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WEEKLY DISPATCH

Hi Dalhousie students!

Welcome and welcome back to Dalhousie University. I am proud to serve as your Dalhousie Student Union president for 2007-2008. If you ever have a question, comment or concern about the DSU, feel free to contact me at 494-1277, by email at dsupres@dal.ca, or visit my office in the SUB.

For those of you who don't know, the DSU represents all students at Dalhousie. Each year, every full-time student pays \$113 to support its activities, some of which include the operation of the Grawood and the T-Room, the orientation week, Campus Copy, the student advocacy service, Tiger Patrol and a dozen others, now including a new office of environmental sustainability. The DSU also proudly hosts and supports over 200 student societies. The residence councils, the Gazette and the Dalhousie Women's Centre are a few examples.

The DSU is governed by all students through both direct and representative democracy. The union is managed by a council that represents every segment of the student body and every student, individually, has several opportunities during the year to take a direct hand in the running of their student union. Of course students can vote in DSU elections and referendums, but we can also attend one of the Imagine DSU events or the Annual General Meeting to have our voices heard directly and place our hand on the tiller of our student union.

In addition to representing our interests on campus, the DSU also brings student concerns to every level of government. DSU representatives work with student unions throughout the country to make post-secondary education a priority and make sure that an affordable and high-quality university education is available to everyone. The DSU is a member of both the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA) and the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA). DSU executives have always prided themselves in taking a leadership role locally, provincially and federally.

The next year holds great promise for all of us. Let's work together to make it unforgettable. If you ever need me, my door is open.

Watch this space for more information throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Mike Tipping



GAZETTE...STAFF

GAZETTE STAFF

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THE FINE PRINT

The Gazette is the official written record of Dalhousie University since 1868 and is open to participation from all students. It is published weekly during the academic year by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society.

The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general.

A "staff contributor" is a member of the paper defined as a person who has had three volunteer articles, or photographs of reasonable length, and/or substance published in three different issues within the current publishing year.

Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, The Word at Dal, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in the Streeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff. This publication is intended for readers 18 years of age or older. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

All students of Dalhousie University, as well as any interested parties on or off-campus, are invited to contribute to any section of the newspaper. Please contact the appropriate editor for submission guidelines, or drop by for our weekly volunteer meetings every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in room 312 of the Dal SUB. The Gazette reserves the right to edit and reprint all submissions, and will not publish material deemed by its editorial board to be discriminatory, racist, sexist, homophobic or libellous. Opinions expressed in submitted letters are solely those of the authors. Editorials in The Gazette are signed and represent the opinions of the writer(s), not necessarily those of The Gazette staff, Editorial Board, publisher, or Dalhousie University.



Do you
Need
a place
to
Write?

...write
for the
GAZETTE

Story meetings
are held every
Monday at
5:30 p.m. in
room 312
of the SUB.

Our first meeting
is September
10th.

Welcome to university life...

JOHN PACKMAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Congratulations Frosh.

You've made it.

High school is over.

You're now university students.

For a lot of you, it's your first time away from home and your first time living in a new city. Essentially, it's your first shot at independence.

Now is the time to do all the things you've heard about from older friends and siblings or seen in National Lampoon movies.

To wake up in a stupor, wondering whose fedora you're wearing and why your mouth tastes like pizza you don't remember eating.

To sit in overwhelmingly large auditoriums and watch a prof dissect an eyeball on a big screen.

To write an exam in a room with hundreds of other students, silently mouthing acronyms for Greek philosophers or the colours of the rainbow.

To make friends with people you'd never be friends with if you didn't live next door to them or sit across from them in Spanish class.

But before you do all these wondrous things, you have to don a badly fitting, tie-dyed T-shirt, get a not-so-clever frosh name (My name is Donair Frosh: I don't care what kind of meat it is, so long as I can put it in my mouth), shine people's shoes for charity and hold hands with complete strangers as you're paraded around Halifax.

Yes, this is the strange and confusing phenomenon known as Frosh Week: four days designed to get Dalhousie's first-years to make a few friends before classes start.



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Frosh week won't be the best week of your university career, but it certainly will be the most awkward.

It won't be the best week of your university career, but it certainly will be the most awkward.

University is the place to do things you've never done before. Making friends with people who may not have been in your high school clique is your first exercise.

Without even being introduced, you'll be forced to talk to and make friends with people you've never seen before. This might be a little stressful, but relax. Frosh is just the first week of university, not the only one.

All the while you may be straining to figure out why you're passing a Vaseline-covered orange from person to person without using your hands, or why you're doing any of the other strange or stupid things your frosh leaders are asking you to do. It's so frosh will have some-

thing in common.

And once you've finally managed to pass that orange into your fellow student's neck, it's safe to say you two will have at least one thing to talk about. After that, conversation will come a lot more naturally.

If you have any friends that came with you to university, it might be best to split up until you've met some new people. Old friends may make you more comfortable, but discomfort forces you to socialize. Isn't that a lovely thought?

The universal social lubricant (alcohol) will probably come into play, but if you didn't drink much before coming to Dal, hold off for a few days. A drink or two might relax you, but you don't want to go too far. You definitely don't

want have people find out about the Snoopy tattoo on your ass before they even know your name.

And for those of you living in residence, do not spend frosh week calling home. Go to the events and get to know people so you'll actually have something good to tell your friends when you call them later. As an added bonus, you won't have to go to the cafeteria alone.

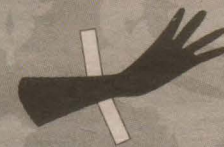
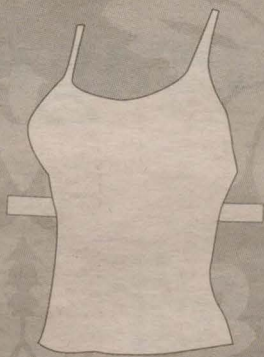
The biggest hurdle you'll likely have to get over will be yourself. At some point, you'll need to stop standing around, trying to look cool, wondering who should be the first person you talk to. Just swallow your pride, roll up your frosh shirt sleeves and introduce yourself to the next person who's just standing around and trying to look cool.

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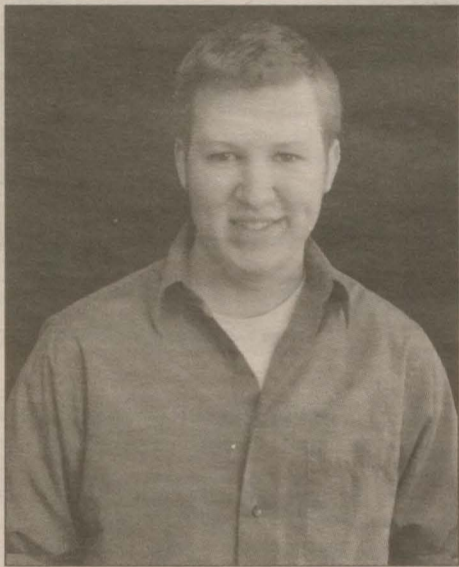


Meet your union leaders

The Dalhousie Student Union is a student-run organization responsible for student advocacy and a wide range of student services at Dalhousie. Five executive members govern the union and are accountable to council, which is made up of over 30 student leaders. The Gazette explores the responsibilities and goals of the four elected executive members as they prepare for the 2007/2008 academic year.

KATIE MAY | NEWS EDITOR

The man in charge



GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

MIKE TIPPING, PRESIDENT
HONORARIUM: \$26,000

Responsibilities: Acts as the chief executive officer of the DSU; acts as the official spokesperson for students; sits on the board of governors and senate; develops and formulates policy; reviews federal, provincial, municipal and university policies that affect the academic, financial and social interests of students and recommends appropriate action to council.

The president also represents the interests and policies of the student union and its members during policy formulation by external organizations of which the union is a member.

...

As the only returning executive member of the Dalhousie Student Union, Mike Tipping is beginning his presidency this year with experi-

ence as the union's vice President (education) already under his belt.

He wants to make university education more accessible to low-income, aboriginal and international students.

Tipping is currently tackling student financial aid availability in the province as chair of the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations. He's focusing on bringing student issues, particularly debt, to politicians' attention through external lobby groups.

The union held a series of student feedback sessions called Imagine DSU to measure membership support of issues within the university, including last year's proposal to create more student recreation and study spaces on campus.

Students voted the proposal down in a referendum after many of them felt the DSU had sided with the administration during the meetings rather than adequately representing student opinions.

Tipping says the events are essential tools for accessing student needs and that he will listen to student concerns by holding more public consultations on major projects that emerge over the course of the year.

Last year, the DSU overhauled its governance structure to avoid an imbalance of power among individual executives and make the union more open to students. The union redesigned its website and created a new site, gettingshitdone.com, in an effort to improve the DSU's image and involve more students in its functions.

As president, Tipping is the official spokesperson for the union, which means he represents Dal students to school administration, other universities across Canada and all three levels of government. To fulfill his main responsibility as a voice for students, Tipping will have to follow through on plans laid by the previous executive to make the union more transparent and address real student needs.

Students' link to societies



GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

ROSALIE HANLON, VICE PRESIDENT (INTERNAL)
HONORARIUM: \$26,000

Responsibilities: Helps facilitate more than 225 societies; oversees all student communications; acts as the chair of the annual Shinerama campaign; looks after the Student Handbook and the DSU website. The vice president (internal) chairs several committees, including: promotion of diversity on campus, student accessibility fund, residence relations, Sexton campus advisory, communications and awareness, grants and society review.

...

She's already had experience founding student groups and this year Rosalie Hanlon faces the task of coordinating all of Dalhousie's diverse campus societies, as well as ensuring that communication between all individual members, societies and organizations within

the DSU is clear and consistent.

Hanlon was the founder of Dal's Meal Exchange program and food bank. As an environmental engineering student, she knows a thing or two about the distanced relationship between students at Sexton campus, where engineers spend most of their class time, and students at the main Studley campus.

Hanlon has said she wants to bridge the gap between Dal's three campuses and encourage student leadership skills by bringing societies with similar interests together in forums so they can learn from each other.

As the executive member responsible for the union's new website, which was launched last year, she wants to make the DSU even more accountable to students by posting her monthly work goals on the site and encouraging her fellow members to do the same.

Besides working all summer to ensure society members are informed about official union business, such as new online ratification processes, available group funds and grant applications, Hanlon has spearheaded Shinerama, the union's major annual fundraising campaign in support of Cystic Fibrosis research.

Last year's fundraiser fell short of its \$75,000 goal amount by roughly \$25,000, so Hanlon has her work cut out for her to get more Dal students involved and raise more money.

Dal students have been raising money for Cystic Fibrosis through the DSU's Shinerama campaign for 42 years.

Shinerama was established in 1964 as a shoe-shining fundraiser and has since grown to include several other events such as car washes, barbeques and bar-blitzes at Dal.

Roughly 60 universities and colleges participate in Shinerama across the country. So far, the Dal community has raised more than \$600,000 for Cystic Fibrosis research and care.

