

JOB SCAM NEARLY CONFOUNDS STUDENT



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Photo Illustration Credit to Ariele Kehler and Ashlyn Pearce.

Research States That Jobs In The Oil Sector Are The Most Likely To Be Scams

Arielle Kehler, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

The end of the 2016-2017 school year is fast approaching – it may still feel early, with January just ending, but for those students in their final year, now is the time to be plastering the job market with resumes. That is exactly what Kevin MacCharles, a geology student in his final year, has been doing. He made a LinkedIn account to establish professional contacts and to learn of potential job offers in his field of interest. When he received an email from Alban Oil Co. requesting an interview, he was thrilled.

“It was too good to be true...” MacCharles told The Quill, “My first job after university being international, and with a salary like that... That was my first red flag.”

Alban Oil Co. had sent

MacCharles a detailed seven-page pdf file including a job description, details about the interview including the location, dates, times, and what was expected of MacCharles for the interview itself, and had a signature from the hiring manager, as well as a link to the company’s website. From every angle, it looked like a legitimate job offer. MacCharles showed it to several of his friends, asking if they thought it was real, and something that he should go for. All but one of the people he showed it to encouraged him to go for the interview. It was that one person’s doubt that prompted MacCharles to show the offer to his professor, Dr. Simon Pattison for a more experienced opinion.

When MacCharles brought the file to Pattison, he’d already

called the travel agency that Alban Oil Co. had named in the pdf offer for an interview. He’d received the agent’s voicemail and instead emailed as he was instructed. When the agent replied, MacCharles was requested to send a copy of his passport, as well as purchase his own plane ticket to the site Alban Oil Co. listed for the interview – Amsterdam – and send Alban Oil Co. a Western Union money transfer “to cover administrative expenses.” He was told he would be reimbursed for the plane tickets, and that the reason they required applicants to pay for their own transportation was because they had too many people take a free plane ticket to The Netherlands and then never show up for the interview.

“That was another red flag

for me,” MacCharles said, shaking his head. “No one who is actively looking for a job in this field would look at this opportunity and then blow it off.”

The job opportunity may have been suspicious, but it was still an amazing offer. MacCharles was informed by Alban Oil Co. that he had 48 hours to confirm his position on the shortlist and purchase his plane tickets, and he and Pattison scoured the website to confirm its legitimacy. The Alban Oil Co. website looked like a legitimate corporate web page. One thing that seemed off to both MacCharles and Pattison was that the Alban Oil Co. contact page had only a form email for questions and comments, rather than a human resources contact number, corporate email, mailing address, or telephone

number. On closer examination, Pattison discovered that the company overview had one suspicious line: “...we at Hunt...”

“I’d never heard of Alban Oil Co., but there are so many that it could have been a newer company. I had heard of Hunt, however.” Pattison said. “It was a quick Google search after that.”

Upon discovering Hunt Consolidated Inc.’s website, Pattison and MacCharles saw that the two sites were very similar, with a few important details from the Hunt Consolidated Inc. website missing from Alban’s: Hunt’s page has the correct corporate contact information, and on their career page lists known scam companies.

-Continued on Page 2



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Continued from Page 1

While Alban Oil Co. was not listed, it was now clear that they were not a legitimate company. Hunt clarified in the warning on their page that "Hunt Consolidated, Inc. and its affiliated companies would never ask potential job seekers for any sort of advance payments during the recruitment and employment process."

Another company listed in the Hunt Consolidated Inc. fraud alert was for ZenGas Oil and Gas Company, which is another exact replica of the Hunt webpage. On both ZenGas and Alban's websites, everything down to the photos mirror Hunt's, including some clever photoshopping to remove Hunt's company name

MAKING A CAREER, MAKING A LIFE

Robert Killam, Senior Reporter

The career fair took place last week where students were invited to come and ask questions about future job opportunities, and discover the steps required to go into those careers. There were recruiters from across the career spectrum; these included: the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Canadian Armed Forces, Directing Traffic, Manitoba Telecom Services, the Civil Service Commission, and Border Agencies Canada. Employment Manitoba was also present, trying to help students look for jobs and the Department of Education was there offering information on how to apply into their Faculty.

Lots of these jobs vary, some can easily be made into careers whereas others may

THE RHYTHM OF RESIDENCE

Armando Galindo, Reporter

Some of the perks of living in Residence here at Brandon University are the gratuitous opportunities to meet new friends and have fun trying new things. Many people come from different backgrounds, such as larger cities like Winnipeg, tiny villages like Binscarth, or from another country thousands of miles away. Making the adjustment can be really hard for some people, and in this writer's opinion, the best cure for homesickness is adopting your new place as home. Better yet, keep yourself distracted and occupied by getting involved in residence life.

from clothing to replace their own.

