

pearson vision

LESTER B. PEARSON HIGH SCHOOL

MAY 1998

PLEASE GIVE, OR ELSE!!

Government introduces compulsory volunteerism

by Nick Gustafson

This newspaper has never shied away from a criticism of the government, indeed it would be difficult to do otherwise, given the plethora of material they're given us to work with, and now once again they have handed us something which we feel it would be wrong not to offer comment on.

Volunteering, whether working at a hospital, shelter, daycare centre or what have you, is one of the greatest applications a person can find for their idle and otherwise unoccupied time. The type of personality that one finds in a volunteer is one that is especially patient, caring, giving and conscientious about completing a job and doing it properly. After all, they have giving their time and they certainly wouldn't want to waste it.

Imagine if you would, that these volunteers did not have their own time to give, but rather were being forced to toil by some force other than altruism and the dictates of their own consciences. Would they truly present so great a work ethic or dedication to their task?

Better yet, suppose that they could not graduate high school without completing forty hours of community service, then guess what-- you need not suppose anymore because it is

soon to become a reality.

Isn't it funny the way things go? This year's graduating class (of which I am a part) was the first to be put through the seemingly radical "destreaming" of the Grade 9 course, but then continued to miss the increasing number of changes made to the curriculum, and will now miss out both on the broader ramifications of the Education Quality Improvement Act, as well as this wonderful new legislation.

Mandatory volunteerism has been in practised in several U.S. states for some time now, but thus far had escaped application here.

While ostensibly it may be justified as helping students gain valuable work experience and interpersonal skills while simultaneously augmenting sectors badly hit by cuts in governmental

funding, it seems to me as though it is merely a way to exploit free labour and arrive at a solution to a problem created by its inventors.

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ALTERNATE **visions**

Obviously this message is a long-time in coming due to the Pearson Vision's strained conformity to any sort of schedule (but that's a tirade of a completely different colour), but the staff wishes to thank all those who generously donated to our special charity holiday edition. Thanks to readers like you, we raised over thirty dollars which was donated to the Salvation Army on December 20. Way to go!

ENOUGH ALREADY.

What's with the "thought of the day" anyway? It's got to be the most annoying, insipid and pointless part of the morning announcements that are so already awful and come across as little more than commercials for things no one seems to care about anyway.

These "thoughts of the day" are something I've heard for the last five years straight and I'm just sick of them—this year especially when they've increasingly become nonsense proverbs, personal messages or blatant advertisements for school events. If the powers that be really want to do something to motivate us to start our day, then they should try to cut out crap like

this.

Anonymous

I agree with you completely.

The thought of the day is a total waste of our valuable class time that might otherwise be put towards learning and work and... hmm.. wait just a minute.. let's think about that. Maybe it's not so bad.

GO CANADA GO.

Patriotism. Now is the time for us Canadians to proudly announce where we are from, Canada. Every two years the selected few are bundled in red and white and sent to perform on the world stage of athletics, the Olympics. Luckily for us our geographic situation allows for us to compete in both Winter and Summer sports, with the best in the world. In figure skating, synchronized swimming, rowing, 100m dash, snowboarding, bobsledding, freestyle skiing, short track speedskating, swimming and of course hockey we field the best in competitors in the world. Yet in our overly complacent mood these feats go unannounced and uncelebrated by the majority of Canadians. I am not asking for the overzealous actions displayed by the Americans, though it would be nice, just a little show of pride. Watch our athletes, wear red and white, wave the flag during these next few weeks in Nagano. Elvis Stojko, Jean-Luc Brassard, Eric Lindros, Patrick Roy, Mike Harris, Ross Rebagliati, Ryan Johnson, Sandra Schmirler, Lesley Goyette, Anne Marie Pelchat, and John Ireland just to name some of

the 153 Canadians in Nagano. For two weeks we should become Don Cherrys, who is one the great unsung patriots of our time, and put Canada ahead of anything. Who cares that these games are taking place in a time zone 14 hours ahead of ours, get out of bed and watch them. We all live in the greatest country in the world, Canada.

On that note take your new found patriotism and put it to good use. Support Canadian artists by buying their albums, such as Econoline Crush, Sarah McLachlan and Moist. Buy a Maple Leaf hat, shirt, poster or flag. Watch the CBC for some of that great Canadian comedy, Air Farce, This Hour and Comics.

Remember Canada is your country, nothing else compares, nothing else matters, nothing else is CANADA.

Sean Shaw

Graduate

Thanks Sean, it's nice to hear from concerned students on any subjects (and not just because you're a former contributor). Good luck in your future plans

MANKLE ME LIKE.

I really annunciate the prognosticate of the corner of Mankle lunacy, picks Molson get the mixer he's writing that in what's that say? Okay MANKLE extrapolates about current issues in a, don't write um shut-up, don't write that, Biased yet intellectual manner. Keep the good work up Mankley.

