

# THE BLUE & WHITE

- A Publication of the Concordia Students' Association -

## Want to Write?

We are looking for columnists, cartoonists, and writers. We would appreciate if you used the font Times New Roman. We will be editing all blasphemy as well as all unnecessary language. We need concise, well written articles that are relevant and that adhere to the mission/guidelines of Concordia University and the CSA.

Submit articles on a disk (or email) please give us your files in RTF format (Rich Text Format). We will also require a hard copy. Our email is:

[blueandwhite@csa.concordia.ab.ca](mailto:blueandwhite@csa.concordia.ab.ca)

All articles submitted are the property of the Blue & White and as such the editors have the right to refuse or edit them.



## In This Issue

~New Years!  
~Avoiding Fines!

~Lord Of The Rings  
Review & Comic!  
~Poetry!  
~Xmas Formal!  
~LineXLines

Wednesday, January  
30th 2001 - Issue 8

→ 752002



# In Opposition to the Muzzle

By Marshall Beggs

I would like to appeal to the Arab students at our school to deeply consider the implications in supporting a policy of censorship. There is little debate as to the nature of the article in question, which was highly insensitive and plainly racist. I make no apologies for the contents of the article - which I find reprehensible - but I would like to emphasise how important the issue of free speech is. The price of free speech is putting up with nonsense on occasion. There will always be narrow-minded people out there who will want to voice their bigoted views. But silencing them is not the correct solution. By silencing these people, we set a very dangerous precedent for ourselves.

I would like to point to a recent example involving the United States and Israel at the last UN Conference on Racism, in which both nations refused to allow criticism with regards to their racist policy towards the Palestinian people. Both nations walked out of the conference, effectively ending any much-needed, meaningful discussion of this issue on the grounds that such talk was "anti-Israel" in nature, thereby allowing them to avoid any serious scrutiny

on the world stage. In a sickeningly ironic manner, the Americans and Israeli appealed to the need for blocking "racist dialogue" as a means of derailing discussion on racism itself! *Racism* is clearly immoral and dangerous, but *the restriction of free expression* is even more so, particularly since (as demonstrated at the UN conference) the latter can be very easily used to support the former!

Those of us who oppose racism are morally and politically in the right. As such, we need not fear words we know are wrong from the misguided, the evil and the ignorant. I would rather the racists among us identify themselves by their words so that we know who they are, as opposed to allowing their hate to fester in private to dangerous extremes. I would rather have the opportunity to expose their ideas as the groundless superstitions they are. And I would *much* rather prevent their moral shortcomings from becoming an excuse for the enemies of free speech to impose their subjective interpretation of what is acceptable on the rest of us.

## Modern Gladiators

By David Dombrowski

Recently I started watching a television show that pits one competitor against another in a battle to the death. The arena that these warriors fight in is rigged for the maximum amount of pain, as it is edged with spikes, and there are high-speed saws that can easily sever limbs. So, what is this program, a new kind of foreign game show? A new Fox network quiz show? NO! The show is Battlebots!

Battlebots can be seen on the Comedy Network, Friday nights at 9:30, and on Discovery channel Saturday nights. ([www.battlebots.com](http://www.battlebots.com)) The "robots" are actually remote controlled by human drivers on the sidelines, so are not autonomous. The Battlebots take on different shapes and forms, from wedge shaped, to saws with wheels attached. And like other sporting competitions, there are different weight categories, which range

from lightweight (25-60 lbs.), to super heavyweight (220-340 lbs.) divisions.

The robots fight against one another in an arena that is surrounded by 20-foot sheets of Lexan. Lexan is a super tough plastic that can be made to be bullet resistant in certain thicknesses. The Lexan is necessary to protect the audience, as many times during the fight pieces are flung off robots at high speeds. To demonstrate the power and lethality of some of these robots, a spinning robot was allowed to gather full speed (several hundred revolutions per minute) in an empty parking lot, and when a bowling ball was rolled towards it, the bowling ball exploded on impact! The robots use different weapons to combat each other. Some robots use their wedge shape to ram into opponents and tip them over; others use crushing pincer devices to destroy opponents. The

ultimate goal of Battlebots is to advance to the finals without being destroyed, and the trophy that the competitors vie for is a giant golden nut.

There are two other robot combat shows, Robotica, on TLC, and Robot Wars, televised on TNN. I still find Battlebots the most interesting of the three. Battlebots is one of those mindless television shows that are relaxing to watch after studying all week. Besides, how many other shows allow opponents to square off in a real-life fight to the death?



# Education Students Association

## *Welcome back!*

We trust you all had a blessed and restful three or so weeks and are ready to tackle another three months of classes and all that entails.

## *Where is your Executive?*

Last term, we discovered that very few people visited us during office hours so we are not planning office hours this term. You may find one or more of us in the office in Trailer One:

- a) If we happen to be there when you drop by (we still work there).
- b) If you call 479-9231 to arrange to meet us.

Jessie Hughes is President, Roger Jorgenson is VP Internal and External, Jill Moir is Director of Communications, and Jonathan Dowell is VP Financial. Feel free to flag us down anywhere if you have a bouquet or a beef.

**Study Buddy Recruitment, Wednesday, January 16, 8:30-3:30 p.m.**

This program matches university students with elementary school children in Edmonton for tutoring one hour per week (during school hours). Study Buddy representatives are on site in Tegler with a listing of available schools. They offer a training evening to prepare you for the program later in January. You make contact with the school and they set you up with one or more children. At the end of term, you receive a letter of reference from the school. Drop by early — Victoria Park (the school across the parking lot) subscribes to this program.

## **ATTENTION HOPEFUL AFTER-DEGREE**

**APPLICANTS:** This program demonstrates a commitment to education and meets the requirement of working with children in an educational setting.

**THOSE OF YOU NOT IN EDUCATION FACULTIES:** This is a rewarding program that helps both a children in need and you (community service, letter of reference, helping children — what more do you need?).

