# Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

# SMOWDAY!

DALHOUSIE SNOWED IN (PAGE 4)
EAST COAST VS ONTARIO (PAGE EIGHT)

MATT MAYS
(PAGE THIRTEEN)
DAL WOMEN'S HOCKEY
(PAGE 20)

DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION



# **DSU General Meeting**

There will be a General Meeting of the DSU on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the McInnes Room.

# Society Info

# Society Fair:

Anyone interested in joining a society come out to the McInnes Room on Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am – 3:00pm and check out all the societies Dalhousie has to offer.

# **Indemnity Form:**

The Indemnity form has been replaced with the Acknowledgement Form. To access the form, go to www.dsu.ca > Student Life > Info for Societies.

"View the DSU's Audited Financial Statements (Year ended March 31, 2004) at www.dsu.ca > About Us > DSU Finances"

Dalhousie Student Union Annual Charity Ball
Friday January 28<sup>th</sup>
Tickets available at SUB Info Desk
All proceeds go to LT Chris Saunders Trust Fund
For more information contact Mark Szepes,
VP(Student Life)

# **Tiger Patrol**

The DSU, in collaboration with Dalhousie University, provides students with a free shuttle service. Check out the schedule and routes online at www.dsu.ca.

Anyone interested in getting involved with Social Life on Campus by joining the Community Affairs Committee, contact Mark Szepes, VP (Student Life) at dsuvpsl@dal.ca.

# Tech Ball

When: Thursday Februsary 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00pm
Where: Sexton Gymnasium
How can I get my tickets: From
Engineering Departmental Secretaries or
the Info Desk of the SUB
Price: \$5 advance \$8 door

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nquiries & to Register contact Feb. 2

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# **Editorial**

Catherine Cooper Editor-in-Chief

Thave dreaded graduating ever L since I started university. Now, with less than three months of school left, I often find myself panicking about what I am going to with my life and worrying that I will never have a real job. Graduating means finally facing the real world, or at least having to find another way to avoid it. And when you think about what the "real world" is like today, it can be daunting.

Modern graduates in Canada are faced with many options. We have endless choices of lifestyle and career. This is a blessing, but sometimes it seems like a curse, as the options are often overwhelming and every choice you make eliminates its alternative. If you choose to have children, you might have to sacrifice your career, but if you wait too long, you might end up without children. If you choose to become a lawyer, you might have money, but be miserable. If you choose to become a writer, you might end up with no money and fail miserably.

The world has changed considerably since our parents were entering the workforce, and we face challenges and opportunities that they didn't. Employment rates for university graduates in Canada have dropped, and a university degree is now the equivalent of what a high school diploma used to be. Job competition is fierce, especially for graduates with arts degrees, and it can be hard to go out there and promote yourself. Add to that the fact that everyone else seems to know exactly what they are doing, and it can make you feel pretty inse-

As for family life, about 46 per cent of Canadian marriages currently end in divorce, compared with about 10 per cent in 1971. It seems like everything is expendable these days, and with all of the new opportunities and removal of social stigmas, there is less and less reason to stay together. I, for one, am not sure that I want



"Life is like a taxi. The meter just keeps a-ticking whether you are getting somewhere or just standing still." - Lou Erickson

to start a family whose chance of success is a coin toss.

These feelings of insecurity and anxiety are compounded by a sense of guilt, for me anyway. While most people in the world are struggling to have enough food to eat, I sit around worrying that my kids will be like those little jerks on Super Nanny and trying to decide what career would

**Graduating means** finally facing the real world, or at least having to find another way to avoid it.

be most fulfilling to me.

Modern grads are told that we can do anything we want, but the subtext is that we had better do something worthwhile. Being privileged enough to be able to worry about self-actualisation needs comes with a responsibility to do something useful with your life. This is made more complicated when coupled with practical concerns, such as planning for retirement.

However, despite the pressures and troubling statistics that grads have to worry about, there are a lot of encouraging statistics, too. Although the employment rate for university graduates has dropped, it is still at 81.6 per cent, compared with a 75.3 per cent employment rate for high school grads. It also helps to remember that less than 1 per cent of the world's population has a university degree, and employment rates for university grads are dropping not because there is less employment, but because there are more people going to university—which is a good

In fact, there is an upward trend in employment. For the first time since Statistics Canada began making international comparisons in 1960, Canada has the highest rate of employment growth of the ten countries surveyed, and Nova Scotia's employment rate has broken records for the past four years.

Despite discouraging divorce statistics, divorce rates are actually going down, and people are sticking it out longer. There was a 3.1 per cent drop in the divorce rate between 2000 and 2002, and each year for the past 17 years people have, on average, divorced at a later age.

University is a safe cocoon where you know what you have to do to succeed. In the real world, success depends on far more factors, but the possibilities can be exciting as well as scary. Finding your way might seem difficult, or even impossible. Just remember that it isn't really that bad, and you are lucky if you've had the opportunity to receive post-secondary education. And besides, if you can't handle it out there, you can always come back and get another degree.

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Photo: Chris Hobrecker Illustration Loukas Crowther

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If you are interested in contributing to the Gazette, feel free to email us your article to: gazette@dal.ca or better yet come to our weekly volunteer meetings every Monday at 4:30 Room 312, Dal

### INTERACT WITH US

http://www.dalgazette.ca/forum

# Student Employment Centre

# 2005 Summer Job Fair

The Student Employment Centre, in partnership with Saint Mary's University and Mount Saint Vincent University, will be holding a Summer Job Fair on Friday, February 11th from 10:00am to 4:00pm in the Conference Hall, Saint Mary's University, 2nd floor Loyola Building. University ID is required to take advantage of opportunities available at this event.

To review a list of exhibitors and other information, visit www.summerjobfair.com.

# **Upcoming Events**

### **Enterprise Rent-A-Car**

Feb. 1, 1:00 - 2:30pm Council Chambers, SUB

### **Summer Job Fair**

Feb. 11, 10:00 - 4:00pm, Loyola Bulding, SMU www.summerjobfair.com

### **Restigouche CBDC**

Feb. 14, 5:00 - 7:00pm Room 302, SUB

4th Floor • Student Union Building • 446-6136 University Avenue • Tel: (902) 494-3537 To access job postings go to www.dal.ca/sec

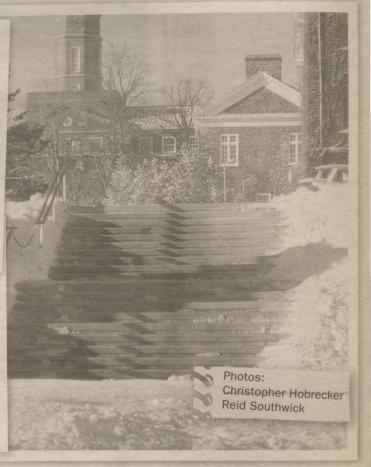


# **Blizzards Wreak Havoc at Dal**









Jenn Paterson
Staff Contributor

Severe snow storms caused Dalhousie to shut its doors four separate times within a week, leaving some students frustrated and others overjoyed.

On Jan. 17, early morning snow and blowing winds prevented the school from opening. On Jan. 20, students were sent home in the afternoon because a storm cut power to most of the university. Then, on Jan. 23, another blizzard caused some libraries and athletics facilities to close early. On the following day, Jan. 24, the storm that already walloped parts of the U.S. forced Dal to close for its second Monday in a row.

As manager of Environmental Services at Dalhousie, Mike Murphy plays a large role in deciding whether to cancel school. Murphy manages Dal's snow removal contract with Ocean Contracting, but when storms hit he also has to monitor Dal security reports, weather updates and HRM decisions.

"I came in here about 20 after four," said Murphy, referring to the morning of Jan. 17, "and I went around with the snow removal contractor in the fourwheel drive ... There was a lot of blowing snow at that point and it was difficult at times for him to move around."

Murphy and his colleagues recommended closing school until at least 10 a.m. By 7:30 a.m., "it was certainly better," said Murphy, "but they were still calling for more snow, and the Metro Transit buses were off, so it would have been difficult for people to get in." By 8 a.m., they decided to cancel school for the whole day.

Murphy said that a lot of the decision is based on how well the municipality can clear the roads, but it also takes a lot of time to clear the Dal campus. "We generally need four or five hours to clean the campus ... It's a challenge to get it done on time," he said.

Jeff Lamb, the director of Facilities Management for Dalhousie, is also involved in the decision to cancel school—he makes the final recommendation to President Tom Traves and notifies Dal's communications department of the decision so they can call local radio stations and update the website.

Some students questioned the first Monday's school closure because the weather seemed mild.

"In Montreal they [don't] cancel school as readily as here

ters, that's ridiculous." But, he said, "You have to put it in perspective in terms of the resources of the city."

King's, St. Mary's and Mount St. Vincent were also closed on Jan. 17 and Jan. 24.

Jonathan McDade, a secondyear science student, was in the Kellogg library in the Tupper building when the power went out on the afternoon of Jan. 20.

"We were studying physiology

fore the power went out.

"People were getting worried about their ability to go home," he said. "So some units actually started sending people home independently. When the power went out it was the straw that broke the camel's back."

Some students complained that school should have been closed earlier on Thursday.

"It seems that they waited too long," said Jason Dalziel, a second-year chemistry student. "I have to drive here and drive home and it's pretty shitty. The city buses might be closing, so you just can't trap the students here"

Other students welcomed the Thursday afternoon off. Third-year philosophy student Jesse Wachter and some friends were just finishing a six-foot snow sculpture of a penis in front of the Cohn auditorium at about 4:30 p.m.

"A lot of people passing by in cars have honked and hooted," Wachter said. "We've made a lot of people happy today. I'm proud."

"We generally need four or five hours to clean the campus ... It's a challenge to get it done on time."

- Mike Murphy,

Dal's manager of Environmental Services

in Halifax," said Paul Auerbach, a third-year geology student. "That's not a complaint," he added.

"I don't agree with it," said community planning student Shawn Legere, when asked about Monday's school closure. "I come from Ontario—Ottawa specifically. For the university to be cancelled for 20 to 30 centimein one of the rooms upstairs, and all of a sudden the lights went out and it was pitch black," he said. "It's good that we don't have class, but it's bad because we also missed class on Monday. They were trying to reschedule class, so it makes it that much harder."

Early that Thursday afternoon, Lamb said they were already thinking of closing Dal be-



# Killam Looks For a Better Image

Katie Maskell Laura Hynes Staff Contributors

The Killam Library is getting a whole lot cooler—and quieter. In an attempt to revamp the library's image and improve relations with students, staff and faculty, the Killam's staff are implementing several new programs, including a cell phone policy.

Under the new guidelines explained in a mass e-mail sent to Dalhousie students, cell phones are not permitted in areas marked off for quiet study. Personal judgement is required for quiet conversation areas where cell phones must be used "QUI-ETLY and QUICKLY," said the email.

Although libraries are meant to be quiet places, many students think certain rules must still be enforced.

