student newspaper to be 'professional'. We are here to rile things up a bit, get students debating, and make you think about student issues. Pro Tem is a forum for students to speak their minds, no matter how far left or far right they veer.

The administration seems to think that we should have a logo that is 'all-inclusive' of the student body at Glendon, which includes students from all over the world. So where does that leave us? The logo would take up the whole cover if it were to meaningfully represent the cultural diversity of every single student at Glendon. Does British Columbia change its flag or even its name because its inhabitants are no longer predominantly of British heritage? Do we change St. Catharines to simply Catharine's because not all of its residents are Catholic? No, because it is simply a commemoration of history.

As for negative connotations that the infamous 'donor' connected to the logo, he/she was simply misinformed. Let me clarify: our logo is a satirical statement based upon the traditional Francophone/Anglophone stereotypes in Canada. It is tongue in cheek and does not mock one more than the other. We aren't seriously calling anyone a frog or a wasp. We have received overwhelming positive feedback concerning this logo, from readers and staff alike, since the administration's attempts to censor it in favour of a new 'corrected' logo that focuses on the campus greenery.

As it stands, the staff have agreed to resurrect the frog and wasp logo for the January issue. Do you agree with this decision? If you don't like it, speak up! If you love it, speak up! If you'd rather see a sprouting seedling instead of a historical crest, scream it!

Regards,

Tia Brazda, Editor-in-Chief

Letters to the Editor

Responses to "Bring Back the Frog and the Wasp" by Matthew Clappison
Pro Tem Vol. 46 No. 3, pg. 2



This is a response to Matthew Clappison and the Frog and Wasp Issue:

I am not against satire and comedy by any means, but I would like to comment on the professional nature (or lack thereof), of the Wasp and Frog Logo. It is not any one person's sole opinion that this logo should not be resurrected again. In fact, during the March 9, 2006 GCSU general meeting, 8 out of 12 representatives (that's enough even for a constitutional majority) from last years council voted not to adopt the Frog and Wasp for GCSU purposes. The problem is that, said logo is not inclusive of the diverse population of Glendon. Not to mention, it can be construed as offensive to some, and we have already experienced some backlash in terms of public perception. By displaying this image on our professional materials, we could potentially lose private sponsors and a great deal of respect and goodwill. Since a symbol portraying our community speaks volumes about its members, let us redesign the logo into something more politically correct.

Regards,

Will Holland
Director, External Affairs
Glendon College Students' Union
Local 93, Canadian Federation of Students

Heritage and Humour are both officially dead at Glendon. The ban of Glendon's Frog and Wasp logo is a perfect example of political correctness being taken to such an extreme that it becomes intolerance and censorship. Not only does the logo perfectly remind us of Glendon's wonderful dual cultural heritage, but it does it with a sense of style and ironic self-deprecation (especially when the French and English mottos are included) that apparently is lost on today's unsophisticates. I can't help but think that the sort of people who find this logo offensive are likely the same sort who would sue McDonald's for burning themselves with their own spilt coffee.

Adam King
Proud Glendonite (fourth year)
Co-founder of Students For Good Governance
Green Party Brant CEO

Got something to say?
Tell Glendon about it.
Send your rants, raves and ramblings to
talkback.protem@gmail.com.

Matthew,

With regard to your rant re: the Frog & the Wasp, well-stated!

As a Glendon Alumni of over 30 years standing and a member in good standing of the Ancient and Frivolous August Strindberg Memorial Society Ravagers Fraternity, Glendon branch, it warms the very cockles of my ageing heart - never mind the heart of my ageing cockles - to see a young man of questionable virtue such as yourself, sit down and defend with pen in hand, the time-honoured and definitely tongue in cheek Frog & Wasp emblem of Glendonites - both maudit Anglais and goddamn Frenchies of times past.

In those halcyon days of Pro Tem's professional calibre articles such as: *North Bay Nora*, *Some day I'm gonna SMACK your face!*, *Michael Rideout's original idiot's guide to wine and whining*, *'Big Red'*, *David Moulton & the E House Wood Raiders* (Animal House), that *Peter somebody-or-other-nobody wanker* (who went on to become an internationally renowned sports psychologist but is still a wanker as far as can be readily determined), *Vince* (Is it clean?) *McCornCrack*, *Inside These Pearly Gates*, mad summer nights by the Frog Pond in The Rose Garden, even crazier evenings avec amis en le Cafe du Tear Ass, slumber parties a deux en Hilliard (back when Hilliard was all female and the French female students demanded to know, "Ou sont les VRAI hommes" ...well, you get the picture. The Frog & Wasp symbol was a symbol of fraternity, youth, the two solitudes coming together - half of Hilliard and Wood residents coming at once and the same time on a Friday evening after a brief courtship in D House TV room. But that was then, and this is, this is... WHAT THE F#%& IS THIS? Where did this tyranny of PC attitudes and monochromatic fascist fashion statements come from? What's the furor about the fucking fuhrer?!!!!

In other words nothing substantial has changed (at least in my life - HEY! It's all about me!!) other than the ridiculously PC atmosphere at the old "Rat-Hole" and the fact that Pro Tem would never dare to publish even half the litigation inducing crap that smeared those holy pages in days gone by.

And now, with yesteryear just a fading memory in the twilight of my youth, I can only say once more, congratulations Matthew on having the intestinal fortitude and gumption (balls) to fight the good fight, to take up our materially irrelevant but symbolically 'right on target, so direct / it's alright Ma, it's life and life only' torch from failing hands so to speak in an incredibly un-PC fashion and pass the hash pipe in remembrance of fond gatherings of Mad Frogs & Englishwomen and the children of those dangerous liaisons who now attend the old Arboretum on Bayview or else languish under flannel fields of Dr. Morgenthau's conception.

Yours sincerely,

Dave 'Scooter' Ravi-(now old)-Age Gray

NEWS

Miller re-elected Mayor of Toronto

Promises U-Pass for university students and an outright ban on handguns.

by Ashley Jestin Politics Editor



David Miller thanked competitor Jane Pitfield during his speech.

David Miller has been elected for a second term as the mayor of Toronto beating Jane Pitfield, his closest competitor, by nearly twice the number of votes and was re-elected with a 57 per cent majority.

Miller thanked his wife, his family, his supporters and Shaun Bruce, 22, a University of Guelph-Humber student who also ran in the city elections. Beyond this he thanked his two biggest competitors, Pitfield and Stephen LeDrew, for giving the people of Toronto a real choice. "To Jane Pitfield and Stephen Le Drew, thank you for putting yourselves and your visions for Toronto on the line for this hard-fought campaign. Jane, I say to you tonight, without you, there would not have been much of an election. And I know full well the sacrifices the both of you made to give Torontonians a real choice on the future of our city." Miller said.

During his victory speech, Miller reflected on what he did in his last term including making Toronto cleaner and

safer, adding more police to patrol the streets, and cleaning up corruption at city hall. However, he reiterated that there was a lot more to be done. "I will continue to fight to put those who use guns in jail, and for an outright ban on handguns and semi-automatic weapons. I will remain committed to the idea that no individual, no community, no neighbourhood should be ignored, marginalized or left behind."

Miller also stated that all Toronto residents should have a say in the city elections so that Toronto would not become what he called "a tale of two cities" which he explained as, "one for the rich and powerful, and the other for the poor and powerless. For Toronto to work well, it must work for us all. We must leave nobody behind. And I mean nobody."

When asked if he planned to fulfill one of his campaign promises of creating a Metropass for university students, he shouted an enthusiastic "yes!" and stated that work has already been started on the U-pass.

Students Sue Fox for Borat Prank

Two fraternity members claim to have been given drinks and made the 'object of ridicule.'

by Clara Wille News Editor

Two students from the University of South Carolina are suing 20th Century Fox and several other production companies for their portrayal in *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*.

During a film-length prank on several Americans across the country, Sacha Baron Cohen, a British comedian, caught the two Chi-Psi fraternity members saying severely racist, sexist, and heterosexist comments in response to his feigned ignorance as a reporter from Kazakhstan. Their lawyer claims that they "engaged in behavior that

they otherwise would not have engaged in" after having been given drinks by the production crew and told that the movie would not be shown in the United States, according to the British Broadcasting Company. Legal papers state that the film "made the plaintiffs the object of ridicule, humiliation, mental anguish and emotional and physical distress, loss of reputation, goodwill and standing in the community."

Fellow USC students are offended by the comments, and feel it's a bad representation of their community. In the words of Dana

Stoltenborg, a sophomore at USC, "the views they expressed were against women and gay people, and everything about minorities. And like still having slavery. They said we should still have slavery. I thought it was ridiculous." Others think their attempt to sue is futile. "I really don't see how they can sue," says Jason Belk, a USC Sophomore, "they said these words and signed a waiver to put it in the movie." 20th Century Fox also claims the case has no merit.

Other victims of Cohen's prank include Linda Stein, a New York City artist, who is not offended.



Sacha Baron Cohen the actor who plays Borat is under fire for his film-length prank.

"I'm a New Yorker," she told the BBC, "all sorts of things happen in New York - I'm not angry."

The film will not be shown in Kazakhstan. The distribution manager of Kazakhstan's largest chain of cinemas, Ruslan Sultanov, told Reuters, "We consider this movie offensive, a complete lie

and nonsense." However, political representatives of Kazakhstan have tried to take the movie lightly. "We take it as a comedy, as any comedy it is taken politely. It's not a comedy on Kazakhstan, it's a comedy on some other targets." Ambassador Yerlan Idrissov told *Sky News*.

York University President Tops Prime Minister in Salary

University President has new responsibilities but students are paying for it.

by Dave Morris

Public officials are losing the label of wealth that once went with their positions. Canada's CEO's continue to earn higher and higher salaries. Surprisingly, a third group has now emerged as one of the highest paid positions in Canada: University Presidents.

According to *Maclean's* University Guide and *Excalibur*, York University president Lorna Marsden made \$347,347 last year with an additional \$3,647 in compensation. Her grand total salary

was \$350,994. That is \$53,000 more than Canada's highest politician, the Prime Minister, who only makes an annual \$297,522 including compensation.