## **Education Wear**

Many of you have seen our neon blue posters advertising Concordia Education sweats. For those who haven't seen the ad (and even for those who have), we are selling hooded tops *or* bottoms for \$20.00 apiece or the set for \$35.00. You'll need \$10.00 deposit for each top, bottom, or set you order; you'll pay the balance when the sweats are delivered. You may order:

- a) By finding Jessie, Roger, Jill, or Jonathan — we will endeavor to keep order forms with us.
  - b) By calling the office at 479-9231 to arrange dropping off your deposit and filling in an order form.
- The quicker we assemble a minimum order, the quicker we can have you looking oh-so-cool in your new sweats!

## **Education Week, January 28-February 1**

• Education Station in Tegler with teacher bargains galore

• “So You Want To Be a Teacher?” information sessions with Dr. McVea, acting dean of the Faculty of Education, on Tuesday, January 29 at 11:15 a.m. and Wednesday, January 30 at 1 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about Concordia's After-Degree program.

• The Executive will be on hand during select hours in Tegler to take your Education Wear orders. We will also have Alberta Teachers' Association Membership Cards for those who have yet to pick them up.

• And maybe a few surprises.

# Arts Rep Note

*By Mike Crawford*

This is Mike Crawford. I'm your student rep for the Faculty of Arts. I thought I'd send out a quick note to introduce myself, let you know what I have been doing and can do as student representative. This is my last semester, majoring in Political Economy with a minor in Business. Just your average student. About once a month, I sit in the general meeting of the C.S.A. My job is to make sure the Student Council is acting in the best interests for our faculty. I listen to current and planned activities, as well as offer suggestions that may help. The most important function I do is voice concerns from the Faculty of Arts. Students have raised the issues of the spam mail that was hitting their student accounts, smoking directly in front of the library doors, and the parking sign change on the streets west and northwest of the school. Sarah Hoffman (President) has rectified the e-mail issue, and has said a smoke-free zone will be set out in front of the library. I am off to court in February to tell the city what I think of the By-

law change (2 hour changed to 1 hour). I'm often around the school or in the library, and also have a slot in the C.S.A. office. If you have something that you would like me to bring forth to the Student Council, it's no problem. I'm happy to hear your concerns.

One group that might stir some interest is the Toastmaster's Club. This is an excellent opportunity for all education minor or post-degree students to hone their skills speaking in front of a group. This club is beneficial to any student who has to make a presentation in class (basically everyone) is nervous in front of crowds, has trouble with the English language, or even the interview process. If you are interested, please pop by the conference room in Guild Hall (by the registrar's office) noon Friday's. We'll make room for you and have a great time.

Anyway, I'd better get back to all this excess reading that has been assigned. Have an awesome year, and I hope to chat soon.

