

VOLUME 136 NUMBER 27 APRIL 8 - APRIL 15 2004

The Coaster

THIS IS THE ANNUAL GAZETTE SPOOF ISSUE, DUMBASS

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How does a band of Dalhousie students start a major label bidding war without ever having played a show? Just ask...

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This weeks news:

- Tuition is going up 7.25% next year!
- Other fees are increasing on top of this!
- Our TA's and Part Time Staff are going on strike!
- Your DSU President next year is not who you thought it would be!!!!

Any questions???

Contact dsupres@dal.ca

Good Luck On Your
Final Exams!

The Coaster

SPOOFING HALIFAX'S WEEKLY

Volume 136 Issue 27

April 8 - April 8 2004

ISSUE #666

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Hi There

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Side Note

There are a grand total of 6 people who work here, and we put this paper out every week in 10 hours total. Much of the beginning of the week is spent either: drinking at the GradHouse (\$8 pitchers. fuck!) or nursing hangovers (\$8 pitchers. fuck.....). The Coaster's goal was to make our print deadline in a day and a half. Free issues of this paper are not limited to one copy per person, take as many as you can fucking carry, if you want we have them in easy to carry bundles in front of our office. Circulation in the mast head of the March 25 - April 1 edition of the Coast is spelled wrong, I blame Denise Williams for putting too much faith in their copy editor. Catherine Cooper is an angel among us and we all drool and writhe at her feet. Ok bye.



Full Frontal

EDITORIAL BY REPO KEMPT

On December 19, 1973, Johnny Carson made a joke about a "national toilet paper shortage" during his regular NBC *Tonight Show* monologue. With one seemingly harmless line, he inadvertently created a national crisis of sorts. After the show, people across America rushed out to buy as much toilet paper as they could carry. Once the show's producers got wind of the phenomenon, they began airing clips of an abundance of toilet paper coming of the rollers at paper factories and assuring people that the whole thing was a misunderstood joke. But the consumer-induced shortage continued for over three weeks, and even Johnny couldn't kill the monster he had created. In the end, an important lesson in the power of media was written into the history books.

Welcome, one and all, to the third annual Dalhousie *Gazette* parody of Halifax's alternative weekly. Don't believe everything you read...with the exception of this editorial column, everything in this issue is 100 per cent bogus.

The Coaster was born in 2002 when a group of over-caffeinated editors were sitting

around discussing their love/hate relationship with *The Coast*. The general consensus was that rather than just spoofing the campus newspaper and the Dalhousie community like they always do, the *Gazette* could have a little extra fun by temporarily changing the standard format to match the only competition in town. It was designed as a once-a-year chance to poke a little fun at the paper we both loathe and envy. But what began as a simple format change quickly transformed into an annual reader test for the whole city as citizens frantically searched for movie listings and bar schedules that weren't there. The *Gazette* office even got several phone calls asking why Rob Brezney was fired from the Horoscope section and replaced with a woman named Miso Ornie. Apparently there are people who truly love your work, Robert.

The first *Coaster* announced that Marquee owner Victor Syperok had purchased all of the bars in the city in a secret monopoly, local artist Mitchell Wiebe had been mass-producing paintings using child labour in local sweatshops, a local retailer was producing and selling custom-made "backward baseball caps" and the Nova

Scotia government was funding a plan to brew beer using water from the Sydney Tar Ponds. As ridiculous as these articles were, people actually believed them. After all, it said so right there in the fake paper.

So this year, after hearing so many people (who probably didn't bother to vote) complain about the recent Halifax music survey in the other weekly, we decided to create a fake band and hype it up to the point of ridiculousness. We talked about launching a full-frontal assault with a fake website and plastering the city with stickers and posters. But we are generally lazy and do attend university when we aren't grinding out a paper every week.

Easy Tiger is not a real band. Hell, most of the so-called members on the cover don't even play instruments. But, undoubtedly, many citizens of this fine city will be duped despite the insanity of the article. The point? Our intent is not simply to mock or frustrate; we want to remind people that the media is a powerful tool and needs to be kept in check by its readers, listeners and viewers. According to a CNN news report during Hurricane Juan, Halifax is a "small

fishing village on the East Coast of Canada." While those in the know generally scrutinize corporate media juggernauts, people need to be critical of smaller media outlets as well. When you can, experience the issues first hand. Many of my friends are disappointed to see how lame the Tar Ponds really are when they come home with me. Judging from the tone of media reports, it sounds like a gigantic, bubbling cesspool the size of Guam with a post-apocalyptic wasteland around it. It is actually a small fenced-in pond in downtown Sydney that is not really anything to behold. The real travesty to behold lies in the derelict houses tucked nearby, abandoned by people who were forced to move but couldn't find buyers for their homes. Read everything carefully and draw your knowledge of current events from a variety of sources to ensure that you are getting the whole story.

This city is full of actual bands and real artists who are extremely talented, like the ones on the cover of *The Coast* last week, but many may be ignored by the media for any number of reasons. So get out there and check them out for yourself. Enjoy.

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Betterhead

The *Coaster* invites comments on all of the useless articles in this paper. Letters must be signed with the blood of a King's journalism student and include a nude photo. Envelopes must be addressed so we can receive them, and should contain a letter. We reserve the right to make stuff up.

Heaps of Praise

To the editor,

The *Coaster* is so great. It's so amazing to have such a stellar paper in our fair city. It's so refreshing to have a paper consisting of 70 per cent advertising, 20 per cent bar listings, and 10 per cent uninformed rants about the HRM council and the lack of parking downtown. Every week, I anxiously pick up The *Coaster* and plan my weekend at the local watering holes. Then I usually turn to Mark Hairy Palermo's movie reviews—they're so informative and critical. I particularly liked the one where he gave *3,000 Miles to Graceland* two hairy palms up. I tore right out my door and bought a ticket. Then I turn to Liz Feltmyham's food column to see what trendy sushi house the yuppies are going to

this week. Feltmyham is such a good writer—only she could make Ethiopian food sound appetizing. Thanks again for all your great work *Coaster*! You truly make this city great.

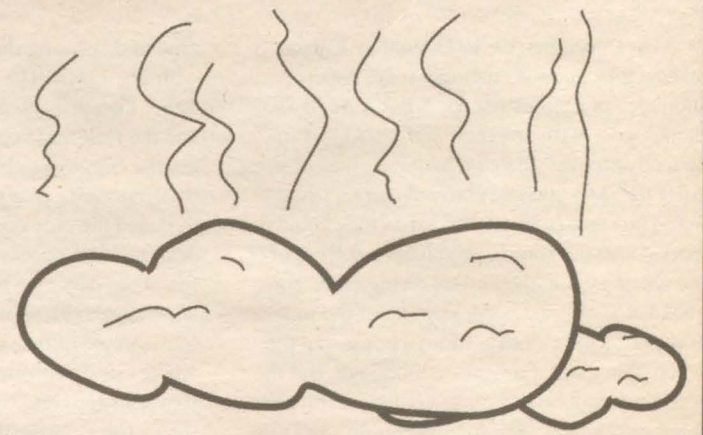
Morgan Outhouse, Nova Scotia Hospital

Harbour Cleanup

Dear editor,

Last week's article on the progress of the harbour cleanup ("Cleaning Up Your Poop") offered nothing more than liberal-minded, environmentalist propaganda. I swim in the harbour three times a week, and it's fine. I guarantee that the marine life is feeling no ill effects from the millions of gallons of raw sewage dumped in the water every day. In fact, only yesterday did I see a school of finless browns swimming joyfully

SHITHEIST



near the beach at Point Pleasant Park. This breed of fish has adapted quite nicely to the conditions of the harbour, and is now quite plentiful. Scientists and researchers are just trying to scare our citizens with tales of sickness and infection.

These claims are unfounded. All my warts and sores are the result of unprotected sex with tramps I find hanging out around the Dartmouth ferry terminal, not exposure to harbour water. Keep the taxpayers' money where it belongs—in education and health. No seriously, cause I got to get these warts cleared up.

*Jimmy O'Flanagan,
McNabs Island*

Tall Ships gatherin'. The argument that Halifax is not a good port for seamen is hogwash.

Yarr, she got everything a good seaman needs: plenty of the drink, loose maidens (yarr, head to The Palace) and lots of them furry rats. I can't believe that instead of heading to the good port o' Halifax the vessels will now be trimmin' their sails steering for Yarmouth. Shiver me timbers, who ever heard of goin' to Yarmouth for anything? Not to mention that their lasses aren't nearly as loose as ours be. Well, I tell ye this much: I won't a be a sailin' my galleon, The SeaWitch, down to Yarmouth. No way Matey. I'll be headed out onto the wide blue yonder to sail with the real seamen. And no amount of booty or loose women could change me mind. But ya haven't heard the last from me. Ye best be fearin' the SeaWitch rollin' up yer shore with guns a blazin'. Yarr!

Long John Silver, Devil's Island

Tall Ships Sinking

Yarr Matey,

Avast ye scallions, I was deeply saddened by your article "Tall Ships Be Headin' South" in which C. Kidd explained that Halifax lost 'er position as a port o' call in this year's

[Editor's note: this letter was hand-written on a piece of parchment and was found floating in a bottle inside our water cooler].

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Lighting up the Marquee... Again

After keeping tabs on every waking minute of the recent Marquee renovations, I have had some trouble letting go. So I called the owner yesterday and found out that, alas, the renovations are not complete, and I will have material to fill several upcoming Shoptalk columns. Turns out the original light bulbs were not the appropriate godly wattage for my dear Marquee, the godliest bar in all of the SuperCity. "We're buying new light bulbs this week," said my confidential Marquee source. No word yet on what the new light bulbs will look like, but before *The Coaster* went to press, my source said Canadian Tire would be the likely place of purchase, so stay tuned. Thank God the Marquee is still renovating. Thank God.

