



Brandon University PC: visionscaptured

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## THE CHILL OF WINTER SNOWFALL AND FREEZING TEMPERATURES AHEAD

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The Quill is published weekly by The Quill, Inc., and is printed by The Killarney Guide in Killarney, MB.

**NOTE:** Editorials, letters, and viewpoint articles do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Quill staff, The Quill, Inc., or the faculty, staff, or administration of Brandon University.

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# INTERNATIONAL HEALTHCARE AT BU: A BRIEF OVERVIEW

Lisa Mizan, Senior Columnist

Last year the provincial Progressive Conservative government made the decision to revoke access to universal health care from International Students that was instituted in 2012 by the NDP which came into effect September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Universities were then left to find avenues that would provide coverage to students on visas at their institutions with Brandon University reaching out to the guard.me plan. The plan is \$712.50 for 365 days and students have to pay this amount in their tuition (aka they cannot opt out.) Their website describes them as “among the world’s largest insurance providers in international education, protecting thousands of individuals studying and working abroad.” It provides general coverage for doctor visits,

medically needed hospital care, urgent dental care, and in some cases paramedic care too.

These are the services promised by the insurance but how have they applied to our own city and institution?

There are currently no clinics or walk ins that directly deposit to the insurance in Brandon, so students have to pay up front and then get reimbursed. This creates a problem for students who don’t possess the cash flow to pay for doctor’s visits. Medically needed hospital stays are largely done through direct deposit as they possess larger accounting and payment services that handle the students’ insurance directly. The plan also includes access to a “mobile doctor” that allows covered parties

to connect with Canadian doctors through the app called Maple. Doctors on this platform are all licensed doctors and can perform the same duties any other family doctor could perform with the exception of the obvious physical checkups. They can provide prescriptions, doctor’s notes, and give a diagnosis through a live chat.

These are the facts, but the opinions regarding the plan are less clear. The majority of students I have spoken to have said that they do not go to the doctor and thus do not see themselves utilizing the benefits of the insurance. Some, whose name I will keep anonymous, have expressed their distaste at the fact that no clinic in Brandon does direct billing for doctor’s visit despite the university

promising three (such as the Brandon Clinic.) The office of International Activities has provided numerous presentations regarding the plan for students to attend and then emailed out the slides to students who could not make it. The slides provided useful information regarding the coverage and how to make claims, but did not provide much information on how to navigate the Prairie Mountain Health system. In the next article I will talk about interviews I have conducted and go into depth of how the province’s decision to take universal health care from international students has affected our community.

# PSA INDIGENOUS AWARENESS WEEK

Jenna Murray, Reporter

Indigenous Awareness Week is being held from February 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> on BU’s campus. This event is being put on by the Indigenous People’s Centre. Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> will see the week being opened by a Pipe Ceremony at 9:00 a.m. in the Ceremony Room of the Health Sciences Building. There will also be an Inuk

Hand Drum Performance at 11:00 a.m. in the Mingling Area of the Knowles Douglas Building. Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> there will be Bannock on a Stick at 12:00 p.m. in the Courtyard. Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> there will be Moss Bag Making at 5:00 p.m. in the Indigenous People’s Centre. The final event of the week will be on

Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup>, which is the National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, and a vigil will be held in the Mingling Area at 11:30 a.m. This event will have opening prayers, speakers, an honour song, a candle

light vigil and end with a dreamcatcher workshop. Come check out one (or all!) of the awesome events!



PC: Brandon University Website, IPC



**The Indigenous Peoples' Centre  
Presents:  
Indigenous Awareness Week**

**February 11 - 14**

Monday February 11:  
Pipe Ceremony at 9:00am – Ceremony Room HSB 141  
Inuk Hand Drum Performance at 11:00am  
Mingling Area, BUSU Building

Tuesday February 12:  
Bannock on a Stick at 12:00pm - Courtyard

Wednesday February 13:  
Moss Bag Making at 5:00pm – Indigenous Peoples' Centre

Thursday February 14:  
National Day of Action for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women at 11:30am – Mingling Area, BUSU Building



# BOBCATS BASKETBALL: COMPLETION OF SEASON

Robert Killam III, Editor-in-Chief

What a year it's been for the Bobcat basketball teams as they've gone through hardships and had a few shares of good fortunes along the journey. Both men and women struggled in parts of the season and neither would end up with a positive record against their opponents. The men would finish the season with a record of 4-16 and the women's team would end slightly better with a 5-15 record. Neither team would make it onto playoffs and both concluded this past weekend with games here at home.

Compared to the rest of the teams in the USports arena, the men's Bobcats team would land on the rankings at 15 of 17 in the Canada West division. It would not be enough to make it into playoffs and the men's dreams will be stifled for another year. It is the top 12 teams which enter the playoffs and the team which clung onto the final position was the team the Bobcats most recently played,

the Mount Royal Cougars. The Mount Royal Cougars placed 12 with a record of 8-12 and the top team, the Calgary Dino's, would clean sweep the league with a record of 20-0.

The women's overall ranking in the Canada West league would place them at 14 of 17. Again not high enough ranking to make playoffs but still onto a solid path for the future of the program. The final team to just make it into the ranking was the Winnipeg Wesmen who had a record of 8-12 and the team which placed first was the Regina Cougar's who finished with a record of 17-3.

The men's team would finish the season with a PCT (winning percentage) of .200 and the women's team would finish with a PCT of .238. The men's team longest losing streak would be for about 8 games in the middle of the season and the total amount of games they won, both in and out of the conference,

was 6 games. The women's team longest losing streak was 7 games and their total amount of wins in games that were both in and out of the regular season was a total of 8.

Compared to last year the women won an extra two games. The 2017-2018 year they would have a record of 3-17, 2016-2017 would end with a record of 8-12 and 2015-2016 record would be 7-13.

Compared to last year the men won 5 more games with their 2017-2018 year ending with a 9-11 record. During 2016-2017 the men's record was 9-11 and in 2015-2016 their record was 1-19.

A congratulations goes out to the teams for the entertaining games they provided for us and hopes that they will be able to make it into the playoffs next year!

## WEEKLY SPORTS SCOREBOARD

WESTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE	NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
1 FEB 2019 BDN vs CGY 6 - 5	31 JAN 2019 WPG vs CBJ 4 - 3
2 FEB 2019 BDN vs MH 0 - 5	2 FEB 2019 WPG vs ANA 9 - 3
U SPORTS BASKETBALL	U SPORTS VOLLEYBALL
MEN'S 1 FEB 2019 BOBCATS vs COUGARS 94 - 74	WOMEN'S 1 FEB 2019 BOBCATS vs WOLF-PACK 2 - 3
MEN'S 2 FEB 2019 BOBCATS vs COUGARS 94 - 99	WOMEN'S 2 FEB 2019 BOBCATS vs WOLF-PACK 0 - 3
WOMEN'S 1 FEB 2019 BOBCATS vs COUGARS 92 - 82	MEN'S 1 FEB 2019 BOBCATS vs WOLF-PACK 3 - 1
WOMEN'S 2 FEB 2019 BOBCATS vs COUGARS 76 - 71	MEN'S 2 FEB 2019 BOBCATS vs WOLF-PACK 3 - 2

# BU BIG BAND DANCE

Robert Killam, Editor-in-Chief

This coming Friday, Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, BU students are encouraged to come and enjoy the BU Big Band dance at Forbidden Flavours from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The BU Big Band takes to the stage for a community dance in celebration of Black History Month. Music will feature high-energy jazz and swing music to get students excited and out onto the dance floor. There will also be other music such as contemporary R&B and Soul hits to help soothe the mood and offer smooth flowing music to slow things down and give wild dancers a break.

Everyone is invited to the event! The BU Big Band

is directed by Michael Cain and features 25 members of the Brandon University faculty of music. These talented young artists are sure to wow and impress anyone walking by the mingling area that evening. Raffle prizes and pizza will be sold for \$2.00 each.

Tickets are available for advance purchasing or at the door should you be a little late to the party. Advance tickets are \$12.00 for BUMS members, \$15.00 for non-members or \$20.00 at the door. In order to find some advance tickets you will need to check in with music building foyer or talk with BUMS members.

Capacity and therefore



tickets will be somewhat limited due to the large number of band members. It should be quite the performance and is highly recommended for anyone who is interested in jazz or swing music.

BRANDON UNIVERSITY MUSIC STUDENTS PRESENT:

## BIG BAND DANCE

FEATURING THE BU BIG BAND  
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL CAIN

**TICKET SALES**  
FEBRUARY 3<sup>rd</sup> MUSIC BUILDING FOYER  
FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup> BU BU MINGLING AREA  
FEBRUARY 8<sup>th</sup> @ THE DOOR

**ADVANCE TICKETS:**  
\$12 FOR BUMS MEMBERS  
\$15 FOR NON-MEMBERS  
\$20 AT THE DOOR

**FEBRUARY 8<sup>th</sup> | 10 PM**  
BU FORBIDDEN FLAVOURS,  
270 18<sup>th</sup> St.

PIZZA TICKETS: \$1 EACH  
RAFFLE TICKETS: \$2

BRING YOUR SWING IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

PC: Brandon University Website, BUMS



## THE BOOK THAT TOPPLED THE SCALES OF HUMANITY

Noah Monk, *Unofficial Philosopher*

George Orwell's 1984 is arguably one of the best books of its time. This book can be seen as a sort of warning flag to the world about creating a dystopian civilization that has the facade of a utopian society.

1984 contains probably what is the prime example of dystopia and highlights some of the real-world issues that still exist today.

One example of the dystopian world in the book, people are always under surveillance by a "telescope" or are being constantly watched by the so-called "thought police".

Most people I have observed on their laptops appear to cover up their cameras. How poor must the quality of privacy be for a large majority of so-

ciety to distrust a product that they do their business on, bills, banking and so forth. Almost everyone tends to have a smartphone of some sort with access to a camera 24/7 and yet few people have these covered up. Smartphones would be just as easy to hack as the camera on your laptop if not easier, in my opinion. However, with social media

like Snapchat, Instagram etc. One probably doesn't even need to access your cameras in order to discover private information. This is because people take endless photos of where they are and what they are doing, also in those photos there can be people in the background. So in a way, everyone is already under constant surveillance even if they do not have a phone!

The slogan from 1984 "WAR IS PEACE. FREEDOM IS SLAVERY. IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH." appears to be filled with contradictory statements at first glance. Perhaps though it is possible for these comparisons to be closer related than they appear originally. "FREEDOM IS SLAVERY," might be the easiest statement to draw similarities from. Let us look at the definition of freedom from the dictionary. "Freedom: the power to think, speak, or act without restrictions, or hinderances." There are things people are not allowed to do and things we are not allowed to say without facing consequences or scrutiny. This hardly sounds like freedom. People must obey laws, pay taxes and serve "the man" in order to make a decent living in our society. We are slaves to the everyday luxuries we seek to maintain. Hence, "FREEDOM IS SLAVERY."

"IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH," is a tricky concept to understand. We are often taught to not question things which challenge certain beliefs. We are often taught to turn a blind eye to subjects and situations that can be considered uncomfortable or taboo. People too often become familiar with taking the easy answers instead of consider-

ing whether the material is true or not. How often do you fact check your sources? When was the last time you looked on anything other than the first page of Google for a solution to an issue? Many of us take the fastest route possible without ever considering "Is this really true?" Some articles will try to back up their claims with a phrase "a study done by blank has shown blank". More often than not when trying to find these "studies" used by articles, I find they don't seem to hold much academic weight. The last statement "WAR IS PEACE," I will leave you to figure out on your own.

There are countless ideas and symbolic meanings in 1984 that could make for a week-long topic. It is similar to the work of Nietzsche in the sense that each sentence is so dense with thought and material that they need a significant amount of time to be digested. Revolutionize the way you view the world by reading the work of Orwell.

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Manitoba Youth Job Centres provide summer employment opportunities and career-readiness training for students and youth.

Visit the website for a list of the over 40 MYJC community office locations across Manitoba.

Get the details

Visit [manitoba.ca/myjc](http://manitoba.ca/myjc)



Apply by: March 1st!

Manitoba 



# LORD OF THE RINGS MEETS MAD MAX? A COMIC REVIEW OF CODA

Dustin Glaseman, Comic Book Enthusiast

Sometimes a comic surprises you. You pick up a series and begin to journey through the story, certain you know exactly what kind of narrative you are reading. You look at the cover, maybe you even read a review, and you convince yourself that the series you hold in your hands contains the same tropes and plot holes that you've sunk into so many times before.

When I picked up Coda, a comic published by rising star BOOM! Studios, I was sure I had seen the series a million times before. Touted as Lord of the Rings meets Mad Max, Coda was supposed to be a series set in a post-apocalyptic fantasy realm where the dark lord won and the world, once filled with magic, was left to pick up the pieces. The story was supposed to follow a poetic bard named Hum as he struggled to survive while searching through the rubble of his once familiar life, desperately looking for the

woman he loves. Coda was supposed to be wildly over the top, deeply rooted in the history of the fantasy genre, and provide "no-holds-barred" entertainment. But I was lied to. Coda isn't just all of those things; instead, Coda is so far beyond the expectations I built up around it that it is something else entirely.

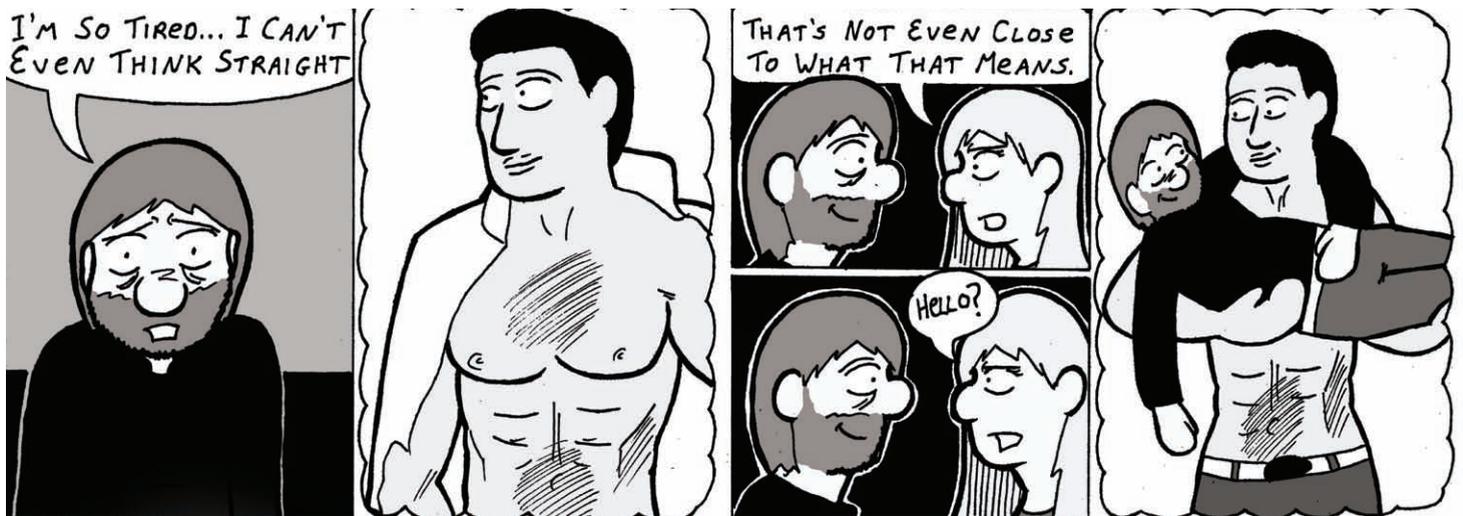
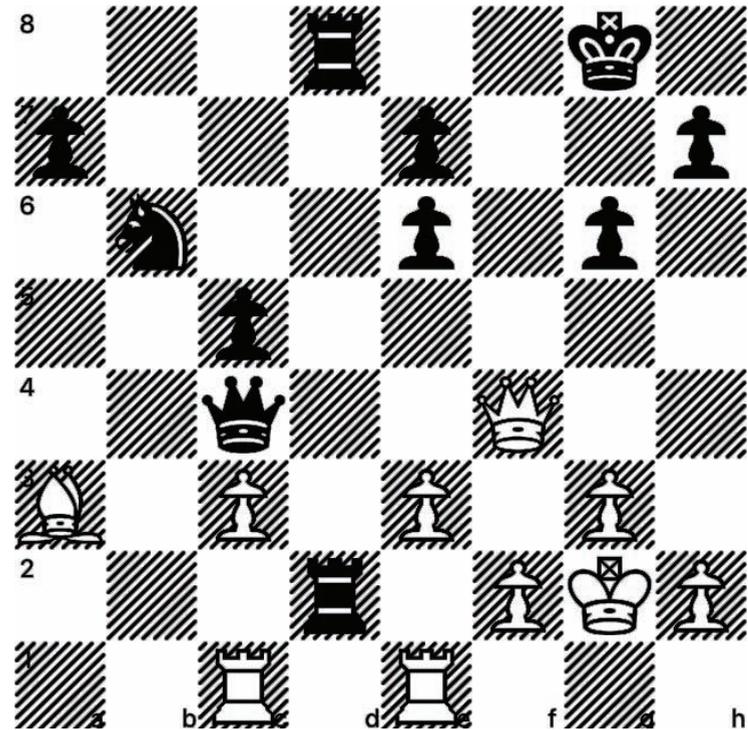
Maybe the first sign Coda was different was when the foul-mouthed unicorn with a predilection for murder showed up; or maybe it was the face-melting art by Uruguayan artist Matías Bergara; or maybe it was the heart-wrenching story by Simon Spurrier, a story of a man trying desperately to hold on to what he loves. Either way, somewhere along the line, Coda transformed. It changed from an overdone tale of post-apocalyptic wasteland into a hulking war-beast that asks whether or not you can truly love something if you also want to change it.

Coda surprised me. Everything from the sugar-coated blood bath of a colour palette to the deeply self-reflective narrative was fresh and unexpected. Coda is one of the rare instances where a comic is exactly what it says it is and everything that you didn't think it could be.

## BLACK TO PLAY

From A. Dreev v. E. Hansen  
Pro Chess League (2018)  
"Lose now and gain later."

Try to see if you can solve the logical sequence of moves used in this chess puzzle! Answers are on the back page of The Quill.



Comics to Worry My Loved Ones, Tyler Clarke



@anthonylabonte

Dear Quintilius,

I am looking for routines to help with my mental health, what are your top suggestions?

Sincerely, Let's Talk

Dear Mental Health,

To prepare for the war going on inside your head I would suggest gathering your tool kit first. Make a list of what makes you happy, what objects that you can have on hand, who you can talk to, and what are your favourite things to watch or read. You are also going to need to know what may set you off or be a trigger for the battle in your head to kick off. Is it a saying, task, person or place you could avoid or at least minimize? This first step is taking stock of the situation.

After you've made several considerations, it's time to write down a plan. Plan from the moment you are going to bed tonight backwards to the very morning you are writing this. You are going to need to visualize your whole day and plan how you are going to face each struggle. For example: when you run into stressor 'A' early in the morning, what tools from your toolkit can you use to get away from the stress or lessen it. At stressor 'B' is there a better tool you can use to solve this problem.

Maybe your tool is just for waiting the stressor out. Say you have a bad class that brings you to the breaking point. You can't skip it, these are the classes you are taking to work towards getting a job in something that you love (plus you paid like \$350 to sit in this place). You may need something to get you through the class like a pen, quarter, fidget cube etc. whatever you can play with that will allow you to both semi-relax and stay engaged. Each stressor may have its own unique tool and don't be afraid to carry different tools or techniques around with you.

In down times make your plans and prepare your tools. The more you sweat or practice in times of peace, the less you will bleed or suffer in times of war.

All Salute The Eternal City,  
Quintilius of Rome

## MENTAL HEALTH WEEK AT BU

Donnovan Hillman, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Last week the Brandon University Students' Union hosted Mental Health Week. From Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> to Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> various activities took place for student's to partake in and enjoy. The weeks activities brought forth a new level of awareness for mental health issues, which are often shot down as being unimportant or even nonexistent. As many students have come to realize, your mental health is just as important as your physical health! In order to properly and effectively tackle the semester, students have to have a good grasp on their mental well being.

Kicking off Mental Health week on Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> was some De-Stress booths. The booths were set up in the mingling area, inside the KDC building, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Many students and faculty of the Brandon University campus took advantage of the De-Stress booths as a chance to sustain their mental health and let go of some of life's worries.