"If it hadn't been for that capital 'H' on Hunt, I might have encouraged Kevin to apply," Pattison said ruefully. "(For a company to be) preying on students like Kevin, just getting their start in the field is disgusting."

Further research into graduating students receiving false job offers failed to turn up any recent, relevant results, but false job offers very similar to that which MacCharles received from Alban have been reported by many in the last year. All false jobs that have been reported have been in the oil and energy fields, and with the industry in Canada suffering

just be summer-time or part-time jobs. Many of these jobs also offer great benefits and chances at lifetime experiences, if you're interested in any you should check them out online. Full-time jobs and part-time positions are open to anyone who is willing to look for them, you just have to step outside your comfort zone. However, this can be a stressful time for many students.

Many people getting ready to graduate this year may not know what they want to do for the rest of their life, and that's okay. Maybe you can't get into that dream job right after University. It's important to keep moving forward, and continue at your own pace.

If you are lucky enough to know what you want to do,

layoffs at the time, many workers have been desperate for the opportunities – some haven't been as lucky as MacCharles to have caught the scam.

"They would have had all my passport information. That would have been ten years of headaches to get it fixed. And I would've been out \$2000 for the flights," said MacCharles.

Pattison reported Alban Oil Co. to Hunt Consolidated Inc. as a fraud page on MacCharles' behalf, and MacCharles himself continues his post-graduate job search, although with more caution.

MacCharles shared his experience with the hopes that all other students proceed into their careers with caution, and

some advice to get that dream career is to work in that field of expertise, even if it's just volunteering. At least it's something that can transfer over, or be seen as valuable, when you apply to that position. All sorts of opportunities lie in wait for university students; you will always find time for something you love to do. Finding a career can be fun, or it can be dreadful. Just try not to lose yourself or your sanity trying to get it.

What happens to many people searching for happiness and fulfillment in a career is they think the formula for life lies in that career's amount of wealth or prestige. Maybe you were taught that "working hard + making money = happiness," but this is hardly ever the case. Do not rush into

of all, these events are free for Students, with the exception of socials, and some charity donation based fundraisers.

So how do you know what's going on? Posters are put up within all the residence buildings, written on Event Calendars within each Lobby, and often posted to the BURS (Brandon University Residence Students) group on Facebook. Once you come out to an event, you'll likely hear about other upcoming events, and your attendance encourages the council to put on similar events more often. It may be intimidating to come out to an event

learn from what could have happened to him. While the only reported cases of fraudulent job offers have come from the oil and energy industry, that is not to say that other industries are completely without scam artists. MacCharles also advises that those using LinkedIn to send their resumes keep track of all the companies they've applied to.

It was discovered later in the week that the website for Alban Oil Co. had been taken down. The website for ZenGas Oil and Gas Company, however, still remains active at the time of publication.

something you do not want to do, or stick with a mistake you made because you took a long time making it. You don't have to have just one career, you can have many. Work at three or 300 before you find what you like. Happiness and fulfillment won't occur as a result of this dream career, you should be able to find happiness first.

So as career fairs and recruiters try to convince you to join their cause and make a difference, just remember that you come first. Neither prestige nor wealth will make you feel fulfilled if you're not doing something worth your time, or something you desire. Stay classy students of BU. Best of luck in your searches for the future!

by yourself, but by attending a few events, you will soon find the other students becoming familiar. The students who organize these events are often great resources, whether you want someone to vent your frustrations about class with, or to ask for a second opinion about an assignment, as they are going through, or have gone through, similar matters. Challenge yourself to step outside your comfort zone and attend an event you might not have pegged yourself as being into. A change of pace can be the start of something rewarding.

MEN AND WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Robert Killam, Senior Sports Reporter

Volleyball took place this weekend at home where the Bobcats played their 17th and 18th exhibition games of the season, which resulted in a mixed bag of wins and loses. Both men and women were in pursuit of victories over the U of M Bisons but where one Bobcat team would have two straight win's, the other would take two straight loses.

The women's team won both their games this past weekend, having some pretty close matches but ultimately only letting their opponents take one set, winning the other six. On Friday the Bobcats lost their first set, and then came out swinging in the next three sets and made some impressive pushes forward to defeat the Bisons. Their

closest matches had a score of 25-23 points. On Saturday the women swept the Bisons in three quick sets dominating the whole game, with their greatest victory being 25-11 points! The ladies' top players of the weekend include Nikala Majewski with 33 kills, 2 aces, and 2 blocks, and Courtney Roberts with 18 kills, 2 aces, and 7 blocks.

