

eNDEAVOUR

Week of Oct. 24, 2022



Fall graduate Oliver Namugerwa stands near the college's main entrance, waiting for family to take pictures after the convocation ceremony on Oct. 15. Photo by Mackenzie Jarvin.



Graduate Kelii Malboeuf poses for photos following the convocation ceremony on Oct. 15. The honours student wears a Buffalo Stole, a piece of academic regalia presented to Indigenous convocates. Photo by Mackenzie Jarvin.

‘Resilient’ Lethbridge College graduates celebrate at fall convocation

Story by Mackenzie Jarvin

Lethbridge College graduates crossed the stage during the fall convocation ceremony Saturday afternoon despite a challenging two years of Zoom-filled classes, battling sickness and being isolated from the college community.

The Val Matteotti gymnasium roared with applause as the 166 graduates received their diplomas after making it through college in a global pandemic.

Dr. Brad Donaldson, Lethbridge College’s newly appointed President and CEO, said the last couple of years have been unlike any other for students.

“To have graduated in the environment where they’ve had to face uncertainty... and depending on the program, do a lot of the content online – I give them a lot of credit. It’s resilience,” Donaldson said.

The president said the college’s convocation ceremonies in the fall and spring are the most gratifying days of the year.

“Convocation represents the purpose of the college as students complete their programs and

move on in their lives and careers. You see such joy on the faces of the graduating students and their families. It’s such an accomplishment – it’s something so novel and wonderful. [Today] is a day of celebration,” he said.

The celebration was the second convocation with both graduates and invited guests in attendance since 2019, the first being in the spring of this year.

Denise Serrano, the valedictorian for the college’s fall 2022 convocation, said she believes the class of 2022 has gained something unique from attending college during the pandemic.

“We learned how to adapt to a new learning environment quickly. It was difficult for some students, but we developed skills and learned in ways that were not really there before,” Serrano said.

Serrano also had one message for her fellow graduates: take risks.

“Don’t hesitate. Be eager to learn and grow from any challenge. Try new things and accept different opportunities. It’s okay to fail or make mistakes... just don’t give up. Take risks and you will go far.”

See the full story at LethbridgeCampusMedia.ca.

Students beg college to lower parking passes

Story by Zach Lalin

Students hope Lethbridge College facilities management starts to lower the cost of parking. Besides tuition and finding a place to live, parking passes are one of the more expensive factors students need to consider when attending post-secondary.

Students are stressed on how they can budget the passes throughout the year considering they have to pay \$400 on top of their tuition fees. Many of the students at the college have different views and opinions on why the passes are costly, but their opinions still lean towards making it cheaper.

Alysia Medema, a student who is in her last year at the college says she finds a way to connect with her friends by sharing the expense.

"I split my parking pass with my two roommates who are in the same program as me, so we drive together and just split the cost between the three of us." said Medema.

By doing so, Medema only has to contribute \$130 towards their parking pass. She also said the cost of the passes added up during her four years of education at the college. She was also curious about where the money goes and what they do with it.

Bryan Czernick, a building maintenance supervisor at the college said they use the money mainly for maintaining the college's parking lots. They spend it on paving the lots, line painting, snow removal and utilities. Czernick has also suggested other ways students can deal with parking on campus.

"There are other options. Enmax now has their permits the same as the soccer centre, there's that church in the corner they also sell permits, or [there is always] public transit." Czernick suggests.

The Enmax Centre located near Lethbridge College permit rates are \$5 a day, \$15 per week, \$35 every month and \$115 each semester. There is also the College Drive Community Church beside



Alysia Medema, who's a fourth year student, hopes the passes get lowered to an affordable price to prevent cost build up over the years. Photo by Zach Lalin.

the stadium for a much cheaper alternative. If you're still looking for another way there's public transit as their bus passes cost \$289 per semester or \$77 for the monthly pass.

Inflation caused the price of parking passes to increase over the years. The price of parking for students has been the same for the last three years. Unfortunately, students are not subsidized for the parking passes if they can't afford it.

Compared to other post-secondary institutions, Lethbridge College definitely charges less than others. A great example is University of Lethbridge, where the prices differ from each lot depending on where students park.



Many students are expressing their frustrations with how expensive food has gotten both in the cafeteria and the grocery store. Photo by Keiran Emard.

Rise in food prices leave many fighting for scraps

Story by Keiran Emard

Food prices continue to climb which is causing both businesses and consumers alike some problems at the checkout.

Since the start of the war between Ukraine and Russia began, food prices have continued to climb.

According to Statistics Canada, food prices have not increased like this since 1981,

“Food prices in Canada jumped by 9.8 percent from a year earlier in August 2022, accelerating from a 9.2 percent rise in the previous month.”

Even though the prices are predicted to continually increase, not everyone is looking at this in a negative light.

Mark Dieser, manager of food services at Lethbridge College, says the prices can be seen as an opportunity to educate students.

“I think there’s benefits to it, in that we have to teach our students how to manage things better, control items better. So as far as our students, I

won’t say it’s a bonus, but it’s a problem that we have to sort through and it helps us teach the students.”

