

CUE HOCKEY

by Rebekka Hay

What up Concordia!

For this issue of The Bolt, CUE Hockey will be the topic of interest. Patrick Carlin, a second year who is majoring in English with a Psychology minor, generously set time aside to provide me with some unique insights on the team! Patrick and I were able to discuss playoffs, the development of the team, some training information.

Patrick, who plays defense on the Thunder Hockey, pointed out that despite it being a “younger group of guys on the team, recruitment for the program has come a long way.” Right off the bat, he commented that the team is “right on par with last year,” not to mention that many of the players had previously played together so the chemistry for the team was great. All of the players on the team have played in leagues around Edmonton with high levels of competition, so they were excited to bring that energy into the ACAC League.

Patrick also mentioned that the “coaches are constantly challenging us,” which translates positively on the impact that the team has in the league. In regards to the regular season, the team was quite competitive and battled hard throughout both semesters. Patrick said he was “looking forward to next year, there is a lot of growth expected for and we are coming together as a team.”

“When the team has a roster of primarily new guys, this generally means a rebuilding season, but the team is incredibly excited to come out hard next year.”

Playoffs

The CUE Thunder made it to playoffs via a Wildcard spot. To earn this “wildcard,” the team had a huge final weekend against Briercrest to ensure their place in the playoffs. The win sealed the deal, and your CUE Thunder Hockey looked forward to participat-

ing in the 2017/18 Men’s Hockey Championship.

Patrick recalled how excited the team was able to play in the championship, and he remarked that it was “the first time the team had participated in a play-off game as a team.” CUE faced off against Red Deer College for a first best-of-three quarter-final playoff series. Red Deer won the series in two. For the last game against RDC, they rallied hard and showed a lot of character, and although they lost the game, Patrick said that “the team took a lot of positives from the game and are looking forward to next year.” He also mentioned that recruits next year will be minimal.

As a final note, Patrick mentioned that, during the season, they won against their rival team, NAIT Ooks. It was an exciting game where Patrick noted that “they we were able to prove to ourselves that even though we are a young group that we can compete in this league, and the team is definitely on a considerable upswing for next season.”

For training over the summer, the CUE Thunder is focused on their physicality. The standard of fitness is very high in the league, so to keep up requires plenty of discipline. Patrick stated that “especially during tight games, the fitness level can be the difference between a win and a loss, so we are going to work hard over the summer.”

Lastly, a shout out to Adam Wheeldon, who was a forward selected for the ACAC Men’s Hockey All-Conference team (Second All-Conference Team)!

Patrick also said that the team “appreciates the support from the students, and are working hard to make the program something which the school can get behind and feel proud of.”



THE BOLT NEWS

WELCOME, SPRING



Inside:

POLITICS - Donovan Makus talks about the proliferation of fake news and the effect it has on the media.

pg: 7-8

THUNDER - Rebekka Hay talks with Patrick Carlin about the Thunder Hockey team’s advancement to the championship.

pg: 15

AND MORE:

THE SHADE GARDEN: PART II

by Kohan Eybergen

Thomas was frightened, and for good reason; all of the fairies had weapons in their hands that looked as if they could hurt him quite badly. Some had bows, some spears, all of them had daggers hanging from their belts, and they were all wearing very angry expressions.

“Why are you trespassing in our lands, imp?” one of the fairies asked him.

“I...I don’t know what that means, sir.” Thomas knew that grown-ups usually liked to be called sir or missus, and he figured that the fairies did as well.

“Are you not aware that by passing the enchanted river, you have entered the realm of the Shade Garden? Doing such is a crime against our people!”

“Of course he doesn’t know!” said another fairy with a kinder voice. “He’s just a youngling. He looks lost,” she pointed out to the others.

“Regardless, we need to bring him before the King. He could be a spy for the Giants,” the first fairy said to the others, who all then voiced their agreement.

The kind-voiced fairy walked over to Thomas and made to grab him by the hand, but Thomas jumped backwards, frightened. “I’m not going to harm you,” she assured him as she motioned for the others to lower their weapons. “We just need you to come with us. You look hungry; the solstice feast is taking place in the great hall, and we’ll be able to eat there.”

“Where are you taking me?”

It was the grumpy fairy that answered him. “Deep into the realm of the Shade Garden to await the judgment of our King.”

Thomas was extremely nervous; in fact, he was trembling. He had never met a King before, and the grumpy-voiced fairy scared him.

“Don’t be so harsh, Crabapple,” the kind fairy scolded, “you’re frightening him. My name is Acorn,” she told Thomas, “and these are Buckeye, Maple, Willow, and Poison Berry.” She pointed to each in turn.

“We’re part of the river guard.”

Thomas was confused and he was growing tired. He knew that he was in some sort of trouble, but he didn’t understand why he had to be taken to the fairy King or how the fairies had appeared so suddenly in the first place. Above all, however, he knew that he had absolutely no chance in running away as he was outnumbered six to one.

After walking beside Acorn for what felt like ages, Thomas started to feel outright exhausted. “Why do I have to go to the King? I didn’t do nothing wrong. I just wanted to make a fox house to live in where I could be left alone!”

Acorn looked down into Thomas’s teary little face. “We have to take you to the King because it’s the law of our people. Humans aren’t allowed in our realm, and anyone who wishes to enter must have permission from the King.”