What your paying: average tuition fees across Canada

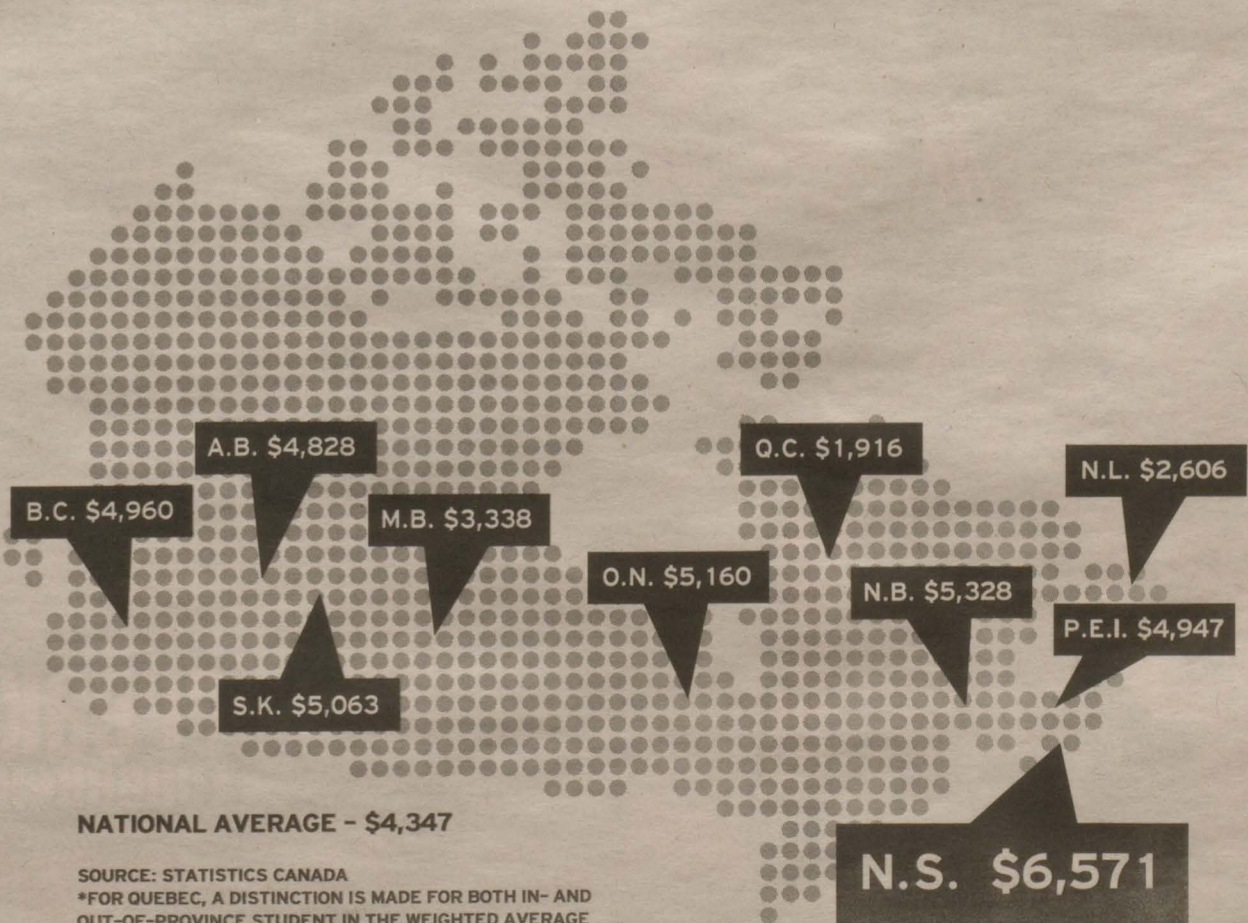
KATIE MAY
NEWS EDITOR

By the time first-year students arrive at Dalhousie University, move into their new rooms and fling themselves into frosh festivities, most have at least glanced -- or gawked in shock -- at their tuition bills for the fall term. Chances are they already know their post-secondary education is going to cost big bucks. But how does tuition at Dal stack up against fees at other universities across the country?

Students in N.S. pay the highest tuition in the country, and Dal ranks as the third most expensive university in the province, tied with University of King's College, after Acadia University and St. Francis Xavier University.

Canada's average undergraduate tuition was \$4,347 last year. Fees are increasing in six provinces this year, and with Nova Scotia's 3.9 per cent tuition hike, students here can expect to pay roughly \$2,000 more than those studying at other schools across the country.

While tuition is higher, other undergraduate mandatory fees -- such as bus pass and student union dues -- in the province were roughly \$47 lower than the \$619 national average last year.



SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
*FOR QUEBEC, A DISTINCTION IS MADE FOR BOTH IN- AND OUT-OF-PROVINCE STUDENT IN THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE CALCULATIONS.

Forerunner for financial aid



GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

TARA GAULT, VICE PRESIDENT (EDUCATION)
HONORARIUM: \$24,500

Responsibilities: Manages the DSU's Student Advocacy Service and course evaluations; develops and formulates policy on academic matters; represents the union on the senate and the senate academic priorities and budget committee, the senate committee on academic administration and the senate nominating committee; responsible for lobbying the government

on education-related issues through the DSU's federal and provincial lobby organizations.

...

For her first term as an executive member, Tara Gault is focusing on first-year students in her position as vice president (education). She's prepared a Rights and Responsibilities guide for new students with the help of the union's academic committee. The guide is included in this year's frosh pack and it outlines essential university information, including details about the DSU, academic advising, exams, the school's anti-plagiarism policy and student employment opportunities.

Apart from serving on the university's senate and reviewing student discipline cases that go before the senate committee, Gault has been working on external campaigns for the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA) and the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

Her main goal in working with these groups is to lobby the federal and provincial governments for more student access to financial aid. She wants to help boost the speed of processing student loans, particularly in Ontario, where the majority of Dal's out-of-province students permanently reside.

As the student voice for education concerns, Gault is responsible for pushing politicians to increase post-secondary education funding and introduce tuition cuts that will benefit all students rather than just certain groups.

Some big issues in her portfolio this year are the rising differential fees for international students at Dal, which will increase by \$810 this year, as well as a recent tuition rebate of up to \$500 set aside for Nova Scotia students.

The exec behind frosh events



GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

COURTNEY LARKIN, VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)
HONORARIUM: \$24,500

Responsibilities: Organizes student events on campus and coordinates DSU-sponsored activities such as orientation week, charity ball and student appreciation night. The vice president (student life) is also responsible for promoting varsity athletics on campus and sits on several committees, including the recruitment committee and the community affairs and events committee.

...

Courtney Larkin wants new students to have a positive impression of Dalhousie the moment they set foot on campus.

As vice president (student life), Larkin is the official organizer of Orientation Week 2007 and she's been working to ensure first-years experience the best of university life right from the start.

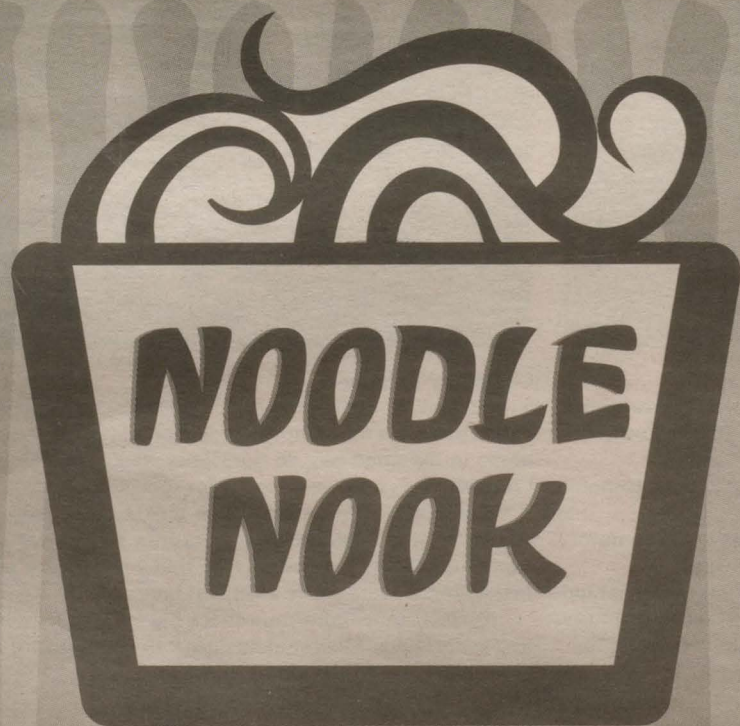
Using some of the experience she gained last year as vice chair of frosh week and commissioner to the vice president (student life), Larkin wanted to improve the effectiveness of events this year by running an orientation leadership training camp and recruiting both on- and off-campus frosh leaders.

She secured local businesses to sponsor frosh events and worked with the university to book popular musical acts such as Joel Plaskett Emergency and In-Flight Safety for the James Bond-themed '07 events this year.

Larkin says her top priority as student life executive is to encourage student input in the union's activities and in her portfolio in particular. She wants to increase student attendance at campus events, particularly at Dal's main campus bar, The Grawood, by booking talented university artists and bands so students can watch their peers play in front of a live audience.

As a welcome back treat for returning students as well as frosh, Larkin organized a new event called Dalfest '07.

A few of the major issues Larkin will have to deal with this school year involve attracting more off-campus students to union-sponsored events, hosting events on all three campuses — Studley, Carleton and Sexton — to unite Dal students across degree programs, and ensuring on-campus venues such as The T-Room and The Grawood remain profitable throughout the year.



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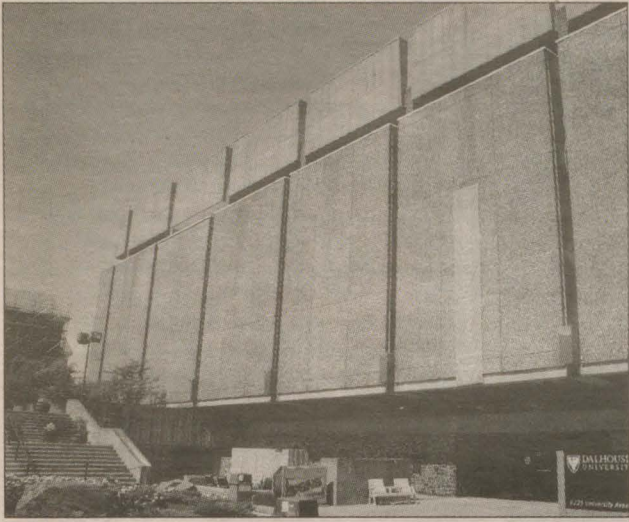
milano's

R I S T O R A N T E

Getting to know your campus: Buildings at Dal

Dalhousie a lot of buildings. The campus is covered with the damn things. Some of them are huge and imposing while others look like ordinary houses. But they each have their own individual personality and by the end of your degree, you should get to know quite a few of them intimately.

JOHN PACKMAN | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

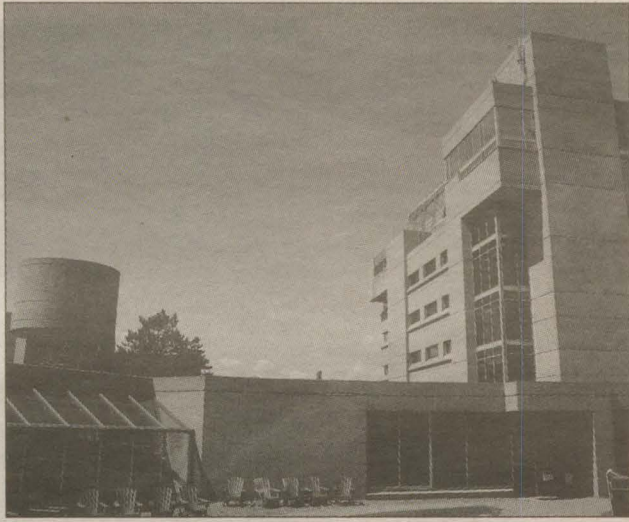


Killam Library

The Killam is Dal's main library and is impossible to miss. It looks like something out of 2001: A Space Odyssey: a big, five-story concrete block that somehow landed on campus.

Inside the main entrance is a bright atrium with one of the biggest skylights you'll ever see. The atrium has a Second Cup, trees and a fountain, and is a great place to work if you like a noisy environment. On the upper floors there are quieter study spaces looking into the atrium, as well as isolated study desks in the stacks.

The Killam also houses the Learning Commons, which is essentially a big room with a lot of computers. These are good if your printer runs out of ink or you drop your laptop down the stairs. But get there early because often times, all the computers will be taken.

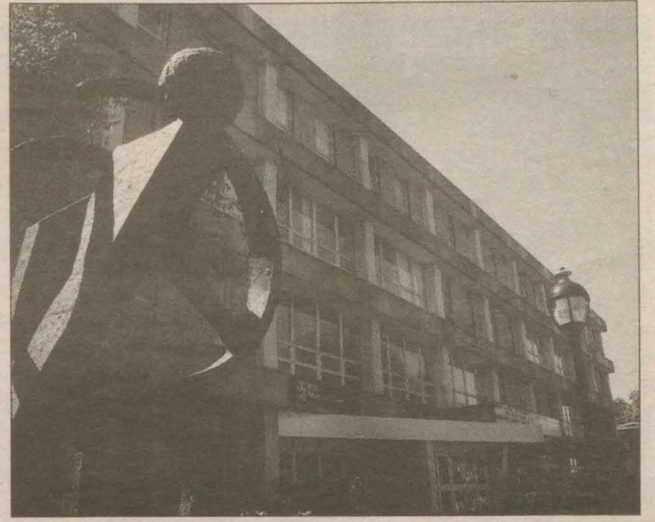


The Life Sciences Centre

The Life Sciences Centre, more commonly called the LSC, is a giant concrete maze. If you have any classes there, give yourself at least 10 minutes to find them.

While some of the rooms in the building's Psychology, Biology, Oceanography and Earth Science departments have nice views (some overlook the ocean), the one you're in probably doesn't. Many of the 'common areas' for other faculties have no windows. That's right, no windows. No natural light or anything close to it.

If you're unlucky enough to have a class in one of these common areas, at some point during the year you might start to think it's a study by the Psychology department to determine whether students can thrive on fluorescent light only. Otherwise, there is no way to explain why someone would build classrooms like this. Luckily, there's a Tim Hortons in the LSC to keep you awake during these extended periods of darkness. But the lines are long, so get there early.

