

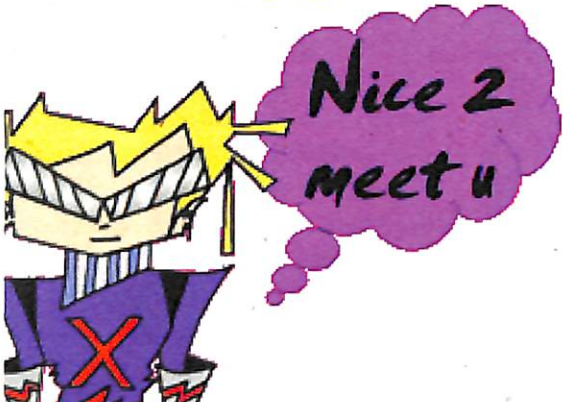
**HELLO!**  
My name is

**B&W**

*it's short for "blue and white"*



MEET YOU **NICE** to  
 meet you *nicetomeetyou nicotmeetyou*  
 ola bonjour hello  
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**NICE TO MEET CHAI!**



# Meet the Masters



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
ALEXANDRA  
BENNETT



STORY EDITOR  
BRITNEY  
CAP



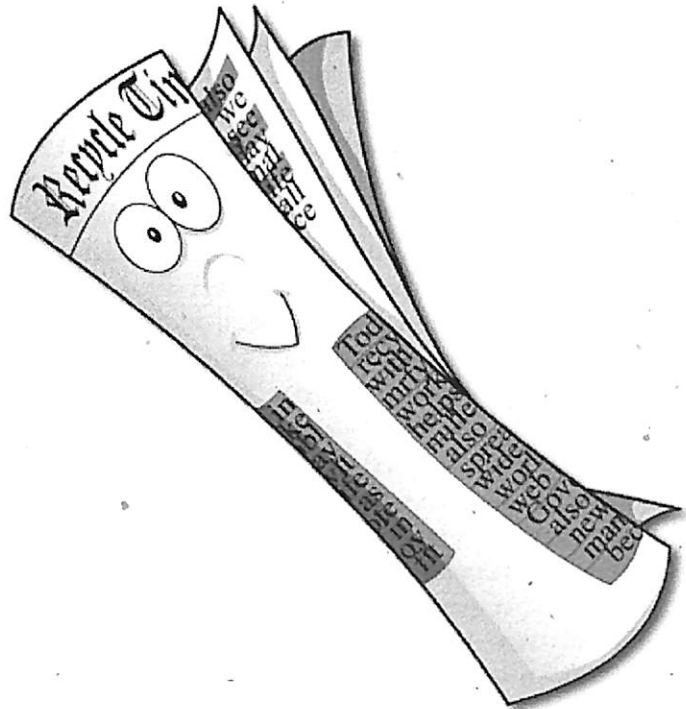
LAYOUT EDITOR  
NADINE  
ELMASRI

**Wanna join the family and write for the B&W? Let us know! [bw.concordia@gmail.com](mailto:bw.concordia@gmail.com)**

# From The Foxhole

BY ALEXANDRA BENNETT

HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE ORIENTATION ISSUE OF THE BLUE&WHITE, YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURHOOD STUDENT NEWSPAPER. WE'D LIKE TO THINK THAT YOU'VE PICKED UP THIS PAPER OF YOUR OWN VOLITION, BUT IF YOU'RE JUST READING IT BECAUSE IT WAS STUCK IN YOUR ORIENTATION "SWAG BAG", THAT'S OKAY TOO. IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES YOU'LL FIND SOME FACT, SOME SPECULATION, AND LOTS OF OPINIONS. IF ANYTHING PIQUES YOUR INTEREST, OR REALLY GRATES ON YOU, DROP US A LINE AT [BW.CONCORDIA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BW.CONCORDIA@GMAIL.COM). IF YOU'RE KEEN TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE B&W, YOU'RE ALREADY PUTTING OFF HOMEWORK, OR YOU'RE JUST PLAIN PLUGGED IN, YOU CAN JOIN US ON FACEBOOK AND FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AT [@BWCONCORDIA](https://twitter.com/BWCONCORDIA). IF FACE-TO-FACE IS MORE YOUR THING, DROP BY THE FOXHOLE (AKA THE CSA VP INTERNAL OFFICE) AND HAVE A CHAT. LET US KNOW WHAT YOU'D LIKE TO READ; TAKE THE REINS, AND HELP CHANGE THE B&W. OR JUST FINISH READING THIS ISSUE. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY IT.