Marsden is not even at the top of the list. Certain presidents of universities in British Columbia and Alberta earn more each year than the President of the United States. This huge increase in salaries has been caused by the incorporation of universities across Canada and the United States. The grow-

ing question, however, is whether this increase is necessary and constructive for the universities and their students.

In order to cover the salary of Lorna Marsden alone, it would take the tuitions of more than 70 Glendon students with full course loads. This violates the original salary policy that presidents of universities make only slightly more than the university professors that work under them.

It cannot be ignored that uni-

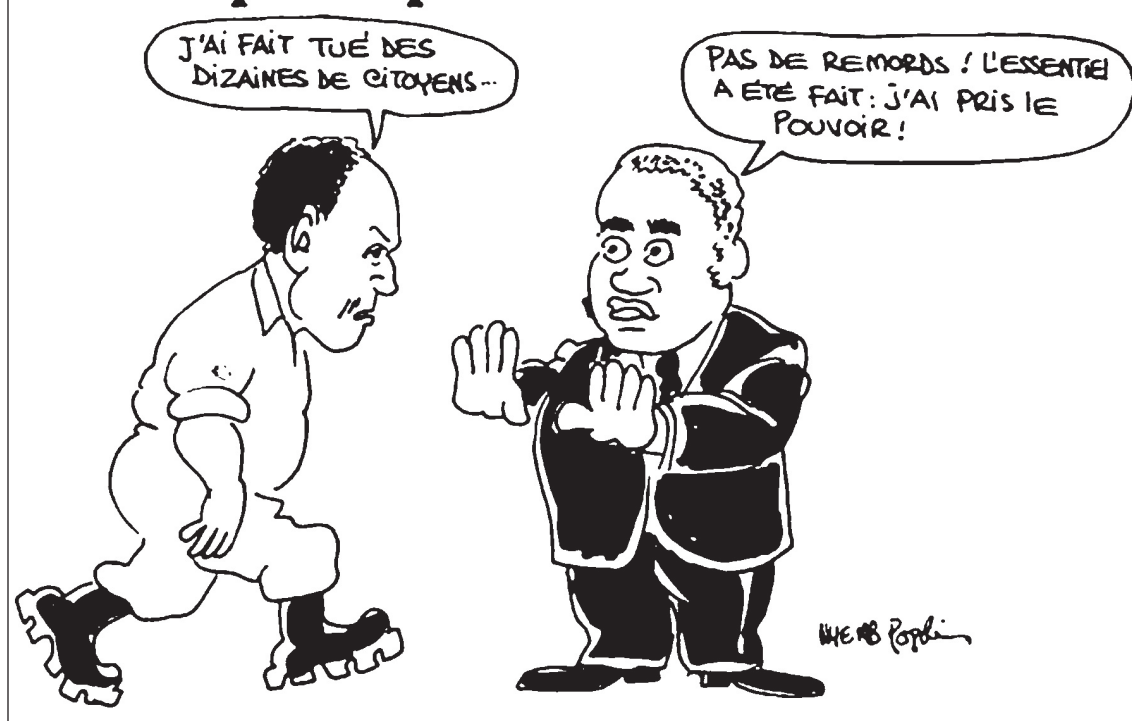
versity presidents' duties have also increased at a similar rate to their salaries. Incorporation has caused many new responsibilities to be placed on their shoulders as they now have to focus more on business as well as education. Nevertheless, as positions like university presidents continue to earn higher salaries, students can expect to pay the tab in the form of continual increases in tuition fees.



Lorna Marsden president of York University makes \$350, 994 a year.

YorkU.ca

La politique en Côte d'Ivoire...



La Côte d'Ivoire, n'est pas précisément le paradis de la démocratie. De 1960 à 1993, le pays est piloté par Houphouët-Boigny, un dictateur qui n'entend pas vraiment respecter les droits de l'homme. Il faut attendre sa mort pour que le multipartisme soit autorisé par la loi. Henri Bédié, au pouvoir jusqu'en 1999, emprisonne des centaines d'opposants politiques et instaure des politiques xénophobes qui alimentent les tensions dans le pays. Le président sera renversé en 1999. En 2002, son successeur ne réussit

pas à empêcher le déclenchement d'une guerre civile généralisée.

Depuis, le pays est divisé, autant géographiquement que politiquement entre les rebelles au nord et le gouvernement au sud. Pour une partie de la population ivoirienne, cette division est totalement artificielle puisqu'elle n'origine pas d'idéologies politiques contraires, mais de simples divergences d'intérêts au sein d'une oligarchie politique corrompue.

C'est dans ce contexte qu'est créé en 2004 l'Association Générale des élèves et des étudiants de

Côte d'Ivoire. Cette organisation est un syndicat étudiant qui se veut indépendant de tous les partis politiques, elle milite plutôt à l'amélioration de la démocratie, des libertés politiques et des conditions d'existence des masses populaires.

L'AGEECI ne plait ni aux rebelles ni au gouvernement puisqu'elle révolutionne le monde des associations étudiantes qui étaient traditionnellement des organes de propagandes. À son corps défendant, elle incarne une troisième voie et s'attire ainsi de

Et pendant ce temps Afrique...

par Gabriel Rompré Édition francophone

puissants ennemis. Ses membres sont battus, blessés et humiliés sur une base quotidienne. Son initiateur, Habib Dodo, est assassiné et l'une de ses militantes, Soro Nathalie, est victime d'un viol collectif présumément perpétré par des membres d'une association étudiante rivale liée au gouvernement, la FESCI.

“Les étudiants réunis en association peuvent faire bouger les choses”

Dans un pays divisé où la dictature et la corruption est monnaie courante, l'AGEECI incarne la voie de la volonté populaire sans que son message ne soit déformé par le prisme des intérêts égoïstes des partis institutionnels en raison de ses structures décentralisées et basées sur la démocratie directe. Autour de ce groupement pourrait éventuellement se développer un véritable mouvement de contestation social qui pourrait mettre fin à la guerre civile en faisant prévaloir les intérêts du peuple sur ceux de l'oligarchie en place. Historiquement, les étudiants ont souvent

initié les grandes politique progressistes au sein des États. L'Histoire doit se répéter en Côte d'Ivoire où la résistance se solidifie de jour en jour.

Le mouvement reste cependant vulnérables au terrorisme exercé par des factions qui craignent le potentiel d'un mouvement étudiant porteur d'une cause sociale. Nous qui disposons au Canada de syndicats étudiants solides et regorgeant de ressources devrions nous inspirer du courage et de la ténacité de nos collègues ivoiriens qui résistent à l'adversité. Pendant ce temps, complaisamment, nous nous soumettons systématiquement au pouvoir en place qui en profite pour nous presser comme des citrons à travers des frais de scolarité astronomiques.

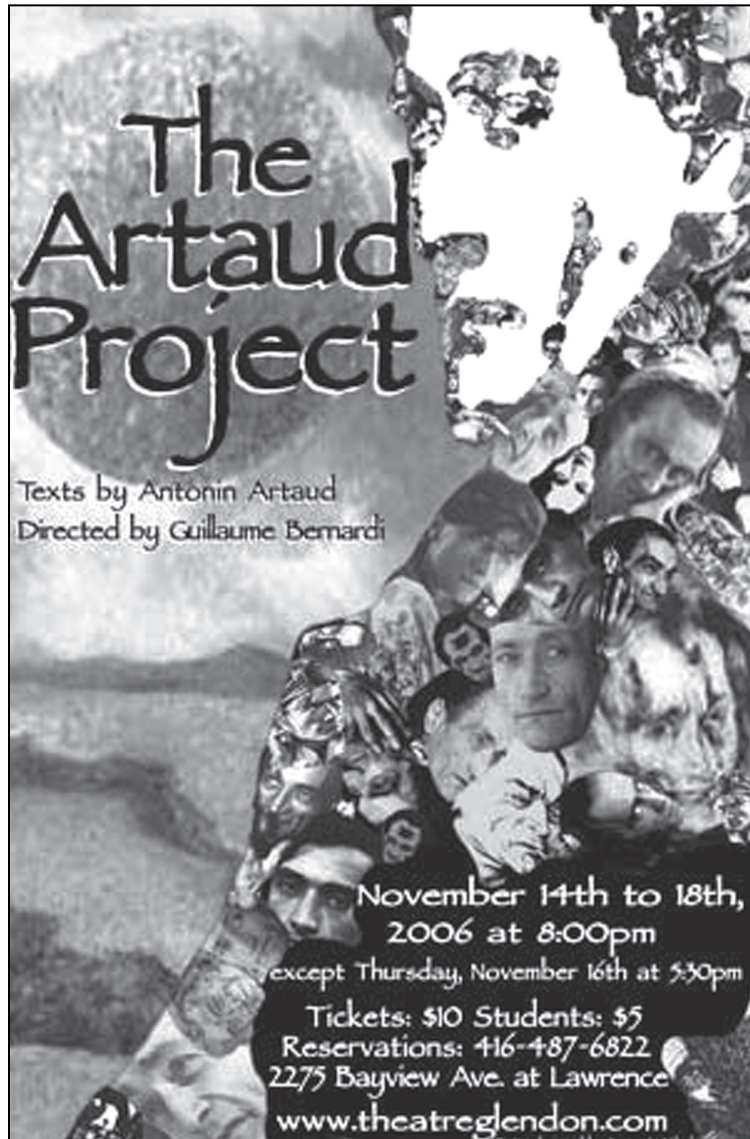
Les étudiants réunis en association peuvent faire bouger les choses, l'AGEECI nous le prouve encore aujourd'hui. Il faut s'ôter de la tête que les partis politiques servent nos intérêts. Les universitaires ontariens doivent sortir de leur apathie légendaire, s'approprier leur syndicat, descendre dans la rue et combattre pour les causes qu'ils croient justes.