# Education Wear Order Form

Date of order: \_\_\_\_\_

## Hooded Sweat Tops

\_\_\_ x Small \_\_\_ x Medium \_\_\_ x Large

\_\_\_ x Extra Large

\_\_\_ X \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

## Sweatpants

\_\_\_ x Small \_\_\_ x Medium \_\_\_ x Large

\_\_\_ x Extra Large

\_\_\_ X \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

## SPECIAL Both of the above

\_\_\_ x Small \_\_\_ x Medium \_\_\_ x Large

\_\_\_ x Extra Large

\_\_\_ X \$35.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

LESS Deposit \_\_\_ X \$10.00 for each unit: \_\_\_\_\_

STILL OWING: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail or phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Call 479-9231 to arrange dropping off your payment.

~~~~~ Detach Receipt OFFICE ONLY ~~~~~

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Paid \$\_\_\_\_\_ deposit for Education Wear. Ini.: \_\_\_\_\_

Balance of \$\_\_\_\_\_ paid (date) \_\_\_\_\_. Ini.: \_\_\_\_\_

Please keep this slip to claim your order.

**EDUCATION WEAR ORDER FORM**

Date of order: \_\_\_\_\_

## Hooded Sweat Tops

\_\_\_ x Small \_\_\_ x Medium \_\_\_ x Large

\_\_\_ x Extra Large

\_\_\_ X \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

## Sweatpants

# In Defence of the Muzzle

(Submitted by Llahsram Sggeb)

It gave me great pleasure to see that the guardians of virtue at Concordia College have acted to temper the contents of the outrageously deviant school newspaper. The justification for this action was outlined in the last issue by Dean Stuhlmiller, who nobly cast aside the capricious notion that freedom of speech is something worth defending. One cannot help but admire the way the Dean skilfully applied Orwellian doublespeak in assuring us that censorship is not really the issue here. You see freedom is actually tyranny, just as war is peace, and ignorance is strength. This is not about freedom of speech at all, really, it is about "editorial responsibility"... at least in that the staff of the Blue and White now have the *responsibility* to accept editorial decisions *imposed* on them from above.

We all know the refrain that freedom of the press is limited to those who own one. So if you liberal-minded utopians who are whining about your precious freedoms understood the way our capitalist institutions operate, you would recognize that our school owns the press - it is not yours, it is theirs - and they have the legal authority to censor your offensive and/or blasphemous statements. The Blue and White is only called a student paper to make you feel better about it. Face it; the image (and hence, money) of the school is FAR more important than your right to express yourself.

It's a very good thing that this is a private institution. Otherwise we would have to deal with that troublesome document, composed by bleeding-heart libertines, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which states that "everyone has the following fundamental freedoms... freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of

communication". It is comforting to belong to an institution with the willingness to banish these foolish notions from its domain - our superiors know what is right and what is acceptable, and that is all that matters.

Those with a higher moral awareness than the rest of us have also been able to use this event to further more important goals, and shall now endeavour to eradicate our school newspaper of all sin. As you may be aware, the Blue and White "will now be editing all blasphemy." I only hope that we will be kept updated as to what exactly the current version of "blasphemy" happens to be, issue to issue. This is a good precaution to be sure, for the last thing we need in an institution of higher learning is to risk inviting some modern-day Galileo to challenge our perfectly accurate notions of what is right and true. Certainly, any such deviants will also have to endure our newly adopted ritual in being made to publicly recant their unacceptable statements.

Now, if I were an intelligent man (which I am not, for I have others to think for me), I might not be so frightened by the words of others. In fact, I might even welcome moronic, ignorant, insensitive, racist articles like "Arabic Berlitz" simply because, as Woodrow Wilson put it, "if a man is a fool the best thing to do is to encourage him to advertise the fact by speaking." Nor would I be so cowardly as to muzzle words I know to be wrong - rather, I might take the logical course of combating bad language with better language. If I had the minimal mental capacity to do otherwise, I would probably not resort to combating fascist statements by stooping to the very methods the fascists have made famous. I might choose the path of writing words rather than destroying them.

But it is far easier to silence those we disagree with; the most vicious despots of every age would most certainly be in agreement with the powers-that-be at Concordia on this. All of these despots have appealed to some skilfully crafted rationalization as to how their brand of tyranny was not really a transgression against individual freedom, or even that freedom of speech is really a bad thing - "a bourgeois prejudice" in the words of Lenin. Noam Chomsky (among others) cuts through such sophistic fog, maintaining that "if we don't believe in freedom of expression for those we despise, we don't believe in it at all."

But why believe in free expression? Why risk tarnishing the image of one's ideology, party, nation, school, etc. by allowing people the right to express a thought, rant or **idiotic joke** that one group or another may (quite rightly) find offensive? The argument has been put forth that words are powerful, and indeed they are. It was Josef Stalin who once said: "Ideas are more powerful than guns. We would not let our enemies have guns. Why should we let them have ideas?"

For one more clever than myself, the answer would be simple: by suppressing speech you consider wrong, or even evil, you immediately lower yourself to a position beneath those you attempt to silence. And while Stalin plainly didn't care about smashing individual freedom to defend his moralistic version of the truth, perhaps we might consider altering our own course. So lacking an argument of my own, I will lean on the words of one such intelligent man, known as Voltaire, who once wrote: "I disapprove of what you say, but I defend to the death your right to say it."

