

On the street

We asked people at Loyalist College the following question:

What was your reaction upon hearing Lance Armstrong admitting to doping during his cycling career?



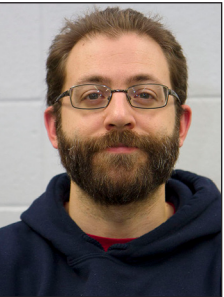
Krysten Elliott, 19, community and justice services worker, “I was shocked – I didn’t think he would admit it. I thought he would deny it because that’s a huge deal.”



Carolyn Knuude, 20, biology, “It was a big move but he probably has to deal with all the consequences now. It took a lot of courage for him to finally come out and confess.”



Laura Zimmerman, 22, child & youth worker, “He seemed really insincere and he wasn’t really giving any information that wasn’t already out there. He kept answering questions half-heartedly.”



Cory Mestre, fitness facilities & campus recreation coordinator, “He just wants to race again and the only way that he’ll be allowed to race again is if he comes clean and starts naming names and working co-operatively with USADA and WADA.”



Tim Gardner, 48, radio broadcasting, “My reaction was I have no sympathy for him at all. He took the high road while he was taking drugs and looked down on everybody, but now he wants everyone to give him that respect. He never gave it all along when he knew he was cheating.”



Jorden Marsh, 20, electrical engineering technician, “It’s fine – he raised millions of dollars so it doesn’t matter if he’s doping or not...he raised the money so if he did it, he did it – it doesn’t affect me because he didn’t do it for a bad cause.”

Editorial

Fewer waterways now protected

Ninety-seven lakes, 62 rivers and three oceans. Those are all the waterways now protected by the Canadian federal government. This means that hundreds of thousands of bodies of water in Canada now go unprotected. Last month, the Harper government changed the 130-year-old, Navigable Waters Protection Act, which protected every body of water in Canada that you could float a boat in. The new law called the Navigation Protection Act is part of the new legislation that includes Bill C-45. The old Navigable Waters Protection Act said that no one could block, destroy or alter any water deep enough that someone could float a canoe on without federal approval, but under the new act, things are very different.

All bodies of water, be they local or national, that were once a part of the Navigable Water Protection Act, are no longer protected under the new law. This means that residents no longer need permission to build on or near the river, along with other regulations.

Luckily, the Trent River and Canal from Rice Lake to Lake Ontario are still being protected, along with the Murray Canal and parts of the Cataraqui River in Kingston.

Thousands of bodies of water all across our country that are not protected under the new law are at risk of becoming damaged or destroyed.

Companies will no longer have to prove that their projects will not hurt bodies of water that are not listed under the new act. Many of the lakes and rivers in the northern part of Canada are not listed.

Oil companies that have fought with the government for years on putting pipe lines in though some smaller lakes and river now can, without clearance from the federal government.

The only good thing about the Navigation Protection Act is that it clears away red tape and makes it easier for those who would like to put in docks and culverts on their properties. These used to take years to get approval for though the federal government.

Online, you can find maps that show you which bodies of water are protected under the new act. You can also find the 457-page PDF omnibus budget bill document, which this act is under.

Many celebrities and members of the general population are outraged by this change to the protection of the Canadian environment.

Canadians have a right to know what is happening in their own backyards and what changes the federal government thinks are alright to make to our environment.

Sandra Kielback

NHL players and owners should be ashamed

Shame on the NHL players, who found the need to argue over money. How much money is enough? Their lack of consideration for others has caused an economic downfall for businesses across Canada that depend on hockey for revenue.

Let’s forget about the players who are making millions of dollars playing a sport they love and let’s focus on everyone else who was affected during the lockout.

Part-time and full-time employees at the official hockey arenas, sports bars, restaurants, hotels, and souvenir shops – to name a few – were the ones who felt an economic hit.

Let’s remember, these employees are not the millionaires. These employees were forced to experience cutbacks at their workplace because of a drop in revenue in what was normally a busy season. At a time that normally allowed for more staff, and more hours, things were quickly shifted when news of a lockout first broke.

Less beer was sold these past few months at sports bars and restaurants because of the lockout, and everyone knows beer and hockey go hand-in-hand. Alcohol is normally a good source of revenue for sports bars and restaurants, but with fewer fans out celebrating, alcohol sales were lower than normal.

There were fewer and shorter shifts for those in the restaurant business. Fewer tables full means fewer employees needed. All this caused employees to receive smaller paycheques and far fewer tips.

Fewer out-of-towner fans resulted in fewer bookings at hotels, leaving them with more empty rooms.