CAMPUS LIFE

The Artaud Project

Glendon Theatre gets experimental.

by Kaitlyn Chambers Campus Life Editor



The Artaud Project, having taken place from November 14th-18th at the Glendon Theatre was a play meant to defy all the usual conventions seen in theatre. *The Artaud Project* was a performance put on by the *20th Century Drama in Europe and North America* class. The purpose of this play was to comment on the common conventions of theatre. This play was directed by Guillaume Bernardi, head of Drama Studies at Glendon. *The Artaud Project* sent a strong message: theatre does not have to follow the strict rules and guidelines that we are used to as a Western society.

The Artaud Project is based on the work of playwright Antonin Artaud (1896- 1948), a well known playwright, poet, and actor who believed in breaking free from convention and demonstrated this in his work- some of which was eventually banned. His interest in freeing theatre from rigid Western conventions led him to Mexican theatre where he discovered a more experimental approach. *The Artaud Project* documents some of Antonin's travels

to Mexico and time spent with native people, while breaking the common conventions of theatre. This play puts a spin on traditional theatre and lets the audience take a deeper look into the art without the constraint of traditional rules. "I really enjoyed the play. I'm not a drama major, yet I found I could really appreciate the artistic side of it." says Glendon student, Victoria Baird.

The Artaud Project was a great success due to the hard work and talent of the many participants involved. The costumes were authentic and realistic, while the set offered a breathtaking representation of a Mexican landscape. The cast greatly enjoyed the creative process, "It was a great experience to work with such an inspiring director who taught us so much. The cast was sensational. During our time working on the play we became more like a family than a bunch of classmates" says Kelly Dickey, actress and drama studies student. *The Artaud Project* was truly a success, enjoyed by both those who were part of it, and the audience.

The Political Science Club

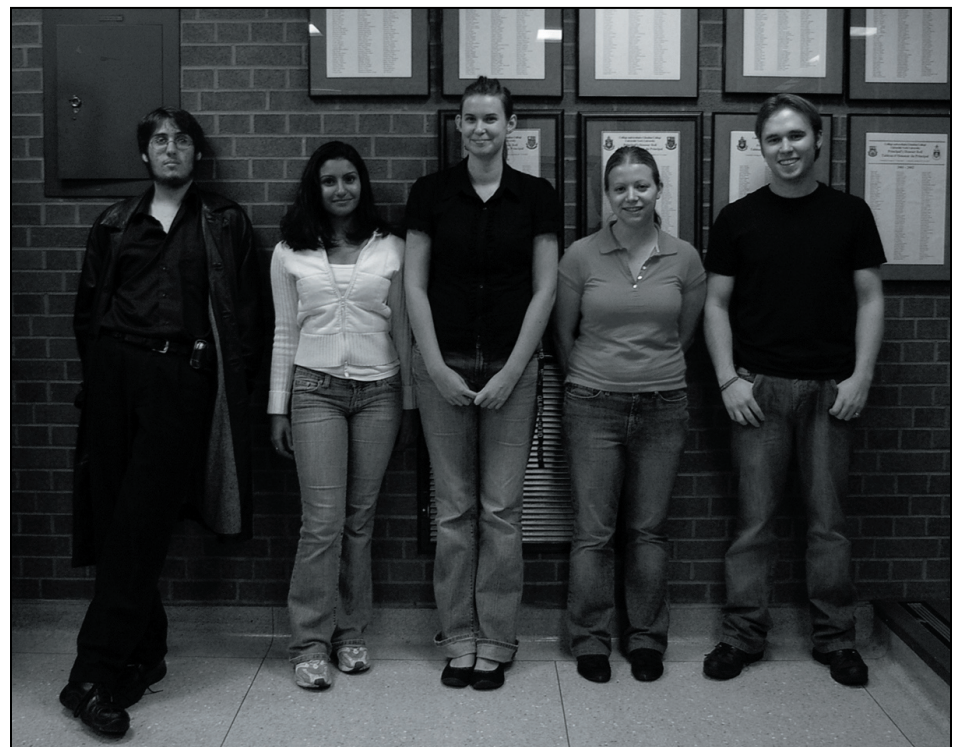
by Katherine Hall

Glendon is a campus full of students well known for their interest in politics and international relations. It is only fitting that a group exists at Glendon to explore various political views and ideologies. This group is "Glendon Political Science Association Science Politique." This group focuses on politics and is an ideal place for anyone interested in political issues. GPSASP is a group that welcomes students of all backgrounds to meet and discuss various political issues in a Canadian context. These meetings are every second Monday and are held on campus. Also, this group is responsible for a number of political events, as they try to bring politics to life on campus.

Earlier this year GPSASP held the 2nd Annual Glendon Political Science luncheon with the topic of *Food for Thought*, which provided students

with an opportunity to mingle and talk with Glendon professors about a variety of topics. Prof. Sewell, Prof. Roberge, Prof. Mahant, Prof. Wilson, Prof. Vanderkooy, Principal McRoberts, and Prof. Kirschbaum attended, and discussed topics from the Liberal leadership race to NATO and the Afghanistan mission with students. This luncheon was a beneficial learning experience for many students because it allowed them to debate, gain knowledge and converse with professors outside of a classroom context, regarding the important issues that exist in politics today. GPSASP is currently planning a number of upcoming events, including hosting guest speakers as well as the annual 'PoliSci week.'

The Glendon Political Science Association always welcomes new members, and expert knowledge is not a



necessity; the club is open to students who may just be interested in learning more about the club and the issues that exist in politics today. Anyone interested in finding out more information shouldn't hesitate to email the club at:

gpsasp@gmail.com. GPSASP also has a blog which can be found at:

glendon.yorku.ca/polstdiscussion where all things political are discussed. So don't wait, come out to a meeting and see what they're all about!

African Awareness Night

by Kaitlyn Chambers
Campus Life Editor

On November 19th, Glendon Amnesty International, in conjunction with the Glendon Musical Ensemble, hosted Africa Awareness Night in the Manor. It was an evening filled with moving speeches, films, and music. In between the events the ensemble performed numerous African themed songs as a cultural complement to the more serious side of the night. The purpose of the night was to “raise awareness and motivate people into further action (for Africa).” says Nefeli Adamides, co-organizer of the event. Currently, Africa is a continent in a state of hardship and this event sought to bring students’ attention to the dire conditions that are oppressing Africa. It also offered ways in which the Glendon community, particularly students, can effectively help.

Many speeches took place throughout the course of the evening to address issues such as child trafficking, child labour, and the crises that are occurring in Darfur. A very moving speech by Glendon student Heather Campbell on the current state of Darfur pleaded with the audience



to take action. Campbell discussed the ways in which we avoid taking action, “We think we can just put it off and that our essay that’s due next week is more important, but it’s not; people are dying there every day.” The students all had different reasons for attending the event; some came for personal reasons, others came because it relates to their studies, some came

to see friends speak, while others came just out of curiosity. “I came because I thought it would be interesting. I just wanted to come and see what it was all about.” says Glendon student, Jennifer Lyons. Despite their many reasons for coming, every guest had one thing in common; they experienced a night full of information, emotion, and awareness. Only time will tell whether

or not the night reached its goal, but if even just one person learned something they didn’t know before or gained a newfound realization for the situation in Africa, then Glendon Amnesty International and the Glendon Musical Ensemble achieved their night’s goal. The main message of the event: Africa cannot wait, and therefore neither can we.

GCSU Update The GCSU Goes To The Races

Ladies and Gentlemen, start your engines and be prepared to be knocked off the edge of your seat: the GCSU election results have arrived! Plusieurs candidats ont fait face à la pression de la compétition pour en arriver aux résultats suivants : vos sénateurs sont Stephen Abara et Nikita Singh, and first year students, you elected Prince Saquian and Natalie McClellan as your representatives. Vos conseillers et conseillères sont: Samantha Feder, Renée Rocheleau, Jean- Mikael Michaud et Daria Bus and finally you have chosen the Nadia Ouellet that you know and love to continue being Director of Clubs and Services. Having come through the rigorous experience

of the elections these candidates are ready at the gates, like well-trained greyhounds to race through the course of their term at the GCSU, chasing the rabbit of your expectations.

Having gone past ready, the GCSU web forums and their new code of conduct have had their rumblings come to a roar and everybody is doing the wave. Intéressés? Allez voir le site web de l’AECG à www.gcsu-aecg.ca et cliquez sur « discussion forums ».

In the relay is our very own councilor and CFS representative Shona Bracken who has taken up the baton to run against tuition fee hikes and in favour of a tuition fee freeze. Si vous aimeriez la rejoindre dans cette

course, la coalition pour l’éducation se réunit régulièrement. And an anti-tuition fees event is being planned for Wednesday the 29th of November, why don’t you join in and Fax-Off McGuinty with us?

Just before crossing the finish line of this semester the GCSU is holding one last meeting on the 5th of December at six-o’clock, donc si vous êtes curieux à propos de qui nous sommes ou ce que nous faisons venez participer à la réunion.

Keep your stick on the ice,
Annil Lang



FEATURE



Le Code Père Noël

par Gabriel Rompre French Editor

Alors tout le monde, c'est le temps des fêtes, on retourne voir sa famille? Tout le monde est heureux? Avez-vous déjà réfléchi à quel point notre intellect et notre pensée critique s'effondrait à la veille de la naissance du divin poupon? On fait plein de choses normalement qualifiée de « niaiseries » en se disant tout simplement : « Bof, c'est l'esprit de Noël qui nous fait ça, c'est tout... ». C'est quoi ça d'abord cet être surnaturel qui nous rend soudain tout guimauve? Même les athées l'invoquent, c'est tout dire. En vérité, les temps des fêtes n'a absolument rien à voir avec la religion, la famille, l'amour, le partage ou une autre valeur du genre. Depuis sa création, il a été utilisé comme élément de justification et de perpétuation du pouvoir.

La fête en temps que telle remonte au quatrième siècle. Ce qui est intéressant c'est que la papauté n'avait alors (et n'à toujours) absolument aucune idée de la date de naissance de Jésus. Elle décide arbitrairement d'établir Noël en même temps qu'une ancienne fête païenne, les Saturniennes. Les deux fêtes se font compétition durant un moment puis se confondent totalement sous l'influence de la persécution étatique. Le même procédé sera appliqué partout à travers l'Europe où le l'équinoxe d'hiver donne souvent lieu à une grande variété de célébration.

