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24 hours won't be publishing Monday due to the Victoria Day holiday. We'll be back Tuesday. Have a great weekend!

## PIRATES FRANCHISE LOSING ITS LUSTRE P16

# Stanley cups

CANUCKS' PLAYOFF RUN GETS A LIFT P3



RICHARD LAM, GETTY IMAGES



PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL O'SHEA

**VANCOUVER**

## A real man's music is his own P3

Local musician Daniel Ingram writes music for kids' shows such as *My Little Pony* and *Pound Puppies*. What's more, his fan base – surprisingly – are often males in the 18-40 demographic.

**TASTE**

## Fire up the barbie P29

It's the May long weekend. Do you know what that means? Yes, kids, it's time to dust off the barbecue and start cooking outdoors. We have some great recipes for you.



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**Amy Chan**  
Amyfabulous.com

## Cheating: The choice was all yours

**I**s cheating genetic? Could your partner's potential to be promiscuous lie partially in his or her DNA?

Researchers from Binghamton University in New York State seem to think so. They found that a "particular version of a dopamine receptor gene called DRD4 is linked to people's tendency toward both infidelity and uncommitted one-night stands."

Before you rush out for DNA testing, let's explore the good old fashioned explanation of "it just happened."

There are different forms of cheating. There is the purely physical. This could entail a drunken one-night stand. Then there is the emotional where an actual relationship is cultivated, one that extends beyond the physical and extends to the heart and mind. Which one is worse? I don't know. But I think both are borne out of choice and blaming DNA is not a good enough justification. There

There may be all kinds of ways to justify extramarital relationships, but in the end, it was your choice.

is a point where giving into temptation occurs and a less honest path is taken.

The research of psychologist Shirley P. Glass reveals affairs mostly begin with a husband or wife meeting a new friend. She suggests that a healthy marriage consists of walls.

These are the barriers of trust "behind which you guard the most intimate se-

crets of your marriage." Let's explore a potential scenario.

What starts off as a harmless friendship starts to change direction when you start to share secrets about yourself to your new friend - your yearnings, fears and hopes. You start to get the attention you crave and don't want your partner to get jealous, so you hide your friendship. Right then and there, a wall is built between you and your spouse - increasing that divide and detachment, and pushing you further into the comfort of your new friend.

One day, you find yourself upset and your new friend rushes to console and comfort you. Sooner or later, you find yourself locked in your first stolen kiss and realize that you have major feelings for your "friend."

Sure, you may not have seen it coming, but you surely didn't stop it. The minute you started to confide in your new friend versus dealing with the root of the issue with your partner you made a choice. The moment your guilt made you feel the need to hide something - you made a choice.

Read more Amy Chan at [www.amyfabulous.com](http://www.amyfabulous.com)

# SOUND OF



**Erica Bulman**  
24 hours

Interviewing Daniel Ingram makes you wonder if you're dreaming.

The hugely popular composer-songwriter behind the children's animation TV shows *My Little Pony*, *Martha Speaks* and *Pound Puppies*, points to the stuffed toys floating about his studio as he discusses kid ponies and teen ponies. His face softens when he brings up *Rainbow Dash*, warmly referring to her as the "cool pony."

He then casually mentions that 90 per cent of his fan base is - grown men?

Wake up! Wake up now!

Ingram, who got his big break in 2007 when he landed *Martha Speaks*, has mostly flown under the radar, quietly toiling away in his Kitsilano studio. But with his portfolio filling up - and ambitions of Disney movies - he wants to boost his visibility, particularly now that *My Little Pony* has become a sensation.

"My Little Pony has a cult following. It is an allegorical story, like *Lord of the Rings*," the Vancouver musician explains. "Guys are flocking to it. The bracket of males 18 to 40 is almost my biggest demographic."

Huh?

Maybe a little online research will help blunt this mind trip.

Within a week of launching a Facebook fan page, Ingram had almost 950 "likes" and more than 200 comments, the majority from adult men.

One young male fan struggled to explain his fascination with Ingram's music in MLP (*My Little Pony*, for those of you out of the coolness loop).

"Somehow he managed to make a *My Little Pony* show interesting," said 14-year-old American Jonathan Burgess in an e-mail interview. "I don't know why I like his music, I just do."

"It's the same with MLP. I know that I shouldn't like it, as it is a television show for very small children but I just like it."