Anonymous

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CLIFFHANGER CONTEST

What follows are the beginnings of two stories. The idea is to complete either story (or both) in a manner of your choosing (max. length two pages) for 1998 "A Chance To Speak" Writer's Festival. There are TWO winners in each category—one senior and one junior—all four will be awarded a prize at the end of the CHANCE TO SPEAK FESTIVAL including the chance to be published in this space.

COMEDY STORY

The crowd cheers and hollers as the host of the world's most renowned talk show, "True Lives" enters the stage. He is a tall bleach-blond man of 32 who wears a wildly bright suit and crazy tie on his daily show.

The crowd is swarming with teenagers of various interests. Looking into the audience, ____ (fill in your name of the host), the host notices that the crowd is ____ (describe the crowd). His show is one hour long and consists of guests who share their stories. An expert then comes in to analyze them. ____ (host's name) begins the show:

"Today my expert is Dr. Coronel. He specializes in dream therapy. Our first guest is Kelly. She is a 15 year-old high school student who has had some strange dreams. Kelly wishes to share her experiences with us and hopes that Dr. Coronel can analyze them for her.

Here she comes! Let's hear it for Kelly! Welcome to "True Lives" Kelly, tell us your story!

SUSPENSE STORY

The cool night wind whistled through the loosely crossed branches of tall pines infrequently illuminated by sweeping glances of a flashlight. As droplets of water intensified into a steady downpour, Jack pulled at his drenched shirt and futilely wrung it. He glanced behind him to see Jill, similarly soaked and stumbling up a nearby hill. Jill could see that Jack was speaking, but his words were muffled by the nearby crackle of thunder as the evening sky exploded in a bright white streak of lightning which shook them both.

Like an evergreen veil, Jack pulled back the numerous branches which obscured his vision until they finally gave way to a clearing. When the lightning once more allowed the pitch black of night to give way to grey hazy twilight-- a massive shape began to take form....

Before the pair stood an enormous house-- decrepit, garishly ornate, yet with an altogether sinister quality that loomed over its lack of taste. Its patchwork roof, once picturesque windows long ago consigned to weeds and rusted sidings were all very suggestive of its disuse.

With great hesitancy-- Jack and Jill approached the structure. And the door opened....

When you're done your stories— simply pass them off to an English teacher, Carolyn Eady, Chantal Crawley or Nick Gustafson. (or failing at that just drop them off at a newspaper meeting and we'll make sure it gets in!)

CONTEST ENDS MAY 28, 1998!! GET WRITING!!

**"A CHANCE TO SPEAK" WRITER'S FESTIVAL MAY 28- JUNE 4 1998!!
CONTESTS-COFFEE HOUSE-SPEAKER'S CORNER-DEBATE!!**

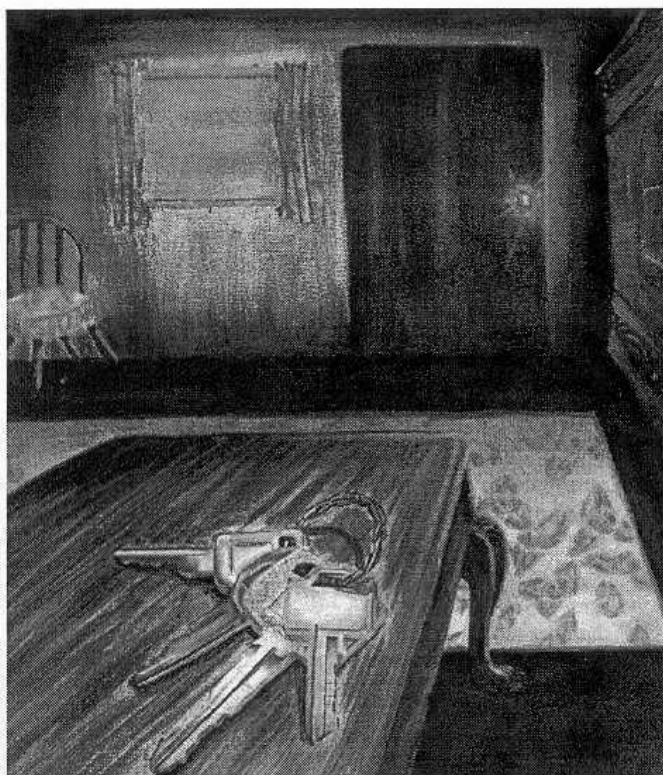
THE O.A.C. ART SHOW:

SHADES OF REALITY

by Kate Taylor

Andrea Collis, Carolyn Eady, Madeleine Gibson, Nick Gustafson, Adam Hutchison, Rachael Richards and myself, Kate Taylor are displaying our artwork in the OAC art show this year.