De nos jours, le rôle de la fête a changé, mais sert toujours l'intérêt des puissants. Au fil des ans, le monde capitaliste s'empare de la célébration pour la rendre totalement séculaire. Associer argent et religion a toujours été un excellent moyen de contrôler la population, une population que ne demande que du pain et des jeux pour fermer les yeux. La frénésie de consommation qui s'empare soudainement de tous assure un revenu confortable à toutes les grandes chaînes commerciales et donne lieu à des séances de gaspillage effrénées. Ors, des déchets, c'est ce dont notre société a besoin pour tourner.

Noël peut bien sûr être exempt de tel excès et devenir un véritable moment privilégié à partager avec nos familles respectives, tout le monde étant en congé au même moment. Peut-être êtes vous fatigué de vous faire rappeler que les véritables valeurs de Noël ne se résument pas à la consommation, mais fasse au masse qui agisse aveuglément sans penser à leurs actes, comment faire autrement?

It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

by Laura Scrivner Talkback Editor

The holiday season is upon us and with it comes hundreds of commercials, thousands of songs and malls all bedecked in holiday cheer. It turns out that many people hate this season. The music turns their stomachs, the gaudy decorations set their teeth on edge, and they find the endless repetition of stupid commercials maddening. They are forced to spend long hours with relatives in terrible sweaters who feel the need to ask painful questions and tell embarrassing childhood stories.

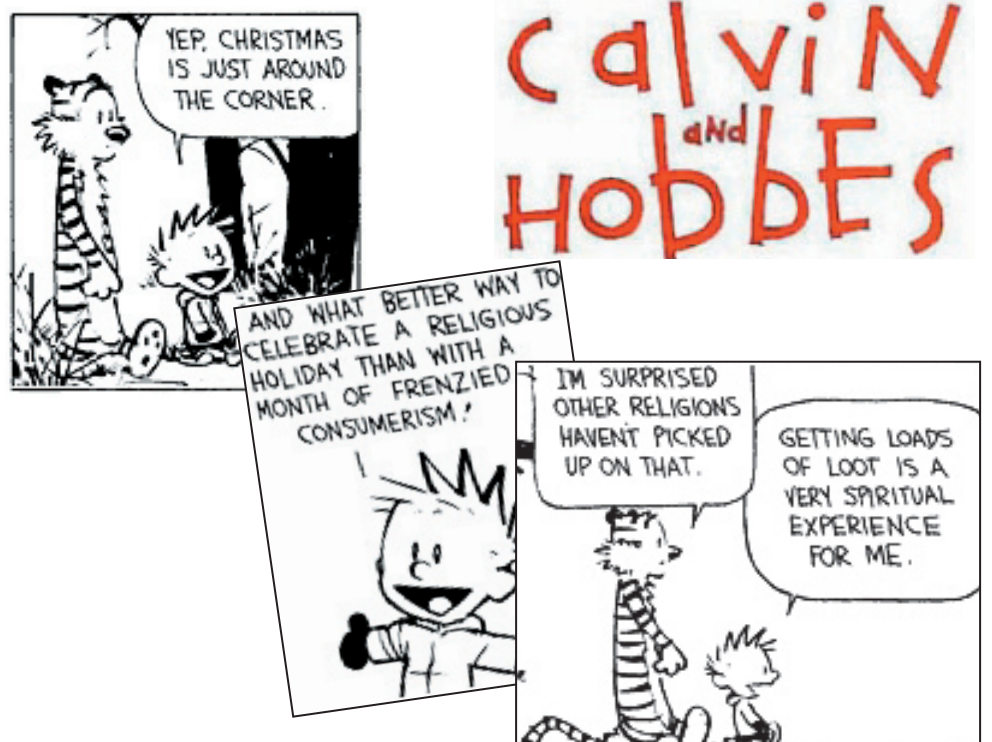
It is at this time that I have a confession to make: I actually like this holiday season. In spite of bad movies, sickly sweet music, and too much tinsel, I would like to proudly proclaim that I love this time of the year. In fact I started downloading Bing Crosby and Nat King Cole's various renditions of the holiday classics mid-November. The odd festive commercial on television makes me giggle with glee in anticipation of the holidays.

I think that my affection for this season is closely linked to my family (that I actually like) and all of our traditions leading up to it. I think that there is a general feeling that pervades throughout the season which is, in my opinion, encouraged by commercialism. It is a feeling that inspires charity and kindness in some, yet encourages nausea in others.

Perhaps you are familiar with *The Christmas Show* on *The Edge* radio station, from which proceeds go to the Daily Bread Food Bank. Or perhaps you remember class Christmas hampers for needy families, or shoe boxes full of presents for children in developing nations. Would we be even half as generous if the media hadn't hyped up this holiday?

So where is this generous spirit during the rest of the year? Why isn't the Salvation Army outside of malls year round? The overwhelming amount of holiday spirit from commercial centres and the media definitely moves us to reach deeper into our pockets.

Christmas is still about religion for many people, but now people who do not share those religious views can still get into the holiday spirit thanks to commercialism. Christmas traditions have developed over time and are incredibly far removed from the biblical origins of the holiday. After all, the last time I checked, Santa Claus (whose current image was essentially popularized by Coca Cola) was not present at the birth of Jesus. There was no Christmas tree in Bethlehem and there certainly was not a Christmas turkey. Bearing these things in mind, in whatever capacity you celebrate, have yourself a happy commercialized holiday.



FEATURE

Holidays Around The World

by Irena Kramer



Seeing (RED)TM Over iCharity

by Hannah Renglich Creative Writing Editor

'Philanthropreneurship', a new form of charity, is making waves in the world of international aid and development. The latest endeavour of Bono, that beloved sunglassesed celebrity, is (PRODUCT)RED, which embodies the spirit of the cause.

Riding on the coattails of the XVI International AIDS Conference in Toronto this summer, (PRODUCT)RED has chosen to take a business approach to charity by offering consumers a spend-friendly way to contribute to the global fight against AIDS. With the purchase of selected brand-name products, shoppers can sport watches, music players, t-shirts, and even credit cards that identify them as AIDS supporters. While the Gap donates 50% of profits from sales on red t-shirts (made from African cotton), Apple contributes only \$10 from the purchase of each red iPod Nano to the Global Fund. What is wrong with this picture?

There is a strange self-centredness that allows programmes like (PRODUCT)RED to function. By playing off of the over-consumptive patterns of the West, several dominant corporations have set themselves up to take hold of the market.

When presented with the choice between two items where one will contribute some money to a good cause, one would hope that the average citizen would pick the "socially-responsible" one. On the other hand, with the ongoing ignorant promulgation of AIDS as a "gay disease", certain consumers wouldn't be caught dead brandishing a (RED)TM item.

Are people really so self-interested as to refrain from giving unless they receive something in return? From an environmental standpoint, a huge part of (PRODUCT)RED is the implicit accumulation of gadgetry that will eventually end up in landfills, perhaps a world away from the point of purchase. If all of this hasn't gotten your blood boiling, check out the (RED)TM Manifesto at <http://www.joinred.com/manifesto.asp>, which sports a rhetoric that guilties the reader into feeling as though it is his/her duty to buy (RED)TM, since it is the only way to get medication to the sick. The Manifesto implies that those dying of AIDS in Africa are our 'brothers and sisters' – a term that becomes slimy in its manipulative employment. Finally, the document suggests that by purchasing (RED)TM products, treatment for AIDS will be distributed and lives will be saved. Yet, it is widely understood that there is no cure for AIDS. And who is corporate America anyway to determine how and to whom ARVs are distributed??

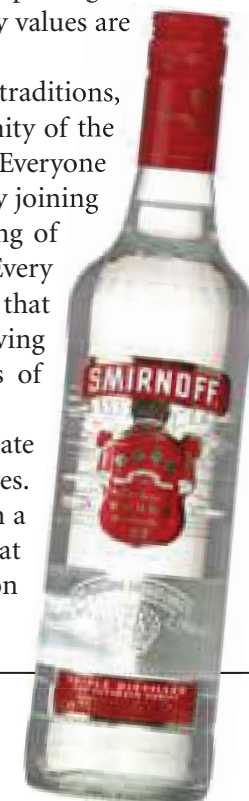
The sheer pretension assumed of the consumer base and presented by the company is astounding, "As first world consumers, we have tremendous power. What we collectively choose to buy, or not to buy, can change the course of life and history on this planet." There are considerable power imbalances wrapped up in the words and images of (PRODUCT)RED, but by taking the time to explore them, they become easily transparent. This holiday season, remember that it's one thing to be a conscious consumer and another to be conscious, knowing that you don't have to consume to play your part.

North Americans tend to believe that the rest of the world functions with the same system of values as they do. When it comes to holidays, this is rarely the case. In North America, our intentions are clear: we want presents, decorations, and big Christmas trees. Although one would like to believe that this is the same around the world, it is not.

Different parts of the world celebrate their holidays in very distinctive ways. In Russian culture, the first and foremost reason for any holiday is a chance to gather with family and share in Russia's cultural heritage: vodka. As one Mrs. Talalali said, "Sober does not understand the Russian soul." Vodka is a necessary part of any meal or celebration, no matter how small or how big. This is in high contrast with more traditional cultures of the east. In China, heritage and family are the central ideas behind any celebration. Following tradition and respecting one's elders become a priority during the holiday season. Family values are strengthened in age-old celebrations of culture.

In Israel, a place of old nations and long-standing traditions, the focus of the holiday season is very clear: the unity of the nation and the declaration that they are not slaves. Everyone has a place to go for the holidays, even if it is simply joining a neighbor's celebration. This creates a great feeling of unity, as no one is left out of the joys of the holidays. Every holiday also has a series of stories and ceremonies that have been passed through the ages, each about surviving hardship and staying a nation after the struggles of thousands of years.

