



Sarah Cripps, a Toronto Independant Music Award Winner, is shown against a brick wall beside the Empire Theatre, before her radio interviews for the Crohn's Benefit Concert Saturday.

Photo by Catherine Jackman

Award winner headlining Belleville show

Crohn's Foundation to be beneficiary from fundraising music concert

By Catherine Jackman

Adrenaline pumped as the lights come down, and fingers pound against the strings of her guitar.

"I kind of disappear into my own little world, sometimes come out of it and say to myself how am I on the fourth song already?"

Sitting down at Café E, Sarah Cripps talks about her west coast tour and why she's coming to Belleville to headline a show at the Empire Theatre benefiting the Crohn's Foundation.

"I lose myself, but it's always been a bit of a rush and the adrenaline starts pumping, it's just my favourite thing to do in the whole world actually. So it's nice to be able to do that and continue to do that," said Cripps.

The sound that Cripps describes as a little bit of a mix between country, roots and a touch of rock has earned her a Toronto Independent Music Award.

Coming straight off a west coast tour, Cripps is headlining the Empire Theatre on March 16, a concert in support of Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada.

"The event seemed like such a cool thing and such a good cause. And it's nice to be able to just play in the area and have friends and family to come out while they experience a fun time and you know supporting such a great cause," said Cripps.

Organized by Alexander Pilon, a public relations student at Loyalist College, almost 100 per cent of the proceeds will be going to the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada.

"I thought of it as a good homecoming. It's a really good way to celebrate the first half of the tour and to come home, play to family, friends, and hopefully some strangers as well.

"And to be headlining the Empire while at the same time we're raising funds for a great cause that helps this area, we're raising the level of education for these diseases because there's a lot of people in this area that suffer from inflammatory bowel disease, but not a lot of people talk about it," said Pilon.

Pilon suffers from Crohn's disease.

"One in every 150 Canadians lives with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis commonly referred to as inflammatory bowel disease or IBD. So, the key to the CCFC's success is the interest and work of thousands of volunteers across the country," said Jeff Livingston, communications manager with CCFC.

"Talking about your bowels isn't polite dinner conversation."

She said she thinks designing an event where people have fun will help turn unacceptable symptoms into common knowledge.

The foundation, which was started in 1974, currently has more than 80 local groups across Canada.

"For Saturday night, it's going to be really exciting. Playing for new fans, playing for a cause, I've never been involved with this before this event. It's going to be an overall great feeling to do what you love and be able to get the word out there with something that's so important. It's a great feeling in many ways not many people get to do that and get to do it for a good cause," said Cripps.

Tickets are available online and at the

New pope provides a number of firsts

By Catherine Jackman

Smoke is generally associated with something bad, unless it's white smoke, which gives you a new Pope.

On March 13, after a two-day conclave, it was announced that Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio would begin his papacy as Pope Francis. Pope Francis is the first Pope to take the name after Saint Francis, he is the first Jesuit Pope, and the first from Argentina.

Bergoglio was the runner up in the 2005 conclave when Pope Benedict XVI was elected Pope.

"Whenever there's a new Pope there's a sense of joy and renewal within the church. I think Pope Francis will bring his own gifts and bring in new initiatives. The teachings of the church won't change, but he'll bring a more pastoral approach," said Father John Hubbard, a priest at Holy Rosary Church, in Belleville.

"My first impression is that I'm very please about the new Pope. He seems like a holy and humble man. I'm impressed that he asked the people to pray for him," said Sister Sandra Shannon of Kingston's Sisters of Providence.

In St. Peter's Square in Rome, the announcement of Pope Francis was a shocking decision. Initially, he was not a part of the speculated front-runners for the position.

While he was still a cardinal, Bergoglio was a proud supporter of raising money for the poor. He urged Argentinians when Pope John Paul II named him Cardinal in 2001, to not come with him to Rome, and instead donate that money to the poor. He was also fiercely against the legalization of gay marriage in Argentina, believing that homosexuality is immoral, simultaneously condemning gay adoption.

"Of course it is significant that we have a non-European Pope, and that he comes from the region where 42 per cent of the

world's Catholics live," said Michael Swan, associate editor at The Catholic Register.

"It is even more significant that he comes from a part of the world that practises the most savage version of global capitalism that has produced incredible divisions between rich and poor, violence and lives deprived of meaningful liberty and dignity.

"He will have harsh words for us in the rich north," said Michael Swan, associate editor at The Catholic Register," said Swan.

"I don't think that him being from the Americas is going to sway his decisions. The Pope looks after everything. An Italian Pope is going to have a different view than one from the Americas; everyone works with their handicaps. But, he has a good head start by not getting too involved with the office tasks and still ministering," said Father Hubbard.

Swan said that Pope Francis' appearance on the balcony was remarkable for a few reasons. He notes how warm, but

informal, the new Pope's greeting was to the crowd, as if he just ran into 100,000 Romans on the street. He then led the crowd into the three most common prayers, the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

"He then led the square in silent prayer for Pope Benedict. Silent prayer includes everybody. There are no barriers of language, culture, doctrine, politics or even religion. Pope Francis signaled a desire to reach out to the world," said Swan.

But there is no telling what will come next from Pope Francis.

"I have no idea what he'll do. I hope that this will be a time of healing and reconciliation. People felt pushed away from the church and now I hope that Pope Francis will bring about compassion," said Sister Shannon.

"I came nowhere near predicting that Cardinal Bergoglio would be elected Pope. I would be foolish to try to predict what he will do," said Swan.

Canadian Cancer Society benefits from auctioned-off Lancers

By Alicia Wynter



Photo by Alicia Wynter

Bachelorette Kimber Jolley struts her stuff across the stage during the Lancer for Cancer fundraiser Wednesday morning.

Loyalist students had a chance to make a difference in their college and community when they bought a Lancers student who volunteered to be auctioned off.

First year sales and marketing students, Cathy Bradshaw, Erin Jaron, Kimber Jolley, Brandon White, Steph Philbin, and Krystal Snyder organized the Lancer for Cancer event with support from the Canadian Cancer Society.

Cancer has touched everyone in some shape or form, whether a friend, family, teacher, or employee who has been diagnosed with a form of this sickness.

"It's for a good cause so it's worth it and it's kind of funny, and I helped out a buddy with his projects," said Zack Smith.

Smith is a first-year construction and renovation student, who is also on the men's rugby team at Loyalist College. Although he was a bit nervous about who would win him, he said he thinks it was a good event and thinks that there should be more events like this to build school spirit. Smith had the highest auction at \$70.

The Lancer for Cancer event took place in the Shark Tank Wednesday morning between 11 a.m. and noon. Each participant stood on the stage and had a small introduction and description said about him or her to the audience. The winner of the bid for each person got to meet his or her date to the St. Patrick's Day pub night and gave their donation.

"I think I won an excellent date, Nicole Hayter, for the St. Patrick's Day pub. She seemed to be fun and outgoing, and she's an Irish princess so let's hope that it turns out well," said Megan Martindale, a firstyear business sales and marketing student,

The first-year sales and marketing students set a goal for themselves at \$1,000. They didn't meet their goal, but made \$260 for their first event to donate to the Cancer Society of Canada.

"We had a lot of people turn out, I wish more people bid, but I think overall we had a good amount of people that came down to the pub even if it was just to watch to see what was going on," said Krystal Snyder, first-year sales and marketing student.

Snyder said her team didn't have much time to promote the event, but said she thinks she will put it on again next year and push for this fundraiser to be an annual event at school in the future.