Crabapple, who was in the lead, stopped suddenly and turned around to hush the others, “Shhh! I see something up ahead, a light flickering, and I hear foul voices on the wind.” He listened for a minute while the others stood still behind him. “Giants!” he whispered, and he motioned for the

These talks are beneficial because they give us insight to very important realizations: there will be both ups and downs, and success takes time and dedication.

Networking helps gain an edge in an industry. There are many benefits to joining a supportive system of sharing information and services among individuals and organizations. Networking can be related to the common saying of “it’s not what you know, but who you know.” If you are looking to network within your certain career path, a good website to look at is “Ten Thousand Coffees,” which connects you to individuals working in whichever career path you are interested in. LinkedIn is also a good place to start networking and make connections. Networking can be done through internships, informational interviews, seminars, talks, conventions, conferences, luncheons, or dinners. Introductions can be made by people you know. Many professors, especially ses-

sional professors who have jobs outside of teaching, have relevant opportunities for students. Another place to look is at association websites--some examples are Appropriate Dispute Resolution Institute of Alberta (ADRIA) and Human Resources Professionals Association (HRPA). The AADRIA has luncheons, dinners, and conventions in order to connect professionals. The HRPA offers student memberships and hosts an annual conference. With online mentoring, networking is becoming worldwide as we can now connect with people from across the planet. When you are networking, think of ways to leave an impression on the professional. It is important to make an attempts to ensure a meaningful connection.

My best piece of advice is to get out there. Network, find mentors, and attend talks. Mentoring and networking is important to learning and growing into your profession of choice and it will help you thrive in your career.

BEER GARDENS APRIL 13th

12-6pm • Buffalo Patio • 18 PLUS
STUDENT MUSIC • • • CASH contest

Our CSA Association

MENTORING AND NETWORKING

by Emma Bott

Mentoring and networking are important parts of career development that are often overlooked during student education. They help you understand what you are getting into and if it's the right fit. You understand what you have to do; mentoring and networking are not things you do just at the start of your career, but throughout. At some point, you will probably transfer from the mentee to the mentor. It is something that only gets better with practice, so the sooner you start, the better.

Informational interviews with individuals in the job that you are looking for are essential for understanding the job and industry. These interviews can be done with people you know either through school or internships. It is also possible to just straight up call someone. Honestly, it sounds scary, but you can make so many great connections. Informational interviews are great because they give you a glimpse of what the job is actually like as opposed to the job description or the TV version. You learn about the ins and out of the job, the hours, and the lifestyle that the job allows for. It is honestly just a great time to get life advice and learn. Oftentimes, the professional you are interviewing will provide you with books or publications to read in order to help with your career. An informational interview often flows like a conversation; it is usually a good idea to have a few questions set before the interview. They typically happen over coffee or drinks, perhaps lunch or dinner. Often, offering to buy coffee or a drink for the person you're interviewing is a good call. When you are starting

out, it best to look for people who are in the middle of their careers. A lot of the time, these people will feel flattered that you want to sit down with them.

Going to talks where individuals give career advice is also very helpful. While you lose the face-to-face aspect found in mentoring, you will often meet other professionals that could eventually be your colleagues. These events can be found at your university, other universities in the area, or via online resources such as EventBrite. Some are free events and some you do have to pay for--keep in mind that some events do offer student pricing. As far as paid events go, try to think of those costs as an investment in your future. On International's Women's Day, Concordia's Faculty of Management hosted a panel of four local female business owners who told their stories. The women who spoke were Jacquelyn Cardinal (Co-Founder and Director of Experience, Naheyawin), Giselle Courteau (Co-Owner Founder, Duchess Bake Shop), Heidi Fedoruk (Co-owner, Leading Edge Physiotherapy) and Larissa Whiting (Owner, Lahari Yoga). It started with each woman coming up and telling their stories and then, at the end, there was an opportunity for questions. The women told stories of how they came to be successful. Jacquelyn Cardinal's advice was to act on something that needs to be done as soon as you notice a need for action. Giselle Courteau's advice was to avoid doing anything you won't be proud of. Heidi Fedoruk talked about how getting fired was the best thing that ever happened to her because it led to her and her husband starting their own business. Larissa Whiting spoke about not having a grand plan for her life and not expecting to own a yoga studio. So much advice was given at this event, more than I'm able to cover in just this article. Another example is a talk that MacEwen recently hosted with Rachel Mielke, founder and co-owner of Hillberg & Berk. She talked about how her business grew; there was success, followed by failures, followed by more failures, and then, finally, success.

others to follow him silently towards the light.

Soon they were within sight of a small clearing in which there were two giants sitting with their backs to the fairies, warming their huge hands and feet in front of a large fire. They were at least ten feet high sitting down, and closer to twenty if they stood. Their heads were large and grey with small ears, and they sat on their hunched, fur-covered shoulders with no necks to be seen. Acorn hid Thomas in a berry bush and warned him to keep quiet, and the fairies crept carefully around the clearing to surround the giants and then climbed trees. In their perches above, they listened to the deep voices.

"The captain said to wait here until he collects us all from our stations for the attack; we can't afford getting caught wandering about--it'll ruin the plan," the first giant remarked.

"I'm starving! And I'm tired of waiting around for the captain; he's never had a plan that's worked, anyway--we always lose to the fairies!" the second one said.

"And you're about to lose again!" yelled Crabapple from his tree. The giants turned their confused, ugly faces upwards just in time to receive a hail of arrows from the fairies.