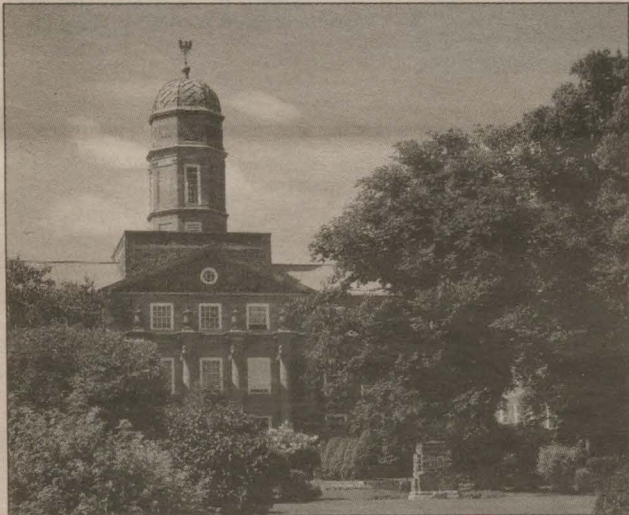


Students Union Building (SUB)

Your first visit to the SUB will probably be to go to the bookstore to get decked out in Dal gear and stand in giant lines to buy your textbooks.

Most students go to the SUB on a daily basis to get coffee at the Tim Hortons or the Starbucks on the main floor. The building also holds the campus pub, The Grawood, and the McInnes Room, which acts as a venue for high-profile speakers and bands. Steven Lewis used the McInnes Room when he came last January, as did the Dropkick Murphys last fall.

The SUB also holds the offices of the Dalhousie Student Union executive, the Student Employment Centre, CKDU (the student radio station), a travel agency and The Gazette office.



Henry Hicks Academic Administration Building

If you've seen a postcard, advertisement, or brochure for Dal, you've seen the Henry Hicks. It's the one with the big, green clock tower and three-storey pillars.

The building is mostly used for administration purposes and for housing the political science department. It has some very spacious classrooms with great views of University Avenue.

In the basement, you'll find a table to register for student loans, a place to get your university bus pass (U-Pass) and come time to pay tuition, a big slow line to the Student Accounts office. The Henry Hicks also has an underground passage to the Life Sciences Centre and the Chemistry Building, which seems lazy, but during winter, you'll appreciate it.



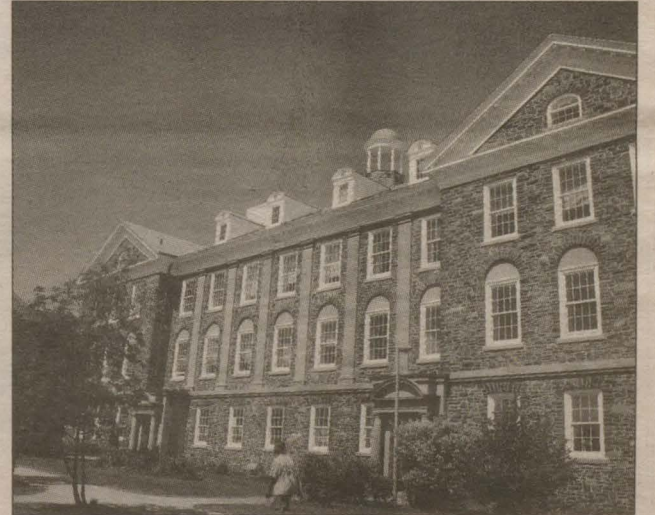
Computer Science Building

If you're looking for friends who are pulling all-nighters but can't study in their rooms, they're probably in the Comp Sci Building.

It's open 24 hours a day, with a Second Cup in the basement and a comfortable lounge.

The building itself has an open feel, though it has an unfortunate amount of exposed concrete and loose wires.

Comp Sci students and anyone else who's interested should go to the Comp Sci's "Beat the Clock Geek Beer" for ridiculously cheap beer and shots. It's a good way to start any Friday night.

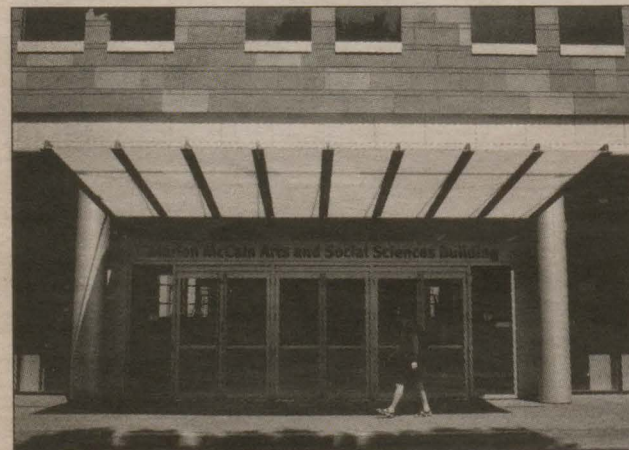


Chemistry Building

The Chemistry Building, unsurprisingly, holds the chemistry department. It's the campus's oldest building, but looks quite at home in the quad next to the Henry Hicks and the University Club (which is now used mostly for special events).

Though stately, it's fairly plain looking with large, uniform windows. This makes a good backdrop for movies set in the 1940s and 1950s. So good, in fact, that you may see one or two being filmed while you're a student here.

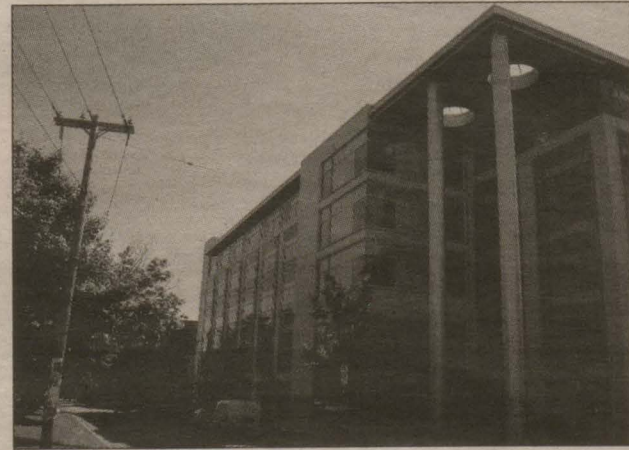
It has a large auditorium that's big enough for some of the first year classes. Most students use it the building for its underground passage to the Killam Library.



Marion McCain Arts and Social Sciences Building

More commonly called the FASS (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences), the McCain building is home to most of the faculties in the arts departments. Most first-year students have a class or two in the McCain's large auditoriums. They can be somewhat overwhelming, but just be thankful you're not in the LSC.

The building is less than eight years old and has bright classrooms and hallways as well as computer rooms, couches and study carrels.



Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building

Most commerce students will get to know the ultra-modern Rowe building by the time they graduate. The building has huge windows to maximize natural light as well as many other environmentally-friendly aspects.

The Rowe has several large lecture halls which are used by many first-years. The building distinguishes itself from the others by having classrooms with high-backed, executive-looking chairs.



The Grad House

The Grad House is the low-key bar on campus. Like The Grawood, The Grad House offers cheap beer to thirsty students, but the Grad House has a homier atmosphere. It's probably because the bar is a renovated house.

During the day, it's a good place to buy cheap Chinese food and study. At night, it's a nice place to have a drink with friends or, for some of the older students, with professors.

Despite its name, undergraduate students are also welcome at the Grad House.

No freeze for international students

KATIE MAY
NEWS EDITOR

For students coming to Dalhousie from abroad, the university's budget is not good news.

The only student fee set to rise this year is the differential fee for Dal's international students, which will increase by \$810 according to the university's 2007-2008 operating budget.

The hike is in effect for undergraduate international students and those enrolled in non-thesis programs, while fees for thesis students are frozen at last year's level.

The Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) announced a \$500 fee

reduction for full-time Nova Scotia students and a tuition freeze for all other Canadian students this year, but the university is following its five-year plan to increase non-Canadian undergraduate costs, which have climbed at a steady rate of \$810 per year for the past two years.

The committee recommended the hike stay in effect for five years so that by 2010, the cost to international students would match the "full cost of education," according to the report.

While many international students say the hefty fees discouraging foreign students from studying at Dal, particularly those from less

financially-stable countries, the BAC report says the university does not recognize a connection between spiked student fees and declining enrolments.

The committee predicts overall enrolment — including international students — will dip by 125 students this year, resulting in a roughly \$600,000 revenue loss for the university.

But the BAC says in its report that it "does not support the view that the program of international fees has or will negatively impact enrolment."

Currently, there are more than 1,200 international students studying at Dal from nearly 100 different countries around the world.

Lobbying for students

ROBYN MCNEIL
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

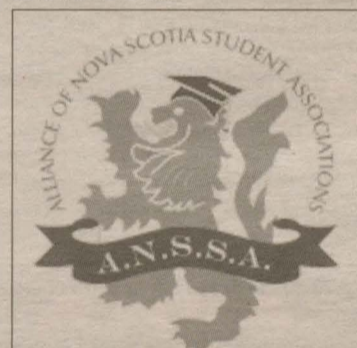
The Dalhousie Student Union is a member of several external student lobby groups, which it uses to push the federal, provincial and municipal governments to formulate policies that will benefit students. Here are the main groups and the education issues they deal with.

Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services(CFS)

Founded in 1981, the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students-Services (CFS) were created to provide a united student voice at provincial and national levels.

With a membership base of more than 80 post-secondary student unions and associations, CFS is the largest student lobby group in Canada, representing almost half a million students coast to coast. Although Dalhousie's student union is not a member, the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students is listed as a prospective member on the Federation's website.

Using its size as an advantage, CFS enables member organizations to pool their resources, together exerting a strong influence on the national stage. CFS also gives student organizations the collective ability to provide student services such as Travel CUTS, the Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP), homes4students.ca, the National Student Health Network and other businesses owned and operated in student interests.

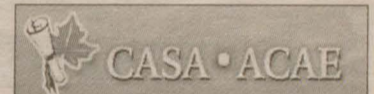


The Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA)

The Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA) is a provincially based lobby group that represents more than 33,000 students at four post-secondary institutions. The non-partisan association was jointly founded in 2004 by student unions at Dalhousie, Acadia, Saint Francis Xavier and Saint Mary's Universities.

With an exclusive focus on post-secondary education, ANSSA's goal is for high-quality, affordable education to be accessible to every student. Defending, representing and promoting the interests of member schools, ANSSA not only points to existing problems within the current system but provides potential solutions to the challenges facing post-secondary students in Nova Scotia.

A recent ANSSA campaign, "Save Our Summers," tackled the cuts and restructuring the federal government made to its student summer job program, which disproportionately affected students in rural Nova Scotia.



The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations(CASA)

Billing itself as the country's most effective student organization, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) represents close to 250,000 students across Canada.

Founded in 1995, CASA has a growing membership. It originally represented five student organizations. Today CASA speaks for 19 post-secondary student unions and associations, including Dalhousie's.

With policies focused on four main areas: accessibility, affordability, innovation and a social union, CASA's aim is to ensure every qualified student access to quality, affordable education.

The umbrella association is also concerned with controlling student debt. They believe students should not graduate with unreasonable debt loads.

Recent policy topics include, but are not limited to, Canada Student Loan Programs, debt reduction, tuition and intellectual property rights.

INTERNATIONAL TUITION FEES FOR STUDENTS ENTERING SELECTED CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES (2006-07) TOTAL FEES

	Canadian Students	International Students	Differential
University of British Columbia			
Undergrad (Arts)	\$4,174	\$17,577	\$13,403
Graduate Masters	\$3,862	\$7,200 for regular	\$3,338
Graduate PhD	\$3,862	\$7,200 for regular	\$3,338
University of Toronto			
Undergrad (Arts)	\$4,373	\$16,800	\$12,427
Graduate - Masters	\$5,660	\$16,800	\$11,140
Graduate - PhD	\$5,660	\$16,800	\$11,140
University of Alberta			
Undergrad (Arts)	\$4,537	\$15,767	\$11,230
Graduate - Masters	\$3,192	\$6,784	\$3,592
Graduate - PhD	\$3,192	\$6,784	\$3,592
Dalhousie University			
Undergrad (Arts)	\$6,160	\$12,610	\$6,450
Graduate Masters (thesis-based)	\$6,381	\$11,571	\$5,190
Graduate Masters (non-thesis)	\$6,381	\$12,831	\$6,450
Graduate - PhD	\$6,699	\$11,889	\$5,190
Memorial University			
Undergrad (Arts)	\$2,550	\$8,800	\$6,250
Graduate - Masters	\$3,030	\$3,936	\$906
Graduate - PhD	\$2,049	\$2,661	\$612
University of Manitoba			
Undergrad (Arts)	\$3,000	\$5,400	\$2,400
Graduate - Masters	\$4,177	\$8,354	\$4,177
Graduate - PhD	\$4,177	\$8,354	\$4,177

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Contributor meetings are held every Monday @ 5:30 p.m. in room 312 of the Sub

Career Services Centre

Volunteer Fair 2007 Opportunity Awaits, Unlock Your Potential

The Volunteer Fair gives you the opportunity to explore options and connect with organizations seeking your help.