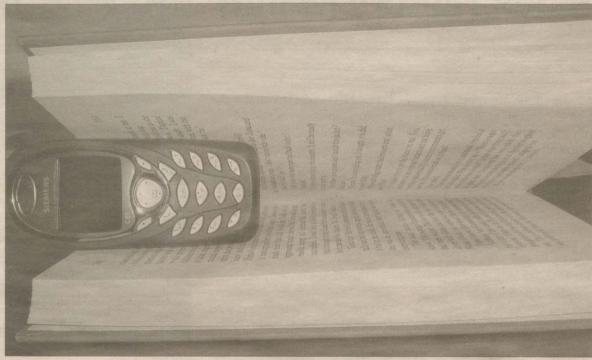
"Cell phones have become the quintessential irritant," said Tobin Ansong, a student who spends his study time in the Killam. "Until people understand how distracting ring tones and conversations are, a policy like this one is needed."

Killam librarian Bill Maes said the policy was implemented in direct response to students' complaints about cellular disturbances. "We've done [this] ... to create a variety of areas to satisfy different study needs. We're trying to put in place a reasonable policy because we recognize that this is part of modern communication, and so if we can provide opportunities for students to just walk out of a quiet area into a regular open area, that's what we'd encourage."

In order to achieve these goals, the library needs to do more than quiet down—which is where LibQUAL comes in. LibQUAL is an online survey that will be conducted between Jan. 31 and Feb. 18 to help staff learn how users feel about library facilities. The survey consists of 22 questions and takes approximately 20 minutes to complete.

"We really want students to take it," said Tina Usmiani, who is responsible for public relations and Special Collections at the Killam. "What we want to do is to find out, in general, how people feel about the quality of the services in the university that we offer at all four of the Dalhousie libraries. We would like to get as much feedback as possible."

Maes admitted that the library has not done "a terrific job of surveying clientele," and figuring out whether library services really meet the needs of students,



Closing the book on cell phones in the Killam / Photo: Christopher Hobrecker

faculty and staff.

"There is a disconnect between what we... think is the case and the way people see us," Maes said. "The purpose of the survey is to figure out what those gaps are and [provide] a baseline to begin to bridge those gaps."

While the library surveys its customers, work is continuing on the new Learning Commons

"We are planning for an expansion of the [Learning] Com-

mons," said Maes. Library staff are planning to store some of the Killam's unused collections elsewhere to make room for higher-technology programs. The 30-year-old library has reached its capacity in terms of holdings, Maes said, so moving things online makes sense. "That's the way that we are delivering a lot of our services now: digitally. We want to expand on that."

Food for Fines is another upcoming library event, one that has occurred annually since 2000 at all Novanet libraries. Running from Feb. 1 to Feb. 10, Food for Fines allows those with fines to erase their debt by donating non-perishable food items to the Killam.

"For every item that you donate we'll reduce you library fines by \$2, up to \$20," explained Usmiani. "It's a good deal because this way the library gets to clear tons of fines ... and the Metro Food Bank benefits as well."

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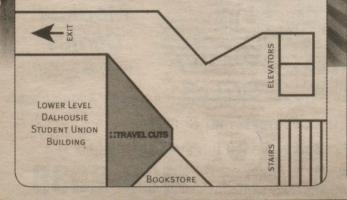
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# The Story Behind **Black History Month**

Sarah Vanderwolf Staff Contributor

If you think Groundhog Day Land Valentine's Day are the only celebrations to brighten up a gloomy February, think again. Since 1926, February has also been a month in which North Americans celebrate black his-

Black History Month began as Negro History Week, but its name was changed and its duration lengthened in the 1970s. The founder of the important celebration was Carter G. Woodson, one of the first black men to receive a PhD from Harvard University. Dr. Woodson, dismayed that black history was largely absent from academia, founded the Journal of Negro History in 1916 and launched Negro History Week a decade later.

Dr. Woodson chose the month of February because it contains many significant events in black history. Both Abraham Lincoln, Civil War-era President and signer of the Emancipation Proclamation, and abolitionist Frederick Douglass were born in February. On Feb. 3, 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment was passed, allowing black people to vote in America. Coincidentally, the pattern has continued: Malcolm X was assassinated on Feb. 21, 1965, and Nelson Mandela was released from prison on Feb. 11, 1990.

Black history is profoundly important in the history of Nova Scotia, where people of African descent have been living for almost 300 years. In 18th-century Acadia, there were over 300 blacks in the French settlement at Louisbourg, in Cape Breton; in Halifax in 1751 there were only 15 black people.

However, this startlingly small number was to increase

rapidly in the next few decades: over 3,000 black people came as part of the Loyalist migration between 1783 and 1785, and some 2,000 escaped slaves came from the United States during the War of 1812, because they were offered freedom and land in Nova Scotia. Many moved into the Halifax area to settle around Preston, Hammonds Plains, Beechville, Porter's Lake and the Lucasville Road, as well as the Windsor area.

One of the most controversial of the 48 black settlements in Nova Scotia was Africville, a former black residence in Halifax that ended up a slum. In the 1950s and 60s, the impoverished living conditions in Africville were a source of deep shame for the city of Halifax. Residents lacked running water, a sewage system, garbage pickup, street lights, public transportation and paved roads. Instead, Africville boasted an open dump, an incinerator, a prison, and railway tracks. In 1962, Halifax city officials decided to raze Africville and ordered its 70 families to leave by 1967. Many Africville residents, some whose families had lived there for 150 years, were stunned to learn they had to move. Now, 35 years after Africville was bulldozed, the site where the community once stood is part of Seaview Park.

This notorious chapter in Halifax's history is a lesson in the importance of human rights and should be remembered during Black History Month. The pivotal importance of African-Americans and African-Canadians in our society must not be dismissed, as Dr. Carter Woodson so clearly realized when he created Black History Month.



Here's some Excel... take the hint / Photo: Christopher Hobrecker

# The Stink-ma of Bad Breath

Laveena Munshi Health Contributor

re you a compulsive gum Aborrower, tooth brusher, mint popper or mouthwash gurgler? One of the greatest contributors to social discomfort is halitosis: bad breath. Nobody wants it, everybody fears it, most perpetrators are oblivious to it... and worst of all, it's almost impossible to talk about it.

A variety of diseases and bad habits can lead to foul breath, including foreign bodies in the nose, bowel obstruction and throat infections. In our student population, common causes include poor dental hygiene, certain foods and beverages, smoking, alcoholism, dieting (especially high-protein diets) and dry mouth.

Brushing and flossing will only serve to mask the odour temporarily. This explains longlasting onion breath—this pesky type often lingers until the next day, because such odours will stick until the body eliminates

Unfortunately, there seems to be a taboo surrounding informing an individual of bad breath. I have concluded that the best approach is simply to confront the friend or relative in question, or to attempt the more subtle approach of handing them a breath mint. For that especially offensive "foul mouth," links to halitosis support groups can be found

Self-diagnosing is perhaps one's best approach to avoiding bad breath awkwardness. Two quick and effective ways are the lick test and the spoon test. The lick test entails licking your wrist, waiting five seconds and then smelling the area. This gives you an indication of how the anterior portion of your tongue smells. The spoon test is more representative, as it tests the posterior portion of your tongue, where most of the offending bacteria reside. Turn a spoon upside down, scrape the back of your tongue, and smell the whitish thick gunk (please refrain from performing this act in a public area).

Now which gum is the best halitosis combatant? To answer this question, I conducted an international randomized and controlled trial to test which

brand lasts the longest. Well, not really, but if I did, Wrigley's extra spearmint gum, lasting 71 minutes, would win.

So the next time you're out toimpress at the Dome, remember that you can avoid halitosis by taking a proactive approach and avoiding garlic-drenched, protein-rich meals, savouring the parsley on your plate or chewing some Wrigley's. As a last resort, simply perform the lick/spoon

### STEPS TO BLOW BAD **BREATH AWAY:**

- · Proper tooth brushing and flossing, particularly following meals (target the back of the tongue, as most of the bacteria reside there).
- Visiting your dentist.
- Rinsing your mouth with zinc and chloride.
- · Avoiding dry mouth by chewing gum, gurgling with a lemon-flavored mouth rinse and eating breakfast.
- Visiting a dentist or family physician if bad breath persists, because it could be due to an underlying medical condition.



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# **On Another Campus**

Neal Cody Staff Contributor

### Metro Transit Fare Goes Up; U-Pass in the Works

Halifax students will be paying more for bus fare by the end of January. Metro Transit is increasing one-time student fares to \$2.00 from \$1.75, and monthly student bus passes from \$51 to \$54. A book of 20 tickets will now cost \$32, a two-dollar hike.

Discussions are ongoing to implement a universal bus pass for Dalhousie students by September. Dal wants to encourage enrolment growth, says DSU president Curtis McGrath. The U-Pass would likely cost \$110 for the year, the same price that St. Mary's students currently pay for the service. In comparison, monthly bus passes for the entire school year cost \$432.

### **Summerside Wants a University**

Summerside, P.E.I. could be the site for the Maritimes' next university if the town's chair of economic development has his way. Councillor Brent Gallant says that discussions with the University of Prince Edward Island about bringing a campus to Summerside have been going on for years, but he's frustrated at the lack of progress. While Gallant's first choice for a Summerside school would be a UPEI campus, he welcomes offers from other universities willing to expand.

Summerside has a population of about 16,200 and is P.E.I.'s second-largest settlement.

# N.B. Universities Get \$20 million for Infrastructure

New Brunswick Premier Bernard Lord announced \$20 million in new funding for his province's universities last week, but there's a catch. N.B. universities can only access the fund for infrastructure projects, such as building upgrades and maintenance. Despite increasing tuition and enrolments, many aging universities, including Dalhousie, can't afford their

required maintenance projects. By some estimates, New Brunswick schools have put off \$200 million in upgrades while Dalhousie has over \$100 million in deferred maintenance costs.

### STU, UNB Strikes Averted

Labour disputes at both Fredericton universities have been resolved in the past week. St. Thomas University reached an agreement with its faculty last Saturday, pending approval from the union's 105 members and the university's Board of Governors. The University of New Brunswick and its non-teaching staff association agreed to a contract the previous Tuesday, less than 24 hours before the 360 support staff union was to hit the picket lines.

# Departing York Student Councillors Hold \$19,000 Party, Slash Incoming Salaries

Out-going student councillors at York University spent \$19,000 on a party, only two days before leaving their positions. The Jan. 9 bash was open to all York students, and featured an interactive laser show and free drinks for the 454 attendees. Organizers said the aim was to promote school spirit, but incoming student councillors were furious, describing the party as a complete waste of money with no clear benefits.

The pricey shindig comes a month after retiring students decided to cut salaries for the next council by 44 per cent, from \$18,000 to \$10,080 per year. The decision took place at an off-campus meeting where private security prevented the uninvited from attending, drawing criticisms that the move was undemocratic. Councillors defended their decision, saying they wanted to avoid disruptions.