Now giants, despite their massive size and strength, are cowardly creatures whom, when surprised by heavily armed fairies usually turn tail and flee, which is exactly what these ones did. Laughing in their victory, the fairies jumped out of their trees and landed softly on the forest floor, as the sound of the giants crashing through the trees faded away. Thomas ran out of his hiding place to meet Acorn with an awed look on his face.

"That was the most amazing thing I've ever seen! Real, live giants! And you fought them off so easy!" he exclaimed.

"Well we aren't river guards for the sole purpose of

arresting little boys" Crabapple scoffed, but before he could continue his grumblings, Acorn cut him off.

"We should get you to the palace as soon as possible; it's not safe here" she told Thomas.

They kept walking for a while longer until they reached two ancient trees. They were oaks, and they were growing so closely together that their branches were intertwined overhead like an archway. It was eerily quiet, and Thomas and the fairies stood before the oak trees for a moment before Crabapple spoke.

"We are here." He grunted. He turned and looked at Thomas with a strange expression on his face. "You will be the first human to ever enter the Palace of Living Trees."

It didn't look like a palace to Thomas. It was simply just two large old trees side by side with enough room for three people to walk between the trunks at a time, or so it seemed. As Thomas walked beneath the boughs, the forest in front of him vanished and was replaced by a bright golden light. Thomas could hardly see, but when his eyes adjusted he realized that he was in standing in a large entrance hall lit by what looked like dozens of small floating suns. The walls were living tree trunks growing tightly together, and the high ceiling was made up of their branches and leaves. At the end of the hall there was a large arched wooden door set in the wall. The door had a detailed carving of an oak in the middle of it, and the handle was shaped like a large acorn.

Thomas had forgotten how tired he had been feeling and was beginning to grow excited. He thought that this place was much better than any home that he could make, and a small part of him wondered whether he could live with the fairies.

"Now don't be alarmed, but there are hundreds of us in the great hall for the feast," Acorn told him as they walked across the entrance hall to-

ward the door. "It's just through here. The King is there too, but you'll finally be able to eat and rest."

They opened the door and went in. The great hall was much larger than the entrance and it was dimly lit. There were massive hearths along the walls that had wood fires burning in them. The hall was filled with around twenty long tables whose benches were crowded with fairies. The tables were covered in dishes of different foods, and many different coloured candles were alight among them.

The rich aroma of cooked meat engulfed Thomas as he stood open mouthed by the door. He didn't realize how truly hungry he was until now, and he wished very much that he could join the fairies at the benches. Acorn and Crabapple lead him down the middle of the hall towards a table at the end that stood higher than the rest on a raised platform. Behind the table sat the fairy King. He was sitting in a throne that was made up of the living roots of a thick tree behind him, and he was clothed in robes of pale green and silver. A circlet of woven holly, mistletoe, and spruce boughs was perched atop his head like a wreath crown, for it was the solstice celebration and the start of the fairies' new year.

Although Thomas was still nervous, he was no longer afraid, for the King of the fairies was not a scary-looking elf. He had warm green eyes and a bright face that glowed with kindness and old wisdom.

"What have you brought before me in the middle of the feast?" he asked Acorn and Crabapple as he stood up from his throne. The whole of the hall was silent, and the fairies ceased their drinking and feasting to watch the King as he stood peering down at Thomas past his bushy furrowed brows.

"We have brought a human youngling, sire. We found him by the river--he had crossed it and was trespassing on our lands." It was Crabapple who spoke, and he did so while nudg-

ing Thomas closer to the edge of the King's table.

The King fixed Thomas with a curious stare. "Why have you entered my realm, human?" It was a command to speak, but a calm one.

"I didn't know it was, sir," Thomas answered truthfully. "I just wanted to run away and live in the forest, away from my parents."

"Why would someone so young willingly abandon their kin? Did they harm you?"

Nobody had ever asked Thomas this before, and he was worried that if he told them the truth that he would be in trouble. He hesitated before answering 'yes.' The King looked concerned, and he pondered silently for a moment.

"So you have come here to seek asylum then?"

"I don't know what that means, sir."

"It means that you have come here for safety from something."

"Sort of, I guess," Thomas admitted. He had begun to feel tired again, and he was still very hungry.

The fairy King paused to think once more, something that he seemed to like doing, while everyone waited for him to speak. "I have decided that you may stay here in the palace, at least until I have figured out what to do with you. First, join the feast; you look famished. Then I will send a servant to find you a room where you may stay for the night."

And with those words, the King seated himself back onto his throne, the rest of the fairies in the hall resumed their feasting, and Acorn led Thomas to an open space at one of the tables.

To be completed in part III.