# Poetry Corner

## The Price of Falling

Sheila Kwasek

Alone I wait, the clock ticks slowly  
 Moments pass in months & years  
 Sluggish & surreal &  
 Passing by like molten lead.  
 Your eyes flicker in the dark.  
 A lightening flash, in my heart  
 I see the ground open  
 The rain pelts down  
 And burns holes in the sidewalk  
 Holes in the sand  
 Holes in the mountains.  
 I have paid the price of falling.  
 A clashing void of silence & noise  
 Chewing holes through naked souls  
 The threads that connected  
 are lying unraveled on the floor.  
 The whispers of uncertainty  
 Are the final strings being severed.  
 I have paid the price of falling.

## Epic

My love for you's an ocean,  
 Reaching for the shore,  
 I long to touch the sands of youth,  
 and be with you once more.  
 A sailor sails his mighty ship  
 to the ends of all the seas,  
 No Divine Poem or Holy Myth  
 could capture what he sees.  
 Below the clear blue crashing waves  
 The Goddess Love awakes.  
 And turns the clear blue peaceful day,  
 Into a hurricane of our fates.  
 I grasp the mast and brave the storm,  
 My ship is torn apart.  
 I'm blown into the hands of she,  
 who now beats my heart.  
 Am I dead? Perhaps alive?  
 I never really knew —  
 I never really breathed the air  
 until I breathed in only you.  
 And now I drown within this love,  
 it tares my soul apart.  
 My body sinks and only she,  
 is left to beat my heart.  
 Caring hands wash me aside,  
 I'm cast upon the shore.  
 Awoken by the bright sunrise,  
 I'm here with you once more.

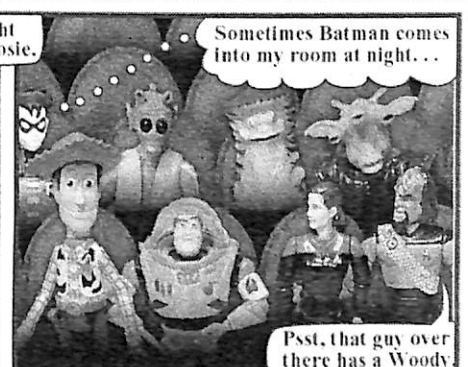
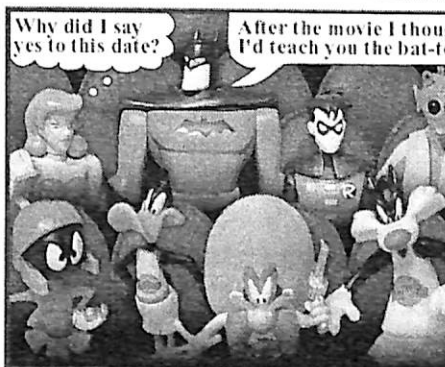
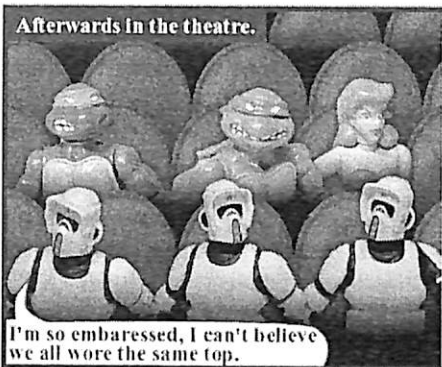
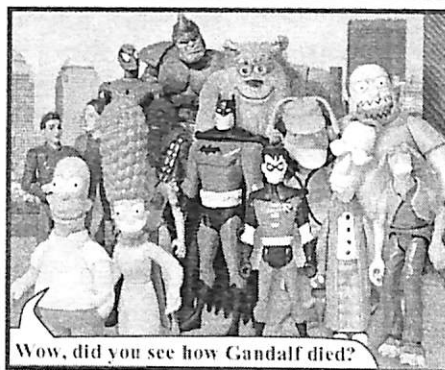
— Shawn Martin

## All For Chicks

January 14, 2002

Christopher Ducharme

I am all for chicks, but I ask myself if all is too much.  
 I take a second to think to realize I'm not doing enough.  
 I can't even imagine what all of this is doing to them.  
 But today, standing in the same place, I am different.  
 Two and a half years of no one; not one loving soul.  
 I watch my old self fall like the sunset beneath horizon.  
 And my new self rise like the moon that chases it.  
 Time is running out, I'm tracing old footsteps taken.  
 Some love, some lust, some no more than friendship.  
 What's perplexing is that I am the one confused.  
 My downfall is to fall in love or fall in like too quickly.  
 My up fall if there is such a thing, is my personality.  
 Some say that to play the field is an intelligent move.  
 Others think that it is an attempt to gratify desires.  
 And almost everyone believes these desires are sexual.  
 I believe that it is a quest for love in a curious storm.  
 It's not simple; ignorance will have consequences for me.  
 I try to ignore, but I can't handle being a dead hermit.  
 No matter what I try, I'm still confined to this search.  
 If I ever had the chance to change I wonder . . . would I?  
 If there was ever a day to change I wonder . . . would you?  
 No, and not many honestly would; it's too uneasy.  
 Too inconsistent with beliefs, morals, and understandings.



# Budget Report 2001/2002

01/06/01 Through 31/05/02 (in Canadian Dollars)

11/01/02

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| Category Description                | 01/06/01<br>Actual | -<br>Budget | 31/05/02<br>Difference |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>                       |                    |             |                        |
| <b>REVENUE</b>                      |                    |             |                        |
| GENERAL REVENUE                     |                    |             |                        |
| BOOK BUY-BACK                       | 6,880.22           | 6,800.00    | 80.22                  |
| % From Follett                      | 0.00               | 600.00      | -600.00                |
| TOTAL BOOK BUY-BACK                 | 6,880.22           | 7,400.00    | -519.78                |
| STUDENT FEES                        | 46,000.00          | 95,000.00   | -49,000.00             |
| TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE               | 52,880.22          | 102,400.00  | -49,519.78             |
| VP EXTERNAL                         |                    |             |                        |
| Athletics                           | 558.57             | 9,000.00    | -8,441.43              |
| Grad                                | 808.00             | 26,150.00   | -25,342.00             |
| Off-Campus                          | 4,059.95           | 6,190.00    | -2,130.05              |
| TOTAL VP EXTERNAL                   | 5,426.52           | 41,340.00   | -35,913.48             |
| VP FINANCE                          |                    |             |                        |
| Agendas                             | 0.00               | 1,500.00    | -1,500.00              |
| GST REBATE                          | 0.00               | 3,500.00    | -3,500.00              |
| TOTAL VP FINANCE                    | 0.00               | 5,000.00    | -5,000.00              |
| VP INTERNAL                         |                    |             |                        |
| Blue and White                      | 288.00             | 300.00      | -12.00                 |
| GTC                                 | 0.00               | 50.00       | -50.00                 |
| On-Campus                           | 99.00              | 950.00      | -851.00                |
| Psych Assoc                         | 0.00               | 400.00      | -400.00                |
| TOTAL VP INTERNAL                   | 387.00             | 1,700.00    | -1,313.00              |
| TOTAL REVENUE                       | 58,693.74          | 150,440.00  | -91,746.26             |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                 | 58,693.74          | 150,440.00  | -91,746.26             |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                     |                    |             |                        |