# UBC Buys Golf Course for \$11 Million

The University of British Columbia is now the first Canadian university to own a golf course, but don't expect to tee off any time soon. The Musqueam Band First Nation claims the \$11 million sale by the B.C. government violates the treaty process because they were not properly consulted. The Band has appealed to B.C. Supreme Court, after a lower court dismissed the case. The 18-hole, 146-acre Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club sits on either side of the road connecting UBC to Vancouver. The university says the golf course is a good investment which could bring in \$500,000 in annual rent.

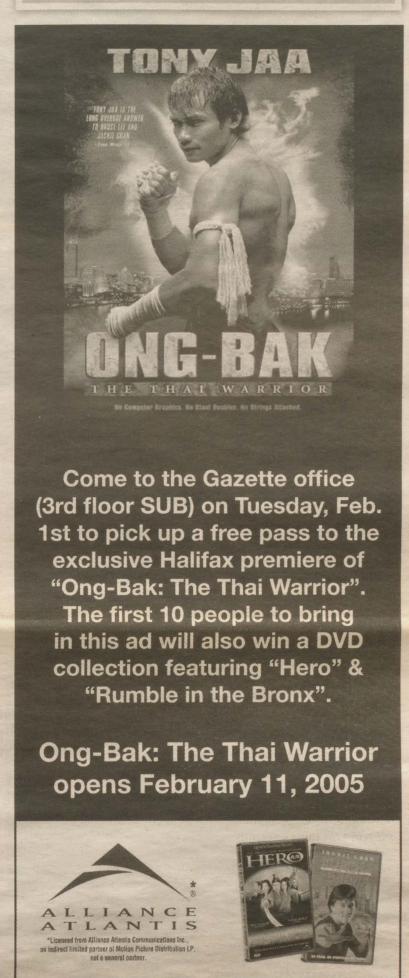
### U.S. to Appeal Ban on Campus Military Recruiting

The U.S. Department of Justice says that it will appeal a November court ruling that allows colleges and universities to ban military recruiters from campus without losing federal funding. Prior to November's ruling, any college which barred American military recruiters from its campus would lose federal funding, based on a law called the Solomon amendment. Roughly 20 American law schools anonymously launched a lawsuit against the Solomon amendment in Dec. 2002, claiming that the U.S. military's ban on openly gay persons violates First Amendment rights and makes on-campus recruitment discriminatory. In November, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia agreed 2 to 1 with the law schools, saying the Solomon amendment violated universities' rights of free expression and association. "We have a rule," Georgetown law professor Chai Feldblum told the school's student paper, The Hoya, "if an employer cannot sign and say that it will not discriminate based on race or gender or sexual orientation, we don't allow that employer to

The Department of Justice is also asking the court to hold off on enforcing the ban until a higher court can hear the case, saying it would hurt the nation's military readiness.

# **VOLUNTEER!**

Room 312 Mondays, 4:30, Dal SUB





The giant "Express Yourself" slogan spray-painted out front of the Killam

'Yeah! Rock on dude! Anarchy to the extreeeeeme! Society sucks! Down with the system! Bush is a Nazi! Geopolitical foundations! Ché Guevara! We never should've gone to Vietnam! Adbusters! George Orwell predicted it all! Mountain

### All the hate that's in commercials these days

Miller Light, Subway and Netzero spend more time slagging Bud Light, McDonald's and Netscape than actually promoting their own products. I'm all for making yourself taller by cutting someone else shorter, but this is just ridiculous. I don't even know what the commercial is about after it's done. Imagine how absurd Heritage Moments would be if all we did was bash the Americans... wait, nevermind.

### **Grouping MSN contacts**

Here I thought we were out of the days in which "Best Friends," "Normal Friends," "Old Friends," "New Friends," "Girlfriend(s)" and "Assholes" were grouped separately on the instant message lists, but alas, it seems that people still need to categorize others like they were sauces and condiments. Separating the people you know into a conversational hierarchy of "Upper Class" and "Lower Class" is just asking yourself for trouble because it plants the

seeds for upheaval. The "peasants" are content as long as they are kept in the dark-but once they find out that they didn't make the "Best Friends" group, they will undoubtedly begin to plot against the Queen and her nobility.

Vent (Li Dong)

# 'East Coast vs. Ontario' **Goes National**

From the pages of the Globe and Mail and Gazette to your winter jackets and ex-boyfriends, the battle rages on

Meaghan MacSween **Opinions Contributor** 

T've recently noticed that the Lcoat rack in our house has a long piece of fur hanging from its post. After days of wondering, I finally figured out what this piece of fur was all about. Can you guess? It's the edging of my roommate's hood on her winter coat. And sometimes, she just wants the fur off. "I don't want to look like a 'Toronto Girl,'" she explains. At this point, my other roommate-from Toronto-gets offended and the two hash it out for a while.

This is a classic example of the East Coast's Toronto bashing. Some adjectives involved may include words like "snobby," "ditsy" and "pretentious"... and come to think of it, I've been called some of these myself.

I moved to Toronto from Cape Breton when I was nine. My high school friends in Toronto to this day make the inevitable fish jokes: I'm friends with the lobster, I enjoy digging for clams, and my boyfriend's family are fishermen (okay, the last one was actually true, but we broke up). For the most part, I've always laughed along. But still, you have to see this for what it is: a typical illustration of Toronto bashing the East Coast. Some adjectives may include words like "stupid," "uneducated," and "lazy." Once again, I'm pretty sure I've been called at least some of these names.

I imagined that moving to Halifax would put an end to my geographical angst. Instead, what I found was more tension.

At Dalhousie, Toronto meets the rural East Coast in an interesting cultural war that has-as my editor puts it—"become about more than just the aesthesis of Uggs."

But is it really that serious? There are some undoubtedly erudite national voices that have made me wonder. Commenting on the recent Danny Williamsflag ordeal, Toronto-based Globe and Mail columnist Margaret Wente describes Newfoundlanders as having a "sense of victimhood that is unmatched." She goes on to allude to Newfoundlanders as being lazy and fool-

In response, Globe letters-tothe editor poured in these last weeks. Overall, there appears

province is a small island on the edge of the earth, with only seven seats and a slang-sounding dialect. And what's wrong with media attention? Take down the flag, discuss separation! Alberta has done it, Quebec has done it, even Cape Breton has done it. That covers most of the country's regions. Is everyone a victim?

I have a sneaking suspicion that believing that you understand the intricacies of equalization and the distribution of oil revenue does not necessarily give you the right to make a judgement on a region that you have never spent time in. Wealthy areas like southern Ontario and urban centres like Halifax cannot possibly speak to the poverty and



Do you have any desire to hear this guy talk?

# Ontario citizens praise the anti-Williams journalist; citizens from Newfoundland and rural regions of the Maritimes respond with contradicting anger.

to be a pattern: Ontario citizens praise the anti-Williams journalist; citizens from Newfoundland and rural regions of the Maritimes respond with contradicting anger. Newfoundland columnist Rex Murphy retorts by describing our Toronto-based friend as a "hostile example of the Newfie joke industry." And what is a Newfie joke, really, but one giant intimation of stupidity?

Even the editor-in-chief of the Gazette describes Williams as arguing simply "out of spite and for media attention." What's wrong with spite? Come on, of course he's spiteful. You try competing with southern Ontario's dominating Liberal caucus. His

plight of the rural East Coast with any kind of objective voice. Maybe it's time to stop speaking.

This kind of self-righteousness takes the cultural war to a level that goes far beyond fisherman and fur-trim coats. And so, being left with no objective source to turn to, I am at a loss. In the end, all I'm left with are two nationally acclaimed columnists battling it out in the Globe and Mail, and our editor-in-chief's presentation of one tunnel-vision side of the story.

Meanwhile, Toronto my friends keep at it, hitting me harder than ever with the lobster jokes. I guess that makes me a victim, too.

# The Dos and **Don'ts of Class** Discussion

Li Dong Opinions Editor

Thave a bit of a confession to

Last semester I came home from class and sat down at my computer to write a scathing article about how class discussions were pointless and detrimental to education. The article was entitled "Loudmouths." It accused many professors of laziness and even more students of arrogance.

Then, a series of amusing

and thought-provoking discussions in certain classes made me have a change of heart. I deleted the article. I realized that listening to a student verbally reason out a concept, I was actually provided with a different perspective. But at the same time, an angry voice from within me still bitterly resented the people who made class discussions an exercise in restraint (from banging my head on the desk).

You know who I'm talking

Continued on Next Page...



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# Do's and Don'ts, con't...

### **Continued from Previous Page...**

about. Those people whose very voices make you wish they had an "OFF" switch. But even those people do come up with decent thoughts once in a while (if you hate to admit this, I know how you feel). I think what we really need is a set of general rules to define classroom etiquette so that it can be a helpful learning environment for all parties concerned, wouldn't you agree?

# DON'T: Talk longer than 33 seconds

This is the absolute time limit for your contribution to the class discussion. Research has shown that you can actually cram Plato's entire philosophy within this time slot and still have enough seconds for a "what he means by that is..." comment. After you have your say it's possible that the prof won't immediately answer back. Do not mistake this silence for an invitation to elaborate.

Going over the time limit will result in the entire class becoming disenchanted with your argument... and may even summon a man in a hairy monkey suit who bangs loudly on his gong (I've seen it happen, and it isn't a pretty sight).

# DO: Include a joke or funny comment

Sir Philip Sidney noted that the best comments have the ability to "delight" and "teach" at the same time. We're all here to learn (sort of) so it'd be nice if we could do it while laughing and being amused.

Although, I must stress that there's often a lengthy distance between what you think is funny, and what actually is funny. Don't get caught in this trap. A solid humorous lead-in can round-off the sharpened debate teeth of even political science majors.

### DON'T: Put down famous people

Saying that Shakespeare "didn't know what he was talking about" cannot possibly add to your credibility. Who the hell are you? Some kid with a trucker hat and a West 49 t-shirt?

These people have had major influence on the history of civilization—whereas the memory of you will probably fade away like a small puddle after a rainstorm. Of course critically thinking about the ideas of these famous people is encour-

aged—but calling Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin "retards" doesn't make you bigger in any way.

# DO: Answer questions with questions

Asking questions facilitates critical thinking, whereas stating opinions encourages conformity. It becomes increasingly difficult to accept the viewpoint of a person when they've started a sentence in such a way that it shows they won't accept anyone else's viewpoint (ex. "The fact of the matter is...").

Wouldn't it be better to open yourself up to the class (if you're so confident) by starting with "wouldn't it then be true that," and so on and so forth? Did you like how I just encouraged you to answer questions with questions through a question? Wasn't that smooth?

# DON'T: Fight like it's life or

We all know that class is over in 10 minutes and we can then all crawl back into bed—so why are you acting more intense than an episode of "24"? Your red-faced fury and "critical discourse" to "evasive maneuvers" thought pattern change won't help your fellow students.

Getting heated over class discussions will just lead you into talking more than would be wise. You'll also become less articulate and your dialogue will start to take on a "I-know-you-are-but-what-am-I" rhythm. Sit back, relax and realize that the professor could probably castrate your opinions while mentally preparing his or her grocery list at the same time.