While he thinks the increased prices do have a benefit for the culinary program, Dieser also thinks this will hit local businesses hard.

“There’s a big well known local restaurant that closed because of prices, because of some of the commodities and things. I’m not just talking food prices. Every bill I get has got a fuel surcharge on it, so it’s tough out there for businesses and every business not just restaurants,” says Dieser.

Many consumers are also feeling the increase in food prices.

Frankie Cantiaaooas, a local consumer, who shops at superstore says there are lots of things he can’t afford.

“So far it depends what you are buying, because its just the way how you save some money,” says Cantiaaooas.

Food prices are expected to continue to climb.



Naomi Wiebe, Taber Food Bank manager, inspects food donations on Oct. 13 at the food bank. Wiebe has been taking on the role of manager for five years. Photo by Kathleen Bernal.

Food bank volunteers provide critical aid as inflation hits southern Alberta

Story by Kathleen Bernal

Staff and volunteers at a local food bank highlighted the importance of volunteering, as food prices across the country rise.

Volunteers take on roles such as organizing, cleaning, sorting through donations, filling shelves and making hampers for the clients.

Doug Broadfoot, a 20-year food bank volunteer, said he does what is needed to ensure clients are greeted and welcomed with a warm smile.

"I do a little bit of everything; I drive the forklift now and again. Occasionally I get a chance to drive the van to various different locations," said Broadfoot.

Broadfoot started volunteering because he liked the feeling of helping and returning.

"It gives me a good warm glow. Whether people end up taking too much or not, it's still a warm glow," said Broadfoot.

On average, the organization had around 500 pickshelf visits in the months of June, July and August with an average of 34 volunteers who racked up 300 hours of volunteering in total.

Skills like working with people, interpersonal communication and being a helpful person are some of the abilities Broadfoot learned at the food bank. He likes knowing what he's doing for the community is important.

Naomi Wiebe, Taber Food Bank manager, said they would be unable to operate without the help of volunteers.

"They're extremely important. They take care of lots of different day-to-day duties for us that without them just wouldn't get carried out. Our operations would look a lot different if we only had staff," said Wiebe.

Lethbridge College has its very own food bank specially for students. The Lethbridge College Students' Association first opened the food bank in 1994, their goal was to meet the food needs of students on campus.

Angela Fretts-Waters, the association services coordinator for the LCSA, said the college offers services such as Wellness Wednesday, cheap pizzas during Thirsty Thursday and Christmas hampers for students with families.

See the full story at lethbridgecampusmedia.ca.

Healthiest and cheapest options at Lethbridge College Food Court

Story by Hayden Siemens

After a long morning class, your brain can be practically begging you for something to give it the fuel it needs.

Now you could go to the vending machine and get that package of chips that probably won't give your stomach trouble in the future, that's your choice.

Or you could go to the student run cafeteria and get yourself a variety of healthy, well-made food made by the culinary students, all for an affordable price.

This includes caesar salads, chicken wraps, or a variety of healthy snacks at the culinary shop.

To get a better opinion on what is a healthier option in the cafeteria, one of the ladies at the cafeteria, Peggie, explained what a hungry student looking for a healthier alternative can get.

"The people in the cafeteria offer big, hearty dishes for only \$10, or you could get half of a meal for \$6. I know those dishes are a pretty good deal if you're looking for a cheap meal. For some smaller, healthy options, the shop also offers some salads, wraps and fruits for pretty cheap prices."

Alongside those great options, the cafeteria also offers lunch time features that change every day.

These can range from filling roast beef sandwiches to perogies with bacon bits and onions, served with sour cream and salsa.

Now when you hear that, I'm sure your first instinct is to go and see what's on the menu today.

For more information as to what is best option a student can get for their healthy, cheap meal. Cafeteria worker Tisa Duda has a very good recommendation for a healthy and filling meal.



The cafeteria offers salads every school day including the chef salad. Photo by Hayden Siemens.

The chef salad is to me the best option you can get from the cafeteria that is cheap and healthy.

Tisa Duda from the cafeteria

"The chef salad is to me the best option you could get from the cafeteria that is cheap and healthy while also having a lot of good ingredients to fill you up. It has lettuce, tomato, cucumber, shredded cheddar, turkey and hard-boiled eggs all in a big bowl that costs you around \$9, so I would say that's a pretty good deal."

The Culinary market has many options a hungry student can choose from, healthy or not. These range from fresh fruit and muffins, to smile cookies and cinnamon buns.

The choice isn't made much easier with the fact those options are right next to each other.

So the choice may be hard to make for those wanting to make the change to a healthier option.



Bill Ginther, The Lethbridge Soup Kitchen Executive Director moving donations to the kitchen on Oct. 15 with his wife, Joan Ginther. Photo by Noreve Belarmino.

Helping people in need four decades later

Story by Noreve Belarmino

The Lethbridge Soup Kitchen started on Oct. 1, 1984, when a group of women observed several homeless men sitting on the steps of a local church and started serving them warm soup. These group of women then rented spaces and facilities where more people came and over time of continued service, they were able to create the "Lethbridge Soup Kitchen."

Today, with the help of donations from local and community businesses along with their 700 volunteers, the Soup Kitchen carries out their mission in serving breakfast every day and a full meal every evening to their guests.