# First Day of University

BY ANGELA ANDERSON

I remember my first day of school. I woke up very early to take the bus to the campus. The bus dropped off all of the Concordia students on 112 Avenue. It was a few blocks to the school; I was already dreading winter. The new Hole Academic Center was not built yet, but the old brick campus buildings were welcoming. I walked through the doors of Tegler, and just stood there looking around as if I had no idea where to go because I didn't. Where was S108? Down the ramp and through the door, another turn around the corner and there it was. I came through the door to find a slender but kind woman, who was my instructor.

It had finally come, the day I dreaded most, my first University English class. After a brief yet thorough introduction to the class, we were asked to write an introduction about ourselves. I tried not to be worried about grammar, and just think of something to write. Looking around, the only thing I kept thinking was "I am so much older than my classmates". The majority of my class was in their late teens, or maybe their early twenties. I was going to be 25 in my first year of post-secondary education. Finally I thought of something to write, in addition to the few lines of basic information asked for by the teacher; I wrote about

being engaged and about my excitement to be in school after all those years. We then received our first reading assignment, "Dream of the Rood". I think I might be in trouble because this poem does not seem to be in English. With trepidation, I go home to work on the reading for my next class. This was going to be the best adventure I had ever experienced!

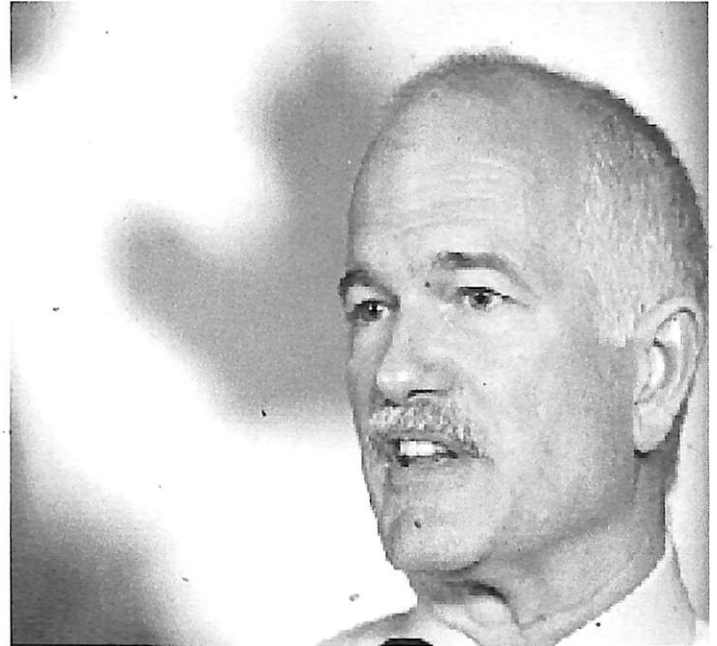
# A Tribute to Jack

BY OLIVER MARLOW

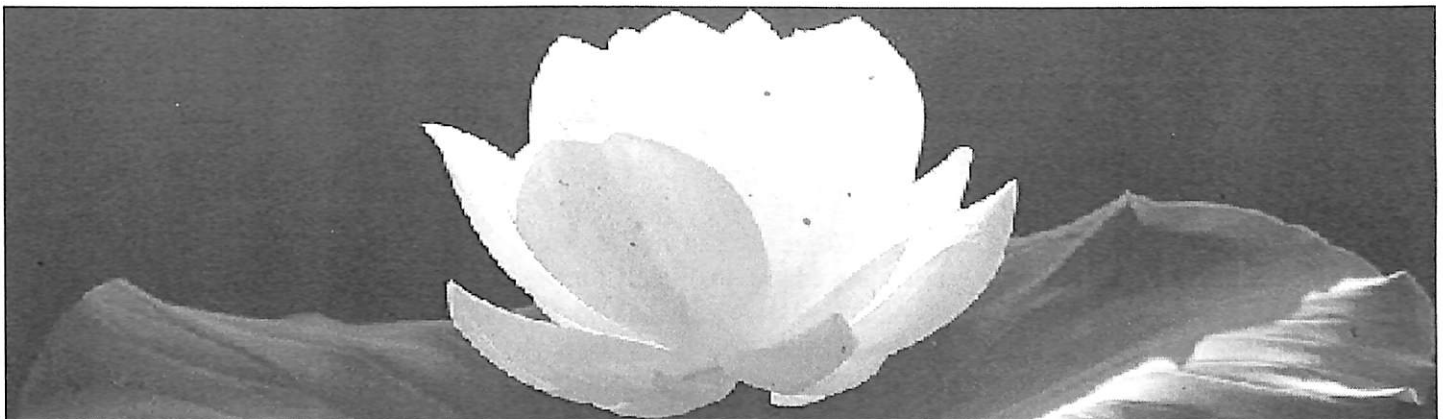
As Concordians new and old prepare for a new semester and either embark or continue on their journey to make some kind of impact in our world, we do so in the wake of the passing of NDP leader Jack Layton, who's own journey in making Canada a better place was cut short after losing his battle with cancer. A former Ryerson Professor, Layton's black leather jacket and blue jeans sometimes irritated fellow faculty members; but his down-to-earth and fun attitude, along with his lectures that preached uncompromising principles and passion for their work, inspired his