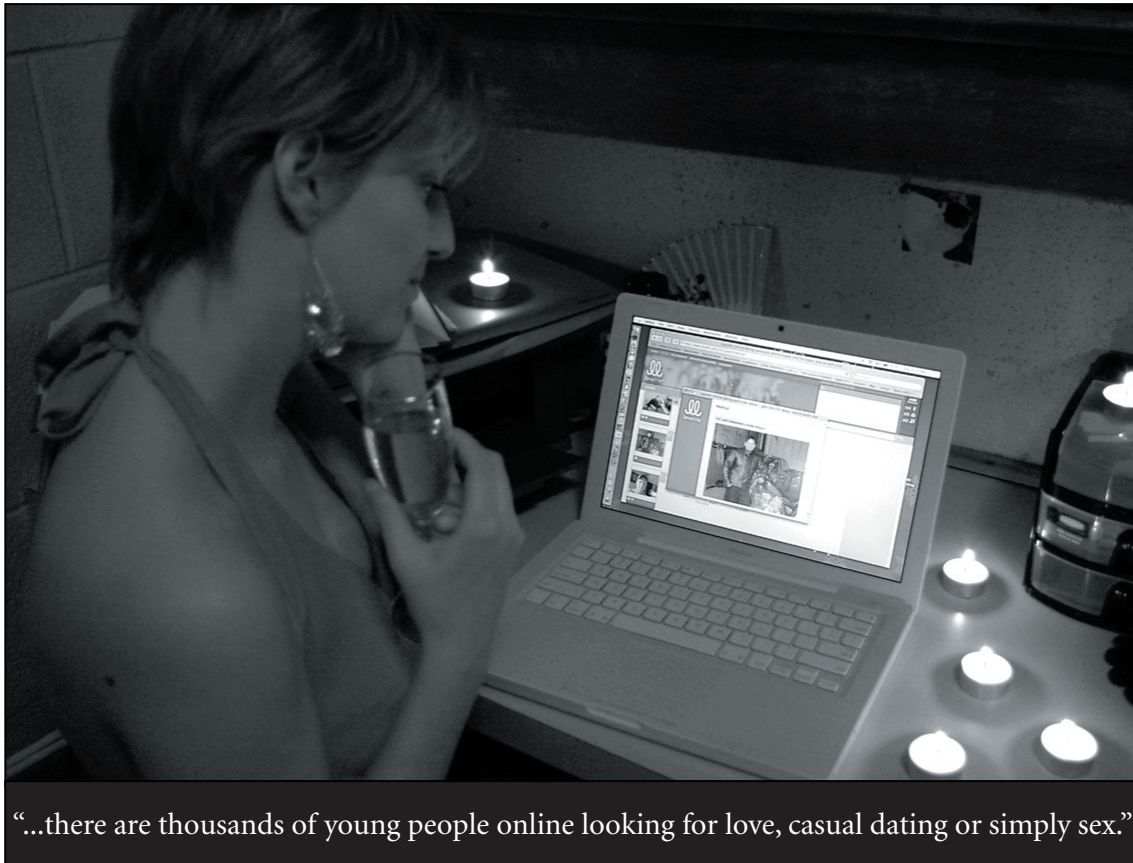
It is clear that different parts of the world celebrate very differently and place importance on different issues. Although gifts and decorations do fill a person with a certain holiday spirit, it is important to remember that there are many meanings to the holidays. The question is: which one is the most important to you?



Buy Nothing Christmas
RETHINK THE SEASON

Love Can Byte Online

by Tia Brazda Metropolis Editor



"...there are thousands of young people online looking for love, casual dating or simply sex."

Online dating is an ever-growing phenomenon with increasing numbers of people searching for companionship via thousands of available dating websites. Web dating has many positive effects such as a greater number of mates to choose from, the ability to sort people by their profiles, thus isolating the qualities you are looking for, as well as lessening the social anxiety of real-life dating. Once thought of as 'desperate' or 'sleazy', finding your next relationship on the internet is increasingly becoming the acceptable norm.

Take Lisa for example, a recent graduate of York University's Glendon College, "I had been so busy with school that I never really had time to date. After I graduated it was harder to meet people that had the same interests as me." Recently, one of Lisa's close friends had begun dating online and had enjoyed the experience, so Lisa began taking the idea more seriously. "I was nervous at first, at the thought of really

meeting someone from online in real life, it just seemed really weird." Despite her reservations Lisa gave it a try. She soon found herself at Lava life which is likely Canada's top online dating agency. From there she found herself being asked out on more dates than she had time to go on, thus screening their profiles became increasingly valuable. Lisa is now comfortably dating someone, whom she met over 5 months ago on the site.

For those of you who don't know, there are thousands of young people online looking for love, casual dating or simply sex. It can be fun browsing profiles and it comes in handy knowing what sort of movies or restaurants your date appreciates before you even ask them out.

Most sites have a free trial basis so you can try browsing profiles before you ever sign up. Once you do sign up, sites range from free to 30 dollars a month. Most importantly, once you are ready to meet someone in real life, make sure you are

careful. Dating in general can be dangerous, whether you initially met online or at a bar. The fact is that no matter how charming this person is, you don't know them. Make sure to meet in a public place on the first few dates and always trust your gut feelings. If someone makes you feel uncomfortable, simply leave -even if it doesn't include saying goodbye.

Despite the inherent risks of running into the odd creep, online dating can be a great way to meet new people. Whether you are having difficulty finding casual booty or true love, don't be discouraged, be logged on.

While www.lavalife.com is a very popular mainstream site, some other high-quality sites are:

www.nerve.com: an online hipster mag that just happens to have an amazing personals section.

www.gaymatchmaker.com: a dating site for all orientations of the queer community.

WHERE COOL CATZ GO

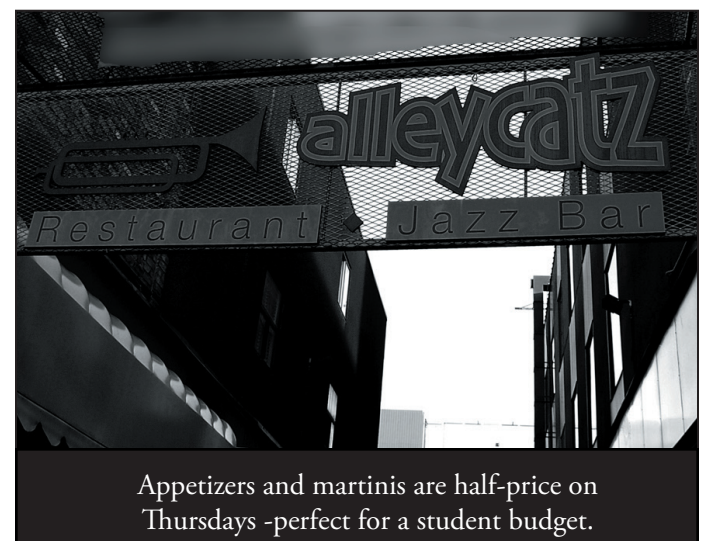
by Diana Fourka

If you're desperately searching for the hottest locale, search no more because it's closer than you think! *Alleycatz* is located on 2409 Yonge Street, just a few blocks north of Yonge and one subway stop away from Glendon. The venue has a feng-shui inspired décor; lantern type lights hang from the ceiling, small wooden tables, futon chairs, open patio and a long red martini bar. Its atmosphere is elegant yet relaxed enough to have a stress-free night with friends. In addition, it has a catchy name and a reputation that lives up to it, being recognized as one of Toronto's top jazz restaurants/lounges (it won several awards in 2002 as best single scene; romantic bar, place to be seen, music venue.)

Alleycatz is open weekly from 5pm to 2 am, and there's always something happening to satisfy all tastes. Monday is Salsa night with DJ Franck Bischun, with salsa lessons starting at 8pm. Tuesday at 8:30 there is a live band (Chric Plock and Co.) with swing/jazz dance lessons. Both dance lessons are taught by professional instructors and cost only five dollars. Wednesday there is a live soul jazz band playing, Jasmin Bayley & Co. While from Thursday to Saturday, it's all about the funk; soul, RnB, Reggae and Top 40!

If you're not into jamming to the music, you could always taste the exquisite Mediterranean cuisine. The menu is packed with varieties of salads, pasta, risotto, rib steak, chicken breast, plus a wide dessert and wine list. The cuisine is expensive with even martinis costing 10.50, but on Thursdays both appetizers and martinis are half price so it's perfect for a students budget. Besides there's no need to worry about a cover fee, you only have to pay 10 dollars on Fridays and Saturdays. Plus the dance lessons are cheap, costing five dollars with professional instructors!

Be sure to give *Alleycatz* a try. Whether you want to be seen on the open dance floor or just want to listen to some live musicians, just remember that *Alleycatz*...it's where the cool cats hang out!



Appetizers and martinis are half-price on Thursdays -perfect for a student budget.

POLITICS

Editor's Note

Recently Prime Minister Stephen Harper has introduced a motion recognizing Quebec as a nation within Canada. Next issue's debate will therefore be on the issue of Quebec sovereignty. If you feel passionately towards this subject, please e-mail aeprotem@gmail.com



Students Should Be Outraged at Tuition Fees

by Will Holland

Tuition fees in Ontario are among the overall highest in Canada and since 1993 they have increased by about 135 per cent in the undergraduate area. I may be mistaken, but inflation has not even cumulatively reached this level since the same time. This is an unfortunate occurrence as every year college and university enrollment increases, but the number of bursaries and other aid does not. Therefore, access to the post-secondary education system is being adversely affected by these rising education costs. Students willing to put in the effort but lacking monetary resources are systematically omitted from universities and colleges if they cannot afford the fees or if they do not want to go into substantial debt. Some students must then work full-time while they pursue their degrees full-time, and there is the rub.

The other issue is that although \$6.2 billion will be injected into universities and colleges in Ontario by 2010, none of this money is earmarked for bursaries or other direct financial assistance for students. Instead, the funds have been used for marketing university brands and creating new logos. If there is no additional support on the part of the government or administrations for students, then the infusion of funds could have only been for the business side of the deal.

Those who are on the opposite side of the argument constantly identify quality as the chief problem that would occur if tuition fees were reduced. The fact of the matter is that Quebec has the cheapest post-secondary fees in Canada and no one could argue that McGill is a second rate university. Therefore, stating that a tuition freeze would result in a decrease in quality of education is nothing more than a flawed argument.