The men's team came out really shaky and did not win a single set throughout the weekend. On Friday the men faced a rocky start that slowly got better throughout the sets, but ultimately lead them to a 0-3 loss to the Bisons. Their closest, and last match, was 24-26 points but their worst set was a loss by 9 points. On Saturday the men did not fair

any better, and still ended up getting bounced back in their record with these two additional losses. Quite unfortunate after their four game winning streak. The mens' top players of the weekend include Roy Ching with 20 kills and 3 blocks, and Elliot Viles with 16 kills and 6 blocks.

The volleyball team records now stand at 11-7 for the men and 7-11 for the women. The Bobcats' next games will be taking place in Langley BC, as they will be facing off with the Trinity Western Spartans. If you would like to check out any of the Bobcats' stats please go to the Bobcats' official website at www.gobobcats.com.

Best of luck Bobcats!

MEN AND WOMEN'S BASKTEBALL

Robert Killam, Senior Sports Reporter

Basketball took place this weekend away in Vancouver BC where the Bobcats played their 17th and 18th exhibition games of season. Both men and women took straight loses this weekend, hurting their records.

The women's team faced serious hardships as they took two losses in a row to the Thunderbirds. Friday the women could just not keep in step with the UBC team as they fell off early in the first quarter, getting outscored by 11 points. The match did not pick up for the Bobcats afterwards, as the score was fin-

ished at 53-80. On Saturday the women did a lot better compared to the night before. They even lead the score by 3 points going into the final quarter. It was here that the women faced stiff opposition and their opponents took the match scoring 66-73. The ladies' top players of the weekend include Keisha Cox with 34 points and Amy Williams with 21 points.

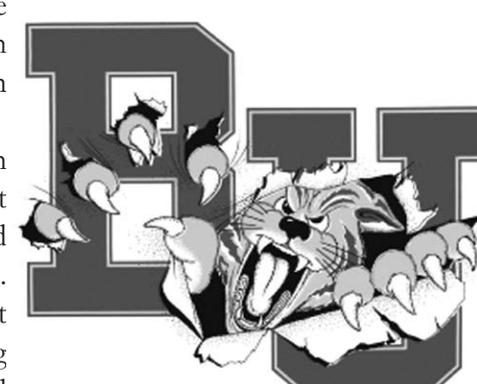
The men's team did not produce any better outcome on the weekend as they were sorely outplayed and out positioned by their rivals every step, and every quarter. On

Friday the men lost 62-127. A loss of 65 points, which helped the UBC T'Birds set their latest record for most points scored in regulation time. On Saturday the loss was not near as brutal, losing only 53-87. The mens' top players of the weekend include Earl Thompson Jr. with 25 points and Tyvon Cooper 20 points.

The basketball team records now stand at 7-11 for the men and 7-11 for the women. The Bobcats' next games will be taking place in Brandon and

WEEKLY SPORTS SCOREBOARD	
BOBCATS VS THUNDERBIRDS BASKETBALL - MENS 62 - 127	BOBCATS VS THUNDERBIRDS BASKETBALL - WOMENS 53 - 80
BOBCATS VS THUNDERBIRDS BASKETBALL - MENS 53 - 87	BOBCATS VS THUNDERBIRDS BASKETBALL - WOMENS 66 - 73
BOBCATS VS BISONS VOLLEYBALL - MENS SETS 0 - 3	BOBCATS VS BISONS VOLLEYBALL - WOMENS SETS 3 - 1
BOBCATS VS BISONS VOLLEYBALL - MENS SETS 0 - 3	BOBCATS VS BISONS VOLLEYBALL - WOMENS SETS 3 - 0
BOBCATS VS REBELS FUTSAL - WOMENS 1 - 1	BOBCATS VS REBELS FUTSAL - MENS 2 - 4

COUGARS VS BLAZERS FUTSAL - WOMENS 3 - 7
COUGARS VS REBELS FUTSAL - WOMENS 4 - 2
COUGARS VS BLAZERS FUTSAL - MENS 5 - 1
COUGARS VS REBELS FUTSAL - MENS 4 - 2
WHEAT KINGS VS TIGERS HOCKEY - WHL 4 - 6
WHEAT KINGS VS HITMEN HOCKEY - WHL 6 - 1
WHEAT KINGS VS HURRICANES HOCKEY - WHL FINAL SCORE NOT REPORTED AT TIME OF PUBLICATION
JETS VS DUCKS HOCKEY - NHL 2 - 3
JETS VS SHARKS HOCKEY - NHL 3 - 4
JETS VS BLACKHAWKS HOCKEY - NHL 5 - 3



Sports and HLC Calendar

Wed. Feb. 1 st	Thurs. Feb. 2 nd	Fri. Feb. 3 rd	Sat. Feb. 4 th	Sun. Feb. 5 th
		Basketball: Bobcats vs Bisons in the HLC, 6:00 and 8:00pm Hockey: Wheat Kings vs Oil Kings at the Keystone Centre, 7:30pm	Futsal: Cougars vs Rebels at ACC, 11:00am and 12:30pm Futsal: Cougars vs Blazers at ACC, 3:00 and 4:30pm Basketball: Bobcats vs Bisons in the HLC, 5:00 and 7:00pm	

BIZARRE HOLIDAYS THIS WEEK...