No hockey means there’s less need for hockey souvenirs. No NHL games mean fewer shifts at the arenas. There was less of a need for ushers, concession workers, parking lot attendants, custodial staff – the list goes on. But now that

\$50k

US PROGRAMMERCHINESE PROGRAMMER

\$15k

CHINESE PROGRAMMERINDIAN PROGRAMMER

\$5k

INDIAN PROGRAMMERLAID OFF US PROGRAMMER

“I’m going to need this job completed ASAP”

Opinion

Outsourcing by software developer only doing what companies have done

Ethical implications of salaried employee could be the difference

By Tom Hicken

When a U.S. critical infrastructure company found an open and active virtual private network (VPN) connected to their network all the way from Shenyang, China, there were serious concerns over the security breach and its implications. Even more concerning was that the employee whose credentials being used to invade the network was sitting at his desk in the office. Could it be a cyber infiltration via malicious malware? Spying from a rival overseas competitor? Not quite.

It was soon discovered that “Bob”, a mid-40’s software developer at the company, had been outsourcing his own job to a Chinese consulting firm for about a fifth of his six-figured annual earnings. Bob may have read The New York Times bestseller, *The 4-Hour*

Workweek, which describes how one can cut down on work by outsourcing smaller tasks and depicts a man on a hammock on its front cover. Bob didn’t have a hammock in his office, but investigators found that he spent most of his day surfing the web on Facebook, eBay and Reddit. As a result, Bob was fired.

So, were Bob’s actions unethical? Was he being lazy or efficient? According to a 2007 *Computer Economics* study, North American businesses outsource on average 50 per cent of their workload, where possible. The software development sector leads the way at 61 per cent with no signs of slowing down anytime soon.

Let’s examine some of the common practices your everyday corporation takes part in and compare:

- A large accounting firm needs help logging monthly transactions into spreadsheets and creating and sending invoices to clients. Department managers, with directives to find innovative ways to cut costs, hire staffers from a temp agency to complete the tasks.
- Cable out for the third time this week? When you call your local service provider to

give them an earful or get some helpful tech support, it’s no surprise that the service rep on the other end is coming at you live from Cairo, Egypt.

- Those new jeans you picked up from that trendy European retail store? The label says made in Bangladesh.

What makes it okay for big corporations to behave and profit from the same thing Bob got fired for? The difference, it seems, is that Bob was a salaried employee and being so, holds different ethical implications in the business world playbook. Perhaps if Bob had been a contractor or consultant himself, his actions would have been viewed as perfectly fine.

Instead of being fired, maybe Bob deserved a promotion. Why not place him in a division that outsourced software developers from around the world? Without the guidance of his seniors, he was able to manage a complex operation, communicate with remote “team members” in different time zones, get projects complete on time, all while producing quality work. It sounds like Bob was just in the wrong position to begin with.

Time for everyone to be respectful of others

Canada needs to go from pro-equality in spirit to pro-equality in action

By Patrick Callbeck

An open letter to other straight white males (and everyone else).

Canada prides itself on being a place of equality and acceptance, but unfortunately, this isn’t the reality for many minorities.

In Canada, one in every 17 women will be raped at some point in their lives and people are still being assaulted and killed because of their sexual orientation, the colour of their skin and their religious beliefs.

It may not be my place to comment on this, considering I don’t fall into any real minority, but in order for Canada to become the amazing country that I know it could be, it needs to go from pro-equality in spirit to pro-equality in action. That means we need to work together to end discrimination. To do this, we need to start by recognizing our

privileges and doing something about them.

Everyone has to accept that we all have privilege to some degree, whether it’s white privilege, male privilege, heterosexual privilege, etc. Simply put, being white, straight, male, or even just being born in Canada grants you an inherent privilege in society, whether you want to believe it or not. Accepting that you have it easier than someone else in some aspect of your life is the first step towards becoming truly accepting and respectful of others.

There is no way to be completely empathetic towards people of a different race, sex or sexual orientation, but we *can* and *should* be sympathetic towards them. We need to be careful about drawing links between different types of oppression, because no matter how strong the similarity, no two types are the same.

We also need to adopt a language of equality and respect before things can change. Using words like ‘gay’ or ‘retarded’ as an insult only serves to demean the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and the mentally challenged. While I’m sure in most

cases people don’t intend to do harm by using these words, regardless of your intent, you are allowing your privilege to dismiss the lives of non-privileged groups.

It isn’t just about using politically correct words, though. We need to put an end to sexist and racist jokes, which do nothing but normalize violence and racism. Telling jokes about rape, even just using rape as a term to describe one sports team beating another, is not only disrespectful to victims of sexual abuse, but also treats rape as if it isn’t something to be taken seriously. How can we take sexual assault and racism seriously if we are using them as amusing punch lines to a joke?

People need to be called out for things like this. Privilege will continue to be a part of our society if we stay silent when we see one of our own doing something questionable. This can be hard to do since we’ve been conditioned not to say anything to disrupt the status quo, but unless we speak up, nothing will change. We need to stop victim blaming and start calling out the real perpetrators who are responsible for discrimination in this country.

The Pioneer

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The Pioneer is currently produced by photojournalism students for Loyalist College and the surrounding area. In the spirit of the pioneers who settled our community and who were rooted in tradition, these pioneers always had an eye on the future. Our students strive to serve the public interest, seek the truth and uphold the highest standards of our profession.

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