Does Halifax have too many spas for a city of its size? Not if spas keep giving me something to fill Shoptalk space every week

It is quite mind-boggling to try to figure out the ownership of all of the SuperCity's spas, despite my efforts to spell it out every week. To help you out, dear *Coaster* readers, I've devised a simple formula so you'll understand the origins of all of the prime pampering places, and just how much we are like Hollywood. Because that's why we have all these spas, so Haligonians will start looking like Botoxed, fake 'n' baked starlets. Here's the equation: take the owner of any spa in Halifax, be it Spirit, Remedy, Kara's, etc. Then play a little game I like to call, "Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon." Between the owner and Kevin Bacon, there are six people. It works every time. That's a Shoptalk

guarantee.

[See? It's not our cheap crews that get all those movies to shoot here—it's our SuperCity spas and their not-so-distant separation from Kevin Bacon. No word yet on whether he'll be stopping by Kara's for a dye job any time soon.

Envious Envy

Every SuperCity fashionista's favourite, Park Lane's Envious Boutique, will soon stop carrying several lines that have made it the number one destination for those women with plenty of cash to waste. "We need to make our clothing even more expensive and unattainable if we want to compete in the Halifax market," said my source. "If we want to sell clothes, they have to be brands that Haligonians can't afford," she added. Which means that as of early May, no more Von Dutch, Miss Sixty, or

Juicy Couture. No word yet on how the store will manage to stay open, but I'll keep you posted.

Are the SuperCity's "roots" in the T-Dot?

A certain store on Spring Garden that has a beaver for a logo and whose name rhymes with Hoots will soon require I.D. to enter—proof of birth or residence in Toronto, that is. "We are starting to carry mostly sweat-pants, headbands, scruffy clothes—you know the drill," said the manager. "It is mostly girls from Toronto who wear those in Halifax. We want to make their shopping experience as pleasant as possible, so we're doing our part to eliminate their contact with the locals." No word yet on whether they will only be accepting Daddy's credit cards.

THE FUTURE OF VIDEO GAMES IS HERE

IntenCity Internet & Game Center

Presenting a new concept in entertainment, IntenCity offers a state-of-the-art venue for enjoying PC and video computer games, serving everyone from those looking for a casual evening of fun to the hardcore gaming enthusiast.

IntenCity provides a comfortable high-tech environment, featuring amenities including the latest high-speed equipment and newest, most popular games and a wide variety of food and beverage concessions. Bawls is definitely the most popular drink there with its natural source of caffeine found in the Amazonian rainforest.

Conceived by visionary Chantal Noel-Levesque and Stephan Richard, the company's co-owners, IntenCity was inspired by the enormous growth in the electronic gaming industry. Richard said, "Gaming has become a mainstream form of entertainment taking a prominent place alongside movies and music. With nearly 200 million existing computer game players in Canada and the United States, we felt there was a demand for a new

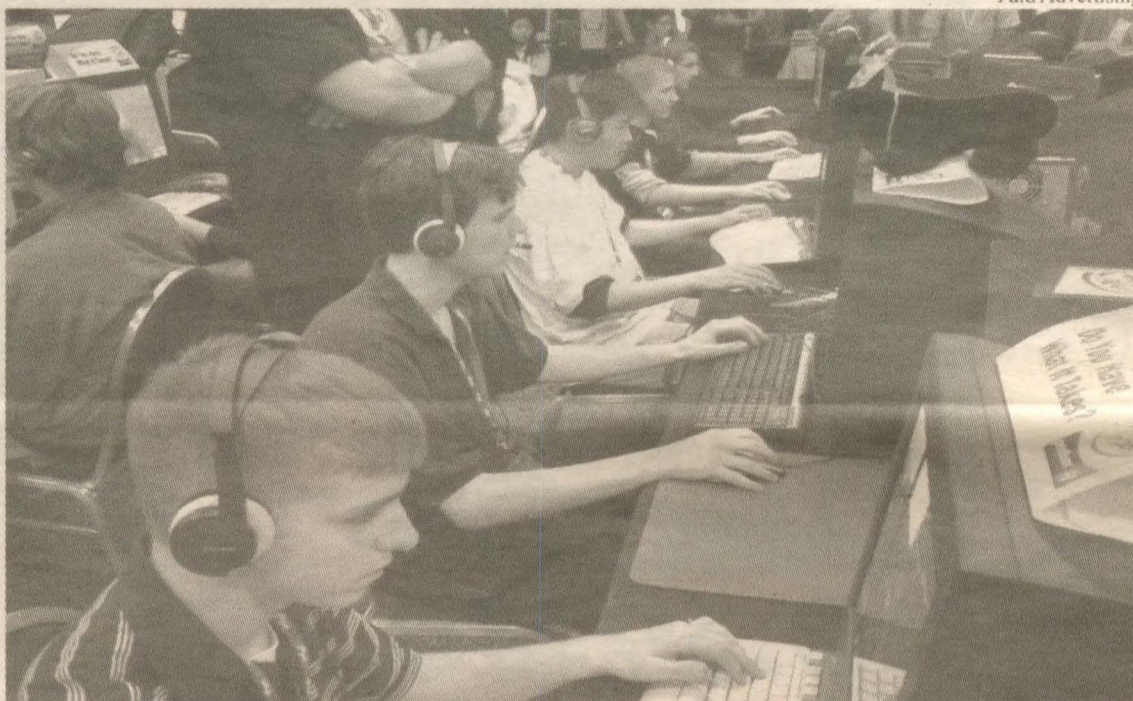
type of venue where gamers could meet to play and compete."

PC and console games are the fastest growing form of entertainment in Canada, with consumers spending more on gaming software than on movie tickets in the past year. IntenCity offers a number of unprecedented features that take the concept of competition and lifestyle of gaming to a whole new level.

As much fun as playing from home can be, nothing can compare with the adrenaline rush that can only come from playing with other people in the same room.

With many households now equipped with broadband access, the popularity of online gaming is exploding. As much fun as playing from home can be, nothing can compare with the adrenaline rush that can only come from playing with other people in the same room.

"It's like going to watch a hockey game," said co-owner Noel-Levesque (Dal. 2003). "You could watch it at home on television, but it's more



As much fun as playing from home can be, nothing can compare with the adrenaline rush that can only come from playing with other people in the same room.

fun to experience a live game with people around you in the arena. It's all about being there and having a great time."

Both PC as well as Xbox games is offered, with players competing on an "even playing field," using equipment with identical speeds and technical specifications. As many as 12 people can be accommodated simultaneously, making the site ideal for multiple-player tournaments.

With IntenCity, no longer are computer game contests considered "virtual competitions." The action is

real -- live, pulse-pounding affairs held before wildly enthusiastic crowds, with glorious victory or humiliating defeat hanging in the balance on each player's every move.

Opened since August 2003, IntenCity is specially designed for holding multi-player tournaments, leagues and competition for gamers of every level. As part of the iGames network of independent LAN gaming centers, IntenCity host various events on a monthly basis. Whether it's a new game showcase or a national Counter-Strike tournament, gamers can really explore the

virtual world of gaming as it was meant to be.

The game center is also a unique spot to host your next special event. You can rent the whole room for you and your friends. It's a great idea for a birthday party or an evening with co-workers or friends.

IntenCity is located at 6148 Quinpool road, right across the Atlantic Superstore (Liquor Store). It's on the second floor. For more information, visit IntenCity online at www.intencity.ca or call 444-GAME (4263)

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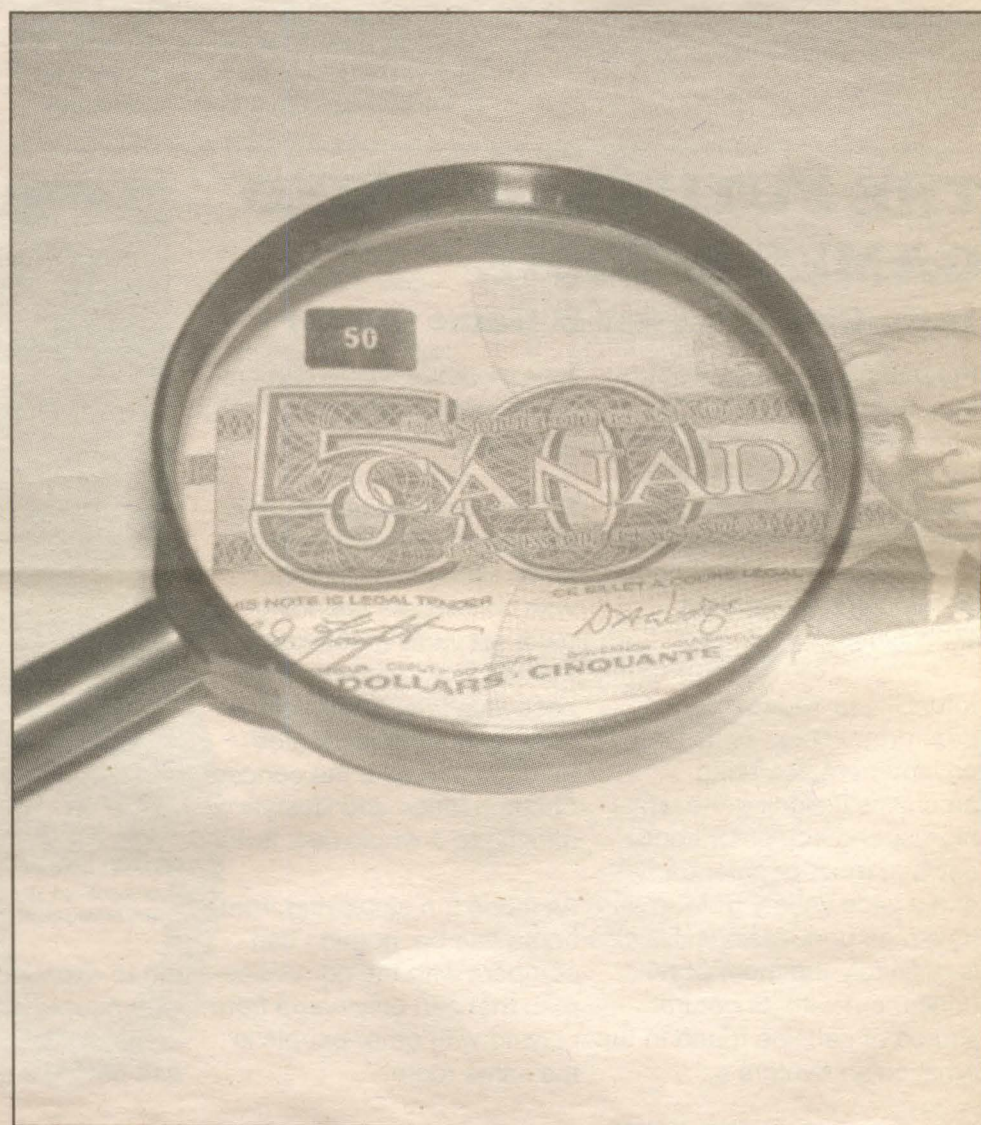
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the Campus