As OAC students, we felt pressured



LOOK BUT DON'T TOUCH: Paintings by Andrea Collis (above) and Kate Taylor (left) are amongst the work on display in this year.



more than once to finish our paintings and

MORE OAC ART ON PAGE 8

drawings on time, not to mention keeping up in other classes, but have still been able to crank out a lot of great work.

With styles that range from Cubism and Pop Art to Expressionism and Surrealism, we've entitled this year's show, "Shades of Reality."

Opening night is June 3, but come and see this diverse work and the artists who created them anytime in the library from June 1-4.

TORONTO'S TEAMS HOT ON THE LOSING WAYS

by Steven Loutfi

How many times have we heard the GM's promise for a winning season? When the team starts the season the numbers in the WIN column decreases and increase the LOSE column. Every professional sport team in Toronto talks like champions but plays poorly in its respective leagues.

The baseball team known as the Toronto Blue Jays seems to be sinking lower into the Major League ranks. The start of last season was looked upon with great expectations. The arrival of Roger Clemens, Benito Santiago, and Carlos Garcia seemed to bring the playoff hopes back again to Toronto. No sooner had the dream season started then the offense slumped through the first few games. This continue on and off throughout the season. The end of the season for a team with great expectations was at the basement of the American League East. We should not feel that disappointed because Roger Clemens got his fourth Cy Young Award. Also, this was a repeat two seasons ago when Pat Hentgen won the award. After this disappointing season, Blue Jay management knew their task was to make this a competitive

team. Tim Johnson, Ex-Jay, who knows player relations and the game well, filled the manager position. Some of the new players are Tony Fernandez, Jose Canesco, and Randy Myers. This minor improvement might improve the team for next season. May is coming around the corner with more possible moves to make this team ready for the Fall Classic.

The hockey team with a fresh management lacked many essence parts on the ice. The Toronto Maple Leafs with playoff hopes are fighting to stay in the playoffs contention. Throughout the first half of the season, there were only a handful of decent LEAFS like Potvin, Sundin, and Modin. The Leafs have been working hard every game to achieve the pre-season goal. The 'scrappy hockey players' are only there to provide entertainment with the 'brawl aha'. The Leafs after the Olympic Break should come on strong to catch Edmonton in the playoff race. Did you buy your tickets for the Stanley Cup game at Maple Leaf Gardens yet?

These teams are trying their best to succeed and need the support from the fans and media to do so.

PATRIOT SPORTS

..in brief

ITEM: Congratulations to Pearson athletes at the Halton Track & Field Championships. Taylor Loughran, Michelle MacDonald, Alisha Lasswell, Eileen Lasswell and Christine McKenzie all had first place finishes—Michelle setting a Halton record for 300m hurdles. Sean Thompson and Lisa McCrea both placed top three in their respective events

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emos htiw cab m'I lleW(No, I haven't completely lost it, try reading the sentences in a different
way, maybe backw..)

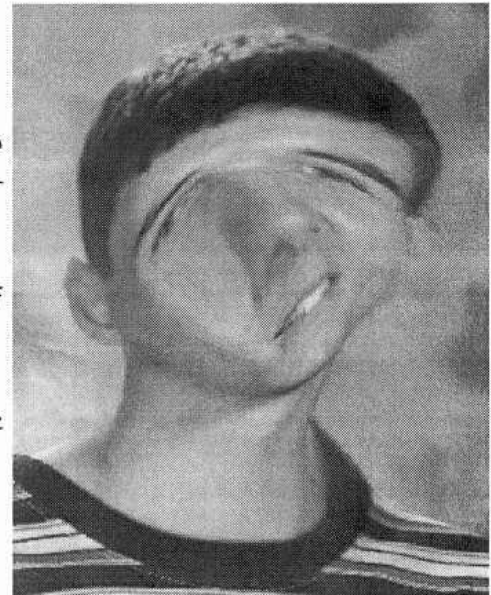
Pointless Uncle Mankle Quotes

Committee- "A group of men who individually can do nothing but as a group decide that nothing can be done." - Fred Allen

Egotist- "A person of low taste, more interested in himself than in me." -Abrose Bierce

Abstract Art- "A product of the untalented, sold by the unprincipled to the utterly bewildered." -Al Capp