Behind this act of kindness is Bill Ginther, the Executive Director and his partner for life, Joan Ginther.

They are known to their guests as Mr. and Mrs. Bill, and together they oversee the well-being and comfort of everyone who walks inside the building.

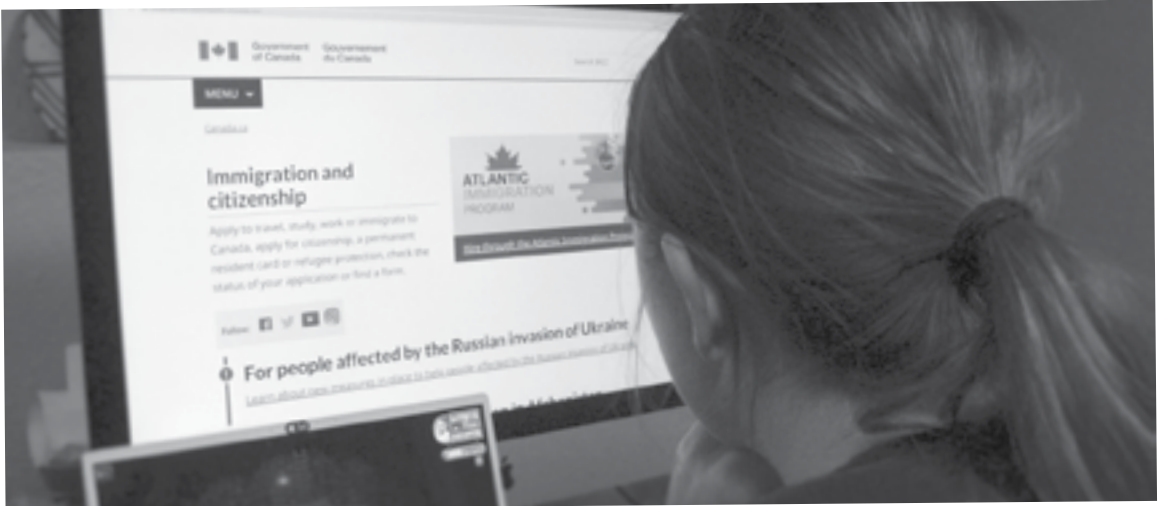
"My goal is to provide a place where we can

restore and enhance their dignity," said Ginther.

Carter Eli was a previous guest at the Lethbridge Soup Kitchen. He has experienced being homeless multiple times at a very young age. He was 13-years-old when his family first faced financial problems and the Soup Kitchen welcomed them with warmth. Now at the age of 17 he is working hard to have a bright future. Eli said he appreciates everything the Lethbridge Soup Kitchen does for the community and he will never forget the kindness they showed him and his family.

The Lethbridge Soup Kitchen is comprised of people with a goal to help the unhoused population of Lethbridge. Furthermore, they symbolize the importance of being a family and recreating that warmth through celebrating holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas.

"If you don't have a family, or your family doesn't want you, or they've all died, or they've moved away, this becomes your family," Ginther said.



Student considers the many options of immigration and citizenships needed to get to Canada while perusing the Government of Canada website. Photo by Julia Fletcher.

Immigration versus refugee visa challenges coming to Canada

By Julia Fletcher

Leaving home is scary, especially when your home is 4,000 miles away.

Four different types of immigrants can arrive in Canada and all have different rules and regulations for what happens once they are across the border. They include humanitarian and compassionate applicants, refugee class, family class and economic immigrants.

These all fall under immigration, but there are different challenges to overcome to get a working visa in Canada. With the war in Ukraine continuing, more and more refugees are coming to Canada.

Inna Belous, a 19-year-old refugee from Ukraine had no problems obtaining her visa when she applied for one. Her mom packed her bags and sent her to Canada in May of 2022.

"I had no problems. I applied for a visa and then received it after one month. Right now, for Ukrainians it's different. There's a higher need for them to get out of Ukraine."

As of October, she is now back home with her friends and family, hoping for peace.

According to statistics Canada with Canada's la-

bour shortage increasingly rising, higher than ever with a 31 per cent shortage according to statistic Canada.

Immigrants are being granted more working visas, but unfortunately, they still aren't easy to obtain.

Nicole Janser arrived in Canada on Jan. 2, 2021 from Switzerland.

She applied again for a working visa in June of 2022 to renew it so she could stay longer and continue her work. From first getting her visa and trying to get it renewed, Janser has always had troubles with this process.

"To come to Canada, you find an agency. They must find you a school or job so you can get a holiday working visa. Otherwise you won't get any breaks," she added.

Still not knowing if she can stay for another year, Janser is stressed and scared about being sent home.

While many immigrants continue to have challenges obtaining visas for different reasons, one thing will remain. There is an abundance of people who want to call Canada home. To view full story visit LethbridgeCampusMedia.ca.

Lethbridge's pet population problem

Story by Jesse Wikdahl

Animal shelters across Lethbridge continue to operate close to capacity this fall. With winter weather on the way, many animals are in need of adoption. More room is needed to make room for the influx of animals expected as it moves toward freezing temperatures outside.

