



Riverside “scores” with hockey academy

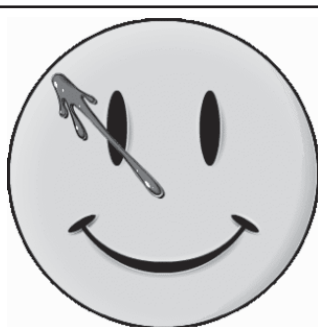
Riverside administrators have the go-ahead to create a hockey academy starting next semester. That means that Riverside Secondary will gain new students starting next year.

Alexis Boleak - staff reporter

Several years ago, the students of Pitt Meadows Secondary School requested that they should have the opportunity to organize a school wide hockey team. About two years ago, students at Riverside were making proposals that there be a Riverside team as well. A small number of students from Riverside Secondary were beginning to leave our school so they could participate in a hockey academy and get more involved with the sport, as well as their education. It was over a year ago that students were asking if it was acceptable to open our very own hockey academy, and administrators took this thought into consideration, and now, they are turning it into a reality. The students at Riverside Secondary are now given the same opportunity as the students attending Pitt Meadows as well as other hockey academies around the lower mainland. Riverside’s hockey academy will start in September 2009 and will continue through until the end of the first semester (January 2010); it is open for both boys and girls, grades nine through twelve. The hockey academy is a great way to meet other hockey fans, gain leadership and teamwork skills, and play for love of the game. It will also meet all expectations for Daily Physical Activity hours, which is very practical as these hours are a requirement. The logistics of running the academy will begin with practices during ‘X’ block. For three weekdays students are required to meet at the Port Coquitlam Rec Centre at the same time as ‘X’ block occurs. For the remaining two days of practice, known as ‘off-ice’ practice, students are either sitting in a classroom learning about proper health and fitness or are in the gym, rock-climbing or working out and maintaining a certain physical standard. Other than that, students are also required to brush up on the rules of the game. It is not required to be an A+ student to be an applicant of this program; however, it has been said that students are to prove to teachers that they are their academics and t h a t

put their best foot forward and in fact trying their hardest in athletics. It has also been said students are to stay respectful to their comrades, coaches and teachers or there could be consequences including that if students aren’t taking the program enough, they might get kicked off the team.

seriously Administrators believe that this will bring a diverse group together around their passion for hockey; their only concern is that the academy would be perceived as an elite team within the school. Those concerns have been put to rest by other hockey academies, who have informed the administrators of Riverside that there are no elite groups, and that it’s only fun and games! “If there’s something students enjoy at school, hopefully that’s going to make them motivated to go to school and want to learn.” said Mr. Robinson, Principal. It was made clear that Mr. Robinson thought the academy would be a great opportunity for the students at our school. For the first year, the Riverside hockey team members will consist only of those in the Riverside catchment, but perhaps, if things go smoothly, it’s quite possible that the administrators will accept students from other communities. On April 16, 2009 from 7:00-9:00 pm in the multi-purpose room, Riverside Secondary will be hosting an open house with m o r e information regarding the academy. Applications will be accepted as of 8:30 am on April 17, 2009. Also, information is being sent to middle schools to get the word out for our new, younger audiences. What’s a better way to say ‘Welcome to Riverside’ than by letting them play a game they love? This hockey academy will be very beneficial to our school for many reasons: first of all, students will become more responsible and learn valuable assets such as teamwork, leadership and respect for one another; secondly, it will keep students interested in getting caught up in school and completing assignments as well as homework. A f i n a l reason that this hockey academy will impact our school in a good way is that students will be out having fun.



Watchmen Review pg.5



RCMP special feature pg.6



Poco feature pg.7



Homelessness, whose problem is it anyway?

Teresa Oikawa - staff reporter

Homelessness has been a struggle for years; everyone would know this if they have driven past the infamous streets of Main and Hastings in downtown Vancouver. But it's a wonder how little we realize the amount of homeless people we have, where they can be found, and why they are there. Not all of them have the typical 'scrubby' look people stereotype; several dress as any person would. Some are even living in their vehicles because they can't afford their housing anymore. Others are 'couch surfing' at a friend's or relative's home. Homelessness has become such a huge problem all throughout the Lower Mainland, and we are only making a half-hearted attempt to solve the issue.

Have you noticed the homeless appearing more in areas where they never used to be? Consider the grocery store down the road, or the local park. You wouldn't think such a place in the suburbs would have them, but with the homelessness increasing, many are emerging in unexpected places such as Kerrisdale, West Vancouver – an affluent community full of character and charm. Even there, homeless are found sitting in front of the London Drugs store or on benches. The cause of this has not simply been from substance abuse. Many are suffering due to unemployment, lack of affordable housing, abusive family backgrounds, mental illness, or falling victim to our current economic meltdown. This is a problem that is affecting all of Lower Mainland - many blame the government and all the cuts in funding to organizations that in the past would have helped these people on the streets. Some of it is due to the breakdown in family unit. Much of it could be the economy, along with the high cost of living and the lack of affordable housing.

Will a solution be found? We as a society cannot just ignore the problem; can we not start small and try to solve some of these issues that affect our neighbourhood? Port Coquitlam Mayor, Greg Moore, is doing just that by launching the Mayor's Action Team on Homelessness (MATH). The main idea is to get these homeless people into social housing that have the basic necessities for their daily living and keep them there rather than building shelters where they are restricted by how long they can stay. If this group is able to accomplish what they intend to do, then we may actually have a solution. We can all be a part of this in different ways. Firstly, we can acknowledge them as neighbours in need. We can support our Mayor in his plan, and by doing so, find ways also to pressure the government to take drastic steps to put a permanent end to homelessness – not just band-aid solutions.

There are many things that we can do too, not just the government. If not dealt with, it could only get worse from here. On the other hand, if something is done about it right away, there could be such a positive outcome that is good not only for the homeless people, but for the rest of PoCo families. We should put forth our ideas and encourage each other to give. As they say, the worst can bring out the best in us, and so now is the time for our best.

The editorials that appear in this space represent the opinion of the Eddy. They do not necessarily represent the personal views of the writer. The positions taken in the editorials are arrived through discussion among members of the Eddy staff.