| <b>PRESIDENT</b>                    |                    |             |                        |
| ACTISEC                             | 1,271.35           | 3,650.00    | 2,378.65               |
| Retreats                            | 712.66             | 1,500.00    | 787.34                 |
| TOTAL PRESIDENT                     | 1,984.01           | 5,150.00    | 3,165.99               |
| VP ACADEMIC & SIPIRITUAL LIFE       |                    |             |                        |
| Charity                             | 0.00               | 1,000.00    | 1,000.00               |
| CSSA                                | 0.00               | 300.00      | 300.00                 |
| Education                           | 0.00               | 250.00      | 250.00                 |
| Equipment                           | 150.00             | 3,000.00    | 2,850.00               |
| Faculties                           | 0.00               | 600.00      | 600.00                 |
| Operating Exp                       | 499.46             | 2,500.00    | 2,000.54               |
| Orientation                         | 4,605.57           | 6,860.00    | 2,254.43               |
| Scholarships                        | 0.00               | 1,500.00    | 1,500.00               |
| Spiritual life                      | 1,175.27           | 2,966.00    | 1,790.73               |
| TOTAL VP ACADEMIC & SIPIRITUAL LIFE | 6,430.30           | 18,976.00   | 12,545.70              |
| VP EXTERNAL                         |                    |             |                        |
| Athletic                            | 3,840.00           | 16,830.00   | 12,990.00              |
| Grad                                | -7,213.04          | 34,160.00   | 41,373.04              |
| Off-campus                          | 14,438.01          | 14,470.00   | 31.99                  |
| TOTAL VP EXTERNAL                   | 11,064.97          | 65,460.00   | 54,395.03              |
| VP FINANCE                          |                    |             |                        |
| Agenda                              | 11,075.57          | 10,351.00   | -724.57                |
| Auditor                             | 2,889.00           | 2,800.00    | -89.00                 |
| Badcheques                          | 0.00               | 400.00      | 400.00                 |
| Book Keeping                        | 4,000.00           | 4,000.00    | 0.00                   |
| Contingency                         | 0.00               | 200.00      | 200.00                 |
| Honoraria                           | 12,170.00          | 20,450.00   | 8,280.00               |
| Misc.                               | 200.00             | 2,908.00    | 2,708.00               |
| Telephone                           | 212.07             | 500.00      | 287.93                 |
| TOTAL VP FINANCE                    | 30,546.64          | 41,609.00   | 11,062.36              |
| VP INTERNAL                         |                    |             |                        |
| Blue & White                        | 0.00               | 3,331.00    | 3,331.00               |

**Budget Report 2001/2002**  
01/06/01 Through 31/05/02 (in Canadian Dollars)

11/01/02

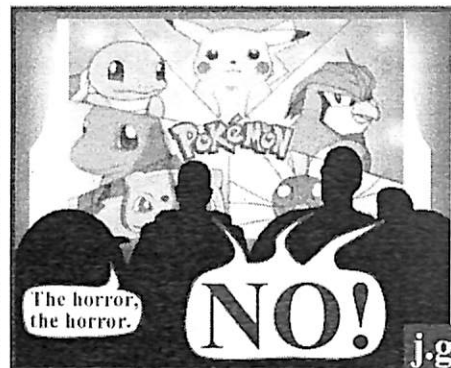
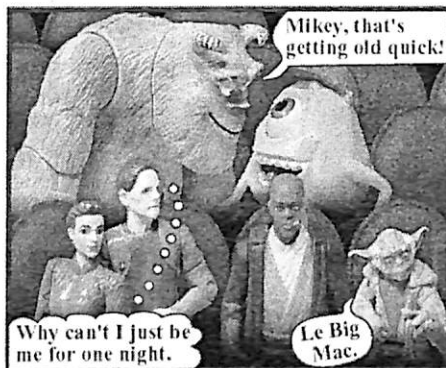
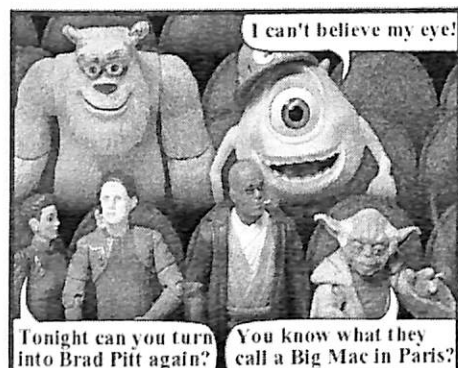
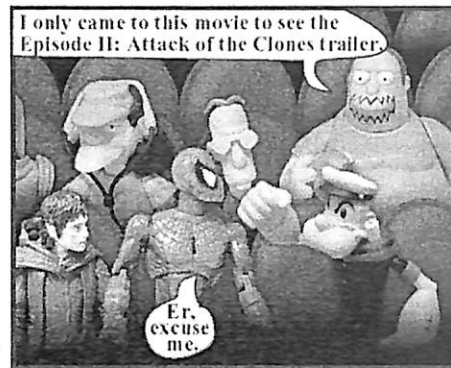
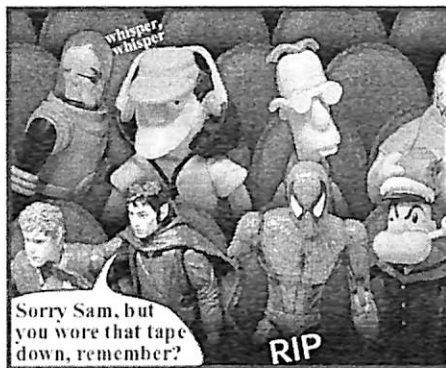
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| Category Description | 01/06/01<br>Actual | -<br>Budget | 31/05/02<br>Difference |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Honoraria            | 2,115.00           | 3,696.00    | 1,581.00               |
| Printing             | 4,099.45           | 3,528.00    | -571.45                |
| Supplies             | 203.27             | 60.00       | -143.27                |
| TOTAL Blue & White   | 6,417.72           | 10,615.00   | 4,197.28               |
| GTC                  | 0.00               | 550.00      | 550.00                 |
| Native Awareness     | 0.00               | 500.00      | 500.00                 |
| On-campus            | 883.56             | 4,930.00    | 4,046.44               |
| Photo Club           | 0.00               | 350.00      | 350.00                 |
| Psych Assoc          | 119.97             | 1,250.00    | 1,130.03               |
| UN Club              | 0.00               | 450.00      | 450.00                 |
| TOTAL VP INTERNAL    | 7,421.25           | 18,645.00   | 11,223.75              |
| TOTAL EXPENSES       | 57,447.17          | 149,840.00  | 92,392.83              |
| OVERALL TOTAL        | 1,246.57           | 600.00      | 646.57                 |



And so I speak to girls, young women, near regularly.  
 I'd like to say I'd like it another way, but I won't.  
 I've lived that life before and found myself all alone.  
 Staring down unfamiliar hallways without a smile.  
 Now something here is bringing importance alive.  
 If you saw me then you would not ridicule me now.  
 If you saw what I could be, you'd be happy with me.  
 It may be considered deviant, but who is victimized?  
 See, I try to be as open, as honest, as poetic as me.  
 Haven't slapped a chick since seven 'O clock, No . . .  
 Seven years old, not another bruise on my sister's face.  
 Never even raped or taken a chick home by mistake.  
 But you still tell me that I am someone so wrong.  
 I haven't swore to a face since the olden days.  
 Never expressed anger in action except through poetry.  
 But you try to tell me again that I have a bad temper.  
 Understand I never called you a bad name to your face.  
 Never said words that would harm or cause disgrace.  
 But you try to tell me that I am rude and inconsiderate.  
 If you choose to call me selfish, now is not the time.  
 I am all for chicks because they are my pleasure, a treasure.  
 I don't say that all chicks are for me, but I am for them.  
 To help alleviate pain and regulate strain is my passion.  
 I thought I could have trusted you with my kind words.  
 But now I'm hearing you, watching words fly at my face.  
 You don't know how long I anticipated hearing my voice.  
 How much courage it took to let my vocal chords release.

