



Submissions:
blueandwhite@csa.concordia.ab.ca

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HEADLINES FROM
CBC.CA:

- Klein apologizes to First Nations chief
- Poll suggests Harper will lead united Right
- Air Canada funding deal in jeopardy: report
- SARS vaccine may be tested in 2004

CHRISTMAS GALA 2003

Well, my friends were finally able to convince me to attend this event, and am I ever glad I did!! I decided that since it was my last year here at Concordia that I had to go the formal at least once in my three years here. Between going power shopping to

obviously weren't the only ones with that idea!! By the time we made our way back downstairs the dance had started. Now, at first I wasn't too excited about this part of the evening, since I had never been to a dance before, but once it



that if we went to the seventh floor we would find a suite open that we could check out, and then by taking the stairs up one more flight, we could see the Royal Suite. It was cool walking down a hallway that the queen has walked down, and we

CHRISTMAS GALA 2003



BILL 43: OPEN LETTER FROM THE MINISTER OF LEARNING

Bill 43: *Post-Secondary Learning Act, 2003* open letter from Dr. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Learning

I would like to take this opportunity to share my insights regarding *Bill 43: the Post-Secondary Learning Act, 2003* that is currently being debated in the Legislature.

This is the first time since 1981 that a major review of Alberta's post-secondary learning legislation was completed. We can't take our system into the 21st century with 1981 legislation. Bill 43 was tabled in May with the intent that stakeholders would have an opportunity throughout the summer to provide feedback on it. Government expected to make changes to this legislation based on input from students, institutions, and other stakeholders, and we continued to consult extensively with these groups throughout the summer and fall.

The resulting legislation and amendments, now before the Alberta Legislature, will drive the Campus Alberta vision for a post-secondary education system where students will have better access to opportunities for learning, no matter where in the province

they choose to do that learning. This seamless learning system means students will have better access to courses and programs throughout the province, as well as increased access to degree-granting opportunities.

Bill 43 also provides an opportunity to address concerns. I recognize rising tuitions are a concern for students, just as the increased costs of providing services is a concern for institutions. In Bill 43, we've proposed revisions to give institutions the flexibility they need to grow, clarify exactly what tuition fees should include, and ensure institutions remain open and accountable to their students, while continuing to make sure tuition increases are predictable and manageable for students.

The new tuition fee policy replaces the current 30 per cent cap with other controls to protect students. Right now, tuitions at most institutions are still less than 30 per cent of their operating expenditures, and these will continue to be regulated exactly as they are now – limited to a maximum annual increase of \$276 in 2004-05, with annual adjustments based on Alberta Consumer Price Index (CPI). For the few institutions that would go over the 30 per cent threshold, they will only be permitted maximum annual tuition fee increases of CPI plus two per cent – up to a maximum of five percent total.

The new policy also makes sure that any material and service fees required for the completion of courses and programs are included as part of tuition fees. Right now there are limited restrictions to what extra course and program fees can be charged. With Bill 43, these additional fees will be subject to the same controls and restrictions

we are putting on tuition increases and must be included in that calculation.

Bill 43 also responds to concerns that were expressed to me regarding the accountability of student associations and the funds they control on behalf of students. Student association executives are responsible for substantial amounts of student funds, and they must be accountable for these funds. I consulted extensively with student associations in building this portion of the legislation to find out what level of accountability they would find acceptable. As a result, this legislation gives the Minister of Learning the authority to investigate into a student association ONLY in cases of demonstrated financial irregularities.

Post-secondary education is one of the best investments anyone can make, especially in Alberta where there are great jobs, the cost of living is low and the standard of living is high. Alberta graduates enjoy among the highest gross salaries in the country. They also have the highest net salaries considering Alberta's standard of living and lower tax burden.

We have an excellent learning system in Alberta, and I believe Bill 43 will ensure we are prepared to bring our learning system into the future.

Yours truly,

Dr. Lyle Oberg

Minister of Learning

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*Sincere best wishes
for the Holiday Season
to all the students!*

IN RESPONSE TO “WAKE UP CALL”

In response to last month's write up titled “Wake Up Call,” I would like to speak on behalf of many students here at Concordia University College to tell the writer (Jennifer Jewell) that she needs to wake up herself. This is not a personal attack to Jennifer for this is my first year here and I'm not completely sure who everyone is yet, but I would like to share a few points of my own that would bring up the point that she had no right to say what she said in last month's issue.