With up to 60 exhibitors from local, national, and international organizations, the Volunteer Fair is a great place to find the volunteer experience you're looking for and develop great job skills while contributing to your community.

Date: Tuesday, September 11th, 2007

Time: 10:00am - 3:00 pm

Location: McInnes Room, 2nd Floor Student Union Building (SUB)

Upcoming Workshops

On-Campus Recruitment-Tips for Success

Date: September 19

Time: 12:30pm-1:30pm

Location: SUB, Room224

Now Recruiting Peer Coaches

Interested in developing leadership, coaching, communication, and presentation skills? Visit us to learn more about our Peer Coach Program



Ah, to be frosh again

Enjoy it while it lasts

ALY COY
ARTS EDITOR

Hello, young Froshians! How lucky you are to be entering university with fresh minds, loaded bank accounts and healthy livers. After three years at Dalhousie I have succumb to student living. Here's some advice from my experience. Student life is often marked by thrifty habits. You'll end up scrounging for things like packets of jam, rolls of toilet paper and free samples. You'll guard your groceries with your life. You think you'll retain your dignity, but don't worry - the scrounging will come naturally soon enough.

In residence, you'll probably become nocturnal and gain fifteen pounds, but the people you meet in res make it all worth it.

Sign up for activities offered for your floor or house. It's a great chance to meet people and do new, fun things. Attend all the floor parties. I highly recommend attending any themed party, especially decked out in full costume. You can win prizes and it's a great ice-breaker. Keep the door to your residence room open (except when you're

changing, of course. You don't want to be the weird naked guy). Watch TV in the common rooms and wear flip-flops in the shower.

Take advantage of the food made for you. You may not believe it now, but you will miss that cafeteria food in second year when you're out of residence. It will be overwhelming at first to have an abundance of food, but you have all year to try out the different meals. And yes, there is ice cream.

There was a snow storm a couple years ago and all of Halifax was left without power, except for the good old Dalhousie residences. We have a separate generator, so you don't need to face the reality of nature. It's a whole different world in residence.

First-years are to be envied. Halifax is an amazing city and Dalhousie is a fantastic school. It's easy to meet people and make close friends in residence. Just remember to participate in activities, visit people in their rooms, write on the white boards and have fun. The years go by quickly here, so spend them well. I promise all of you will have the time of your life. Oh, and go to class.

Choosing a single or double room

The Gazette examines the issue

KATIE INGRAM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After weighing the options and deciding which residence suits your individual preference, there is another decision left to make: roommate or no roommate?

Although making this decision might be difficult, the outcome can affect your residence experience for better or worse.

If you live in a single room, you don't have to worry about issues such as annoying a roommate if you decide to pull an all-nighter (which you likely will). With single rooms, there is no need to ask permission to have 'overnight guests,' and if you need some alone time, all you need to do is close your door.

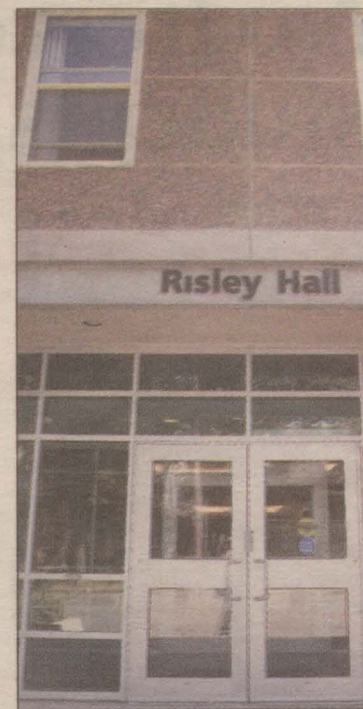
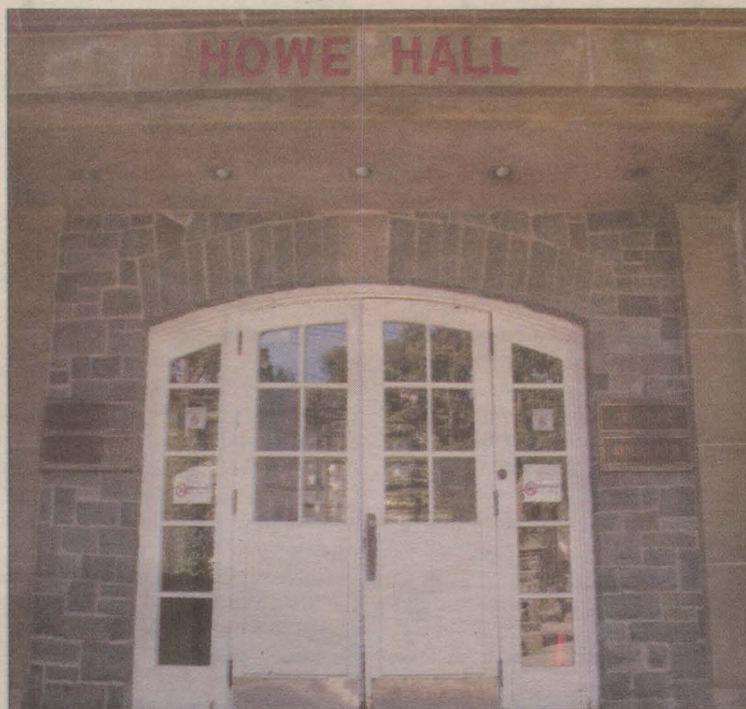
When you live alone, you can do what you want without having anyone awkwardly walk in. If you're keen on decorating, you don't have to worry about offending another person with

your choices. So if you like freedom and privacy, a single room is the perfect choice.

A double room also has its benefits. Though you have to share it, the room is bigger. If you end up getting locked out or come home from the bar and find yourself unable to work your lock, you can try to find your roommate instead of waking up your soon-to-be-pissed-off Residence Assistant and getting them to unlock your door.

If you contact your roommate before move-in day, you will already know someone in residence. This can make the transition to living on your own smoother, and with someone to talk to, it can be easier to make friends.

A roommate is also useful if you miss or ignore your alarm. Roommates can also help cut food costs by sharing late night take out. If you are person who likes company and doesn't need a lot of privacy, a double is your ideal pick.



Living in residence

Eliza Ritchie Hall 6250 South Street

Eliza Ritchie Hall is in great spot for fitness addicts or people who need convenience to make it to the gym. This residence is the closest of all to the Dalplex (Dalhousie's main gym) and Wickwire Field.

Eliza Ritchie was built in the 1980s and can hold around 90 students. Since it's an older building, there are a few problems such as frequent fire alarms, showers with rotting floors and rickety furniture.

But don't count out Eliza out just yet. She has her charms. Eliza is worth a visit just to see the wall of painted heads in the multi-purpose room. The rooms are huge, especially if you're in a double in the section known as 'The Hive.'

The single rooms are well designed with a big closet separating the sink from the desk and bed, giving them more of an apartment feel. Showers and bathrooms are either individual or use 'on when in use, off when vacant' light systems so you can do your business in peace.

Eliza Ritchie is too small to have its own cafeteria so most Eliza residents walk down to Shirreff Hall for meals. Eliza residents stick together in Shirreff and tend to sit at the same tables meal after meal. Non-Elizans thinking of sitting at the Eliza table should watch out, as some Elizans are territorial.

Some advice for living in Eliza: get a universal remote, several extra sets of batteries and coaxial cables. Eliza has a nice flat screen TV but you won't be able to use it without these implements. Also, the sofas have removable cushions, but leave them be and don't stick your hands between them. You won't like what you'll find.

Catherine Holloway

Howe Hall 6250 Coburg Road

Dim lighting, long corridors and brick walls make Howe Hall perhaps the most institutional-looking residence on campus.

But despite its aesthetic flaws, Howe Hall has some charmingly weird features. It's the only residence with squash courts in the building and a pool table (though last time I checked, there were no billiard balls).

It also has a 'music room' that consists of an ancient, out-of-tune piano and a few couches. Sometimes a student will bring a drum set or a massive amp and leave it there, giving other students the chance to play 20-minute solos without annoying their neighbours.

The residence was originally built in 1960 and consisted of two wings, Smith and Bronson houses, and a central cafeteria. Since then,

Henderson, Cameron, Studley and Fountain Houses have been added and the residence now houses Dalhousie's health centre and the campus computer store, PCPC.

Howe Hall is close to most of the academic buildings and the Killam Library. There is also a convenience store right across the street, which, despite its prices, is much more appealing to a tired/lazy student than the closest grocery store.

Smith and Bronson Houses are pretty much identical: all single rooms along big, dimly lit hallways. The rooms have giant closets and some have bunk beds from back when a handful of unlucky students had to share what are now single rooms.

Henderson house was added in 1964 and all its rooms are spacious doubles. While the hallways are a little cozier, they have ugly-coloured brick walls.

Henderson houses the health centre, which is available to all Dal students, as well as a canteen that operates late at night, providing delicious, greasy food.

Cameron House has a nice mix of single and double rooms. This allows people living in singles to get out of their cramped rooms and hang out in the more spacious doubles.

It also has "super singles" which are double rooms the university couldn't fill up. They're definitely worth the money.

Cameron was the last men's residence before it went co-ed in 2005. It has a separate dining hall that's used for meetings and a place to study with coffee and snacks during exams.

Studley House was a separate apartment building before Dalhousie bought it and made it part of Howe. It's small and in the middle of Howe's parking lot. Luckily for students, it has been empty for the past two years since there's been enough residence space for students in other dorms.

John Packman

Fountain House 6250 Coburg Road

While Fountain House is technically part of Howe Hall, it is so different that Dalhousie charges about \$400 more a year to live there than anywhere else in Howe. But the money is well spent.

Walking into Fountain from other parts of Howe is like walking out of a cheap motel and into the Hilton. The hallway lights are brighter and motion-activated, the walls are more like those of a house and the doors are made of wood.

Fountain is a full storey taller than the rest of Howe and its rooms have ever-useful sinks, which other Howe residents lack. While a sink

may seem like a small advantage, it will come to be like an oasis when you wake up dehydrated on Saturday mornings. Most students use the sink for brushing their teeth and washing their faces, but some students also use it when they don't have a puke bucket handy.

Fountain also has its flaws. Students living on the fourth floor will need to walk up eight flights of stairs to get back from meals and classes. Though there is an elevator, it's dreadfully slow and it is usually quicker to walk.

Fountain's walls are also on the thin side. This means residents will get to know their neighbours very intimately. Leaving a set of earplugs by your neighbour's door may be a kinder option than putting a sock on your own.

As the year goes on Fountain's halls will display fist-sized holes in the drywall from some of the more testosterone-filled residents and perhaps some body shaped dents from the even rowdier ones.

Despite this, for the newer rooms and sinks, the students who get accepted into Fountain shouldn't mind dishing out a few extra dollars for their accommodations.

John Packman

Gerard Hall 5303 Morris Street

The best part about Gerard is the tight-knit community that forms there because, let's face it, when only about 200 students live together, they just have to get to know each other.

With 12 floors, Gerard is one of the tallest residences, but luckily it has a decent elevator. Some of the higher floors have views of the water and each floor has a comfortable common room.

The residence is right downtown and great for students who want to experience more than just the Dalhousie campus. By living downtown, you're able to easily explore the city, sample interesting local foods, and of course, explore the waterfront.

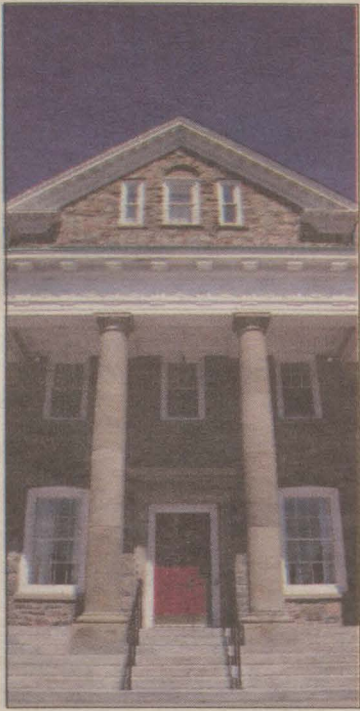
One of the places where I found myself eating constantly is the poutine-famous Alexandra's Pizza. The staff are friendly and used to dealing with students, plus the pizza is to die for.

