

Undisciplined Women Speak Out

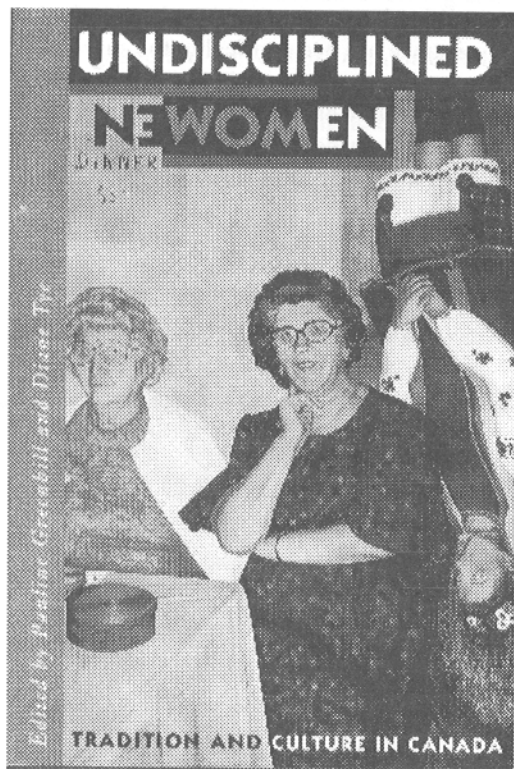
Pauline Greenhill and Diane Tye, co-editors of *Undisciplined Women: Tradition and Culture in Canada*, are breaking new ground. The interdisciplinary collection of 20 essays dealing with women and culture in Canada has been honoured by the American Folklore Society Women's Section with the Elli Kongas-Maranda Prize. This is a triumph for the contributors, women who consider themselves 'undisciplined.' "We like to get in trouble," laughs Greenhill, professor of women's studies and anthropology at the University. "The book as a whole is far better than anything any one of us could have produced. Collaboration challenges each writer to work through other people's ideas, and it results in very exciting things."

The idea for *Undisciplined Women* was born at a Folklore Studies Association of Canada meeting, where Greenhill and Tye, assistant professor of folklore at Memorial University of Newfoundland, felt challenged to approach the subject of women in

Canadian culture in more adventurous ways. Folklore, women's studies and Canadian studies are exalted in this richly textured work. According to Greenhill, these three areas have traditionally been treated as marginal, while "real culture, men and the international" have been perceived as more worthwhile areas of academic enquiry.

"The book investigates how women transcend traditional culture to create our own form of expression," Greenhill says, adding that analysis of women's traditional and popular culture can be an agent for social change. The interdisciplinary nature of the work is one of the things that makes it unorthodox. According to Greenhill, the Aid to Scholarly Publications program was not friendly toward multiple-authored books. "There was a fear of the book becoming a col-

See *UNDISCIPLINED*, page 2



Undisciplined Women: Tradition and Culture in Canada breaks exciting new ground by interpreting folklore in a feminist voice.

RESEARCH ISSUE



Virtuosi Concerts presents pianist Navah Perlman. Notable performances include a 1988 gala concert at Carnegie Hall celebrating the 135th anniversary of Steinway Pianos and their 500,000th piano, at the White House for the President and Mrs. Clinton in 1994, and at New York's Gracie Mansion for Mayor Rudolph Giuliani for the recent opening of the city's Holocaust Museum. The concert is on Sat., Feb. 13 at 8 p.m. See Coming Events for details.

Undisciplined Women

continued from page 1

lection of disconnected papers. But collaboration is the way academics should be going," she explains. "*Undisciplined Women* is one of the last projects to be funded by the program; they have suspended their funding of multiple-authored projects."