This is despite efforts of many local organizations working to control local pet populations and provide them with safe homes. Groups like the No-Kill Animal Alliance, Windy City Canine Rescue, the Last Chance Cat Ranch, Lethbridge Paw Society, Lethbridge SPCA, Lethbridge & District Humane Society and Community Animal Services Lethbridge among others all have programs in place to help control pet populations.

All these groups use spaying and neutering as a means of helping control animal populations but each of them is asking the public to do their part.

There are many ways the public can help and the number one is to have your pet fixed.

"Everyone needs to do their part and NOKA can help any low-income residents of Lethbridge get their pet spayed or neutered," says Verna Masuda president of the No-Kill Animal Alliance.

NOKA helps low income people and families have happy healthy pets.

The Alberta Veterinary Medical Association recommends having your pet spayed or neutered between five and six months optimally before their first heat cycle. Having your pet fixed can have many benefits not just for future populations but for your pet as well.

According to a study by the American Animal Hospital Association on Reproductive Health published in 2019, "Sterilized dogs of both sexes have greater average lifespans than intact dogs. Sterilization also changes the trajectory of disease acquisition and causes of death."

The next thing the public can do is adopt a pet rather than getting one from a breeder. Adopting a



Four week old Flop is looking for her forever home. Let her flop into your lap. Adopt from the Lethbridge Animal Shelter. Photo by Jesse Wikdahl.

pet relieves some of the burden from the shelter it is adopted from as well as helps you find a healthy companion. Animals adopted from shelters will be given first shots and are generally spayed or neutered when old enough.

"Pets are a long-term responsibility, so don't rush out to get one. Make a plan. Adopt, fix and save an animal's life," says Masuda. Many local organizations agree recommending careful thought and planning go into adding a new member to your household.

The public can also help a local organization. Many local shelters need donations especially through the colder months. Others need volunteers walking dogs or helping with community events. All need the public's support.

If you're not quite ready to adopt fully or want to see how an animal will fit with your family the Paw Society of Lethbridge is always looking for foster homes. Adopting or fostering a pet until it is adopted allows the next pet to be rescued. Remember a new pet is a life-long decision. It is an incredibly rewarding experience but it comes with many responsibilities. Whether adopting or raising from newborn a life is in your hands. Take care of your pets. Help control Lethbridge's stray pet population. Adopt. Fix. Save.

All that glitters is not gold

Safety against sexual misconduct in cheerleading and gymnastics

Story By Brooke Mullin

Sports as a kid are a great way to meet friends, get fit and experience life's lessons. Many of us who were lucky enough to be involved in sports as children can say sports taught us a lot about life. Sports can teach you to be a good team player, to be dependable and to find a way to enjoy exercise. Although sports also has a dark side, the world is slowly becoming more aware of it.

The high-flying, fast-paced world of All-Star cheerleading is filled with teamwork and rhinestones and is gaining popularity in the sports world. With Cheer gyms all over the country, Canada's athlete numbers are growing.

Sadly, at least 222 coaches involved in minor sports in Canada have been convicted of sexual offences in the past 20 years involving more than 600 victims under the age of 18, an investigation by CBC News reveals.

Recently a major cheer gym, Rockstar Cheer and Dance in South Carolina, was found to have a massive scandal after the owner and former coach, Scott Foster, died by suicide. Days after, it was revealed he was being investigated for alleged abuse of underage athletes.

As the case went on more coaches were also named in the suit by more Jane Doe's. The coaches were supposed proteges of Foster and some were at Rockstar Cheer at one point. The coaches were accused of a range of inappropriate conduct including rape, touching, groping and soliciting nude photos or sending nude photos and videos to athletes.

The United States Of America is not the only one with sexual misconduct problems with coaches.

A recent case in a gymnastics gym located in Lethbridge saw Jamie Ellacott was charged in July 2022, when police responded to a report that a seven-year-old girl had been sexually assaulted



Coach Samantha Paradee (left) advises her athletes on arm positions in a stunt. Photo by Brooke Mullin.

while attending the Lethbridge Gymnastics Academy.

On July 14th the gym owner said she was "beyond shocked at the news" in a Facebook post.

With so many accusations, one wonders whether there are precautions in place to stop this from happening.

Allstar Cheerleading in Alberta requires all coaches to engage in safe sport training. This includes modules related to the Rule of Two.

The rule of two ensures coaches in potentially vulnerable situations remain safe by ensuring more than one adult is present. This also includes keeping minors safe.

For example, this rule would find if a private



A Peak Elite coach Alissa Van Diemen (left) helps an athlete work on her tumbling skills in an open atmosphere lesson. Photo by Brooke Mullin.

lesson is going on, two people have to be in sight of the athlete during the lesson.

Allstar Cheer Gym owner Samantha Paradee says organizations are known for not following through with the consequences that come with breaking the rule of two.

“The rule of two is a great way to make everyone in sports more aware of appropriate participant interactions, however this isn’t an enforceable rule or law. We do not have anyone monitoring its enforcement or organizations providing consequences for those who do not abide by it. More must be done. The Rockstar Cheer scandal is only the beginning. Athletes in Canada within rowing, rugby, skeleton and wrestling have begun voicing concerns about Canadian sports culture issues ranging from sexual abuse and maltreatment to toxic training environments and financial wrongdoings.” says Paradee.