And staring in your eyes I don't understand why you judge.  
 Months, and I've spoken only a few judgmental thoughts.  
 I have chosen to hold my peace for those other rainy days.  
 Within these poems; I find myself speaking, copying you.  
 Thinking aloud typing with fast fingers in a crowded space.  
 Not one thought irritates or remains because hate can't last.  
 These words flow like warm vehicle exhaust in winter cold.  
 The fact is: I have too many chicks to keep names in order.  
 But it doesn't mean that I am from a wrong or sinful nature.  
 I am just an insecure person trying to be a friendly name.  
 And so I sit here and wonder why I am wasting my time?  
 All of this is driven by fear of feeling unimportant again.  
 So I run from all that I used to be, the scared boy inside.  
 I have it all; yet I choose to complain again and again and . . .  
 Relaxation, they say, is the truest remedy for healing.  
 You see, all these women are for me, to please them.  
 But of all that I feel I am doing for them, what do I get?  
 How can I distance myself from such golden opportunities?  
 Am I just too fearful that I will feel that love again?  
 Wish I had answers; guess work wouldn't be a pain.  
 I stand overlooking the ocean waves and my reflection . . .  
 Holding abundant fish in one hand, the other the line.  
 Humanity has an interesting way of basing love on greed.  
 And I think for this year, I want greed gone from me.  
 So often, I be just me to avoid all this ambiguity.  
 But the more like me I become the more unlike me I want to be.



# Christmas Formal Memories



# Bitch, Bitch, Bitch

By Cristeen M.

This is my second year at Concordia, and I have to say, that until this week, I've really enjoyed being here. I am a science student majoring in Biology. By January 31<sup>st</sup>, I will have paid over six thousand dollars in tuition and fees (that's this year alone); I paid this without complaint, but I do expect certain things for my money. Now, I can live with the limited number of photocopiers, the crappy low-resolution monitors in the computer labs and the many other complaints that my fellow students have made here in the pages of the Blue & White. But what I will not abide, and did not pay for, are rudeness and hypocrisy. Let me explain.

At the beginning of the semester my lab group and I were asked by the Science department to put a twenty-five dollar **refundable** cash deposit on a box of slides. We were not given receipts, only a vague sheet at the back of the lab manual, unsigned and unspecific. This fee was required to be paid at the first lab session. This I did in good faith and was told that it would be given back on the day of the exam. On the day of the lab final I was sent up to student accounts to reclaim the cash. Ok. The woman at the student accounts desk was really tense with me; I figured it was because she was having a rough day or something, no biggie. She passed me off with much annoyance to Anita at accounts payable. Anita, poor soul, had no idea what was going on, and was faced with a couple of really disgruntled students, she said that the instructor should still have the cash and that we should go back to her. I returned to my lab instructor and was told to go back to student accounts again on the following Monday to pick up my cheque. Ok, I was a little ticked because I'm FLAT broke (if it weren't for

the textbook I sold today I'd be eating cat food right now) and nobody seems to know what's going on. It's like they've never had to deal with this kind of thing before, and nobody seems to give a damn that it REALLY matters to me (except Anita and Mariola, who were both very, very sorry).

So, Monday rolled around and I wrote my first two exams. Not only do I have to put up with Dr. Gow's fifteen page final, (yeah, you got me, I PAID for that J), but I also had to listen to my religion professor make jokes about how Science students don't have to think as hard as the glorious students in humanities do (I'm thinking it's not a good idea to hand out student evaluations after making comments like that). It was a gruelling morning, and all I wanted to do was finish my errands and go home to bed before hitting the books again. Back up I went to student accounts with a question about my loan forms and the cheque. This time the woman behind the desk berated me for not having inspected my calendar with a microscope for the dates for handing in and picking up my student loan forms (which, not to be waspish or anything, she was wrong about). She said that if I was to be paid for anything I had to go elsewhere, despite what I've been told and the fact that the door says 'Student Accounts'. She did this like I was a severe inconvenience. I am thirty years old. I do not deserve to be spoken to like some spoiled yahoo whose Mummy and Daddy pay for them to go to private school just to get them out of the house (not that I think all of you are like that). I was polite to her, and deserve even just an attempt at civility and not the hostility I received. Is it necessary to remind her that my tuition pays for part of her salary, or that a school is a business and I am a paying customer? Is it necessary for a non-Christian to remind her, a representa-

tive of this Christian school, that she should "do unto others"? It's absolutely infuriating, but I dare not kick up a fuss for fear of being accused of 'verbal abuse', which has happened in the last week or so to a more vocal classmate with another Concordia employee over something equally inane.

I am unhappy at the lack of communication between the Science Department and the Business Office. If Concordia wants me to pay something, no lateness is tolerated; it must be paid immediately or no marks are released, and interest penalties apply. However, it seems like this rule does not apply when the school owes something back to me. I may get my twenty-five dollars by cheque sometime in January. I hope. Ah bureaucracy... does anyone else find it ironic that it rhymes with hypocrisy?

I am unhappy that I PAID to be treated this unsatisfactory manner. There are many benefits in attending Concordia, it has its shortcomings, true, but I've always defended it. It's my school. Whether or not I continue to do so remains to be seen given my recent treatment. So I guess that's my rant. Thanks for listening. I doubt it will do any good, but it made me feel better.

