

B&W  
bleu & blanc

ISSUE Six.  
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# B&W

blue & white

front/back/inside cover art  
by **Natalie Morpurgo**  
photography, 2009

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# letter from the editor

written by Christian Whitty



Issue #6. Welcome. First off, I'd like to say thanks for the continued readership of our quaint little paper. As usual, we are on a constant pursuit to make it a more interesting read for you.

Secondly, Natalie Morpurgo has provided photographs for the cover art for the second issue in a row, this time from around Paris. It has allowed for a bit of a French theme for our photographs (and allows us to more readily ignore the fact that we had a paltry supply of photos for this issue). So what do black & images of France bring to one's mind? Why, French New Wave cinema, naturally! So, we have scattered a few photos from some of the best of that era. *Breathless*, *Une Femme Est Une Femme*, and (my personal favourite) *The 400 Blows*. Don't forget that if you have artwork that you want featured on the cover of the B&W, contact us at [bw.concordia@gmail.com](mailto:bw.concordia@gmail.com). It doesn't have to be photos. In fact, it doesn't even have to be tangible. We can figure something out. It's our way of showing off the unique talents of all of Concordia's students.

## drama in small town saskatchewan

written by Brittini Carey

This November, the Concordia Drama Department will be staging *Unity 1918*, a prairie tale of a world not that different from our own, where war, love, and the Spanish Influenza mix to make one of the most poignant plays yet produced at this school. *Unity 1918* was written by Kevin Kerr (currently the Playwright-in-Residence at the University of Alberta), who received the Governor General's Award for Drama for it in 2002. This play has been produced numerous times across the country.

The story is set in the small town of Unity, Saskatchewan at the end of World War I. Following the thread of Beatrice's diary, the play cuts to the core of a community struggling with death and hope during the time when Canada was beginning to find its own way as a nation. When Caroline Howarth, the director of Concordia's production of *Unity 1918*, decided to take on this challenging work, she unknowingly chose a play that would have significant resonance with the current flu scare: "Over the summer, I had no idea that it would become quite so relevant given the H1N1 pandemic. In terms of why I wanted to do this play this term - I think

it is a powerful and thought-provoking look at how people deal with crisis. I love the dark humour in the play because it is so real. I wanted to direct a play that is challenging and exciting for the actors and that challenges the audience to think about a little-discussed chapter of Canada's history."

When asked to explain *Unity 1918*, writer Kevin Kerr put it this way: "Someone once described it to me as the story of a girl who would die for a kiss. Funny, but maybe a little too pithy - I guess it's partly about a town coping or not coping as it were in the face of an invisible, unknowable enemy. But although it has the flu pandemic of 1918 as its backdrop, it's not about the flu. I guess it's largely about abandoning romantic myths for a truth that may be uglier, messier, more painful, but ultimately also more beautiful. Part love story, part horror... sex and death. Also, there are fart jokes."

*Unity 1918* will run November 18th to November 22nd at Concordia University College of Alberta. The November 18th preview begins at 7:00 pm, and is a pay-what-you-can performance. Performances

on Thursday the 19th through Saturday the 21st will begin at 7:30pm. Sunday the 22nd is a matinee starting at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$8 for students and seniors, and \$10 for adults. People involved in the Big Brother/ Big Sister program can get in with their little brother or sister for \$8. Discounts are also available for school groups looking to attend the show and a talk back session with the cast afterwards. Tickets are available at the door.

Need another reason to come out for *Unity 1918*? "See the fine acting of the students at Concordia," says Kevin Kerr, "maybe take a date... talk about it after over some wine, argue a little bit, have another glass, see the other person's point, make out... but not if you have the flu. That's irresponsible."

For more information about Concordia's production of *Unity 1918* contact Caroline at [caroline.howarth@concordia.ab.ca](mailto:caroline.howarth@concordia.ab.ca)

Special thanks Kevin Kerr, Caroline Howarth, and Jamie Geissler for their time and comments. Also, thanks to John Halvorsen, our honorary French translator. ♣

# you can do that here: thrive and belong

written by Philip Mackin with Bobbi Belsek

"You belong here" is something that many new students have heard or are hearing about Concordia University College of Alberta. CUCA's media campaign can be heard and seen clear across the city and it's evident that this slogan is wide and embraces all students.

Philip Mackin is a first-year student who couldn't agree more.

Mackin, a 28-year old Drama major, came to CUCA this year because of the diversity in academics and the heart that a small university offers. Mackin, who often visited his sister (a CUCA alumnus), says that every time he came here, the students were so friendly and kind. Now, with a dream for the Lutheran Ministry firmly in his grasp, he's taken to the college like a fish to water.