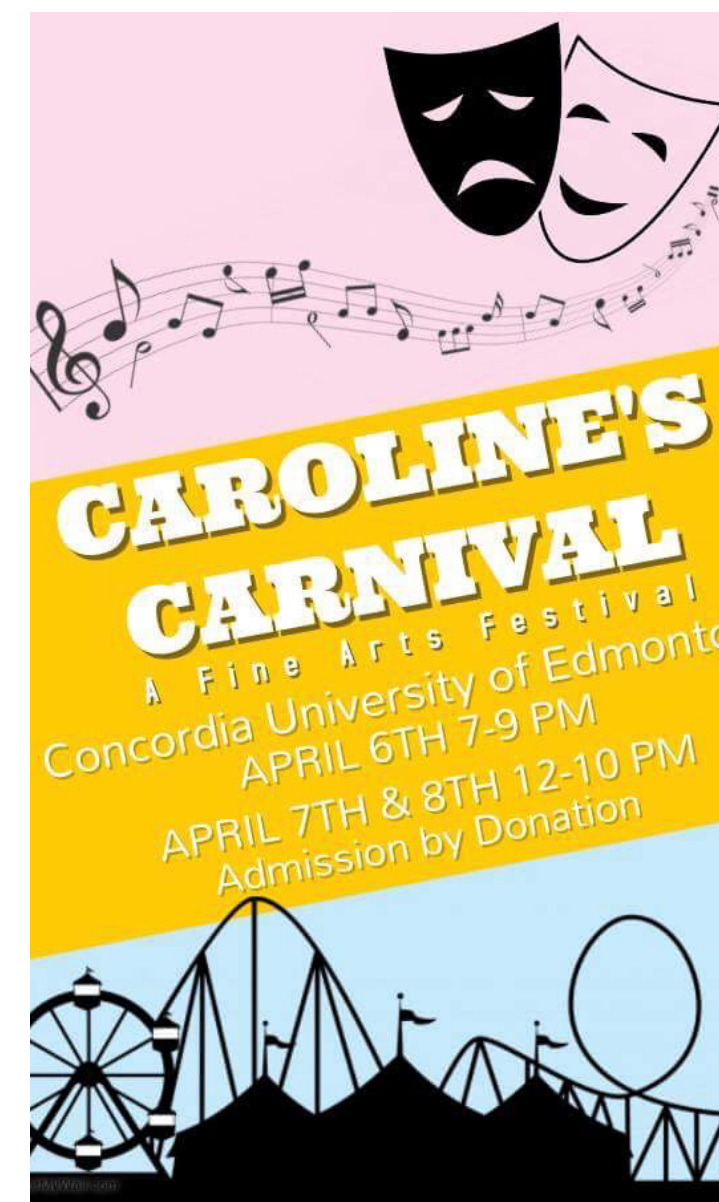
lucky to have mine as I fought for it dearly, and a lot of us ladies have no choice but to self-diagnose. The reason why is that autism presents itself very differently in women, and many are able to blend in with other girls. Comparatively, guys have more of a problem blending in. This behaviour is learned, but the symptoms change.

Lastly, autism is not a thermometer between "high functioning" and "low functioning." Both are very basic labels that only give an outline to a kaleidoscope of abilities and disabilities. They're honestly kind of offensive. For every person who excels in math, there is someone else who's recreated famous paintings or written a book. For the ones who are able to socialize normally, they can still have issues recognizing a good or bad situation. And for every white guy who's an astrophysicist, there's a gothic girl whose only talent is writing and who's interested in *Invader Zim*. Think of us as frozen yogurt. You get the base and then you load it with different toppings. Think of the base as a person, and the various toppings as a symptom or skill. Makes sense?

As a side note, some of us don't like to be touched suddenly without knowing what's coming. We also don't always appreciate loud, booming, bassy, vibrating music--but some do! If you don't know, just ask and respect boundaries. This is only a small summary of what autism is, the stereotypes, and the truths behind them. As well, I want to encourage you all to do "Red Instead," because my disorder is not worse than cancer or AIDS and neither is any other form of autism. AIDS and cancer lead to death; I just eat too much sugar, interrupt people by accident, and get hostile when I'm cranky. Autism Spectrum Disorder is not a disease, nor should it necessarily be "cured." Our issues and gifts are embedded

into our brains and have impacted what we have learned and who we are as individuals. If you take that away, you murder the person affected by it. If I were to be "cured," the Nicole my family and friends all know would be gone forever.

As Autism Acceptance Week rolls around, don't wear blue. The world is already aware we exist! Instead, just wear something red to show that you accept us for who we are.



RED VS BLUE: AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

by Nicole Beaver

Every year since my diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, when April rolls around, I cringe at the ads that are published by Autism Speaks which promote the wearing of blue for Autism Awareness. First of all, I want to make it clear that a lot of individuals (not all though), myself included, think of Autism Speaks as a hate group. Perhaps it is unintentional, but when you run ads that say autism is worse than cancer and AIDS, you're not going to be our hero. As a countermovement, we've created a group called ASAN that does Red Instead. People may know about this, but they don't know all the details. I've been a student here for the past academic year, and some of you reading may have gotten to know me. Others may have seen me in class via my signature Gothic look, social hostility, and unusually monotonous voice. Even others may have just seen me around campus, never really talking to people and only associating me with those whom I share a dorm with or have talked to one way or another. Let's break down what makes me stand apart from the rest, shall we?

Autism, as I have explained before, is a neurodevelopmental disorder, which is a big ol' diagnosis which basically means that when I was developing in my mother's womb, something went wrong. Nobody really knows what causes

it. In summary, my brain structure is wonky. In the brain you have neural pathways, which are brain cells that release an electrochemical impulse based on stimuli. When my brain tries to process it, boom. It doesn't work that fast, and sometimes it can even work too fast! Some parts will have too many neural pathways, others not so much. That's why autism is so varied between people. Many have different parts of the brain affected, but many symptoms stay the same. These include the inability to recognize social situations in some way, echolalia (repeating words or phrases), exaggerated speech or movements, self-stimulatory behaviour (like rocking or tapping), taking things very literally, a specific interest, and one or more accompanying mental or physical health issues. Sensory Processing Disorder is a common part of the diagnosis.