The state of affairs when it comes to tuition fees is unacceptable. Students are being charged an arm and a leg to study, while being forced to work up to 40 hours a week on top of that. We are seeing less and less support from our government, while costs go up beyond reason. Education should be a right, not a privilege for those who can afford it.



Ontario's Biggest Outrage: Tuition Fees?

by Clara Wille News Editor

The biggest outrage among Ontario university students is not human rights, the war in Iraq, the latest Leafs game, or the stereotype that everyone in Canada lives in igloos. The biggest outrage is the end of the Ontario tuition freeze. However, Ontario tuition fees have a long way to go before they become anything to be upset about.

As students, our instincts tell us hikes in tuition fees are the worst possible thing that could happen. One pamphlet distributed by the activist group "Students Against Tuition Fee Hikes" announced incredulously that students were graduating with over \$25,000 in debt. However, Ontario still has some of the lowest average tuition increases in the country, exceeded by the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Alberta according to Statistics Canada.

Let's put this into perspective. International students pay over \$12,000 dollars in undergraduate tuition fees (not including residence fees) and are not eligible for entrance scholarships or OSAP. This sum, which makes some Ontario students gasp in horror, is still a welcomed relief by anyone coming to Canada from the United States where tuition fees can reach up to \$35,280 (Sarah Lawrence College, New York.) "Although people go into debt to finance their education, they get a larger selection of classes, smaller class sizes, and better facilities," says Eden Consenstein, an American student at Glendon.

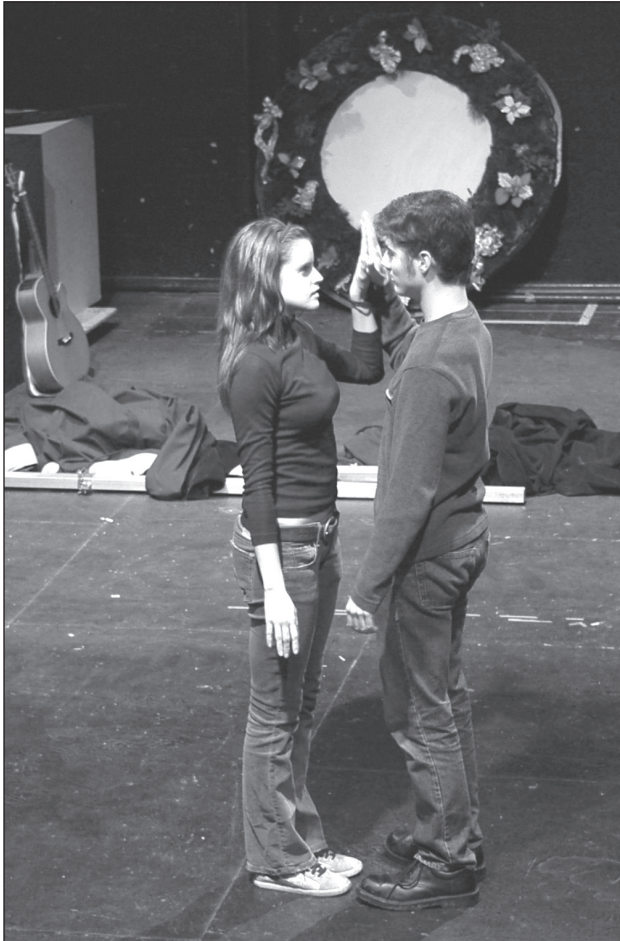
Indeed, students complain constantly of the quality of the food, of various services as well as the condition of the residences here at Glendon. Bathrooms are not cleaned on weekends. It is difficult to find any food in the cafeteria with the recommended \$8 a day for the average \$2000 meal plan. Everything is over-priced, undercooked, and most of the time, the healthier options, like the sandwich station, are not even open. "The service isn't fast enough. There's only one person doing hamburgers and the pizza. We have class to get to, and the employees are overworked," says Erica Menechella, a first year student at Glendon.

There are definitely things that could be improved on our campus. Money from increased tuition fees would mean better facilities, more entrance scholarships, and a better experience for everyone.

ARTS & CULTURE

Let the Festivities Begin, Starting with Glendon's Musical!

by Sarah Maharajah Arts & Culture Editor



Two cast members cozy up to each other in the spirit of *It's Christmas, Carol!*

After artistically boggling the minds of the audience that attended *The Artaud Project*, a new play *It's Christmas, Carol!* prances to Theatre Glendon with festive lights and 90's inspired costumes. This musical is a spoof for all to see! Written by Nicole Toogood, this play incorporates legendary and memorable lines from musical pieces both new and old. The lead character, Carol, portrayed as the Scrooge of the 90's, searches her heart to find the true value of kindness and generosity.

Here is what some of the actors have to say about their experience with the show:

"Very different... I love the dancing, I love having fun!" –Angela

"It's wonderful being a part of this. I really like how I get to use my talents." –Chelsea

"Being a dancer, nurse and hooker are roles I've always wanted to play on

stage... and elsewhere!" –Sarah

This musical is one of the rare few that have been performed here at Glendon. Also rare is the massive cast of over 20 members that will be acting, singing and dancing throughout the show.

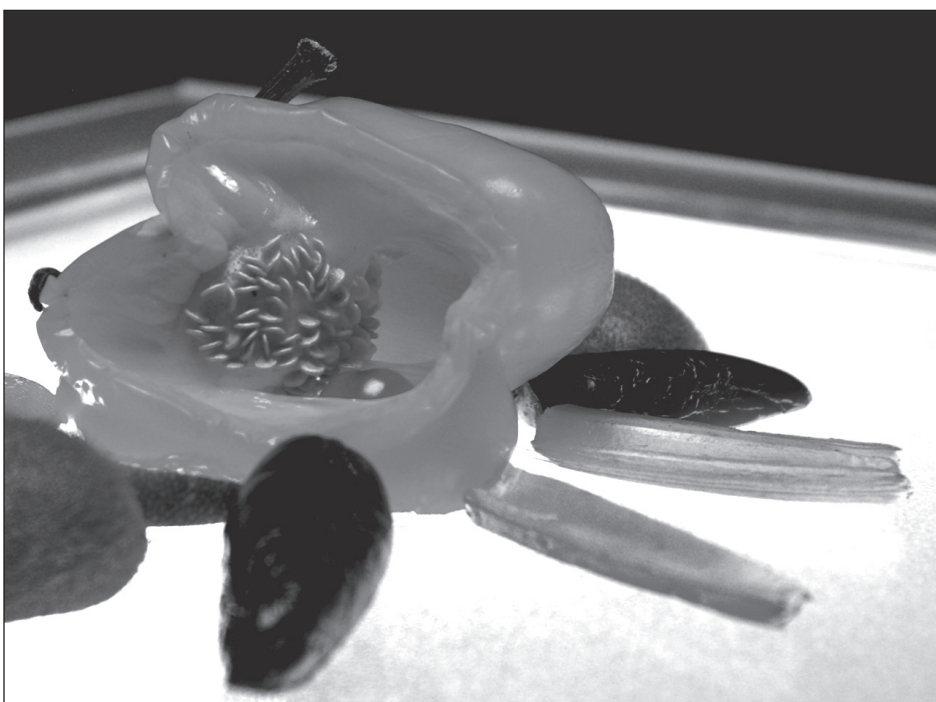
What should not be overlooked are the heart-warming moments of meaningful relationships between father and daughter and between man and nature,

as well as the continuous appeals to consider introspective thoughts of self.

Please, do not take my word for it. Go see the musical at Theatre Glendon during its six-day run: Nov. 30 preview, Dec 1, 2, and 6-9 at 8pm. It's a musical packed with the season's greetings and merry holiday wishes for all who attend!



A jazz routine during rehearsal.



Art that makes you really wonder about what you are seeing.

Every year right around this time Glendon students experience the same old seasonal epidemic. Some call it 'Exam Fever;' others refer to this illness as the 'Cram Bug.' Signs of colder weather, loading up of assignments and exams accompanied by a cough and drowsiness

usually mark the return of this unwelcome annual bug. This year however, Glendon's gallery has provided students with a cure for this incessantly nauseating period of time, an excuse to take a break, procrastinate, and be surrounded by an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere. Sound ideal? Then visit the

Tutti Frutti, Oh Rutti!

Glendon's Art Gallery exhibit adds some pizzazz to campus life.

by Lisa Chiappetta

Glendon Gallery Exhibit of "Tutti Frutti"!

Best known as a 1955 hit by Little Richard, "Tutti Frutti" has been the title of French-Canadian artist Andrée Préfontaine's fruit-reality spectacle since 2003. Préfontaine, a graduate from the University of Québec in Montréal, specialized in media art. Her video graphic works have been shown in festivals throughout Canada.

The Italian name "Tutti Frutti," referring to "all fruit," is justifiably the title for this exhibit. The manifestation is a wondrous display of fruit in various forms; however the unique aspect in the portrayal by Préfontaine is her incorporation of interactive elements. The viewer is given the ability to participate, enabling visitors to take on the role of artist, conductor or cook. The exhibition runs from November 7th to

December 15th on Tuesday to Friday from 12pm to 3pm, and Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm. Guided tours occur on Tuesdays from 12pm to 1pm.

The Glendon Gallery, located in the Glendon Manor (on the way to Frost library), holds several shows for art lovers as well as procrastinators looking for a distraction. If any symptoms of 'Exam Fever' or 'Cram Bug' begin to creep in, Glendon has provided a possible remedy: make your way to Andrée Préfontaine's Tutti Frutti exhibit. As they say, an apple a day keeps the doctor away- just imagine what a whole gallery of fruit can do!

For more information, please contact the Gallery at 416-487-6721 or by e-mail at gallery@glendon.ca

York Graduate Performs in Canadian Opera Company's *The Bear*



Lauren Segal puts to practice one of her many strengths, this time at the COC.

by Sarah Maharajah & Ashley Jestin Politics Editor

It's always inspiring to hear that a York University graduate is doing well in their chosen profession. However, those who study in the competitive and creative field of Fine Arts can appreciate the extra effort that usually has to be taken. Lauren Segal has apparently done very well for herself since graduating, as she is now the Mezzo-Soprano in the upcoming production of *The Bear* at the Canadian Opera Company.