Tuition Fees Rise 7.25 Per Cent

This is a real news story by **LI DONG**, kids.



Dalhousie's Budget Advisory Committee announced Monday that their recommendations for the 2004-2005 Operating Budget Plan will include a 7.25 per cent rise in tuition fees in all programs. Also included in the plan are faculty and other unit budget reductions of 1.9 per cent and 0.33 per cent respectively.

Since the main sources of Dalhousie's revenue are the provincial government grant, federal indirect costs of research funding, endowment income and tuition income, the BAC base their recommendations on the projected financial support from these sources, especially the provincial funding, which in 2004-05 will account for 42 per cent of Dalhousie's revenue.

The BAC has guessed at a 1 per cent increase in provincial funding, and they have

crafted their recommendations accordingly.

"We understand that any tuition increase is a hardship for some students," said Dalhousie's vice president academic, Sam Scully, the chairperson for the BAC. "We also understand that maintaining the university's tradition of excellence in teaching and delivery of services is in the students' best interest. The entire University community will make sacrifices so we can work within the financial realities we face today, but the one area we won't and can't sacrifice is academic and research excellence."

The budget plan will be submitted to the Dalhousie Board of Governors for ratification on April 20. A copy of the report can also be found at www.dal.ca/finserv

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Presidential Election Results Overturned

Sounds like fake news, but really it isn't. NEAL CODY has the story.

D SU President Kevin Wasko has been disqualified from the recent DSU election, and runner-up Curtis McGrath will take his place.

In a ruling announced Monday, the judicial board overturned a decision by the elections committee, thereby disqualifying Wasko, and declared Curtis McGrath to be the new president-elect. This decision only affects the results of the presidential race and not those of the other elected positions.

In its unanimous decision, the three-member board found that a Wasko campaign worker had violated the rule banning post-campaigning, and that fines of \$200 should be levied. This amount was over the allowed limit, and Wasko was disqualified. A full description of the infraction is given below, under "Decision in Depth."

Wasko, who retains the presidency until April 30, has requested a hearing before the judicial board to ask for a reconsideration of the decision. "I'd just like to present my point of view to them," said Wasko, noting that he had been unable to do so during the board's previous deliberations. "I'm afraid students may see this as the actions of a poor loser," said Wasko, "and that students may become disinterested with the DSU."

Wasko hopes that a hearing would include submissions from all parties, and would include deliberations of previously unconsidered precedents. In its appeals decision, the judicial board considered only information provided

by Mr. McGrath and the elections committee. Mr. Wasko says that the judicial board did not inform him of the appeal or of its final decision.

For his part, McGrath says he feels badly about what has happened, but that the process has been followed and there is no reason for a recount. "I want to make it clear that this is not personal," he said in an email late Monday. "I do know that it will take some time for things to settle and for all of us to accept the outcome."

McGrath urges anyone who has concerns to come and talk to him personally. "It may be difficult [for council] at first, but we're all reasonable people," said McGrath. "For the 15,000 students, it's not about the personalities or the policies, it's about delivering results. I want us to move forward to do what we all got elected to do."

Both candidates say that they have received positive feedback and that they believe that theirs is the right position.

Post-campaigning violations may not be an issue in future elections. Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Will Szubielski has previously said that he will be recommending that council get rid of the post-campaigning rule for next year, though he has not yet made a final decision. Coincidentally, under such a system, Wasko would not have been disqualified.

Recount ?

If a recount were held, a decision would be needed on how, or if, votes for Mr. Wasko

should be re-distributed to other candidates. Because voters numbered their choices, people who gave Wasko as their number-one choice could see their number 2's, 3's and 4's given to the other three candidates. The other option would be to exclude all ballots which gave Mr. Wasko as their first choice; this would represent about 37 per cent of all votes being spoiled.

CRO Szubielski says that this question must be answered so that voting percentages can be determined. The percentages determine reimbursement amounts to candidates for campaign expenses. The re-distribution could also potentially change the runner-up, and therefore the new president if enough votes were redistributed to the third or fourth place candidates.

Sarah Partridge, the candidate who placed third, would like to see the votes redistributed. "By dropping Mr. Wasko's name off the ballot after the votes are counted, the Board [failed] to account for the second preferences of those who voted for Mr. Wasko," she wrote in a press release Monday. Partridge insists that a recount and re-distribution of the ballots is required.

The CRO agrees, saying that this method would be "the most democratic" manner of interpreting voters' preferences. Nevertheless, the elections committee has asked for a ruling on this question from the Judicial Board. The Judicial Board is considered to be the final authority for DSU election decisions. The only body which could conceivably have higher power would be the Nova Scotia Supreme Court.

CRO Szubielski says that the final decision for a recount lies with the Judicial Board.

Decision in Depth

Two separate e-mails, identical in content, were sent to about 50 people by Jeffery Lauzier, a worker for Wasko's campaign. These emails promoted Wasko's campaign and discouraged McGrath's. The email was sent after the official campaigning period had ended, and the elections committee decided to levy a fine. It was considered to be a 'single incident' and Wasko was fined \$75 (the levy per election violation 'incident').

An appeal to this decision was lodged by Mr. McGrath's campaign, on the grounds that the email should be considered as at least two, if not 50, "incidents." The Judicial Board agreed, declaring that the infraction should be considered as two incidents, and fines of \$150 should be levied.

Another campaign rule is that only one bulk email per candidate is allowed. Therefore, two 'incidents', or two bulk emails, should incur another fine of \$50. The new fine total to be levied against Mr. Wasko was found to be \$200.

Any candidate who accumulates over \$160 in fines is immediately disqualified. The Dalhousie Student Union Constitution states that in the event of a winning candidate being disqualified, the runner-up should be declared the winner. For this reason, Mr. Wasko was disqualified and Mr. McGrath was awarded the presidency.



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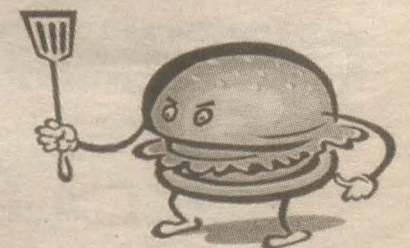
THIS WEEK'S JOB NEWS

Do you have the skills employers are looking for?

Are you thinking that your part time job flipping burgers or working retail is not giving you the kind of experience employers are looking for? Think again. Employers look for a number of "soft skills" and qualities that you can gain from these experiences which could mean the difference between getting the job or losing out to another candidate.

According to employers, the top five skills/qualities they seek are:

1. Communication Skills (verbal and written)
2. Customer Service
3. Teamwork skills
4. Interpersonal skills
5. Problem Solving



Dal and SMU to Amalgamate in 2006

CLYDE BARROW and BONNIE PARKER scooping the scoop like professional scoopers at the top of their scooping game.

In a stunning press release last week it was announced that Dalhousie and Saint Mary's Universities will amalgamate in the near future. The rival south-end Halifax schools will join forces by the 2006/07 academic year.

"We hope this will combine the best elements of both schools to produce one of the premier education institutions in Canada," said Dalhousie President Tom Traves. "With the academic power of Dalhousie combined with the athletic power of Saint Mary's, we will be tough to beat," he said.

The rising cost of post-secondary education was cited as the main reason for the merger of the two schools. "With tuition costs rising each year, it was agreed that it would be more efficient to operate under one administration," said Traves while meeting with reporters at his lavish mansion. "And besides," he said, "this will help alleviate the financial situation at Saint Mary's."

Traves was referring to the \$57 million shortfall that SMU will suffer this year, up five per cent from last year. "We have been in financial trouble for a number of years now. This arrangement will help with the financial load," said Saint Mary's President Dr. J. Dolin Cods at the press conference.

In terms of naming the new institution, Dal and SMU schools have agreed on honouring Oswald Franklin—a generous benefactor to both schools over the years—by naming it Oswald Franklin University (OFU).

Another reason for the merger is to add respectability to the graduates of SMU.

"While a SMU business degree may be recognized in the Maritimes, we realize that nobody past Moncton has heard of Saint Mary's. In fact, there have only been five SMU grads hired east of Montreal in the past 20 years. In light of this fact, we decided that we had to pair up with a powerhouse like Dalhousie in order to increase our credibility," said Cods.