The Hamachi House (a small sushi joint) is just around the corner and offers a sushi power-hour nightly between 10 p.m. and 12 a.m. Living in Gerard also gives you access to nearby culinary adventures such as Ginger Grass (Thai/Vietnamese), The Comfy Corner (breakfast), and Mr. Chang's Chinese Food Emporium.

Gerard doesn't have a cafeteria in the building but most students eat at O'Brien Hall, just east of Gerard.

The Gazette:

- is the official student newspaper of Dalhousie students.
- has the primary goal of reporting fairly and objectively on issues affecting the university.
- started printing in 1868 and is the oldest student newspaper in Canada.
- has a weekly circulation of 10,000 issues on Dalhousie's three campuses and throughout Halifax.
- acts as a voice for Dal's students through its coverage, letters to the editors and opinion pieces.
- is a student-run, volunteer-driven organization.
- is always looking for talented writers, photographers, cartoonists and interested readers.
- holds contributor meetings every Monday at 5:30 in Room 312 of the SUB.



at Dalhousie

If Gerard residents are on the Studley campus (the main one), they can also eat at Howe, Risley or Shirreff's cafeterias.

The only drawback to living in Gerard seems to be the walk from the Sexton to the Studley campus. There is a solution though: the bus. There is a bus that runs along Barrington Street and right up to campus. The service is frequent and you already pay for a bus pass with your tuition. So the distance really isn't a big deal.

Though it's isolated from the main campus, Gerard is close to downtown and the bar scene, surrounded by interesting cuisine and immersed in Halifax culture. Gerard Hall is an island paradise.

Hugh Wallace

Risley Hall 1233 LeMarchant Street

Dalhousie originally built Risley Hall to help house Ontario's double cohort when grade 12 and 13 students graduated at the same time in June 2003.

Risley wasn't finished until the cohort had finished their first year but it is now the newest and most modern-looking residence on campus.

Unlike the older residences with their bunk beds and aging furniture, all of Risley's rooms and furniture are new. Though there isn't any nostalgic value to the building, Risley has rooms for 490 students and they are all uniformly nice.

Each room has a sink and individual heating controls. Every floor has laundry facilities so you don't have to drag all your dirty clothes to the basement.

Every floor also has a common room and a lot of them are equipped with foosball or ping pong tables.

Risley is on the main campus, so most first year classes are only a short walk away. There is also a convenience store just down the street for midnight snacking.

For some reason, Risley is shaped like a giant letter E, so many students have views of other students' windows.

Risley Hall residents use their Dalcard instead of keys to open their doors, but as with any small piece of plastic, most students will lose or break their card at some point during the year. But it's worth it - even if you have to call your Residence Assistant to let you in to your nice new room when you snap your card.

John Packman

Shirreff Hall 6385 South Street

Shirreff Hall is the oldest residence at Dalhousie that is still operating. It opened in 1923 as the first women's residence and it was the

last all girls' residence at the university before going co-ed in 2005.

Today the residence accommodates 451 students in its four houses built between 1923 and 1967.

While Shirreff is still known for having women-only houses, the residence is most popular for its over-the-top meal hall, which is home to the campus's friendliest staff, made-fresh wraps and an outdoor eating area.

The place will actually start to feel like home after you've lived there a few weeks and made a few friends.

Soon enough you will recognize that familiar Shirreff Hall smell, taste, the difference between the mashed potatoes at Risley and Sheriff and defend your humble abode to the very end against other students boasting about their newer facilities and crazy parties.

So what if some of the other residences have clean walls and new designs? Shirreff is great because of its history. Not many people can say they lived in the same building as students who were at Dal before the Second World War.

Ghost stories, urban legends and a fascinating list of past residents are as essential to Shirreff as its walls. Sure, clean corners and working bathroom facilities would be nice from time to time, but at the end of the day, character is what makes this place worth living in.

Colleen Cosgrove

Mini Residence Lyll House - 1416/24 Henry Street Colpitt House - 1434/44 Henry Street DeMille House - 1411 Seymour Street

Mini Residences (more commonly referred to as Mini Res) are simply three houses Dal purchased and converted into residences.

The three houses can hold a total of 49 students, with one Resident Assistant per building.

Mini Res feels much less institutional than the more traditional residences. Each has a different design and the rooms are not as uniform.

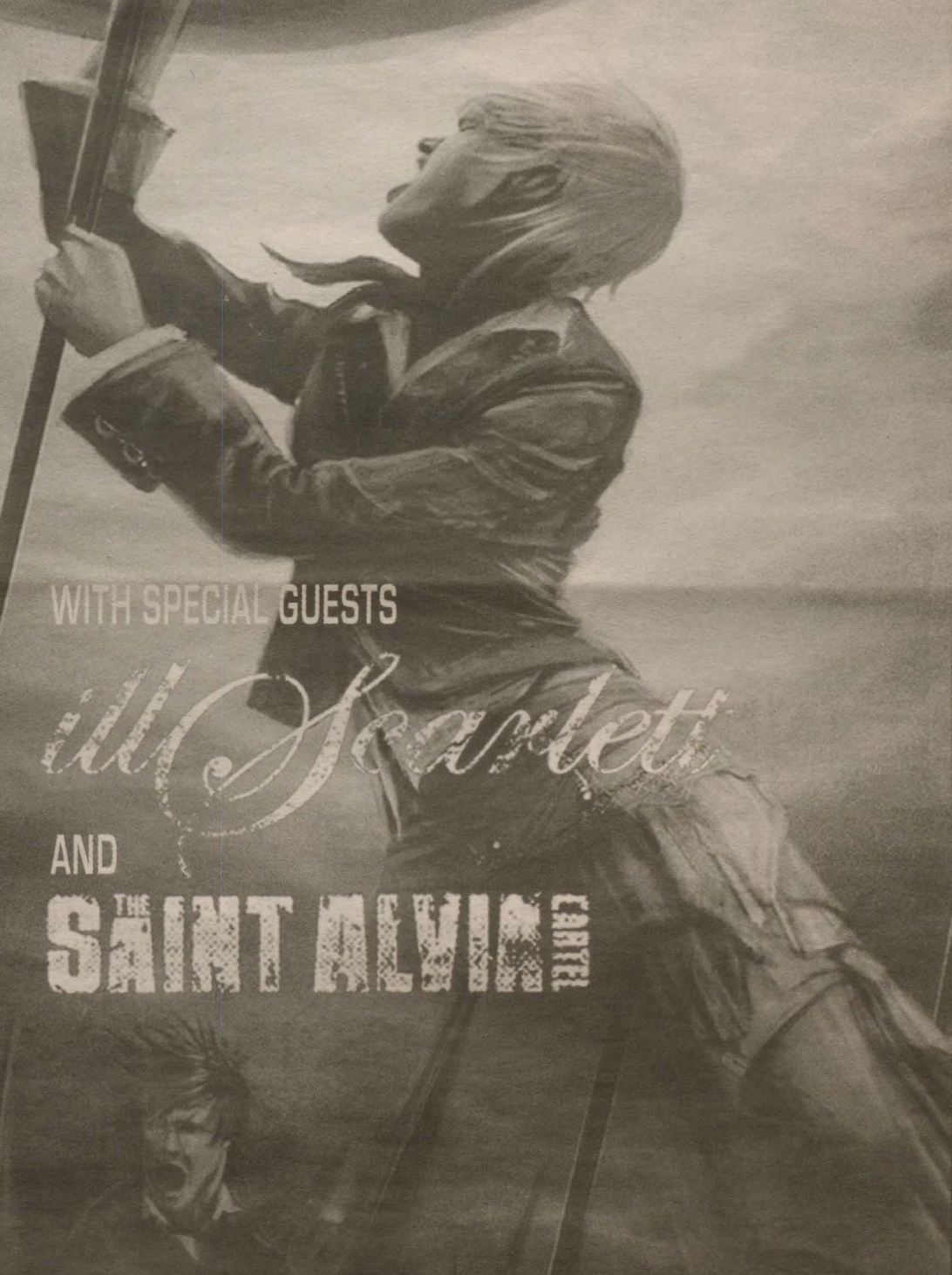
Students living in Mini Res tend to get to know their neighbours a lot better. Unfortunately, if you and your neighbours don't get along so well, you'll still have to see each other a lot.

Since the Mini Res houses don't have their own cafeterias, students have to eat in the larger residences. Howe Hall is the most popular option since it's closest to all the Mini Res houses.

While Mini Res has fewer amenities than the larger residences, many students like it for its tight sense of community and more homey spaces.

John Packman

BILLY TALENT



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Confessions of a DISP student

CATHERINE HOLLOWAY
OPINIONS COLUMNIST

The Dalhousie Integrated Science Programme (DISP) is the ideal situation for serious scienceophiles. Students study a cross-section of subjects with seventy other people who share an interest in science, are introduced to academic research and have minimal essay writing to do. To everyone else, it's probably a nightmare.

DISP is an intensive, interdisciplinary first year for Bachelor of Science students. It covers biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, earth sciences, statistics, calculus and ethics in science and students are required to do a research project. DISP comes in five different 'flavours' that allow students to discard certain courses from the mix.

The minimum high school grade requirement is one of the highest for Dalhousie programs at 80 per cent. DISP tends to attract pre-med students.

On the first day of DISP, students are assigned to a group with four or five other people. On the first field trip to Point Pleasant Park, students get to meet previous DISPs, buy used textbooks and get to know their fellow group members.

Good impressions are essential, because these groups will likely be together on almost every single project, lab and paper for the entire year. If students have a good time at Point Pleasant and come away with four new friends, they're in luck.

If they're miserable and the groups don't work together at all,

they should let one of the DISP directors know. If the directors can't switch the groups, students can use the rest of the year to practice their negotiating skills.

The field trips will take place no matter what the weather is like. Students' relationships with teammates are what determine whether the trips are fun or lame.

When students complete DISP they have the credits to prove they've learned some science, but they'll also have learned many other skills. They'll learn how to work in a team, how to overcome anxiety about tests and how to take a bad grade in stride.

Perhaps it's good that the over-achievers are attracted to DISP, because they have maintained their high grades so far by working as individuals instead of in a team. DISP gives those students a chance to practice teamwork.

DISP is also an unintended lesson in how to grin and bear it. There will probably be a professor or class that sucks, but there are no alternatives to the classes in DISP and it's hard to transfer credits after leaving DISP halfway through the year.

With the constant stream of assignments, quizzes and projects, students probably won't have an active freshman social life, or else will learn to sleep in short bursts. However, there's a predictable and manageable amount of work, and DISP students have no midterms.

Students will also memorize, by repetition, a sentence explaining what DISP is to the people in their life who've never heard of it.

Forget your liver if you want to live well

JAMES MUNSON
OPINIONS EDITOR

It can be a chore to stare at the dense fog in the Halifax Harbour and try to feel inspired. These aren't the lush squares of Harvard or the quiet, rowboat-filled rivers circling Oxford, where young adults bloom intellectually among the work and words of thinkers past.

This is Halifax. It's a barnacle-covered rock with some crooked trees on it. It bends and bows to the ocean's desires and makes the weather channel look like TV bingo. If you're going to bet on climatic lottery while you're here, always lay your cards down for more precipitation.

You will realize there are several kinds of fog. Rain, too, comes in many different sizes and intensities. And you can't forget the rain angles. You could make an entire evening of staring at crazy rain angles.

You're frowning? Why? Do you associate miserable weather with a miserable existence? Why would you make such a naïve assumption? Ah, I see, you're a first-year and it's your first time out here in Canada's ocean playground.

Then one of the things you will surely learn as you wear in your raincoat and rubber boots is that, despite being at the mercy of the Atlantic Ocean, the people in this town know how to live well.

Haligonians drink hard. The Alexander Keith's Brewery is a tourist attraction, a marketplace and a social gathering point. A popular show filmed nearby, Trailer Park Boys, rarely features a scene without a rum and coke present.

Haligonians have many other ways of living life to the fullest, like laughing at the five blocks they consider a high-end shopping district.



Don't worry, out-of-towners, everyone already knows this city's attempt to be worldly and modern is adorably pathetic. What you need to learn is that nobody cares.

Nobody here cares about being anybody else. That's the ocean pearl inside this foggy shell. The people in this town are open to students and inviting to visitors. Everyone has a story and the city has a rich diversity of class, race, history and creed. You'd be hard-pressed to find a countenance more comforting and caring than that of a Maritimer.