Ashlyn Pearce, Editor-in-Chief

After a brief hiatus last week, we're back with more bizarre holidays that you can celebrate to break up your week and lift your spirits.

Starting off our week is Backwards Day on Tuesday, January 31st. Feel free to do anything backwards that you want to, including wearing your clothes backwards (only shirts, jeans might be a little difficult to wear backwards). I don't recommend walking to school backwards though, you might accidentally walk into traffic.

Wednesday, February 1st is Work Naked Day. I wouldn't recommend that you go into

FEBRUARY AT THE

Krista Murray, Layout Editor

There is a full lineup at The Evans this February. Kicking off the month is *Manchester by the Sea* starring Oscar nominated actor Casey Affleck, as well as Michelle Williams. *Manchester by the Sea* follows the tale of Lee Chandler as he discovers he has been named guardian of his 16-year old nephew. He must confront his past as he returns to his hometown. *Manchester by the Sea* plays at 7:30pm February 3rd, 4th, and 5th.

Up next is *20th Century Women*, starring Annette Ben-

APP REVIEW: SAGE SOLITAIRE

Krista Murray, Layout Editor

Sage Solitaire is another fantastic game from designer Zach Gage. If the name sounds familiar, he is also the creator of Really Bad Chess, which was featured in Issue 8 of The Quill.

Sage Solitaire combines poker and solitaire to create a unique card playing experience. The rules are simple. Make poker hands of the nine cards

STUDY TIPS: ANIKIWEB

Krista Murray, Layout Editor

Somehow it is already the end of January, and I find myself wondering where the time has gone. Before we know it, midterms will be upon us, and many of us will be cramming unless you have a photographic memory. If you are trying to remember ridiculous amounts of information, then Anki may be the app for you.

The word Anki is Japanese for memory, and that is the goal of the app, to help you improve your memory. Anki is a

the office or come to school naked though, that could lead to a fine and a cold. Feel free to study at home naked though (where you are in private).

Thursday, February 2nd will be celebrated as The Day of the Crepe in France. Crepes are a type of thin pancake, and some people believe that they symbolize prosperity.

Also on February 2nd is Play Your Ukulele Day, a day which was first celebrated in 2011. It is believed that ukuleles, a small four-stringed instrument, were created by Portuguese immigrants to Hawaii.

Friday, February 3rd is Car-

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ing, Elle Fanning, and Greta Gerwig. This film follows single mother Dortha Fields as she enlists the help of two younger women to assist her in raising her son Jamie. *20th Century Women* plays at 7:30pm on February 10th, 11th, and 12th.

Also playing on the 12th is *To the Ends of the Earth*, a special presentation by the Brandon-Westman Chapter of The Council of Canadians. *To the Ends of the Earth* is a documentary film that examines the state of our energy system today.

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available to you, as well as three of a kind, 3 card straights, or pairs. You must use cards from at least two of the three rows. The aim of the game is to clear the board, you have two trash cards for when you have no other options, which you can earn back by making a hand. Points are assigned to each hand and the game is scored accordingly. With Vegas mode

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flashcard study application that may be able to help you prepare for your exams, improve your language learning skills, and even help you remember long poems.

Anki operates on the principles of "active recall testing" and "spaced repetition". Active recall testing, means that you are not just passively studying. You are required to stop and recall the answer, strengthening your memory. Spaced repetition allows Anki to sort your flashcards based on how well

rot Cake Day. I personally believe that carrot cake tastes best with crushed pineapple and pecans in the cake, and cream cheese icing on top. You can enjoy it however you like it best though.

Saturday, February 4th is celebrated at Eat Ice Cream For Breakfast Day, a day which is celebrated on the first Saturday every February. How can you incorporate ice cream into your breakfast? Replace your fresh fruit with fruit ice cream, top your pancakes/crepes with ice cream instead of syrup, or replace the milk in your cereal with ice cream.

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Filmmakers speak with a number of individuals including the mayor of an Inuit village, an environmental lawyer working in the Tarsands of Alberta, and a river conservationist fighting to protect the Colorado River from oil projects. *To the Ends of the Earth* plays at 4:00pm on February 12th, all passes are void for this event.

Rounding out the month is the film *Wadjda*. This movie tells the tale of Wadjda, a fun loving determined 10-year old living in Saudi Arabia as

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a betting component is added, and instead of points the different hands are assigned cash values.

For those of you who are achievement hunters, Sage Solitaire has 40 achievements for you to try and complete. The basic version of the game is 100% free, and includes the single deck version of the game and Vegas mode. A quick

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you remember and calculate the optimal time to show you the card again.