I want to talk about stereotypes now. Let's start off by saying that Hollywood does not represent the disorder accurately. According to Hollywood, autism does not pop up in white males, especially those who are scientists, doctors, or mathematicians (I'm looking at you, Sheldon Cooper). This is obviously wrong. Another misconception is that those affected by autism are rude; the truth is, they are not cold, narcissistic, or insufferable on purpose. In fact, due to the symptom of not being able to recognize social situations in varying degrees, we often come across that way, even if we don't mean to. Another thing is that autism is both colourless and genderless. I mean, it's a cranial disability, for crying out loud! A person who is transgendered, of colour, or old can have it. It's just never represented in Hollywood media. As well, autism is a biased disorder; men are far more likely to be diagnosed than women due to misinformation and the system of diagnosis having not been fully caught up yet. I am very

SHOW TIME!

Here is what is playing in theaters this week:

A Wrinkle in Time
PG

Black Panther
PG

Tomb Raider
PG

Pacific Rim Uprising
PG

Sherlock Gnomes
G

Game Night
14A

Despicable Me 3
G

Red Sparrow
18A

Wonder
PG

The Boss Baby
G

Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle
PG

Unsane
14A

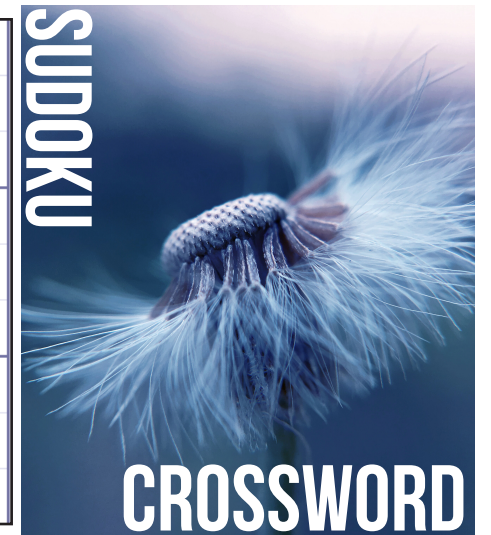
Love Simon
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I Can Only Imagine
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Midnight Sun
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Cinaplex North

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Across

- Take lessons in
- Pebbles's papa
- Making a mess?
- ___ Detoo ("Star Wars" android)
- Blossom from a bulb
- Sitcom producer Norman
- Essentials
- Connery's first Bond film
- Sty dwellers
- They're served with fishes in Matthew
- Give in to gravity
- Mouse sighter's cry
- Pie slice
- Luminous object in outer space
- Disposable drinking vessel
- Not yet ignited
- Become one of the gang
- Pollution-policing org.
- "___ never fly!"
- Regional flora and fauna
- "The King ___"
- Umbrella stiffener
- Courageous
- Influential person
- "It Wasn't All Velvet" autobiographer
- Removal key
- Kind of football played indoors
- Geeky guy in "Garfield"
- Shortest-named spectrum hue
- Snake-haired horror
- Avis alternative
- Ford contemporary
- Chipmunk's facial feature
- Egg on a felon
- Bound
- Occur as a result
- Seasoned sailors
- Scrimmage participants
- Clockwork components

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| 61 | | | | | 62 | | | | 63 | | | |

Down

- "Frankenstein" setting
- Louse up
- ___ premium (scarce)
- David's "Friends" role
- "Nothing to it!"
- Stand at the side of
- Jambalaya grain
- Yellowstone grazer
- Reading problem
- "Ripe" life stage
- Operational headquarters
- Xanadu inhabitant of cinema
- "Aye" voters
- Amphitheater level
- One-eyed Norse god
- Be fidgety
- Em, to Dorothy
- Bile container
- Adjective for Oscar Wilde
- ___ vous plaît
- LED part
- Additional data on a news story
- Like a winner's expression
- Terra ___
- Creature attached to a hull
- Feel unwell
- Thin-bladed tools
- Jamboree shelter securer
- Has faith in
- Nerd
- "M*A*S*H" vehicles
- Protective trench
- Exile isle of fame
- All that's seen of the Wizard of Oz, at first
- Twilight or time follower
- Chicken Little's mother, e.g.
- Network with the new "Kojak"
- Mixed-breed dog
- "___ got high hopes ..." (song lyric)

THE 36 STRATAGEMS: GAINING GROUND

by Tyler DeWacht

So, you've made it this far. As the term advances, you've held steady in the face of adversity, and you'll be writing your final exams in about a month's time. Are you ready to take on whatever happens next? In the last issue, I covered the *Stratagems for Confused Situations*, in which you face unpredictability. In this issue, I'll be covering the fifth set of the 36 Stratagems, the *Stratagems for Gaining Ground*. Now it's time for us to advance, using an old set of Chinese warfare tactics in a modern university context.

Picking back up where we last left off is Stratagem 25: *Replace the Beams and Pillars with Rotten Timber*. Almost everything relies on certain resources or systems, and your enemy is no exception to this. If you replace those resources with systems under your control, you can then play to your advantage. Good plot twists are a good example of this. The audience is expecting a certain set events, but when you switch out those expectations with an unexpected turn of events, then you hold their attention more. If you get an appropriate opportunity, why not try implementing a plot twist into your work?