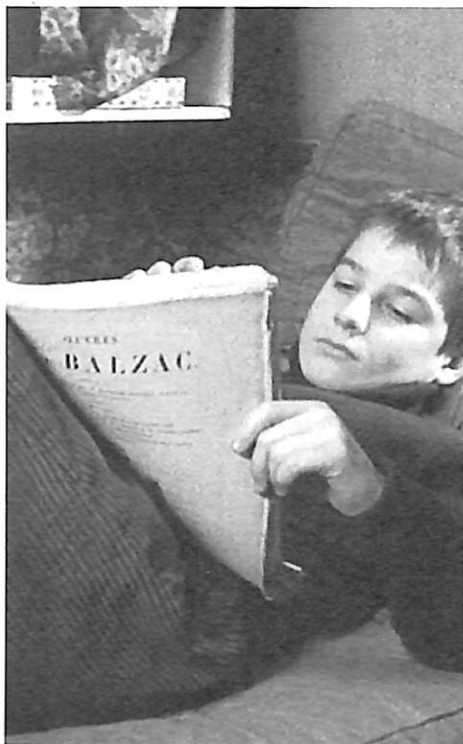
Not only do students get to feel like they belong here, but budding academics of the furry variety are welcome also. Walking loyally at Mackin's side is a beautiful black lab named Joey. He is a seizure response dog and is trained to alert others through barking if a seizure is about to happen or has happened. He is also trained to "hug" Mackin if he's alone when a seizure occurs. While humans work for cash, this dog works for kibbles, which means that

you cannot pet or talk to this chick magnet (cute as he is). Mackin says the only time you're able to talk to the dog is when you're letting him know that you're there to assist when a seizure has happened.

When a seizure happens, Joey will let people know what's going on. People need to either make use of Mackin's vagus nerve stimulator (swiping the magnetic piece he wears on his removable Velcro-wristband over the left part of his chest with no added pressure) or use basic first aid. Emergency 911 isn't a necessary call unless the seizure lasts for more than five minutes. Mackin is usually up and on his feet again within a half hour to 45 minutes.

Mackin says that between Joey, his vagus nerve stimulator, and the support of his friends, seizures aren't something to be scared of! The only thing to be scared of is a pop-quiz in statistics. If you have questions about all of this, just ask. Mackin is one of the friendliest guys on campus!

Mackin says, "no one here treats me differently. I feel like I'm a part of this campus like everyone else, and everyone treats me like we're all equal. I really feel like I belong here." ♦



## big bug problem

written by Natalie Morpurgo

*Red rover, red rover, we call the exterminator over!*

Okay, I don't know about the rest of you but I love the fact that bugs are taking over our campus. I mean, who doesn't like to sit by the windows in the glass lounge and stare at the juicy mess left behind by the brave souls who took a shoe to the bugs? I know I love to take a walk through the hallways and follow the path of dead bug carcasses just to see where it will lead; maybe along the way I'll step on a few and conform like everyone else. We should form a club - a bug killers' club or something snazzier. I know when I'm in class I find screaming girls more entertaining than my English professor, although I'm sure he doesn't like his showmanship being challenged by an insect. Getting a bug in the hair is always beautiful; curly hair makes a more comfortable home for bugs.

I have a question: Were the bugs on the tour during Concordia's open house? I only ask because I think it would make a great addition to the tour; you know, spice things up a little bit.

We have fearless men and women who will stand, take a book or a shoe and attack the bugs. I'm just happy there haven't been any human casualties. However, I'm afraid I must report that there are just too many bugs and we are losing the fight. When will the school take a stand? When will they put our hard-earned money into the school and call someone to take care of those pretty (ugly) bugs? I know I didn't pay to go to a school that has an infestation problem. Let me know what you think. E-mail me at nmorpurgo@gmail.com (the Concordia address is just too long for me to type!)

# knowledge, university, and unknowns

written by Jenna Innes

If you pick up a copy of Concordia's Academic Calendar and flip through, you'll notice that everything is neatly organized. Mathematics courses are listed with other mathematics courses and history courses are listed with other history courses. All this structure might make it appear as though the information contained in each course was somehow distinct from the information in the other areas. I can see how a third year chemistry course might build on what was taught in a first year chemistry course, but that's where it ends, right? For example, the Psychology courses have nothing to do with the Computing Science courses... or do they?

At some point in our educational career, we choose a major; the subject in which we will take the most classes and probably end up working in after graduation. However, even if you already know in your first year just what you want to specialize in, universities still require that you take courses from a variety of disciplines. The core requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree at Concordia include Science classes. To get a Bachelor of Science

degree, a student must take some English classes. What's up with that? If I already know I want to be an astrophysicist or an archaeologist, why can't I stick to courses in those disciplines? If only it worked that way.

The world is more than just a list of ecological zones or geographic borders. A person is a combination of physical elements, psychological features, spiritual values, and more. Knowledge itself can't be divided up in the same way that course listings can. To create a real world solution, you need to get the whole story and that can be tough.