In the proposed agreement, which needs to be approved by the senate of each school, the schools will still operate two campuses. Dalhousie will take over all academic programs, while SMU will mainly be used for night school, GED classes and an assortment of technical courses, such as carpentry and baking.

However, the two campuses will be linked with direct bus routes and a proposed above ground pedway between the Dal Student Union Building and the Saint Mary's Student Centre. The VD Pedway, named in memorial of former Dal president Victor Donald, will be completed later this year.

The only drawbacks of the amalgamation are that faculty at both schools will have to re-apply for tenure, while some faculty will be cut altogether. "I think this decision is really unfair.

I earned tenure the old-fashioned way...enjoying my four-month summer vacation, nodding off in my office and sleeping with the chair of the department. Have you *seen* the chair of the department?" said Victoria Veinot, a professor at SMU.

Students were divided in their reactions to the announcement. Most students at Dal were incensed at the thought of joining Saint Mary's. "I think they're going to drag us down. They're obviously not that bright, why else would they be going to SMU?" said Chris LaRoche, a sixth-year gynecology student.

SMU students were more enthusiastic. "I couldn't get into Dal from high school because of my marks. Now I'll be going there. I'm psyched," said Barbie Dickerson, a first-year MBA student.

Regardless of student reaction, the plans for OFU are proceeding. To deal with the many questions and concerns that students and faculty have, the universities have set an information session for Wednesday, April 14, at 1 p.m. in room 222 of the Student Union Building. Immediate concerns can be addressed to Dalhousie president Tom Traves via email at Tom.Traves@dal.ca.

Dalhousie Ups their "Positive Reinforcement" Smoking Policy

LI "Bullet-Points" DONG is preaching the truth to the youth. He's saying, hey youth you better start wearing bullet proof.

Dalhousie's candy campaign against smokers on campus has failed. Strangely enough, the *Vanilla Sky* interpretation of "the sweet just ain't as sweet without the bitter" wasn't enough to keep smokers off campus.

Still unwilling to actually, oh, I don't know, *punish* the smokers, Dal president Tom Traves signed an unprecedented bill in a further at-



tempt to make Dal's mockery of a policy work. Instead of giving out candy, campus police will now be giving out actual cigarettes as rewards to smokers who are smoking off campus.

"Du Maurier's not really my brand," said one recipient of the new positive reinforcement. "But whatever, I mean, I'll take what I can get."

The new policy has since surrounded the campus perimeter with a cloud of smoke and has inspired line-ups not seen since Busta Rhymes visited the Palace.

"It's awesome," said one young non-smoker living in Shirreff Hall. "I mean, as long as you don't try to go anywhere off campus, cause you'll run into the wall of smoke, but other than that it's like we're in the eye of a tornado."

"Positive reinforcement is the way to go," said Tom Traves as he sat in his leather chair petting his Siamese cat slowly. "The university shall be mine once again."

The *Gazette* then contacted the Dalhousie finance department for a statement, and was greeted with, "you want a statement about this new policy? OK, hold on a second..." followed by what sounded like a human being slamming his head into the desk repeatedly.

So far, the campaign has been successful. However, university functions have been somewhat disturbed as not one person has shown up for a student union meeting in a week. Nevertheless the new "new" policy is working so well that Traves has already started to draft an alternate bill that will give girls actual ponies for wearing their fragrances off campus. Whether these poor infant horses will survive in the clouds of smoke is yet to be seen.

Biology Revealed not to be a Science

LI DONG is triple threatening it in this issue.

Old bald guys in lab coats and frat boys in party hats agree: biology is not a science. The International-Academics of Science Society (I-ASS) and the Nobel Institute have officially crossed off biology as a scientific study.

"We're shocked," said the chairman of the World Biology Organization (World BO). "I mean, I always knew the subject really sucked, but couldn't they just let us tag along?"

Apparently I-ASS believes otherwise. A speaker for the World Chemistry Organization said that, "I am not at all surprised by this revelation. We all knew that biology was always a 'pretend science', but no one ever talked about it. It's kind of like that uncool fat kid who always hung out with your group, and no matter how hard he tried, he knew he just didn't belong."

All of this was said with some sympathy toward the biologists, while on the other hand, the head of the International Physics Association responded to the news with a simple, "Bitch, please," and hung up.

"It's kind of a downer," said a young biology student. "I guess I'll have to switch back to my original major, which was advanced metaphysical philosophy. I originally got into biology because I felt it gave me a better chance to think even more abstractly than before."

Upon hearing the news, another biology student widened his eyes, smacked his head and said, "What are you gonna tell me next, that psychology isn't really a science either?"

However, not all members of the scientific world have taken the news so lightly. Scientific analyst Mike R'Oave explains, "There could be a domino effect in action here. All of a sudden immunology, kinesiology and neuroscience are all in danger of reverting into arts classes. It could even lead to the discrediting of the all-mighty chemistry regime."

Faced with this possibility, the chairman of the World Chemistry Organization angrily responded, "we are the pure source of reason in this world! String theory can go to hell!"

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EASY TIGER



Manager Paul Murphy fields another major label call.

THE EMPIRE THAT WAS BUILT IN A DAY

Interviewing Luther Blissett is a lot like grabbing on to a moving vehicle. Once he starts rolling, you just have to try and hold on until he slows down. With his band, Easy Tiger, rumored to be added to the European leg of the White Stripes world tour, the life of this 23-year old singer has suddenly moved into fifth gear.

"I feel like I've had 75 cups of coffee," says Blissett. "All of this is happening so suddenly and I really feel like we don't deserve it. There are so many bands in town who deserve this press more than us."

So how does a Halifax band you've likely never heard of get this huge without ever having played a show? Modern technology—and a little bit of luck.

Earlier this year, the band posted two mp3s on their website, which is currently under construction due to the heavy level of traffic. The songs hinted at a developing repertoire that lay beneath, and word of mouth spread rapidly across the Internet. REM singer Michael Stipe

somehow apparently got wind of the hype and downloaded a few tracks from their website. He must have liked what he heard, because Easy Tiger is suddenly on their way up in the music world.

"I've never spoken to Michael personally," says bassist Darko Van Sorensen. "None of us have. We heard about him hearing the songs in an Internet chat room. It's the same deal with the White Stripes tour rumours. We've been advised by our manager not to confirm or deny anything to the media."

Both of the band's songs were originally composed and recorded in member Devin Gagnon's basement apartment using the revolutionary new Macintosh program, GarageBand. He added vocals and reverb using a digital mixing board plugged in to his PowerBook.

"I have always been a bit of a nerd, but I love music," says Gagnon when asked about his influences. "I love Cex, Venetian Snares and Emotional Joystick kind of stuff. Pretty much



Devin Gagnon updates the website.

everything from Zod is unreal. Locally, the Mel-lotones are a huge influence on my writing. You know, the art of taking other people's music and really making it your own."

"It's kind of a blend of The Elephant 6 Collective of the Olivia Tremor Control, Apples in Stereo, and Neutral Milk Hotel," agrees guitarist

Toby Hunt. "There is a real Jimmy Rankin influence as well. I saw him at the Marquee last year with my mom, and he is such a wonderful performer. And it only cost us \$60 to see him. You can always rely on the Marquee to dredge the city's talent pool for reliable headliners like 76am and Shyne Factory."

Not everyone in the band is as proficient and musically inclined, however. Frontman Blissett makes no lofty claims about the limits of his talent.

"I can't play an instrument, and most of the lyrics I sing are unintelligible, so I try to pick up the slack elsewhere," says Blissett. "I really focus on my outfits and being seen in the scene. You know, dressing really stylish and going to all the shows, even though I hate most of the bands, and making sure everyone knows I'm there. Fashion is infinitely superior to merit, and the music is just tertiary."

Despite everyone being sick of hearing about how the focus on

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Left to Right: Luther Blisset, Jennifer Thomas, Devin Gagnon, Toby Hunt, Darko van Sorenson

Sloan drew the attention of the North American music media and labeled the city as the next Seattle in the early 1990s, one can't help but wonder if Easy Tiger's success could make Halifax the "next New York"? Not if the band moves to Toronto as planned. "Since we have never played a show in Halifax, we just can't seem to get any local support, so we might as well," says Hunt. "We're too new wave for the punk crowd, too punk for the new wave crowd and we hate hippies, so we don't want the jam band kids at our shows. If we move to Toronto, we can properly market our post-genre sound to the proper demographic."

The band is equally as upset by the lack of support from local radio. "Q104 won't play our stuff," says drummer Jennifer Thomas. "So we plan to do a cover of 'Patio Lanterns' by Kim Mitchell. That way we get the Canadian Content requirement and the bad classic rock requirement in one move. Heavy rotation, here we come."

"We just found out that Dal has a radio station," she adds. "But I'm not sure that they play music, because every time I tune in it's just someone talking or weird sounds."

Thomas, originally from South Africa, is currently studying art history and plans to study art fraud investigation at Oxford University in the fall if her musical dreams don't materialize.

How does the nubile young percussionist feel about being the only girl in a band of boys? "I don't know," says Thomas, "That's a stupid question."

So why hasn't the local media picked up on this phenomenal quintet until now? Members of Easy Tiger accuse the reporters and writers in Halifax of focusing only on acts that are members of the "musician's union" or "hip within the clique." This reporter is not sure what these accusations imply, but other media in the region don't seem to either.

When asked if she had ever heard of the band, local arts editor Sarah Harman said: "It doesn't surprise me that I haven't heard of them. I don't usually go out to shows unless Matt Mays is in town. I like Joel Plaskett, too. They're both so dreamy. I did see a lot of new bands at the ECMAs...I got a free pass and there was free food. Plus, I read halifaxlocals.com from time to time, so I know what is going on in the underground. I get all kinds of press releases about the really important MIANS showcases but it is important to keep in touch with the little people, too."