students. "Smilin' Jack" as he became known around parliament kept this attitude as he climbed the ranks of Canadian politics and fought for things like social justice, better health care, and action in the face of global warming. While his party's policies may have been too left wing for some, it is difficult not to admire how hard he fought to bring positive change to Canada, refusing to give in to the pessimism that plagues Ottawa. As a final display of his courage and passion for this country, Layton mustered up the strength only a couple days before his death to write a letter of hope to all Canadians, including a segment meant specifically for young Canadians. As you begin your classes this week, perhaps you can draw some inspiration from his last words to you.

*"To young Canadians... Young people have been a great source of inspiration for me. I have met and talked with so many of you about your dreams, your frustrations, and your ideas for change. More and more, you are engaging in politics because you want to change things for the better. Many of you have placed your trust in our party. As my time in political life draws to a close I want to share with you my belief in your power to change this country and this world. There are great challenges before you, from the overwhelming nature of climate change to the unfairness of an economy that excludes so many from our collective*

*wealth, and the changes necessary to build a more inclusive and generous Canada. I believe in you. Your energy, your vision, your passion for justice are exactly what this country needs today. You need to be at the heart of our economy, our political life, and our plans for the present and the future."*



The late Jack Layton (above)





# Death of a Leader

BY PAT CHAN

So Jack Layton is dead. Statistically, if you lived in this province, you consider it a blessing. I personally didn't have anything against the man. I respected his politics and his abilities as a politician, though I may not have agreed with them. The Prime Minister felt the same way. Historically, Layton and Harper were more willing to cooperate with each other than any of the other parties. The upcoming session of parliament was shaping up to be the most effective we've had in years. Between a real majority and a mutual courtesy across the aisle, things were shaping up. Then cancer came.