Undisciplined Women suggests models for recovering women's traditions and also for facilitating feminist dialogue on traditional culture in Canada. "The Handsome Cabin Boy," Greenhill's essay, deals with cross-dressing ballads and addresses the denial of homosexual possibility in literature as well as the representation of women in folklore. The ballads Greenhill draws on for her analysis were collected by Kenneth Peacock in Newfoundland between 1951 and 1961. In a uniquely personal essay, she proposes that gay and lesbian relationships in folklore were not strictly symbolic. Greenhill suggests that depictions of same-sex attractions are not necessarily "heterosexual fantasy." She writes, "Ballad scholarship has almost completely ignored or silenced the gay and lesbian possibility in these texts. Gay male allusions, for example, are explained away . . ." (page 121). Referring to the work of Dianne Dugaw, Greenhill discusses the "fragile construct" that is gender-based attraction as is gender itself.

The heroic nature of female characters in folklore has always attracted Greenhill. Cross-dressing ballads appear to explore strong, independent female characters. Among the songwriters from Newfoundland whom Greenhill interviewed, many composed and performed songs about what Greenhill termed "everyday heroism." "Most expressed a preference for realistic, contemporary topics, and many composed songs on such topics which reflected upon women's strengths. Ernestine O'Rourke discussed her composition "Tommy's Song," about her own experience of having a son with cerebral palsy, which was often requested when she performed," writes Greenhill.

What is apparent in this collection is that resistance has been critical to the survival of women's voices. Instead of being trapped by restrictions, women have risen above them, and in some cases, used them to achieve power and to express individuality.

in edition is published from September to May by University Relations, The University of Winnipeg, 4W16 - 515 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9 Fax: (204) 783-8983

Editor: Paula Denbow
Coordinator of Publications
(204) 786-9172
paula.morphy@uwinnipeg.ca

Comments, suggestions and submissions are welcome. (All material is subject to editing.) The deadline for the next issue is Feb. 11.

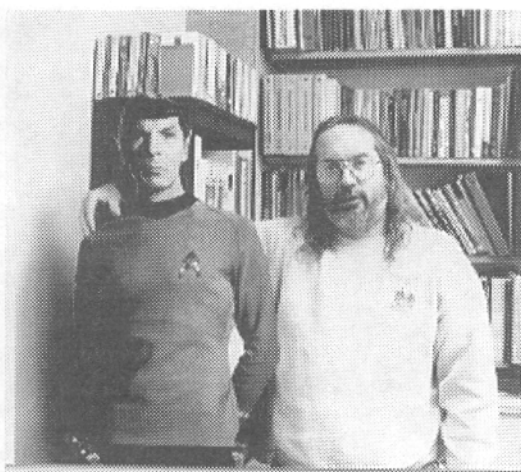
in edition is printed on recycled paper. After you have finished with this issue, please pass it on to a friend.

Helping Children at Risk

Ken McCluskey's research is making a difference. An associate professor in the Bachelor of Education program, McCluskey is developing programs that will identify and nurture creative talents in children and youths at risk. "These are kids who have fallen through the cracks. They lack the support that is usually provided at home or through community organizations," he says.

For too long, McCluskey notes, we have tried to fit all children into a rigidly structured system. "Instead of drawing lines in the sand that these kids will always be pushed over, we must find better ways to help them." In several upcoming programs, BEd students will act as mentors, helping children at risk with everyday tasks as well as long-range goals. "We focus on creative problem solving. It teaches the kids that to move from their current reality to a desired future state, there are steps to take and obstacles to overcome," McCluskey explains. "The mentors will help facilitate this planning process. It's 'action research' that allows education students to get into the classrooms and do something that will have tangible results." The mentorship programs will help young people with strategic planning, which includes resumé writing and job interview preparation.

To gauge the success of mentor contacts, McCluskey will use several measures. "Self-concept inventories, skill level, academic achievement, and behaviour reports from teachers are things that we can evaluate. The BEd students keep reaction logs, which gives them an opportunity to analyse their own work and findings," he says, noting that the process enables these students to be an integral part of the research.



*Ken McCluskey, pictured here with office-mate Spock, will be appearing at McNally Robinson (Grant Park Location) with his wife Andrea to read from **Butterfly Kisses**. The reading is on Thurs., March 4 at 7:30 p.m.*

he is attending Red River College and making plans for his future. These are the kids who let us know that we're making a difference."