Not everyone shares the praise for the local group. Former Soundcheck magazine editor Malcolm Kempt nearly hung up during a phone interview when asked about the band.

"They suck. Period," says Kempt, whose magazine folded like a card table earlier this year. "I only wish I still had a magazine to write for so I could tell everyone how terrible they are. I am just going to have

to resort to the old local stand-by of trashing them anonymously on Internet message boards and through word of mouth."

The forthcoming album from Easy Tiger, *All Your Hearts Are Belong To Us*, is scheduled for release in Summer 2004. It will include their hit single, "Naked Is The Neue Black," and feature the cover of Milli Vanilli's "Girl, I'm Gonna Miss You" that started the hype. Will it be good? Who cares. The big question is: what major label will release it?

"If I had my way," says Hunt, "I'd say fuck the major labels and just keep releasing songs on the Internet. Everyone in the band has a day job and we all love to download music. I say let the kids have the music for free."

Much to Hunt's chagrin, it seems that the kids will soon be paying for their dose of Easy Tiger. Just before this issue went to press, it had been confirmed that the bidding war is over and label reps are planning a full-out marketing campaign. Ready or not, here comes Easy Tiger.



Jennifer Thomas unwinds on the skins during a practice session.

girl across the room try and explain to her mother why she thought a boob job

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Fisherman Protest Media Portrayal



[Ed. Note: each week we receive letters and calls from many people who perhaps can't find listeners in other media circles. Our reporter Neal Cody took time out to record one of these calls for posterity.]

The following is a transcript of a phone conversation I had with Richard Gordon Jollimore, Ricky P. Slauenwhite, and Gregg MacDonald. They've called us before, questioning our journalistic integrity, but this time they were upset about the media's portrayal of local fisherman.

It started off with me fumbling the recorder...

Jollimore: God, you've got all this technology to talk to people. I ain't got no need for technology. I can do all of my finances on the back of a postage stamp, writing it all down in Roman numerals, and I can mail that off to the government, and you can't even get your own damn technology straight.

So what do you guys want?

J: Y'know, we called in a few times. We've been asking for our own article, we wants our say. A monthly column called *The Say from the Bay*.

This is a weekly paper.

J: Well I don't fucking care. I'm not gonna call in every goddamn week. A monthly column is all we wants. The opinion of the, uh, local fisherman has been repressed for far too long. You're goddamn right. And it's about time we had our voice back in the media. ATV don't listen to us. We will be heard. We aging getting on CBC or ASN.

So, why do you think that is?

J: Cause they're frigging arseholes. Yes, it's a fucking conspiracy. The government is working against the Nova Scotian fisherman, jacking up cigarettes, telling me I can't fish. You know what I got to say to that? [Yelling] Fuck you. Telling me I can't use the dragnets to dredge the bottom of the sea, saying, "oh, oh, it messes up the deep-sea corals [sic corals]. Oh, Lord Almighty. Boo hoo hoo. Interfering with the eco-systems. Look at the frigging digging for oil off of Cape Sable there. Lord Jesus, and then they complain about us, they do. You know what that's gonna do for the economy? And then they're like [pause] scoundrels. The frigging bottom of the ocean, and what's at the bottom of the ocean? Fucking rocks...and Jimmy Hoffa.

[Laughter]. And about 5,000 rum bottles that we threw down there, eh? [Laughs].

So what should you be allowed to do?

J: Whatever the fuck I please. Let us have our livelihoods.

I've been thinking lately I might, ah, get into the politics myself.

What would you do?

J: I'd be a politician...yeesh.

What would you do as a politician?

J: Ah yes, I hope I would deal with the laws if I were a politician. Well, a fisherman would be allowed to do whatever he goddamn pleases. Get those goddamn boats outta here, taking all the cod stocks. Taking all our fish and then telling us that we can't fish. They're tricky bastards too, eh? Anybody named Zarros [Zorro?] has got to be a tricky bastard, with their ponytails and silk shirts and all. Riding on horseback.

So what're you doing to protect yourselves?

J: Well, I keep a shotgun on the boat, and Greg's got a few depth charges and Rusty, oh Rusty. Rusty's got a frigging bow and arrow, riding around on his horse, playing cowboys and Indians. He's resourceful though. He's got that ATV he drives.

Yes, I'm quite boggled by that contraption. He keeps a couple a sticks a dynamite onto her.

Has he caught any yet?

J: Well, yes, he caught a young feller the other day with a bit of an accent into him. Thought he was German, turned out to be French, so we put a few French fries into him, and gravy, and let him go, cause that's what the French like. We gave 'em that poutine, or poontang. I believe poo-ta-nay is what the French call it.

You guys sound like outdoorsmen—do you ever go hunting?

J: I go cougar hunting – down at the Palace. And we goes to the Shore Club for hunting some cougars as well. At our age...Hubbardite cougars. This boy knows what he's talking about.

So what kind of education do you have?


J: I got my grade eight. See, in our day it was different. Look at us, we aging done so bad for ourselves. No sir. Though we're on the poge every once in a while. Stay in school children. And watch out for the German.

The Germans? So are you afraid for your boats?

You're goddamn right we're afraid for our boats, what with the goddamn U-boats in St. Margaret's Bay, y'know, and they took down the artillery guns down from Peggy's Cove.

So what do you want to say to sum all this up?

Respect us. Listen to us. Give us a "Say from the Bay" monthly column.



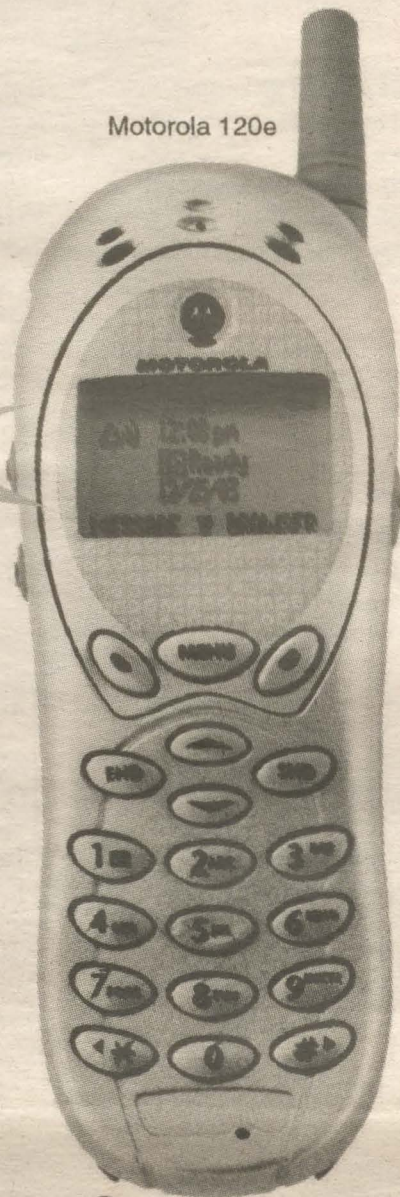
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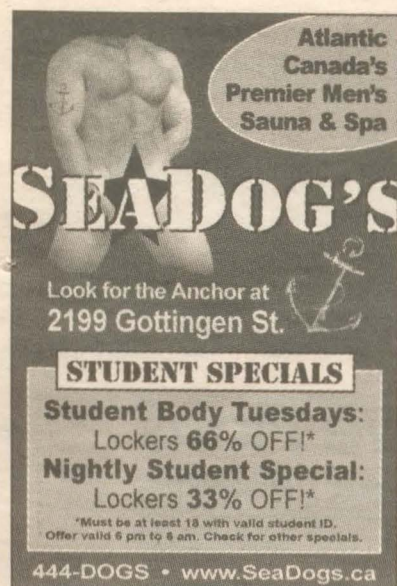
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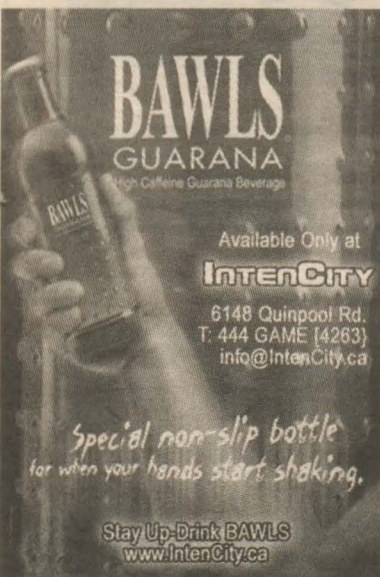
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Scene and Not Heard

LINDSAY DOBBIN Sees where Nickelback's interest now lies

Travestee turned Travesty

The release date of *Tom-ahawk*, the long awaited debut album from **Tom Traves**' band Travestee, is going to be pushed back indefinitely due to a fall-out between band members. The unexpected break-up was brought on by Traves' recent decision to decrease each of the members' pay by somewhere between two and thirteen per cent.

Acting as lead singer and self-proclaimed "chief," Traves said that the pay cut had to happen. "Listen, I'm the creative force behind this band," said Traves from his lush home in Halifax. "I write the lyrics and connect with the audience, so my pay should come first."

One of former band member of Travestee was none other than current *Canadian Idol* judge **Sass Jordan**. "There was no way we could have remained creative in that environment," said the former rock diva. "It got worse and worse as time went on...constant cuts. All we could ever worry about was money and where we were going to sleep at night."

Despite the talent that has left Travestee (including Jordan, members of **Trooper** and **Shania Twain**'s former sound man), Traves claims that fans should not worry about a change in sound after the new members are recruited. "No matter what the new band mem-

bers' backgrounds are, we will still stick to the original agenda of being inspired by Canadian greats April Wine and Triumph," said Traves.