# DO: Pace your comments at one per every seven minutes

Have you ever thought about how boring your life is? Seriously, most people's lives on television would get lower ratings than channel one. This includes you. Therefore, don't make class discussion a show about you... let everyone else have a turn.

Watching the prof and you go back-and-forth at each other is about as entertaining as an episode of "Blind Date," without the sexual tension. We begin to lose interest in what you're talking about, and only tune back in when one of you screws up and creates an embarrassing, laughable situation.

# **Deterring Democracy in Haiti**

John Diamond-Gibson Staff Contributor

It was no small feat of courage when 10,000 Haitians took to the streets of Port-au-Prince on Dec. 31, demanding the return of their duly elected leader, Jean-Bertrand Aristide—especially considering a similar prodemocracy demonstration three months earlier was fired upon by police.

UN troops have been unable or unwilling to protect these legal demonstrations since Aristide was ousted in a coup d'etat in February of 2004.

The coup featured three main actors. The first, a coalition of opposition parties named the "Group of 184," are a group dependent upon a constituency of traditional powerbrokers and the Haitian-elite. The group pulled in a mere ten percent support in a 2002 poll and have no hope of winning in an open election.

The second was a network of outlawed paramilitary groups led by members of Haiti's disgraced military, disbanded due to its human rights abuses and role in supporting Haiti's former military dictator General Raoul Cedras. These paramilitary gangs used their bloody experience to carry out street-level violence that created a situation of chaos necessary for the ouster of Aristide.

The paramilitaries have been rewarded by the new regime with cash payouts thinly disguised as back pay for the ten years that the army was disbanded. Many have been integrated in to the new police and army.

The third actor in the coup was the 'international community'—more specifically, France, Canada and the U.S. These nations talked about democracy while demanding that the elected president step aside. They denied any political, economic or military support for the legitimate government of Haiti, later sending troops to consolidate the rule of the coup government once Aristide was deposed.

This whole adventure can-



A demonstrator shows his commitment to non-violent change in Haiti (http://www.haitiaction.net)

not help but remind us of the recent past. When Aristide was first elected in 1991, he was swiftly deposed by a military junta that proceeded to imprison, murder and torture the supporters and activists of Aristide's Lavalas party.

In 1994, with the threat of popular participation sufficiently curbed, Aristide agreed to abide by an IMF-imposed austerity package in exchange for his return to power, which Bill Clinton enforced with the aid of the 82nd Airborne division. But this was never enough for the Haitian opposition, organized in the Group of 184, and the important constituency of the American Republican Party, which saw the return of Aristide as part of Clinton's damnable liberalism.

Today, many of the small gains that Aristide was able to introduce-such as minimum wage increases and improvements in services for street children—are under attack or have already been destroyed. Police are again attacking and sometimes killing Lavalas supporters, trade unionists, and demonstrators. The situation is so bad that on Oct. 2, three former parliamentarians denouncing the repression of the Sept. 30 demonstration on a radio program were arrested by police without lawful warrant. Five weeks later, while visiting Haiti, Paul Martin stated: "there are no political prisoners in Haiti."

Paul Martin has been talking about holding elections in December, and just as before formal democracy will probably return to Hait—but only if those in power judge the Haitian people to have been sufficiently brutalized and disorganized o vote for the proper candidates.

Canada is playing a prominent role in all of this: we have committed 500 troops, 100 RCMP officers and the key financial and political support that it denied to Haiti's legitimate government. The Canadian government's contempt for Haiti's democratic will is so complete that when a conference was held in Montreal in December, Lavalas—still the most popular party in Haiti—was not even invited.

Paul Martin piously paid a visit to a children's shelter when he flew to Haiti on Nov. 14; human rights observers have recorded a massive increase in violence against street children as the same right wing gangs that propelled the coup government into power engage in social cleansing.

Unlike Haitians, we in Canada have relatively little reason to fear severe repression for questioning our government. We should use that freedom to demand that our government supports democracy in Haiti, instead of suppressing it.





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# One Hell of a Vacation Letters

# **Should Paul Martin be berated for his** visit to Southeast Asia?

Jimmy Kapches Staff Contributor

n this snowy day in Halifax, Prime Minister Paul Martin and his elegant wife Sheila are somewhere off in hell. They are working their way through the remains of homes, schools and temples. Graveyards and once fertile gardens are filled to overflowing levels with the bodies of dead children and parents. The smell, which is so foreign to anyone living in a developed country, has become the backdrop for numerous nations; the smell is the reek of death.

Before the PM's entouragefilled with members of all the opposition parties-even set first foot on the gangway to the Air Canada equivalent of Air Force

than to accept bias as truth, thus Paul Martin makes good by traveling with all the afflicted parties. What help could Canada give to Tamil rebels anyways? I am confident in saying that our last arms deal fell though the cracks of the Sea King that was carrying it. It is a tragedy that showing respect can be misconstrued so horribly.

Let Paul, Sheila, and all their courtiers have the space to do the right thing. Let them walk where they will and take measure of the horrors that we so luckily avoided, this time. It was chance, not geology that spared us; all the more reason to do all the good we can, no matter how little or how late.

Avacation like this one is nothing to denigrate. What should be looked at with disgust is the sad

We as Canadians know better than to accept bias as truth, thus Paul Martin makes good by traveling with all the afflicted parties.

One, pundits were screaming "politicking!" Some feared that the Liberal leader was simply out to be the first leader of a nation to get to the disaster zone and gawk. Others were sure that Paul Martin just wanted to get his mug on the front page of a newspaper. Still more thought it a given that Paul was just going to get his little fingers caught in the mouse trap of rebel politics.

As I sit here, enveloped in tobacco smoke and a caffeine haze, comfortably insulated from the horrible reality, I can't imagine where these critics got their

We as Canadians know better

reality that Paul has to justify his good intentions at press conferences, his khakis wet from the humidity and the sheer horror, instead of doing what he's there to do. He is there to learn, grieve and give. He is there to gain the experience that we should demand of our Prime Ministers; a lesson in humility.

Before anyone accuses the Prime Minister of politicking, they should perhaps try and imagine the smell of a village, their own village, if their family and friends hung drying from trees. Maybe then they would realize the true meaning of a humanitarian embassy.

# letters@dalgazette.ca

### **Just Prepresentation**

I am writing regarding an article published in Gazette 137:15 entitled "The Media at Large." I find it disturbing that Mr. Southwick accuses and criticizes National Media for misrepresentation of public interest while doing exactly that.

Mr. Southwick opens with a criticism of the National Post's Christmas Eve article. He comments on what he terms their "audacity" of putting a mural of the Baby Jesus and Mary on their front cover. He supports this with

I cannot believe that Mr. Southwick could have the impudence to suggest to us that ignoring the views of 23,000,000 Canadians is justified by the views of 397,000.

two statistics. Firstly he mentions the 97,000 Canadians who celebrate Kwanza and the 300,000 Canadians who celebrate Hanukkah, both of which fall close to the Christmas holiday. Together these groups make up less then 2 per cent of the population. Let me put that up against another statistic, in the last census Christians made up 72 per cent of the Canadian population. I cannot believe that Mr. Southwick could have the impudence to suggest to us that ignoring the views of 23,000,000 Canadians is justified by the views of 397,000.

Also mentioned in the article is the news coverage of the SARS epidemic. He criticizes the national media's coverage of the crisis as inflammatory and complains that they covered quarantines, travel advisories and

hospital closures. I would argue that it would be irresponsible and a gross misrepresentation of public interest for them to not cover these events. They would have been called callous and insensitive. If there had not been the public outcry brought upon by extensive media coverage the epidemic had spread further and more then "just a few dozen" would have died.

Charles S. Wright IV

### **Tory Government Not Forthcom**ing?

To the Editor,

I write in response to comments attributed to Wayne Doggett, Nova Scotia Department of Education staff person in charge of Higher Education, in a recent article in the Dal Gazette about the "tuition cap."

Not only are his comments related to a tuition freeze misleading, they are flat-out wrong. Mr. Doggett is pulling figures from thin air when he suggests that "grant amounts (to universities) would have to be roughly doubled" to implement a tuition freeze.

He is suggesting that it would cost \$208 million to freeze tuition fees in Nova Scotia, which is directly in contradiction to the facts. There is only one reason he could possibly choose to mislead students, parents and families in this way, and that is to cover over the fact that the current government lacks the political will to help students.

The very agreement Mr. Doggett was commenting on limits allows universities to increase tuition by 3.9 per cent a year, and the funding increase is an average of 5.3 per cent over the life of this agreement. Taken together, this represents less than a 10 per cent increase in funding to universities—a far, far cry from the 100 per cent suggested by Mr. Doggett.

It is truly sad to see those in positions of responsibility try and obscure the facts in this way.

The facts here speak for themselves. At the end of this three-year agreement, Nova Scotia will still have by far the highest tuitions in the country. At

It is these facts that students and their families should use to help them decide whether this deal is the best this government can-and should-do to make higher education more affordable.

the end of this agreement Nova Scotia students will still have the highest debt-loads in the country. And at the end of this agreement, Nova Scotia students will still have little access to government bursaries, (since the Liberals eliminated them in the 1990s).

It is these facts that students and their families should use to help them decide whether this deal is the best this government can-and should-do to make higher education more afford-

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# Streeter

# What's your favourite Disney character?



Belle from Beauty and the Beast. She didn't love for looks.

- Sarah Buckle, fourth-year biology



I was really influenced by Bambi.
My mom told me that I'm a vegetarian now because I cried when Bambi's
mother died.
- Thomas Leenders,
Master of philosophy student



Ariel, because she could change from mermaid to human form. And because I always wanted red hair. - Stephanie Finkleman, fourth-year English



I really liked Eeyore because I felt bad for him. - Sarah Doucette, first-year science



All of the 101 Dalmatians because
they're so cute!
- Heather Drew,
third-year women's studies



Pinocchio, because I lie when I sport wood, and he sports wood when he lies. - Matt Golding, third-year chemistry



Ariel. I always wanted to be a mermaid.
- Mary-Louise, first year science



Gaston—A well-endowed Frenchman, just like me.
- Chris LaRoche, fifth-year bath-room-stall literature studies



### COLD

This Wednesday will find you happily sipping on a beer from a pitcher at the Grawood. That's Feb. 2 at 9 p.m. for Battle of the Bands Round I. Cover is \$2. Enjoy.

**Hot Spots** 

### LUKE-WARM

The Dean Malenkos are having a CD release party at the Marquee Club this Friday, Jan. 28. Also Hope, Dead Red and the KNA are playing. The show starts at 10 p.m.

### TOASTY

The toast of P.E.I., Two Hours Traffic, play Hell's Kitchen this Friday, Feb. 4 at 10.p.m. Cover is \$5.

### HOT

Laura Peek & The Winning Hearts, Little Miss Moffat and the Porcelain Gods play Stage Nine this Tuesday, Feb. 1, 10 p.m. Cover is \$5.