An estimated six to eight per cent of the population live with ADHD, and for them, school can be a nightmare. "Mentors can help children adjust and learn to control hyperactivity," he says. "We are constantly modifying and improving what we do."

McCluskey says he is thrilled to be a part of the "exciting and vibrant" BEd program. "Partnering with other faculties and engaging in new initiatives are the kinds of things we're doing. I work with a great group," he says.

In the early stages of the program McCluskey has a realistic yet hopeful outlook. "I hope my colleagues and I can make a meaningful difference in a few lives."

Is There Life After Graduation?... Ask a U of W Graduate

When the next student or recent graduate asks for career advice, please let them know that alumni can help. The University of Winnipeg Alumni Association runs two programs that assist students and alumni in exploring their career options:

- "Career Connections" is a mentorship program that matches a student or recent graduate with a U of W graduate already working in a particular field for a one-on-one meeting. It's a perfect opportunity to ask questions about what a job is really like. Anyone interested in being paired with a mentor

can drop by the Student Employment Centre (1st floor, Graham Hall) to sign up for the program.

- At the end of this month, the association's other career-related initiative, "What Can I Do with my Degree?" Days, will help students answer just that question, by featuring alumni speakers from a variety of professions. The event begins on Feb. 24 and runs every Monday and Wednesday, during the free slot (12:30 to 1:20 p.m.), until March 15. Watch for more details on posters around campus.

Beetlemania

If you thought beetles were just pesky insects, think again. Chemistry Professor Desiree Vanderwel says that beetles are complex, and her study of them might be useful in the development of alternative pest control strategies. "The major focus of my research is the biochemistry of pheromone production in beetles," she says. Pheromones are odours that are used for communication by individuals of the same species. According to Vanderwel, the best studied are sex pheromones and aggregation pheromones. In sex pheromones, a particular odour is used to attract individuals of the opposite sex. In aggregation pheromones, an odour is used to attract individuals of either sex, usually in order to recruit "help" in attacking or overcoming host defences, but several other messages can also be communicated.

There has always been a lot of interest in decoding this odiferous "language" of the beetles, for use in manipulating beetle populations. "For example, an attractant could be used to attract beetles to a trap. My goal is to understand the biochemistry behind the process," Vanderwel explains. "I am trying to determine how beetles make the pheromone and how biosynthesis is stimulated and terminated."

Beetles can wreak havoc on field crops, stored products and forests. Conversely, many beetles are beneficial as predators of insect pests. "An understanding of coleopteran biochemistry could be exploited to control pest species, or aid in the management of beneficial species," Vanderwel contends. "In this context, pheromones have enormous potential for use in monitoring and manipulating beetle popu-



Desiree Vanderwel's research into the biochemistry of beetles will help in developing alternative pest control strategies.

will also enhance our understanding of the factors that stimulate or inhibit pheromone production, which might be of practical value in developing new strategies for the manipulation of pest populations.

"I have been fortunate in that my research has been funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) for the past seven years. During that time, I have trained about 20 undergraduate students (either as summer students or as research project students), and two graduate students," she says. Virtually all of Vanderwel's undergraduate students have pursued careers in science, either going on to graduate school, or going to work as lab technicians. Others have gone on to medical school or dentistry. "I believe that training students is one of the most valuable benefits of my research. Students are educated in the scientific method, and are trained in many standard biochemical laboratory procedures," she says. "This is excellent job experience."

lations. The biosynthetic pathways used by beetles to produce their pheromones, and the mechanisms by which these pathways are regulated, have been the targets of much interest." However, most studies have focused on the biochemistry of aggregation pheromone production. Vanderwel is examining the biochemistry of sex pheromone production in the yellow mealworm (*Tenebrio molitor*). The results of Vanderwel's study will increase our basic knowledge of insect metabolism. They

Nominations Wanted

The purpose of the Clifford J. Robson Memorial Award is to give recognition to a faculty member of The University of Winnipeg for excellence in teaching. Nominations will be received from all segments of the University community, including students, alumni, faculty and administration. Nomination forms are available from the Dean of Arts and Science Office, the UWSA Information Booth and the Awards and Financial Aid Office. Nominations should be submitted to the Awards Office on or before March 1, 1999.