It's not always easy to take a course about something you are not keenly interested in. I had to take a statistics class as part of my Arts degree and, to be honest, I absolutely dreaded it. Conversely, many engineering students complained bitterly about the English Literature courses they had to take to earn their degrees. I won't lie and say that it was easy for me to pass that statistics course, but I did it. Along with that passing grade, I also learned

how to be a little more methodical in my problem solving and I took with me a new respect for the people who excelled in subjects that I did not.

Whether you are concerned with the health of a company, a school, a person, or the planet, big success requires big cooperation. I had to keep that in mind as I worked my way through that statistics course. Even though I never became a huge fan of the subject, the things I learned about persistence and the value of diversifying my skill set lasted well past the final exam. Who knows what the world would be like if physicists took more drama courses and philosophers took more biology? I'd sure like to find out.

Take a look at the library's November display of science books. We've gathered titles that show the interconnectedness of different subjects and ones that might simply strike your interest as you walk by. It's our way of highlighting the importance of Concordia's own Science students and faculty. I look forward to hearing about your discoveries! ♦



## thunder athletics

<http://athletics.concordia.ab.ca/>

### a tale of two teams

written by Brandon MacLeod

The Concordia Thunder Women's Basketball Team won their season opener this past Friday. The score alone gives the impression of Thunder domination over NAIT, at 71-46, but the game itself told a different story. The Thunder were all over the Oaks in the first half, leading by more than thirty points by the end of the half. The girls played tight defense throughout the first half, racking up a ton of steals and out-rebounding NAIT on the offensive and defensive glass, allowing the Oaks a mere 9 first half points.

Everything changed once the second half

started. The Oaks appeared to come out flying, while the Thunder came out flat, looking sloppy and disorganized – which can happen when you've more than tripled your opponents score through one half. Not to discount the skill of the Oaks, but the appearance of their improved play came, almost entirely, at the hands of the Thunder's sloppy play. The rest of the third quarter had the Oaks climbing right back into the game – with the Thunder doing little to stop it. The start of the fourth wasn't much better for the Thunder, as the fat lady held her tongue a little longer. But as time wound down the Thunder

toughened up and finished off the weaker Oaks. When the game finally ended, the Thunder were on top at 71-46. Player of the game honors went to Stephanie Balog, who was a standout, flying up and down the court all game, grabbing a couple rebounds and a steal to go along with her 13 points. Stephanie and the Thunder also won their second game against the Oaks on Saturday and will look to keep their modest two-game streak going as they head over to King's College for their next two games. ♦



# thunder athletics continued

<http://athletics.concordia.ab.ca/>

## q&a: lindsay monkman thunder women's soccer captain

written by Tanmeet Samra



**TS: Concordia was the best team this year overall in the ACAC along with first in the North Division, did you ever go into a game thinking it would be an easy win for the team?**

LM: There are some games we expect to dominate, but it's a dangerous trap to fall into and often throws you off your game. It's important to go into every match expecting a fight and playing your best.

**TS: What do you feel you brought to the team this year for a successful season?**

LM: I hoped to be a leader on the field. I think if I can lead by example on the pitch, then it will encourage others to give it everything they've got.

**TS: Do you prepare differently for a regular game than a playoff game?**

LM: I don't think people should prepare any differently from game to game. No matter what the situation is, you should always prepare to play your best.

**TS: How does it feel to lead the team to Concordia's first ever gold medal win in the ACAC?**

LM: It is an honour to be part of this, to be making history.

**TS: Can you describe the feeling after the 1-0 win to capture the gold?**

LM: 'Wow!'

**TS: The team's next game is against the host of the CCAA, Humber (Ontario), how do you prepare for a game against a team you've never played and know very little about?**

LM: The same way you prepare for any game. It's actually kind of fun not to know anything about them. I find it less restricting. As long as we play the game our way, it doesn't matter what anyone else does.

**TS: What's does your typical game day routine consist of?**

LM: Always toast and a banana for breakfast, rocking out in my car on the way to the game, continuing to rock out in the change room, then hitting the pitch. And I always have half a banana at half-time.

**TS: What would you consider your greatest strength(s) and weaknesses to be?**

LM: Greatest strength would be work ethic and my weakness is probably my confidence.

**TS: Is there a story behind the number you wear?**

LM: I just think 5 is a nice number.

**TS: Do you have any superstitions you believe in?**

LM: Not really, but sometimes I use superstition as an excuse not to wash my gear.

**TS: How long have you been playing**

**soccer for?**

LM: Forever!

**TS: Any role models?**

LM: This girl Pip; She works harder than any player I've ever met. She's crazy fit.

**TS: What's your proudest/favorite moment?**

LM: When the ref blew the final whistle in the gold medal match.