# Vancouver-based Dance Troupe Hopes To Break Mirrors

Chantelle McGee
Arts Contributor

What does a mirror see as its reflection? Infinite reflections. This is a part of what you experience with Vancouver-based Kidd Pivot's dance production *Double Story*. Reflections in it range from the real and staged relationships between the dancers and the intangible connection between live music and modern dance, to the concrete use of mirrors to reflect the identity of the dancers and the audience.

Double Story consists of Richard Siegal's "The Bouncy Woman Piece" and Crystal Pite's "Man Asunder," which grew in reaction to Siegal's piece. Pite describes "Man Asunder" as "a wormhole along the timeline of [Siegal's] piece" that explores the "alternative possibilities" avoided by the character in "The Bouncy Woman Piece."

Double Story is a paradigm for how we work together in real life," Pite says of the creative relationship and dancing style she and Siegal share. It is a reflection of the duality of the character, portrayed in Double Story, where dancers play two sides of the same character. Pite says that as performers, they have in common the same sense of timing in their bodies, as well as a sense of humour, and the ability to think in the moment. But this similarity in dance comes from opposing backgrounds in training and influence.

Live experimental music by Montréal artist Diane Labrosse echoes the improvisational



Dance improvisation and extensive use of mirrors go head-to-head in Kidd Pivot's *Double Story*.

dance occurring in *Double Story*. "Improvisation [occurs] within specific parameters," Pite says. "[Labrosse] works with a series of sounds, which act as the raw material for each section. The flexibility is great; we can work off her in real time and reflect off each other."

"The mirror used in 'The Bouncy Woman Piece' helped [Siegal] to express the idea of identity and the doppelganger," Pite says. "Is he speaking to his reflection or the audience's reflection? For "Man Asunder," the mirror is used a starting point.

Pite, a native of British Columbia, danced with two contemporary ballet companies before starting Kidd Pivot in 2001.

During her time with Ballet B.C. she had the opportunity to dance under several choreographers and gained knowledge from their working processes. Pite says she feels like a composite of everyone she worked with. In her years at Ballett Frankfurt, where she had originally collaborated with Siegal, she worked under choreographer William Forsythe. By dancing with the same choreographer over a longer term she was able experience "another kind of learning" where she could enter "more deeply and understand the process" of choreography.

Finally, the reflection of Pite's ideals of dance is reflected in her company's name, Kidd Pivot. Kidd corresponds to "the freedom of recklessness—a courageous, chaotic approach to creating," balanced by Pivot—which alludes to her approach to her work: "a sense of attention to detail, a sense of accomplishment."

Live Art Dance Productions presents Kidd Pivot at the Sir James Dunn Theatre from Jan. 20 to 22 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults,

# New Winnipeg TV Drama To Hit Global

Bridgette Sullivan Staff Contributor

Summer in Winnipeg is not likely to whip someone into a frenzy. You know, the kind of frenzy that would have someone calling roommates and family members to remind them (for the sixth time) to tape a TV show about just that—summer in Winnipeg. But this sort of frenzy has become the norm for TV-watchers who, from time to time, have to miss that next nail-biting episode of the O.C.

And with a just a little more receptivity for Canadian productions, *Falcon Beach's* glimpse of fun in the Manitoba sun should take off just as all those other shows ripe with teen angst and saucy love triangles have.

Falcon Beach, described as a quintessential coming of age drama, is scheduled to premiere Jan. 29 on Global. Starring a cast culled from across Canada, the TV movie pilot chronicles a four-day period during summer on Lake Winnipeg.

Actress Jennifer Kydd who plays Paige Bradshaw, an affluent visitor to Falcon Beach from Toronto, admits she was slightly surprised to learn of where the beach movie would be shot. Before filming began, Kydd had never been to the Winnipeg region before and admittedly had no idea the location would be even remotely conducive to the idea behind it. The Halifax native soon discovered that "they've got a whole kind of subculture there, of wakeboarding and all these little cottages on the water," an ideal setting for the drama that ensues. And although the summer was reportedly the coldest in thirty years, endless blue skies and spectacularly sunny days made up for the lack of high temperatures.

Chock full of romance, drugs and conflict, the movie also seeks to address some larger and perhaps more profound issues that occur in Canadian society—class struggle is one of these issues. Falcon Beach is a peek into the relationship between wealthy cottage-goers who breeze into the area every summer and the permanent residents or "townies" of the small, lakeside community.

"It's good because it has issues in the show, but it's not an issue show," says Kydd. She says that although particular issues such as class, drugs, relationships and family dynamics are addressed throughout the movie, this is done in a manner that does not

"[pound] it over your head."

Although the TV movie is far from being a preachy 7th Heaven-like production, its viewers are constantly reminded that Falcon Beach is clearly Canadian. "This show really focuses on Canada," says Kydd—right down to the music, which features such Canadian acts as Pilate, Sam Roberts, Holly McNarland, Meligrove Band, DaGriff and Sloan.

In addition to the abundance of Canadian flags featured in the pilot, the cast comes from every corner of Canada. Kydd feels that the team behind *Falcon Beach* has made a concerted effort to give the production a very Canadian feel, all the while showcasing summer in Canada—a theme that has not been properly explored by the Canadian media.

What Canada reads, listens to and watches, is more often than not generated in the U.S. The CBC for one has long stood by its "homemade" programming, but it is safe to say that most turn to CBS or ABC when looking to indulge in prime-time goodness. Whatever factors we chose to attribute this tendency to, Kydd recognizes how difficult it is to garner support and create a fan base for Canadian productions like Falcon Beach.

Kydd feels strongly that an American television show or movie is more likely to win the hearts and minds of Canadians than a similar Canadian counterpart. "Canadians, I probably shouldn't say this, are a bit reluctant I guess to embrace their own," she says. "We don't even celebrate our people until they've made it in the States."

Kydd also feels that financial issues put Canadian productions at a disadvantage when compete with American productions. "If this [Falcon Beach] got picked up by even a little cable station in the States that doesn't even hit many people, as well as say Global, it would be instantly picked up just because that would be their money," says Kydd. "Whereas in Canada you have to kind of rely on the government."

Although Kydd hopes Falcon Beach is a hit and will eventually become a series, it's hard to say how warmly this glimpse into summer fun in Winnipeg will be received. But as a show that deals with worlds colliding and perspectives changing, perhaps Falcon Beach should usher in a new era in Canadian television—an era in which the Canadian masses exhibit a little more loyalty to home-grown programming.



# **Hometown Boys**

# Matt Mays and Nathan Wiley team up after touring

Ray Corkum Staff Contributor

Don't call it a homecoming. As far as Matt Mays is concerned, he never left. After a spending the last two years promoting his self-titled breakthrough album, which has taken him westward throughout Canada and into the U.S., Mays played the first of three dates with Nathan Wiley in the Atlantic Provinces last Wednesday—at Dalhousie's own Grawood lounge.

"I live in the greatest city in the world," Mays says. "People here live for their music and if you give them something real, they'll respect you for it. Why would I ever leave?"

If this wasn't a homecoming celebration, someone forgot to tell the audience-who received the local boy with enthusiasm. Inside jokes were played on, old friends were in attendance and there was a feeling of family throughout the entire room. Matt is no stranger to these fans, having played no less than four shows in Halifax within the last year. When asked about the temptation to leave this little windswept town for the supposed "big time," (a.k.a. Toronto), Matt is not phased.

"With the internet's massive influence, the idea that success cannot be achieved without moving half-way across the country seems silly to me," he says. "The world isn't as big as it once was."

It is impossible to ignore the lure of greener pastures that has had an influence on the careers of many a Haligonian artist. One need only look to hometown poprockers Sloan to see its effects. On one hand, there is indeed the chance at hitting the "big time"—and on the other hand there is the chance that hitting the big time will alienate audiences that once lent support. The "sellout" label has consequently been thrown around with Sloan's name for sometime.

"Bands sometimes make the

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Matt Mays performing in Halifax: "Nothing can quite compare to this." / Photo: Rafal Androwski

choice to go looking elsewhere to further their careers," says Mays. "It works for some, but it isn't for sure or without risks. To label someone a sellout for trying to advance their career seems sort of silly to me. It isn't a choice I would make, but who is to judge?"

The young singer-songwriter has enjoyed his share of success and acclaim; Mays' music is gaining popularity all over the country and beyond, enjoying popularity across the pond. His self-titled album is posting strong sales and earning critical acclaim. Mays himself has drawn comparisons to greats such as Tom Petty with his mixture of urban country twang and roaring guitar rock. He was a bit of an award show darling last year, nominated for both a Juno and an ECMA, winning the East Coast Music Award for best new artist.

Much has been made of this award in the press; many gauge the win as a definitive achievement of Mays' career.

He seems conflicted about the matter.

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"While it is nice to get the rec-

ognition and publicity, the award itself has lost a lot value in my eyes," he says. "Great musicians are being overlooked simply because they do not have the money or influence to be noticed by the committees. The most popular new major label artist is a better name for the award—there are musicians out there who are doing amazing things, and yet they can't get any recognition."

"It's mainly a popularity contest," says Mays tour-mate Nathan Wiley. "If you can get the money and support of an influential label you can have your voice heard—but you could be the greatest band in the world without label money, and you'll be completely overlooked. The awards are nice and all, but they definitely don't mean as much as they did. The whole system needs revamping."

Wiley has been nominated for four ECMAs this year, including male artist of the year—but being on stage seems to be enough for him.

"I have the chance to perform, to have people hear my songs every night," he says. "We're go"For now, all I want is to play."

Mays, meanwhile, is busy mixing and putting the finishing touches on his new album, to be released with El Torpedo early this year. Buzz is circulating already; word has it Mays is bringing harder sound to his new work. Think *Everyone Knows this is Nowhere*-era Neil Young.

"Its exciting having [El Torpedo] with me this time," he says. "These guys are like family to me, so it just feels right. We're hoping to film a video for "Cocaine Cowgirl" sometime this month... [and] to have the new record out by March so we can come back and play for [Halifax] again."

Mays and the boys would seem to be keeping their minds on track with big band dreams and local boy sensibilities. Don't try and guess how long it will take success to whisk them away (when was the last time we saw Sloan back home?): these guys are going to be around for a while.

"If you get the chance to perform abroad you definitely take it," Mays says. "Playing in the States, overseas and across Canada has been fun, but it just doesn't compare. Nothing can quite compare to this."

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ing to play on the island in a few

days and I can't wait. I'm not let-

ting this [award show] stuff get to

and promoting his new album

High Low, Nathan seems to be

just glad to be where he is in his

career. "I write non stop, but I'm

not worried about the next al-

bum just yet, or any of that other

Choosing to focus on touring

me."