Tracing the Past

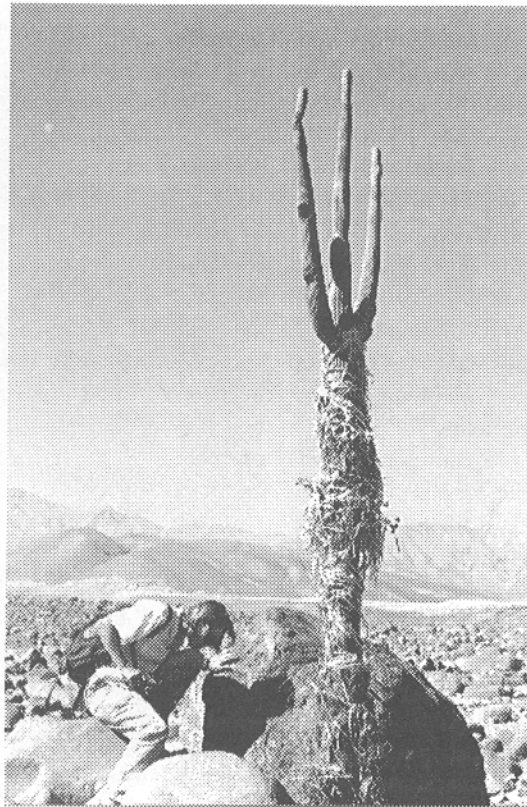
In the Atacama Desert of Northern Chile, the driest desert on earth, Persis Clarkson has found mystery, intrigue, and miles of history drawn along valley walls. The hills are covered with sandy scars that form giant ground drawings. The designs are made by sweeping away the surface layer of pebbles and cobbles, leaving vast, sandy lines, often half a kilometre long. The lines, called geoglyphs, are anything but random: they form hundreds of precise drawings. "The stones are light and easy to move; anyone could have made these, even a child. They're still intact because they've remained undisturbed all these years," notes Clarkson, chair of the Anthropology Department.

Trying to uncover details about the makers and the purpose of geoglyphs is an exhausting and often unrewarding task. There is a lot of speculation, but no definitive answers. The complex geometric designs could be maps of

ancient trade routes, memorials to forgotten wars, or representations of higher powers. Clearly, the people who left these earthen designs wanted them to last. "It's overwhelming how carefully drawn the lines are. There are no mistakes, and the vastness of the depictions can only be fully comprehended when viewed from far above," explains Clarkson. Aerial photographs were taken in 1997 as part of the documentation process. The photos were considered "astounding" even by those who are quite familiar with geoglyphs. "Our photos give a true sense of the geographic setting. They reveal the magnitude of the drawings — they cover the entire side of the valley, in fact dozens of them cover both sides."

In addition to geometrical figures, there are huge schematic figures, such as monkeys, spiders, plants, hummingbirds, pelicans and other birds. Chile is home to the world's largest archaeological representation of a human figure, the 86-metre-long Giant of the Atacama.

This is Clarkson's third year of Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SHERC) funded research in Chile. She has been working closely with Chilean archaeologist, Luis Briones, from the University of Tarapacá in Arica. After spending several years studying geoglyphs in the deserts of Peru, Clarkson was eager to investigate the earthen



Persis Clarkson explores a shrine in the Atacama Desert.

drawings that were reported just north of the city of Iquique. To date, local residents have found more than 200 new geoglyphs. "This is the kind of project that could only be mounted en masse; there is such a huge amount of work," she says. Their summers are spent combing the hills for pieces of ceramic, beads, shards, simple stone knives, and other traces of a people long gone. Often covering 20 to 25 kilometres a day, Clarkson photographs and sketches the evidence. "It's almost impossible to date the objects we find, but they're all clues," says Clarkson. In the last year, she and her crew, which includes Janet Blakey, a current University of Winnipeg student, have made some milestone discoveries. The most recently taken aerial photos reveal that each image has two separate layers. "They are overlapping. It's hard to see in most photos, but the ones we took last year show clearly that there are two images."