Things didn't stop there. On Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> BUSU hosted a free yoga session from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The session was put on in partnership with Campus Recreation and the Healthy Living Centre. Students who attended the free yoga session had the opportunity to destress and learn more about the mind freeing exercise. Therapy dogs also visited the campus last Tuesday to assist students in carrying on, despite what life throws at them. The dogs were located in the mingling area from 10:00 a.m. to noon and received lots of company throughout the morning.

On Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> the campus was, once again, a hotspot for mental health activities. The Brandon University Students Union hosted a grab and go breakfast station in the mingling area. The breakfast started at 9:00 a.m. and continued until the food was gone! January 30<sup>th</sup> was also Bell Let's Talk Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the impor-

tance of mental health. In recognition of this day Student Services and Student Wellness Leaders gathered in the mingling area from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to discuss mental health issues with students. Like the previous Mental Health Week events, this one was also well attended. Moving into Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, the mingling area was once again in use. From 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. community mental health organizations from around the Brandon area set up booths in an effort to assist students in any mental health difficulties they were facing. Organizations that took part included Prairie Mountain Health and Westwind Counselling. The various community booths had information on everything from depression to eating disorders, and various resour-

es to assist in eliminating them. Finally, on Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> free massages were offered on campus. One of the best ways to kick back and relax is to get a soothing massage, something many people took part in from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Library. To make the first day of February even better, BUSU hosted a cookie decorating session in the mingling area. The delicious and delicate activity saw packs of students take part.

It is fair to say that the 2019 Mental Health week was a tremendous success. Like usual, it brought

awareness and understanding to various mental health issues. These issues can make even the simplest of tasks impossible for some people. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that students know what resources are out there and how to access them.



PC: Creative Commons

## ACC TO LAUNCH NEW ADVANCED DIPLOMA OPTIONS FOR FALL 2019

Raelee Fehr, Expert Reporter

ACC is further expanding its available programs, with a notable increase in advanced diploma options available. These advanced diplomas require students to have previous post-secondary education, as these diplomas are designed to build on previous experience and sharpen critical thinking skills that students acquire in post-secondary settings. Current advanced diplomas offered at ACC include Early Childhood Program Management, Sustainable Food Systems and Geographical Information Systems.

"In less than a year, a person can graduate and put what they've learned into action, seeking out new job opportunities, or advancement along their current career path," said Bobbie Robertson, the current Dean of Business at ACC, "These programs are designed for learners to sharpen their skills in focused subject areas and ladder their existing education to branch into new fields."

New to the college this fall will be advanced diplomas in Finance, Accounting, Marketing, Agribusiness, Human Resource

Management and Indigenous Financial Management. Students can expect to study for eight months or up to a year, depending on the program.

While these advanced diplomas aren't required for many positions that require post-secondary education, the increase in options highlight the changes in the job market. As there is less assurance that a diploma or degree will equate to a career, advanced diploma options may give students a competitive edge in the

job market. Visit <https://assiniboine.net/programs> for more information on available programs.



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# DIVERSITY IS OUR STRENGTH: A TASTE OF MULTICULTURALISM IN THE WHEAT CITY

Raelee Fehr, Reporter

This past weekend marked the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Westman Multicultural Festival, formerly known as the Lieutenant Governor's Winter Festival, which ran from Jan 31<sup>st</sup> to Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>. This year nine pavilions were dispersed across the city: Honduran, English, Scottish, Indian, Métis, Mexican, Mauritian, Jamaican and Ukrainian. All the pavilions were free to attend.

On the Thursday I checked out the Métis, English and Mexican Pavilion. Those working the Métis pavilion, which was located here on campus at the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium, are always hospitable to attendees. Dancers and musicians entertained guests in the au-

## CHINESE NEW YEARS

Julia Tan, Reporter And BUCSSA Member

The pig is the twelfth of the 12-year cycle of animals which appear in the Chinese zodiac related to the Chinese calendar. This year the Chinese New Year falls on February 5<sup>th</sup>. The Chinese New Year celebration is a traditional activity in Brandon which is organized by BUCSSA (Brandon University Chinese Students and Scholars Association).

Usually there will be a dinner before the celebration and lots of great performances and several lucky draws during the events. We will invite the mayor, the president of BU and some sponsorships who support the activities during the Chinese New Year celebration. There will be lots of citizens from around the Westman region and members from the BU community who come to this event.