All this takes a toll on parents and athletes.

But what about the coaches who follow the rules?

Caylie Burt, a coach at Peak Elite feels for the parents and is shocked.

“When I heard the news about the gymnastics coach I was shocked and incredibly disappointed.

There are courses that we take as coaches regarding this and I would think the rule of two would be applicable in all sports and gyms to prevent things like this from happening. It is also frustrating as a coach to hear about these situations coming up more and more often.” says Burt.

Gyms are making sure their staff do everything they can to report and stop sexual misconduct, including gyms in Lethbridge like Peak Elite Cheerleading, owned by Paradee.

“Peak Elite Cheerleading rigorously employs the Rule of Two. We use a safe method of communication between families and coaches by avoiding social media platforms. Our staff abide by a lengthy document of policies and procedures that are used to protect our participants.” says Paradee.

Although Cheer Canada is a relatively new national sport organization they have a number of safe sport processes in place to ensure the safety of athletes.

Artist community shines in documentary

Story by Scott Holman

Two University of Lethbridge students hope to break stereotypes surrounding Lethbridge while highlighting the city's creative communities. A University of Lethbridge student is producing a reflective documentary on the city's artist community and can't wait for it to be shared with the public.

University student Demi Zelasak is collaborating with local artists including dancers, painters, musicians and visual artists to highlight the small creative community within Lethbridge. The film shines light on the creatives and their work, to show that although the community is small, it is tight-knit and has a lot to show. Zelasak says the film includes insight from artists from all walks of life.

"I wanted to get community perspective about what the art scene is in Lethbridge and what people from different walks of life and different mediums think of the community here," says Zelasak.

The documentary is called "The Art of Windy City" and is supported and funded by "Telus Storyhive," a program that funds productions and mentors emerging filmmakers. Along with support from the National Screen Institute, Storyhive is for filmmakers in Alberta and British Columbia. Completed projects are featured on Telus Optik TV using the Community Showcase program.

Zelasak is meeting and interviewing numerous creatives within the community for the first half of the film, while the second half of the film is aimed at shining light back into the community through a live preview.

The preview, along with live performances from those interviewed within the film, took place at the Owl Acoustic Lounge. The preview and performances were filmed on Sept. 24 and will be added to the final product.

Dancer Stephano Washikala who performed in the documentary says the project was an amazing experience to be a part of.

"All the ideas that were discussed kept pushing the project forward, everyone working hard on their



Local artist Demi Zelasak poses in front of The Owl Acoustic Lounge, where her documentary premiered on Sept. 24. Photo by Scott Holman

part to make the documentary the best it could be," says Washikala.

Funded by "Telus Storyhive" along with Zelasak is another local creative, Sedona Vigneault, who also has her own series on Telus Optik TV.

Vigneault's showcases Lethbridge from a different perspective. Rather than focusing primarily on the creative scene, she focuses on the city and the beauty of it that is often overlooked. She says she wants to show off the side of Lethbridge most people don't see.

"There is a lot of negativities about what Lethbridge is and it was my personal objective to broaden people's mindset of Lethbridge and see it for the beauty that I see it for," says Vigneault.

Both pieces can be found on Telus Optik TV. Vigneault's "Honeycomb on Demand" is available now while Zelasak's "The Art of Windy City" will release in March 2023.

Should we sensationalize serial killers?

Story by Kyleigh Tytula

Netflix released the hit show “Dahmer” in mid-September and since its premiere, many people have had their thoughts about the show.

“Dahmer” the limited series follows the life and crimes of serial killer and cannibal Jeffrey Dahmer, has been met with vast amounts of support and criticism online by viewers.

This has led people to ask the question, should we be sensationalizing the crimes of these monsters?

Pamela Jay, a law student and advocate for victims, started a TikTok account in early 2019 titled themissPamelaJ where she would talk about true crime cases.

It wasn’t long before some fans of the killers she was talking about entered her comment section.

“Putting actors such as Evan Peters and Ross Lynch, who are known for being attractive and having them portray a monster such as Dahmer is causing a lot of individuals to lose sight of the fact that these people aren’t characters in a movie but real people,” said Jay.

Over the past two years, Netflix has began releasing more and more movies and shows based off of serial killers as well as documentaries such as the “Conversations with a Killer” series.

“We need to stick to documentaries. Remove the actors, use real courtroom footage, reach out to survivors, reach out to the families and give them a chance to speak out. Give them a chance to tell the story of how their lives changed forever because of a monster,” said Jay.

Many people find it disgusting Netflix keeps releasing shows like these because it feels like the company is profiting off of victims stories for entertainment.

“If you have to twist the story about what actu-

ally happened to the victims, then you aren’t worried about telling their stories; you’re worried about how much money you will make,” said Jay.

Blythe Provost, a mental health therapist with Wellness Services at Lethbridge College believes shows such as “Dahmer” most likely negatively impact the families of the victims.