Each of the two layers of images is quite different, showing that two time frames are probably represented. Clarkson now faces the ongoing task of deciphering the unique textile motifs of each layer and uncovering more about the people who left the geoglyphs behind.

The geoglyphs invariably coincide with caravan trails, which are also where farming settlements occurred. "We're trying to locate people who were on the trails, which were used until about 50 years ago. But most of the people we have met are too young to answer our questions," she says. "We want to know what they brought to trade, how many llamas they needed and how many people travelled together prior to the Europeans coming in the sixteenth century." As Clarkson walks the caravan routes, she collects remnants of the ancient traders. "If we find people who are familiar with the caravan trails, they might also provide interpretation of some of the geoglyphs."

Clarkson will be heading back to the desert for the next six months, trying to put a face to the people who created the mysterious designs. "It's so elusive, and that's what I love about it."

A Fascination With Argumentation

Professor Doug Walton rarely loses an argument. Having dedicated the last decade to the study of argumentation, he has become an expert on the subject. Walton has received the prestigious Fulbright fellowship. The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program is designed to enhance Canadian and American studies at North American universities. Winners are selected from both countries to undertake a period of research, lecturing and cultural exchange in their neighbouring country. "I'm quite pleased to be going to Northwestern University, especially because the department I will be joining stresses argumentation, my area of expertise," says Walton of his host university. "My research is interdisciplinary, involving speech communication and the analysis of arguments."

Initiated in 1990, this Canada-U.S. program grew out of the well-known Fulbright Program, the largest academic exchange in the world. Fulbright scholars from more than 30 nations have gone on to become famous authors and ambassadors, distinguished politicians, business leaders and Nobel prize winners.

Walton left for Northwestern University in Illinois last December, and he will spend the next five months working on his research in the department of communications studies. While studying political argumentation, he will also have a chance to teach a graduate course.

"For over 2,000 years political arguments have been treated as an add-on rather than the focus of research. People have shied away from this area because it is seen as too subjective. But arguments do have structure and can be

analysed objectively," Walton contends. "It wasn't until the rise of science occurred during the 20th century that people began to understand that argumentation is amenable to mathematical treatment." Identification, interpretation and evaluation are necessary steps in the proper study of an argument.

According to Walton, when studying an argument, a lot of attention is given to common fallacies or mistakes in reasoning. "I often look at written TV transcripts or magazine articles," Walton says. "The case studies that I analyse are everyday arguments, such as political speeches. Politicians' speeches often garner attention from the media and the public because of presumed fallacies. Politicians are attacked for being inconsistent. For example, Vice-President Al Gore promotes no smoking policies, yet it was found that his family had investments in the tobacco industry," Walton explains. "So the Opposition claimed that he contradicts himself. It is legal to attack personality, and it certainly makes a powerful argument. Once you are labelled as dishonest, it's difficult to recover." Walton says that in countering a personal attack, a balanced view is required. You have to ask yourself, how reasonable is the argument and what part is true?

Sometimes arguments based on character or credibility are appropriate and necessary. In legal arguments, for example, a lawyer might be relegated to using credibility as the sole argument. "In situations where there is no hard evidence, credibility of a witness might play a major role in the case," he says. This type of argument is more open to question than empirical evidence, but it will still have some strong points.



A Nostalgic Look At The '60s

The University of Winnipeg's Department of Theatre and Drama invites you to join them for a nostalgic journey in a production of Michael Weller's *Moonchildren*, to be staged at Convocation Hall, February 5th through 12th.

Director Shelagh Carter encourages everyone to spend time with the Moonchildren of the '60s, to share the pain and fear of these characters and laugh out loud as they mock and challenge with unsentimental courage all that they don't understand: the Vietnam War, life after college, life in general. "The play is set in a student apartment building in an American University town. The time is 1965-66," says Carter. "A group of students captures the mood of the times as they scoff at social conventions and protest the Vietnam war in this bitter but hilarious comedy." *For details, see Coming Events.*

Return to Sender

Once again, Printing Services is experiencing a shortage of reusable inter-departmental envelopes, and are unable to help many departments locate enough to handle their internal mailings.