POINT COUNTER POINT

A downward spiral to designer babies



Technology is advancing at such a rate that society may be able to enhance humans by adding certain characteristics artificially. It will be possible to take away certain genes then add desirable traits before a person is born and create the perfect human. Parents may be able to decide how a child will look, how smart or athletic a child will be depending on their desires. Children will become their parent's commodity. These are the ethical and safety concerns about genetic enhancement.

Introducing genetically modified genes into humans may cause irreversible and unknown effects. The damages could last for generations. Curing diseases is worthwhile, but we must not forget the ethical standards that should be considered. There are some people that find embryonic stem cell research to be immoral. There is also some scientific research that suggests that embryonic stem cells could be dangerous. About 20% of mice treated for Parkinsons with embryonic stem cells died of brain tumors. The body may reject the transplanted cells making the therapy useless (Scientific America). Obtaining stem cells from the umbilical cord or adult stem cells from bone marrow is more promising and less controversial. Using stem cells to do more than cure diseases, and to perfect what is not broken is immoral.

Gene modification could put more pressure on people with disabilities as they face a world that values DNA perfection over individual worth. Wanting to design humans to fit the fads of the day is pure hubris. We will lose our chance of developing our own uniqueness; instead we may be controlled by the DNA that will be chosen for us. Eugenics (what Hitler believed), is the belief that society can improve human qualities by actively influencing the genetic makeup of people. Engineering genes to create the perfect human by removing unwanted genes is 'a slippery slope'. Science wants to cure diseases, but can the pharmaceutical companies be trusted to not turn people into commodities?

Scientific breakthrough giving people options



As the world progresses into a futuristic, more advanced world, cures for diseases and improvements to a person's health are becoming more and more rapid. This is thanks to genetic engineering. Advances in genetic research have led to in vitro fertilization, making millions of adults into parents, who without this discovery would not be able to have children of their own. It has also given treatments and more insight into diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and even Diabetes. 8 years ago George W. Bush cut

federal funding for stem cell research saying it was morally wrong. As of March 9, 2009 President Barack Obama restarted that funding giving hope to millions. Some may argue that stem cell research is un-ethical because embryos are the start of a human life. These cells are unfused; they do not have fingers, brains or even eyes. They don't have a heartbeat; they are similar to what's under the microscope in the biology lab. What stem cell research does is take unused embryos from fertility clinics and morph them into different cells. That's what's remarkable about stem cells; they can form into any other type of cell in the human body. To me unused embryos are like organs donated from people. There really isn't much of a downside. If there are extra unused embryos why not use them to cure diseases that kill

millions of people worldwide? These cells could save millions of lives. Imagine if you could find a cure for cancer using stem cells. That would save billions of people in the long run from the pain of cancer c, radiation and chemo therapy. Insulin is a necessity for the millions of people in Canada alone with Diabetes, without insulin they would die. Insulin was developed from genetic engineering. Vaccinations like ones for Hepatitis B were also developed from Genetic Engineering. Genetic engineering is not a science with a lack of results. With time and money who knows what it could accomplish? Every scientific breakthrough has had controversy but after it benefited the world it was more widely accepted. Why couldn't this be the same thing?

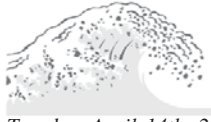
the eddy
riverside secondary

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Emily Nomland and Olivia McMullen

present...

POTSHOTS

TOUGH TALK FOR A TOUGH WORLD



Silent and Squeaky

Don't you hate it when you sit down in class and everything is silent? But that's not even the worst of it. When you take a seat chances are the chair is going to emit a loud squeaking sound. Then everybody stares at you and it's an awkward situation to be in. And then when you want to turn your chair it bellows that horrid squeaking noise again and every time you move it, it does the same thing over and over. Each time is more embarrassing than the first. Why can't somebody put WD-40 on them? It would save so many students' dignity who have suffered through this horrifying and tragic incident. So next time you start to sit down, test to see if your chair squeaks and if it does, pull the switch-a-roo. This simple maneuver at the beginning of class can save you a lot of humiliation and trouble.

The Gum Effect

Have you ever brought gum to school and tried to secretly take it out but failed because somehow the wrapper made a crinkling sound? And I'm sure you know what happens after that. The dreaded sentence: "Can I have a piece of gum?" This is what I like to refer to as "The Gum Effect." And you don't want to say no because, well, you just don't. And once you give a piece of gum to one person then everyone else in about a ten foot radius wants one. And by the time you're done, the whole package of gum is gone. Why can't people just buy their own pack of gum instead of pestering others who went out and bought their own? So to all of those gum mongers, go out, find some change around your house (everybody has some), buy your own gum and stop bothering those of us who have it!

Restricted

I'm sure you've heard it before; pink is for girls and blue is for boys. Girls play with Barbies and boys play with Hot Wheels. Girls watch Cinderella and boys watch Thomas the Tank Engine. Why does everything have to have age limits and gender restrictions? I get that sometimes these restrictions are for safety (imagine a nine year old going to a nightclub or a ninety year old playing on the jungle gym), but a lot of times they are just society's limitations. Why does it matter what society thinks? Why should it matter if a boy likes to play with dolls or a twenty year old likes to watch the Disney channel? It seems like once you reach a certain age you lose all right to do the things you did before that age. These labels and restrictions are preventing many people from being themselves.

PDA isn't DPA

It seems like every time I step into a mall or movie theatre there are multiple couples sitting around smooching and hugging each other. And if this isn't bad enough, when I think I've reached safety within the school walls, I find more couples standing in locker bays or sitting on benches macking on each other. Don't get me wrong, I'm happy to see that these people dig each other, but there's a time and place for everything. Personally, I don't want to see you and your loved one expressing your love for all eyes to see. And what I don't understand is when you confront a friend who has committed a Public Display of Affection (PDA), they get so defensive and say that you're jealous and whatnot. No, I am absolutely not jealous; I just have enough sense to go get a room. Until next time, xoxo.

French immersion students go to Québec

Kate Ronald - staff reporter

Monsieur Jacques-André Larrivée spent twelve days in Quebec on the first of his bi-annual French educational trips. He brought ten select students to spend their days volunteering and presenting their "Mini-Operas" all over Montreal and Quebec City.

Larrivée, a native of Quebec himself, has been doing the "Conversations" trip for over twelve years. Every year he brings a small number of French immersion students to travel to Quebec and help in various ways of volunteering. "It wasn't what you would call a tourist trip," said grade eleven Conversations student Nikyla Guiseppi. "We spent very little time visiting the cities and had



courtesy of J. Auroom

The students and their friends at "Les Petits Frères des Pauvres."

no time for any personal shopping. It was all about helping others."

The trip started off in Montreal where the students spent three days, volunteering at a senior

citizens home, a soup kitchen and an elementary school filled with behavior challenged kids. The students were forced to speak in French at all times in order to

properly communicate with the various people they met. They were put into situations they would rarely face in their day to day lives. "The first couple of days were a little nerve-wracking," said student Ala'a Founouni. "You never know how people are going to react to you and it's especially difficult to be using your second language. But as the days would go on, it would become easier and more comfortable."

The group then went on to Quebec City where they spent the remainder of the trip. They continued to volunteer at various areas including "Les Petits Frères des Pauvres," an organization for senior citizens that have no remaining family and "La Maison

Revivre," a house organized around helping homeless addicts get rid of their addictions. "La Maison Revivre" was really interesting because all of the volunteers were recovering addicts as well," said Founouni. While at "La Maison Revivre," the students helped serve a hot meal and then presented their "Mini Operas."

When the students were not out volunteering, they engaged in many group activities. There was "Une thérapie de groupe" ("Group Therapy"), various small projects and journal writing. "Overall the trip was a big success among the students," said Guiseppi. "I think everyone looked at their lives in a different way. It was a life-changing trip."

Social Justice continues with student's efforts

Tori Dove - staff reporter

What does social justice mean to you? That question has been asked and answered throughout the year at Riverside numerous times. Many students from Carol Sirianni's Social Justice class have continued to work on a final action project outside of the classroom to make citizens aware of social justice issues. Julie Evans, a grade twelve student at Riverside, took on the project of collecting old cell phones from students. The action plan is to collect cell phones for women that are being abused physically. The phones no longer have a contract on them and no outgoing calls can be made with the exception of 911. This action plan helps battered woman who cannot pay for a phone and have no way of reaching 911 for help. "The main objective was to make a

small difference in the community and to save those who have been abused," said Evans. The cell phone project is continuing until June and has a Facebook page for anyone who is interested in contributing.

Senior student Amanda McAlister wrote lyrics for a Social Justice song called "This is our World" concerning the issues we all face in our community. The song is about youth raising their voices and trying to make a difference because youth today are the adults of the future. McAlister is trying to get across the point that if we do nothing today, then in the future the issues of discrimination will only get worse. "It is our job to put an end to discrimination; it's only us that will suffer in the future," said McAlister.

Another student making a difference in the community is

Leigh Selden. Selden acquired many signatures from around the school and has sent a letter addressed to Stephen Harper, our Prime Minister. Selden's main purpose is to bring awareness to human rights abuses that are happening around the world, such as the Omar Khadr trial. He is a Canadian citizen, who has been held at Guantanamo Bay prison for the last five years without a fair trial. He was taken into custody as a minor at the age of 15, but is being treated under Adult regulations at the prison. "I wanted to get students involved in current events, by letting them take part in my project and make a difference," said Selden; "as well as to get our Canadian Government to stand up for the human rights of our citizens." These students have shown by their actions that Social Justice is not just a course.

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Riverside students give back to community

Maya Reddy-Thom-staff reporter

Another YPI grant was awarded to a deserving charity on April 2nd, through the hard work of a group of Riverside planning students. They presented their case in front of our school judges, who decided that their charity was worthy of the five thousand dollar grant.

The winners, Robyn Vondrasek, Nick Jennings, and Zane Goodin worked for several weeks to create their ten minute presentation showing the judges why their charity, *Hope for Freedom Society*, is deserving of the money. Hope for Freedom is a Port Coquitlam based charity that provides Christian based recovery programs for men and women with drug and alcohol addictions. "I liked how they were broad, it's amazing how they helped everyone," said Goodin, one of the winning students.

YPI stands for Youth and Philanthropy Initiative. The way



K.Shong/eddy

Youth and Philanthropy Initiative winners Zane Goodin, Robyn Vondrasek, and Nick Jennings with their \$5,000 cheque to be awarded to Hope For Freedom Society.

the project works is that students in groups of two to four must pick a local charity, interview and visit them, and create a ten minute presentation. One group from every Planning ten class goes to the semi-finals, and from there six

groups go on to the finals to compete for a five thousand dollar grant awarded to their charity. There are only three criteria: the charity must be local, grassroots, and operate in the social service sector; however, the more creative

and inventive the presentation is, the better chance they have. The project is run and funded by the Toskan Casale foundation. "After visiting and seeing what my charity was all about, I felt inspired and wanted to help them out," said

Harkiran Thandi, a grade ten student who participated in the project.

Some of the other charities chosen for the finals this year were Lower Mainland Brain Injury Association by Lauren Muller, Rachel Henrikson and Sambrina Lawrence, Take a Hike Youth At Risk by Mitch Klarnar and Conor Steer, and The Colleen Findlay Foundation, by Jenessa Codron, Yelena Vatauvuk, Shahrukh Nabi and Alanna Catena.

Santana Grant, Veronica Dabrowski and Billy Lin added a creative twist to their presentation for Meadow Ridge Food Bank. Along with the usual PowerPoint presentation and speeches, they created a music video with alternate lyrics.

Another group that went the extra mile was Act II Child and Services, by Emily Chan, Justine Lam, and Ashley Mak, who hosted a basketball tournament to raise funds for their charity.

Graphic Novels could benefit English curriculum

Lorraine Lidher-staff reporter

Graphic novels are sometimes seen by educators in a negative light for their literary value. With many graphic novels being adapted into movies over the years (*Watchmen*, *300*, *V for Vendetta*) there is a growing interest in them. But can they be used as school material? Using graphic novels can make a course more interesting, and get students to read more. Graphic Novels are a growing medium in North America. Graphic novel sales were \$395 million for 2008 (*by Calvin Reid—Publishers Weekly*). Graphic novels could encourage students to become lifelong readers, and enjoy all types of reading material. "I love them. Anything that will make people read is great!" said librarian assistant, Ms. Holgrem. Although

their popularity is growing, many students would rather read *Twilight*. "There would be some prejudice against them by people that wouldn't read them in the first place," said Riverside student, Amy-Sue Brown. However, contrary to popular belief, graphic novels aren't just a bunch of pretty pictures. Many have a complex plot, and deal with various themes and ideas.

Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis* is a French-language autobiographical graphic novel about the author's childhood in Iran during Islamic revolution. *Death Note*, by Tsugumi Ohba, follows the main character, Light, who finds a note book that when he write a person's name in it, they die. There are some issues that might arise when using graphic novels in school. Kathy Kao, a member of Anime club said, "One

of the biggest problems with teaching graphic novels is finding appropriate material. Some have lots of violence and sex." Another issue is that some teachers may be unwilling or unable to integrate the novels into the curriculum. "I'm not too familiar with the material," said English teacher, Ms. Leonard. A start, however, could be to incorporate into the class the many manga versions of Shakespeare plays: *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, and *Macbeth*. This could help students understand difficult material better. "It wouldn't be my first choice. I would probably use it as a secondary resource, like we use movies," said English teacher, Ms Nelson. Graphic novels can be used to introduce new literacy terms such as panel, balloon, gutter, border, bleed, and chapter opener. Graphic novels can also give students an opportunity to



Photo Courtesy Of Google

Maus by Art Spiegelman

learn how the angle the placement of the drawing, and the art style affect the mode and tone of the story. ("Less written words mean students will have to also use the pictures to interpret the material more," said Ms. Litz-student teacher.) Students would have to use the images, and symbols to



Photo Courtesy Of Google

Death Note by Tsugumi Ohba

interpret the character type, action, and, themes. Graphic novels can be used in a variety of classes. They can be used to teach different languages, history, and art. "They are a refreshing change from novels, more new and current for students," said Ms. Litz



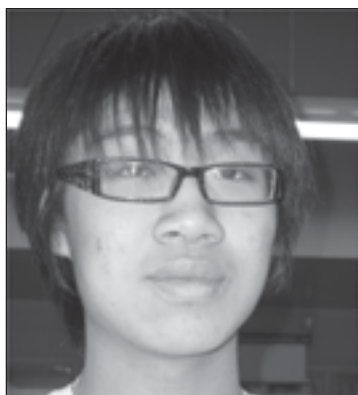
Down By The Riverside

Who is your favourite superhero?



Chantel Lukawesky (grade 11)

"Superwoman because not only does she have a great outfit but she is a strong independent woman."



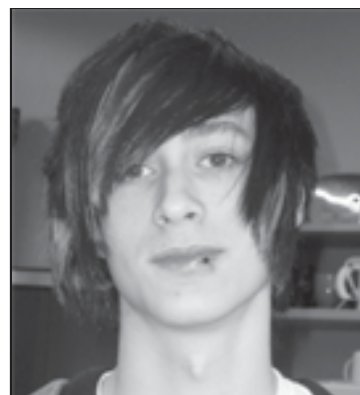
Brian Mak (grade 11)

"Batman because he's not really like a superhero, he's more of a guy in a suit but he can do the things superheroes do, like help people."



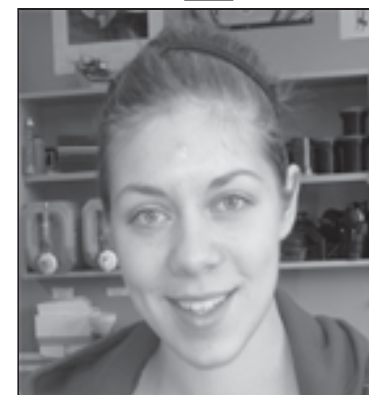
Amanda Walton (grade 12)

"The invisible woman because if someone makes her mad she can just pants them and they won't even see it coming."



Justin Black (grade 12)

"Batman because he pwns noobs."



Leigh Selden (grade 12)

"Little Miss Vixen cause she's a powerful woman, and has a lot in common with today's teenage girl."



Eco-friendly fashion fixes the environment

On April 8th, Heritage Woods Secondary hosted a garbage themed fashion show. The show was held in the Grand Hall at Heritage Woods and was open for the public to attend. Leigh Selden organized the nine designers from Riverside, which were Jantima Buzzard, Emilie Claire, Hayley Dwyer, Arden Laliberte, Kylie Rozborski, Tina Player, Tara Macklin, Rebecca Sigrist, and Leigh, herself. The rules of the contest consisted of basically using the least amount of actual fabric possible. Aside from shoes, or liners underneath the recycled materials, fabric was not allowed. Students were encouraged to be as creative as possible when it came to putting together their outfits and were told to use items such as pop cans, newspapers, tree branches, electrical wires, and junk that would normally be thrown away.

There were four judges at the show who decided on the first, second, and third place winners. The judging panel consisted of two Emily Carr professors, the Manager



Both models and designers pose at Riverside's recycled fashion show. 8 of these dresses went to Heritage Woods Secondary for the district wide competition.

of Energy and Sustainability for SD43, Mark Clay, and fashion designer, Katherine Sansoucie. The contestants were judged based on their use of 'the 4 R's', reduce, reuse, recycle, and renew. Along with the judges, there was also a DJ and a reporter from the Vancouver radio station, The Beat, attending. For guests who attended the show, there were door prizes which included a pair of Circa Uno skate shoes, an Obey women's t-shirt, and a Bobby Paul t-shirt. There was also a silent

auction for guests to bid on donated pieces of art, jewellery and gift certificates. The prize for the first place winner was a cash prize; the top three winners have also been given the opportunity to display their winning outfits at an art show at the Inlet Theater for other art critics to see. First place went to Rachel McCreesh from Gleneagle. Second place went to Cynthia Lung, Ines So, Rachel Kim and Jenny Mi, and third place went to Carling Bell. Aside from giving students the opportunity to



The winning dress for the night, designed by Rachel McCreesh, and modeled by Trina Cole.

show off their talent to the public, this fashion show was organized by Heritage Woods leadership students to raise awareness for the environment by recycling and reusing materials, and also to raise

money for the Covenant House. The Covenant House is a charity in Vancouver and the lower mainland which provides rehabilitation programs, shelter and food for homeless youth.

Dead on arrival



Mayhem members Dead and Euronymous pose during a tour break. Eric Willmott - staff reporter

April 8th, 2009 was the 18th anniversary of Per Yngve Ohlin's death, a.k.a. his stage name, "Dead", one of the most (in)famous Black Metal singers of all time.

For those unaware of what Black Metal is, it's a subgenre of metal pioneered by such bands as *Venom*, *Bathory* and *Celtic Frost*. It's characterized by icy-sounding guitars, low-budget production, and dark lyrical topics. It never really gained public recognition until the 1990's, after several controversial acts took place in the Black Metal scene.

Dead was born Per Yngve Ohlin in 1969 in Stockholm, Sweden. After nearly drowning as a child, he began to obsess over death and the afterlife. Dead soon developed a dark and melancholic personality. "He wasn't a guy you could know very well", said Faust of *Emperor*, "I don't think he enjoyed living in this world."

He made his debut as the lead singer of *Morbid* and performed on their demo "December Moon". In 1988, Dead took an offer in the band *Mayhem*, claiming that "*Morbid* wasn't a real band, anyway." He moved to Norway, staying there for the next three years.

Although his death prevented him from performing on any *Mayhem* albums, Dead appears on numerous bootlegs and live albums, some considered the highest selling ever.

Dead was also notorious for his stage shows, going to great lengths to live up to his name, even burying his clothes and digging them up on the performance night. He was also one of the first musicians to use full facial "corpsepaint" onstage, which is when the face is covered in black and white makeup, as pioneered by Alice Cooper and King Diamond of *Mercyful Fate*. "Dead actually wanted to look like a corpse," said bassist Necrobutcher, "He didn't do it to look cool."

In the '80's, the band rented a rehearsal house in the forest, and *Dead* just stayed in his room, growing more and more depressed. Finally, in 1991, He took his own life.

Dead's influence still looms over *Mayhem* today. The band's next album after his death contained lyrics which were all written by him. He was a truly troubled Metal genius, and will be sorely missed.

Watchmen was worth waiting for

Chad Sigsworth - staff reporter

Based on the graphic novel by Alan Moore, *Watchmen* is about a group of American superheroes in the 1940's through to the 1960's. With a combination of violence, adventure, action and even a bit of romance, *Watchmen* is definitely not a slow movie. Smooth flowing from start to finish, it keeps you on edge and anticipating what happens next.

For a movie that appears as if it is all about violence and action, romance is also a very big part. Laurie, one of the retired superheroes, is living with Dr. Manhattan, a superhero who is working for the government. But she leaves him, and goes to the only other person she knows of, Dan. They connect almost immediately and decide to come out of retirement and go back to what they love, being superheroes.

Watchmen is also a movie with many mixed emotions between the characters. When they find out that one of their own superheroes is going to be held responsible for the death of millions of innocent people, obviously they're going to feel betrayed at first, but those feelings will change when they find out why he's going to kill all those innocent people.

But the biggest reason *Watchmen* is going to be such a success, is all the action and suspense in it. There is action in almost every scene, and if there weren't, you wouldn't be sitting on the edge of your seat, waiting for the next big moment. And it wasn't one of those movies with so much action it was confusing, or not enough to make it entertaining. It had the perfect

All photos courtesy of google



Watchmen created a lot of press for its unique plot line. Fans of the comic are from all ages so there is a huge fan base.

amount. Another one of the key reasons to go see the movie is the storyline. *Watchmen* is based on a graphic novel from the 1980's, and the movie follows the story almost perfectly. The director didn't go off track too much, and stayed true to the original story. *Watchmen* is a very long movie, just under 3 hours, but it was good all the way through. There aren't any boring parts that could have been cut from the movie, and there were no key parts that the movie missed.

Another appealing factor is how the story is told in a narrative perspective, which helps to make the parts that are confusing, a bit clearer.

So if you have not read the novel, and don't know what *Watchmen* is about, you will still be able to follow along and understand what is happening. It is very clear and there are no parts that would keep you thinking, "What just happened?" Overall, this was a very good movie.