Another fan explained the phenomenon, saying Ingram's Stephen Sondheim-inspired music eschewed the excessive "sugariness" that so often plagues children's shows.

"Even when taken outside the context of the show, the songs were very lush, never overly shrill and full of musician-ship," Travis Stebbins said.

Ingram's promoter initially tried to sell him as a Canadian version of Charlie Sheen's jingle-writing character from *Two and a Half Men*, so the gloves came off and *24 hours* grilled the good-looking single 36-year-old.

Hookers? No.

Blow? No.

Alcoholic? No.

Does he even like *Two and a Half Men*?

"When I tell people what I do, their first reaction is 'Oh, like Charlie in *Two*

Guys are flocking to it. The bracket of males 18 to 40 is almost my biggest demographic. >>

— Daniel Ingram

and a *Half Men*.' But I've only seen about five minutes of the show," Ingram admits sheepishly.

Hmm, Charlie? Not so much.

Ingram obligingly plays a song he is currently composing for MLP's second season, a solo for *Twilight Sparkle* ... and apparently a bit of a scoop for *24 hours*.

And it has to be said: The little pony's tune is pretty catchy.

Sparkle on, Daniel!

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## Journalist silent about detention

BYRON CHU  
GMI Agency

The North Vancouver journalist detained in Syria and Iran for 18 days arrived at Vancouver airport yesterday, but declined to speak with the media about her experiences or her trip home.

"I really can't, I'm just exhausted," she said looking

flustered by all the reporters and cameras. "I have to authorize everything through my employer (Al Jazeera English)."

Speaking to the Qatar-based news agency the day before, the Iranian-born Parvaz recounted how she was repeatedly handcuffed and blindfolded in a Syrian prison,

forced to listen to the beatings of young Syrian men for confessions.

Her parents, sister and fiancé greeted her with hugs and kisses before quickly whisking her away.

"She looks beautiful," said her father, Fred Parvaz, who asked the media respect the family's privacy for a few days.

I really can't, I'm just exhausted. >>

— Dorothy Parvaz  
on interview requests

"We're just going to stay with family and have a quiet time."

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# MUSIC



Musician Daniel Ingram has made a name for himself composing music for popular children's shows, including My Little Pony, Martha Speaks and Pound Puppies.  
CARMINE MARINELLI/24 HOURS

## Landmark ruling

ERICA BULMAN  
24 hours

A woman conceived through artificial insemination has won a lawsuit to allow people conceived from donated sperm, eggs or embryos in B.C. to identify their donors.

Olivia Pratten, conceived artificially in 1981 with sperm from a donor, filed the lawsuit because unlike adopted children, she had no right to find out who her father was. "I'm thrilled that this has finally happened after years of work," Pratten told 24 hours by phone. "It feels like tremendous validation. We'd been told by a lot of people in positions of power that our reasons weren't valid, but now the court is saying, 'yeah you do.'"

In a decision released Thursday, B.C. Supreme Court Judge Elaine Adair ruled the B.C. Adoption Act of 1996 was unconstitutional, and said the rights of the child must be protected in sperm donation as they are in adoption cases. It's the first ruling of its kind in North America. The 29-year-old Toronto journalist has fought for close to a decade to learn her biological father's identity. She believes, but is not cer-



Olivia Pratten speaks at the B.C. Supreme Court in this Oct. 2010 file photo. FILE PHOTO

tain, that those records were destroyed. Pratten is unsure if she will continue trying to locate them. "It's an emotional, complicated situation. I have a dad already. This was not about me. It was about giving the right to someone else. It's about knowing where you come from." The judge granted a permanent injunction prohibiting the destruction of donor records in B.C., including anonymous donors of sperm, eggs and embryos. The ruling gave the province 15 months to rework the legislation.

Twitter: @Lopinbum

## Fake cop tweet flap

KAREN JOUHAL  
24 hours

Metro Vancouver's Transit Police are apologizing to their Twitter followers for a series of weird tweets that popped up on their account Wednesday. "Apologies to all tweeps for inappropriate postings late yesterday," they tweeted. "Seems we were hacked. Taking steps to avoid it in the future." One of the mysterious tweets included: "Oh, okay now we see your true colours, you just hate

all police. You should be able to do what you want, when you want." Transit Police deleted all the phoney tweets within a few hours, but not before taking a few hits. Transit Police refused to comment on the matter to 24 hours in a phone call, but said they would be releasing information on the investigation in "due time."

Twitter: @karenjohal

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