You're one of a thousand new students coming into Halifax for the first time, and the places to go and things to do are numerous. But in all honesty, you'll probably just end up drinking.

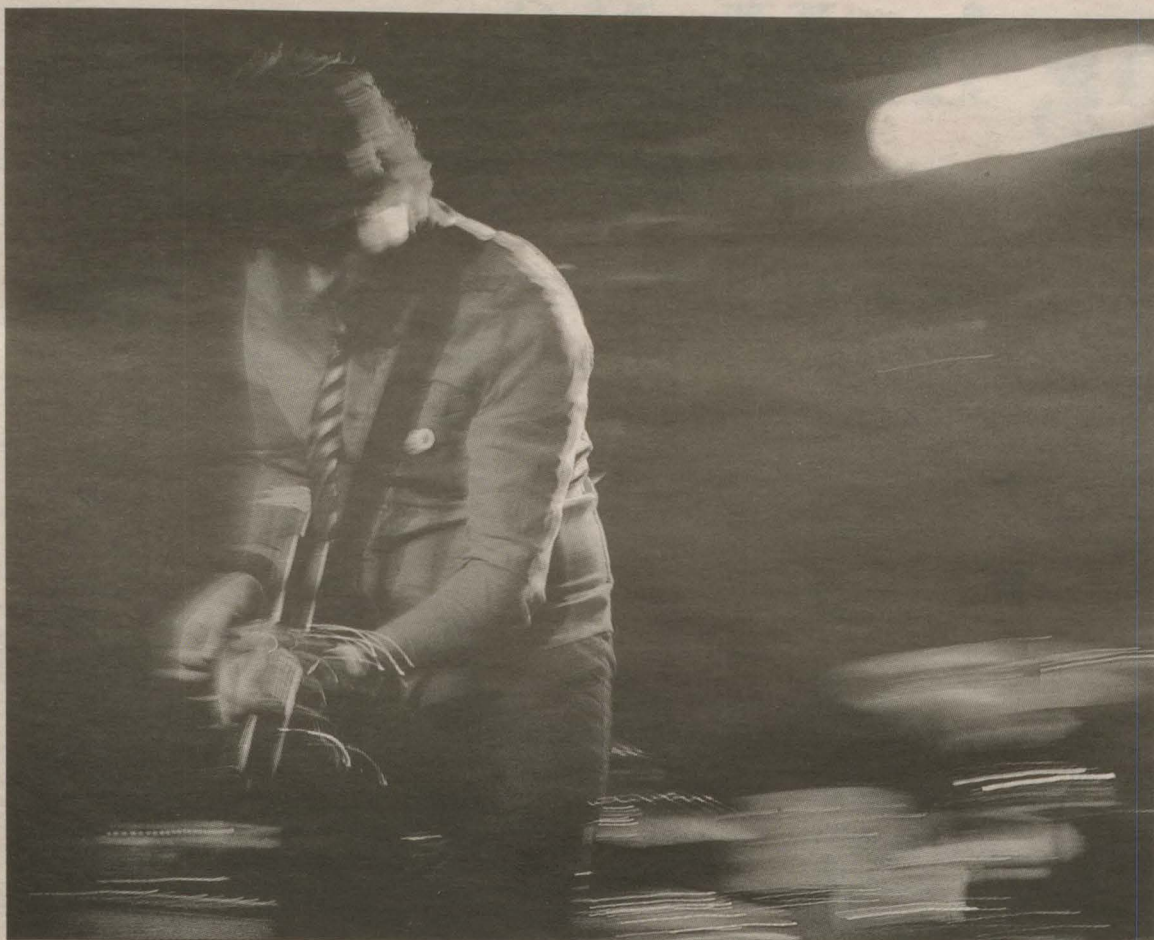
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JOHN PACKMAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

In-Flight Safety's John Mullane playing at the seldom occupied Marquee Club

Where to rock out in Halifax

The Gazette alphabetically arranges the live music scene

CHRIS MCCLUSKEY
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

As a truly "hip" and "Dalifamous" student for longer than I like to admit without a long, defensive explanation, I was frequently asked "what else" is there to do in this city. I always interpreted "what else" to mean anything refreshingly dissimilar from the droning weekly routine of lining up like cattle for the Dome on Sunday, Fireside on Monday, the Dome (again) on Wednesday.

While the truth is most of what you need to prepare yourself for life following a degree is central to Dalhousie campus, few student experiences are complete without a thorough explorative journey of greater Argyle Street. But this article isn't to promote a lifestyle synonymous with having to defend why you stole that loose beer sign off the Pogue Fado's wall last Thursday (true story!).

The question I have been asked to answer is where to track down interesting live, original music in Halifax - a task which used to be much easier when renowned local promoter Greg Clark was in business at the Marquee, and until recently, Stage Nine.

That being said, the shows are still going on regardless of the lack of a permanent original music staple.

In my Dalhousie educated opinion, here are your best options:

Alderney Landing 2 Ochterloney Street, Dartmouth

A relaxing ferry ride across the harbour to Dartmouth will take you to the September 8 Billy Talent concert with special guests illScarlett. Other recent performances include last year's Keith's Fest, NOFX and Wilco. Enjoy it while it lasts because this outdoor venue won't be as enjoyable come November.

The Attic 1741 Grafton Street

It may be linked to The Dome, but don't hold that against it. Before Joel Plaskett released a little album called *Truthfully, Truthfully* and cut his Zeppelin hair off, I remember a hotly anticipated show being cancelled due to White Juan (Google it) to be followed by a legendary make up date. I also had my glasses broken there during a Moneen concert. Nostalgia aside, it's where Grand

Theft Bus, The Jimmy Swift Band and some other bands popular with the university crowd play regularly. We're all excited for Strung Out on October 10. We're ALL excited.

Churches Throughout Halifax

Both St. Matthew's and North Street Church have showcased some major buzz acts for the past year, and their hot streak continues this fall. Check listings for appearances by Tegan and Sara, Joel Plaskett, Melissa McClelland, Great Lake Swimmers and Final Fantasy.

Cunard Centre 961 Marginal Road

Its emergence is relatively recent, having kicked off its debut as a live music venue with Sam Roberts and Wintersleep last year. Since then it has also hosted The White Stripes. Anticipate at least one big name act to come through the Pier 23 location in the next year.

The Dalhousie Student Union Building 6136 University Avenue

The All-American Rejects, Craig Cardiff, Cuff the Duke, Dog Day, Dropkick Murphys, Elliott Brood, Grand Theft Bus, illScarlett, In-Flight Safety, The Jimmy Swift Band, k-os, Matt Mays & El Torpedo, Mike O'Neill, Mobile, Paul Murphy of Wintersleep, Shad K, Sloan, The Stance, The Super Friendz and The Weak-erthans have all played on campus within the past two years.

Going back a ways, so have Blue Rodeo, Brian Adams and The Tragically Hip. If you're big and you're Canadian, chances are you've played here. Announced so far for the fall are God Made Me Funky on September 12, and Elliott Brood on November 21.

Gus' Pub 2605 Agricola Street

This is the heart of Halifax's progressive music scene, and where you're most likely to find Atlantic Canada's "next cool thing." An inviting atmosphere hosts a diverse slate of different genres and attracts true music aficionados, sometimes for more than one visit a week.

Halifax Metro Centre 1800 Argyle Street

Arenas are notorious for imperson-

al shows, but that won't prevent strong support for The Tragically Hip and The Sadies on September 13. If you're into the urban stuff, Rihanna and Akon come to town on September 30.

Halifax Pop Explosion Throughout Halifax

Okay, not a venue, but still the music festival of the year. No official announcements have been made for October 16-20, but it never disappoints. Never. Never-ever.

The Marquee Club 2037 Gottingen Street

Once the crown jewel of Atlantic Canadian music venues, it is now seldom occupied. It's always a quality bill when it is open though, and it will be a tough decision on September 14 between Molly Johnson at the Cohn and Champion here at The Marquee.

Rebecca Cohn Auditorium 6101 University Avenue

The Cohn is another venue on campus that houses more ambient artists with an appeal reaching outside the student demographic. Troubadour Ron Sexsmith is set to play with special guest Jill Barber on October 13, while the Cohn will keep with its new tradition of symphony-backed shows featuring our most accomplished local songwriters with Barber and Buck 65 next spring. On this fall's "not to miss list" is Molly Johnson on September 14.

The Seahorse Tavern 1665 Argyle Street

To be fair to Argyle Street, The Seahorse is the gem showcasing some of the more intriguing out-of-town acts in the absence of a true live music venue in the city.

Depending how close you have your ear to the ground, you'll also be privy to some tips for "secret shows." The past year or two have included intimate appearances by Sloan, the Joel Plaskett Emergency and The Trews.

Tribeca 1588 Granville Street

Not just for Saturday nights. The rest of the week, this is a venue defined by its complement of aesthetic character and the artistic appeal of its bookings. It's the best place to show up randomly for a beer on a restless night and take in some great music.

Where to get caffeinated Cafés in the city

MARY BURNET
COPY EDITOR

Coffee shops aren't just for coffee drinking. They can be a great place to relax, meet up with friends, read, study, eat, people watch and be watched. Here is a brief guide to some of Halifax's coffee shops.

Steve-O-Reno's Cappuccino 1536 Brunswick Street

To the left of the library, just off Spring Garden Road, is a lovely little coffee shop called Steve-O-Reno's. The walls are brightly painted, the music is indie, the staff are tattooed and have nice hair - what else could you ask for in a coffee shop?

Well, food and drink, for one. And this place has perfect, crunchy oatcakes and delectable fruit smoothies, along with good coffee and tasty espresso drinks. While it may not be the best place to study, it's great for people watching and coffee dates. You can also check out their stand at the Halifax Farmer's Market.

Paper Chase 5228 Blowers Street

Above the Paperchase magazine shop/convenience store is the café. Open and spacious, with lots of natural light coming in from the glass-paneled garage-type doors, this café has plenty of space to sit.

There are tables to sit around at the back and eat spicy vegetarian chili with cornbread, couches to laze on and read/study while you sip tea, computers to check your email, high stools to perch on by the enormous windows and look down on the street and local art to gaze at on the walls.

The Mudroom 1541 Barrington Street

The Mudroom is small. Actually, it's smaller than small. It's mudroom-sized. There are a few tables on the landing above the neighbouring knitting nook, The Loop, if you want to eavesdrop on some juicy stitchery gossip, or there's one table in the café itself, by the window that looks on to Barrington.

A great place to watch and be

watched. The chai lattes are delicious. The shop is also fairly quiet and can be good for studying.

Just Us! 1678 Barrington Street

A fair trade, Canadian business that makes and sells their own brand of coffee, tea, chocolate and sugar, Just Us! has two locations - one on Barrington and one at 5896 Spring Garden, closer to school. The Spring Garden location is quite new and they are still settling in as a café, but the Barrington location is newly renovated and very comfortable.

Little nooks and tables off to the side offer space and privacy for study or secret-telling, and seats by the large windows offer a good view of the street. They have delicious samosas, butter tarts, and spicy Mexican hot chocolate.

Trident Booksellers & Café 1256 Hollis Street

The Trident Café is a quiet coffee shop - so much so that it's almost a pity to publicize it and give away the secret of its simple charms. Half bookstore, half café, it's often quiet and calm and is a perfect place to study, talk, read, or search for books.