Let's say you want to express your anger with someone, but you can't directly do it because you'd get in trouble. What do you do? Veil the insult, making it look like you could be insulting something else. If you don't name the offender, then they can't call you out on it because they can't be sure if it was directed at them. That's the logic behind Stratagem

26, *Point At The Mulberry And Curse The Locust*. The example in this case should be pretty clear: vent your frustrations with a certain student/teacher through a more creative means such as poetry or art.

Stratagem 27, *Play Dumb While Remaining Smart*, is simple; stay smart while playing dumb so that your enemy underestimates you. It's rewarding to get all A's, but the problem with this is that expectations often get raised to unrealistic levels of upkeep. Even a B+ won't amount to anything anymore, and the pressure of maintaining such a streak just keeps building. If you feel like you've been pulled into this vicious cycle, then just remember that nobody is perfect, myself included. It's not the end of the world if you don't get an A. If you get a B or a C, so what? You can recover from a misstep or two.

One way to keep moving forward is to cut off any means of retreat: if you can't go back, then you have no choice but to keep going forward. That's Stratagem 28, *Pull Down The Ladder After The Ascent, in a nutshell*. When I have something I need to memorize, I seek out a quiet place free from distractions. Once I've found it, then I stay in that place until I have the thing memorized. Unless the place's peace is compromised, I don't allow myself to leave until my memorization goal is completed.

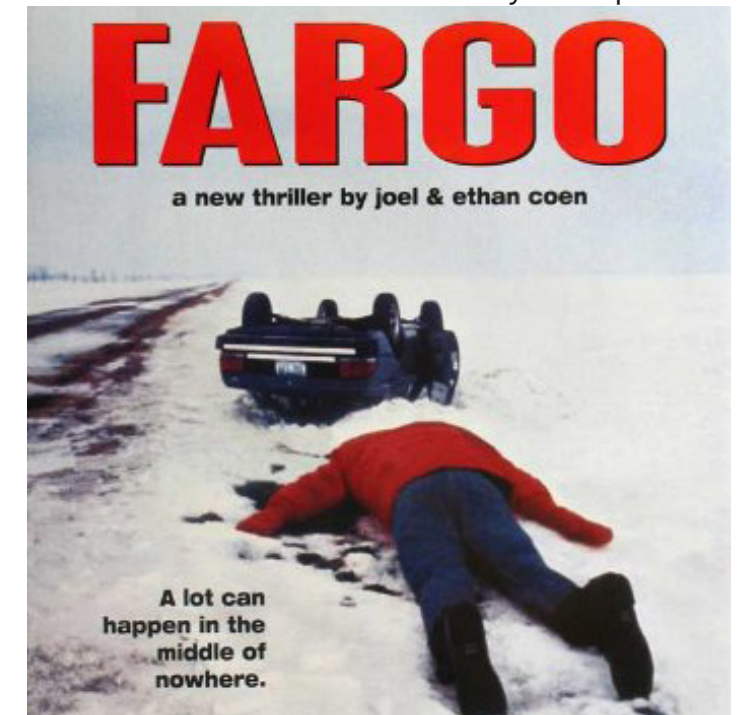
Regarding the Great Wall of China, did you know that a third of it has been lost due to a combination of vandalism and natural erosion? The wall itself dates back 2700 years, but most of what remains is the brick and stone reinforcements added during the Ming Dynasty. How does this relate to my next point? It doesn't, it's just filler content--there's an interesting historical fact for you. Stratagem 29, *Deck The Tree With Bogus Blossoms*, is to make something with little value appear more valuable than it actually is. You might've thought I was going to use that information to demonstrate a relevant point, but it's just there as an interesting piece of trivia. It's meant

Family is also a main theme in *Fargo*. The Coen brothers grew up in Minnesota, and they were able to brilliantly recreate the quirky accents, the punishing winters, and the warm, cozy interior of a Minnesota residence. The second time we see Jerry, he is stepping through the door of his home, greeted by his busy wife and ignored by his intimidating father-in-law. The dynamics of the household are defined very quickly in these scenes. We learn that Jean and Jerry's son, Scotty, doesn't treat his parents with much respect (he leaves dinner halfway through to meet his friends at McDonald's). Wade isn't satisfied with their parenting and doesn't seem to be very fond of Jerry, and Jerry seems to be rather distant from his wife and son. When he asks Wade about something that could "work out real good" for him, Jean, and Scotty, Wade replies: "Jean and Scotty never have to worry." As the film progresses, we witness Jerry tear his family apart over "just a little money." By the end, Scotty's mother and grandfather are dead and his father is in prison.

Marge and Norm, on the other hand, seem perfectly content on living within their means. They seem to have a wonderful relationship and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of their child. Norm paints ducks for postage stamps and makes eggs for Marge in the morning, bringing her lunch at the precinct. It's heartwarming. The last thing we see in the film is the familiar sight of Marge and Norm lying in bed together watching television, with Marge trying to cheer up Norm for not getting his painting on the 29-cent stamp. Marge and Norm are building a family, whereas Jerry has destroyed his. Minnesota looks like a desolate wasteland in *Fargo*. We are delighted with many beautiful shots of snowfall in the dead of winter, creating a quiet, foreboding mood. After the slaughter of the state trooper and the witnesses, the screen transitions to a shot of a statue of the mythical figure Paul Bunyon. Bunyon wields an axe and wears a menacing grin, accented by the dark black sky and the light il-

luminating his face from below. This is, in fact, a real statue in Brainerd, but the Coens replaced the gentle smile of the original with what we see in the film. This statue foreshadows Gaear's murdering of Carl by axe, and as Marge lectures Gaear near the end, he looks out the window and notices it as they drive by.