"With our debut album in the works, interest from **Chad Kroger** [of Nickelback]'s label, a new and younger roster planned and a new slogan inspired by the greats, I don't expect our popularity to decrease," said Traves.

One of the newest members of Travestee, **Gary Beals**, is an example of the young and fresh talent Traves is looking for. "I'm just happy to be here," said Beals, somewhat distracted. "Would you like to purchase an Aliant cell phone plan?"

Dal as Access to Hollywood

Dalhousie campus has turned into quite the celebrity hot spot. With **Eugene Levy** spotted on campus a few weeks ago and **Edward Burns** filming his new movie just off campus grounds, what's next? It seems that self-proclaimed comedian/actor **Pauly Shore** is showing an interest in Dal's theater program. "I really need to be part of something where you're guaranteed to act," said Shore outside the Student Union Building during a break from the campus tour. In other celebrity news, Canadian heartthrob **Corey Hart** is expected to perform at the Grawood on Saturday, April 17 as part of his *Sunglasses Wearers Reunite at Night* tour. "Spring is a time to dig out your sunglasses in preparation for the summer sun, but I want to get people to wear them at night," said

Hart from Toronto. "For anyone that shows up to my show wearing their sunglasses, they'll get in free."

Where's My Lidar?

Dalhousie's Atmospheric-Optics Laboratory faced a shocking event recently. On the night of March 31, their famous **lidar** (a laser remote sensor used to study atmospheric dynamics) disappeared. "It was really strange how we noticed it was gone," said principal investigator Dr. Thomas J. Duck. "[The other researchers] and I were looking at the readings and came to the conclusion that the results were very odd. We went out [on the roof of the Dunn building] to see if we could determine the problem and that's when we noticed it was gone." Since the scientists were still receiving readings from the lidar at that point, they used their abilities to determine its exact location. "Turns out that it was at a local establishment called **The Palace**," said Duck. "A strange gentleman named **Steve-O** [Jackass] took it in order to create some sort of light show." Luckily, the lidar is now back and in working condition. "I wanted to have a huge game of laser tag where I was king," says Steve-O. "Then I'd finish off by stapling a sign that read 'I am king' to my forehead."

Best of campus gossip can be sent to scene@dal.ca



Pop Culture

CHELSIE CHOW Pop Goes Our Freedom

Have you ever heard the expression "pig-out" used to describe how much you eat? Well if you haven't, there is a good chance that you never will again. That saying will probably soon become extinct, along with our right to choose how much popcorn we eat.

As a young, single woman ripening from a shapeless, uncooked kernel into a buxom full-bodied hunk of popped corn, I cherish my rights to independence and freedom of choice. However, one man is trying his damndest to rip these freedoms away from me in very much the same way that he ripped defenceless kernels from their collective cobs. At movie theatres across Halifax, popcorn will no longer be sold in the "large" size. Now, the only thing "large" in the theatre will be the growling sound of our stomachs, which will be so loud that it will even stifle our desperate cries for justice—or at least a full bag.

I know everyone feels my pain: I can tell by their emaciated figures and their joyless smiles that are excruciatingly kernel-free. So I have taken it upon myself, as a powerful media-ite, to speak out for the people. As I always say, "the key-board is mightier than the fascist



Mmm

asshole."

The asshole in question (this time) is the pig of a man, **Bruce Frisky**. Although I have never spoken to said individual, here is what I imagine he would say: "We got rid of the large size because all the bitches in Halifax are getting too fat. We should rename the city 'Halifat.'" As sexist as this guy may sound, he is even sexister. Way sexister. Here's what he'd tell me next: "I'd like to pop your kernel." Unfortunately for him, my kernel's already been popped . . . and eaten . . . and digested.

But getting back to our main crusade, popcorn needs to come in all sizes. On the subject of popcorn—a topic I have thought about a lot—I believe in thinking progressively. We must look outward, not inward. Why squeeze one of the forgotten food groups into cramped, dingy bags when we could be expanding upon the various ways to eat said product? Why? Why???

Why indeed.

inspected the damage. It wasn't long before he was injecting my toe with a substance to



Cinepheliac

HARRY PALMETTO on film



These are both stills from an obscure French film that you would not understand.

This week's movie is a bootylicious jaunt through the reaping-machine of all that is trite and uninspired in film today.

Falling noticeably short of meta-meta-realism in its minimalist cinematography, I failed to spot a single veiled-metaphor in the entire film. No flashbacks within flashbacks, no synecdochical dissertations—I was aghast.



If you've managed to read this far, you must be smarter than the scriptwriter of this blithering mess—but not as smart as me.

Starring a compost hodgepodge of hackneyed characters each falling more short of one-dimensional than the last, the movie reeks of the possibility of more people than me enjoying it—which leaves a distinctly

freeze it, and then it would be time for the main event. After six very painful injections, the doctor

sour taste in my mouth.

Though not conventionally unconventionally good, the movie is equally not quite good enough, and indeed a blank-shot in attempting to undermine the acceptability of its being good and therefore achieving goodness. Appalling!

This film hacks and slashes at attempts to redeem itself, with all the finesse of a drunken goat attempting "Classical Gas."

On a parting note, this blunder of a bowel-movement of a film left me desiring nothing more than sweet, sweet death at the hands of a roaming pack of feral beasts—anything more poetic than death by tedium.

This is generally the part of the column where I mention the times and listings for this puke stain of a picture, but I can't remember the title for the life of me. Perhaps the repugnance of its vain attempts to channel the fleeting je ne sais quoi of film noir left me reeling (don't pardon the pun, it was oh-so-intentional) in such a way that I completely forgot the title or premise.

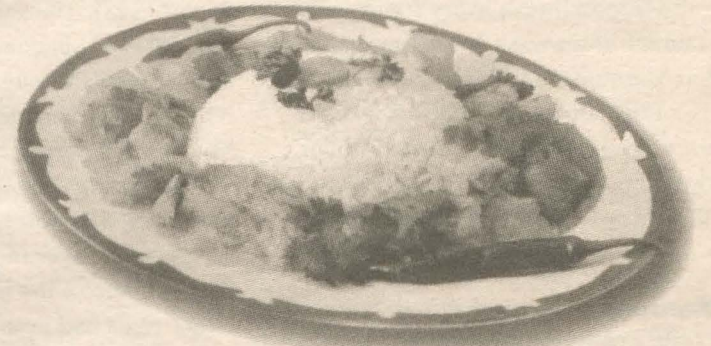
All right, all right, I'll square with you. I didn't bother to actually review a film this week, so I tried to pass off stringing together my back-up cache of snide remarks I write down on the bus into a quick cop-out column. I didn't expect anyone to notice.

No matter, as long as there's still money and notoriety in humping the decaying cliché of a snide, cynical movie critic—I'm there. Got a problem? Sue me.

I could just be sitting here with pee-stains on my rugs.

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Consume, Bitch

SUE FELTBUM EAT STOMP CRUSH CONSUME

Maroon Nights

I have a real complex about being the first in line at every trendy new restaurant in town, so I was first in line when Maroon's, the latest SuperCity hotspot opened its doors last weekend. With a lovely view of Halifax Harbour and both bridges, Maroon's is decked out with some of the hippest décor around.

Maroon's

17456 Lower Water Street
Monday-Friday 10pm-11pm
494-1275

Black and white photography from such international greats as Helmut Newton and Mann Ray make it easy to understand why this place has a black tie dress code.

After consulting the menu, we decided to go with Maroon's two special-

ties: fire-grilled seagull (\$23) and baked donair (\$28). The seagull, we were informed, has become all the rage in coastal towns throughout the Mediterranean, so we decided to be adventurous. Much to our surprise, it was wonderful. Surrounded by lovely garnish complete with shaved carrot, the seagull had a crispy outer layer that quickly gave way to some of the most succulent meat either of us had ever tasted. With just a touch of spice, the gull had a great kick and went very well with our vintage bottle of 1912 Merlot (\$466).

From there it was on to the donair. While most of us think of the grease-dripping slabs of meat we see through the window at pizza places throughout the SuperCity, this donair is actually a small furry creature the size of a racoon. On a recent tour of Europe, Maroon's owner came across the animals, native



This is actually a Thai restaurant, but who reads this shit

to Denmark. While the donair has been popular in Denmark for some time now, it has been slow to catch on elsewhere. Maroon's owner attributed this to the fact that in Denmark, they do not skin the donair before cooking it. After first skinning the animal and then cooking it, Maroon's discovered what will no doubt soon be the biggest craze in the SuperCity.

The donair was a golden brown, baked to perfection. Cherry tomatoes were attached to either side with the help of a skewer, and Portobello mushrooms surrounded the meat. The meat was juicy and tasted very fresh—much like hammerhead shark. Both meals were very hot and served quite promptly following

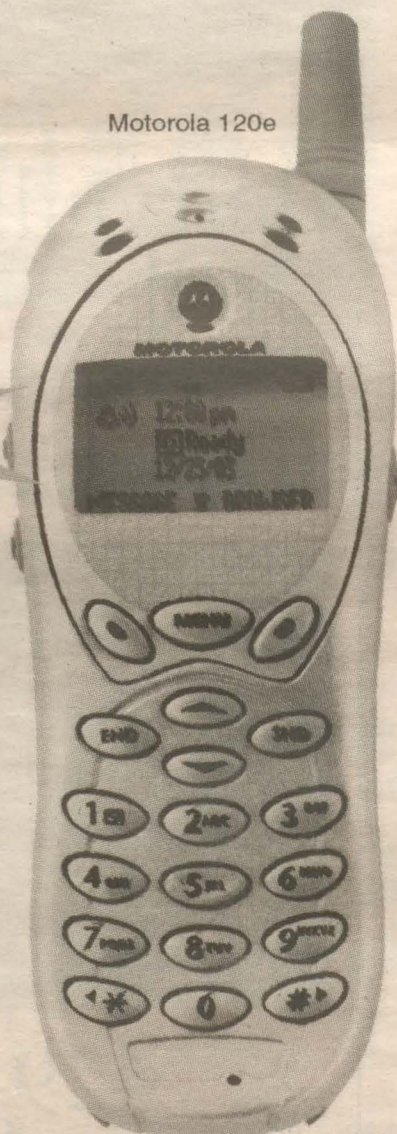
our order.