The dinner being offered

ditorium while downstairs there was a screen to watch the entertainment for those who were grabbing a bite to eat.

Next, I went over to the Mexican pavilion, where the dancers were flown in from Mexico for the event. As shown here, one of the dancers grabbed a lady from the audience to dance with and entertained a full house at the Shrine Club. There was also a variety of food, merchandise and beverages available for purchase.

The last stop for me that evening was the English pavilion, located at the Victoria Inn. The entertainment was great and included a band in which one of our students plays in, the Chris Ghidoni Band. I consider myself pretty lucky to have

gotten in, even though Thursdays aren't that busy, as for the previous two years I couldn't get in on the weekend. As the English and Scottish pavilions tend to run later and are licensed to sell alcohol, usually they're full houses.

The Multicultural Festival is one of the few fun and free events that entice me to leave the house in the dead of winter, but it also shows how diverse Brandon is becoming. Major sponsors for the event included the City of Brandon, the Government of

Manitoba, Canadian Heritage grant from the Government of Canada, Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries

and Manitoba Hydro.



PC: Raelee Fehr, Mexican And English Pavilions.



it's a tradition for the elder to send money as a gift to the younger generation in the new year.

This year, the Chinese New Year celebration will be on March 2<sup>nd</sup> in the WMCA (Westman Manitoba Centennial Auditorium), which is a little bit late due to booking complications but it still will be a great celebration. BUCSSA invites everyone to come to our celebration, we would love to see you there to enjoy our foods and performances. We will send the best luck to you and wish you can get the gifts during the lucky draws. We will be selling tickets in Living Delight, Sushi Hut, Neo Tea Shop and Princess Grocery. The advance tickets will be \$10, \$12 at door.

for the celebration will be served from several different Chinese restaurants which will include their delicious traditional Chinese foods. The tickets being sold will include several different meal options for attendees. You could also buy more food separately. The performances will be prepared by some Chinese performers and maybe some Canadians who are interested in Chinese culture. The lucky draws are the most exciting part for the audience because we will play some games during every section of the celebration and contestants could win different gifts!

Last year, we threw lots of "Hong Bao" which we called 'Red Bag' or 'Red envelope' at the end of the performances to the audiences. It is a traditional monetary gift that is given during holidays to send luck to others. Usually in China

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# ANSWER FOR THE CHESS PUZZLE

Noah Monk, Chess Fanatic

Answer: 26...Rf8  
 28. Qxc4 Rxf2+  
 (if 28. Qxf8 white is just down a queen for the remainder of the game, thus losing)  
 29. Kh3 Rxh2+  
 30. Kg4 Nxc4

31. Rh1 (any other move will get white checkmated quickly)  
 31... Rxh1  
 32. Rxh1 Nxa3  
 33. Ra1 Nc4

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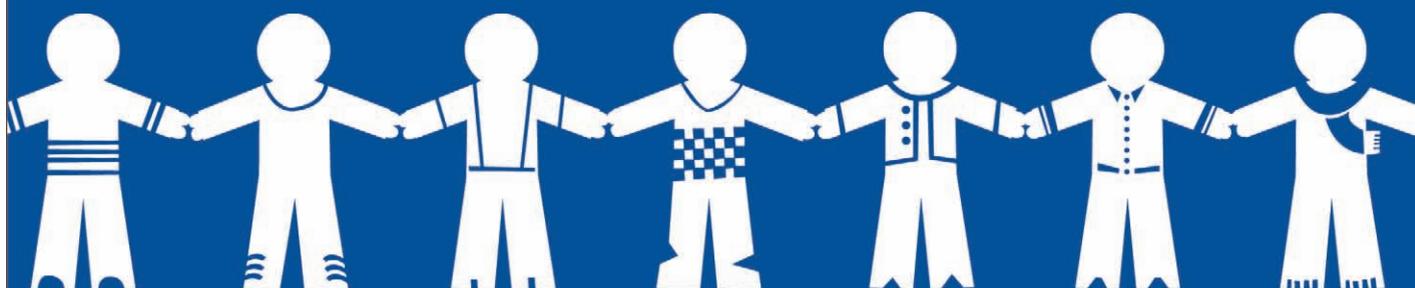


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