“It’s a situation that you want to get through, you want to get past it and having it be re-brought up can totally be triggering,” said Provost.

After the release of “Dahmer” many family members of his victims came forward and said they were not consulted about the show being made.

Eric Perry, cousin to Lindsay Errol who was murdered by Dahmer in 1991, has taken to Twitter to share his thoughts on the show after a clip comparing a scene from the show and the real courtroom scene of Rita Isbell went viral.

Perry tweeted the clip with a response saying, “recreating my cousin having an emotional breakdown in court in the face of a man who tortured and murdered her brother is wild.”

With people not knowing who these monsters really were and who their victims were, they have a hard time making a connection with the stories.

After watching the show, an alarming amount of people took to TikTok and expressed their sympathy towards Jeffrey Dahmer, not realizing the family members of his victims have the possibility of seeing those videos.

At the end of the day, shows and movies like “Dahmer” can be very harmful and triggering for victims families and can also lead to people sympathizing with the killers.

The entertainment industry has proven that you can only tell the same story so many times before it becomes boring.

See full story at LethbridgeCampusMedia.ca.

“Treating the victims
and survivors with
the respect that they
deserve is human
decency while they seek
out justice,”

Pamela Jay

Visual effects artists fight Marvel's poor labour practices

Story by Cloud Argue

CGI artists are fighting for their rights with poor industry practices, while aspiring artists find themselves losing interest in working for film companies.

In recent months, several articles have come out criticizing Marvel's practices when working with VFX artists. They have been criticized for many things, but the main trend that continues is artists are overworked and underpaid.

According to an article by Jennifer Bisset titled *Marvel's VFX Artists Are Suffering -- and Starting to Speak Out* on cnet.com on Aug. 5, these issues go as far back as 2012. This is around the time *The Avengers* came out and right before the MCU's Phase Two began. Phase Two encompasses all MCU films from *Iron Man 3* in 2013 to *Ant-Man* in 2015.

In the same article, one anonymous VFX artist describes how Marvel has three main issues. They said Marvel expects completed work far earlier than other studios. The environment is very high-pressure and the low budgets drive away more experienced artists. Marvel has become an infamous client within the effects artist community as a result.

In the past, Marvel was seemingly able to get away with this easier. The visual effects in early MCU movies like *Iron Man* were praised. However, around the time *Black Panther* was released in 2018, audiences noticed a decline in the quality of the visual effects.

In an article called "Black Panther is amazing. Why are its CG models so terrible?" by Devindra Hardawar at Engadget written on Feb. 28, 2018, he said two CGI scenes were disappointing in a movie that was otherwise refreshing in the superhero genre.

Hardawar also explains movies have an increasing number of VFX shots, more VFX firms get contracted to work on a single movie. This could possibly contribute to inconsistent quality even within one movie.

With the many problems in this sector coming to light, people looking to go into the industry have



Jenna Helm, an Architectural Animation student, practices using her VR headset for a class project. Photo by Cloud Argue.

been rethinking their decision.

Jenna Helm, a first-year Architectural Animation student at Lethbridge College, says it has impacted where she wants to go after graduation.

"I would have loved to have gone into the film industry, but now I definitely have to be careful with where I choose to work," Helm explains.

Helm plans to pursue architectural animation but isn't fully set on anything yet.

The visual effects industry itself has many issues. The way firms get to be on projects is by having the lowest bid for their work on the number of sequences. This often means the artists work for free for some portion of the film.

According to Bisset's article, VFX firms don't push as hard against Marvel for better pay because they risk losing them as a client. When they provide multiple blockbusters a year, it can be difficult to fight for better working conditions.

Unionizing effects artists is an option that would allow them to fight for better working conditions. However, there is still work they must do to organize their workplace.

See full story on LethbridgeCampusMedia.ca.



The energy increases at @ULethWildin's biggest party as the night continues and headlining act Tres Beaches performs on Sept. 16. Photo by Chase Chambers.

How Lethbridge's biggest party scene came to be

Story by Chase Chambers

One Lethbridge group is trying to fill a gap in the community by bringing high-quality party events to students.

The Instagram account @ULethWildin currently has just under 20,000 followers and recently hosted a festival at Spitz Stadium selling 4,000 tickets.

The event was headlined by Tres Beaches.

A group of friends from Lethbridge had already been anonymously running the account when they became disappointed with the declining party scene in Lethbridge.

Wildin admits the group runs the account anonymously to maintain the image of the brand and ensure they can expand to other locations.

"At the end of the day, it's not about the clout, it's just about hosting sick parties."

This came around the time Studio Nightclub closed down.

One of the individuals who runs the account says the group realized they had the unique opportunity

to host events and satisfy the wants of students who were also missing Studio Nightclub and looking for things to do.

"We have the platform to bring everyone together and that's ultimately what we're trying to do," said the anonymous Wildin representative.

They started by hosting events at the Canadian Brewhouse restaurant and sports bar in 2021.

Since then, the group has been greenlit to host more events on all floors of the Canadian Brewhouse where they continue to sell out the venue.

Realizing they had outgrown the Brewhouse, they opted to host an event at the Spitz baseball stadium which allowed them to have a capacity of 5,000 people.

Wildin is looking to find a new venue for their next event.

They are currently working to book the musical duo Loud Luxury.

They plan to hold an event featuring the duo on Jan. 13.

See the full story on LethbridgeCampusMedia.ca.

Artists: Love it or hate it AI is here

Allie Faytone

The art world has been changed by the introduction of AI-generated artwork and digital artists are skeptical of how it will impact arts and culture.

Artificial intelligence or AI art generation, while not a new concept, was a largely inefficient way of creating art until recently. The process works by feeding an AI thousands of images from the internet, creating a basis for which the AI can generate new images

AI generation of images is now easier and more accessible than ever, with websites like "craiyon" and NightCafe offering the service for free. There is uncertainty in the digital art community on what role AI generated art will play in the art community going forward.

Controversially, some of the images that are being fed to the AIs belong to digital artists, meaning they are having their style stolen.

Haley McGougan, a traditional arts student at the University of Lethbridge and digital artist commented on the art theft that has been occurring. "A lot of AI art is trained using artworks from other very famous digital artists and traditional artists," McGougan said.

AI-generated art used to be used to replicate and try to recreate the style of artists that have been long deceased.

"It used to be that they would take artists like Van Gogh and regenerate images in that sort of sense, but now they're taking famous current digital artists and training their AI on that artwork," McGougan said.

In a recent example of, the popular Korean artist Kim Jung Ji had his art fed to an AI only a week after he passed away in October of 2022. While the creator of that specific model of AI-generation saw it as a tribute to the late artist, others saw it more as art theft.

"This person thought that they were doing a good thing in their memory, but I don't think so. This is not okay. We can't be cannibalizing artists



An AI generated image of "the Pyramids if Van Gogh had painted them." Photo generated by Neural Love.

that just recently passed," McGougan said.

While AI can be potentially damaging to artists, there is also some that believe that AI can be a helpful tool to those learning art. Sam Whittle, a digital artist in her spare time, expressed how she could use AI art to improve her own artwork.

"With AI art, you get a chance to have this reference point that isn't necessarily anybody else's art," says Whittle.

There are AI programs that can assist in the creation of certain digital art pieces. Programs that allow for certain art pieces to be red lined by an AI. Red lining is the process of submitting your art piece to another artist for feedback, where they will then draw over it with typically red ink to give feedback and suggest edits.

There also exists certain programs that can alter the lighting of digital images, detecting the characters or scene and changing the lighting based on their position. These types of tools can be useful to artists who are just beginning to create art.

While still imperfect and somewhat divisive, AI-art generation continues to develop, becoming better and more accessible each day. Only time will tell if AI art is here to stay or if it will be only a fad.



The Lethbridge College Kodiaks soccer team is excited to see Canada compete in the Qatar World Cup. Photo by Kevin Castro Guillin.

Kodiak Soccer athletes are excited to see Canada in World Cup

Story by Kevin Castro Guillin

Canada soccer team has made it to the Qatar World Cup after 36 years after appearing in Mexico in 1986.

Soccer influence has been increasing in Canada, opening the doors to new teams and players. Now Canada has been showcased in the world of soccer which is led by the European league.

Keegan Bolton Lethbridge College Kodiaks soccer player says he's excited because Canada has made it to the World Cup.

"I think Canada soccer is going a long way. It starts with Alphonso Davies and now finally Canada is in the World Cup," says Bolton.

Canada is in group F in the World Cup, where Canada will play against Croatia, the strongest team in group F with players such as Luka Modric, who plays for the Real Madrid from Spain.

"I think it's going to be a good game. Obviously I think Croatia is a very good team, but the determination and drive for Canadians and all of us Ca-

nadians have their backs in the World Cup. I think we can beat them, personally," said Bolton about Canada against Croatia.

Croatia won second place in the 2018 World Cup against France, where the result was 4 -2 with France beating Croatia.

Liam Frost, a Lethbridge College student and captain of the mens soccer team, believes soccer is right now the biggest sport in Canada.

"Soccer is kind of growing in Canada because it is the biggest sport in Canada."

Frost says he has found opportunities to go to the highest levels of soccer in Canada.

"Canadian national team the Vancouver Whitecaps team is growing massively but it's been dominated by the Premier league in England and other leagues in Spain and Italy," said Frost.

"Canada is growing with this massive interest of athletes and that's growing through the success of our national team and bringing light to the opportunities that we have here," said Frost.

See the full story in LethbridgeCampusMedia.ca.



Olivia DePasquale, Kodiaks women's team captain, congratulates teammate Ashley Szalski after scoring a goal versus the Augustana Vikings on Oct. 16 at Comet Stadium in Raymond.

Kodiaks prepare to host ACAC soccer championships

Story and photos by Nicholas Rabl

The playoff road ahead for the Kodiaks will be a true test of their physical and mental skills, but both men's and women's teams believe they have what it takes to be contenders.

This year's ACAC Men's and Women's Soccer Championships add another layer of importance for the Kodiaks teams: it marks the first time in ACAC history that Lethbridge is hosting the three-day event.

Kodiaks men's fullback Julio Vega Sibrian feels the pressure associated with home field advantage.

"It's exciting to host this year with the group of guys we have," said Vega Sibrian. "It's a bit nerve-racking to see the competition from the north

and host the championships. You always want to perform well for the guys."

The second-year Engineering Design Technologies student isn't letting the pressure distract him. He says the Kodiaks have done a lot to adapt their tactics for the top-seeded teams.

The Kodiaks men sit in fourth place of six in the south division but automatically clinch a spot in provincials as the host team. Their record after regular season play is three wins, three losses and four ties.

"Lately, we've been trying new formations, trying to see how we can be better defensively and building from there. We're working on making crisper passes player-to-player and taking advantage of our chances on set plays and through the game," said Vega Sibrian.

All things considered, the Kodiaks defender believes his team is ready to put on a show for the hometown crowd.

"We're going to bring the energy for the fans and bring them games they'll enjoy. Our goal is to win—it's always to win. We're going to try and play 110 per cent all the time, every single game and see how far we go. Hopefully we win it," said Vega Sibirian.

The mood in the women's locker room is much the same according to third-year midfielder Olivia DePasquale.

"We've been working our butts off during practice," said the Kodiaks women's team captain. "Our coaches have us set up little mantras each week for something we're going to focus on, like communication, resilience, intensity, speed of play."

DePasquale holds a lot of faith in her squad, who finished the regular season with seven wins, four losses and one tie.

"We've been slowly progressing a lot better over the season, doing one per cent better each game or each practice. It'll be nice to see all our hard work pay off when we beat these teams that we've kind of had troubles with in the past. We perform very well under pressure, so I see no issues with hosting at all," said DePasquale.

Though Lethbridge College is the host school, the games aren't being held in Lethbridge. Rather, they will take place at Comet Stadium in Raymond, a small town roughly 20 minutes south of the Kodiaks' home soil.

Todd Caughlin, Kodiaks athletic director and tournament organizer, says the decision to hold the games in Raymond boiled down to player safety.

"As much as we'd love to play on our home field in Lethbridge, the natural grass would take a beating and players would ultimately pay the price," said Caughlin. "Multiple games per day, frost and moisture overnight—the earth just can't handle it."

DePasquale isn't a huge fan of the decision, but won't let it get to her head.

"It's a bit unfortunate it's out in Raymond—I mean, they have a super nice facility, but it would've been a bit nicer to be able to host it at our home



Kodiaks midfielder Olivia DePasquale dribbles past an Augustana defender as they went on to beat the Vikings 3-0.

field and have that advantage," said DePasquale. "I'm still really excited to be hosting it in southern Alberta. Hopefully we'll have a good turnout and lots of support from the communities in Lethbridge and Raymond."

Built in 2016, Comet Stadium is a state-of-the-art facility that surrounds a multi-sport field made of artificial turf. Building accommodations include bleacher seating for as many as 1,200 onlookers, fully accessible washrooms and a soda shop.

The 2022 ACAC Men's and Women's Soccer Championships will be underway Oct. 28 to 30. Quarterfinals are on Friday, semifinals on Saturday and bronze and gold medal matches on Sunday.

General admission is \$10 for a one-day pass or \$25 for the entire weekend. Lethbridge College students and children under 12 get in for free. Those who can't attend in-person can watch online by purchasing a streaming pass on ACACTV for \$20.

See full story on LethbridgeCampusMedia.ca.



Roller Skate Lethbridge witches get together for a wicked stroll on skates, not brooms, at Henderson Lake on Oct. 14. Martina Emard (right) says they want to make a spectacle of themselves. Photo by Rachel Gelowitz.

Local skaters get witchy at Henderson

Story by Rachel Gelowitz

Witches from Roller Skate Lethbridge zoomed, cackled and accidentally crashed around Henderson Lake as their wheels rolled across the pavement Oct. 14.

Attendees of all age groups, members and public, were present at the Witch Skate. While most were dressed as witches and warlocks, there were bees, superheroes and regular humans too.

Martina Emard, Roller Skate Lethbridge organizer and instructor, says the event is a great way to be visible to the wider Lethbridge community.

"We're going to be skating down Mayor Magrath, so hopefully people will honk their horns at us," Emard said.

She said putting on a pair of roller skates means you instantly have a group of people you can hang out with and have fun.

Tuesday Bridgewater, a Roller Skate Lethbridge member, said the skating community is amazing.

"Roller-skating changed my life. I'm turning 40 this year and I'm in the best shape I've ever been in," Bridgewater said.

Emard said while this event is free, all the proceeds from events with paid admission go back into the roller-skating community.

"That's part of what Roller Skate Lethbridge is all about. Making roller-skating opportunities for everybody," she said.

Roller Skate Lethbridge provides free skate loans for events and beginner classes.

People of all ages and genders are welcome at Roller Skate Lethbridge.

Bridgewater said everybody should roller skate.

"I love seeing the boys out here on skates. It's a very inclusive community and that's why I love it so much," she said.

The next Witch Skate is on Oct. 27 at 6 p.m. at Henderson Lake Park. Details and other events can be found on rollerskatelethbridge.ca.

See the full story on LethbridgeCampusMedia.ca.