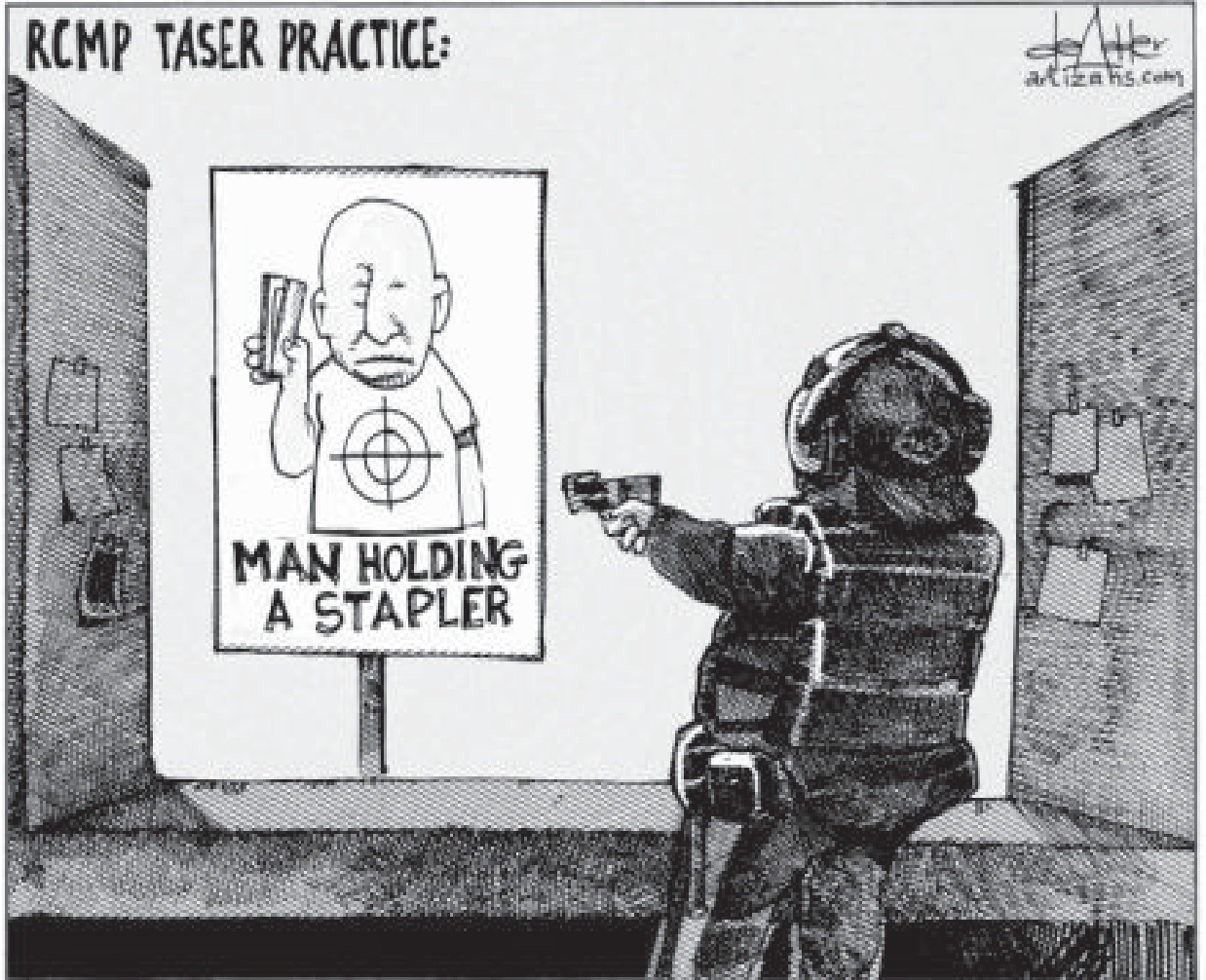


Public perception of the RCMP wavering



Courtesy of Google

Dziekanski's mother crying next to a picture of her son.



Courtesy of Google

Editorial Cartoon satirizing the level of threat that Dziekanski represented, and police training with taser use as a weapon instead of a 'safe' immobilizer.



Courtesy of Google

A picture of an SOS, similar to the one that was ignored.

The RCMP are under scrutiny for recent highly publicized tragedies. Will an independent investigative body ease the public's cynicism toward our National Police Force?

Alison Mullock - Staff Reporter

The RCMP and other policing authorities have been criticized a lot in the media lately. The negative public perception is due to some recent controversial incidents. There are three in particular that have the RCMP scrambling to redeem its public image: The Braidwood inquiry concerning Robert Dziekanski, the Quebec couple whose SOS' went ignored, and The Davies Commission inquiry concerning the death of a native man following his custody with the RCMP. Many people believe that the RCMP has a lot of explaining to do and others believe that the RCMP is doing its best considering the nature of the job. At the very least, many people believe that an outside independent body is needed to review procedures and practices before more controversy surrounding deaths in police custody occurs.

The Robert Dziekanski and subsequent trial has resulted in many different public opinions. Dziekanski arrived on a delayed flight from Poland to Vancouver International Airport at 3:15 pm on October 13th, 2007. Dziekanski needed language assistance to get through customs and immigration, but from 4:00pm-10:45pm there is no record of him being anywhere. During these hours, Dziekanski was wandering around the airport. People did not bother to try and communicate with Dziekanski because he could not speak English, so he

was left with no language assistance. His stress level grew, and he started to engage in disruptive behavior. Dziekanski was using chairs to prop the doors open and at one point threw a computer. The RCMP was called. According to the testimony, they asked him to stand against a wall; Dziekanski failed to do so, as he didn't understand what they were saying. He did raise his arms in the air, but turned his back to the officers and picked up a stapler. About 25 seconds after that, he was tasered 5 times. He stopped moving; the police allegedly then checked his pulse and he had stopped breathing. According to the recent testimony, the RCMP that were involved in the action believed at that time it was the right thing to do. They had no idea what this man was going to do and their training dictated that they immobilize a potentially dangerous man, and to be fair, Dziekanski was highly agitated as a result of errors made by airport security and staff. From a different perspective, the RCMP should have tasered him only once, as the first taser resulted in his fall to the floor and he no longer presented a threat. This case has resulted in a call to revisit taser use, but the RCMP claims it is safer than guns.

The SOS incident is also a very tragic event. A Quebec couple had been skiing in an "out of bounds" area. There was a report to the hotel about an SOS which was ignored because they could not find the couple's car in the parking lot. The car had been parked underground, which was not investigated. Two more SOS's were spotted and the RCMP then investigated. The SOS was ignored and after 9 days the couple was then found; however, by then the wife died of exposure and the husband survived. The RCMP have apologized for this occurrence, but stated in their defense, that it was a miscommunication between the RCMP and Search and Rescue. Some believe the RCMP should not be completely held accountable



Courtesy of Google

Cartoon satirizing Vancouver's image after taser incident.

because the couple had gone out of bounds, had not told anybody where they were heading, and when they would return. However, these reasons should not be excuses for this or any SOS's to be ignored. This should have been investigated.

In 1998, a very disturbing incident occurred. Frank Paul was arrested for public intoxication. He was supposedly being taken to a drunk tank, but the sergeant at the city drunk tank refused to take him in. Police then took him away and left him in an alley. Paul was wet because of the rain, and was left there. He died of hypothermia. The police man who left the man in the alley reportedly felt that this was not the right thing to do, but did it anyway as it was an order from a superior officer. He now regrets

not using his internal instinct. The police force could have definitely handled this situation better.