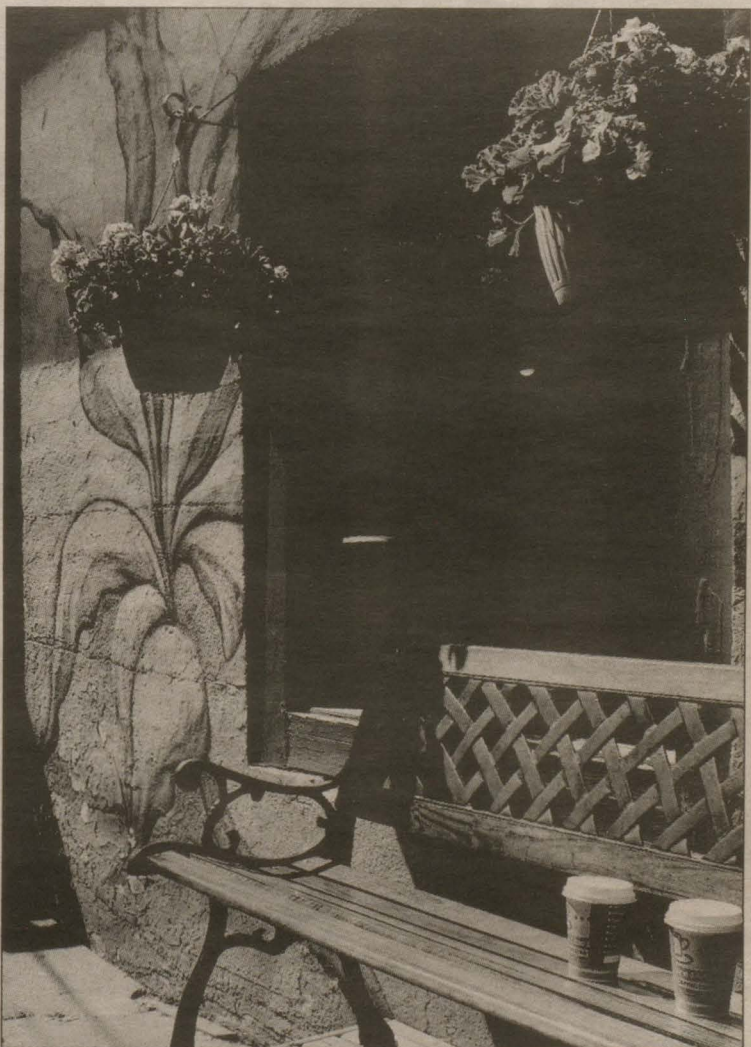
They roast their beans in a backroom in the store and do pretty latte art. A stained-glass tiger hanging above the door watches over patrons and eats noisy cell phone talkers.

Coburg Coffee House 6085 Coburg Road

The Coburg is the quintessential coffee house for Dal students. It's so close, how could you not go there?

They offer tasty salads, sandwiches, bagels, cupcakes, vegan treats and all the staple espresso-based drinks. There are loads of seats, but it's often hard to find an empty one because they're always full of students.

Can be a good place to study, but headphones may be in order because the air tends to be chock-full of campus chatter. It's a good place to meet up with friends and a nice, convenient escape from cafeteria food.



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Steve-O-Reno's walls are brightly painted, the music is indie, the staff are tattooed and have nice hair - what else could you ask for in a coffee shop?

Drinking in Halifax

A guide to the city's pubs, clubs and bars

ALY COY | ARTS EDITOR

Halifax has the most bars per capita in Canada, but you probably knew that before coming here.

An important term to know is 'power hour.' On certain days, in between certain hours, there are cheap drinks.

Actually, cheap is an understatement. Bars that have power hours usually also have a cover charge at the door of about \$5.

Here is a list of bars, pubs and clubs that are entertaining, popular and not hard on the student wallet.

The Split Crow

The Split Crow is definitely a student favourite in Halifax. It's also the first. John Shippie had the first liquor license in Halifax in 1749 and started up a pub.

The original location was on Lower Water Street and the original name was The Spread Eagle (they changed the name for obvious reasons). Now it's in Historic Properties downtown, right off Duke Street.

There is live music every night of the week and power hours every Wednesday and Thursday nights from 9 to 10 p.m. and Saturday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

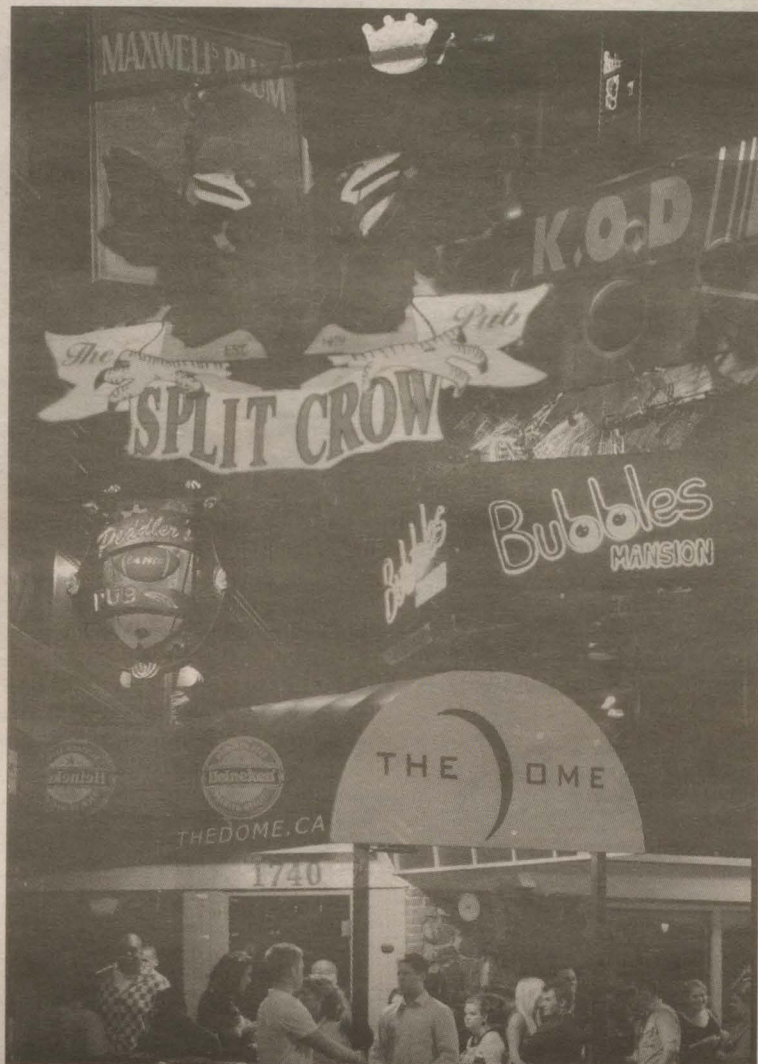
The Dome

Located on Argyle Street, this behemoth is actually five bars in one. Whether you want a live band, hip hop, or house, you can find it all at The Dome.

Every Wednesday and Sunday night there is a drink special that lasts all night long. Dollar drinks. That's right, one dollar.

On Sundays, it's \$6 to get in and on Wednesdays you can show your student card to get in free.

The Dome hangover is nothing



you've experienced before, so make sure you don't have anything important to do the next day (such as an exam or presentation) because you might puke up those dollar drinks in front of your whole class.

At the beginning of the school year The Dome always has long lineups, so get there early and make sure you have two pieces of identification. They will take away your I.D. if they're at all suspicious and end

with a quip such as, "Welcome to Nova Scotia," so be prepared.

Grad House

This pub is conveniently located right on campus, at the corner of University Avenue and Le Marchant. It's a great place to hang out, play pool and drink beer.

The Grad House has a fantastic patio, which is a good place to meet fellow students and enjoy the sun while it's here. The bottom floor has delicious sandwiches but closes early.

The Grawood

Located right in the Student Union Building, the Grawood is convenient and laid back.

Open Monday to Saturday, the Grawood is good for going for lunch or for a yard (eight small glasses of beer).

There's a live band every Wednesday, trivia on Thursday and society nights on Friday. There are food and drink specials throughout the week. It's a good bar to hang out at and play pool without having to go downtown.

Peel Pub

Along Spring Garden Road there are many pub/sports bars. Go to Peel Pub for cheap wings and beer on Tuesday nights. For sport enthusiasts, Peel Pub has big screens and screaming fans, so bring your spirit and they'll provide the rest.

Oasis

For a Thursday night of 25¢ wings and karaoke, head to Oasis on Spring Garden Road. Oasis is very casual and a night there usually involves a game of pool, shuffleboard and cheap pitchers.

The Fireside

If you're looking for a relaxed evening of affordable martinis and great ambience, check out The Fireside, just off Spring Garden.

Go early, because martinis are only \$4.50 starting at 4:30 in the afternoon and the bar closes at 12 a.m.

It's a nice environment for a date or for going out with the gang for a classy Monday night.

Mexicali Rosa's

Monday is Margarita Night at Mexi's. You can pick from a range of different margaritas for \$5. Sambuca shots also flow on Monday nights.

Halifax Alehouse

The Alehouse is great on Saturday nights. It's a bit of an older crowd here with live bands and regular-priced drinks.

Wings and beer on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday will set you back only \$10. Cover for the Alehouse is \$4 to \$6 Thursday to Saturday.

Bubbles Mansion

Anyone who's a fan of Trailer Park Boys will like Bubbles Mansion. There are shopping carts hanging from the ceiling and Bubbles himself can be found in his club at least once each weekend.

Maxwell's Plum

This English pub off of Grafton Street has a great atmosphere and a large selection. With over 160 kinds of beer on tap, you can have a pint of almost anything you can imagine.

A good choice is the sampler tray. It consists of six four-ounce glasses of beer, and you can choose any beer on the menu.

These little mugs come with a list of each beer's name, so you can have a fun little taste-testing beer challenge.

Don't go to Maxwell's Plum if you have a peanut allergy, though. It's customary to eat the peanuts provided and throw the shells on the floor.

Coconut Grove

Coconut Grove is right above Pizza Corner. It has an amazing patio and great music (if you're into house, electronica, techno and jungle).

There is no cover and you can get two martinis and a cheese plate for \$10. The lounge replaced Stage Nine and has a cleaner, more elegant appearance inside. Coconut Grove could be an alternative to The Dome on Wednesdays.

The New Palace Cabaret

People usually go to The Palace at the end of the night because it's open late. It's located on Brunswick Street, right across from Citadel Hill.

You'll find a lot of Haligonians at this large establishment for the hip hop, R&B and house music that blasts from the speakers.

They have wet T-shirt contests every Thursday night. Suffice, it's not the classiest joint.

Don't come here unless you plan to get hit on. The Palace has a \$6 cover charge and is open until 3:30 a.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

The Argyle

The Argyle is located coincidentally (or not) on Argyle Street, and is a major first-year spot.

Cover is \$5 and the drinks are reasonably priced. The rooftop patio is one of the best in town, but will only be open for a couple of months.

There are three floors, with the dance floor on the bottom. People usually go to The Argyle on Thursday nights after The Split Crow.

Pogue Fado

Pogue is a great Irish pub located on Barrington. It has a mix of live bands and DJs. It's another good Thursday night spot, and is nice for a bite to eat as well.

For sports fans, the game's on the big screen on Sunday nights and the menu is half-price from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Below Pogue Fado is the Frigate, which looks like a ship.

You may find yourself down there, not knowing how or why you got there, but you'll still have a great time.

Peddler's Pub

Peddler's has drink specials most days of the week. It's located on Granville Street, just down from The Split Crow. It has a fun atmosphere, power hours and a dance floor.

Peddler's is great for first-years, but be careful of the cobble stones out front. They make for nasty drunken falls.

Reflections Cabaret

The music, cheap drinks and accepting atmosphere makes Reflections a club worthy of your love. The music is amazing at Reflections and you can dance your heart away.

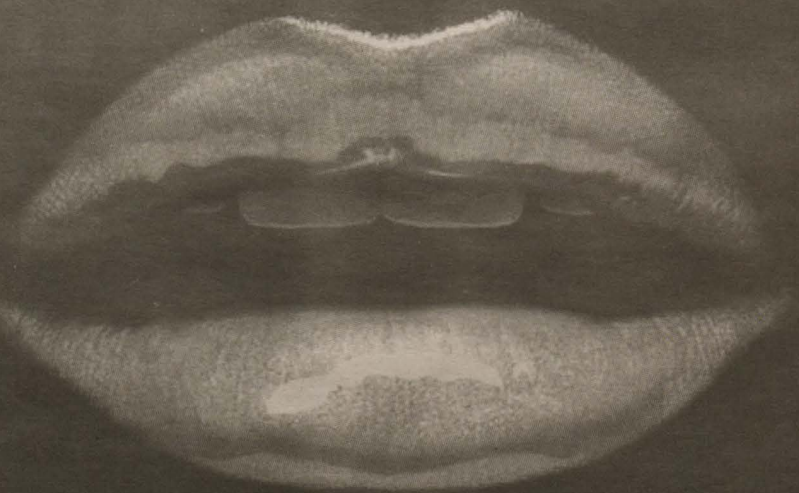
They have awesome DJs from around the world who play house and electronic music that you will feel right through to your fingertips.

By the way, Reflections is a gay bar. So if you don't mind seeing girls make out on the dance floor or guys dance with a whole lotta rhythm, then Reflections is the place for you.

It's the club on Sackville Street with all the mirrors (reflections) on the front and the rainbow flag.

the palace Nightclub

Open Wednesday - Sunday 10:00pm - 3:30am
1721 Brunswick Street
(902) 420-0015



WEDNESDAY

Student Saver Night (\$1.00 cover with valid student ID)

THURSDAY

Toonie Thursdays (\$2.00 cover)

FRIDAY

Back by Popular Demand!
Hard Body's & Sexy Legs Contest
(now moved to Friday nights)

SATURDAY

Feat. DJ Fierce

Come check out our new second level dance floor

SUNDAY

Industry Night (free cover for hospitality personnel)

Must have albums



Orchestra for the Moon
Jenn Grant

Jenn Grant's incredible talent is becoming less and less of a local secret, so if you want to be able to say you knew her before she was (really) famous, hop on the bandwagon of sweet jazzy folk now.