Depending on what your study needs are, you can download shared decks or create your own. Decks that you create yourself may be shared publicly or privately.

Anki features customizable options including review timing and card layout, free synchronization across your devices from AnkiWeb, and additional add-ons. If you don't have your computer with you,

Also on February 4th is Thank Your Mailman Day, Create a Vacuum Day, and Stuffed Mushroom Day. These can be celebrated by saying a quick "thanks" when your mail is delivered, building a vacuum cleaner (or just vacuuming your floor if you don't know how to build one), and by making (and eating) stuffed mushrooms. My favourite stuffed mushroom recipe is stuffing the mushroom tops with a blend of cream cheese, chopped mushroom stems, and crab meat. Bake them for a few minutes and they are delicious!

Capping off the weekend is

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she attempts to raise funds to purchase a beautiful green bicycle. All she wants is to beat her the neighbour boy Abdullah in a race, and she needs that bicycle. This is the first feature length film shot in Saudi Arabia, as well as the first made by a female Saudi director. *Wadjda* plays at 7:30pm on February 17th, 18th, and 19th.

Also on the 18th is a special late show of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. This special presentation is by Brandon Pride. This film needs no introduc-

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tion, and begins at 10:00pm. All passes are void for this movie. As always, all concessions are available for \$2 each, and include a variety of candy, canned and bottled drinks, and of course popcorn. Movies are \$6 each, or a 5-movie pass can be purchased for \$24. If you are a student or a senior 5-movie passes are available for the low low price of \$20. So stop by The Evans and support your local theatre, you will be glad you did.

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of fun. Fifteen mode adds an extra hand reminiscent of cribbage in which you can cash in anything that adds up to 15, adding a fun new element of strategy to the game.

Additionally, by paying the \$3.99 you also say goodbye to the ads, unlock the above modes, and have access to new wallpapers and themes.

all you need to do is head over to the library, and login online to access your decks. AnkiWeb is free to use, simply download the software from their website. Anki is compatible with Windows, Mac, and Linux. AnkiWeb can be found at apps.ankiweb.net. Should you wish to use the mobile version it will cost you. AnkiMobile, is designed as a companion to the web based version and is priced at \$34.99. This is a one-time fee that goes to support the development of

National Weather Person's Day and Chocolate Fondue Day on Sunday, February 5th. You may not see the meteorologist on the TV, but they're behind your weather forecasting and reporting app. If you're looking for ideas for chocolate fondue, it tends to go well with strawberries, bananas, and marshmallows.

Monday, February 6th is Lame Duck Day. Don't let the name fool you, as a "lame duck" is any elected official who is on their way out of office. Most notably, Former President Obama was very recently a "lame duck".

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As always, all concessions are available for \$2 each, and include a variety of candy, canned and bottled drinks, and of course popcorn. Movies are \$6 each, or a 5-movie pass can be purchased for \$24. If you are a student or a senior 5-movie passes are available for the low low price of \$20. So stop by The Evans and support your local theatre, you will be glad you did.

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the computer and mobile versions, and once you have purchased it you can use it across multiple devices. The mobile provides free cloud synchronization, in addition to the features provided by the web version. AnkiMobile is compatible with the iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, and Android devices. So be proactive and start studying for those midterms today, they will be here before you know it.



PODCAST REVIEW: SECRETS, CRIME & AUDIOTAPES

Krista Murray, Layout Editor

This week features another delightful podcast from the people over at Wondery. *Secrets, Crimes & Audiotapes* is a weekly audio drama following stories of crime, love, mystery, or conspiracy. Each story is told over the course of one to six 30 minute episodes, these stories will make you laugh, think, and wonder.

Currently *Secrets, Crimes & Audiotapes* has produced six different series, a stand-alone episode, as well as several bonus episodes. The first series, *Air Force One*, is a fictional retelling of the immediate aftermath of John F. Kennedy's assassination, and the events that play out within those 60 minutes. Divided into two parts, *Air Force One* is based on classified, Federal, and academic research, as well as diaries and recollections of those who witnessed the event in Dallas. However, it is still a work of fiction, and some conversations have been imagined.

Their second mini-series, *A Beautiful Spell*, follows the love life of Franny and Jim (portrayed by married actors Jenna and Bodhi Elfman). The couple have been happily married for 12 years... until Franny reveals a deep dark secret.

Third in the series is the standalone *Love Contract*. This special hour long episode follows the secret love life of Laura and Derek. The couple work together, and revealing their relationship to their boss could mean they both end up jobless, or at least one

of them (we've all seen *The Office*, how well did that work out for Michael G. Scott?).

The fourth, *Severed Threads*, is a mystery told over the course of 3 episodes and follows three individuals on three separate continents. At first they appear to have few, if any connections, but their lives soon become intertwined.