Fargo is a masterful film. It is comical, strange, mysterious, thrilling, and touching all at the same time. Although we aren't meant to like most of the characters in the film, we can't help but be fascinated by them. Carl and Gaear are incompetent, sociopathic murderers, but they are oddly pleasurable to watch. In one scene we laugh at them, in another we are horrified by them, and in a few scenes we get a little of both at the same time. Jerry is pathetic, greedy and ignorant, but for some reason we just love to hate him. This might have something to do with his misleadingly polite accent and use of phrases like "darn tootin'." Marge is the opposite of these characters. She is kind, intelligent, resourceful, and determined. After all the violence that occurs in the action of the film, it is Marge and Norm that assure us that order will always trump chaos.



FARGO ANALYSIS

by Jacob Burgess

Fargo calls itself a “homespun murder story,” a phrase which fits the film perfectly. It tells the story of a man named Jerry Lundegaard. Jerry is a seemingly simple man, but behind his pleasant demeanor is a greedy, manipulative, selfish human being. Jerry believes himself to have outlined the perfect plan: Hire two thugs to kidnap his wife and split the \$80,000 worth of ransom that will be paid by Jerry’s father in law (unbeknownst to the kidnapers, Jerry has told his father in law that the ransom is \$1,000,000). The plan predictably goes wrong due to the incompetence of the hired thugs and, in the wake of the violence, Brainerd police chief Marge Gunderson picks up their trail. In the end, Marge successfully solves the case, but by the time Jerry and the surviving kidnapper Gaear are finally in police custody, seven innocent people have been killed. Two of the dominant themes in *Fargo* are family and the consequences of greed, and elements of both are evident throughout the whole film.

The mood of *Fargo* is set within the first few minutes of the film. The opening sequence tells us that what we are about to see is a true story; out of respect for the dead, only the names have been changed. The screen then fades to white, and the sombre music we will hear throughout most of the film starts to pick up. We are looking at a country road under heavy snowfall. A lonely car proceeds down the road to Fargo, North Dakota. We haven’t even met any of the characters, but just from the music, the statement of truth, and the fact that the dead highway patrol officer can be seen on the cover of the DVD, the viewer gets a sense of the violence that will ensue.

The first scene is at a bar in Fargo, and the Coen

brothers manage to create the world of a small town in North Dakota/Minnesota within the first few minutes of the film. The accents are pleasant, and within his first few lines of dialogue we get a good sense of the personalities of Jerry and the thugs (Carl Showalter and Gaear Grimsrud). Jerry is polite, apologizing for his tardiness, Carl is easily irritated and very talkative, and Gaear is chillingly silent. Within the first five minutes of the film, we know that the story will be about Jerry’s plan. We are immediately skeptical of Jerry once we learn about it, and we can easily predict that something is going to go terribly wrong. When a confused Carl questions the logic of Jerry’s plan, Jerry assures him: “It’s real sound. It’s all worked out.”

We soon find out that this isn’t the first time Jerry has tried to steal money from someone. Throughout the film, we see a few instances where Jerry tries to rip off his customers at the auto dealership, and he tries to steal \$320,000 from a loan on non-existent cars. Jerry’s problems stem from his constant refusal to live within his means, a stark contrast to the glimpses of Marge and Norm Gunderson living a quiet suburban life. He seems to be envious of his wealthy father-in-law, Wade. He brings Wade and his business partner some sort of deal in one scene yet seems to expect them to lend him his share of the input which amounts to \$750,000. These instances indicate that Jerry’s decision to go through with his plan stems not from desperation but from greed. Jerry’s greed is the sole cause of all the action in the plot, but we see greed in many of the other characters too. We see it clearly in Carl, who stashes all the stolen money after murdering Wade; we see it in Gaear, who kills the state trooper, two witnesses, Jerry’s wife and eventually Carl over \$80,000 and a Ciera; we even see it in Wade, who, at one point, suggests they offer the kidnapers \$500,000 instead of a million for his daughter. As Gaear sits in the back of Marge’s squad car after his arrest, Marge says to him, “there’s more to life than a little money ya know.”

purely to extend the space taken by this entry, just as this sentence is doing right now. My examples here have no subtlety whatsoever, but with better word and/or phrasing choices, then you too can extend the amount of words you take up within a paragraph in case you need to reach some sort of word limit.

Do you want more power in school affairs? If so, then Stratagem 30, *Make The Host And The Guest Exchange Places*, may apply to you. This stratagem is a process with several steps: infiltrate the enemy ranks, cooperate with them and gain their trust, and then take control. I’m not well-versed in student politics, but a parallel can be drawn here with regards to the student election several weeks ago. A candidate

must first infiltrate the inner workings of the school, then cooperate with others and gain their trust. If all goes well, then the student body will elect the candidate for their desired position, and they’ll get the power associated with that position. It’s too late to use this stratagem right now, but perhaps next year?