Being a member of the RCMP is a risky job and officers face potential life threatening situations everyday, and in each case there were also extenuating circumstances beyond the officer's control. The airport should have never have let a distressed man wander for over 6 hours and the couple should have stayed in bounds, however, the police are ultimately responsible for and to the public, and they cannot investigate themselves without bias when things go wrong. Without an independent investigating body, the public will continue to be skeptical about our National Police Force.



Port Coquitlam's murals make it unique



Teresa Ly/eddy

A mural from Shaughnessy street depicting a historical scene of Port Coquitlam.

Teresa Ly - staff reporter

There are several murals located around Port Coquitlam which are intended to celebrate the culture and history of the town. Recently, Helen Daniels who works at ArtsConnect Tri-Cities Arts

Council, has collaborated with people such as Ms. Selden and Ms. Bates, to come up with some new ideas. A few of those ideas include creating a new mural to be located by the Shaughnessy Street underpass and having some

photography students document the existing murals. At this point, the completion date for the project has not yet been set.

Regarding the images that will result from the photography contest, Daniels said "They will be

eligible for display in the windows of businesses along Shaughnessy, possibly the PoCo 2010 calendar and in a brochure planned to be a walking guide tour of the murals." Specific outlines and rules for the contest have not been established thus far, but for further details about the photography contest, visit www.artconnect.ca. Another goal of this project is to discover the meaning behind the existing murals, how they were created, and how the designs were developed. They are hoping to interview the artists who created most of the existing murals as well as representatives of the Port Coquitlam Business Improvement Association who have been generous sponsors for many of the murals. Yvonne Chui, the Coordinator of Arts and Culture for Port Coquitlam, is involved with creating the new mural. For

example, she is helping to find students within Port Coquitlam who might be interested in working on the mural and documenting the process through a video.

According to their website, ArtsConnect is a non-profit society that has worked within Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Anmore, and Belcarra for almost forty years. Arts Connect looks for ways to bring a cultural component to local events and also helps create opportunities for artists to showcase their work. They aim to "make arts and culture an accessible part of everyday life." Daniels works at ArtsConnect as the Executive Director. When asked what ArtsConnect does, she said "We promote arts and culture in the Tri-Cities and seek ways to engage the local community in arts and cultural activities."

A look into POCO's past

Rudolf Szekernyes - staff reporter

Have you ever wondered about the history and heritage of our wonderful communities? If so, here is a brief history and some facts about Port Coquitlam, one of the oldest and most beautiful communities in the lower mainland.

The area that is now known as Port Coquitlam, nicknamed "PoCo" or "The land where two rivers meet," a reference to the confluence of the Fraser River and Pitt River, was occupied by the Coast Salish people before the first European settlers arrived.

The area of Port Coquitlam was first colonized when European farmers began farming along the Pitt River in 1859. It remained

mostly farmland for more than 50 years before being incorporated as a municipality on March 7th, 1913.

Due to the expansion of Vancouver and the Industrial movements of the 20th century, Port Coquitlam was transformed from farmland to wide expanses of suburban housing, industrial and commercial developments. Even though it has gone through major changes in the last one hundred years, Port Coquitlam is still home to many longstanding, family run businesses such as Matteo's Gelato. The fact that these small businesses have been able to survive and thrive through the encroachment of large companies, prove and reinforce the fact that Port Coquitlam is still a tight-knit

and diverse community with a small town feel. European and Asian cultures have had a large influence in making this city a diverse and accepting community that is a great place to live in.

Port Coquitlam's tight-knit, peaceful and friendly nature, have made it a prime destination not only in the tourism industry, but also the housing market. Port Coquitlam has had population growth of 9.8% in the late 1990's. This increase in population has brought along with it different kinds of people, cultures and ideas that have inspired many of the positive changes that have molded this city into the Port Coquitlam we know and love today. Despite all the changes that have already shaped this community,



courtesy of Google

Port Coquitlam City Hall - circa 1914

Port Coquitlam is still an ever evolving city. The first high rise in Port Coquitlam is scheduled to begin being constructed this spring. Also, the north and south sides of Port Coquitlam will be

united by a new highway currently under construction. These changes are undoubtedly not the last. Who knows what future ideas will be brought to the table to enhance this thriving city.

What's Cool about Port Coquitlam

Downtown POCO

Downtown Port Coquitlam is a charming part of our city. Downtown Port Coquitlam is great because you can go bowling with some friends at Poco Bowl on McAllister Avenue, then head over to Shaughnessy Street and grab a coffee at Waves and take a browse through Ten Thousand Villages in Leigh Square. Whether you are getting a bite to eat or shopping for household items, POCO's main drag on Shaughnessy Street is an attractive destination.

Poco Youth Bus

Port Coquitlam youth bus travels throughout Coquitlam stopping in high traffic youth areas for troubled teens to have easy access to a safe, fun, and encouraging environment. On the bus are youth workers that teens can talk to and receive help from for various issues surrounding drugs, alcohol, and home issues. The Port Coquitlam youth bus operates Friday and Saturday evenings.

Outdoor Spaces

Poco is known for its abundance of green spaces outdoors. Numerous well kept and clean parks envelop the community offering a natural sense of ease to its members. Lions Gate park, Gates Park, the Poco trail, Aggie park, Cameron Park, Veterans Park, Nacht Park, Imperial Park and numerous others are what POCO residents are welcome to daily. Port Coquitlam also has more parkland acreage per capita than any other city in the Lower Mainland.

Lion's Gate Skate Park

Port Coquitlam's Lion's Gate Park offers a skate park popular with many teenagers. Built in 2005, this combination of rails, half pipes, and ramps is perfect for any skateboard enthusiast.

Hometown of Terry Fox

Port Coquitlam is also the birthplace of the world famous Terry Fox. Fox was a person who inspired others when he attempted to run across Canada raising money for cancer when he himself had been a victim of it and received a prosthetic leg. Despite all of his misfortune, Terry remained a man who paved the way for the rest of the world in order to start to find the cure for cancer.

City Hall

Located on the corner of Shaughnessy Street and McAllister Avenue, it is a historic part of downtown POCO. Port Coquitlam's city hall was built in 1914, and though it has been extensively renovated and modernized, some of the original building still exists, and best of all, you can sit outside of it in the park and enjoy a Starbucks.