The events of series five, *Wait Wait Don't Kill Me* unfold over the course of 5 parts, and take the shape of a musical podcast. As the description puts it "like *Serial Season One*, only with much more singing". If *Serial* sounds familiar that's because it became a chart topping podcast way back in fall of 2014. *WWDKM* follows host Sarah Koenig as she ends up working at *This American Life*, and is approached about recounting the murder that launched her career.

The sixth series *Secrets, Crimes & Audiotapes* is currently releasing is an interpre-

tation of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. This story is set in a futuristic totalitarian theocracy that has stripped away women's rights. Women who are able to have children are trained as handmaids, and become sexual servants whose only function is procreation. This first five episodes of this six-part series have been re-

leased. If you listen to anyone of these, I recommend *The Handmaid's Tale*.

As with last week's podcast review *Hollywood and Crime*, the production quality of *Secrets, Crimes & Audiotapes* is amazing. New episodes of *Secrets, Crimes & Audiotapes* are released every Tuesday.

Dear Glow Cloud,

It's only January, and the next season of *Orange is the New Black* doesn't come out until June. I've already waited six months and don't want to wait any longer. Do you know how to speed up time?

Sincerely,
Netflix Addict

Dear Addict,

While I'm not an expert in time travel like certain former advice columnists, I do know a thing or two about biding my time. I find it helpful to be omniscient and immortal. If you are neither of those things, I recommend filling your time with fun hobbies like knitting, reading, writing in mysterious notebooks (only to have your enemies die with absolutely no correlation), or electoral fraud. Try binge watching a different show - *Forensic Files* just added seven seasons, which will educate you in the ways of getting away with murder. If you get truly desperate, there's always homework.

As far as *Orange is the New Black*, I don't know about you, but I'm kind of sick of talking about the POTUS. There's too much racism, nonsensical violence, and closed minded bigotry involved with both the show and the current news. In my books, *Black is Eternal* is a much better show.

All Hail,
Almightly Glow Cloud

O "BITCH" UARY

"Travel Ban"

Families are being torn apart, people are being barred from their homes, and others are being sent to dangerous places. While President Trump claims that he will make "America Great Again", so far he's done nothing but divide his country. As J.K. Rowling once wrote: "we are only as strong as we are united, as weak as we are divided."

Encyclopedia Grammatica

- ✓ For all intents and purposes conveys the sense of "in effect"
- ✗ For all intensive purposes a misheard or misunderstood phrase intensive = vigorous or concentrated

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Friday

11:00am to 7:00pm

Thursday

11:00am to Midnight

All Socials and Events

Close at 2:00am

Your student union drinking spot since 1987



By: L. A. Bonté

For more comics visit FilbertCartoons.com

STUDENTS' UNION MEETING: JANUARY 23RD

Ashlyn Pearce, Editor-in-Chief

The Brandon University Students' Union held a regular council meeting on Monday, January 23rd.

Some of the topics discussed at this time were the formal acceptance of two council director's resignation. There-

fore, after this meeting, the positions of Women's Director and Mature and Part Time Director are no longer filled as former Directors Demeter Vaisius and Krista Charney respectively have resigned from their positions. At this time a notice

was also given from Vice President External Greg Monias, requesting that he take a leave of absence from his position. He intends to return to office on February 6th, 2017. In the wake of Monias' leave, BUSU will be reassigning some of Monias'

tasks and roles until he returns to office.

Notice was also given at this meeting that the general elections are fast approaching, and that Krystal Kayne will once again be acting as the Returning Officer. She hopes to

entice more student involvement this semester by tabling.

The next regular council meeting will take place on February 6th at 5:00pm in the CLC Boardroom. All students are welcome to attend the open session.

STUDENTS' UNION PRESENTS MOTIONS TO BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Ashlyn Pearce, Editor-in-Chief

On Saturday, January 28th Brandon University Students' Union President Nick Brown presented a motion at the Board of Governors meeting concerning the international differential. Throughout the few days prior to this meeting the Students' Union encouraged students to take time on Saturday morning to attend the meeting in solidarity of the motion being presented. The Quill was able to sit down with Pres. Nick Brown over the weekend in an exclusive interview to obtain his recollection of the events surrounding his proposed motion.

The process of even getting this motion to be heard at the meeting was a struggle of its own, Brown stated, not including all of the discussion and criticism which happened at the meeting. When Brown originally submitted his motion to be added to the agenda (as protocol dictates) he was then given very little notice of a private meeting that he was requested to attend with the top administrators at the university. "A meeting with two business hours' notice, with the three top people at the university... it felt like I got called into the principal's office." Brown claimed. He

went on to describe how at this meeting he felt like he was being pressured to rescind his motion at this time. He stood his ground and refused. This initial motion was later removed from the agenda by the executive committee of the Board of Governors on Friday night, the evening before the meeting. The idea behind this original motion was to maintain the status quo, by continuing the practice of charging a differential at 100% or less of domestic tuition, and that graduate students of an international background not be charged any differential fee.