This concludes the fifth set of the 36 Stratagems, the *Stratagems for Gaining Ground*. The sixth and final set of the 36 Stratagems, the *Stratagems for Desperate Straits*, focus on situations in which victory is highly improbable. Given how close that issue is to the final exam dates, it’s an oddly appropriate conclusion to this series. For now though, don’t give up hope! Keep moving forward, you can do it!

ONE ACTS

One act performances coming to CUE in the first weekend in April!



Donation Based Admission
Concordia University of Edmonton Auditorium
April 6, 2018 at 7:45pm
April 7, 2018 at 2:00pm
April 8, 2018 at 3:00pm

IMPULSE
Directed by Olivia Babiak and Jessica Kinas
Composed by Erin Strand and Macalan Boniec-Jedras

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY OF EDMONTON

FAKE NEWS AND YOU

by Donovan Makus

On the morning of September 11th, 2014, residents of St. Mary Parish, Louisiana were greeted by text messages, tweets, and news reports of an explosion at the nearby Columbian Chemicals Plant. A video of a burning chemical plant was posted on Youtube, and not long after, a Wikipedia page started. There was just one complication: the explosion never took place. Hundreds of texts and tweets were sent, including official-looking news agency reports, all indicating a threat to the area from the chemical explosion, yet in the end, the entire order of events was a complete and utter lie. The Youtube video depicted another event, the Wikipedia page was dutifully scrubbed, and the tweets disappeared, superseded by more recent information. Yet, after the texts settled, the unnerving reality that somewhere, some group had faked a chemical explosion for seemingly no reason, should make us think twice about our sources of information.

We're sometimes told we're living in an information age; we've left the industrial age behind and now our lives are shaped by the constant flow of information we encounter every day. Connectivity is only one tap on your phone's power button away. In this environment, we know that we should be mindful of "fake news," usually defined as information or news that purposely misleads to push an agenda. This incident demonstrates how pervasive and well-organized modern information warfare has become. While, thanks to President Trump, fake news has only recently entered the mainstream lexicon, it has been subject to scholarly interest for some time. This scholarly work has accelerated after the 2016 American election, and 2014 Crimean campaign with

research articles that offer keen insights into human nature and how we make sense of our complex world.

On March 9th, researchers associated with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) published an extensive meta-analysis, the first of its size to date, of tweets sent between 2006 and 2017. They discovered a proliferation of fake news and, concerning, that false tweets had an even greater spread and impact. Interestingly, despite the popular narrative of bots being the primary driver of propaganda, they found that bots were equally likely to pass on fake and real news; it was the human factor that enabled fake news to spread voraciously. The exact reasons for this are still being researched and may never be conclusively answered, but these researchers found that fake news stories lead to more feelings of disgust, fear, and surprise--more negative emotions than real news conjured up.

These findings do not exist in isolation. They're related to another modern phenomenon that threatens the veracity of information: information silos. The



success of social networks depends on their ability to keep you logging on, and to do this, they need users to interact. Similar to real-life conversations, online networks function better when the participants share something in common, be it a school, hobby, or beliefs. The success of social networks in aligning people with similar beliefs is great news for those seeking ideological bedfellows, however, as it has led to social networks becoming echo chambers, where affirming messages spread like wildfire inside like-minded networks, while uncomfortable truths that contradict the ideological silos prevailing ideas fail to gain the same traction. Two researchers found that those blatant enough to put their political views in their profiles were most politically engaged; the median share of friends who held the opposing political view was a mere 18-20%, lower than you would expect in real-life social groups. This research takes us in a new, uncomfortable, direction. While paid propaganda definitely plays an increasingly large part in driving fake news, maybe the answer to why fake news has taken off is that it's our own human nature which drives these stories. We simply haven't had the

right opportunities to truly allow fake news to spread. Fake news isn't a new phenomenon, nor is the response, and in an age where thousands of tweets are sent each second, we owe it to ourselves and those around us to vet the information we're seeing and passing along. Spreading falsehoods purposely is a practice dating back to ancient times, with ancient kings being noted for exaggerating tales of their marital prowess. Fake news back then was restricted by how difficult it was to spread, long before the invention of the printing press, radio, or internet it took more time and money to get a message to the masses. However, with these inventions, successive innovations in fake news were unlocked. In this age of information, it's only natural that conflict would find its way into social media, be it the organic variety produced when vocal people with different views interact or the paid variety spread by state and non-state actors seeking a defined political goal. Russian information warfare, in particular, has generated a great deal of press, starting with their concerted effort to recast their 2014 Crimean campaign, particularly the MH-17 shot down, in a more favourable light. While the use of fake news to generate political chaos or undermine trust in public institutions remains a real threat, the researchers' focus on the human factor in spreading fake news should be our focus as well. Analysis of the Louisiana chemical explosion hoax showed that one reason the hoax failed to gain steam was that it was primarily spread by bots, and that when real people share fake news, it spreads more effectively.

Today, fake news is easier to spread than ever before, simplified by the low entry burden to participate on mediums such as Facebook and Twitter. Yet the means of protecting ourselves from falling prey to it remain the same: break up the ideological silos of our lives, seeking diverse sources of information, and always being sceptical. These are all traits or activities university is supposed to develop in us to truly make us critical thinkers, and in our present, information-rich landscape, these are crucial skills to possess. They are also certainly something we should consider before we hit the retweet or share buttons.