Layton left behind a letter that makes him sound like a cross between Isaac Brock and Jesus Christ. Glory to the

party! Never give up hope! Go on without me! Layton was no idiot, so he must have known none of these things are possible. It's more than likely the letter was ghost written (likely by party leader hopeful Olivia Chow aka his wife) because he knows the party is dead without him. This is like any reign of any dictator, from Genghis Khan to Caesar. Without the man that commands the respect of legions undivided, the empire will shatter. Jack spent his final years growing the party into a powerhouse but will never see it in action. His last gift to the party was buying them time with the announcement of his hiatus as opposed to his true desire to resign. The party spent this time in futility, consolidating what little power would

remain after his passing.

I can already hear people asking why I would say that. It's simple: people voted for Jack. They didn't vote for the kids in Quebec or the tokens in Ontario. People voted for the man most capable of standing toe-to-toe to Harper, and Ignatieff sure wasn't stepping up. The conservative majority can now do pretty much whatever they want and get away with a lot of bull before opposition voters find a new champion to send against them. If the NDP finds a leader to keep the internal factions from splintering and maintain the confidence of voters, this proves I don't deserve my Poli-Econ degree more than my grades.

## BSIT: What is it?

BY ANDREW STERNE

Concordia is concerned about your safety and well-being. The Behavioural Support and Intervention Team (BSIT) is motivated to care for all members of our Concordia Community. The core members are Barb van Ingen and Andrew Sterne; or, in case of their absence, Sandra Moffatt and Nikki Taylor.

When you review the tragedies at Virginia Tech, Columbine, and most school shootings, there are clear indications that some people were aware of the deep anger and threats that were made prior to any shots being fired. Had these people been courageous and mature enough to raise their hand out of concern for others perhaps these school names wouldn't be as infamous as they are today. By reporting concerns, some may think they are "telling on" their friends or acquaintances. Not so: if someone you care about, at all, is in need of help, what better way to care for them than to pass on the information to someone who can do something positive about it. That's what the BSIT is for, to receive reports of concern for others and take proactive steps to

intervene when people need help. This strives for the safety of the complete campus.

For emergencies that need immediate attention you should contact 911 and then Security, 780 479-8761 or 5555, from an internal phone.

For events that do not require immediate intervention, you may report a concerning behaviour a number of ways. One way is through completing the gold-coloured Incident Report form, which is accompanied by the bright orange Information and Procedures form. These are available at Student and Enrolment Services, the Concordia Students Association Office, Human Resources, Concordia Continuing Education Centre, Security, and Counselling Services. It is best to read the Information and Procedures form first to help you understand what types of behaviour should be reported. You may view and complete the Information and Procedures and Incident Report ...  
*(continued on next page)*

# BSIT: What is it? (continued)

BY ANDREW STERNE

(con'd) on line: <http://www.concordia.ab.ca/contact/behavioral-support-intervention-team>. You can contact Barbara van Ingen (780 479-9289) or Andrew Sterne (780 479-9311), in person or phone us. If you are unsure if an event warrants reporting, contact us to discuss it; if you can't reach us, report it anyway.

All reports are treated confidentially. If life is at risk, this takes precedence over confidentiality. Information is kept securely with limited access for four years, and then is reviewed by the core BSIT at Concordia for destruction or retention for a further four years. You may file a report anonymously; however, it usually impedes the information gathering process and hinders the effectiveness of the team.

Concordia is a safe happy place to be, we want to ensure that this continues always.



# Summer in Colombia

BY MATTHEW HEESING

Ah, the start of a new school year. Books are bought, bank accounts are emptied, friends are reunited, and one question in particular echoes through the crowded hallways: "What did you do this summer?"

It's a question I'm not quite sure how to answer. How do you sum up a whole summer of living and working in the country of Colombia, South America for a ten second answer, or hallway conversation? Or even a newspaper article for that matter? Where do you start?

Do I start with the facts? I could explain how I spent the last three and a half months in Colombia, working with an organization called CEPALC- El Centro Popular para America Latina de Comunicacion: an organization that strives to strengthen the voices of ordinary people in Colombia in the quest for justice, peace, and human rights. Using all forms of communication, from drama, to radio, to journalism, music and more, CEPALC seeks to place 'communication at the service of the people', striving to give a voice to all those who are marginalized.