In reaction to his original motion being removed, Brown then submitted a new motion at the meeting on Saturday, which was then split into two different motions. The motion "Be it resolved that fees charged to students based on their residency [the international differential fee] be eliminated" was defeated by the Board of Governors. Brown predicts that the complete removal of the international differential fee would take roughly \$700,000 out of Brandon University's budget. At this meeting Brandon University President Gervan Fearon insinuated that the re-

moval of this fee would result in student services' program funding being cut due to the lack of funds. Brown disagrees with the necessity of this insinuation, stating that there is plenty of room in the budget, and that he does not foresee this being a major loss to the university.

His other motion, "Be it resolved that tuition increase at no more than the rate of the inflation in Manitoba" was tabled until the next Board Of Governors meeting, which will be in March. The spirit behind the second motion is that while the Protecting Affordability Act (which ties tuition increases to Manitoba inflation) will not be removed for the 2017-2018 school year, the PC government has expressed an avid interest to the Board Of Governors to remove it for the following year. This motion then is an attempt to ensure that even if the Protecting Affordability Act is removed from Manitoba Legislature, tuition fees at Brandon University will not skyrocket unexpectedly.

It was at this time that Brown resubmitted his original motion regarding the international differential fees. However as this motion was not submitted following prop-

er protocol, the Board noted that Brown was giving notice that the motion would appear at the next meeting and the motion was officially tabled. As the motion is tabled it is considered "old business" and therefore cannot be removed from the agenda for the next meeting.

Brown was pleased to see that 20 students, as well as some faculty and alumni were supportive of BUSU's motions to the Board of Governors, and they showed their support by attending the meeting to show their solidarity. They carried signs with them with statements such as "International Students Are Not Cash Cows" and "Universities Are Not A Business". "It was the largest group of students I've ever seen at a Board of Governors meeting" commented Brown, who has been attending these meetings for three years.

Brown described BUSU's goal at the Board Of Governors meeting as an attempt to maintain status quo in relation to the international differential, or lower the fee, so that going forward students were not burdened with heavier and heavier fees. This is one of the goals that they championed during All Out in November.

As part of the Canadian Federation of Students, Brown stated that BUSU's and CFS' end goal was to completely eliminate tuition costs, as tuition is a barrier to education. "We know that's not feasible with the current government, so if we can maintain the status quo that is a step in the right direction." Brown described that he has known since July of 2016 that the Brandon University administration has been interested in increasing the international differential and tuition fees, as it was mentioned in the first meeting between BUSU and BU administration. These meetings have since occurred on a monthly basis and the topic of international differential fees has been present in every one of their meetings to Brown's recollection.

"We didn't win in the direction that we wanted to," commented Brown on the results of the meeting, "but we got the Board of Governors to discuss the motion at length." He stated that the debate at the meeting was healthy, and that it was great that the board was now thinking actively about these issues as they are currently working on the budgets for next year.

Campus Calendar

Tues. Jan. 31 st	Wed. Feb. 1 st	Thurs. Feb. 2 nd	Fri. Feb. 3 rd	Sat. Feb. 4 th	Sun. Feb. 5 th	Mon. Feb. 6 th
Pro Series concert in the Lorne Watson Recital Hall, 8:00 - 9:30pm			Arts Speaker Series in Clark Hall 104, 3:40pm Manchester By The Sea in The Evans, 7:30pm Shreduary at SUDS, 9:00pm	Eckhardt-Gramatte Music Recital in the Lorne Watson Recital Hall, 3:30 - 5:00pm Manchester By The Sea in The Evans, 7:30pm Big Band concert in SUDS, 10:00pm	Student Recital in the Lorne Watson Recital Hall, 3:00 - 4:30pm Manchester By The Sea in The Evans, 7:30pm	

FENTANYL RELATED BILL TO RESTRICT PILL PRESSES NOT PASSED

Logan Praznik, Web Content Coordinator

A bill introduced by the provincial NDP to restrict ownership and possession of pill presses in Manitoba, aimed at countering the province's fentanyl crisis, was not passed.

The bill, which was introduced on November 30th, would amend the province's Public Health Act, and limit ownership of pill presses to pharmacists and others with a legitimate use for the devices, as identified by the legislation.

According to Rachel Morgan, press secretary for the provincial NDP, the bill was given a first reading, but debate time ran out during the second reading as last year's session adjourned on December 2nd, and the bill did not continue further through the process of passing

into law. Though the bill could be re-introduced and voted on when the next session of the Manitoba Legislature starts on March 1st, Morgan said on the likelihood of the bill's passing, "The passage of Opposition bills is never guaranteed. We would need the government MLAs to agree to vote for it."