Electric Cafe

Since 1995, Port Coquitlam's Electric Cafe has been an event that many aspiring young POCO musicians anticipate. Here artists are given the chance to show-case and promote their talents to the community. Many of Riverside's own students are participants in this event.

Poco Trail

Port Coquitlam is famous for its Poco Trail, a scenic route that encircles the community with 25km of flat ground suitable for walkers, joggers, runners, and cyclists. This trail provides the perfect mixture of urban development and natural influences and provides a secluded feeling for its residents.

Family Establishments

Port Coquitlam is full of cozy family establishments. Operating for years, these businesses offer a sense of small town charm to Port Coquitlam. Floren's haircuts, Classé Dress Making Shoppe, and the Europe Bakery all seem to bring a friendly and familiar atmosphere to everyone.

May Day Festival

Since 1913, Port Coquitlam has been celebrating May Day. Our modern version of it today includes a variety of members from our community participating in parades, concerts, community showcases, May-Pole dancing, and amusement rides.

Leigh Square

Leigh Square, which serves as a community showcase for the arts, is a main attraction for many art enthusiasts. Providing a notable outdoor stage, a courtyard, decorative and expressive murals, the occasional market, and public seating, Leigh square is a calming attraction for members of POCO's community.

Marissa Vaillant - staff reporter



Riverside's golf team set for a great season

Emily Nomland and Olivia McMullen - staff reporters

Riverside Secondary's golf team just got started last month, but it is already showing much promise for this season, which ends in May. The team consists of twelve students: six on the junior team and six on the senior team. The team plays every Monday and Wednesday, rotating at the various local clubs: Golden Eagle, Meadow Gardens and Pitt Meadows Golf and Country Club. The team's coach, Jamie Askew, has a very positive outlook on this year's team, but would like to have more female players in the future. "This year's team is great, but I'd like to see more girls join the team. Our lead player is a girl, but there's only one on our team," said Askew.

Askew is a very successful coach, and he has coached the golf team for six years. He is also the



E.Nomland and O.Mcmullen - eddy

Riverside Golf Team - Senior boys in back row and Junior boys in front row.

district coordinator, which means he deals with organizing tee times and the championships. "I keep coaching because I love to play golf. I also love to see the players

improve on their skills," said Askew.

There's an upcoming Delta Police Tournament for the seniors on April 20th at Kings Links Golf

course and on the 21st at Northview Golf and Country Club. Last year the Riverside golf team won the junior districts and tied for second in seniors, and they're hoping to

continue their success.

One of the difficulties in being on the golf team is that the players are required to miss block D occasionally, which results in extra homework and missed lessons to catch up on. The players must also supply their own equipment, which includes golf balls and golf shirts that they buy from the school. Golf is one of the most expensive sports that is offered through the school.

When asked about what he hoped for this season, Askew replied, "Good weather [laughs]. I also hope for the team to improve and I would love to have two second place wins this year."

Askew also coached the volleyball team, which succeeded as the district champions this past season; he's very familiar with coaching teams and he hopes to use these skills to improve this year's golf team's performance.

Rugby boys back with a vengeance



Junior and Senior boys scrimmaging at practice. A.Boleak - eddy

Alexis Boleak - staff reporter
The rugby boys are determined to show their rivals, Terry Fox and Port Moody, that they have what it takes to beat them. What an amazing start of the season for our junior team. They have won the first two games. Their first

tournament of the season took place in early March at Garibaldi Secondary School with a total of two individual games being played, and they finished with astounding score of 24-0 for Riverside. They were the first games that a junior team has won

in the history of Riverside. But with experienced coaches Terry Fleming, a retired teacher, and Mike Collins, a coach of the United Rugby League, the junior's team had a great chance of winning both games. With the amazing and already experienced senior team and the quick learning junior team, the team is surprising everyone with how great they are. On March 31st, the senior team played a fun, thoroughly planned game against Port Moody with a final score of 5-7 for Port Moody, and even though they lost, they had walked away with determination, pride and love of the game. With all of the rugby boys out on the field at least three times a week practicing and/or playing games, there's no doubt that they're going to go far.

Sporty Shorts



Junior Girl's Basketball

Congratulations to the Junior Girls for coming 1st place in the Districts and 2nd place in the Provincials.

Soccer

March 30th Riverside Secondary Vs Centennial 4-1 Loss
April 1st Riverside Secondary Vs Terry Fox 4-1 Loss
April 6th Riverside Secondary Vs Heritage Woods 3-1 Loss
April 8th Riverside Secondary Vs Pinetree Secondary 8-0 Win

Tennis

April 7th 2009 First Game with Charles Best Secondary school 10-1 win
April 9th 2009 Second game with Port Moody Secondary school



Tiffany John competes in Vegas

Richard Yu - staff reporter

This last Spring Break, Tiffany John went to Las Vegas to compete in a TaeKwonDo tournament that attracts competitors from all over the world. John's favourite event is the Sparring event, and she came home with a first place finish in it. Tiffany John went into the tournament as a third degree black belt. There are nine degrees for a Black Belt.

John practices Monday to Thursday, both training and teaching others to prepare for tournaments such as the Vegas one. As a Black Belt, Tiffany is qualified to teach all levels and ages of competitors. The club she trains out of is the WTTU Martial Arts School at Ecole des Pionniers, on 3550 Wellington Street - the old Terry Fox school.

John started TaeKwonDo at the age of four. While some children had interests in hockey or soccer,



courtesy of C. John

Tiffany John at a recent Taekwondo tournament.

she found she had an interest in the martial arts. To practice and test techniques and skills, it is required to compete with others in a sparring event, which is controlled contact fighting while earning cumulative points. When competing with others, a competitor receives two points if he or she succeeds in kicking the opponent's head because the head is a smaller and a more difficult

target to hit. A competitor receives one point for technique if he or she lands a kick to the body.

Martial Arts training is as much a mental competition as it is a physical one. Composing one's mind and body is essential for success in the sport.

John hopes to make teaching TaeKwonDo a career. "It has always been my passion since I was two years old," said John.



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