Or, do I talk about the vast array of emo-

tions I experienced? The helplessness when caught up in the struggle against corrupt governments and exploitative Canadian companies; the awestruck wonder when gazing upon lush green fields and majestic mountains; the sheer joy when playing music with my violin alongside children's drums, flutes, and other instruments; the challenges and frustrations of speaking a second language all day; the contagious hope that spread from others who fight for justice; the love of the Colombian people, from taxi drivers, to the small church community I joined every Sunday.

Do I start by sharing some of my special memories? Spending a night in a farmer's field, sleeping under the stars. Sharing communion of broken bread, and fellowship over coffee and rice pudding. Working with Indigenous groups about women's rights. Creating a radio program with children in the midst of a neighborhood in absolute poverty. Riding on the back of a motorbike down the streets of Sincelejo, or cruising choppy waters while suffering from food poisoning in a boat off the coast of Colombia. Being caught up on

the sea of yellow Colombian jerseys that filled the stadium for a FIFA World Cup U20 game.

Or do I answer the question by sharing some of the stories I heard? Stories from farmers who have been forced off their land, or of those who have lost families to the actions of armed groups. The stories of people who hop on public transit, looking for spare change: where they talk about hospital bills that can't be paid, unemployment, hunger, displacement, and more.

Stories of those who have had to leave all behind, forced from their homes by the actions of international companies. Or, most of all, the stories of those who dare to hope, who keep on struggling, dreaming, and working for a new future.

If you ask me what I did this summer, I'm not quite sure how I will respond, or where I should start: if you ask me in the hallways, you might get any one of these answers, or more.

But I am excited to share.... as well as hear all the stories that you have to share as well.

What did you do this summer?

# International Seminar in Vietnam

BY MARINA HUTTON

This summer I was volunteering in Vietnam for 6 weeks with the World Universities Services of Canada's (WUSC) International Seminar that is put on each year, with this year's focus being "Socio-Economic Development and Youth in the Workforce". Twenty Vietnamese and twenty Canadian students, including myself, were chosen to participate. We lived together and throughout the stay interviewed stakeholders such as teachers and enterprises about how they think colleges in Vietnam prepare or don't prepare students to enter the work force. Our findings concluded that what was needed were skills in communication, problem solving, team work, and English. At the moment, the Vietnamese curriculum is heavily focused on textbook smarts and memorization, rather than applicable skills. After researching stakeholders, we were able to create a report regarding changes that could be made to improve the quality of education.

This all seems pretty simple, yes? Ideally. When in Canada, we work in familiar settings, with familiar culture, and are used to working within that culture to get things done. In Vietnam, we have to take into account the culture and the process which is used to create change. This can be lengthy, as in Vietnam, decisions are made based upon more of a collective, therefore taking more time. When writing the report, it was important to be sensitive, since "saving face" (reputation) is extremely important!

This "saving face" concept, not only came up when doing research, but everywhere! To avoid losing face, conflict is resolved in a silent manner, without much discussion. It's fascinating to see how the different way daily activities are done socialize the people in a country. I admire the love Vietnamese people have for others, especially their families; many of them were alarmed to hear about how people here tend to put their parents in nursing homes, as opposed to looking after them themselves. When the Vietnamese people talk to you, they give their full attention to the present moment and are engaged with a smile. People do not seem to be in a particular hurry, as they value whatever the present moment has to offer, celebrating their present health and happiness and hoping for it to continue in the future. Living and working with the Vietnamese students was one of my favorite parts, as we exchanged aspects of our culture and insight. Travelling forces us to view the world outside of our own perspective, and in turn changes our own.