1. Jennifer's point: “Don't dress to impress.” Are you the fashion police? So the school isn't a club, maybe the girls are going out after school and they can't go home. It doesn't matter anyway, no one is telling me to not wear sweat pants and my grubs to school because I don't care what I look like. Some girls like to look their best no matter what; putting on “dressy” is a choice they have made, just because they dress nicely doesn't make them high school students.
2. Jens's point: “Don't make fun of people.” Well, ok, this is very juvenile, but let's think about this: what is your definition of “make fun.” Don't let your judgment lead you to think you are better than other people because you don't make fun of them in front of people. Doing it behind their back is the same thing.
3. Jen's point: “Don't disrupt the class around you.” Missing information may be something that may happen if there is talking, but why is it your problem? Unless the music or the chatter is so loud you can't hear the teacher, or the teacher has an issue with it, let it be. We students have paid a lot of money to come here and some people want to spend it listening to his or her tune. If you really have an issue with talking or music, grow up. Tell him or her; don't write an article in the paper about it.
4. Jen's point: “Don't talk about your instructor.” Like I said before if we have paid money to be taught and if we are disappointed in the quality of instructing we are getting, I think the instructor should know. If we need to talk about it with our friends I don't see the problem with this either. If someone feels the need to tattle that is their immaturity issue they need to deal with. Let the instructor know we are not satisfied with what we are leaning.
5. Jen's final point: “Don't try to act cool.” Titling the cool kid is juvenile and I think that we all need to realize we are all cool. Honestly, no matter where you go in life there are always going to be people who fit in better than others. If you want to call them the ‘cool’ people then you go ahead and do that, I think that everyone acts himself or herself and if it comes across that they are acting ‘cool,’ then don't judge. Let them act how they want, if you are secure with yourself you won't have to give people the title of being ‘cool,’ you will know that you are too.

“She had no right to say what she said in last month's issue.”

I may sound a little hostile but only because people who won't let others just be who they are bother me. When I read the article last month I was really upset at the hypocrisies in the writing. Telling people not to act as if they were still in High School is the very most High School thing I have heard since graduation.

Anonymous

WAKING UP TO GROWING UP

First off I would like to comment on how juvenile this entire article seemed to me. We are all adults; therefore, we have the right to make decisions of our own. We learn from our mistakes and grow from what we learn. The five characteristics "Wake Up Call" introduced made me laugh more than think. Who are you to sit and criticize those who criticize?

1. "Don't dress to impress..." Some people dress up in order to feel good about themselves. We are at a more professional level of educational training in order to become professionals, therefore, why not dress the part.

2. "Don't make fun of people..." Perhaps I am not looking hard enough but I don't see this problem. People are fairly understanding, and if you are unsure about asking questions because you are uncomfortable, jot it down and ask during office hours, which is why they are there. Surely we are adult enough to deal with criticism from our peers.

3. "Don't disrupt the class..." This has not been apparent to me in my four years at this institution, but perhaps you should mention it to your professor. Most professors have firm control over classes and can solve this problem easily for you.

4. "Don't talk bad about your instructor..." Most people who are talking negatively about their professors are venting because of bottled up anger, which is not healthy to keep in. If people didn't approve of the instructor they wouldn't stay in that class.

5. "Don't try to act cool..." People so quickly read into this 'characteristic.' How can this be expressed without really getting to know the individuals who are being referred to? This can be seen as a narrow-minded comment. People don't necessarily act cool to pick someone up or to put up a front. Perhaps they are just looking for a friend, and personally you just ran them down into the ground.

"Relax!" If this is a college where everyone is friendly ... work on it. Try accepting who you were in junior high and high school because those were the years that had a strong influence on who you are today.

How adult-like is that.

~Cool Kid Wejachevli

THANKS FROM THE ESA

On behalf of the ESA, I would like to sincerely thank all of our volunteers who came out to Abbott Elementary School. Your hard work and dedication to giving the children a gift of holiday cheer was most appreciated by the students, staff, and parents of the school. Thank you.

Wishing the staff and students of Concordia a very Happy Holiday Season.