By the way, bah-humbug to the woman in student accounts. And a heartfelt apology to Anita and Mariola, who had to put up with a really annoyed me, twice.

things getting  
you down?

need someone  
to talk to?

worried  
about a friend?

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is available  
on campus

Dr. Colleen Hammermaster,  
Counselling Psychologist

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with experience in a broad  
range of areas

Counselling is offered at no charge.  
Students are encouraged to make  
an appointment by contacting  
Valerie Lenz in Student Services  
Office G212  
479-9241



# It's Not Too Late to Keep Your New Year's Resolutions

By Kessie Rinderknecht

Well it's that time of year again, time to put all those promises you made of self-improvement into action. Unlike last year this year is going to be different. This is the year that you will make things happen. But have you thought about why things will be different this year. How do you know that you will succeed? Most people who make New Year's resolutions don't make it past the second week in January, some may be lucky enough to make it to the end of February but by then the New Year is old and life (and all the old year stress) returns to normal. Other people know they will not be successful and are sensible enough not to make any promises to themselves. They know that they are only setting themselves up for disappointment.

Resolutions are not impossible to keep, they just require a bit more effort than simply saying things like; "I will get good grades" or "I will be organized this semester," etc.

It's not too late to start, in fact you can make resolutions at any time of the year and if you are diligent you can keep them.

Here are some ideas that may help you keep your New Year's Resolutions;

1) Plan ahead. Think about what you want to do different. Is it a big goal such as bringing your GPA from a 5.0 to an 8.9? Changes like that don't happen overnight. Ask yourself what you can do to make it happen. Identify your weaknesses and plan what you can do to avoid making the same mistakes again. For example if you come home with the intention of studying but always find yourself watching re-runs of Seinfeld you may want to consider studying at school or unplugging your TV. Make a list of all the things you may do that would take away from keeping your resolutions, then write what you can do to stop it from happening in the future.

2) Stay organized. A big problem with keeping solutions is a lack of organization. For example many students vow to lose the "Freshman 15" and eat healthier, but find themselves eating junk food at a fast food joint because they didn't pack a lunch. Packing a lunch each morning and keeping healthy food in the house may help to stop junk food meals.

3) Set small incremental goals, take things one step at a time. This way you won't be focused on the big goal that can seem impossible and too far off at times. When you have luck at the small goals they make you optimistic and

It's not too late to start, in fact you can make resolutions at any time of the year and if you are diligent you can keep them.

ready to take on bigger challenges.

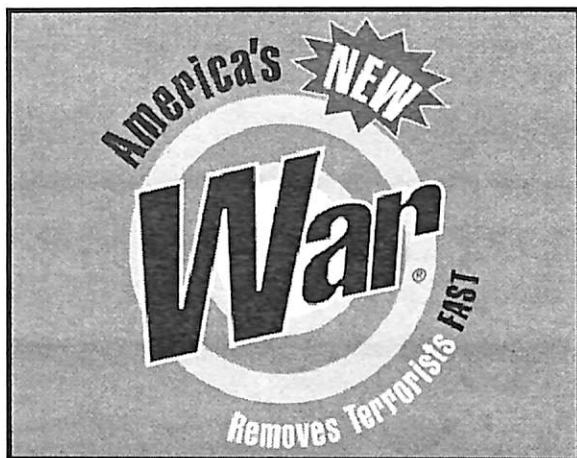
For example, if you want to be organized try first keeping your locker clean or your bathroom tidy for a week, then focus on letting it carry out to other areas of your life. This will make it easier to shift into a life-style change.

4) Let people know. If people know you want to make some changes they can encourage you and give you support and encouragement on your weaker days. It may also help to write your goals down for yourself to look at, that way you have something visual to see.

5) Accept that you may fail the first few times; change doesn't happen over night. This doesn't mean you have to stop all together. The only way to succeed is to fail first, just get up, dust yourself off, and get on with it. No one's perfect, only human.

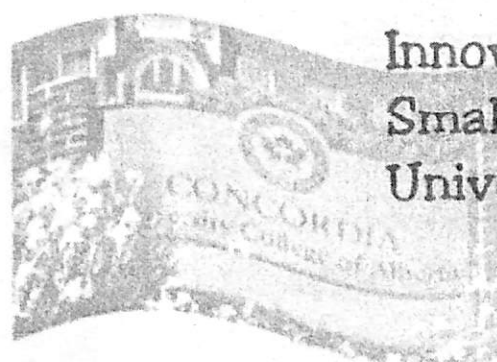
*Some common New Years Goals;*

- 1) Exercise/get in shape/be physical.
- 2) Be more creative.
- 3) Quit smoking.
- 4) Get better grades in school.
- 5) Get a new job, or a raise.
- 6) Be organized.
- 7) Save money.

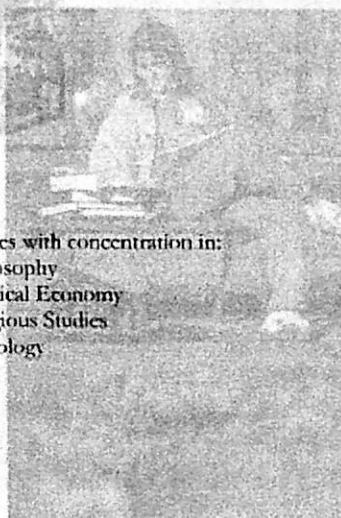




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# OPEN HOUSE

## Saturday, March 2, 2002

10:00 am TO 2:00 pm

Guided Tours, Prizes, Demonstrations

Win 1 of 4 \$1000 tuition credits

(new student for Concordia's 1st year university programs)

# Movie Review: Lord of the Rings

By James Gordon



First of all, 'No' I did not stand in line to catch this movie. I actually just walked right up to the ticket booth and then strolled into a very empty theatre. The theatre was not empty because a lack of interest, but because I managed to get to see it while school was still in for the high schools and downward.

I have read the Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Rings. It is a great book that takes pieces of the Bible and brings them into the fantasy world. The renowned author J.R.R. Tolkien was a Roman Catholic and a good friend to C.S. Lewis (Chronicles of Narnia). Tolkien took examples from the Bible, sacrifice, resurrection, and other major themes and wrote them into his books. He wrote a good vs evil story where

hope, peace and love overcome and defeat evil. This movie is made to look more like a 'based on history' movie with strong Biblical roots. It is exciting to watch and you feel like you are actually watching a historical movie set in Middle Earth.

The Lord of the Rings is a fascinating movie. Yes you've heard the rumours correctly, it is 3 hours long, but it doesn't feel like it. It does have slower parts where the adventure has to take a breather (both for characters and audience) but the slower parts are necessary as they carry the story.

This is a fantastic movie. The visual effects are stunning, the monsters and characters are exciting to see, and the movie is a really fun ride. For the first time, the Tolkien fans get to see the world he created on the big screen, Orcs, Hobbits, the Balrog, and many more. The movie follows the story fairly well, it's true that it