Maroon's owner says that as business increases he hopes to begin breeding his own donairs, at which point patrons will be able to select their own prior to the meal, much the way high-end steak houses and lobster restaurants allow you to do.

We were both very satisfied with our dining experience. The wait staff was very welcoming and the view late in the evening is just breathtaking. All of this along with some of the finest food the SuperCity has seen in years makes for excellent high-end dining.

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Amour Savage

DAVE MORINÉ Dalhousie Sexpert

Q Dear Dave,
My fiancé recently borrowed my digital camera. He said he was taking some pictures of his bachelor party. I think he meant to delete the pictures from the camera, because what he took pictures of is very questionable. I knew they were hiring a stripper for the party, and I'm totally cool with that, but there are also pictures of my man dressed up in lingerie and wearing make up. I don't know what to think. Is he gay, or does he give secret cross-dresser fantasies? Help!
Blue Bride Getting Upset Nightly

A Dear BB GUN,
Who knows why guys do the things they do during a stag party. Women tend to be lower key, and perhaps the most outlandish thing they will do is hire a stripper—you know, a cop coming to the door to settle a noise complaint, or a firefighter looking for somebody to be resuscitated. Women are not likely to dress up like the policeman or firefighter and reenact his striptease. However, when you take a man who is about to make a life-long commitment and throw liquor and his best buddies in the mix, anything is possible.

Straight guys have been known to act in very homoerotic ways. This is no reflection of their sexuality. As teenagers, many guys will have their first sexual experiences with another guy. For example, you can look at the circle jerk phenomenon, where a group of guys will masturbate with their male friends. This is nothing more than teenage sexual exploration, and sometimes these types of mischievous behaviours manifest themselves at a stag.

In no way should you take what happened as a reflection on his sexuality or fetish preferences. Then again, maybe he left the pictures on the camera so you would find out. It could be that he is looking to bring a cross-dressing role-playing fantasy in your love life, but he couldn't work up the courage to tell you directly. In any event, bring this up with your fiancé when you have a moment to talk. Rest assured, you will be wearing the dress when it comes time to walk down the aisle.

Q Dear Dave,
I'm a young gay guy who has had experiences with several men. I've been in a fairly steady relationship with a guy for a few months, and we've had great sex. Each time we try something new. My boyfriend has tied me up, spanked me with a fraternity paddle, we've role played, and we've even had threesomes with other guys. Now my boyfriend wants to try water sports—in other words, peeing on me. I'm worried about the health risks of doing this type of activity. Do you have any advice on precautions or dangers associated with this type of sexual activity? *SM Boy*

Dear SM BOY,
A Water sports, also known as golden showers, are a sexual activity that does differ from mainstream intercourse. Although many would find this activity to be unsavory to say the least, many do engage in this type of activity and delight in the thought of doing it. For some, water sports can be a form of auto-erotica, meaning they find it stimulating in fantasy, but perhaps would not want to do it in real life.

Water sports do carry a small risk of Hepatitis C, but this is more commonly transmitted via blood. Therefore, it is important to make sure that your boyfriend does not, or has not recently had, a urinary tract infection, or any other uncomfortable symptoms while urinating. If there is any doubt, have him get checked out at the doctor's office before you proceed.

In and of itself, urine is a fairly sterile liquid. You and your boyfriend should have no problems. Just make sure that you too are willing to participate in golden showers, and it isn't something you are doing just to make you boyfriend happy.

Q I am student, and like other students, I know how hard it can be to pay the bills at the end of the month. My girlfriend and I were recently thinking about becoming professional dominatrixes to make extra money. Do you think I should do this and what do you need to start? *Mistress in Waiting*

A Being a dominatrix can be an exciting career choice, and one your academic advisor probably won't mention. However, starting up can be difficult.

In order to best respond to your question, I contacted an old high-school friend who has since become a dominatrix. According to Mistress Geneva, starting a business takes time. In addition to needing time to develop a dominating technique, a good pro-dominatrix also needs a collection of toys. It is a lot more than just whips. Mistress Geneva also has sex swings, rubber masks, blindfolds, cuffs, croppers, butt plugs, nipple clamps, vibrators, dildos and more. You also need to have space to carry out your domination; you'll be surprised how much room it takes to crack a 12 foot bullwhip.

Finally, you need to take out advertising. This is an additional cost, but if you don't notify the public, how will your worthless, bootlicking, scum-of-the-earth slaves know where to go?

Smokey, this is not Nam, this is bowling. There are rules



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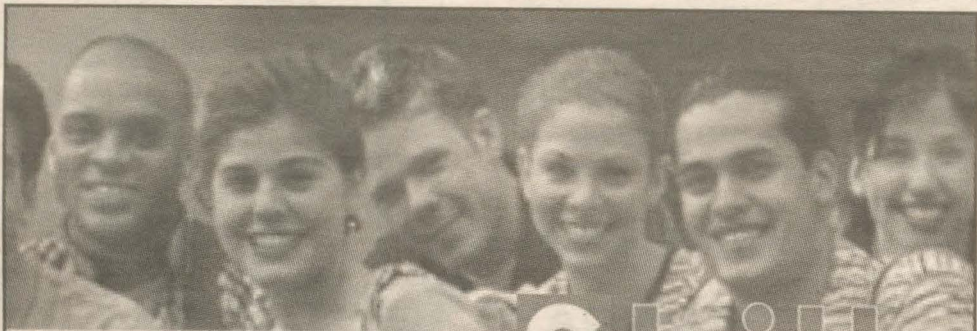
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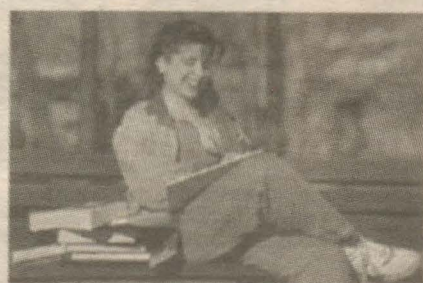
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

You feel as though you're on top of the world. You have started to break out of your mid-90s frame of mind, but in reality you're jumping back to the early-90s. The long hair doesn't do shit for ya. Who the fuck do you think you are? Eddie Vedder?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

According to the stars, a residential change is in your future. Yes, that's right, the mortgage for your trailer will finally be approved. Make sure to stock up on lawn ornaments such as cinder blocks and old car parts, a lovely addition to any mobile home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

You're the sign of the twins. Do you know what that means? A threesome is in your future. Be sure to review the etiquette required for multiple partners. Stay away from alcohol, it adds fuel to the fire, but not blood to your penis.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

A new journey is about to begin with a soulmate at your side. Keep your eyes peeled while at the library, and then at the SUB, and then at the Henry Hicks, and at the LSC, and please don't forget the FASS. Your soulmate is everywhere; you may even find 36 in one day.

LEO (July 23-August 22)

Easy, tiger. I know you're raring to go this week, but you wouldn't want to give a gift that keeps on giving. I hear those herpes can be a bitch.

VIRGO (August 23-September 22)

You'll be able to look forward to a fat paycheck this week. Too bad your pimp wants his share. But remember, easy come, easy go... just like your last client.

LIBRA (September 23-October 22)

A blast from your past will appear on your doorstep this week, with a bun in the oven. Guess what...it's yours and she wants child support payments. They make condoms for a reason, dumb ass.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21)

If you feel like you have don't have any friends, don't fret—you don't. Don't worry: Bubba from Cell Block 8 is looking forward to hearing from you soon.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21)

My friend Edna the psychic told me that people under this sign must be very careful this week. This is going to be a bad week for you in every way. Don't leave your house, don't answer your phone, just give up now and shit won't hit the fan.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19)

Your move on to a higher level of education is near. Hooked on Phonics is now accepting applications, you'll surely get in if you take time and focus on your future. You can also look forward to career opportunities of a foreign nature, such as Chicken Baller at Manchu Wok.

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18)

Abandon all hope. You are a disgrace to humanity. Take your own life in a remote area outside of the city where no one will have to be burdened with the smell your rotting corpse. Plus, your lucky numbers are 7, 9, and 34 for this month.

PISCES (February 19-March 20)

You're a dirty slut.

good measure. Now I don't know if you've ever had an ingrown toenail removed

CLASSIFIEDS

SUPER SUBLET! Basement bachelor apartment, perfect for smoking dog lovers. Cool and wet with wonderful view of neighbours fence. Asking \$700/month or best offer. Close to gas station and pawnshop. Only an 82-minute walk to Dal, 94 minutes to SMU. Call 443-3260.

WANT a pet? I am moving and need to find a home for my three loving fat and slimy slugs. Free to anyone who adores them. Call 422-6509 and ask for Gurt.

MALE NUDES needed for a research study on penile disfiguration. Please send photo and cover letter to me. A small, non-monetary display of gratitude will be offered. You will be happy you sent the cover letter. mlcullen@dal.ca.

DO YOU like green Jell-O? Join the Halifax Green Jell-O Fetish League. Bring along a few boxes of green Jell-O and a floating device. No attire required. Contact founding member Ezra at ra_1@hotmail.com

LOOKING FOR a triangle player for a Michael Jackson cover band. Must have experience with small children. Phone to sign up: 420-0213.