Morgan continued, "At this time, it is uncertain whether the [Pallister] government would support this bill." Though the provincial Progressive-Conservative government has publicly spoken out on fentanyl, Health Minister Kevin Goertzen has previously said that he would prefer to see national, rather than provincial, regulation on pill presses.

In a press release on the same day of the bill's introduction, NDP MLA Matt Wiebe claimed, "While street drugs can be distributed in various forms, pills are the preferred method for many."

Currently, pill presses can be easily obtained by Manitobans. Simple pill presses, coming in the form of a mold and requiring the use of a hammer or rubber mallet to compress ingredients into pills, can be found for as little as \$60 on websites such as eBay, while more complex, automatic pill pressing machines reach into the thousands of dollars.

Legislation similar to what the NDP has proposed has already passed in Alberta, and is also before the provincial leg-

islature of British Columbia, where police have called for regulations on pill presses. Both provinces have been among the hardest-hit in Canada by the drug, with British Columbia averaging two deaths from

fentanyl overdoses per day in 2016.

In Manitoba, fentanyl overdoses are reported almost every day, though only about 20 deaths were attributed to the drug in 2015.



Manitoba Legislature Building, located in Winnipeg. Photo Credit Canucks4ever83/Wikimedia Commons.

ESCAPE THE FINAL COUNTDOWN: NEW YEAR, NEW ROOMS

Krista Murray, Layout Editor

Escape rooms are all the rage right now, made popular by an episode of the *Big Bang Theory* in which the gang solves the puzzle in about four minutes. It is not quite that simple in reality. The goal is to escape the room within 60 minutes, to do this you must find a series of clues and puzzles that will lead you to the solution and your escape.

Over the summer Brandon's first escape room opened, and it is a ton of fun. Most of the rooms are designed for groups of 2-6, and all ages are welcome, though children do need to be accompanied by an adult.

There are currently three rooms available to play through.

Their first room *The Great Granny Rescue* is still going strong. With this room Granny has been kidnapped by the Big Bad Wolf and he will only give her back if you can find her secret cookie recipe, otherwise it

is bye-bye Granny. This room is suitable for all ages.

Their second room *Crisis at Customs*, has been retired. This room was a ton of fun, and quite different from the linear *Great Granny Rescue*. I cannot say enough good things about this room, alas all good things do come to an end. However, two additional rooms are now available.

The Game Master's Revenge pits 6-10 players against that nerdy kid in school that everyone used to tease. She isn't happy and now it is time for her revenge, teams must play her game and outwit her in order to escape. This room is suitable

for ages 12 and up.

The latest addition is *The Code Breaker's Legacy*, wherein your grandfather's house is about to be demolished. As you and some friends are feeling nostalgic you stumble upon his old fallout shelter in the backyard. It turns out grandpa was a Cold War Code Breaker. The door locks behind you and your friends, and you must decipher the codes in order to escape before demolition begins. This room is suitable for 2-6 players ages 16+.

The rate is \$25 per person, this includes the taxes, and children who are under the age of 10 are free with two paying

players. Be sure to arrive 15-20 minutes early so staff can go over the room with you, oh and lovers of technology, you do not get to take those phones in, this is all you.

Escape the Final Countdown is open evenings and weekends, except for Monday. To book a time you can con-

tact them at 204-727-2203 or book online at www.thefinalcountdown.ca.



Escape The Final Countdown sign. Photo Credit Krista Murray.

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Community Calendar						
Tues. Jan. 31 st	Wed. Feb. 1 st	Thurs. Feb. 2 nd	Fri. Feb. 3 rd	Sat. Feb. 4 th	Sun. Feb. 5 th	Mon. Feb. 6 th
		Mariana's Trench at the Keystone Centre, 7:00pm		Flapjack Fundraiser at Applebee's for WestCAST, 8:00am	Westman Wedding Expo at the Keystone Centre, 11:00am - 4:00pm	

BU NURSING STUDENT FACES TOUGH TIMES

Ariele Kehler, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

It has been a difficult several months for Brandon University nursing student Mulugeta Atomissa-Negoro, and the heavy course load that comes with the health studies faculty is likely among the least of his concerns. Not only is Atomissa-Negoro a new father to a

baby boy, which comes with sleepless nights and potential financial stress in itself, but his wife is battling advanced breast cancer. Wesene Wegaso, Atomissa-Negoro's wife was eight months pregnant with their son David when she received her diagnosis, and consequent-

ly gave birth a month early. In the midst of Wegaso's diagnosis and premature delivery, she missed applying for BlueCross maternity benefits by two days.

The full version of this story can be found online at www.thequill.ca!

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