**TS: What helps you gain motivation for upcoming games?**

LM: Well, I really like to win and I really hate to lose. Those two things are generally pretty motivating.

**TS: How do you deal with balancing school and soccer?**

LM: I quit my job and my social life. Haha... No, I just try to think of it as another class that I happen to love.

**TS: What sports teams are your favorites? Why?**

LM: Concordia Women's Soccer! Because it's Blue Nation!

**TS: After a tough loss, how do you prepare yourself for an upcoming game?**

LM: I have a lot of experience in losing, and all you can do is pick yourself up, learn what you can and move forward.

**TS: What makes you a good captain for the Thunder?**

LM: I can kick the ball the farthest!

## thunder soccer thrills

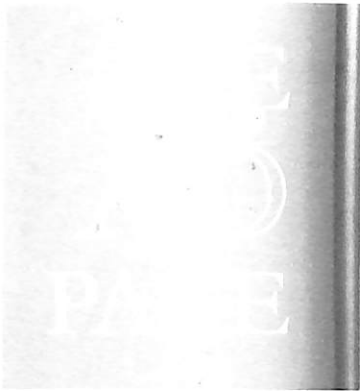
written by Tanmeet Samra

The Concordia Thunder are the 2009 ACAC Women's Soccer champions! Congratulations to the women who played a tremendous post-season (and season) to finish off with a gold medal. Finishing first in the conference let the ladies skip over the quarterfinals and watch to see who would be their match in the semifinals. The second day in the championship tournament, Concordia was paired up against the defending gold medalists, Grant MacEwan. The women won the semifinal with a 1-0 shutout which guaranteed their spot in the final two and kicked out last year's champions. The final round was played against

Mount Royal, which would not be easy as they were the best team in the South Division and had home advantage. With incredible goaltending from Trish Arends, the team scored the gold medal in a 1-0 shutout, once again. This marks the first gold medal championship by the Thunder in the ACAC Women's Soccer championship history. The women have now earned the privilege of playing in the nationals in Toronto, Ontario this month. Good luck in the nationals, ladies, we're very proud of you!

On another important note, Concordia's Men Soccer team won the year's ACAC

Soccer Championship's bronze medal after a 2-0 win over NAIT. Starting with a successful 2-0 win in the quarterfinals against Red Deer College, the men were set up on a date with SAIT in the semifinals. The Trojans proved to be the better team in scoring production as they took the game 2-1 and left no chance for the gold for Concordia, sending them to the bronze medal game with the host, NAIT. SAIT took home the silver medal and the Mount Royal took home the gold medal after a 2-1 win from penalty kicks. The Thunder finished with an impressive 10-3-0 record for the season. Congratulations! ●



(These articles and pieces are grouped in "The Ad Page" as they are third-party solicitations, generally from Concordia staff and students. Simply put, these ads and opinions are not directly from the Blue & White. We still encourage you to read them!)

## the td annual go green challenge

written by Kristin Van Katwyk

# GREEN

- create a team of 2 or more students
- submit a 4,000 (max.) word essay explaining your idea about the changes that could be made to reduce our ecological footprint

structures/technology to support your idea

The deadline for idea submission is January 15, 2010.

Do you have lots of ideas on how to make the community more efficient, but don't have the resources achieve these ideas? Would you like to win \$25,000.00 cash for your personal spending pleasure?

The essay must describe:

- an original idea
- a realistic idea, though it may be innovative and forward-looking
- topics may include (but aren't limited to): transportation issues, energy efficiency, water conservation, air quality, development planning, and ecosystem management
- describe what programs must be created or changes must be instituted in

You not only get to see your idea realized within the community, but your team also wins \$25,000.00 to line your pockets with!

Check out previous winning submissions at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWmvLLr3-Bk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWmvLLr3-Bk)  
For more details see: [www.tdfef.com/gogreen](http://www.tdfef.com/gogreen)

Email questions about the challenge or if you need help finding a team contact me at: [kristin.vankatwyk@gogreenchallenge.ca](mailto:kristin.vankatwyk@gogreenchallenge.ca)

Enter the Go Green Challenge! The theme for this year focuses on reducing our ecological footprint and becoming more efficient as a community. It's easy and fun; here is all you have to do:



PHOTOGRAPH BY NATALIE MORPURGO

## Are you ready to let your inner musician out?

Get ready, because November 23rd is our chance! The Music 490 class will be hosting MUSIC EXPLOSION in Tegler. The time of this event is from 10 until 3. On this day, there will be booths of local businesses and organizations ready to answer all of your musical questions. As well, featured groups from Concordia and artists from around the city will be providing musical enjoyment. Make sure you come out for the jam session and be eligible for one of our fabulous raffle prizes. There will also be a Rock Band competition for your inner rocker enjoyment. Come out and explore a day of MUSIC EXPLOSION.





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