I feel like this, I hope you do too;
string: 1 ---11---13---11---15p11----- Play this cutesy little
string: 2 -----11---11---11-----11-- riff 4x solo then you'll
string: 3 ----- understand how I feel!
string: 4 -----
string: 5 -----
string: 6 -----



crazy uncle mankle

Crazy Uncle Mankle Critiques our School Hallways

Our school hallways suck! That's the gist of it and I'm not exaggerating. They are too narrow, they should've been made twice as wide and lockers should only be on one side. That basically covers the physical aspect but the more important one is the human element. Hallways are meant as a means of getting to and from places. They were not designed for the following activities: standing and looking dumb waiting for your friends, grade 9 herd gatherings, standing and talking with your friends, demonstrating any public affection, any grooming or personal hygiene, waiting to get into class, changing your clothes, eating, doing homework, sitting, laying, lounging, loligagling or any other immobile positions, playing games-cards, hackie sack, ball tag, or any other freaking games, practicing skits or plays, slow-walking, strutting, crawling, hopping, running, Red Rover games, frolicking, larking, merry-making, romping, amassing, assembling, congregating, culling, flock, pile up, concentrating of persons, gossiping, schmoozing, small talk, tittle-tattle, yakety-yacketing, prattling, twattling, heaving, jerking, pulling, pushing, kicking, snatching, tugging, bawling, bellowing, hollering, whooping, yelping, ululating, dawdling, loitering, procrastinating, any in activities, flatulating, blockdolences, torpidity, leaching, no excess vivacity, no festooning of any sorts, no purling, no vaingloriousing of lockers, fountains and doors. Basically what I'm trying to say if you simple-minded fools can't read all the big words, is to use the hallways what they were invented, designed, innovated and basically appreciate all the vicissitude that has gone into the history of hallways. WALK IN STRAIGHT LINES, WALK QUICKLY, EFFICIENTLY AND WITH PURPOSE! IF ANY OF THE ABOVE ACTIVITIES COINCIDE, OR CONCUR WITH YOU, THEN THIS MESSAGE IS FOR YOU: GET OUT OF THE F**K**G HALLWAYS. YOU WILL IN TIME SUBSTANTIATE YOUR ACTIONS AS ONES THAT ARE FOOLISH AND MUST BE PUNISHED. I GUARANTEE YOU THAT CRAZY UNCLE MANKLE WILL WALK THE HALLWAYS IN THE APPROPRIATE MANNER MENTIONED ABOVE, FORTHOSE OF YOU WHO GET IN MY WAY...WELL LETS JUST SAY IT "LL BE T.S. FOR YOU!

THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED BY CRAZY UNCLE MANKLE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE PEARSON VISION.

NEO-GENESIS

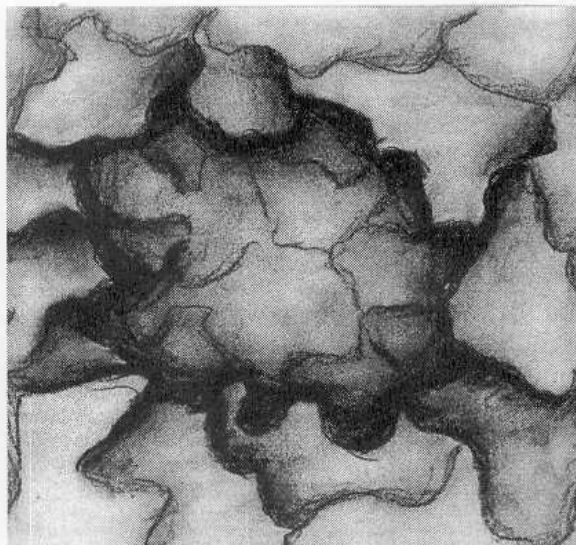
by Brad Fisher

What is this I see
on the horizon
(there is a horizon!)
Shining me forward
on rays of hope
of more than simple escape.
Entering a bright world where,
bridging my pain,
a new something
a new experience tempts me.
But this will require patience,
and something less than
subtlety
and more than subtlety.
After all, who wants to fall
into that dark hole again?

MADELEINE GIBSON

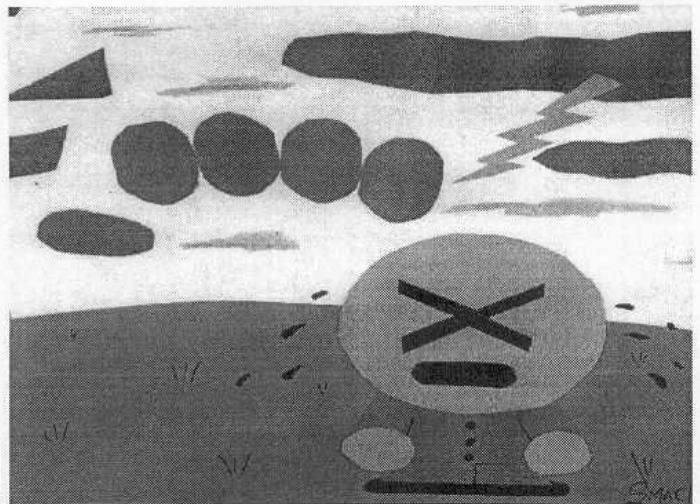


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