leaves out parts but some things have to be cut. I think Tolkien would be pleased with the movie version. Although he would have thought this whole phenomenon to be foolish. Go see this movie, it's great! If you like fantasy movies then see this one. If you don't like fantasy movies, then see it anyway and give it a try. I give this movie 5 kernels of popcorn out of 5.

## Library Fines:

By Eva Ervin

Access Services Coordinator

"Library fines" those dreaded words that can induce anguish, confusion, and stress upon a student already strapped because of the high cost of survival in academia.

To clarify the mystery on how these fines can unintentionally accumulate and to increase your awareness on how to avoid acquiring them, it is hoped that the following will unveil some of the answers to your questions.

### How library fines are calculated

Library fines are calculated as follows:

Overdue books belonging to Concordia: \$1.00 per item per day (plus one day grace period)

Overdue books belonging to other libraries: \$1.00 per item

## How to Avoid Them

per day

Reserve materials

\$ .50 per item per hour

Long-overdue books:

replacement cost plus processing fee

(usually

\$80.00 per item and up)

note: payment

for lost books must be made at the owning library

### How and where library fines can be paid

Fines (including fines for overdue materials belonging to other libraries) can be paid at Concordia's Circulation Desk by cash or cheque. If you wish to pay by Interac or credit card, pay at Student Accounts and bring the receipt to the library's Circulation Desk.

### Consequences of unpaid library fines

Marks, transcripts and diplomas are withheld when outstanding fines or overdue are owing to any NEOS library. Borrowing privileges are suspended when \$50.00 or more in fines are owing and/or books are long overdue.

### How to AVOID LIBRARY FINES

Some suggestions on how to keep track of your library materials and due date:

Bring your student I.D. card to the Circulation Desk and ask for a list

Use Borrower Information in the NEOS libraries' Catalogue; your I.D. number is the barcode number on your student I.D. card;

*Continued Across ->*

# Beyond the Books:

Things to note from your Vice president of External Affairs, Gillian A. Cunningham:

My office hours for the winter semester are Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. If you need to reach me outside these hours, please call me. I will call you back to arrange a time to meet.

## Grad Committee:

All those interested in being a part of the committee, but who are unable to meet Wednesdays at 1:00, please sign up outside my door, and I will contact you.

## Silent Auction:

The Silent Auction has been postponed until the week of March 4<sup>th</sup>.

## YMCA Deal:

If you are interested in getting a membership at the "Y" for \$23 a month, please sign up outside my door, and I will submit your name to the YMCA downtown. You will then need to go to down there with a void cheque and your Concordia Student ID. Your membership will then be good at any YMCA in Edmonton. There is no contract involved; your membership is month to month.

## Ski Trip:

We will have a ski trip meeting February 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in the library conference. If you are interested, please sign up at my office, and show up at the meeting.

## Thunder Hockey Support Night:

Our team is playing GMCC at SkyReach on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. There will be prizes, draws, checks, and slashes. Please come out to support our hockey team. There is no charge for Concordia Students who bring their Student ID.

## Marti Gras Pub Crawl:

Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a pub-crawl. Keep checking posters for more details.

*Hope to see you out and about,*

Gillian A. Cunningham

Office A207-D

479-9219.

## Library Fines Continued

your PIN number is the last 4 digits of your student I.D. number (if you have internet access at home, telnet to dra.library.ualberta.ca and input the user name Concordia or GATE; you don't need a password)

### **Tips for renewing materials:**

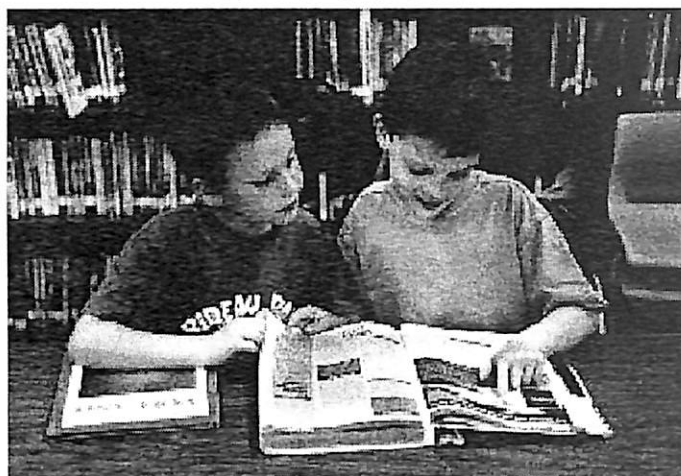
You only need your student I.D. card; you don't have to bring the books in

You can renew before the due date; if there is a request for your book, you will not be able to renew it, but if you renew a bit early, you'll have a little time to finish your work with the item before passing it on to someone else

You can renew either at the Circulation Desk or using Borrower Information in the NEOS Libraries catalogue. If you borrow onsite at another library, using Borrower Information - see instruction on user name, password, and telnet above (the U. of A., for example, allows 4 renewals for these items, but you have to use Borrower Information or it doesn't work). If you borrow materials belonging to other libraries from Concordia, you can only renew at the Circulation Desk.

## How do you see it?

"You can't depend on your eyes if your imagination is out of focus." -Mark Twain



Sheila Holtzer, *In the Library*, 2000

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# LINE X LINES

Green Lantern: you're far too ticklish for a normal super hero

Scott: with a spoon! And where's my pony?

Lil tiger: you are so a puppy! And Where's my pony?

Pam: Donde es nos pantolones?

Efa: Why did you have to post student's names with the marks? Ever hear of FOIPP?

Peggy, stop playing with your boyfriend and attend your office hours. Thats what you get paid for.

B.J. is soooo sexy! Yeah Baby!

Peg: Happy New Year! Maybe I'll actually SEE you this semester.

Having a smoking section in a restaurant is like having a peeing section in a swimming pool.

The Blue and White staff this year Rocks!

Smoking is a leading cause of Hypothermia.

Wanted: Used History 207/208 textbook. See Editor-in-Chief

## Career Workshops

*Mark your calendar for the following workshops*

- **Summer Job Search** - Wednesday, January 16
- **Career Planning (Making Career Decisions)** - Wednesday, February 6
- **Job Search for Grads** - Wednesday, March 13

**All workshops will be in the Library Conference Room, 3:45-4:45 p.m.**