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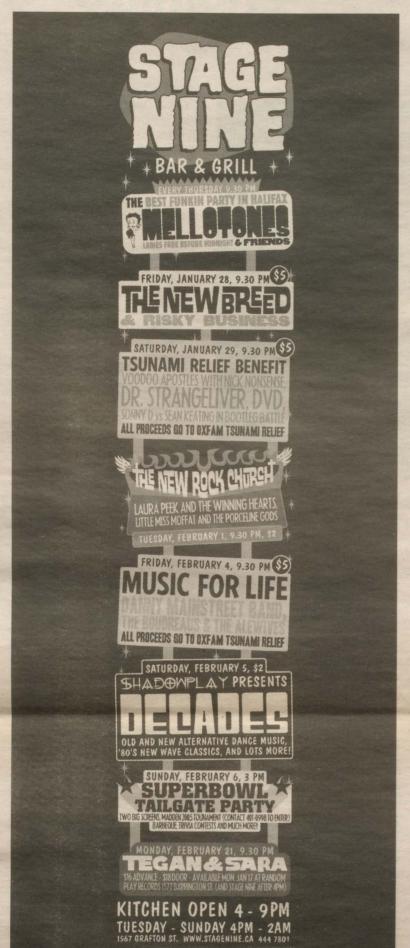
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# Film Review - See Grace Fly

Lindsay Dobbin Assistant Arts Editor

ather than being a film fo-Name on telling a story, See Grace Fly is a vessel used to convey writer/director Pete Mc-Cormack's various philosophies about the existence of God.

The shortcomings in plot development are because of the top-down approach McCormack has taken in creating this film. He seems to be so wrapped up in conveying religious ideas through prototypical characters that he sacrifices explanation and, as a result, sacrifices taking the audience on a journey.

Convinced that Jesus is returning in three days, schizophrenic Grace (Gina Chiarelli) draws up plans for a vessel that will transport all those who are faithful out of the world. Chiarelli plays the role of Grace very convincingly and is effective in conveying the fact that her faith is not completely due to her illness. Her brother Dominic (Paul McGillion) returns home from missionary work in Sierra Leone upon learning that his mother has passed away. As he is busy planning his mother's funeral, his sister Grace (who has taken care of their mother for the past seven years) flees for the streets of Vancouver in order to avoid treatment and tell others about the ensuing Apocalypse.

One of the most interesting ideas brought forth within the film never gets off the ground. Midway through, Grace's psychiatrist (Jennifer Copping) is explaining her motivations for leaving the mental health field: "Why do you think I'm so sick of psychiatry, which, in its fear of not having answers, is drugging humanity's search for meaning?" These words bring rise to the question of whether people who have been labeled as "mentally ill" in Western society are indeed



mentally ill. Perhaps the men and women on street corners spouting words into the air have a divine connection. Perhaps they are the "normal" ones.

This idea would have been more effectively explored if the audience was allowed further insight into Grace's mind, and the motivations for her actions (other than her evident mental illness). Some insight into her history is achieved through her brother's flashbacks and her psychiatrist's words. But the jumble of mutters and whispers throughout the audio of the film (which is effective in conveying Grace's desire for silence) make it difficult for the audience to truly understand

Perhaps making the audience think was McCormack's main ambition with See Grace Fly. His

ideas stick in the viewer's mind after watching the film, but there is no coherence or flow to them. Rather than being a product of plot, context and, essentially, fitting together like a puzzle, these ideas are products of the actors' successful artistic delivery. Although the characters of See Grace Fly sound a bit too earnest at times, they are the glue and the "saving grace" of this film.

The various subplots and the overarching ideas present in the film make it difficult for the audience to truly immerse themselves in the experience.

See Grace Fly soars well above the specificity needed for storytelling, but the result is that one thinks without really being made

See Grace Fly opens at Bayer's Lake Empire Cinemas on Jan. 28.

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# Dal Art Gallery's Special Find

Robert Bean's Lapsus

Andrea Melvin Arts Contributor

ver find something obscure, Efunny or just plain heartbreaking?

While snacking over the holidays I found a handwritten note attached by four stickers to a clementine. The small message had the name and address of a person I assume to be a worker in the factory where the fruit originated, Morocco. The note was such a surprise that I stopped snacking for a minute and tried to imagine that person's life, what they did everyday, what their daily routine would be and how it might compare to mine. I thought about sending a postcard to let them know someone

had found their note; they were possibly looking for something in the world beyond the factory, something I am sure most of us could relate to.

The current exhibit at the Dalhousie Art Gallery features Robert Bean's Lapsus, a work that explores findings such as the one my Clementine, described as "the unintended gifts of anonymous donors." Lapsus itself successfully presents the human connection to small lost or tossed objects like notes, twisted paperclips and torn photographs that brings us closer to the experiences and emotions of others. Bean, who has collected items for over a decade, explains that he does not actively look for the objects, but that they seem

to find him. The photographs of his findings are enlarged and unimpeded on a solid white background for close analysis. Displayed in random order, Bean insightfully demonstrates the variety of social meanings that can be applied.

Found items are not uncommon collectors' items, as seen from the popularity of Found Magazine, which Bean's work reflects. Bean has clearly captured the fascination of these ephemeral objects that Found Magazine's founder, Davy Rothbart describes as "startling and magical ... we feel connected to this person we've never met before and probably never will, and in turn,

Continued on Next Page...

# Wanderlust

**Destination London, ON** 

Sarah Vanderwolf Staff Contributor

nbelievably, not all Ontarians call that sprawling city known as T.O. their home - many Ontarians hail from other cities such as Waterloo, Ottawa, Windsor, Thunder Bay, and some, like me, from a city called London (population 330,000).

No, this is not the London in England, so if you're planning on going there to see Buckingham Palace or London Bridge, you're definitely on the wrong continent. However, since I lived in London for the first 18 years of my life, I do know of a few places to go that may alleviate the disappointment of even the most confused tourist.

London is probably best known for its educational institutions, most obviously the University of Western Ontario, where approximately 30,000 students attend.

I attended Western for a year before deciding to experience university life outside my hometown, and can attest to the magnificence of the campus and the quality of the school itself. True, universities may not be a popular tourist destination, but few buildings in London can rival the stately tower of University College or the soaring spire of Middlesex College.

Like Halifax, London's large student population ensures a wide variety of licensed establishments. There's no better place to party and get falling-down drunk than at Barney's or T.J. Baxter's Tap and Grill on Richmond Row. If you like karaoke, try Molly Bloom's, an Irish pub named for the character in James Joyce's Ulysses.

Richmond Row is in fact London's closest equivalent to Spring Garden Rd. This lively district is home to several bars, pubs, and restaurants, fine retail stores, coffee shops and the Grand Theatre, which routinely hosts plays, ballets and symphonies. Right across the street from the Grand is Victoria Park, where many festivals are held each year. Sun-Fest, a celebration of music and multiculturalism, is held every summer. So is RibFest, an annual festival where restaurants from

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across the city compete to sell the most ribs.

London is known as the "Forest City" because of its many parks and tree-lined streets. Springbank Park is the largest and most beautiful-cyclists, joggers, pedestrians and skiers can be found there year round amongst the trees, flowerbeds and playgrounds. The Thames River that flows through London also runs through Springbank Park (warning to potential anglers: never, the Pinery Provincial Park, where you can canoe, hike, swim, bicycle, skate, ski, or toboggan, depending on weather conditions.

Theatre buffs won't want to miss out on a day trip to Stratford, also just an hour by car. Every summer there is a feast of dramatic fare in this small town, predominantly Shakespearean.

In short, London is a beautiful and affluent city that is often overshadowed by its famous neighbour, Toronto (two hours

Found Art, con't... Continued from Previous Page...

Noun

auna p

to all people."

Lapsus is part of a larger exhibit on display at the gallery that also includes Jérôme Fortin's ici et là/here and there, as well as the collaborative works of Hannah Jickling and Valerie Salez's Snow Shoveling. For his work, Fortin has assembled common recycled and consumer materials and meticulously turned them into fascinating decorative works. Richly colored plastic bottles are transformed into vibrant wall decorations; cigarette filters have likewise become delicate handicrafts.

Jickling and Salez's three-part video installation brings a fun and simple-yet-brilliant local twist to the gallery. The duo hilariously shows that all that snow we shovel away can have a great deal of importance in guiding us down paths we might have never been-a message to keep in perspective for the next thirty-five centimeters!

Shovel your way over to the Dalhousie Art Gallery, located on the bottom floor of the Arts Centre, to see Lapsus, ici et là/here and there and Snow Shoveling, showing Jan. 14 to Feb. 27. Admission is free.

The Thames River that flows through London also runs through Springbank Park (warning to potential anglers: never, under any circumstances, eat a fish caught in the Thames. Would you eat the ducks that float in Halifax Harbour?)

under any circumstances, eat a fish caught in the Thames. Would you eat the ducks that float in Halifax Harbour?).

Just an hour away from London you'll find the shores of beautiful, freshwater Lake Huron. There are many charming tourist towns on its shores such as Bayfield or Grand Bend. For the outdoors types, don't miss

from London... try not to get killed on the 401). Not just a party town full of students, London is the home of many successful academics, entrepreneurs and entertainers. I'm proud to be a Londoner and an Ontarian, and I blow my nose at all the Maritimers who put down Ontarians just to make themselves feel better. Get over it. And go to London.

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Report Card Matt Mays & El Torpedo with Nathan Wilev

Date: Jan. 19, 2005 Venue: The Grawood Reporter: Ray Corkum Photographer: Rafal Andronowski Stage Presence: A Audience Reaction: A+ Sound: A-Effort: A+ Get It On- Ability: B

Matt Mays may be a little bit country, but he's got a hell of a lot of rock in him too. The City of Lakes-native brought his show to the Grawood last week with Prince Edward Islander Nathan Wiley in tow. Wiley seemed comfortable in the intimate setting, but the crowd seemed to be waiting for their hometown boy. It's too bad—Wiley's mix of minimalist rock and jazzy arrangements made for some very interesting jams. To his credit, the young singer-songwriter played an impressively versatile set with murky, dark songs ("Bride on Fire") finding their proper places next to more upbeat pieces ("High Low"). Wiley didn't quite captivate the crowd, but his songwriting shows promise that can't be denied.

This night, however, belonged to Matt Mays & El Torpedo. Taking the stage to the enthusiastic welcome of their hometown crowd, the boys simply had a good time and invited us along for the ride. While familiar staples such as "City of Lakes" and "Downtown" (played as a solo piece by Matt Mays) grabbed the crowd, the new material really made the "What Will we do at the End of September" with its thudding/chiming beat, thick bass line and very old school guitar solo (got to love seeing the whammy bar getting some love) captivated the crowd. The standout piece of the night was, without a doubt, "Cocaine Cowgirl" -a great piece of gritty pseudo-stoner rock that roared Mays' set to a close and had the audience clamoring for an encore. Mays did not disappoint, closing the show with a solo performance of a song one of his friends, in attendance, had written—a perfect way for Mays to show some love to the hometown crowd that set him on the road to success.