Her powerful, sailing vocals are best absorbed live, but are captured well on *Orchestra for the Moon*, where she sings about local spots like Chocolate Lake and local features such as rainy days like secrets for Halifax fans. It's a perfect twangy, indie soundtrack for exploring the city or chilling out in your dorm.

- Mary Burnet



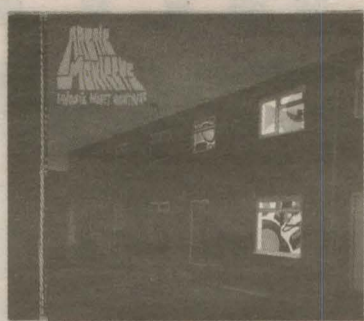
Elements of Life
DJ Tiësto

This album is perfect for electronica fans. *Elements of Life* starts off with a slow, feel-good beat. Tiësto is good to listen to while studying because of the repetitive sounds and minimal lyrics, or to get pumped up for a night of dancing.

"Sweet Things" and "Dance4Life" have great vocals and catchy choruses. Tiësto make it hard not to dance. You can feel the beats all through your body.

As a soundtrack to pre-drinking in your residence room, working out at the Dalplex, or rocking out by yourself, *Elements of Life* is perfectly suited for every occasion.

-Aly Coy



Favourite Worst Nightmare
Arctic Monkeys

This is a call of duty to students, young and old, frosh and veteran. It is now compulsory for you to pick up the Arctic Monkeys' latest album, *Favourite Worst Nightmare*. You owe it to yourself as an end-of-summer kick in the knickers. The minute you hear the dangerous but delightful beats and witty lyrics that set this band apart, you'll "get it in your fishnets" (in the words of lead singer Alex Turner).

I guarantee this album will electrify you from the first track, especially if you dig Franz Ferdinand, The Streets or Kaiserchiefs. Just Teddy Picker it up, okay?

-Hilary Beaumont



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Halifax Public Gardens seems the obvious place to stroll with its impressive variety of trees and flowers.

Getting off campus

Things to do in Halifax

MARY BURNET
COPY EDITOR

Being a first-year student can be overwhelming, what with new people, new classes and campus clubs/societies/bars/activities, so it's understandable that frosh might forget that there is, indeed, life beyond the Dal campus.

It's true! You can walk to a beautiful park by the ocean for a picnic, see free art, get some sex education, search for second-hand clothes... so many things. Which probably doesn't help if you're already feeling overwhelmed, so here are some suggestions of things to do in Halifax, one at a time:

Walk:

If you like going for walks, the Halifax Public Gardens seems to be the obvious place to stroll.

The variety of trees and flowers is impressive and interesting, and the ducks and angry swans are charming, but it is, after all, a formal Victorian garden with formal landscaping and designated walking paths.

You are not to tread on the grass, and you mustn't, I repeat mustn't, climb the trees. The Gardens are definitely worth checking out, but they can be a little stuffy and touristy.

If, however, you would like a place where you can tread on the grass as you please, clamber up any tree you desire, and not be fenced in by wrought iron, then check out Point Pleasant Park.

According to its website, the park 75 hectares of jutting cape. It is southeast of St. Mary's University and if you walk south in Halifax, it'll be the last thing you pass before you walk into the ocean. Until 1866 Point Pleasant was a military bastion and there's evidence of that in the wonderfully spooky towers, forts and batteries.

There are plenty of paths to stroll or diverge from, grass to picnic on, and a rocky coastline to pick your way across. It's a great resource if you like a little nature along with your metro.

Art:

Love art but can't afford gallery/museum passes? Check out the Khyber Arts Centre. It's non-profit and artist-run, set up inside a beautiful old building on Barrington Street.

The centre offers art classes, houses lectures and performances, and presents exhibits from local and other contemporary, non-commercial artists. Recent shows have featured art by queer/trans youth and activist artists.

Go to www.khyberarts.ns.ca to find out about upcoming events and exhibits, or drop in the next time you manage to make it that far from campus (which isn't even all that far).

Sex:

Frosh week often features good sex education and safety talks, but if you yearn for a little more instructional knowledge, crave some book learning, or desire any kind of toys or accessories, get yourself down to Venus Envy on Barrington Street.

This little store is a wonderful resource for sexual awareness and health. It features workshops on erotic talk, sex toys, cunnilingus and fellatio, women's orgasms, anal play and S&M. The store carries a varied selection of books, graphic novels and zines, and has lots of sex toys, gear and safety stuff. And it's one of the least intimidating stores you'll ever go into. Really.

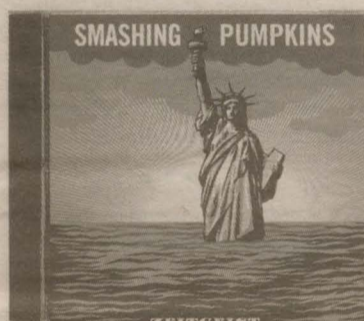
Thrift:

Malls can be nausea-inducing and pricey local stores can be poverty-inducing. Luckily, there are many lovely and thrifty shops around Halifax.

Dressed In Time, just off of Spring Garden and beside Dio Mio Gelato, is a little more expensive than normal thrift stores because it leans more to the vintage side, but is a fantastic place to go browsing for hats, shoes, and whatever else you need to put together a strange and beautiful ensemble.

Other great places to look are Elsie's Used Clothing at 1530 Queen Street and Lost and Found at 2383 Agricola Street, which often features local art. Junk and Foibles at 1533 Barrington Street is also a little pricier than your average Value Village, but carries lots of amazing clothing creations by local designers as well as unique vintage pieces.

Cheaper places to browse are Second Hand Rose at 1272 Hollis Street, Salvation Army at 5280 Green Street, or Value Village at 42 Canal Street in Dartmouth - a mere ferry ride across the harbour.



Zeitgeist
Smashing Pumpkins

Fans have been waiting patiently for the sixth album from this unforgettable band since their break up in 2000, and *Zeitgeist* does not disappoint.

Regardless of the fact that only two of the original members of the band recorded the entire album (Billy Corgan and Jimmy Chamberlin), the complex rhythms and hardcore musical tangents from previous albums, like 1995's Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness, are what continue to make this band memorable.

Check out the 10-minute drum marathon on "United States" and the dark and trippy sounds of "Neverlost," which make you remember why you loved this band in 1997.

-Adam Miller



Radiodread
The Easy Star All-Stars

Radiodread is a complete reggae remix of the 1997 album *OK Computer* by Radiohead. Their previous album, *Dub Side of the Moon*, in which they re-dub Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* is just as incredible.

This band has an ability to tackle seemingly untouchable albums and transform them into completely different musical entities. This album helps during those long and lonely nights in the library before exams and is a must have for any fan of reggae and/or Radiohead.

You need to hear the songs "Karma Police" and "Paranoid Android" for their simplicity and flawless delivery. The Easy Star All-Stars have perfectly remixed two of the most unique albums of the past thirty years and will continue to take their music into uncharted territory.

-Adam Miller



The Mix-Up
The Beastie Boys

You might be surprised to find out that the Beastie Boys seventh album doesn't have a single lyric on it, but this band actually started out as a funkyjam-band in the early '90s (or 90s?). With little left to prove, they decided to release this epic improvisational jazz-funk album.

The Beastie Boys display their true musical genius through this unique blend of sporadic jazz drums and funky guitar riffs. They even borrow from classic reggae with heavy dub bass-lines.

This album will shock and intrigue you, with music unlike anything you've heard from these guys before. Check out songs like "Electric Worm" and "Freaky Hijiki" to really feel the chill vibes of this new-found classic.

-Adam Miller

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...SEX WITH HUGH... Residence Romping

HUGH WALLACE
SEX COLUMNIST

Learning to respect other people's space is one of the most important things you have to learn in your first year of university. Especially if you're planning to live in residence with people you will get to know more than you realize.

Trying to 'get intimate' or simply just 'knock boots' in residence has its ups and downs. The downs include alienating your neighbours, alienating yourself from the floor community and making a name for yourself as the 'Screamer' or 'Howler,' if you're lucky.

The upside is that you get to express yourself sexually, which is one of the most important ways we humans express ourselves.

Success in this arena requires that you practice discretion to some extent. It also requires that you are comfortable with what you're doing with yourself and with others around you.

Now on to some pointers!

First off, don't make a big deal about the sex you will have, might have, or are having. Confidence is cool, but immature banter is another thing. It's important to remember that the space you're living in isn't only yours.

Second, try to keep the noise down. Not only will you disturb your

neighbours, but you might just get yourself slapped with a sweet noise complaint leading to the infamous 'Formal Warning' or even better - fines.

The reason why we need to take precautions with these sorts of things is simple and will be quite clear once you move in:

"Oh, oh, oh, oh GOD!"

To be the person involved in this pleasurable situation is, of course, amazing. But imagine hearing that blast through your walls when you have a midterm the next day, or simply an early morning class (because let's face it, 8:30 a.m. is early).

Another problem that can arise from having sex in residence is the animosity that can be created on a floor as the result of a bad break-up or scene. Imagine a situation in which you're dating someone on your floor and they cheat or you cheat. Imagine getting in trouble time and time again for general noise-making.

These sorts of things could eventually cause you to piss off your floor-mates and even potentially isolate you from the community. Being isolated from the social community in university is a fate worse than death.

Although pissing off your floor-mates sucks, upsetting your Residence Assistant (RA) is even worse. Having had the opportunity to be both a student in residence and an



JOHN PACKMAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Try to keep the noise down. Not only will you piss off your neighbours, but you might get slapped with a noise complaint.

RA, I have many memories of sex scandals and the resulting conversations - VERY AWKWARD.

Another thing: if you're still a virgin, don't feel pressured to not be having sex when you know you're ready is much better than having sex when you know you are not.

The university atmosphere, especially in residence, is sometimes sex-positive, but it's mainly just sex-destructive - destructive in terms of

how we treat ourselves and our bodies, and how we treat others around us. Sex in residence can distort our image of healthy sex. But you can have a lot of fun, experiment and get to know who you truly are.

There is, however, another opportunity to totally disrespect yourself: promiscuity, though not a fault, can sometimes excite inharmonious situations. This can cause unrest among your peers, which is definite-

ly not something you want to involve yourself in.

I feel like I may not be stressing the issue of being respectful here enough. Respect yourself, respect others and respect your RA.

If you have a roommate, please be sure to respect them too. It is necessary to delve into the realm of how you and this person are going to share your space. You most likely won't want to share your intimate encounters. But if you do, more power to you!

The highlight of your year will be the 'Sex Ed' talk your RA gives at the beginning of your first semester. It will inform you of safe practices such as condom usage, lubricant usage, sexually transmitted infection information and access to services regarding sexual matters. Not only is this discussion entertaining, it is also informative, so pay attention. Most importantly, engage in respectful, exciting and protected sex as often or as infrequently as you please.

Let's face it - sex is a good time. So try and make it as bearable or anonymous to those around you. Unless, of course, you feel comfortable inviting your whole floor into the bedroom. In which case, enjoy yourself. Just don't forget to buy some ice.



Send questions and comments for Hugh to sex@dalgazette.ca.



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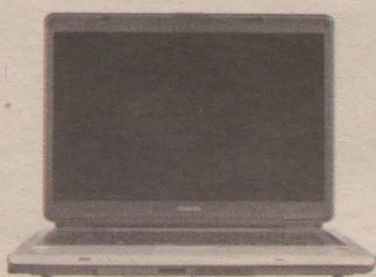
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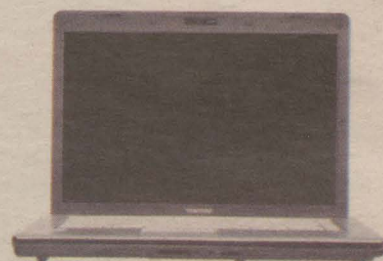
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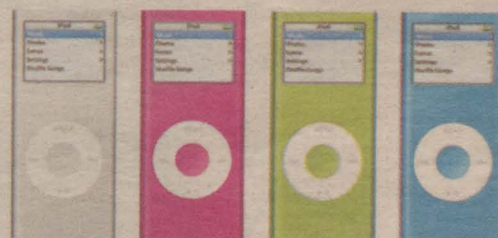
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