CALLING SINGLES! Looking for a place to get down and dirty without losing your dignity and self-respect? Well, we can't help you there, but we can help you get down and dirty. Contact Caitlin and Lynn at 449-8284.

DO YOU hate water? Come and join our anti-water support group. Meets three times a day at the Dalplex pool. Bring buttermilk.

LOOKING FOR women with an abundance of facial hair who sweat a lot for a photo shoot. Privacy promised until published in an upcoming issue of *The Coast*. Call

before, but even with all of the freezing they give you it still hurts like a bitch. I think

443-3458.

FOR SALE: A pair of vintage duck boots, teal rubber still intact. Odour-eaters included. Contact 876-7326.

TEETH NEEDED. Have you been losing your adult teeth lately? We are looking for lost teeth to make jewellery for our friends for next Christmas. Also available at the market in October. Contact Geilord at 835-0637.

SECOND HAND casket for sale. In great condition, with only a few stains. Perfect for anyone seeking dignity at a fraction of the cost. Contact Lawrence at 435-4119.

PSST

I **SAW** you slipping food into your bag at the German Buffet last weekend. It turned me on. Wanna touch me? Please?

I **SAW** you, you stupid Fenwick dick. You suck and you stink like dried up sticks. Go trip down 33 flights of stairs and break your teeth while you are at it. Ugly.

TO THE hairy man with onion breath. I noticed a guy noticing you, noticing me noticing your distinctive stench. Brush your teeth, have a shower and then I will consider.

I **LIKE** you cat, on a bat, with a rat wearing a hat with no scat. Let me pat you in the gat. You're so phat.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY hot stuff! I want to thank you for all the years spent together. You are wonderful. Now it is time for you to choke on your cake and die.

JENNY COOPER, I just want you to know, that you are worth \$7,000 to me. That other guy was just a cheap ass. What was he thinking? You are too good for that. Come

away with my fraternity and me.

TO THE guy with the coffee at the Paperchase on Saturday. You're hot and I followed you all day. I read the *Globe and Mail* too. We should hang out sometime. Meet me in the Paperchase next Saturday afternoon. I will be wearing blue jeans.

HEY ASSHOLE woman who gave me the finger when you almost drove over me on Spring Garden last week! I feel like there's really something there between us. Wanna fuck?

DEAR CAT who always sips my milk. Thank you for your company. Where would I be without you?

DON'T YOU just love it when you jump into a puddle and it splashes up your skirt? I do.

ANYONE EVER had tapeworms? I need to know how to remove them safely and effectively please. They are hurting my anus. Contact 465-6057.

I **THINK** it's hot when girls oil themselves in public. I think that more should do it. coasthostghost@hotmail.com

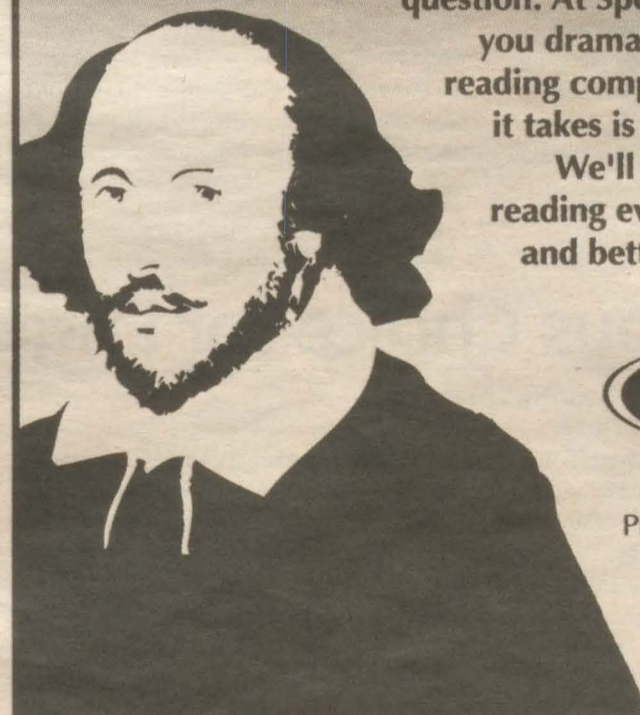
HEY GUY who was at the Dome last weekend in a yellow plaid shirt. I was the one in the green plaid shirt drinking Coors. Don't ever talk to me if I see you there again. I think we would really hate each other.

I **LOVE** the crimes that you commit when the stars are burning not so bright in the mustrey night. Where are the flippers you promised the goats out back last weekend? They aren't happy with you. None so much at all.

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Farewell

Chris Fedora, Editor-In-Chief

Well, it's time for me to bid a very fond farewell to all of my fans and everyone who has enjoyed the *Sextant* this year. And to those of you who don't like me or *The Sextant*...I hope you fail miserably in life. Hopefully I will graduate in a few weeks, and I can move on to real life. For those of you who will be doing the same as me, I wish you all the best in the future, and to those of you who will be back next year, hungry for some more *Sextant* antics, my successor, Billy Clyburn, will be happy to oblige.

The past year has seen a lot of changes for *The Sextant*, the most prominent being its shift to the pages of the *Gazette*. I'd like to thank Dallas, Repo, Loukas, C-Dog and all the *Gazette* staff for making the transition not only easy and problem free, but also for making it a really fun experience all year long...thanks guys, it's been a real pleasure working with all of you. I'd also like to thank Brent Desroches, Graeme Bryden, Mike Hogan, Evan Wile, Tiff Mochinski and everyone else who either wrote something for me or helped me out in one way or another this year.

Now, for my last issue, I thought it might be appropriate to highlight some of the memorable articles, pictures, and events of my reign this year as *The Sextant's* Big Kahuna. My work has brought mixed reactions from across the campus, the city and the country. I had people come up to me all year long and say either the more popular, "I love *The Sextant*, and I love you," or, "I can't believe you get away with that garbage, it's such trash." While I prefer the former of the two reactions, I welcome both equally. The latter is fun because I get to reply, "thank you very much for your opinion, let's see

your newspaper...oh that's right, you don't have one...bite me!"

The biggest reaction I received all year was not from another student or professor, but from another journalist. You all know who I mean. If you don't, then you haven't been paying attention, and shame on you. Of course I am talking about the Elizabeth Chiu fiasco that occurred just before Christmas break. What a roller-coaster few days those were...but it was the aftermath that was even more fun. My weekly jabs at Mrs. Chiu sparked quite a reaction from the majority of the student body. I'd like to thank everyone who wrote and called into ATV after the story aired to come to my aid and let their news department know what a farce that whole thing was.

The second biggest splash I made this year was arguably uncovering the shocking drug-induced sexual escapades of some of your childhood's favorite creatures. Winnie the Pooh certainly turned some heads when he was caught giving head to Piglet. Likewise, Tigger really showed us what Tiggers do best when he gave Pooh the "bounce" of his life. I have been informed since that issue hit news stands that the whole crew have entered rehab and are progressing nicely...although Tenderheart is still having problems with premature Care Bear Stare syndrome (he took out three orderlies and an intern last week).

Finally, in my opinion, I really shouldn't have been given a copy of Photoshop...the world would have been better off. I had a lot of fun this year "doctoring" pictures (very poorly, mind you), and then putting them in the paper. Here are a few of my favorites:



I now leave you in the very capable hands of Mr. Billy Clyburn, who I am sure will do well in carrying on the legacy I have started this year. If he doesn't, feel free to write me and I will register for one class just so I can do this again. I won't be completely gone though—you'll hear from me next year for sure...I need somewhere to vent, or I turn green and rage.

Farewell,
 Chris "Topher" Fedora



The Obvious Choice for Engineers: The Naughty Nurse

Billy Clyburn, Incoming Editor-In-Chief

Disclaimer: No nurses were hurt in the writing of this article, although many were hit on and some made out with. This story also doesn't reflect the views of the *Coaster*, but of one lonely engineer, vainly attempting to attract more nurses.

Engineers do get the girl. As hard as that is to believe, it is the truth. Most of you are probably asking, "which girls dig engineers?" The answer, simply stated, "nurses."

There is an underlying attraction between engineers and nurses. This is a theory I have been formulating for some time, and I think now is the time to unleash it. Engineers might not get the glory or the money that doctors or lawyers do, and that suits most of us just fine (not really). There aren't many

girls telling their parents not to worry about their careers because they are going to marry engineers. Good luck with that. In the nurse demographic, however, we do quite well, as most can attest to. So brace yourself for what I like to call "Our Curse on the Nurse."

Nurses, who in my mind provide the kind of care that makes them comparable to mother figures. By writing this article, I am increasing my chances with the nursing population. Nurses are unique because they despise doctors in all their glory. I don't think I have to state the obvious reasons why lawyers are out. Once both groups have been nixed from the list, only the engineer is left.

Now it probably wasn't the smartest engineer who figured out that engineers and

nurses would be a good match. Nursing is a predominantly female profession, and the opposite is the case for engineering. I mean, for the love of latex, "Peg A goes into Slot B." But this is not the only lure to nurses. Nurses are caregivers. Everyone appreciates a "giver," and nurses are always ready to perform selfless acts of undivided attention while you lay on your ass—voluntary rectal temperatures, sponge baths and needles (what nurse doesn't like a little prick).

When an engineer thinks about ladies, he thinks very practically. The nurse fulfills this need and more very nicely. Nurses are not only smart and sexy, but they provide a level of care that will be appreciated by your would-be children. Since most of



their days are spent in an atmosphere of beds and sick people, it is no wonder that they associate care giving with bed. This epitomizes the phrase "have your cake and eat it too."

I guess the bottom line is that our similarities are many and differences few, so get out there nurses and meet those engineers, it is graduation time. To the Sexton Campus graduating class of 2004, I would just like to take this opportunity to say "you're welcome."