One might be taken off-guard by Segal's educational background, but after speaking with her it is easy to see that not only can one be a talented and established Opera singer, but one can also be a well-studied and successful scientist! She received her Bachelor's degree in Science at York in 1999. Following this, she received her Masters of Science in Physics at the Univer-

sity of Toronto. Segal's strength in both fields speaks volumes of her strong and disciplined character.

Despite having a professional knowledge of these two distinct fields, most of Lauren's time is taken up with the Opera. She has been even busier of late with her upcoming performance in *The Bear*, written by Paul Dehn and William Walton, adapted from Anton Chekov. This libretto is part of a double-bill performance, with the accompanying show appropriately named *Swoon*, as the two performances are to reflect the clash between the sexes.

Lauren has made the decision to pursue mainly her creative side, as can be seen through her work in the theatre. Her performances include: Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro* for the Banff Arts Festival; Agnese in *Beatrice di Tenda*;

Fenena in *Nabucco* with Opera in Concert; Thisbe in *La Cenerentola*; Flora in *La Traviata*; Valencienne in *The Merry Widow*; and Erika in *Vanessa*. To add to her repertoire, she played the Third Lady in *The Magic Flute*, as well as the role of Sesto in *La Clemenza di Tito* at the Orford Arts Festival. She understudied the title role in *Carmen* and was Flosshilde in *Götterdämmerung*. Segal will also play the role of Siébel in next season's production of *Faust* at the COC.

Segal has often said she is inspired by her family, her colleagues, her teachers, the fine arts themselves, her coaches, her involvement in the York choir for three years, and perhaps most importantly, by her unique view of the beauty of nature and life through the lenses of science.



Si on ne nous accorde pas une licence FM... On va l'acheter!



Une journée dans la vie d'un animateur de CKRG.

CKRG, notre radio bilingue à Glendon, émet depuis 1970. Malgré les épisodes rocambolesques de son histoire, elle a toujours réussi à rester dans la course aux cotes d'écoute.

La station dispose à ses débuts d'un pouvoir de transmission plutôt limitée jusqu'à ce qu'un brave membre du personnel n'essaie d'en augmenter la portée en 1988. Sa mission ne se déroule cependant

pas tout à fait comme prévu en raison d'interférences avec une autre station radiophonique de la région. L'aventure coûte même à CKRG sa licence FM!

Les employés ne se découragent pas pour autant et gardent espoir même dans les temps durs. Par exemple, en 1991, l'administrateur de la station, Derek Allerton, modernise l'équipement pour inciter le plus d'étudiantes et d'étudiants possible

Radio CKRG : Le combat acharné de Glendon pour envahir les ondes.

par Diana Fourka

à s'impliquer à la radio. Un autre exemple est celui de Edward Beres qui installe une cabine d'émission au cœur même de la vie du campus d'alors, le pub, pour dynamiser l'interaction avec la population étudiante. Il installe en plus deux relais AM pour améliorer la qualité de réception dans les résidences. L'administration Philip Godin suit ensuite leur exemple en travaillant à améliorer l'image de la station. Il organise ainsi plusieurs événements scolaires, maintient une programmation régulière et met même sur pied un programme coop disposant d'une base de données pour les nouveaux Djs. Néanmoins, la licence de CKRG n'est toujours pas renouvelée. Une décennie après «l'émission pirate» fatale pourtant, CKRG réapparaît au 89,9 FM. L'administrateur de génie de l'époque, Brad Crowe, arrive à la

conclusion qu'un émetteur d'une puissance de 1 watt permettrait à sa station de revenir sur les ondes sans avoir à obtenir de licence FM!

CKRG fait en sorte que nous ne devenions pas médiatiquement illettré, au moins en ce qui concerne la musique! En faisant tourner autant des chansons de l'underground que les hits de l'heure, la radio nous permet de laisser nos IPOD à la maison. De plus, la station ne se soumet pas à la dictature d'un genre musical particulier, cela nous permet de s'ouvrir l'esprit à une grande variété de genres musicaux. Pour en savoir plus à propos de la station et le détail de leur programmation, consultez leur site: www.ckrgfm.com. Vous pouvez aussi appeler leur Djs pour réclamer vos titres favoris au 416-736-2100 ex.88440!

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- Hinder
4. Money In The Bank
- Lil' Scrappy
5. Money Maker (Pharrell Chorus)
- Ludacris (feat Pharrell)
6. My Love
- Justin Timberlake
7. Pullin' Me Back (Radio Edit)
- Chingy Featuring Tyrese
8. Sexy Back
- Justin Timberlake
9. Shortie Like Mine
- Bow Wow
10. Smack That
- Akon

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PHONES
REDEFINED



REVIEWS



Portraits featured at the AGO's current exhibit.

modeling clay, cardboard or beads; still others are entirely knitted. Not only was the style inspired, so was the substance. The quality of the portraits went from simple to kitschy to borderline artful, with some of them borrowing from famous works such as Warhol's Marilyn Monroe or Picasso's Guernica. Some authors included thoughtful or witty phrases to their work while others decided to include a poem rather than an image.

Despite the fact that many submissions are a treat to witness, *In Your Face* is more of a community-wide project than an exhibition for two reasons. First, there are no criteria for accepting submissions; one can find breathtaking portraits beside mindless ones. Second, these works are not showcased but simply presented side-by-side, filling the walls of a hallway from top to bottom, in a manner more apropos to a collage.

The individual flaws do not undermine the project's overall achievement. It is a celebration of a diverse society and a study of how people view themselves and those around them. As in any society, standing among the hundreds of distinct individuals that make it up is both awe-inspiring and overwhelming. However, just like in the world that it tries to represent, within this exhibit lie hidden gems that make the rest worthwhile; and you will experience true joy in finding them.

Diversity Staring Back

The AGO's exhibit *In Your Face* is a window into the diversity in our city and society.

par Juan Llamas Rodriguez Reviews Editor

A middle-aged man and his wife sitting on a bench, wearing nothing but straw hats. Their arms and legs skillfully placed so as to conceal their privates; they each hold a glass of wine in one hand and a red apple in the other.

Such an image is just one of hundreds currently being shown at the Art Gallery of Ontario's exhibition *In Your Face: The People's Portrait Project*. Having started in July 2006 and continuing until January 2007, this is the first project created entirely by the public. The

display is made up of portraits that people have submitted on an ongoing basis and the purpose of the exhibit, according to the official press release, is to celebrate the individuality and diversity of Canada.

Diversity is, in fact, the exhibition's defining characteristic. Among the hundreds of portraits, there are a broad variety of styles, techniques and canvases to be seen. While most of the portraits are either drawn or painted, others have been constructed entirely of

A Tale of Two Twins

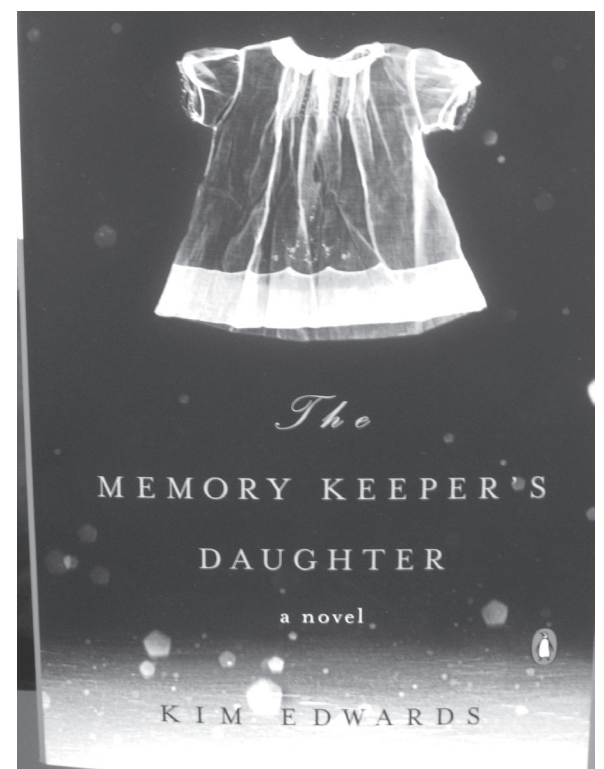
Kim Edwards' debut novel is a tale filled with heartache, love and humanity.