# **Creative Featurette**

Dearest Letter VIII, I think you should

By Lindsay Dawn Dobbin

I think you should pick up the phone and call someone you love even if you are not sure the message will be received. I think you should stop falling asleep with the company of the television screen. I think you should lie on the kitchen floor and stare at the birds and planes out the window-it's amazing how similar they look from that perspective. I think you should write all the things down that you love about people. I think you should draw the faces of your closest friends without looking at the paper. I think you should walk through

town with a wheelbarrow full of your favourite books. I think you should dig a jagged trail in the snow. I think you should listen to your own breathing in public spaces. I think you should look people in the eye and take note of the space within not the space between their eyes. I think you should always be filled with wonder. I think you should paint the front door of your house your favourite colour. I think you should swing on a swing every night just as the darkness spreads across the sky. I think you should get a cat and call him Leonard. I think you should make your bed a different way each day. I think you should look through photo-

graphs of moments where you were not present and write one line down that reflects what each photograph means to you. I think you should listen to everything and be comfortable with silence. I think you should live each day like it is the first day.

Yours,

Lindsay

See more Deerest Letters at http://deerestletters.blogspot.com.

Creative Featurette is an open forum for students of Dalhousie to submit creative works. You can send submissions to arts@dalgazette.ca.

# **Book Review**

Runaway, by Alice Munro

Sarah Vanderwolf Arts Contributor

nyone attempting to enter Athe James deMille competition this year has probably realized how challenging it is to write an interesting, well-structured short story. With this in mind, the writing career of Alice Munro seems all the more remarkable.

Munro's newest collection of stories, entitled Runaway, is her eleventh book in a career that has spanned nearly 40 years. Born in the small town of Wingham, Ont. in 1931, Munro attended the University of Western Ontario for a year before marrying and moving to British Columbia, where she raised three daughters. Her writing career began in 1968 with the publication of Dance of the Happy Shades, which won the Governor General's Award. All of Munro's

books have been successful and well received; her prizes have included the Giller Prize, the Commonwealth Writers Prize and the Jubilee Prize. Praise continues to pour in from many prestigious journals, including The Atlantic Monthly and The New York Times.

The stories in Runaway were clearly written in a vein similar to many of Munro's previous stories. She does not depart from writing about the melancholy lives of completely ordinary people-usually women-as they struggle to cope with problems involving love, happiness, marriage, friendship, aging and sexuality; in short, universal themes that affect us all.

The title story in Runaway is about Carla, an unhappily married young woman whose wellintentioned neighbour attempts to help her leave her husband

Clark. When Carla loses her nerve and returns home, her neighbour inadvertently learns a lesson about interfering. The next three stories describe the life of a woman named Juliet, from age twenty-one to her middle age. Despite Juliet's natural intelligence (at the beginning of the first story she has already earned an MA in classics), her life becomes that of a lonely, older woman after several misfortunes that were the result of chance, fate, and even Juliet's own faulty judgment.

Munro develops the theme of chance in several of the stories, including "Trespasses," in which fourteen-year-old Lauren is given a crash course in human relations. Lauren learns that an older woman who befriended her did so because she mistakenly thought Lauren was her daughter-whom she had given up for adoption many years before. Munro also plays with time, as in the story "Powers," which spans fifty years and includes many flashbacks and non-chronological events, thus forcing the reader to piece together the story in proper sequence in his or her own mind.

Munro's stories are remarkable for their insight, vividness and dialogue that seems so natural it feels as if someone I know is speaking. If you're looking for

a break from studying or watching television, take 45 minutes to immerse yourself in the extraordinary world of one of Alice Munro's stories.

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# Spin Spin Sugar

We Are Music Snobs



Carlos Del Junco Blues Mongrel (Big Reed)

Although it's kind of cheesy to put the word "blues" in the titles of three songs, as well as the album title itself, Blues Mongrel is a solid package of expert musicianship. The 12 song CD has as much a jazz, folk and country sound as it does

blues—perhaps the reason why Del Junco chose to call it "Mongrel." I assume this means that the record is a mixed breed of influences, genres and sounds. To further this point, Del Junco saturated the CD jewel-case with images of his own face, technically distorted so that it looks half beastly. I don't know why he did this. We already get it.



010 (Eenie Meenie)

thought Weezer already put out a bad CD. Ulysses has some catchy riffs here and there that may have been good were it not for the amateurish vocals, the been-done-before pop fly energy and the mundane lyrics. In the song "Castles in

Spain," singer Robert Schneider croons "our love wasn't in vain" eighteen times (I counted). It's a two and a half minute song. -N.P.



Roses are Red Conversations (Trustkill)

Junk punk CDs are a dime a dozen these days. The songs on them are all about broken relationships, broken hearts and broken promises. The members of Roses are Red feel very victimized about the whole thing. The vocals, however, are no evidence of this. Every track has at

least one instance where the lead singer grinds the vocals—sounding like he is projectile-vomiting. There are some decent guitar melodies, a bit of nice piano and well-timed percussion, but I am still convinced that the only great punk-rock band of our time is Haligonian trio, Color TV. -N.P.



Relient K Mmhmm (Gotee)

I don't know what purpose another mediocre pop-punk Simple Plantype band serves in today's society. Relient K is somewhat different in that they infuse their album with a smidge of Christian Rock appeal. If I could meet the members of

Relient K. I would advise them to differentiate their sound from the Good Charlotte/Hoobastank/The Calling melodramatic trend. Their lyrics are not totally horrid, so there is some promise. -N.P.



Mary Ancheta Live-Life (Killbeat)

Not only has the Vancouver-based Mary Ancheta written and produced all the songs on her debut album, she also produces the beautiful vocals and musicianship. The powerful CD is chock-full of tireless gems, perfect melodies, warm folksy lyrics and harmonious piano

and guitar. The album as a collection of pieces, however, is far from folk. Laced with energetic drums, Live-Life is a cabaret/lounge disc that outdoes every cabaret/lounge soundtrack out there. The young, fresh songster with the mature, husky voice will make Canada a more musical country by the end of 2005. That is my prediction. -N.P.

# SuperSex in the SuperCity

**Sexual Olympics** 

Dave Moriné-Wentworth Sexpert

Tave you ever wondered how Have you construct typical your sexual behaviour is? What is acceptable and tolerated here may not be elsewhere. Durex, a worldwide manufacturer of condoms, surveys its consumers every year-and the results from the 2004 Global Sex Survey prove that humans have some wide variances with regards to sexual norms.

Appetite for sex varies across nations: France takes home the gold in this area with the average French adult polled having intercourse 137 times per year. A silver medal goes to the Greeks, who get busy 133 times per year. Serbia and Montenegro and Hungary tie for bronze, with a salacious 131 incidents of coitus

While Europeans are most likely to hit the sheets for some impromptu shagging, Asians are least likely to cut loose. The Japanese have the lowest occurrence of sexual intercourse per year, with only 46 nights of passion. Hong Kong and Singapore tie for the second lowest, at only 79 frolics annually. Canadians average 108 booty calls a year, slightly above the worldwide average of 103 steamy nights annually.

You would presume the European Community would also have the highest number of lovers. This is not the case, as Asians lay claim to the most number of partners. Winning the gold in this category is China with 19 partners per year. A silver medal can be given to Brazilians, who have an average of 15 past lovers, whereas bronze belongs to the Japanese, who take on an average of 13 lovers. Asian nations also rank at the bottom of this field, with Vietnam only having 2.5 past lovers, Hong Kong at 3.5 and India at 3.7. Canadians have an average of 10 past lovers, just under the global average of 10.5.

Blindfolds and handcuffs are most common in a Danish bedroom, with 55 per cent of couples there reporting consistent usage. The United Kingdom is a close second, at 51 per cent, followed by Ireland at 48 per cent. Only 4 per cent of Thai couples blindfold or cuff their lovers, followed by China and India at 8 per cent. The global average is 22 per cent, and Canadians report a 37 per cent likelihood of blindfolds and handcuffs in the bedroom.

Macedonians (situated between Yugoslavia and Greece) get spanked more than any other nationality, with 42 per cent of adults reporting a fondness for open-hand authority. Americans and Spaniards also enjoy being taken over the knee, with 41 per cent reporting a desire to be spanked. Slovaks and Taiwanese enjoy spanking the least, with only 4 per cent of respondents dropping trow for a regular



spanking. A third of Canadians polled get spanked, well above the global average of 19 per cent.

If you ever experience an earthquake in Iceland it could be the geological tectonic plates, or the fact that 52 per cent of Icelanders own and use vibrators, the highest in the world. Not to be easily outdone, half of Norway's residents each own at least one vibrator, followed by the U.K. at 49 per cent. Despite a love for spanking, only 9 per cent

of Macedonians use vibrators, followed by 6 per cent of Thais and 5 per cent of Vietnamese, the three lowest countries in the world. 39 per cent of Canadians make use of a vibrator, also above the global average of 22 per cent.

Next week Dave will be conducting another open O&A column. Anyone with questions may email them to gazettearts@hotmail.com and find a heart-felt answer from Dave in next week's issue.



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# S.W.E.A.T. meets S.W.A.T.



Billy Clyburn Sextant Editor

Twas out of town for an inter-Lview and had the opportunity to visit the City of Toronto's Emergency Task Force (ETF). They are same as a Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) team in any major U.S. city. Toronto heads the largest dedicated SWAT team in North America and I had the privilege to go on a tour of the facilities and perform firearm training, since I myself hope to be a member of the first Special Weapons Engineering And Tactics (SWEAT) team.

But before I go into any depth on SWEAT, my visit to ETF sta-



tion and their team in Toronto needs to be fleshed out. The unit itself consists of four teams or shifts that handle over 700 calls per year. Outside is 50-foot repelling tower and inside houses the firing range and storage for armored vehicles and all the firearms. They have enough firearms and ammunition to satisfy a small Girl Guide troop. They also have all the toys and several forms of non-lethal weapons. The weapon of choice is either the Glock® or MP5, which is a type of sub-machine gun. Each team has a sniper and bomb disposal expert. The ETF is typically called in for any situation that cannot be properly contained by the regular police. Once ETF is called in they are the last line of defense. The ETF is a highly skilled and highly trained team that responds to all of Toronto's high-risk calls.

The organization SWEAT will use all the skills as the SWAT team, but with an added Engineering element. With all the disciplines available in engineering, it goes without saying that there is a multitude of talents and training available. Mining can supply the needed help in the explosives and ammunition. The metallurgical engineers can provide the needed support for high-tech materials such armor piercing bullets and armored vehicles. Mechanical and electrical can work on all equipment choices for firearms as well as all the toys we get to play with. Industrial will be the basis for the strategic portion of any call and all the capacity planning.

Although not all disciplines are necessary, leaders are-and chemical fits in nicely. They are the best looking, the best communicators and, since my trip to Toronto, they are also a pretty damn good shot too.