Chandra Robertson and the ESA executive

FEATURE POET: DAVE SCHMIDT

THE WINTER OF LIFE

The ground lies white with fresh-fallen snow
Frost curls 'round, wild fantasies to show
Designs looping and twisting in the faint light of dawn
The wind whispers through the woods like an almost-lost song

A sliver of sunlight winds through the leaves
Into the lair of a slumbering giant who now perceives
Peeks open an eye, sniffs at the air
Then lets out a yawn like a true, kingly bear

The carefree behemoth lazily rises
Lumbers out of his doorway and his surroundings sizes
He gazes upon the intermixed colours
Like a beautiful mosaic of ever-changing flavours

The fast-moving hare with her snow-white shawl
The well-dressed chickadee with a suit so small
The deer who saunter peacefully through the forest
In innocent nakedness that never seems immodest

Even the woodsman is quiet now
Rocking silently with an untroubled brow
The rest of the creatures still lie quietly
Waiting for the coming of spring to set them free

The kindly, old giant smiles at all this
Pleased that all is right despite his absence
He then lies down quietly, yields up his spirit
Trusts in nature, accedes to death, no longer to fear It

GLISTEN FOREVER

The tiger's eyes glisten
Menacing Meaning
In the midst of the jungle
They're all I see
All my cares

Amazement, not fright
It fills my heart
Captivated, overwhelmed
By the beauty held
Within those eyes

Then ends the moment
She slides away
With the grace of a falling twilight
A piece of art found
Only in nature

I am left then in wonder
At our wisdom which tells us
Such a beauty as this
Matters not as much
Not at all

For I have touched
A piece of her mystery
Her power
I have been given
A precious glimpse
Of majesty

FEATURE POET: DAVE SCHMIDT

Loss of Innocence

Exquisite epoch of beauty yet more
My one true love, none like her before
Wants wilt while she is near
Her essence is what I revere

Shimmering sunset caught in her hair
And of her eyes I must declare
Ocean's odysseys encompassed within
Fairly caressed by glistening eyelashes thin

Luscious lips of a taste so sweet
No other nectar could compete
Nourishing neck leads with grace
To a body I'm destined to embrace

Shoulders surrender, in want of touch
All of her quivering, reaching out to clutch
Hearts in harmony, made to be one
Their closeness cannot now be undone



I Imagine

I imagine her standing in the sunset
Her face turned to the ocean
Flames dancing across her silhouette
Her eyes wide with vivid emotion

I imagine her lying on the beach
Her mind dwelling on eternities
Her body at rest, just out of my reach
Her face upturned to the galaxies

I imagine her lying next to me
Nestled in my protection
Trusting me, loving me
The girl of my dreams, my affection





Imagine
the possibilities.

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Registrations
until the first
day of classes

Weekend and Evening

Winter Session - January to April

ARTH 102	Survey of Western Art II
BIOCH 205	Biochemistry II
CDV 302	The Nature of Work
CDV 303	Group Approaches to Career Development
CMPT 112	Structured Programming and Data Structures
CMPT 226	Introduction to C++
DRA 352*	Fundamentals of Public Speaking
EDFD 341	Concepts of Childhood in History
EDPS 200	Educational Psychology for Teaching
ENG 110	English Literary Forms
ENG 359*	American Fiction to 1900
ENG 389	Classics of Children's Literature in English
FR 102	Beginners' French II
HIS 261*	Canadian History 1867 – Present
HIS 352	History of Technological Change from Earliest Times to End of First Industrial Age (c. 1850)
HIS 415	Public History

MAT 113/114	Elementary Calculus I
PS 101	Principles of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
PSY 105	Individual and Social Behaviour
PSY 211	Statistical Methods for Psychological Research
PSY 241*	Social Psychology
REL 367	Studies in the Pauline Literature
SOC 100	Sociological Concepts and Perspectives
SOC 102	Social Problems
SOC 261*	Social Organization
SOC 327	Criminal Justice Administration in Canada
WRI 300*	Essay Writing (Non-fiction)
WRI 391	Introduction to Creative Writing: Fiction

Distance Courses - Parish Nursing Certificate

PN 302	Parish Administration and Team Ministry for Parish Nurses
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Notes: Concordia reserves the right to cancel any course due to insufficient enrollments. Courses jointly sponsored by Elk Island Public Schools. Classes at Salisbury Composite High School, Sherwood Park.

Classes at the Highlands Campus, 7128 Ada Blvd., Edmonton
www.specialsessions.concordia.ab.ca

Academic Upgrading

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Open to Adults 21 Years of Age or Older, Concordia's University and College Entrance Programs are:

- designed to provide the knowledge, skills, and prerequisites needed for entry into university and post-secondary institutions
- comprised of Grade 12 equivalency courses
- fast-tracked, eight-month day programs that begin each September
- for applicants working at a Grade 10 level in mathematics and English

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- Evening and Saturday (English only) classes
- Starting in February
- Courses offered:
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- Fees per course:
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 - \$500 international students

Professional Program Web Sites

Bachelor of Management

www.managementsciences.concordia.ab.ca

Bachelor of Environmental Health

www.envirohealth.concordia.ab.ca

After-Degree Diploma in Information Systems Security

www.infosec.concordia.ab.ca

Career Development Diploma and Certificate

www.careerdevelopment.concordia.ab.ca



UNITED WAY: YOU DID IT CONCORDIA!!