par Laura Scrivener Talk Back Editor

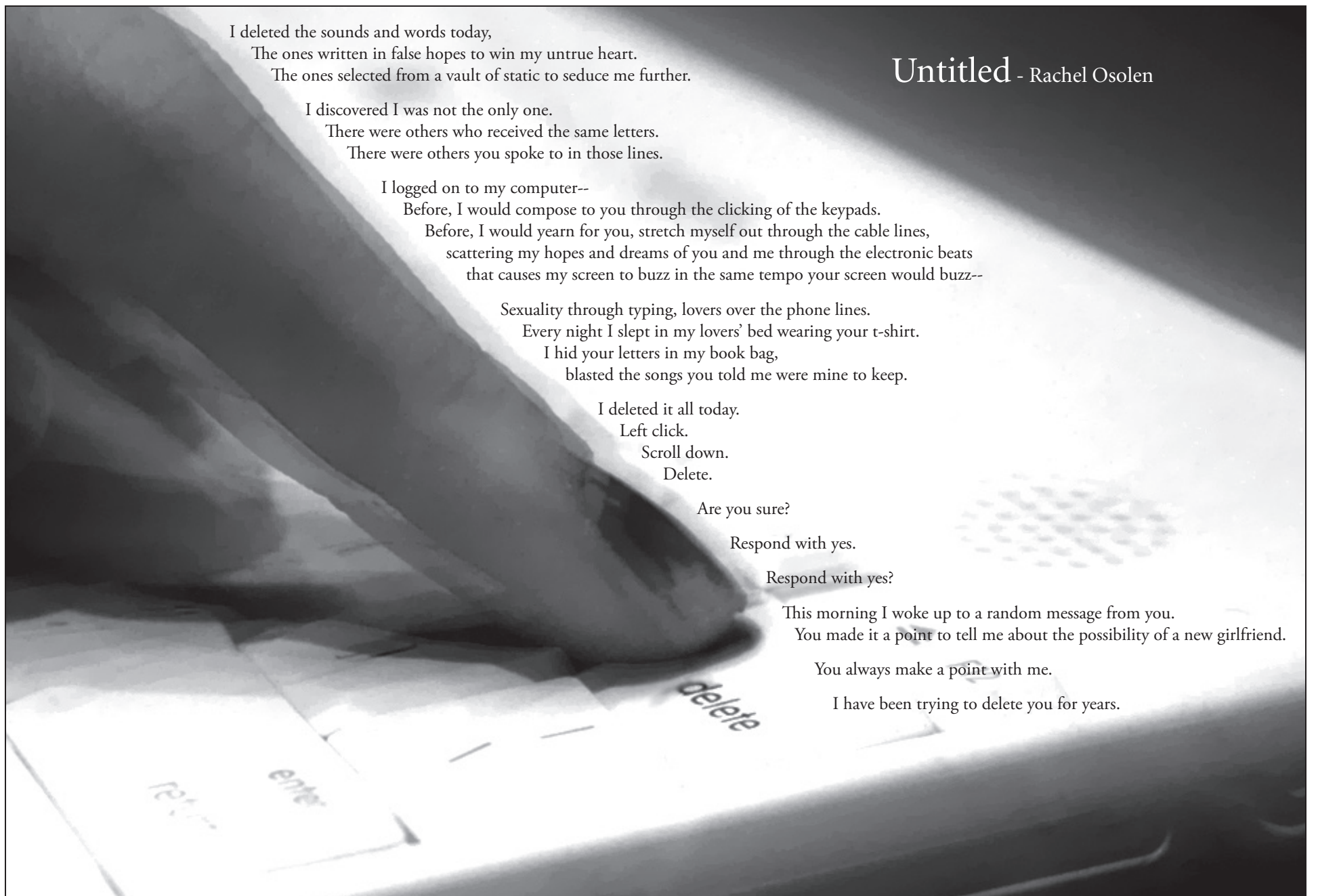
Every once in a while, a book comes around that is profound, gripping and intelligent without losing touch with humanity. *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards is just such a book. The story begins on a snowy evening when a doctor is forced to deliver his own twins because of the weather. One of the twins—his son—is as physically perfect as a baby can be, but the second twin—his daughter—is born with Down Syndrome. In a split-second decision, the doctor hands the baby to a nurse and asks her to take the child to an institution. He then tells his wife that the second twin was still-born.

These two decisions eventually tear the family apart and the book traces this slow destruction throughout their lives. The nurse, however, makes her own decision and disappears to another city to raise the little girl as her own.

The story is profound in its examination of human nature and it does not shy away from some of the more painful aspects of that study. The book does move slowly and requires a lot of patience, but that patience will be rewarded. Some of the important characters tend to remain static and fairly one-dimensional but the most relevant characters change and mature throughout the story, giving the feel of life's progression. At the end of the story, you will be left with a deeper understanding of life and an appreciation for the renewing qualities of familial love.



WRITER'S CRAFT



I deleted the sounds and words today,
 The ones written in false hopes to win my untrue heart.
 The ones selected from a vault of static to seduce me further.

I discovered I was not the only one.
 There were others who received the same letters.
 There were others you spoke to in those lines.

I logged on to my computer--
 Before, I would compose to you through the clicking of the keypads.
 Before, I would yearn for you, stretch myself out through the cable lines,
 scattering my hopes and dreams of you and me through the electronic beats
 that causes my screen to buzz in the same tempo your screen would buzz--

Sexuality through typing, lovers over the phone lines.
 Every night I slept in my lovers' bed wearing your t-shirt.
 I hid your letters in my book bag,
 blasted the songs you told me were mine to keep.

I deleted it all today.
 Left click.
 Scroll down.
 Delete.

Are you sure?

Respond with yes.

Respond with yes?

This morning I woke up to a random message from you.
 You made it a point to tell me about the possibility of a new girlfriend.

You always make a point with me.

I have been trying to delete you for years.

Untitled - Rachel Osolen

Photo by Irena Kramer

Remember by Ran Lewin

Remember when we went to Mount Hermon –
 I was bundled up in blue and you were thin and pretty?
 We woke up early and on the empty bus I pulled the chain
 and made the driver stop over and over again
 till she got annoyed and started shouting –
 but he's only a child, you yelled back and held me tight.
 Remember too your wrapped woolen arms around me
 as we tobogganed down?
 The whoops of other children, mothers,
 soldiers staring from their isolated posts,
 relieved of silent burdens as they smoked their cigarettes,
 tall and watchful, all their eyes on you.
 Our closeness then like packed snow so solid that it hurts.
 How did that day end and when –
 do you remember?

Enfant par Madura Subramaniam

*Il y a des mûres, mûrs
 Elles se reposent sur une clôture
 J'en mange beaucoup
 Mais ce que je veux vraiment
 C'est l'enfant de ma sœur sur mon sein
 Et mon cœur
 Est chaud*

*Infant
 by Madura Subramaniam*

*There are blackberries, ripe
 Resting on a wire fence
 I eat a lot
 But what I really want
 Is my sister's infant on my chest
 And my heart
 Is warm*

I Mingled With Minors - Jacinto Wong

I mingled with the minors
 at the infamous my-parents-are-out-of-town party.
 The girls nursed rum and cokes,
 a glass an hour was their limit.
 The boys drank as many beers as they could
 to show who truly was the alpha male.
 The last drag of my cigarette stale in my mouth,
 I bite my lip to keep from shouting at the predictability of it all.
 I am in limbo
 around the dancers in the living room.
 Everyone spins like they've had a few too many.
 Their enthusiasm is anything but contagious.
 Care-free and still wholly supported by their parents.
 I can't help but chuckle to myself as I imagine
 how they'll get by on their own,
 when they're twenty
 with nothing left but high school parties.

Dear George



President George Dubbya

George has taken time out of his busy schedule to “help” yet another group of people in need, by giving out his best advice in this column.

If you have any questions you would like answered by Dubbya please send them to Pro Tem einc.protem@gmail.com

Question #1:

My football team is one of the worst in the league but I still dream of winning the national title, is there anything I can do to make us win?

- Zach More, “Frustrated First-String”

Reply:

Well, Ziggy, if there’s one thing I know how to do it’s win, or at least make it look like I haven’t lost. Take Iraq for example, I’ve been over there for quite some time, and somehow despite the fact that I’m not accomplishing a whole lot, I’m still the president. The only way we can win is to leave before the job is done, you know. Maybe you should try that.

Question #2:

Help! I can’t dress myself! I think that a red shirt with green pants look good together (they are Christmas colours after all) but everyone tells me differently. What should I do to improve my colour coordination.

- Shirley Temple, “Confused About Colour”

Reply:

You know, Shirley I never learned how to dress myself but it hasn’t stopped me so far. Some of the most valuable advice I ever received was put your pants on one leg at a time. I always thought it was crazy since we’ve got two legs but my advisors assure me it’s one leg at a time. Really, though, when you think about it...it’s how we live our lives, one leg at a time...one leg at a time.

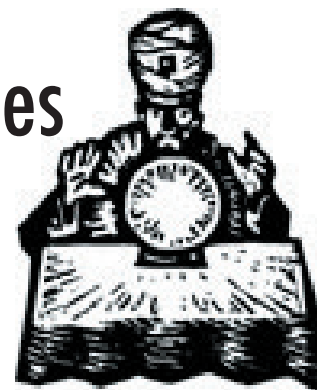
Comics

“dedicated to those who don’t like to laugh”



Horoscopes

Courtesy of *The Onion*



ARIES March 21 - April 19

Next week’s appointment with an ear, nose, and throat specialist will start with some positive news about your ears and your nose.

TAURUS Apr 20 - May 20

While the transformation and its implications may be difficult to accept, there’s no longer any sense in denying it: You are now more beatbox than human.

GEMINI May 21 - June 21

Remember: You can only run away from your problems for so long before they catch up to you, tackle you, drag you into a nearby alley, and ultimately slit your throat.

CANCER June 22 - July 22

Many will disapprove of your decision, but after carefully weighing the options, you’ll once again go with the thinner woman.

LEO July 23 - Aug 22

You’ll claim to have only been following doctor’s orders, but jury members will still convict you of assisting in a series of barbaric musculoskeletal medical experiments.

VIRGO Aug 23 - Sept 22

They say that a baby changes everything, and while you’ll feel a little more pressure, in the end the game is still five-card stud.

Demetri Martin Jokes

I use this product called “I Can’t Believe It’s Not Butter.” Because sometimes when I’m eating toast, I like to be incredulous. How was breakfast? Unbelievable.

‘Sort of’ is such a harmless thing to say. Sort of. It’s just a filler. Sort of - it doesn’t really mean anything. But after certain things, sort of means everything. Like after “I love you” or “You’re going to live.”

Swimming is a confusing sport, because sometimes you do it for fun, and other times you do it to not die. And when I’m swimming, sometimes I’m not sure which one it is. I gotta go by the outfit. Pants - uh oh. Bathing suit - okay. Naked - we’ll see. It’s the same thing with waking up in the morning. If I wake up in pajamas I’m like “Okay...I planned this.” But if you wake up naked you’ve got to evaluate your surroundings, “She’s cute...what’s he doing here?”

I was staying in a hotel and I asked for a wake up call. The next morning the phone rang and a voice said “what are you doing with your life?” and I said, “I’m up.”

I like parties, but I don’t like pinatas. Because the pinata promotes violence against flamboyant animals. Hey, there’s a donkey with some pizzaz. Let’s kick its ass. What I’m trying to say is, don’t make the same Halloween costume mistake that I did.

I think that when you get dressed in the morning, sometimes you’re really making a decision about your behavior for the day. Like if you put on flipflops, you’re saying: “Hope I don’t get chased today.”