# 2005 IRON RING CEREMONY

Wednesday, March 2, 2005 Sexton Memorial Gymnasium

### **INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Please try to attend one of these sessions

Monday, Jan. 31 4:30 p.m. - Room B 228

Tuesday, Feb. 1 4:30 p.m. - Room B 228

REGISTRATION Camp 7 Office - Room A221

Wednesday, Feb. 9 - 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10 - 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Ronald C. Gilkie, PhD, PEng, FCSCE Secretary Camp 7 Halifax Ronald.Gilkie@Dal.ca

# winter carnival 200

TECH BALL

formal feature drink \$5 advance

Basketball - Dal vs. Acadia Jan. 30 women @ 2 p.m. men @ 4 p.m.

**Sports Briefs** 

Volleyball – Dal vs. St. F.X. Jan. 29 women @ 2 p.m.

Hockey – Dal vs. SMU Jan. 29 women @ 3 p.m. Hockey – Dal vs. UPEI Jan. 28 men @ 7 p.m.

Hockey – Dal vs. UNB Jan. 29 men @ 7 p.m.

The swim team and track and field team will be putting on an Aquathlon this Sunday at Dalplex. The event entails a 500 metre swim followed by a 2 mile run. Phone 494-1368 for details.

# **The Water Cooler**

Michael Gorman Sports Editor

Pebruary is championship month here at Dal. Just about every varsity team still competing will participate in their respective championship (AUs) this month. This year, the swim team, women's hockey team, men's basketball team and possibly the men's volleyball team will all be hosting these championships.

For some, it will be the first experience with a varsity championship; for others, it will be the last. Either way, attending the conference championships is a memorable and meaningful experience for any varsity athlete.

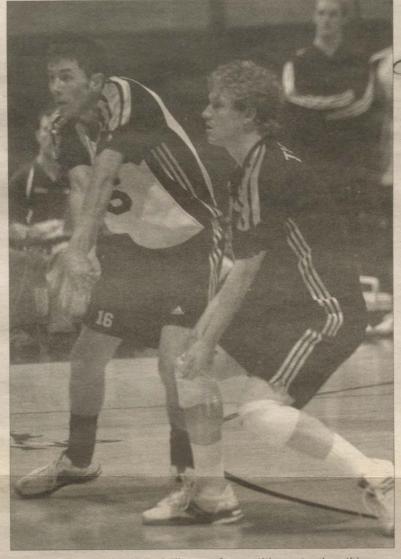
For people who haven't been to a varsity event before, none are more exciting than championship events—the athletes are at their best. They are rested, pumped up and ready to do whatever they can to extend their season to their respective sport's national championship.

Whether they achieve this goal or fall short, there is something to be said for supporting people doing what they love. Dal's athletes, like most, bust their asses to achieve their goals. They get up before the sun, give up weekends to compete and travel and take time from school to cross-train on top of regularly scheduled practices. The most dedicated athletes here at Dal can spend as much as 25 hours a week training for their sport.

This deserves recognition.

You can recognize these dedicated people by showing up at their meets and games.

Take a couple of hours out of your day and support the Tigers at AUs. Each week, we print a schedule for home events in our



Men's Volleyball: one of many title contenders this year.

Photo: Nick Pearce

sports section. Pay particular attention for championship events.

congratulations and perhaps, right or wrong, it has gone unap-

Attending the conference championships is a memorable and meaningful experience for any varsity athlete.

We will promote them heavily and try to get you out to support your fellow students.

Everyone at one time or another has done something worth

preciated. Don't let that happen to the people who train hard, year in and year out, for just a few minutes of success.

# Inside the locker room with ...

... Lauren Grant of the women's Track & Field team.

Theresa Anne Salah
Staff Contributor

What did you dream about last night?

Our 4x200-metre relay team putting a hurting on Saskatchewan and Co. at this year's CIS Championships. Girls, don't worry, I remembered to cut in. We looked good on the podium accepting those gold medals. That's what training until 10:30 p.m. on a Friday night, in the dark, while the 'plex closed, will do for ya.

What song best describes your life?

"Video" by India. Arie. LG is not your average girl. I'm content and happy with what I've got. "When I look in the mirror the only one there is me/Every freckle on my face is where it's supposed to be/And I know our creator didn't make no mistakes on me/My feet, my thighs, my lips, my eyes; I'm lovin' what I see," (and yes I do have freckles).

What did you forget to do today?

Comb my hair. No wait, I didn't forget, I just didn't do it.

What's the worst date you've ever had?

In grade 10 I was asked to dinner by one of our top athletes. He didn't pick me up, but had me meet him at the school after football practice. We then proceeded to our upscale restaurant (Wendy's) where he fell asleep on me. Obviously their \$1.39 Super Value Menu wasn't stimulating enough for him. Though he did get out of his hooptee and open my door for me when he took me home... but that was only because it didn't open from the inside. I cut his ass.

Where's the place to be on a Saturday night?

Nowhere. Hali has nothing. Though I hear Pitchman's has a new R&B thing happening. The only Saturday that matters is the last one before school resumes after summer vacation. Gotta scope out the new talent.

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# **Athletes of the Week**

Leanna MacLean Track and Field

Leanna MacLean is this week's Dalhousie University Female Athlete of the Week. The winter storm may have stopped the city, but there were great performances on the track at Dalhousie's second evening meet. Leading from start to finish, MacLean set a nation-leading mark in the 1500-metre with a personal best of 4:30.1. The time puts her over four seconds ahead of the next-ranked CIS athlete. She was also an integral part of the gold-medal-winning CIS cross country champions, the Dalhousie Tigers. MacLean is a fifth-year mechanical engineering student from New Glasgow, N.S.



John Corbit Track and Field

John Corbit is this week's Dalhousie University Male Athlete of the Week. In the men's 1500-metre competition at Dalhousie's second evening meet, Corbit blistered the last 300-metre in 42 seconds to finish with the fastest freshmen 1500m time in Dalhousie history, 3:58.2. The time breaks the rookie runner's previous personal best performance (which was established in outdoor competition) by three seconds and ranks him eighth in CIS competition. Corbit is a first-year science student from Antigonish, N.S.



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Leah Kutcher (above) along with Katie Tweedie and Lauren Appleton make up the energy line.

Photo: Nick Pearce

# Women Tigers on the Rise

Joey Ryba Staff Contributor

Things were in a downward I spiral for the women's hockey team last November. With only one win in eight games, Coach Lesley Jordan wasn't happy with her team's progress. Jordan felt that the Tigers were clearly playing well below their potential.

Since mid-December, there's been a turnaround.

"The atmosphere around the team is really upbeat," says Jordan. "We're playing better. We've been winning games and even the ones we've lost have been

The underlining factor of the Tiger's success is that it's been a total team effort. Goaltender Kristen Ladouceur has been sensational. The second year netminder picked up a shutout in a recent 4-0 pounding of the St. Thomas Tommies. She also rose to the occasion and put together a brilliant performance in a 1-0 loss against St. F.X. Despite the loss, Ladouceur turned away 40 shots and earned player of the game honours. "Kristen was phenomenal against X," says teammate Lindsey White. "She made key saves when we needed them and kept us in the game."

The blue-liners have also been solid. Sarah Beckman and tribute to the Tiger's good fortune elements to advance."

Lindsey White have stepped up to contribute to the Tiger's success. Borrowing a page from the 2005 Men's World Jr. Team, the Tigers have created so-called "energy line" whose job is to generate momentum. The Tigers' version of the "energy line" pairs up Lauren Appleton, Katie Tweedie and Dal women's soccer star, Leah Kutcher.



Katie Tweedie / Photo: Nick Pearce

"The energy line has been great," says Jordan. "Speed and intensity are tough for our opponents to handle. [The line] puts constant pressure on the opponents and creates chances for us."

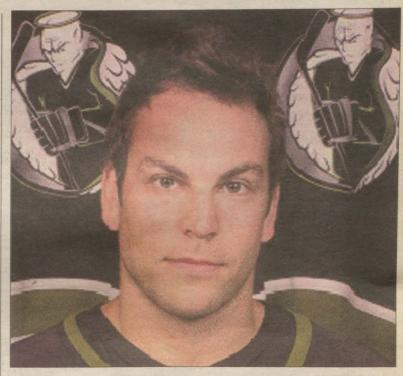
Veteran forward Rachael deVries has done her part to con-

too. Her leadership and skill have been essential each game-and she has become a fan favourite. In a recent home victory against St. Thomas, a vocal group of aspiring future Tigers cheered on the skilled power-forward. Not to be outdone by the veterans, rookie forward Kim Carcary has also shared the spotlight. Carcary scored a short-handed marker against St.Thomas. The freshman forward picked up the puck in the Dal zone and went coastto-coast, confidently snapping home a wrist shot glove side.

Captain Lindsey White expresses similar thoughts to those

"We're coming together as a team," says White. "We had an amazing week of practice. We're continuing to build for the AUs. Every shift we have to play as a team, do the little things and capitalize on our chances."

The Tigers are hosting AUS Women's Hockey Championship Tournament Feb. 25-27. "We have a legitimate shot at winning this tournament and advancing to the CIS Championship," says Jordan. "We have to use our strengths. Consistency in the defensive zone, keeping shots to the outside and limiting scoring chances will be crucial. We have to pressure the opposition and use our speed—we need all these



# Chasing the Ice **Former Tiger Leaves Dal for Pro Hockey**

Theresa Anne Salah Staff Contributor

 $\mathbf{H}^{\mathrm{e}}$  only had one year remaining. One final chance to lace up his skates for the Tiger's hockey team and one final year left to finish his undergraduate degree at Dalhousie. Unfortunately, before the new school year had even begun, Patrick Vincent was

Despite the 72 games worth of memories he's collected as a Tiger, Vincent gave up his final year at Dalhousie and headed to Quebec to play for the Sherbrooke St-Francois of la Ligue nord-americaine de hockey.

"I was given the chance to play professional hockey for a coach [Daniel Bissonnette] that I have known for a long time," says Vincent. "Even though I would be a first year player, I would play a pivotal role for this team's success."

The opportunity allowed Vincent to further his career as a hockey player and forget the bad luck that disturbed his game the previous year as a Tiger.

"I found my performance last season with the Tigers very disappointing on a personal level with the injuries," he says. "But I couldn't be happier on what we were able to accomplish as a

The tigers paid a visit to the CIS Nationals last season, win-holding me back."

ning the bronze medal. But hampered all year by injuries, Vincent was unable to fully contribute to his team as much as he would

"Emotionally, last season was hard for me with everything that was going on," he says.

Although he chose to leave his life in Halifax, Vincent admits he misses a lot of what he left behind. This includes many of the teammates he still stays in touch with, and the Tiger's medical staff that put his body back together after suffering through last season's injuries.

He also misses being a Varsity athlete. "I like the affinity I had with the school, and I miss that a lot," he says.

But Vincent doesn't regret is his decision to leave Dal. "I questioned if it was the right decision for me," he says. "I believed then as well as I do now, it was the best thing for everyone."

In the three years Vincent spent as a Tiger, the rough and intense defensive forward collected a total of 8 goals, 20 assists (28 points) and 161 penalty min-

And that's where it ends.

"I put my dream on hold since I came to Dal," he says. "Now that I have developed as an individual, as well as my game on and off the ice, I feel that I can go forward without having anything