Thousands of these expensive-to-print envelopes exist on campus, but for the University to benefit from their cost-effective reusability, they need to stay in circulation.

If you have more internal envelopes in your department than you need, Printing Services would be happy to take them off your hands and get them back into circulation. Conversely, if your department needs internal envelopes, contact Leslie Uhryniuk in Printing Services to see if any are available.



Honouring Our Own

University of Winnipeg president Marsha Hanen has been appointed to the Order of Canada. Hanen says it is a great honour, and one that came as a surprise. "The accomplishments of any one person are only possible in a supportive environment. Being in education is a great motivator to make good things happen, and I've been fortunate to work with talented people who are truly dedicated to making a difference," she says.

Hanen is well known for her contribution to the community, having served on a number of local, national and international boards. She served on the first Advisory Committee to the Women's Health Resources Unit at Grace Hospital in Calgary. As well, she was, for many years, Chair of the Board of Education of the I.L. Peretz School in Calgary. Throughout her career, Hanen has served on university and faculty committees and has been involved in community education, health organizations and women's groups. She has served as a director of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and the Winnipeg Foundation. She also served two terms as chairperson of the Committee of Presidents of Universities in Manitoba (COPUM).

For Hanen, the most exciting part of her appointment is the ceremony honouring the appointees. "When people from across Canada are brought together for an event such as this, it stirs such a feeling of pride. It's wonderful that people are recognized for outstanding work in their communities. The Order of Canada includes a wide variety of people who are doing incredible things."

Ethnology at Oxford

Laura Peers has combined her two passions, museum anthropology and teaching, in her position at the University of Oxford. She is serving as Curator of the Pitt Rivers Museum, lecturer in Ethnology, and Fellow of Linacre College. At the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, she is focused on the Museum Anthropology program. She also lectures in some undergraduate and graduate courses and leads tutorials for both. "I love the work and the atmosphere. I've settled quite nicely into my new digs at Oxford," she says, noting that it was a considerable adjustment in the beginning.

Peers graduated from the Joint Master's Program in History at The University of Winnipeg in '87 and then completed a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) post-doctoral fellowship here in '98.

One of the world's greatest ethnographic museums, Pitt Rivers is unique in that it serves as a quasi-historic site for museums; it retains its Victorian cases and manner of display. This policy poses some serious curatorial challenges for Peers when it comes to the treatment of First Nations and Native American material. "Objects that I would normally remove from the displays because they are considered by

source groups to be very sensitive are here featured as part of displays illustrating the history of museums, collecting and display," she says. "There is a lot of scope for interpreting collections within the Victorian setting, though, and we are hoping to set up an Indigenous Studies program to bring Native people to work with the collections as well as the staff and students."

Another drastic shift for Peers has occurred on the teaching front. "Oxford doesn't have courses as we know them in Winnipeg. The core of the system is the tutorial, a weekly one-on-one meeting between student and professor," she explains. "These meetings are designed to give students an opportunity to discuss papers that are based on assigned readings." The traditional small group sessions and lectures are provided, but they are not compulsory. There are no essays or mid-term exams, and usually nothing is marked until the final exam at the end of the school year.

Steeped in history and tradition, Peers says that Oxford itself is wonderful. "The Medieval architecture is amazing, as are the pubs. I'm here for at least five years, and possibly forever," she says. "However, I am still working on a book about Native people in Winnipeg, and some of Canada's collections pertain to the fur trade."

COMING EVENTS

"Coming Events" is compiled by University Relations. Planning a campus event? Please let us know. Send **written** information to Paula Denbow (paula.morphy@uwinnipeg.ca), University Relations, 10 working days in advance of the event. Basic details are required: what, when, where, sponsor, price of admission (if any) and the name of a contact person.