If you are interested in applying for the WUSC International Seminar next year or want more information, feel free to contact me or visit their website <http://www.uniterra.ca/become-an-international-volunteer/international-seminar/>

# Better Vocabulary Needed

BY ANGELA ANDERSON

When I first started attending Concordia in 2008, the people I saw and heard impressed me. Now after more than 2 years off, the language I hear in the halls of our school stuns me. I assumed that since Concordia is a Christian school and a place of higher education, that the students would have better vocabularies. It is only now, after having sat in the cafeteria one day and hearing the F-word more times than I would like to admit, that I wonder why people, especially the intelligent people we have attending Concordia, would use such immature and demeaning language? As I think about the way in which this word and other profanity are used, I think that the people using these words must

not know any other words to describe how they are feeling. Most profanity is used in times of fright, anger or surprise and even hurt and excitement. I am sure there are other words to use that are more expressive and more intellectual than swearing. For example dang, fetch, and oh my gosh. Although none of these words are very intellectual. I would suggest learning new words that help you express yourself. I am always telling my children to use their words, and maybe we all need to use our words too. Many times the swear words we use are not an important part of our syntax.

Unbelievably, I too was overcome by profane vocabulary. My speech was like

a garden full of weeds; I used to give the excuse that I was the daughter of the trucker. Although true, it is not his fault. I made a choice to speak in such a way. It was not until I realized that this kind of language was unsuitable and offensive that I decided to stop swearing. I challenge all of us at Concordia to decide not to use profane and vulgar language. This change will benefit all of us; when we finish our degrees and pursue professional occupations we will be more prepared to communicate in a professional manner.



# CUCA Information Sessions

Presented By: The Financial Aid and Awards Office, Career Services, and Counseling Services

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Student Loan Workshop	Wednesday, September 7, 2011	4:30 – 6:00 PM	HA 107
Making Decisions about my Career and Education	Thursday, September 8, 2011	4:30-6:00 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
Making Decisions about my Career and Education	Friday, September 9, 2011	12:05-12:55 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
Developing My Career Portfolio	Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2011	3:20-4:35 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
NSERC/ CIHR/ SSHRC Scholarship Information Sessions	Tuesday, September 20, 2011	4:30-6:00 PM	TBD
Budgeting Workshop	Wednesday, September 21, 2011	10:00-10:50 AM	HA 113
Developing My Career Portfolio and Resume	Wednesday, September 21, 2011	4:30-6:00 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
Study Skills	Thursday, September 22, 2011	1:55-2:45 PM	HA 113
Study Skills	Friday, September 23, 2011	11:10-12:00 PM	HA 113
*VOLUNTEER FAIR in TEGLER	Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2011	10:00 AM-2:00 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
Time Management	Monday, October 3, 2011	12:05-12:55 PM	HA 113
Time Management	Tuesday, October 4, 2011	11:10-12:00 PM	HA 113
Exam Anxiety	Wednesday, October 5, 2011	11:10-12:00 PM	HA 113
Exam Anxiety	Thursday, October 6, 2011	12:30-1:20 PM	HA 113
Grad School and Other Post Grad Options	Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011	4:30-6:00 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
*UNIVERSITY of ALBERTA Grad and Professional Programs in TEGLER	Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011	10:00 AM-2:00 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
Grad School and Other Post Grad Options	Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011	4:30-6:00 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
*UNIVERSITIES OF LETHBRIDGE, CALGARY, AND ATHABASCA Grad and Professional Programs in TEGLER	Thursday, Oct. 20, 2011	10:00 AM-2:00 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
CAREER FAIR in TEGLER	Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2011	10:00 AM-2:00 PM	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
Study Skills	Wednesday, November 2, 2011	9:00-9:50 AM	HA 113
Study Skills	Thursday, November 3, 2011	1:55-2:45 PM	HA 113
Time Management	Friday, November 4, 2011	10:00-10:50 AM	HA 113
Time Management	Monday, November 7, 2011	1:00-1:50 PM	HA 113
Operation Wallacea – presentation	Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2011	TBD	Schiemann Learning Enhancement Centre
Exam Anxiety	Tuesday, November 22, 2011	2:00-2:50 PM	HA 113