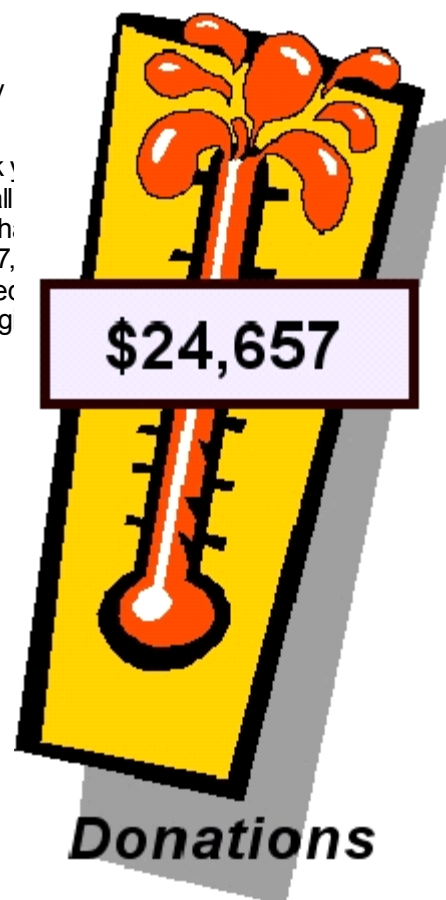
United Way 2004 Campaign

Final Results

Congratulations Concordia, you have once again exceeded your United Way fundraising goal!

Our goal this year was \$21,000 and together we have raised \$24,657! Thank you to everyone who made this year's campaign such a success. This includes all those special people who made a pledge, who volunteered their time (or perhaps one or two), or who enjoyed our many special events. Together we raised \$17,000 in pledges and \$7,223 from special events (Highlands and Gold Bar combined). We had an impressive 77 donors with an average gift of \$226. This average gift is up from \$190 last year.

Thank you again!



Wanna cheer for THUNDER??

Basketball:

Jan 9 AUC @ CUCA 6:30/8:30 pm

Jan 10 CUCA @ AUC 6:30/8:30 pm

Hockey:

Jan 3 CUCA @ MacEwan (Bill Hunter) 8:30 pm

Jan 9 SAIT @ CUCA (Clareview) 7:30 pm

Jan 10 CUCA @ SAIT 7:30 pm

Jan 16 CUCA @ BBC 7:30 pm

WANT TO BE A MEMBER OF THE EDUCATION STUDENT'S ASSOCIATION?

The Education Student's Association is always looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming a member at large for the winter semester, talk to Chandra Robertson as soon as possible! If you are looking for more and think that you would be a great representative for the student body – join our council! We would love to have you attend meetings, and even job shadow the specific position that you are interested in. Nominations and elections will be held in the first few months back from the Christmas break. For more information, contact Chandra Robertson @ lil_green_sprout@hotmail.com or talk to any member of the ESA.

We look forward to having you work with us.

CAREER FORUM FOR CONCORDIA STUDENTS
LEARN FROM THOSE WHO HAVE “GONE ON BEFORE”!

Thursday, January 8 (first week of classes after Christmas)

4:00-5:45 pm

In the auditorium

- Panel of 4 guests (including Concordia alumni) will do presentations on their own career journeys.
- Each guest began her/his career with a Bachelor's degree.
- There will be opportunity for students to ask questions
- Come to learn from others and be inspired about your own future career aspirations

All Concordia students are welcome. If you will be attending, please sign up at the Student Services Office (G212).

*For more information, email Mrs. Ritz, Career Practitioner;
dritz@concordia.ab.ca*

*Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are 30 feet tall. ~Larry Wilde, *The Merry Book of Christmas**



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

So many things seem to happen at once. This seems to be a stronger truth when you are a university student. There's a lot coming up in the next little while. There are those last minute papers and then those good old final exams. Don't forget though that Christmas is coming. You need to clean out your fridge before you go home for the holidays (if you're lucky enough to go home). You need to go buy some presents and figure out how to get them home. I sure hope no one blew all their money on the Christmas formal and forgot to save some for presents. Because it's all about the presents.

What is better to lift up your spirits after a month of struggling than more stuff? I mean, nothing makes the stress of writing final exams melt away faster than a box of tofffee chocolates (unless you're allergic to nuts). There's nothing like watching someone unwrap a gift you struggled so long to find, anxiously anticipating their look of delight. It is all about the presents...unless it's about the food.

The food at Christmas is

always so nice. I know I get to go to two different Grandparents' houses and eat two different feasts. Oh, the gluttony of it all. Eating like there is no tomorrow. Who doesn't groan about going up a belt size? For some students we need to eat like mad while we can. It's the only time of the year when we can eat as much as our stomachs will allow, without burning a hole in our pockets.

It's all about the presents and the food, except maybe the snow. There is nothing like waking up Christmas morning to find a nice soft layer of snow, coating everything and making it white. I can remember the first Christmas without snow. It had been a warm winter and we woke up to see dead grass and dirty cement. It was ugly. The decorations were up. The Christmas lights were lit on the houses across the street. But it just was not the same without that nice layer of white to cover up the dirt that existed just beyond the window. I remember it did snow during that day, and it ended white.

It ended white. Where are all the presents in the end?

Where is all the food and gluttony in the end? Where is the simple snow in the end? It all melts away to nothing in the end.

There is so much more to life than this. There is hope for us in our stress beyond the simple hope of presents after finals, or turkey dinners once home. There is a hope for us today. There is a hope for us that we celebrate with the coming of His birth and rejoice in His death and resurrection. I write to you, as this time of stress comes along and the celebration comes soon after: do not help the world take Christ out of Christmas. He takes our ugly death away. He makes us clean like that fresh Christmas snow. Remember His love through all the stress of finals and Christmas shopping. Remember Him if you can't get to your family this Christmas. We wouldn't have this holiday without Him.

By: Sean Wood

Apples & Dandelions



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The Back Page



"When I feed the poor, they call me a Saint. When I ask why the poor they call me a Communist."

For those observers who hold a bleak mentality for change, I promise the following dissertation concerning the opinions of me, a self-titled neo-Christian, will not offend, or rent your current position on Christian beliefs; it may, in fact, make your faith even stronger.

I have always held onto a very utopian outlook on the world and even with the reoccurring oppression in nameless third countries as they battle for equality and the ludicrous attempts for another long and useless Imperial United States war for oil, I still believe that the world is not all lost. As an avid political activist and a founder of the political organization "A New Leaf," I desperately thought that my voice could have a positive bearing on the history of the world. The members (all 7 of them, including myself) became knowledgeable through various books, debates, demonstrations, and forums, strongly believing that the world as we knew it could be governed better, based on equality in terms of both monetary status and civil freedoms. I devoted much of my time in hopes to somehow come up with a divine plan never before heard of to somehow save and change the world. I failed miserably, however, not because I didn't have the knowledge or the passion, but because I "had the vision but I lacked the method" (Jack Kerouac, famous beatnik writer and father of the beat generation). The biggest mistake I made was calling myself by a title. That title was a Communist. As soon as I did this, I instantly became an enemy. No one cared what I had to say even before I said it. A word that should boost equality and freedom, those who have labeled themselves a Communist are more often than not seen as uneducated conspirators, threatening the precious monopoly to the money hungry capitalist. To those who have been taught in our public education system, (which is probably 90 percent of us) we are currently organized and taught in a system that is desperately under funded, which merely poses as a fascist tool to breed lemmings who simply "follow the leader, not thinking for ourselves." We the students, who should be offered a non-biased attempt at some type of quasi-educational enlightenment, become only by design useless, and as we continue to accept our roles and titles, we enlighten no one, and so the process of contentment continues. No one will listen to us and no one will care, much like what is reality in this world, as we know it now.

The same I believe should also be said for the title of the Christian. For those who consider themselves to be one, I think that is fantastic, and for those who do not, I believe this is fantastic too. I accept the truth that God doesn't care if we are Communists or Capitalists or Mormons or Christians. No matter what title we give ourselves, we are still his or her children. I believe through my past experience however, that by giving yourself a title, you only limit what you can actually do and say, and to whom you can do and say it to, which will in reality prove beneficial. That doesn't sound all that equal and free, and to me, I do not think that this is how we are intended to live. A Christian is more of a word than it is a person, and the only way to bring us closer to God is to accept each other and love each other, instead of loving some superficial title.



I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. ~Charles Dickens

NEXT ISSUE!

FOR THE NEW YEAR, WE NEED ARTICLES!!! SUBMIT A DISK IN THE MAILBOX OR EMAIL IT IN TO: BLUEANDWHITE@CSA.CONCORDIA.AB.CA. SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JANUARY 9, 2004



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