FRI., FEB. 5 THROUGH
FRI., FEB. 12

• The University's Theatre and Drama Department invites you to Michael Weller's *Moonchildren*, to be staged in Convocation Hall, at 8 p.m. Admission is free. For reservations, please call 786-9402.

MON., FEB. 8

• **The Manitoba Science and Technology Week** kick-off will begin with a free breakfast at 7:30 a.m. in the Duckworth Centre. A keynote address by Susan Auch will follow. There will be lectures to attend and displays to view throughout the morning. For more information, please contact Erin Booth at 786-9137.

• **Budget Forum** — Preparation of the 1999-2000 budget is now underway. Everyone is welcome to attend the open forum regarding the budget. Graham Lane, vice-president (finance and administration) will provide an overview of the financial situation and information on the process. Following his presentation, the floor will be open for suggestions and questions. It will run from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. in Room 3C01.

• **Music at Noon** — featuring students in recital from the Canadian Mennonite Bible College.

WED., FEB. 10

• **Duckworth Challenge** — The Wesmen Volleyball teams take on the University of Manitoba Bisons. The women's team plays at 5:30 p.m. and the men's game is at 7 p.m. in the Duckworth Centre.

• Skywalk Lecture — **James Peeling**, Professor of Chemistry, will present "National Recovery from Stroke: Basic Animal Research."

THURS., FEB. 11

• Skywalk Concert — **Keystone Bluegrass Quartet** returns to Skywalk by popular demand.

• Music 'N Mavens — "Book club stories: the readers' art," presented by English Professor **Deborah Schnitzer**. The lecture will begin at 2 p.m. Music 'N Mavens is a new concert and lecture series at The Rose and Max Rady Jewish Community Centre (RJCC). Lectures are free to all, and concerts are only \$2 for members of the RJCC and \$4 for non-members. Call 477-7534 to receive Music 'N Mavens brochures. The RJCC is located at 123 Doncaster St., and Schnitzer's lecture will be held in the Adult Lounge.

SAT., FEB. 13

• Virtuosi Concerts — **Navah Perlman**, pianist and member of an illustrious musical family, will perform Beethoven's Sonata Op. 109 and works by Mendelssohn,

Chopin, Prokofiev and Barber. This will be Perlman's Canadian debut. The concert begins at 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Virtuosi Concerts are co-presented by The University of Winnipeg and CBC Radio Two. Ticket prices are \$21, \$19 for students and seniors, and \$12 for children 12 and under. For tickets, call 786-9000.

WED., FEB. 17 —

• Skywalk Lecture—Psychology Professor **Richard Shore** will present "How to Control Anxiety Before it Controls You."

THURS., FEB. 18

• Skywalk Concert — **Sam Baardman**, singer/songwriter/guitarist, performs selections from his first solo CD, *Kicking the Stone Home*. "Exquisite instrumentalism" — *Bartley Kives, Wpg. Free Press*.

FRI., FEB. 19

• **Duckworth Challenge** — The Wesmen and the Bisons meet at the University of Manitoba for what promises to be basketball at its finest. The women play at 6:15 p.m. and the men are on at 8 p.m.

SAT., FEB. 20

Mondetta Stage Performances presents **Parisian Cabaret**: music for film, cabaret and café with soprano **Therese Costes**, and pianists **Charles Horton** and **Irena Lichnowska**. The concert will include a

showing of **René Clair's** surrealist silent film "Entr'acte" (1924) with original score by Erik Satie. The concert begins at 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Tickets are \$15, \$13 for seniors and \$5 for students and children. For tickets, please call 786-9000.

MON., FEB. 22

• **Board of Regents meeting** at 5:30 p.m. in room 2M70.

TUES., FEB. 23

• **Chancellor's Forum** — The forum begins at 4:30 p.m. in the Faculty and Staff Club. George Richert will be speaking about Iraq.

Skywalk Series

The Skywalk Concert and Lecture Series happens on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:15–12:45 p.m. at the Winnipeg Centennial Library's 2nd Floor Auditorium.

Music at Noon

This free concert series is from 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall.