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Gazette

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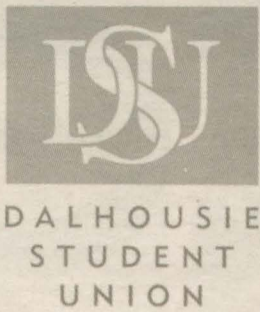
World AIDS Day

December 1st, 2005

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Photo: Rafa Andronowski

This is a weekly communications about happenings around the DSU.
Check it out, right here every week.



The Politics of Education – Continued

We as student leaders do a lousy job of communicating the achievements of our lobby groups to the general student body. As DSU President, I am trying to change this. I want every student at Dalhousie to know that our national lobby group, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, (CASA) is doing a fantastic job representing student issues to the federal government. Some students may not seem overly concerned with education issues; however, in one-way or another they affect all of us. Almost every issue that the DSU lobby's for on behalf of students boils down increasing access for everyone. This can come in the form of increased grants or an improved funding system resulting in lower tuition, and increased quality.

As I mentioned in my article last week, the VP Education, Jen Bond and I spent the week in Ottawa at the Annual Lobby Conference of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA). During the week the members of CASA met with over 140 Members of Parliament and Senior Bureaucrats to lobby on four key points: A Pan-Canadian Accord on education, a dedicated transfer, the extension of the Canada Access Grant from one year to four, and lastly a holistic review of the Student Financial Aid Program in Canada.

On Monday the 14th after four hours of lobbying we got a promise for two of our key lobby points. Ralph Goodale, Minister of Finance, announced in his Economic Update the extension of the Canada Access Grant, and a review of the Student Financial Aid Program in Canada. The Canada Access Grant is a needs-based grant for students from low-income families. The review of the Student Financial Aid Program would involve a serious look at the current hodgepodge of aid that students receive. There has never been a planned approach to dealing with student aid, instead governments have implemented a program here or there without any broader vision for what student aid could be like in Canada. This has resulted in a number of groups being left out from receiving any aid at all to attend post-secondary education (PSE). Given the current political climate there is no way either of these announcements will be put into action prior to an election, however, they represent commitments to improving post secondary education in Canada. Ultimately, whoever forms government after the next election is guaranteed to continue to work towards significant improvements to post-secondary education, as every party is certain to have an extensive education platform developed in the near future.

The most amazing thing about last week was to witness first-hand the credibility and reputation that CASA has developed in Ottawa, not only with the government but with all political parties and the bureaucracy as well. The announcements made on Monday were word for word CASA policy. The points that MP's brought up in our meetings were also a reflection of an understanding of education issues through CASA policy. Through constant lobbying over the past ten years on post-secondary education related topics CASA has been able to build a reputation as the leading PSE lobby group. Not only have they criticized the government on PSE related issues, but they have offered solutions that will benefit students for years to come.

The next meeting of the DSU Council will be November 30th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers on the second floor of the Student Union Building. This meeting is to discuss the budget exclusively. All are welcome.

I would like to extend a sincere congratulation to all varsity athletes who were honoured as CIS Academic All-Canadians on Monday the 21st. Not only have these Dalhousie students excelled in their respective sports, but they have been able to maintain a GPA above 3.4. With extensive training and practice schedules on top of assignments and other responsibilities this is truly an accomplishment.

After giving out \$29,550.00 in grants the grants period will be closed until January. The DSU has experienced a huge influx of students applying for grants. As a result we have set specific amounts that will be given out each term. If you are going to a conference or hosting an event in the winter term please submit an application. The Committee will begin review grants applications again as of January 1st. We have \$20,450.00 to give out next semester, so if you want to apply for a grant in the winter term be sure to get your application in as soon as possible. If you have any questions about the grant process contact Phil Duguay at dsuppi@dal.ca.

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The globalization of disease

AIDS has spread across the globe, infecting millions — but students shouldn't forget about their own backyards, either

CHRIS LAROCHE
Editor-in-Chief

As you may have guessed by the looks of our cover, this week's issue of *The Gazette* features a number of articles, stories and thoughts that address the world's growing AIDS problem.

Thought it may seem presumptuous — and perhaps redundant — for a weekly student newspaper to tackle an issue as monstrous and widely reported as the spread of AIDS, I would encourage readers to think otherwise.

Why?

Because it's your health we're talking about.

Since the explosion of HIV and AIDS in Africa, AIDS is often seen and portrayed in mainstream media as an African problem.

To be sure, Africa is the central battleground in the war against the disease. It has infected more people there than anywhere else. Preventing HIV from infecting even more Africans has no easy solutions, political or medical.

But wars spread. Every society, culture and community on Earth is at risk from infection. In heavily populated areas such as South East Asia — where AIDS awareness and education is at a minimum — problems rivaling Africa could develop very, very quickly.

These are not newly-breaking headline stories. NGOs, governments and the media have been aware of the very real possibility of an HIV epidemic outside the African continent for years.

So why dedicate an entire paper to an issue that readers likely already know?

Because global expansion aside, AIDS is a very real and visceral threat right here, among us, and we can do something about it.

Let me explain.



Stephen Lewis, the UN's special envoy to Africa on AIDS, spoke at Dalhousie twice in the last month. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

In the last few weeks, Dalhousie has played host to a number of big-name, worldly thinkers. Stephen Lewis, the UN's special envoy to Africa on AIDS, has visited twice, and just before writing this editorial, I sat down in a crowded auditorium at King's College to hear John Ralston Saul wax poetic on economic issues of grandiose scale.

Both speakers were brilliant, delivering heavy-duty messages encouraging global reform to students — and barely anyone fell asleep.

In case you did fall asleep — or simply didn't bother going to any of the talks — here is the gist of their arguments: "The West," — i.e. us

rich white people — are excluding "the rest" because of our unfair policies, our power-suit economic paradigms, and our leaders' inability to see the big picture and adapt to the real world. A lot can still be done to improve the lives of millions in the Third World, they argued, and we in The West must take the initiative.

It is as brave and sobering a message as they come.

To Lewis' and Saul's credit, this brave message was delivered to just the right type of audience, too: students listened. Students asked questions. Students cared.

Global change pitched at the world's future leaders makes sense,

right?

Unfortunately, a subtle irony underlies the entire exercise. The "right audience" for this message of global change — which ultimately deals with how power is exercised at the highest levels of society — is also one of the most powerless audiences in the Western world, or at least one of the least likely to do anything about it.

We're students. We're not in charge of everything. Mr. Lewis, Mr. Saul, we're glad to have you — but as soon as we walk out of this auditorium, we're going to go straight back to studying for midterms, drinking at the Grad House and worrying about where to score money to buy our next gram of weed.

This is not to say that education outside of the classroom is pointless. Many students who are not enrolled in political science, social anthropology or development studies may never think about global issues at all.

Getting the average, non-politically obsessed student to think outside his or her immediate surroundings certainly lends promise to how these issues may be addressed in the future.

But the irony exposed here runs deeper than getting a now-powerless future generation to think. Most of the global issues highlighted by Saul and Lewis will be beyond pale by the time we have a crack at the bat,

whether we care or not.

In effect, we could already be screwed.

But there is room for change. The ruination of the world isn't all just arguments about economics, state policies and corporations.

It's also about keeping one's own house in order, and making sure that anytime we give advice to others, we've taken a long, hard look in the mirror at ourselves.

This is where students can — and should — make a difference.

There is a widespread perception out there, held by many students and probably a good number of North Americans on the whole, that the "AIDS problem" has either been outsourced to the third world, only affects gay and transgendered communities, or both.

We lump the globalization of the disease in with all these big-thinker talks about global development. It's a horrible situation, we say, too dire to think about or address. It's an African problem. It's only on my T.V.

Here's a cold shower for you: AIDS isn't just an African problem, nor is it a third world problem. It is, like Lewis and Saul would profess, a global problem and, as part of that globe, this means that AIDS is your problem as well.

Most importantly, AIDS will affect you in the deepest way possible, unlike the lack of access to basic needs that blights much of the rest of globe. Words like 'sustainability' and 'development' aren't simply about far away lands and famines. They are about how you live and what choices you make, and if you make the wrong choice, you can kill yourself.

And you can kill others while you're at it.

You can lose a friend to AIDS based on something you do right now.

This is the reality of a global disease.

If you take anything away from reading this column or the rest of this issue, it should be this very important message: decisions made in your sex life can have repercussions far beyond anything your "real life" imagined.

The cruelties experienced elsewhere in this world shouldn't be forgotten, either. Billions of people live as our homeless do: in poverty, everyday. Millions more are doomed to die from a disease that can be prevented with something we take for granted on a daily basis: education.

Don't take your position for granted. For all our education, all our money and belongings, we are just as susceptible as anyone else.

Wrap it up, get tested, and don't kill yourself or others.

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Gazette

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THE FINE PRINT

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Contributor meetings take place every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in Room 312 of the Dalhousie SUB. You can also drop in to our offices anytime after 5:00 p.m. on Monday or Tuesday. Whether you want to write, give us ideas, or take pictures, we can find a place for you.

Gazette / AIDS 2005: A World Crisis

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"Southern Africa was in a very similar situation 15 years ago as we are now, very similar rates of infection, very similar disease profile. So it doesn't take a long time for things to change very rapidly," says Erika Burger, programme officer for HIV/AIDS at the Atlantic Centre for Excellence in Women's Health. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Canada: a decade behind on HIV/AIDS in Africa?

JESS MCDIARMID
Assistant News Editor

Peter Busse was shocked when he tested positive for HIV in Swaziland 20 years ago. The perception in Africa at that time, says the South African AIDS activist, was that HIV was a disease that only existed in America, and only promiscuous people got it. Since he was neither promiscuous nor American, he considered himself safe.

"By definition, it couldn't happen to me," he says. "I had those two very strong, big gold stars."

Busse, who spent three weeks in Canada this fall holding workshops on HIV and gender, was at a Canadian AIDS Society conference in Calgary a couple of years ago when he says a woman in her early 20s, bawling her eyes out, approached him.

Busse says she told him she'd just been diagnosed with HIV and had nowhere to go.

"She said, 'I'm from Quebec, I'm heterosexual, and I've come here to the Canadian AIDS Society thinking that I'd find a place,'" he says. But all she found was material geared toward gay men, injection drug users and aboriginal people.

"That, for me, just crystallized the fact that in Canada, I think it must be very difficult to be diagnosed as a woman," says Busse.

The new faces of HIV/AIDS in Canada

In this country, Busse says, there is a strong idea that HIV/AIDS afflicts only gay men and people in Africa.

But women, and young women in particular, are increasingly becoming the new faces of HIV/AIDS in Canada.

The number of women testing positive for HIV is on the rise. Between 1985 and 1997, women accounted for less than 12 per cent of all positive tests. By 2003, more than 25 per cent of new infections were among women.

Young women were hit hardest — among 15 to 29 year olds, 42 per cent of the people who tested positive were female.

Erika Burger, programme officer for HIV/AIDS at the Atlantic Centre for Excellence in Women's Health,

says there are few programs that target women for prevention, treatment or support.

"Most of the prevention efforts in Canada have been geared toward men who have sex with men and intravenous drug users," says Burger. "Heterosexual transmission, and in particular young women, is really not looked at very much, and really not considered much in prevention and education."

Busse says he told the young woman at the AIDS Society conference in Calgary, "If only you could come to Southern Africa. You'd be in the majority."

In sub-Saharan Africa, the current hotspot of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, 58 per cent of all those infected with HIV are women. Among youth infected with the disease, 67 per cent are female.

When HIV/AIDS emerged in the early 1980s, it predominantly affected gay men in South Africa, as well as in Canada. But today in Africa, the disease overwhelmingly afflicts women and children, and is mainly transmitted through heterosexual contact.

It doesn't take long for numbers to change, Busse says. In 1990, less than one per cent of tested pregnant women in South Africa were HIV positive.

Almost 28 per cent of pregnant South African women had HIV in 2003.

"It's staggering," he says. "You don't want to wait until the situation has gotten that big, and that out of control to then say, 'All right, we need to do something about this.'"

Heterosexual activity: a hot bed for disease?

Men who have sex with men still comprise the bulk of Canadian HIV diagnoses, at about 58 per cent, but rates of heterosexual transmission are steadily increasing. Heterosexual sex accounted for just 13 per cent of new cases in 1993, but rose to nearly 44 per cent in 2003. Among women, 75 per cent of new infections are from heterosexual contact, according to Health Canada.

This is cause for major concern in Canada, says Burger.

"Southern Africa was in a very similar situation 15 years ago as we are now, very similar rates of infection, very similar disease profile. So it doesn't take a long time for things to change very rapidly," she says. "If heterosexual transmission becomes the main mode of transmission, it's really going to change. It's huge."

A recent study of Nova Scotia youth's attitude toward safe sex found that as many as 33 per cent of sexually active young females, and 17 per cent of young males, reported never using condoms. Only 20 per cent of girls and 33 to 40 per cent of males always used condoms, according to *The Buddy Study*.

"Imagine if the primary mode of transmission in Canada had been heterosexual sex for the past 15 or 20 years," says Burger. "Imagine university campuses and imagine what the rates would be. The thing to be cautious of is, that's what's coming."

People think the crisis is over

Maria MacIntosh, program coordinator at the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, says five women under the age of 25, newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, have come through her door in the past four months.

Awareness about the disease has declined in the last decade, says MacIntosh. She says a national study in 2004 found that more than half of Grade 9 and 11 students thought there was a vaccine for HIV, and 36 per cent of Grade 11 students believed there was a cure.

MacIntosh attributes some of the ignorance to the fact that HIV positive people are living with the disease today, when in the 80s and early 90s, they were dying everyday. As the deaths declined, so did the sense of urgency, she says.

"It doesn't feel for the community, or for Canada, or for Nova Scotia, like a crisis anymore," says MacIntosh.

A lack of awareness also impacts issues surrounding women and HIV because they haven't been a risk group in the past, she says. Women are generally diagnosed later than men, because doctors don't think to test them,

Continued on next page

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HIV/AIDS Epidemic, continued

Continued from previous page

and women don't see themselves as vulnerable to the disease.

"It's not in the general frame of mind to be discussing that if we have unprotected sex, than we are at risk," she says.

Gay men and IV drug users still most at risk

Dr. B. Lynn Johnson, head of the division of infectious diseases in Dal's faculty of medicine, says the major risk groups for HIV are still men who have sex with men and intravenous drug users.

"As very important as it is to recognize the epidemic in women, we can't lose sight of the fact that in North America, a large proportion of infections continue to be [men who have sex with men]," says Johnson.

Women who acquire HIV through heterosexual contact represent a small proportion of the patients the Halifax HIV clinic diagnoses and treats, and those numbers haven't risen in the past few years, Johnson says.

Johnson says physicians having the level of awareness that they should is a "bit of an issue," though.

"HIV is not so common in Nova Scotia that a lot of physicians will see it regularly," she says. "It's just not on their radar screens."

Programs should remain focused on men who have sex with men and intravenous drug users, says Johnson.

"We would like to see it totally prevented, but I think if you were to maximize your resources and try to get the biggest bang for your buck, in Nova Scotia, the biggest bang for the buck will be men who have sex with men and injection drug users," she says.

But Burger and the Atlantic Centre for Excellence in Women's Health advocate for changes in programs to happen now.

"You can't wait before intervening," says Burger. "[We've seen] what happens in other countries where there is a gap between when you start having the evidence and when you do something about it. And if we do the same thing, and we talk five years from now, what's the profile of HIV/AIDS in Canada going to be? Twenty-year-old women?"

Burger promotes a gender-based approach to HIV-related issues, from

the policy-making to the practical level. Gender, she says, is a key factor in making women more vulnerable, in both Canada and in Africa, because of social expectations and roles. Men are generally supposed to be controlling and sexually aggressive, while women are supposed to be passive, she says.

"Those kinds of things are as real in our society as they are in Africa," says Burger. "Women often don't have the power to negotiate within the sexual relationship for their own health."

Unless education programs take gender into account, they won't be effective, she says.

Busse holds workshops to educate policy-makers, programmers and the general public about gender and HIV.

"Generally, men have more power than women," he says. "When it comes down to the HIV/AIDS arena, if you don't have the power within your own relationships to negotiate your own safety, and most women wouldn't have, globally, then you are at risk."

Even in Canada, women are at greater risk because of social inequalities and the rate of violence against women, he says.

"If you talk to people outside Canada, they have a hard time believing that such things could happen [in Canada]," he says.

"But if you just scratch the surface a bit, there's an enormous amount of women abuse. There's lots of vulnerability in this context."

Hope on the horizon

There is a major landmark on the horizon in HIV prevention for women, says Burger. Microbicides, a substance that women could apply prior to sex that would prevent HIV infection, would give women the power to protect themselves, without being dependent on men to use condoms.

The development of a microbicide would have major implications for women in Africa, and in Canada, who can't negotiate safe sex because of power imbalances. But the development is slow because of funding difficulties, says Burger.

Research on microbicides relies heavily on funding from government and donor agencies, because pharmaceutical companies aren't interested in forking the bill for a product that will largely serve the world's poor

and doesn't offer major profit potential, she says.

The microbicides could be available in as few as five or six years, if funding came through.

"We only know [how long it will take] as the funding comes down the tubes," says MacIntosh at the AIDS Coalition. "And governments haven't been putting research dollars in Canada or the U.S. to develop microbicides."

The importance of microbicides is tremendous, says MacIntosh. "It would be huge for women, women in Canada, women in Africa. It would be unbelievable."

Not an African issue

The number of women with HIV in Canada is still relatively low, says Burger, which can make it hard to get attention focused on women and HIV.

"It doesn't look too frightening yet, so it can be hard to show how patterns here are matching patterns in other parts of the world," she says. "If we don't do something soon, we know it's going to escalate."

On an international level, HIV/AIDS afflicts more women than men, says Busse, and that reality could extend to Canada.

"I don't buy the argument that we need to wait for the development of a major epidemic until we're going to take this seriously," he says.

Busse says people tend to view HIV/AIDS as something that happens to other people in other places, just as he did prior to being infected in 1985. This "othering" of the disease is the biggest barrier in the fight against it, he says.

"The ideas in Canada are that AIDS is over, that AIDS is an African issue, and that there's a cure," he says. "[But] it's getting worse. We haven't turned any kind of corner."

He says people don't respond on a personal level because most don't think it would ever affect them — but that has to change.

"The message for Canada must be that AIDS is not over, and you happen to have the luxury of living in a country where there's well under [one per cent of the population infected]," says Busse. People have an obligation to fight HIV/AIDS anyway they can, he says.

"AIDS is still a reality in all parts of the world. This is not an African is-

HIV/AIDS in the world

- 40 million adults are living with HIV
- More than 20 million people have already died of AIDS
- 14 million children have been orphaned by AIDS
- Young people, aged 15-24 years, account for half of all new HIV infections worldwide

In sub-Saharan Africa:

- AIDS is the leading cause of death
- 60 per cent of people with HIV (25.4 million) live in sub-Saharan Africa
- 10 per cent of the world's population lives in the region
- 58 per cent of HIV positive people are women
- 67 per cent of HIV positive youth are female
- An estimated 60 to 80 per cent of HIV positive women in Africa have only had sex with one person — their husband

In 2004:

- Nearly 5 million people were infected
- More than 3 million died of AIDS
- 640,000 people under the age of 15 were infected
- More than half a million children died of AIDS

Today:

- More than 14,000 people are getting infected with HIV daily
- 2,000 of them are under the age of 15
- 12,000 of them are between the ages of 15 and 49

Tomorrow:

- 45 million people will become infected by 2010
- 40 per cent of them will be in Asia and the Pacific
- A one per cent increase in prevalence in the six most populous countries of Asia will add 15.5 million to the global pandemic
- A one per cent increase in sub-Saharan Africa adds 2.5 million

For more info...

Atlantic Centre of Excellence in Women's Health
www.acewh.ca

James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies
jamesjohnstonchair.dal.ca

Nova Scotia Strategy on HIV/AIDS
www.gov.ns.ca/health/downloads/HIVAids_summaryreport.pdf

Dalhousie medical students' study tours in Africa
iho.medicine.dal.ca

General HIV/AIDS information:

Nova Scotia AIDS information line:
1-800-565-2437

AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia
www.acns.ns.ca
(902) 425-4882
(902) 429-7922

Planned Parenthood Metro Clinic
www.pphalifax.ca
(902) 455-9656

Anonymous testing:

Planned Parenthood Metro Clinic
6009 Quinpool Road, Suite 201,
Halifax
(902) 455-9656
info@pphalifax.ca
www.pphalifax.ca

AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia
1657 Barrington St. Suite 326,
Halifax
(902) 425-4881
(902) 429-7922
acns@acns.ns.ca
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Tackling the toxic mix

Dal prof aims to spark dialogue on HIV/AIDS in black NS communities

JESS MCDIARMID
Assistant News Editor

Racism, religion, stigma and the taboo surrounding sex are among the key factors that have led to a lack of HIV/AIDS information and essential services in Nova Scotia's black communities, says Dalhousie's chair of black Canadian studies.

"You've got agencies that have been accused of being racist, agencies which are staffed by people who don't look like the individuals they're trying to service, agencies which have... stereotypical ideas about black people and tend to reflect those stereotypes in practice," says David Divine. "That leads to difficulties."

Stigma surrounding homosexuality and HIV/AIDS, as well as the taboo of sex in general, has resulted in a resentment to discuss the disease in black communities, says Divine.

"When you've got all these in the melting pot, in addition to historical dis-servicing of certain people because of colour, then you have got a toxic mix," he says.

Divine's project, which falls under Nova Scotia's HIV/AIDS strategy, is designed to raise awareness of the disease and increase black people's trust in HIV/AIDS agencies. But the first task, he says, is to generate discussion about the disease within black communities in Nova Scotia.

"Issues aren't being addressed and they need to be," says Divine. "They're not discussing and [are] operating in silence."

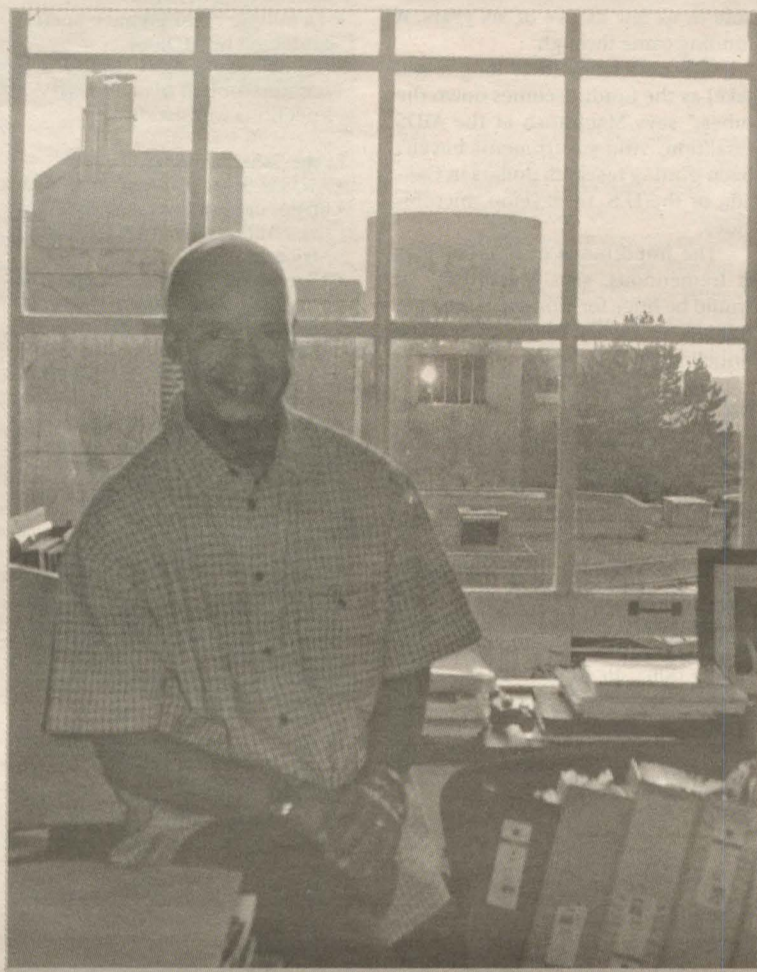
People who need to know about HIV/AIDS are not getting access to information, people who need services aren't getting them, and people lack confidence that their personal information will be kept confidential, Divine says.

Members of some black communities in Nova Scotia have travelled to Toronto to be treated for HIV, rather than risk having their identity revealed in Nova Scotia, he says. "And that is simply not acceptable."

Divine will meet with health-care workers, community leaders and residents in one of the province's black communities this month to talk about health concerns, including HIV/AIDS, for the first step of the project.

"It's very important to broach the subject in this way because if you had a specific session on AIDS and HIV and asked people to come to it, chances are you wouldn't get very many. That's the reality here in Nova Scotia," says Divine. "That's because of the toxic mix, particularly the stigma relating to AIDS and HIV."

Larry Baxter, chair of the Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on AIDS,



Dal prof David Divine says mistrust in confidentiality has caused people from some black communities in Nova Scotia to go to Toronto for HIV/AIDS treatment. Photo: Rafal Andronowski

says the provincial strategy on HIV/AIDS, announced in 2003, lacked input from black communities.

"We did recognize that that was a weakness of the strategy and that we needed to do more work," he says.

Part of Divine's mandate involves finishing consultations with black communities and taking the first steps toward improving access to information.

Baxter and Divine both stress that stigma and difficulty in broaching the subject are not unique to Nova Scotia's black communities, and exist in all of society.

The strategy, says Baxter, targets a variety of vulnerable groups, not just black communities, but also women, aboriginal people, prisoners, intravenous drug users and young gay males.

HIV/AIDS already exists in black communities in Nova Scotia, says Baxter, but there isn't any public discussion about the disease in some areas.

Denial and a lack of information are the main reasons why these communities remain closed-lipped about the disease, he says.

"In some cases we lack the epi-

miological data to indicate that there is a trend going on in certain communities, especially small communities," he says.

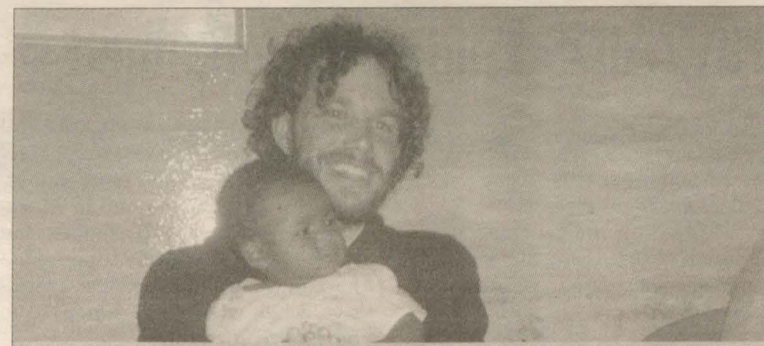
Nationally, just over two per cent of Canadians are black, yet black people account for more than 20 per cent of HIV infections.

"We do know from our experience with AIDS over the last 20 years that when you see a trend happening nationally, it's only a matter of time before that trend is an issue we have to deal with here in Nova Scotia," says Baxter.

"HIV is an illness that has affected, will affect, and continues to affect African Nova Scotian communities."

Divine likens the process of triggering discussion about the disease to treading on eggshells. "Sometimes you go three steps forward and 10 steps back," he says.

"But at the end of the day, the critical thing is to make sure individuals who want information about AIDS/HIV, who need to have information about AIDS/HIV, perhaps need to access service relating to AIDS/HIV, can do so without stigma, shame or fear."



Dal med student Peter Sullivan holds a child orphaned by AIDS in South Africa. "There were definitely times I was shocked, definitely times when I was with patients and bawling, in their homes and at some of the hospices," he says. / Photo: Peter Sullivan

Clinic, drugs offer hope for South Africa: Dal med students

JESS MCDIARMID
Assistant News Editor

Dalhousie medical student Peter Sullivan spent eight days last summer hiking and camping in New York with children who lead healthy lives in spite of their HIV infections. Shortly after, he travelled to South Africa, where most babies born with the disease will not live to see their 15th birthdays.

"It was an amazing contrast," he says. "[The kids in New York] are some of the poorest people on our continent, [who] are at the bottom of our social echelon."

But children in New York are treated with antiretrovirals (ARVs), which enable them to stay healthy. Most kids in South Africa don't get ARVs. And without the drugs, they die.

Sullivan was one of three Dal med students who travelled to an AIDS clinic in East London, South Africa, last August. The group brought roughly \$17,000 worth of medication — enough to last for six months — to the clinic.

The trip was a pilot project of Dal's school of medicine, coordinated by a student researching a masters' thesis at the clinic. The project will now be offered as an annual study tour for med students.

The students spent a month shadowing doctors at the Ikhwezi Lokusa Wellness Centre, visiting hospitals and hospices in the region, and accompanying workers from the clinic on home care rounds in the area.

"You're walking by all these shacks, and you realize that in every one, there's somebody who's just lying there, who's been there for the last month or two, who's waiting to die," says Sullivan.

South Africa has the fifth highest rate of HIV in the world — more than 21 per cent of the population lives with the disease. In some provinces, it's estimated that more than 40 per cent of the population is infected.

Sullivan remembers going to a woman's home with a hospice worker to tell the mother that her 23-year-old daughter had died that morning.

"There were definitely times I was

shocked, definitely times when I was with patients and bawling, in their homes and at some of the hospices," he says.

Med student Tracey Thorne also travelled to East London last summer. She says the experience gave her insight into what's happening in South Africa.

One day at the clinic, she says, an old woman brought in her 23-year-old daughter who was dying of AIDS, and her 18-month-old granddaughter, also suffering from AIDS and tuberculosis.

"The grandmother was bringing her next two generations in, with full understanding that she was going to lose them both," says Thorne. "They're losing generations of people, and the old are taking care of the young, which is exactly opposite of what should be happening."

Volunteers have run the clinic, which currently serves about 2000 AIDS patients, since it opened in 2003. A local doctor bought a four-bedroom house, converted it into a clinic and enlisted her family, friends and neighbours as volunteers. The clinic only received funding from international sponsors and the government to hire staff two weeks before the students arrived.

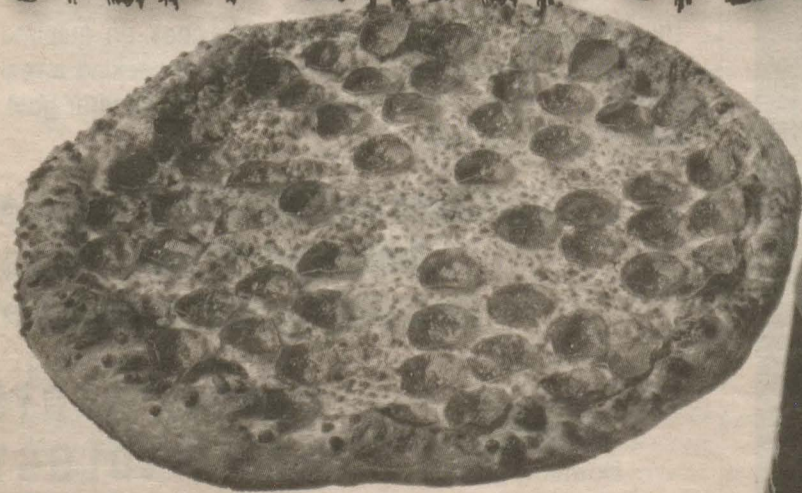
The South African government approved the clinic as an ARV distribution site in June 2005. With drug therapies newly available, says Thorne, the students were able to watch the recovery of patients who would have otherwise been dying.

Thorne and Sullivan both say the hope for dealing with the AIDS epidemic in South Africa lies in the people there.

"They have the human resources to deal with their crisis," says Thorne. "But they just don't have the financial resources."

Sullivan agrees there's a major lack of resources and ARVs, and says things are moving slowly. He says the international community must support efforts in sub-Saharan Africa and supply vital resources and expertise, "or else it won't stop in this generation, and there will be nobody left."

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AIDS activist still on frontlines after two decades

JESS McDIARMID
Assistant News Editor

Peter Busse threw a party for more than 300 people earlier this year to celebrate his 20th anniversary of testing HIV positive.

Since his diagnosis in 1985, the South African AIDS activist has lost a lot of friends. His former partner, who he contracted the virus from, died in 1995.

"It's quite odd to sit here thinking, 10 years ago, that person could have been me," he says.

Busse attributes his health to a positive attitude and helping other people. "I just sort of became too busy to even contemplate taking time off to die," he says, laughing.

After his diagnosis, Busse began working as an AIDS counsellor, and later got involved in advising policy makers and tackling the stigma and discrimination that surrounds the disease. He founded South Africa's first organization that supports people living with HIV in the late 1980s.

"Once it happened, I just thought, 'You can't go back on it,'" says Busse. "You just have to move forward. So I became involved in AIDS work."

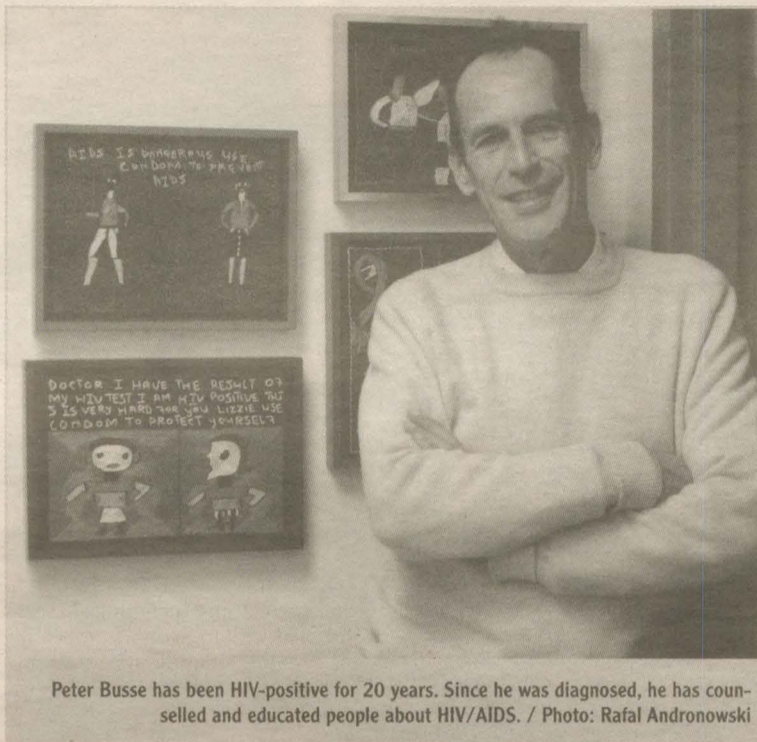
During the two decades he has spent on the front lines of the battle against HIV/AIDS in Africa and around the world, Busse says the biggest challenge was, and continues to be, getting people to personalize the disease. HIV/AIDS has to be personalized and taken seriously, says Busse, in order for change to occur.

At a workshop he hosted at Saint Mary's University on Nov. 14, he asked all the participants to close their eyes, and spend 10 minutes imagining themselves with HIV.

"It's really hard to make it an issue that is realistic and personal, [but] nobody's going to engage in anything if it's not real and personal," he says.

SMU student Wes Wrightson, who took part in the exercise at the workshop, says Busse's courage in disclosing his HIV positive status helped students personalize the disease.

"It was haunting [to imagine]



Peter Busse has been HIV-positive for 20 years. Since he was diagnosed, he has counselled and educated people about HIV/AIDS. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

yourself infected with the virus," he says. "If you can change one person, you've done your job, and [Busse is] quietly doing so."

The majority of HIV/AIDS cases are found in sub-Saharan Africa, where the disease has erased decades of development work, says Busse. AIDS has lowered life expectancies by as many as 20 years in some areas.

"In many ways, Africa is now worse off than it was 30 years ago," he says. "If you look at the Millennium Development Goals, the eradication of poverty, they are not going to happen, because HIV is simply not going to allow that. AIDS is going to make people poorer and poorer."

More than 20 million people have already died of AIDS, and roughly 40 million are currently living with HIV/AIDS.

"And there is no cure, which means that they're all going to die," says Busse.

Unless major steps are taken to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS, another 45 million people will be infected by 2010, says Busse, and 40 per cent

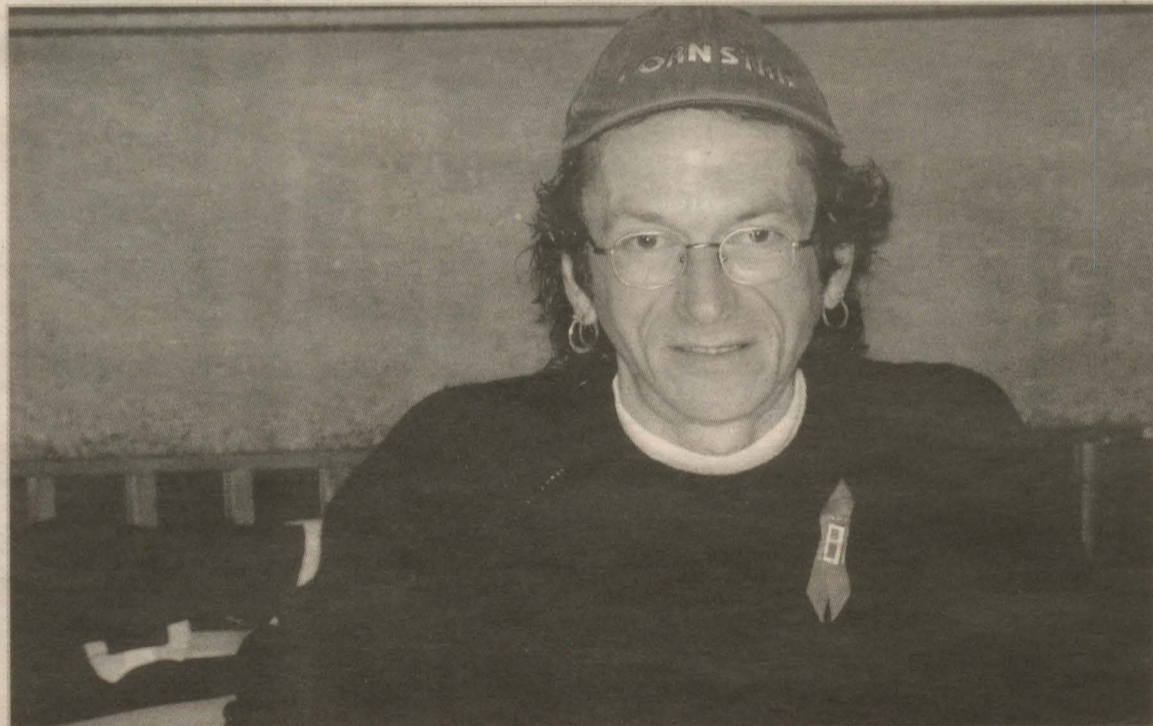
of those will be in Asia. Because the populations of countries in Southeast Asia are so high, even a small increase in the percentage of people infected would add millions to the global total.

"There's a real worry that that's the next hot spot," he says. Six of the world's most populous countries are hovering at infection rates of just under one per cent. When the rate goes over the one per cent mark, HIV will spread very quickly, says Busse.

"Asia is going to be the new explosion," he says. "Like now. Starting today."

Busse is reluctant to say whether there is hope for the future. The situation is getting worse, he says, and the fight against HIV/AIDS lacks leadership.

Until people everywhere see themselves as the targets of the disease, nothing will change, he says. But ultimately, in all of his 20 years of AIDS work, he says if he has touched one person, or saved one person, it's all worth it.



Durex, Trojan, Lifestyles, chocolate, strawberry, ribbed, lubed and lube-free are just some of the condom varieties that Eric Smith displays on the table in front of him in the Killam Library.

He's been there every day for 13 years researching elections — he's analyzed every Canadian and American election, and is now working on India.

"I call it a hobby," he laughs. "My friends call it an obsession."

The condoms are there for anyone who needs them, and to start conversations about safe sex.

He's happy to demonstrate the proper use of condoms, using his fingers or a banana, to anyone who's interested, because he says a lot of people don't know how to put one on.

"You may as well be asking them to fly a rocket to the moon," he says, smiling.

Smith, who grew up on Cape Sable Island in

Shelburne County, spent the early part of his life wishing to become a teacher. At the age of 17, he pursued that dream and went to teacher's college. After he graduated, he returned to the island where he taught primary school for nine years.

In 1986, Smith tested HIV-positive, at the age of 29.

When the community learned of his status the following spring, parents banded together and had him removed from his position, because they were afraid of the risks to their children.

"I can understand that," says Smith. People lacked education about how HIV was transmitted, he says.

The school board and the department of education promised Smith that he'd be reinstated on several occasions.

But each time, parents protested and Smith was reassigned to other posts, such as the prov-

ince's first task force on AIDS, and AIDS curriculum development for high schools.

Finally, in 1991, Smith gave up on becoming a teacher again.

"Things just got really so intense, that I ended up giving up the battle and going on a disability pension," he says.

The following year, he started his post in the Killam atrium.

Smith has been an AIDS educator and campaigner for the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS since 1987. Of the original group that set up Halifax's AIDS Coalition, says Smith, he is the only one still alive.

Smith says more than 450 of his friends across the country have died of AIDS.

"Of everything I've been through, I think probably the most difficult thing has been dealing with the loss."

PHOTO: JESS McDIARMID

HIV/AIDS in Canada:

56,000 people in Canada are living with HIV/AIDS. Health Canada estimates that 17,000 of them don't know they're infected. More than 25 per cent of new infections occur in women. Until 1997, less than 12 per cent of positive tests were women. More than 75 per cent of women are infected through heterosexual contact. 4.4 per cent of Canadians are Aboriginal; 14.4 per cent of Canadians with HIV are Aboriginal. 2.1 per cent of Canadians are black; 20.7 per cent of Canadians with HIV are black.

WORLD AIDS DAY 2005 - HALIFAX EVENTS

Public Update on HIV/AIDS

10:30 a.m. at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia (1723 Hollis Street, Gallery South, Halifax)

- World AIDS Day 2005
- Annual update on Nova Scotia's Strategy on HIV/AIDS
- Other World AIDS Day events in Halifax and the province
- Announcements on upcoming HIV/AIDS events in 2006

Day Without Art - Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

1723 Hollis Street, Gallery South, Halifax (all day)

- A display of remembrance and education
- A section of the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display

Co-sponsored by the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia & AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia

Annual AIDS Vigil - Halifax

7:00 pm in the Multipurpose Room, Bloomfield Centre, 2786 Agricola St

- Words of remembrance
- Lighting of the Vigil Candle
- Reading of the names for Nova Scotia
- Display of sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt

Co-sponsored by the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church & NAMES Project - Canada

CANFAR Dalhousie (Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research)

- Information posters around campus
- Information table in the Dalhousie Student Union Building with
- Slide shows, free ribbons and condoms

Awareness and fundraising event at Ryan Duffy's Speakeasy (off Spring Garden) (proceeds for HIV/AIDS research)

Saturday December 3 Ondaatje Hall Dalhousie

doors open 6:00 p.m. for pre-show party & expo

Tangerine Dream film premiere 8:00 p.m.

Coors Light Après Ski (movie) party @ the Pogue Fado

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"It's about solidarity for the human race"

Q&A with Dal student Erin Rogers, who works in a South African AIDS clinic

JESS MCDIARMID
Assistant News Editor

Dalhousie masters student Erin Rogers spent nine months at the Ikhwezi Lokusa Wellness Centre in South Africa during her internship with the Canadian International Development Agency.

After her program ended and she returned to Canada, Rogers gained the support of Dal's med school, and returned to the AIDS clinic, taking with her three med students and roughly \$17,000 worth of medications.

The Gazette interviewed Rogers from South Africa via email.

Gazette: What was the initial experience like, landing in a faraway place and working in a setting where there's so much tragedy surrounding HIV/AIDS?

Rogers: I think, overall, very human. I think there is this conception around "AIDS in Africa," that it is only death and devastation and hopelessness.

But I work with people every day, who are as real as you or I. There are days that you laugh, there are days that you cry, there are days that you do both or neither. No, it's not all sunshine and roses. But it is life, and it is going on.

Gazette: How has the experience changed your outlook on the role of developed countries in fighting HIV/AIDS?

Rogers: We cannot not fight this. It's fightable. Beatable. But the entire world is so overwhelmed by the whole thing that it's become a skeleton in the global closet. It's a big problem, yes. But running away doesn't make it any better, or the people it's affecting any less human.

There are ordinary people fighting this epidemic on the ground every day, not because they have volunteered to be heroes, but because it is the reality of their situation.

It isn't fair to let them keep taking responsibility for a problem that is no more their fault than it is any of ours.

This is everyone's problem now. It's about solidarity for the human race. At the very least, we need to acknowledge the situation. Because by "othering" it, or putting it in our closet, it perpetuates the shame associated with the epidemic. It's past the point of shame or blame now. If anyone is to be ashamed, it's those of us who hide behind the excuse that they are powerless.

Gazette: How does HIV/AIDS impact



Dal masters student Erin Rogers (bottom left) is working at an AIDS clinic in South Africa. The AIDS epidemic, says Rogers, is "past the point of shame or blame now. If anyone is to be ashamed, it's those of us who hide behind the excuse that they are powerless." Photo: Peter Sullivan

people in one of the highest concentrations of infections in the world?

Rogers: How does it impact people here? For some people it doesn't impact them at all. They turn their back

on it just like the rest of the world, even though it's just under their doormat.

But for the majority of people, it steals their husbands, their children, their dreams. Even for those who aren't infected, i.e. youth, they are

growing up in a world where the expression of love is essentially directly associated with death.

How does it impact people here? It underscores every facet of life with an element of fear, mistrust, confusion, injustice. But that's my take because I understand the possibility of life without the constant threat of AIDS.

Here, it's just part of life.

Gazette: Is there hope that HIV/AIDS in Africa can be overcome?

Rogers: I honestly do think there is hope. I believe this is a manageable disease.

When I left here a year ago, there were people I was sure I was saying goodbye to forever. But I returned a year later to see them not only alive, but pleasantly plump and smiling. I have literally witnessed people get up from their death bed, go back to work, and continue to take care of their children.

I am not saying that the challenge is simple. But giving up is not an option.

Municipal Internship Position

Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations (SNSMR), in partnership with the Association of Municipal Administrators (AMA) is introducing the Nova Scotia Municipal Internship Program. For one year, interns will be exposed to a variety of different aspects of managing a municipality and will be personally mentored, and coached by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) or the senior administrative officer, and supervised by the senior management team of the host municipality.

Duties

The one-year intern position provides an opportunity to work with the (CAO) and various municipal departments to learn about municipal governance, management and service delivery.

The intern and host municipality will work collaboratively to determine the most effective method of completing the prepared workplan.

In addition to learning the key functions of municipal government, the intern will have the opportunity to develop leadership skills by observing, experiencing and practicing their skills throughout the duration of the internship. The intern may be involved in identifying the roles and responsibilities of council and administration; assisting with the preparation of operating and capital budgets; drafting bylaws; preparing the agenda for the regular council/committee meetings; interacting with department heads; interacting with various boards and committees; handling public and research inquiries; and, researching policy issues. Some travel within the province will be required.

Qualifications

A recently completed post-secondary degree or diploma in a related discipline; A desire to experience and learn the functions of a municipality; work or volunteer experience that may be related to the skills required in municipal administration; willingness to relocate to a host municipality, if necessary; and work, character, educational, or volunteer related references.

The successful candidate will have: demonstrated experience in working with community groups or involvement with volunteer community organizations; some basic knowledge about local government; and an interest in pursuing a career in municipal administration. The successful candidate will also possess a desire to influence public policy and community development through public service; problem solving ability; and develop positive public relations skills.

Host Municipalities

Bridgewater / Middleton

Salary Range: \$30,000 to \$35,000

Closing Date: December 15, 2005


Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Applications/resumes can be sent to:

Service Nova Scotia
and Municipal Relations
PO Box 216, Halifax, NS
B3J 2M4
or fax (902)424-0821

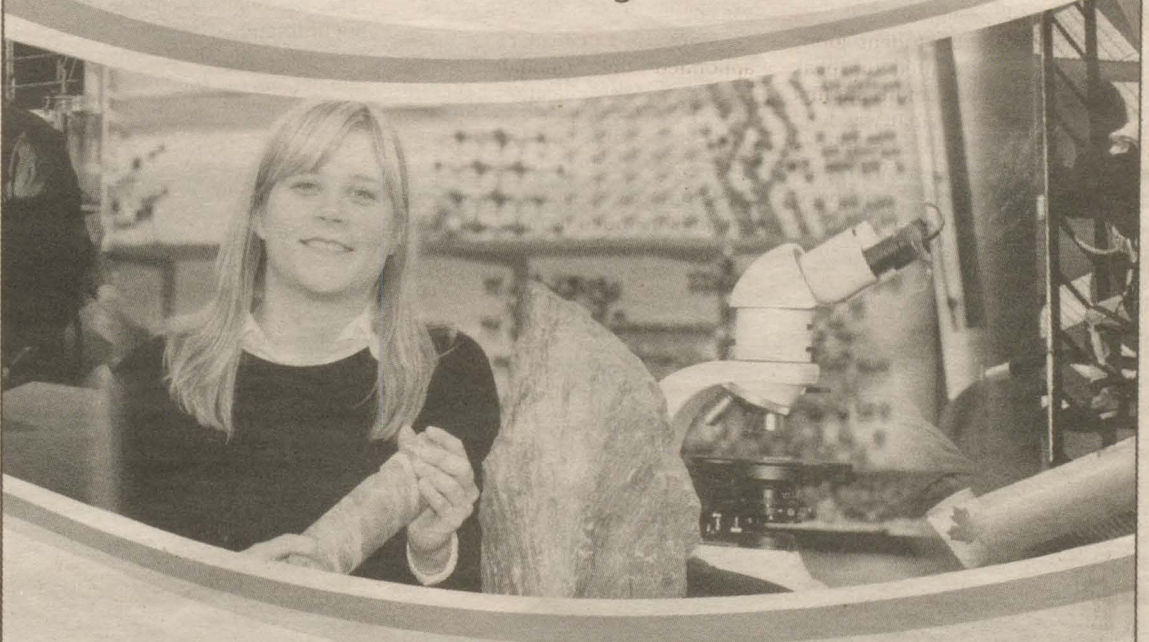
Contact: grantdk@gov.ns.ca



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The new PSE funding announcement represents the largest influx of funding into post-secondary education in recent memory, says DSU Vice-President (Education) Jen Bond. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Provincial, federal governments show promising interest in PSE funding

MIKE TIPPING-SPITZ
News Contributor
NEAL CODY
Staff Contributor

The funding of post-secondary education has recently become a hot political topic across Canada.

Locally, Premier John Hamm met with representatives of the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA) on Nov. 16 for the first time during his term in office.

"I was impressed," Peter Eirikson, Vice President (Academic) of the Acadia Students' Union said of the Halifax meeting. "I felt [Hamm] was actually listening to what we had to say and cares about the students of this province."

ANSSA pushed for the meeting after New Brunswick Premier Bernard Lord met with student representatives in his province.

The Nova Scotia student lobby organization also wanted to speak with the government before the first ministers' conference that was held on Nov. 24 and 25. Although the focus of the conference was Aboriginal affairs, ANSSA officials knew post-secondary education would also be on the agenda.

During ANSSA's meeting with the premier, education minister Jamie Muir and deputy minister Dennis Cochran, the association advocated its federal policy proposal of a per-student, rather than per-capita, funding model.

"In the past, the premier has stated his support for a per-student funding model, and we were encouraged to hear that support affirmed," said Alex Abboud, Executive Director of ANSSA, in a press release shortly after the meeting.

The student association also put its desire for a dedicated transfer payment from the feds to the provinces on the meeting's agenda.

When asked if anything new and unexpected had come out of the meeting with Hamm, Eirikson said, "The fact that we met with the premier itself is new. There has been a

new interest from government."

ANSSA is hoping to use this renewed interest to create a lasting change. As a part of these efforts, the lobby group is currently working to set up a meeting with possible contenders for the leadership of the Nova Scotia Conservative Party.

On the national front, the Liberal government in Ottawa made new promises on Nov. 14 to reform the way university education is financed.

Finance Minister Ralph Goodale announced funding increases of \$7.5 billion for post-secondary education, which is conditional on a Liberal victory in the upcoming election.

The package includes twice as many graduate scholarships, \$2.2 billion more for financial assistance programs, and four-year low-income and accessibility grants for up to \$55,000.

Many student leaders were disappointed that Goodale's recent post-secondary education spending announcements didn't address their demands for a dedicated transfer payment.

Funding for post-secondary education is included in the Canada Social Transfer, said Jen Bond, DSU Vice President (Education), who is also the chair of ANSSA.

"This means there is zero transparency or accountability in regards to how much money gets spent on post-secondary education," she said, adding that she's not disappointed with the omission.

"What is very exciting about this announcement is that it represents the largest influx of funding into post-secondary education in [recent memory]," she said.

ANSSA plans to leverage the federal government's new focus on post-secondary education funding during the upcoming election, as the Liberals' commitment is conditional on their victory.

"With an impending election, it's up to us as students to make sure this issue doesn't get lost and these promises are not forgotten," said Bond.

DSU sponsorship program launches with Parade of Lights float

AARON GILLIS
Staff Contributor
REID SOUTHWICK
News Editor

Six Dalhousie architecture students received the first kickbacks of a new DSU sponsorship program to help pay for their float in the Nov. 19 Chronicle Herald Parade of Lights.

"We have our logo advertised on a float, but it goes towards a student project at the same time, so it's sort of a win-win situation," says Chad LeClair, DSU Vice President (Finance and Operations).

The DSU was the second largest sponsor of the student project with a \$750 contribution, which was second only to the university's \$1500.

Lynden Giles, one of the students involved in designing and constructing the float, says sponsorship from the DSU was important for the development of the project.

"I think it was huge," he says.

"Without any sponsorship, this thing would have been pretty weak."

The masters of architecture students, under the supervision of professor Brian Lilley, modelled the float after Buckminster Fuller's Expo '67 pavilion in Montreal. Fans underneath the geometric sphere blew marshmallows around to resemble snow flurries.

Giles says the additional funding from the DSU allowed the group to make its float more appealing to viewers of the parade.

"We had the liberty to spend a bit more on lights and spend a bit more on candy to give out to the kids," he says. "It's those touches that really make it memorable."

The DSU sponsorship program provides funding to student projects that aren't eligible for grants either because the proposal wasn't submitted by a ratified society, or because the grants committee didn't approve the application. The union created a new line in

its budget for the program, earmarking \$5,000 for student and community events. The sponsorship program, which aims to free up a portion of the society grants budget, will benefit both the DSU and the student groups, says LeClair.

And the program will provide a valuable way to promote the DSU to students, he says.

"A lot of people in this university don't know they have a union," he says.

"With this advertising, ... they might realize who we are and why we're here and what we have to offer."

The sponsorship program's \$5,000 budget will initially come from a projected surplus and compliment the \$12,000 already set aside for advertising. But LeClair says the program could be supported by the reduction of demand on the grants pool.

"The thought is, in a year or two, if this actually does take pressure off of grants, we might not need as much grant money," he says.

XXX hypnotist's travelling circus sparks hysteria at Dal A Gonzo report on hypnotism

BRENDAN MORRISON
Staff Contributor

Crazed youngsters donning their Underwear on their heads exited the SUB at midnight, grinning wildly.

"It's my toque," insisted Marty Mitchell, "It keeps my ears warm."

The pseudo-maniacal first-year proceeded to dial up three of his friends, giggle that he had just been screwed in the ass, and hang up. It was clear the boy was either hopped up on ether and mescaline, or else had been hypnotized in a student showcase of subconscious seduction.

I walked into a sea of people at 9:30 p.m.; the Grawood was packed to the tits. We had come to see Tony Lee, XXX hypnotist, and his travelling campus circus.

For two decades, Lee has been masterfully submerging students into obedient, semi-conscious hypnosis and provoking them to kiss each other's exposed butts.

"We've done 4,000 shows in 20 years," he says. The crowds of sexually engrossed, boozed-up students love it.

Lee takes his show from Canada to Mexico, the Bahamas to the United Arab Emirates.

On Nov. 18, he was at Dal.

At 10 p.m., Lee had a score of willing participants on the stage, slumped over their chairs, asleep.

Some had volunteered from the start. Others had been hypnotized in the audience, and drawn up to the stage in a panicked attempt to flee what Lee had convinced them was the rank smell of their neighbour's vaginal flatulence.

All of them, says Lee, had willingly engaged in the hypnosis. "It's the only way it can happen".

Over the next hour and a half, ordered mania transpired on stage, hysteria swept through the crowd.

The student-pawns would feign oral sex, give each other lap dances and stroke their imagined pet pigs.

The men were given premenstrual cramps; the ladies reacted to a two-foot phallus. Lee sequentially stimulated mass sexual climax. The men moaned. The girls writhed on the stage in psychological sexual ecstasy; then erupted into mentally induced, yet purely physical, orgasms.

One dazed participant pulled up to a MacDonald's drive-through window.

He and his female passenger ordered some nuggets and the soup of the day, neither acknowledging that the driver was wearing nothing but his wrinkled undies.

Both ordered their meals from Lee who stood next to them, simulating an incoherent server with bad English, mumbling incomprehensibly and encouraging a rage of big-

otry from his student-assistants. A barrage of unrestrained racial slurs ensued, both shocking and absurd in equal measure.

At the end of the night, Lee released his dupes from hypnotic spell, unleashing them once again into reality. But only partially. The bleary-eyed, blurry-minded students awoke to the full memory of the events that took place.


"Oh my God, I just gave a lap-dance to a dude!" said one incredulous bloke. "I can't believe my friends let me do that."

Some laughed; others blushed. Most seemed pleased with the evening. But while the chaos had ended, the mania continued. Lee had left them with a week-long souvenir: a mild dose of continued hypnosis.

They strolled away from the SUB with their boxers over their heads, adamantly asserting them to be hats. They whipped out the cell phones, called several of their friends and declared their pseudo sexual escapades.

Lee threw back a drink after the show and said he always gets a good reaction from the participants and the audience. No fouled student has ever spoiled the show with any legal suit either. "We come to Dal two to three times a year," said Lee.

The circus will be back next semester.



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Uni-Briefs

DAL BRIEFS

'Goat campaign' raises funds at Grad House

The Dalhousie chapter of Wadeng Wings of Hope, a non-profit organization, raised \$665 during its first fundraising event, held at the Grad House on Nov. 18.

The DSU society is organizing Sudanese refugee Jacob Deng's "goat campaign," which aims to raise money for the purchase of goats. Deng will bring the goats back to the people of his home village in southern Sudan in mid-December.

The spoils of the fundraiser at the Grad House, which drew more than 150 people, will be used to help pay for Deng's flight into the region. Society heads hope the provincial government will shoulder the rest.

Cheryl Watts, president of the society, says the goat campaign is now in "full swing" and members are canvassing local businesses and schools for donations.

CANADIAN CAMPUS

Lewis delivers AIDS message at Concordia

Canada's response to Africa's AIDS crisis is hypocritical at best, said Stephen Lewis, the UN's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, during a sold-out lecture at a Concordia University auditorium last week.

In his speech, titled "Race Against Time", Lewis was frank about the issues, full of hard facts and criticisms. Since 1981, 70 million people have died or are currently infected with HIV; by 2010, the life expectancy in Zambia will be 30; in Botswana, 35.8 per cent of adults are now infected; one-tenth of the adult population in 16 African countries are infected with HIV.

Lewis contrasted these figures with the relative wealth found in most Western countries: "The European Union subsidizes every cow in the union to the tune of \$2 a day," he said, "yet there are over 600 million Africans living on less than a dollar

a day."

Lewis says there is a "subterranean racism" when it comes to Africa and that the world's response to this problem amounts to nothing less than "criminal negligence."

He criticized the West's assumption of the positive effect of globalization and resulting economic equity. He also says that although the virus is savaging the entire continent, women make up the majority of the infected, yet are the most powerless to stop it. Married men often commit adultery and bring the virus home to their wives and future offspring. Lewis called for the empowerment of women to protect themselves and their children.

Children are now taking care of their dying parents, he says, often left with nothing to do but to stand and watch them die. He estimated there are 14 to 15 million orphans - a figure that is estimated to grow to 20 million by 2010.

Generation-to-generation communication is breaking down due to people dying in the middle of their lives, leaving the country without a workforce.

Lewis did point to some sources of hope: a U.S. foundation's deal with Indian drug companies to create cheap anti-viral drugs; Canada's recent legislation exploiting a copyright loophole to allow generic drugs to be sold to the Third World.

Lewis called on Paul Martin to speak out on the AIDS crisis and to make Canada more responsible. Canada, Japan, and the U.S., he said, are the only G-8 countries not to have agreed to increase their international aid funding to 0.7 per cent of GDP.

In closing, Lewis related a story about women he met in Zambia who owned a cabbage patch and sold the produce for profit. When asked what they did with the money, the women seemed confused, as if the answer was obvious: "We buy coffins, of course," the woman replied. "We never have enough coffins."

Profs strike at Montreal University

Students at the Université de Montréal (U de M) are in danger of losing their term if the university administration and the professors' union don't reach an agreement on salary increases.

The professors union voted last week to hold up to 12 strike days before the end of this semester. The union has already spent six days on the picket lines since school began in September.

The union is asking for salaries to be increased to the average of those found at other G-10 universities - schools which are research-intensive. The average salary for professors at U de M is about \$83,000, compared with an average of \$88,000 at the other nine schools.

There is currently a 7.6 per cent difference between the union's demand and the administration's offer, with negotiations still continuing. The U de M students' union has sided with the professors, urging the university to resolve the dispute as soon as possible.

Acadia to ban smoking on campus

Officials at Acadia University have announced plans to ban smoking on campus by July 1, 2006, requiring smokers to leave school grounds before lighting up.

The university has not explained what methods will be used to enforce the ban, saying that details will be worked out in the future. Some students have expressed concern that banning smoking on campus would be an unnecessary restriction of freedoms, a claim the university denies.

As of Jan. 1, 2006, smoking will be banned in all indoor public spaces, workplaces, and at all outdoor eating and drinking establishments in Nova Scotia, something that was done in Wolfville in 2002. A number of community programs designed to help individuals quit smoking have been

invited to the campus and if demand for such programs increases, the university will respond appropriately, said school officials.

University of Manitoba joins CFS

Students at the University of Manitoba have voted 86 per cent in favour of joining the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

The CFS and the other national student lobby group, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), have been competing for the support of student unions across the country since several unions left the CFS in the mid-nineties to form CASA.

The CFS represents over 500,000 students under 70 different unions, while CASA has about 300,000 members from 17 member institutions, including the Dalhousie Student Union. CASA generally lobbies solely on educational topics through meetings with government officials, whereas the CFS uses meetings, petitions, and rallies to lobby for educational, political, and social issues.

The University of Manitoba withdrew from CASA last February, one of six unions to do so in recent years. U of M's entrance into the CFS means that all university students in Manitoba are now represented by the same national student lobby group. Officials at the Student Union of U of M have said they proposed the switch to the CFS because they believe the federation is stronger and has more weight with government, saying that with 18.4 per cent voter turnout, students have agreed with them.

South of the Border

Fewer foreign students at U.S. schools

The number of foreign students at U.S. colleges has fallen for the second year in a row, decreasing by 1.3 per cent in 2004-05 to 565,000 students. This drop follows the previ-

ous year's trend, when enrolments of foreign students fell by 2.4 per cent, according to an annual report by the Institute of International Education.

The declines contrast with the steady growth in foreign enrolment before the Sept. 11 attacks, but the IIE report suggests foreigners may soon be returning after being scared away by bad publicity and security fears. Forty percent of respondents said the number of international students had increased, while 26 per cent said it had declined further and 34 per cent reported little change.

The report shows that foreigners made up 4 per cent of the student population in 2004-05, down from 4.6 per cent two years ago. The report shows that physical science and business degrees are most popular with foreign students; 18 per cent of foreign students study business and management, 17 per cent are in engineering, 9 per cent in math and computer science and another 9 per cent study physical or life sciences.

U.S. Rhodes Scholars chosen

Thirty-two Americans were awarded Rhodes Scholarships this week, including a student who was shot four times while promoting democracy in Iraq. The scholarships, created in 1902 by philanthropist and diamond mogul Cecil Rhodes, fund two years of study at Oxford university and are awarded to eighty-five students from at least 14 nations.

Applicants are judged on academic achievement, personal integrity, leadership potential and physical vigour, among other criteria. The U.S. Naval Academy had four Rhodes Scholars, with Duke, Yale University and the University of Chicago each having three of the awarded students.

The Canadian Rhodes Scholarships will be announced within the next month. Last year Dalhousie was home to three Rhodes Scholars, bringing the total number of Dalhousie Rhodes awardees to 85.

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Orthoptists/ophthalmic medical technologists are allied health professionals who perform a wide range of diagnostic and highly technical procedures and, in consultation with an ophthalmologist, plan, implement and monitor treatment of a wide variety of ocular disorders, including disorders of binocular vision and ocular motility. They are engaged in a wide range of activities including research into ocular motility, education of other eye care professionals, patient education and vision screening.



The program involves 7.5 class credits, two extended practica and a thesis in an area of vision research. Students are permitted to exit the program after two years (prior to completing a Master's thesis) with a Graduate Diploma in Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology.

Applications for the MSc (Clinic Vision Science) program beginning in September 2006 are now being accepted. Applicants must hold a four-year bachelor's degree with a minimum B average (GPA 3.0), with at least one undergraduate class in human anatomy and/or physiology, and a class in psychology with a laboratory component. Exceptional students may be accepted without these prerequisites on the condition that they are fulfilled either prior to or concurrent with the program. Work/volunteer experience in the health care field is considered an asset.

Students whose native language is not English must demonstrate the ability to participate in a graduate program conducted in English prior to acceptance into the program. The minimum acceptable score on the TOEFL test is 580 for the written test and 237 for the computer test. Financial assistance may be available to qualified students.

Deadline for applications is March 1, 2006.

Further information is available from our website www.dal.ca/cvs or by contacting
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PO Box 9700
Halifax, NS B3K 6R8
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Gazette

Editorial

The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and

to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general.

The views of the Editorial Board are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

AIDS: the world can no longer sit idly by

As you read this, hundreds of people are getting infected with HIV. Most of them are in the developing world, and for them, it is a death sentence. They will be lucky to live another half-decade or so.

Some of those people may be in Canada. They will likely live longer, more than 10 years, but they will face a myriad of challenges because of their disease. And they, too, will die of it.

No disease since the Spanish Influenza, which killed between 20 and 40 million people in 1918 and 1919, has wreaked such havoc on humanity as AIDS.

But AIDS, unlike the Spanish flu, still hasn't received the world's undivided attention.

Meanwhile, SARS, which infected 8,098 people worldwide, and killed 774 of them, gripped the international community in 2003.

Avian flu took over as bug of choice in 2004 and has killed 67 of the 130 it infected.

But AIDS, since its outbreak in the early 1980s, has killed more than 20 million people. Another 40 million are living with the disease, and 45 million on top of that will be infected by 2010 if serious efforts to stop the virus are not undertaken.

Currently, there is no cure for AIDS. Those 40 million people currently infected are all going to die. So are the 45 million that will be infected in the next four-and-some years.

Most of them, diagnosed in developing countries, will die just a few years after becoming infected.

And still, the world sits idly by.

AIDS overwhelmingly afflicts the developing world. In Canada, it often strikes the marginalized in society—gay men, aboriginals, prostitutes, blacks, immigrants, drug users, homeless.

And so, it remains a disease surrounded by stigma and notions of immorality, or one that is someone else's problem, because it happens elsewhere, to other people. As such, developed countries like Canada that have the resources to meaningfully

contribute to the fight against AIDS have largely failed to do so.

Other governments have ignored it in the past, too. The government of South Africa, for example, denied there was any correlation between HIV and AIDS until several years ago and failed to put money into fighting the disease for the decade it was ravaging the country.

Now, more than 20 per cent of the South African population has HIV; millions have already died and there's no end in sight.

There are about 56,000 people in Canada with HIV, and an estimated 17,000 of them don't know it. But Canada still has the luxury of living in a country where most people are relatively safe from, and untouched by, the disease.

But that is a luxury, one that we could very well lose.

Canadians aren't very good at consistently wrapping it up—proven statistically and demonstrated by the wildfire-spread of diseases like Chlamydia and gonorrhoea. If HIV/AIDS goes mainstream, as it did in sub-Saharan Africa, we could well be in a situation similar to theirs, and sweet oblivion will be no more.

There's cause for concern here.

More importantly, Canada has the financial resources, the medical know-how and the healthy population to make a difference. There are people all over the developing world, working day and night to fight AIDS, or at least to comfort its victims. The least that we, as a developed country that's lucky enough to have been spared the scourge—for now anyway—can do is help. And we're not doing that.

AIDS has to be beaten, at home and abroad, and it is everyone's responsibility to do what they can, in whatever way they can. The entire world has to pull together on this one, and has to do it soon.

There doesn't have to be 45 million more infected by 2010. And the 40 million infected don't all have to die. But everyone, Dal students included, has to move.

Gazette: Opinions

Opinions Editor: Sarah Vanderwolf

Contact: opinions@dalgazette.ca

Letters: letters@dalgazette.ca

VENT: THE DOGS RUNNING LOOSE IN THE COMMONS

Sarah Vanderwolf / Opinions Editor

Living in Halifax's North End may be cheap, but it means I must walk through the Commons at least twice a day as I make the trek to and from campus.

On some mornings, it feels as though I am walking through a minefield of hyperactive dogs happily trotting along, tongues hanging out, while their owners struggle to keep them on a leash.

Then there are the dog-owners who

throw balls for their dogs to catch using those plastic arms with a cup on the end.

Many a time I have thought that someone's dog has been chasing after me — until I see that it's in pursuit of a rubber ball.

Most of all, I love the dogs who are not on a leash and scamper freely through the Commons.

As you may have guessed by now, I am not a big fan of dogs, especially

when someone's great dane or black lab is following me, sniffing at nearby lampposts, and so on.

Worse, dogs are supposedly capable of smelling fear and apprehension, forcing me to remain indifferent to the fact that someone's carnivorous pet is lurking somewhere next to the walkway.

My dislike of dogs may not be the responsibility of dog owners, but keeping them on a leash when appropriate is.

Letters

letters@dalgazette.ca

RE: "We're really happy about where we placed given the size of our university" — Dal's 13th place finish.

How is Dal's 13th place finish in *Maclean's* rankings (out of 15 universities) somehow satisfactory to Dalhousie's brass and spokesman? And I quote, "We held steady and we know the category we're in and the competition we're up against," "As long as we are in the category we're in, with these wealthy, large schools, that's where we expected we'd be."

What the fuck? That's not where I expect to be, and I think this is one of the saddest things I've ever read — when the people in charge expect to rank in the lowest fifth in the category.

The rest of the article gets even better: DSU President Ezra Edelstein is quoted as saying "It does

carry some weight, but it's not hugely significant." He continues, "I don't think it really speaks to... how good a school Dal is. It's pretty hard to tell all that from a magazine ranking."

All what? All the empty seats at Dalhousie Tiger games? All the forfeited games in intramurals?

How I pay \$660 dollars for a class that doesn't even have a professor because he was injured in a vehicle accident in the summer, and Dalhousie saves money by expecting TAs to teach the course?

Yeah, the rankings are totally insignificant, because my parents and future employers browse college websites to get a feel for Canadian universities.

Oh, wait, no they don't, they ride the elevator in the morning with a copy of *Maclean's*. I even get flack

from Saint Mary's students about our spot. The ones that can read, anyway.

Dalhousie's leaders need to wake up and realize that while there are some great things being done around campus (the environmentally friendly Rowe Building, Dr. Ransom Myer's achievements, etc.), there is a lot wrong with Dalhousie, too. Making excuses doesn't create results, doesn't attract potential top students, doesn't inspire the community and certainly doesn't make me feel happy about the amount of money I spend at this university. I'm not looking for a number-1 ranking, but I am looking for improvement that isn't the five-position drop we've had in the last five years.

Brendon Gill

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- 3 **THE BRITISH REALITY SHOW THAT FOOLSCONTESTANTS INTO THINKING THEY'RE IN OUTER SPACE** AKA Raiding Spaces.
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- 9 **THE TENNIS TEAM PROMISING A NAKED CELEBRATION IF IT WINS MASTER'S CUP** Racketeering charges, anyone?
- 10

HOT

- Every single book in the Killam
- Dal Tigers
- Being awake for 24+ hours
- Cranium
- The feeling of cash in your pocket
- A-Team
- XXX hypnotists
- People watching in the Commons
- Nutella
- Poorboy/Newsboy caps

NOT

- The one you need
- Halifax cougars
- Getting stoned
- Lobotomies
- Realizing it's just Canadian Tire money
- G-Unit
- PG-13 hypnotists
- Actually doing work in the Commons
- PBNJ
- Communist hats

Suggestions? hotornot@dalgazette.ca

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STREETER

On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate Halifax's climate?



"A 9 out of 10 because we get all these exciting hurricanes.

Anita Shlien, third-year biology



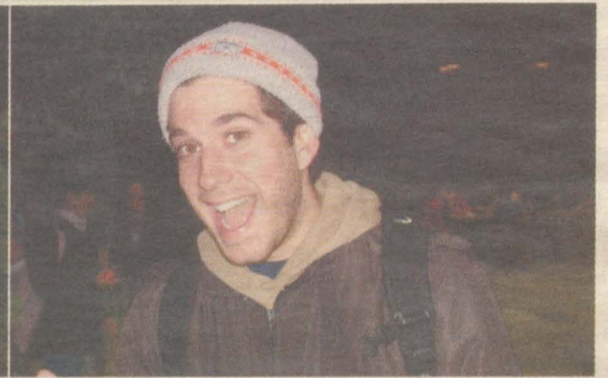
"I'd say 6 out of 10 because when it's good it's gorgeous, but when it's bad it's horrible.

Isadore Hoffman, third-year biology



"I'd say a 4, because I'm sick and tired of the ups and downs, strikes and gutter balls.

Josh Mayer, fifth-year international development studies



"I'll give it a 7, because it's November and I'm not wearing a winter jacket.

Johnny Handler, fourth-year political science



"I give it an 8, because I like extreme weather.

Phil Carriere, MA economics



"8, because it's not as humid as Toronto.

Hilary Chalmers, third-year social anthropology



"3, because I've had enough hurricanes and blizzards to last a lifetime.

Mallory Alden, third-year social anthropology



"See, lately I'd have to give it a 10. It's been so windy I can blast gas in public and still try to score with the ladies.

Joey Ryba, post-graduate amateur meteorologist

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The curse of Harry Potter blights us again

SARAH VANDERWOLF
Opinions Editor

Just how much impact can a set of books have on the public? The Harry Potter phenomenon seems to indicate that there is no limit to this influence, whether it has an impact on the film, toy, or publishing industries, the best-sellers list, conservative Christian groups, or the lives of Harry Potter fans all over the world.

Anyone who has read *The BFG* (Also known as the Big Friendly Giant) by Roald Dahl may recall the scene when the BFG, who has a harmless propensity of planting dreams in the minds of children, concocts a particularly entrancing dream in which the dreamer dreams he or she has written a best-selling book that's so good, it's impossible to stop reading it. In the dream, everyone is always reading this book — when they are crossing the street, driving a car — even dentists are reading it as they try to fix people's teeth.

When I first read *The BFG*, long before the Harry Potter buzz, this dream sounded like a delicious fantasy. Who knew that a set of books would soon make this fantasy come true!

The Harry Potter books have certainly had this effect on me, and always at the most inopportune times. I share the sentiments of reporter Tom Leopold, who complains that he "nearly got into a car accident while reading [*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*] on my way home from work one day."

Leopold writes that the Harry Potter phenomenon is "out of control. The New York Times actually changed its best-seller list because [J.K. Rowling's] books were hogging all the top places."

I read *The Goblet of Fire* when I was in high school, and was unable to

tear myself away from the book, even though I had a biology test the next day, which I unsurprisingly flunked.

Last summer, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* was released, exactly ten days before my final exam for the summer course I was taking. Naturally, my studying was postponed for three days while I devoured Harry's latest adventure.

While *Harry Potter* has been deemed "the publishing equivalent of the Beatles," its impact on the film industry has also been incredible. The first three movies have grossed over \$2 billion, and some expect the latest film to "save Hollywood." Movie attendance is lower than it has been in ten years, and many executives are hoping that Harry will draw a big enough audience to remedy this slump. In my opinion, the film industry has been digging its own grave ever since it started putting films on DVD.

A surefire way of determining a book's influence is to see if anyone has banned it. *Harry Potter* made the top ten list at the 20th annual Banned Books Week in 2000, which is sponsored in part by the American Booksellers Association and the American Society of Journalists and Authors.

Other banned titles included *The Catcher in the Rye*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. Apparently, books that explore themes of race, alienated youth, magic and witchcraft are deemed inappropriate for impressionable children. Heck, books like these may even cause children to think — clearly something to be avoided.

Harry Potter books have overwhelmed the media industries. A lot of people, most obviously J.K. Rowling, have gotten filthy rich from this phenomenon. Like the Beatles' music, may the Harry Potter books last for generations.

Opt out if you dare: a look at the DSU Health Plan

CANDICE SUCHOCKI
Opinions Contributor

The new DSU health plan opt-out process is, by its very design, an attempt to intimidate and confuse students into choosing not to opt out.

Most of Dalhousie's undergraduate students are in their late teens and early twenties, still partially supported by their parents, and would rather spend their money on weekend activities than an unneeded health plan. Most of these students, unfortunately, tend to forget that pre-paid fees are in essence being taken from them if they fail to opt-out each year. This is exactly why the Dalhousie Student Union can count on a yearly paycheck of unclaimed opt-out fees. With a staggering 60 per cent increase in health plan fees this year (the result of newly introduced dental coverage) one might expect students to be hurriedly reclaiming their \$248.00. The DSU has attempted to prevent this by revamping its old opt-out process.

In the past, the DSU expected students to bring in proof of an existing health plan in order to opt out

of the DSU health plan. This seemed a reasonable process and posed no problem for students who actually remembered to do it. This year, however, the DSU has introduced a new process in which students must opt-out online.

One's initial expectation of a fast and easy online opt-out process is quickly negated by the time that must be invested into opting-out. First, you must read a long, detailed description of the DSU's health plan, followed by criticism of other health plans. You are then expected to score 100 per cent on a detailed test about the benefits of keeping the DSU health plan.

You then need to provide detailed information about your own health coverage before reaching the final stage. On the last page, you must answer, "Yes, I still wish to opt out" for the fifth time, after reading ominous descriptions of what happens to students who do opt-out.

The process is wrapped up with a few more extreme statements about the DSU plan's superiority to other health plans.

The DSU might suggest that this process is only meant to educate you

about the many benefits of the DSU health and dental plans. Or, that they are only making the process difficult in order to protect you from losing out on their superior coverage. They would likely not admit that this process is designed to discourage you from opting out.

While it is completely reasonable for a university's student union to offer a health and dental plan for students that need and want it, it is unforgivable for the student union to use the plan as a means of getting extra income.

Opting out of the Dalhousie Student Union health plan should not be an intimidating process, and it should not be discouraged when the coverage is unneeded.

If considered reasonably, the opt-out process should not even exist. Perhaps the DSU should consider replacing the opt-out process with an opt-in process, whereby students who would like to be covered by the plan should be asked to pay the health plan fees. This seems like a much more pragmatic way to charge a patron for a service, as compared to the questionable methods that are currently in practice.

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Bismillah Irrahman Irrahim

The Passing of the Tongs

I want to let the student body know that I will be on the road, travelling to Timbuktu and returning in the next few months. I am officially "passing the tongs" onto Mustafa, who's been entrusted with taking care of all students. Thanks for all your support in September and I'll have a "LOVE YA BACK" special when I return. Also, I plan to start the book bursury upon my return.

Please email me (thedawgfatherphd@hotmail.com) while I'm on the road at and look for my updates in this space in the coming weeks.

- Tha Dawgfather Ph.D (Professional hot. Dawgger)



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With all due respect for last week's Arts Hole, *The Colbert Report* with Stephen Colbert is a perfect balance to *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart. For every ludicrous way a story is covered, there is an equally ludicrous talking-head that has an opinion on it.

Where *The Daily Show* is a news satire, *The*

Colbert Report (pronounced 'reh-porr' for no discernable reason) is a satire of the opinion and personality-driven "news" shows and it works because Colbert is completely unaware the joke is on him.

Take The Word, Colbert's nightly editorial, for example. One night, Colbert told us what a

gung-ho, easy-rider type of guy President Bush was while the caption simply said "D.W.I."

For the entire half-hour, including the guest-segment, Colbert maintains a loud, blustery tone and a smug stare down the camera. It's remarkable to watch.

The Report is Stephen Colbert's perfect ve-

hicle as it allows him to play the pompous bastard role he perfected on *The Daily Show* while still using the same style of topical humour that made *The Daily Show* so relevant.

It's nice to have such a guy, however unintentionally, on our side.

ARTS HOLE: The Colbert Report

Hillary Tittle / Staff Contributor

Double Take

Buy Nothing Day

SAMAN JAFARIAN
LAURA TRETHERWEY
Staff Contributors

"For 24 hours, millions of people around the world do not participate — in the doomsday economy, the marketing mind-games, and the frantic consumer-binge that's become our culture. We pause. We make a small choice not to shop. We shrink our footprint and gain some calm. Together we say: enough is enough. And we help build this movement to rethink our unsustainable course." — Adbusters

The *Gazette* handpicked two writers who have very different opinions on "Buy Nothing Day" to share their views:

Depending on which test I take, my ecological footprint is anywhere between 2.7 and 3.3 hectares per person — significantly lower than the national average. But let's consider the facts: unlike most Canadians and Americans, I'm a student. I live in a relatively small space, share housing, and walk or use public transportation far more than I drive anywhere. I'm also a vegetarian, though not for political reasons.

And while I had perceived that

Canadians and Americans take up far more than their fair share of resources, like many others I did not know the extent to which we Americans over-consume.

Enter Adbusters' Buy Nothing Day campaign.

To be honest, I was skeptical at first: from the outset, the campaign seemed like a pointless, extreme measure that failed to create lasting results. After a little research into the idea behind "Buy Nothing Day", however, my opinion has changed.

"Buy Nothing Day" symbolically falls on the fourth Friday of November — the day after American Thanksgiving and the start of the country's "official" shopping for Christmas, a holiday that consumerism has taken over.

The purpose of the campaign is not to solve Canadian and American over-consumption by not spending for one day, but rather to take a day off from "affluenza" and reflect on and learn about one's consumption habits.

If the "Buy Nothing Day" campaign does make a significant difference in consumption levels, it won't be through perceived guerilla tactics, but from changed lifestyles resulting from raised awareness.

"Buy Nothing Day" is a great idea. It's certainly serving its purpose: I'm now more informed about consumption patterns, and as a result of this article, others are too. I might even change some of my bad consumption habits.

And one day of not buying anything will certainly not hurt the economy.

Locally, "Buy Nothing Day" will be celebrated with a street party and with various activities.

Right now the average Canadian's ecological footprint is 8.8 hectares per person (almost five times the sustainable level), 20 per cent of the global population uses 80 per cent of its resources, and "Buy Nothing Day" has become a global phenomenon.

So whether you go to the street party or participate on an individual level, take part in a worldwide event and give "Buy Nothing Day" a try.

It's fun, easy and cheap: three things that students prize. — SJ

Oh, the spectacle of "Buy Nothing Day"! There's no doubt in the good intentions behind "reclaiming the streets" with a street party. But don't get carried away with the notion that participation will actually fix the problems behind a consumer lifestyle.

If the participants of "Buy Nothing Day" are there from a moral standpoint, by all means take a break from the consumer life. The familiar, creeping, discontented feelings in

Buy Nothing Day Events
Friday, Nov. 25, 2005

überCulture and NSPIRG present a musical march (Junkyard Jam) and street party (leaving Grand Parade for march at 6:00 p.m.)
5: 30 p.m. @ Grand Parade
Free
info: Dave Ron at dave@uberculture.org or 494-6662
Visit adbusters.org/metast/eco/bnd/ for more information on BND.

NOVEMBER 25 05

Participating in Buy Nothing Day makes us aware of our consumer habits.

daily life are often resolved with a trip to the mall or the corner store. Therefore, if participants are feeling prey to these feelings and want to denounce it, there is no problem.

The beef with "Buy Nothing Day" is that the action of "buy nothing" does not actually attack capitalism.

Joseph Heath and Andrew Potter outline the economic trickle-down of money in a capitalist society in *The Rebel Sell*.

The book states, "the money you save will simply be spent by someone else" so essentially buying and earning are both bound together in a capitalist society.

The book gives the example of putting money into a bank, which results in money being spent by someone else. A trip to a few economic websites, such as <http://www.friesian.com/sayslaw.htm> will clarify the details further for arts students, like myself, by way of graphs, pictures and the lack of technical terms.

If "Buy Nothing Day" is suppose to create awareness about the consequences of a consumer society, then the economics behind the day of "protest" are also important. In reality, buying nothing on Nov. 25 is still doing nothing tangible to combat consumerism. — LT

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Discussing labels: big or small?

The Gazette holds a round-table discussion on the joys and horrors of the music label industry

BRIDGETTE SULLIVAN
Assistant Arts Editor

As a compliment to last week's Youth Club Records article, *The Gazette* pulled together a group of musically-inclined individuals to discuss the advantages and drawbacks of indie and major record labels.

Jessica Whyte is the music director at CKDU, Panos Giannoulis is the bass player for the Porcelain Gods, and a student at Dalhousie; Michael Cantano is station coordinator for CKDU-FM, drummer for North of America and Buck 65 (as well as a walking encyclopaedia on the music industry); and Rob MacArthur is the director of Artists' Pool.

The well-informed bunch drew on both experience and observation of the music industry.

Gazette: What are the advantages and disadvantages of being part of a small label?

MC: Money.

Gazette: Money?

MC: Yeah.

RM: I think you'd make more profit on a small label than a major label today, by far.

MC: But the thing is if you're a smaller label you don't already have a lot of money to put into promoting all this stuff. They both definitely have their advantages and disadvantages. As a musician and someone who's worked with a number of different labels and a number of different contacts or whatever, I would always say to a band putting out a first record or a really young band to never, ever put anything out with a label ever, until you know for a fact that you need someone to do something that you can't do yourself. That's my only advice, for everything. If there's a conceivable way you can do it yourself, why would you pay someone to do it for you?

PG: [The Porcelain Gods] are at the beginning stages that you were sort of talking about. We were like "Oh V2! They might sign us because they keep asking us to send them stuff!" I dunno. It's just really, "Oh V2's gonna sign us and then we're going to make some money. And be on the TV and touring."

MC: Yeah, it's pretty romantic or whatever. Do as much as you can yourself for as long as you possibly can and that way you'll know how things work and you'll be in a bet-

ter position to ask questions that are responsible questions and get information that is of value to you. Like if you've never booked your own tour how do you know if you're hiring a good booking agent? If you've never done press how do you know if you're hiring a good press person? If you don't have any concept of what putting out a record takes, how do you know if the person that wants to put you on their label has any business of doing it?

JW: There is one thing you shouldn't do on your own, if you're no good at it: graphic design. Always hire an artist!

MC: That's the one thing that major labels have going for them: art departments.

JW: Pay someone to do that.

MC: It seems like it happens more and more. I see it more now than when I was first getting into bands. When I first started to play, everyone put out their own records. Everyone put out their own tape, or those cheaper CDs in early 1994 or 1995. Anyway, that was really cool cause everyone could afford to make CDs, so you did and you mailed them out and sent them to stores and radio stations and all that stuff.

Now it seems like, it's so easy to make a record that everyone wants to make a record label and people seem to be really lazy about it. Like, "Aww yeah we'll just start a label" or we won't do any work for ourselves and we'll get someone to book our tour and we'll get someone to put out our record and we'll get someone to do our publicity. And to me it seems like, well what are you actually learning? When you're put in the situation when you have to do something for yourself, how are you ever going to manage?

RM: Well the idea behind my label is to meet in the middle. I don't want to do everything for bands. I wouldn't have the time myself. That's not what I want. I want to find bands that are working hard and want to do it themselves but maybe don't have the business background or the contacts. They need a helping hand; they need direction. So maybe put some goals down on paper or something that they want to do and then work with them. More or less be a support network instead of just doing everything for them. I won't do that.

The idea behind my label too is to put them together with people that can help them more than I can. Because there will come a point

where I won't be able to do what they need done. Like maybe have a booking agent or something, so I'll have to give them up or send them to somebody else or to a bigger indie label or maybe they'll learn what they need to enough that they can just go do it themselves from this point on, if they don't need me or any other label. That's the concept behind what I want to do. Too many people don't. They don't have the knowledge, I think, is part of it. And maybe if you light a fire under their ass and show them how easy it can be, they might do it.

Gazette: Do you guys think there's a negative stigma, not just with musicians but also with consumers too, developing towards major labels?

MC: In some way. I don't think most people think about that stuff at all, I don't think the average person thinks about what label puts a record out. I think music nerds care, but that's a very small minority of the population so especially now that people don't even buy records, the label is totally irrelevant. But there is probably a backlash towards the music, the business practices of major labels in terms of trying to control their business model and hang onto it. Jessica and I actually went to this panel a little while ago and one of the panellists made the point that indie labels and the indie music community can't actually do anything to change the way that the business model of music is. That change has to come from the people with money. Otherwise nothing's going to happen, there won't be a shift unless the major labels decide to make a shift and I thought that was really interesting, I had never thought about that before.

You always think about indie labels as being this breeding ground for creativity and stuff but it really comes down to what indie labels do, and what they do a lot of the time, especially the bad ones, is just duplicate the practices of major labels on a smaller scale.

The complaints that I personally have against the major music industry are overstaffing, over-bureaucracy. And the big thing that indie labels are supposed to do is music before money and music before business and I don't know if that really actually happens or if that's what people just say happens. It was an interesting point.

JW: I think the music industry, like your majors, like your EMI and whatever, they do care a lot about that backlash and they care a little bit about, at least somewhat, because I

“It's like McDonalds or Walmart, it's like a big huge corporation that's much bigger than the sum of its individual parts.”

know that maybe only music nerds care, and it's 0.00006 per cent of the population. But a lot of times it's those nerds that hold the key to the press, right?

MC: Yeah.

JW: Especially for your smaller stuff. It's those nerds that are your print writers and...

MC: Your music directors.

JW: But music directors hold the keys to very, very small, tiny, somewhat undesirable, rat infested apartments.

But that's why they have vanity labels right? Like a major owns something that's smaller. They'll put something out and they'll make up a label name and stick it on there but if you'll look closer you'll see that it's Warner or Universal or whatever. So they pretend to be indie. They wouldn't do that unless, I mean it's a conscious marketing decision.

MC: They do that also to lure bands that would otherwise be unwilling to sign to a major. Like if you approach bands that have some semblance of DIY ethic in their background and be like "Come sign to Sony, it's going to be awesome!" they're probably going to say "I don't think so! I read Punk Planet! I know what's going on!"

But if you're like "Well here's what we're going to do for you, because we like your band so much. Forget all this industry bullshit, we're going to set up this boutique just for you, with your own staff and you'll only deal with the one person and you won't have to deal with any of the stuff." And so the band is like, "Oooh. It's this great thing. I can have access to all their resources and not have to deal with any of the bullshit."

It's a whole lie, it's a total sham, and that label's going to fold in six months. And your A&R guy's going to get fired, and you're going to be fucked. And that's what's going to happen. Everybody that I know who's signed to one of those labels... the exact same thing. A&R guy gets fired, a month later the label shuts down. They get assimilated into the borg of Sony and they get dropped before their second record ever comes out.

Gazette: If a major record label were a person, what would this person look like?

RM: Slimy.

PG: A monster.

JW: Old.

RM: Wouldn't know how to use the Internet.

MC: I never really talked to anyone with a major record label until I started playing drums for Buck 65 and went on tour and I would meet all these people and they were really nice people and the vast majority of the people who work for record labels are just like you and me. It's like McDonalds or Walmart, it's like a big huge corporation that's much bigger than the sum of its individual parts. I'm sure all the people that work at Walmart are decent people but that doesn't mean that the company is any good.

RM: All the major labels used to have people that either started a small label that just grew and grew and grew or got bought, like they were people that were involved in the music industry, so say if Michael started a label and it just grew and became part of Warner and he still ran Warner.

I think the head of EMI right now, is an accountant. Or he used to be an accountant. And then there's another one, he used to be in pharmaceuticals before and he became the head of another one of the major labels. When I say slimy, that's who I mean.

There's definitely people that love music that want to be part of a major label to try and help that one band that's going to be great, but there's a lot of people at the top now who have no connection to music. Music to them is just a commodity to sell. It's all figures.

But at one point, there was a point, when people who ran the companies were passionate about music. And there are still people who do that and are connected. I think it's going to change more and more unless the

Continued on next page

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Coronation Street: A street where everyone knows your name.

Fanation Street

Avid lovers of television express adoration for each other

HILLARY TITLEY
Staff Contributor

On my fridge is a collection of "PSST..." entries from the personals section of *The Coast* addressed to characters from *Coronation Street*. Here's one:

"Shelley: You have to get rid of Charlie. He is no good for you or anyone. Listen to your mother. I don't want to watch your wedding, which can only end in tragedy."
- a fan."

This is fandom: the state of mind where a connection to characters comes with a desire for connection with other fans. Who else writes personals to fictional people? Imagine the will it takes to transfer the passion usually expressed by yelling at the television into a written lament and credit card transaction.

This example is nothing compared to the national hysteria *Coronation Street* fandom has been known to whip up in Britain since it debuted there in 1960. To wit:

1. A 1998 storyline where the innocent Deirdre Rachid is sent to prison sparks a "Free Deirdre" campaign, which reaches fever pitch when the matter is taken up in parliament with Tony Blair asking the Home Secretary to intervene in the obvious miscarriage of justice.
2. In 2003, 17 million people watched serial killer Richard Hillman tell his wife Gail of his shady exploits. Tales still persist of power grid crashes during the first commercial break of that episode as presumably the nation got up to put the kettle on.

I call this phenomenon collective fandom and it melts my heart to read about it. The thought of a huge proportion of the population all riding on an emotional rollercoaster is

almost patriotic.

In Britain, *Coronation Street* isn't a football game against Argentina or a war effort. It's a force for good — apolitical togetherness by sharing a goofy TV obsession. It's the nation-building equivalent of the fighting family that shuts up for the 30 or so minutes when its favourite show is on.

The flip side is, of course, individual fandom: that crazy-feeling when you are the only one who knows what you are talking about. Have you ever been the only *Lost* fan in a room full of *Desperate Housewives* pushers?

Nowadays with the internet, the problem of having no one to talk to has all but disappeared with people logging on to clandestine chat rooms to talk about what will happen next — no wonder these people are referred to as cult-like.

Unfortunately, having to seek these people out can keep individual fandom a lonely place. It can be cosmically unfair not to have immediate, face-to-face access to a like-minded person. That is to say, to have shared fandom.

Shared fandom applies to the mutual enjoyment of a particular thing no matter how casual or complex a relationship is. It's the most immediate and the most gratifying release of all the tension built up watching an episode because, well, you are talking to an actual human being — tangible proof that someone else shares your affliction so you are not entirely crazy for being so involved.

I like to think the *Coronation* postings I have on my fridge are similar to those satellite signals sent into deep space. There probably won't be a response but maybe there will be.

It has been a few weeks since the last *Coronation*-related "PSST..." and I hope they haven't dried up for good. I like the fan signals and the hope that someone has replied. I like the evidence of someone reaching out because it makes the world less lonely.

And they call the television the idiot box.

Labels, continued

Continued from previous page

labels wake up and realize they need those people back there. But if they keep putting accountants in we're going to keep getting Britney Spears and people like that who sell instead of actually adding something.

MC: I think the most important thing going into any kind of relationship, like a business relationship, is knowing the people you're getting involved with and asking those kind of questions that are important to you. So if you're a person who cares about politics and cares about the environment and all that kind of stuff that we all intrinsically smart, young people care about, maybe ask the person who's going to be paying for your record what they think about those kinds of thing. And they're not obvious questions that you'd think to ask

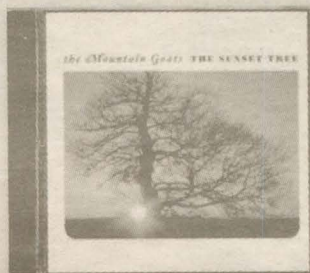
but what kind of background do they have? What do they plan to use your records for? Have you thought about licensing? What is your goal for this record label?

Just be smart and don't get caught up in this idea that "I'm going to put out this record that's going to be awesome and then go on tour" and live in this rock and roll bubble where you don't actually have to do work or take care of anything, like your label guy is going to all of that.

Be smart about things and just ask hard questions and be sure you have a really clear understanding of the relationship between you and the people you're getting involved with. Do I really need to work with this person? Can I just put out my own record and then find a distributor? What are the things I can't do myself? And if there are good answers to that question, then sure, do it.

Spin Spin Sugar

The Mountain Goats *The Sunset Tree*



The Mountain Goats have been around for a decade. *The Sunset Tree* is the band's seventh album and yet the majority of it deals with the expe-

riences of a 17 year old.

From the opening track, "You or Your Memory," you can tell that the album is going to be like no other music that you've listened to.

The lyrics and the offset voice provide upbeat emotion in a way that is distinctly different because it's unexpected.

As the lead singer brings his voice to cry lines such as "half eaten gallons of ice-cream in the freezer" or "I write down good reasons to freeze to death" it sparks a rising feeling in your stomach that makes you want

to scream along.

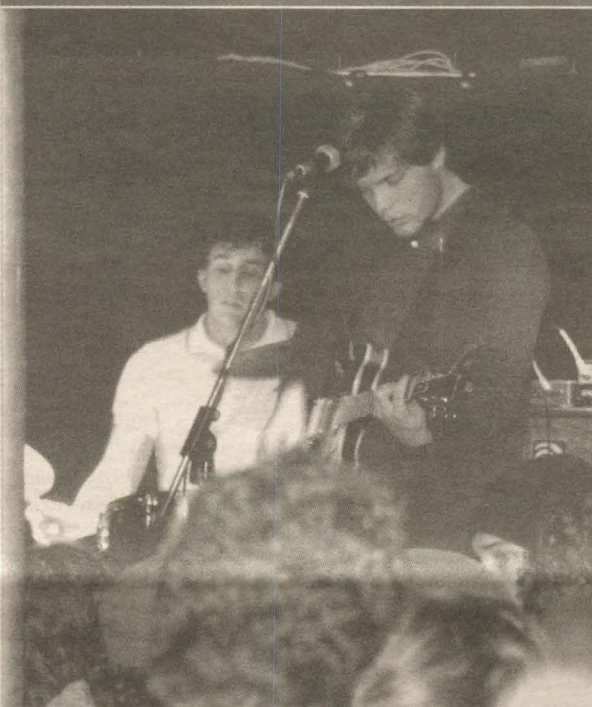
Tracks such as "Up the Wolves" cover the founding of Rome while "Dance Music" deals with the relationship between music and memory; sound as a way of measuring pain.

If you're feeling adventurous, or just want something new, pick up *The Sunset Tree* and get lost between the ballads and stories, and the sharp voice that moves so differently from others.

- Eric Wainwright

Report Card

TWO HOURS TRAFFIC & CUFF THE DUKE / Friday, Nov. 18, 2005 / Stage 9



Reporter: Jodie Shupac
Photographer: Rosalie Hanlon
Stage Presence: A-
Audience Reaction: B+
Sound: B+
Effort: A-
Get-it-on-ability: B

Friday night at Stage Nine, Cuff the Duke proved that Oshawa might be cooler than we think.

The native Oshawan band played to an enthusiastic crowd at the intimate venue, which was packed by the time the opening act, Two Hours Traffic, left the stage. As Joel Plaskett's protégé band, Two Hours Traffic is worth seeing on its own.

Having spent the last few months on the road promoting the band's new self-titled second album throughout Canada, the lead singer of Cuff the Duke, Wayne Petti, continuously proclaimed what seemed to be a genuine love for Halifax.

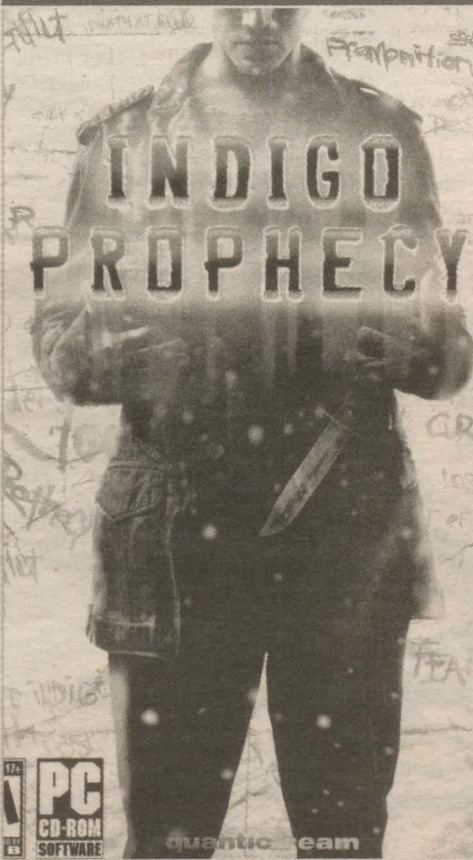
The band engaged the audience with a unique medley of elaborate instrumentals and quirky lyrics with upbeat songs like "Take My Money and Run."

Cuff the Duke's music had both an eclectic and intriguing quality — indie rock meets 30s era jazz. Aside from the music itself, the raw energy and charisma with which the band performed made Cuff the Duke likeable.

For those who missed Friday's show, they played again at Stage Nine on Saturday night. If you missed both shows, well, the joke's on you.

GAMERS AWARE

DANA MASSEY / Staff Contributor



Indigo Prophecies

Genre: third-person adventure / thriller
Available For: PC, PlayStation 2 and Xbox
Developer: QuanicDream
Publisher: Atari
Also Known As: "Fahrenheit" in the EU.
Players: one
Why To Buy: Engrossing story and heart-pounding gameplay
Why Not to Buy: Mature themes may offend some

Indigo Prophecies is labeled an adventure game. While technically true, it really deserves its own category: interactive cinema.

The game allows players to control all the main characters in a supernatural thriller. It begins with Lucas Kane, who has just stabbed a man to death in the bathroom of a diner and is apparently under the influence of some outside evil force. The player must decide how best to leave without getting caught.

That is just the first of many decisions that influence how the game evolves. Forget to pay the bill? The waitress gets a good look at you. Leave things behind? They could be damning evidence that led police investigators — who you also control — to you.

Indigo Prophecies is action-packed, brimming with rapid reflex puzzles and conversations where players have very little time to decide what to say.

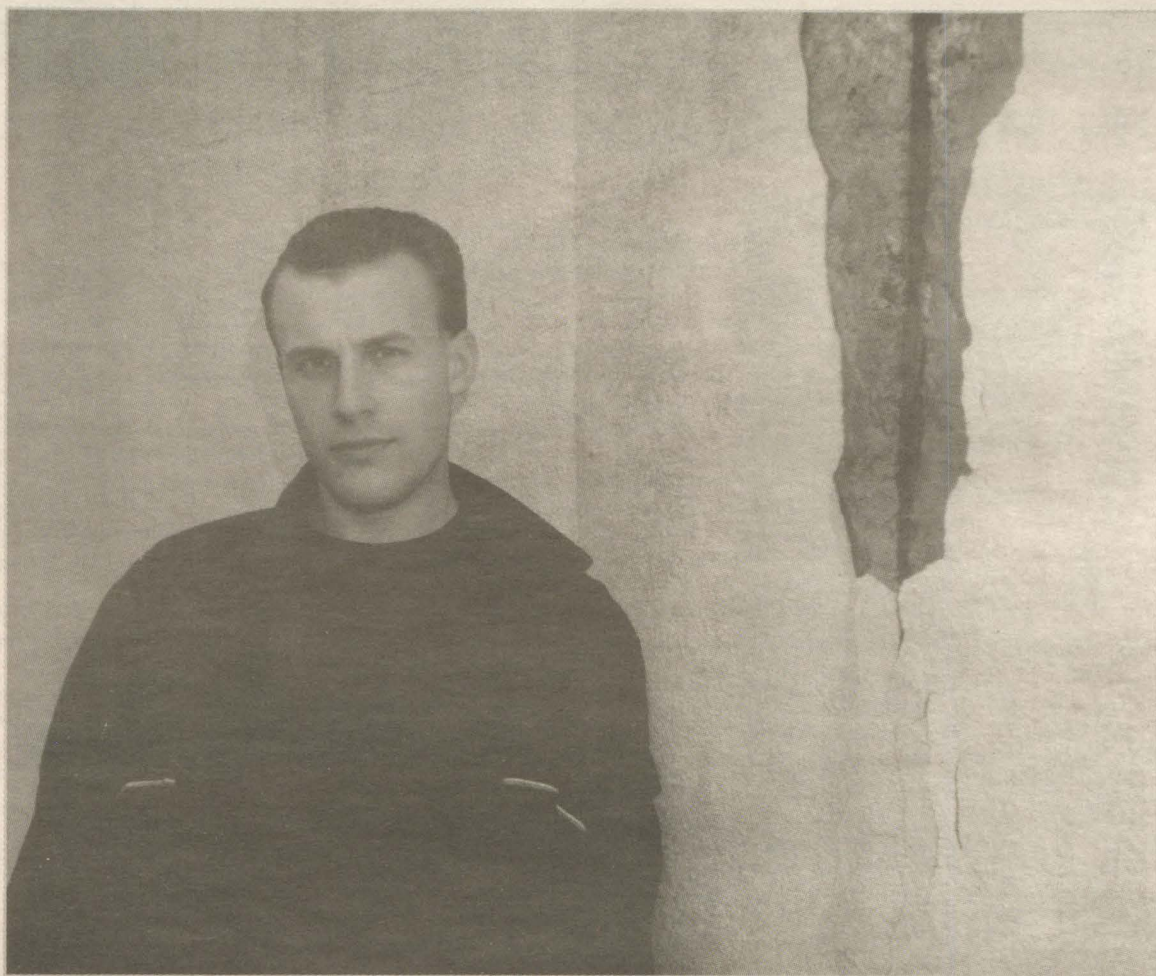
The story is the game's strongest point. Aimed at an adult audience, the story features all the elements — sex, violence and torment — that one would expect from an R-rated movie.

While it's available for the Xbox, Playstation 2 and PC, it requires a gamepad to be fully enjoyed. Go with a console version, if possible.

Celebrity Quote of the Week

"I have been the artist with the longest career, and I am so proud and honoured to be chosen from heaven to be invincible."

- Do you think fame has gone to Justin Timberlake's head?



Michael Fox is not disgruntled about his entry in the student film festival. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Star Search?

SMU Society hosts student film festival

ASHLEIGH GAUL
Staff Contributor

Twenty films, which range from comedy, drama and animation to mockumentary and experimental, have poured in from scholarly institutions across the city to converge in one blowout screening Friday night for the St. Mary's University Film Society Student Film Festival.

So how are the promoters handling this creative tour-de-force, this fledgling Star Search, this harbinger of cinematic opportunity?

"I think they put up a few posters," says entrant Michael Fox.

Fox, creator of *The Disgruntled Thief* — a short silent comedy and Fox's entry into the festival — admits that he's often frustrated with the promotion of independent local filmmakers.

As a member of AFCCOOP, he says he can't remember the last time regular screenings were established in the

city. Fox says he's serious about professional film making, but runs into problems in finding other people to take him seriously.

Perhaps it was this frustration that prompted Fox to single-handedly rent out the Oxford Theatre last Spring to screen a few of his feature-length films.

What was the public's reaction to Fox's solitary endeavour: his youthful manifesto in film form?

"It was a private screening," he says.

The showing of *The Disgruntled Thief* this Friday will be public, and it comes with a press release. The film can boast a few high local associations, including a soundtrack by Benn Ross of The Heavy Meadows and acting by Amy Kerr of *The Trailer Park Boys* and the Atlantic Film Festival feature *A Bug and a Bag of Weed*.

The three-minute short was shot "in a dingy location" and on Super 8 Film to create a feel of old 1970s

crime drama. This sounds ambitious enough, so *The Gazette* inquires about Fox's pretensions to filmmaking in the vein of *The Godfather*, *The French Connection*, and *Bullitt*.

"I don't really like 70s crime dramas very much," he says. And when pressed, he says that he "sort of" likes his own movies, but adds, "I don't like the older ones very much."

So why should we go out to the SMU Student Film Festival on Friday night, pay the \$2 suggested donation, and sit through the Festival's 19 other entries to see Fox's film?

"Well, I don't want to give away the ending," says Fox.

The SMU Student Film Festival will screen films, including The Disgruntled Thief, on Friday, Nov. 25, at 7p.m. in the McNally Theatre at 913 Robie St. Admission is free with a suggested donation of \$2. An after party and awards ceremony will follow at the Gorsebrook, SMU's student bar.

SuperSex in the SuperCity

The big "O"

DAVE WENTWORTH
maitre du sex

For most of us, orgasm is one of the most important and anticipated parts of sex.

Q. *I can cum multiple times in a night. My boyfriend can cum once, sometimes twice. How can I make him experience multiple orgasms like me? Is it easier for girls?*

A. Sex can be likened to a sport, and sometimes it comes down to being a well-trained athlete. Most people I know who report having multiple orgasms have a deep knowledge of what turns them on sexually and what they enjoy to reach arousal.

I don't know of any differences for multiple orgasm capability between men and women. One thing I have always noticed, however, is that people either have it, or they don't.

But either way, there is no measurement on this sort of thing and any frequency of orgasm is a healthy one. Don't pass judgment on yourself or your partner if multiple orgasms cannot be had.

Another important factor is to identify and recognize the difference between an orgasm and an ejaculation. While ejaculation often happens during sex, orgasm is different and is more related to the body bliss experienced during your sexual peak. Ejaculation is only fluid, where as orgasm is the intense body-quivering, heart-racing, all-over sensation that occurs during climax.

Q. *Whenever I have sex with my boyfriend it takes me forever to have an orgasm. He tries everything including eating me out, but nothing helps. We get really frustrated because he doesn't like to go that long and neither do I.*

A. Orgasm is sometimes not achieved through penetrative sex alone. One way that you may be able to achieve orgasm more quickly is through a combination of penetration and oral sex, with specific attention devoted to your clitoris. If you are not sufficiently aroused, no amount of penetrative sex will be enough to get the job done.

A unique toy that you can order off the Internet is the Make Your Own



“Orgasm is the intense body-quivering, heart-racing, all-over sensation that occurs during climax.

Dildo kit. This is a fun product that is sure to provide a couple of evenings of entertainment. The first part of the fun is all about him, when you make the mould and fill the template. Then, once the dildo has firmed and is complete you will have a realistic impression of your partner's penis. This will allow him the unique opportunity to penetrate you and provide oral stimulation.

Q. *I like one technique that makes my girlfriend get off really quickly, but she likes me to be varied with what I do. How can I find other ways to make her get off?*

A. The best solution to this is to ask her directly. I would also use what you find works and add something new to it.

If the previous wonder technique was clitoral stimulation, use one hand on her clitoris, and with the other hand caress her breasts. This will build off what you know works while adding a new dynamic for passion.

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The Low-Down

Jorun's latest release proves that he always has his way

CHRISTINA STEFANSKI
MAGEN POWELL
Not B-girls,
just Staff Contributors

Jorun Bombay is the humble Godfather that has brought the talent of Canada's East Coast into the spotlight. Bombay's album release party for *Jorun's Way*, which took place on Nov. 16 at the Khyber Club, featured Jorun Bombay, First words, Jesse Dangerously, Jay Bizzy, Flexxman and Anonamys, Alpha Flight, Fax 4, Monark and Micky D.

Jorun provided the perfect background on the turntables for the array of hip-hop artists. *First Words* satisfied the audience with a remarkable performance. Anonamys worked the ladies around the stage with his smooth demeanor. Flexxman proved that there is indeed power in holding the mic. Fax 4 showed that they are four degrees of the fresh style of hip hop that is happening in Halifax. Alpha Flight came as expected with cool charisma and confidence. And Micky D impressed the crowd with

syllable spitting that definitely got a loud response.

The pioneer of hip hop in Halifax

"Most producers that are really good start off as deejays," says Joe Serra (Jorun Bombay), who was once too young to enter a deejaying contest and started producing hip hop music in 1986.

Throughout his career, Jorun has worked with several notable Canadian artists including Buck 65, Sixtoo and Classified.

"Everyone that I first did this with had a different mentality when people were hungry to do it," says Jorun. "When I got people to go to shows they would show up half an hour early out of excitement. Now, the mentality is changing and it is too hard to gather everybody in one place."

Jorun co-hosted several radio shows on Dalhousie's own CKDU 97.5 FM since the radio station started in 1985. He acquired many technical skills at CKDU-FM because he got to experiment with the equipment that was available there.

"Hearing our stuff on the radio for the first time drove us to do better things," he says.

Hip hop in Halifax has progressed since Jorun started deejaying and doing production. He thinks of himself as "an over-looker and an archivist." A lot of artists come to him to find archival material as he has "literally upon hundreds of recordings" of artists in Halifax.

Jorun says more people are creating music now and "taking it seriously and forming groups as opposed to [making music] by themselves... compared to when it first started."

For this pioneer of hip hop, the East Coast of Canada is a "big area that is spread out and it's harder for us out on our own to accomplish as much as in Toronto." According to Jorun, it's almost impossible to be taken seriously in Eastern Canada.

But Jorun says he still remains optimistic.

"We have our own thing out here that combines New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and PEI," he says. "There is one big thing."

This Week's Picks

An Entertainment Pick by Jodie Shupac



Jarhead Trailer

I laughed. I cried. I'm a better person for having seen it.

This two-minute trailer for Sam Mendes's film about the Gulf War is truly a work of art. So good, one could claim it puts the film itself to shame.

Perhaps it's because Kanye West's haunting score "Jesus Walks" is playing in the background, making the entire two minutes deli-

ciously edgy — maybe even a little scandalous. Perhaps it's Jake Gyllenhal in uniform.

Whatever it is, the *Jarhead* preview left me speechless with my heart racing.

I highly recommend this emotional rollercoaster of an ad to anyone who appreciates the value of ambiguity over clarity, suspense without closure, and catharsis with no particular context.

The trailer is so moving, so powerful, that it's unlikely the actual movie could capture its intensity. If it's anything like the preview, it's sure to be the most mind-blowing cinematic experience since the preview for *Titanic*... I mean, since *Titanic*.

PS: I heard the movie was bad.

Local Crop by Megan Powell

Jorun Bombay

Jorun's Way, the Halifax Compilation

Jorun's Way is the way inside a realm of closure, where the vault will close after 21 tracks. The first track puts it all into perspective, reminding us of Jorun's history — he's got 15 years backing him up, so this will be the last compilation, and "not a publicity stunt."

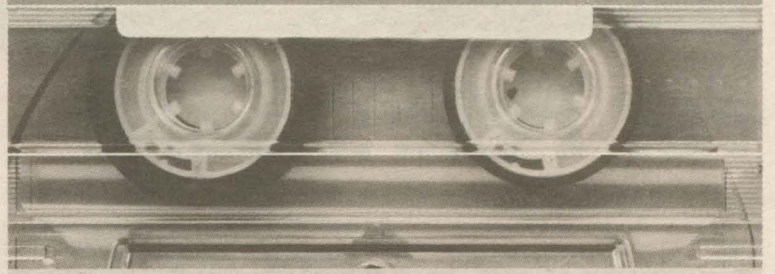
With help from a slew of Maritime rappers, he focuses on the positive aspects of hip-hop, throwing around some mischievous lyrics but always dropping proper beats with hot samples.

Jorun's metronome adds layers with each swing, as the pendulum carves new grounds, while keeping a fun, old-school flavor.

As the album progresses, the beats become bolder, much like Jorun's experiences after he started on CKDU-FM. Some highlights include a verse bursting with wordplay by Jay Bizzy, an impressive appearance by Classified, and an always-correct execution of syllable-twisting by GhettoSocks. The bass is a constant backup, and Jorun always throws in a little extra, with synthesizers, whistles, claps, and even Nintendo sound effects.

To have all of these amazing artists on one disc is outstanding — then add the scratching, remarkable production, and intelligent lyrical content, and you've got a real gem.

Burn Baby Burn



FREAKY VERSUS PUNKY

SIDE A: FREAK-FOLK Lindsay Dobbin / Arts Editor

Two and a half years ago, I purchased Sufjan Stevens' *Seven Swans* and ever since then, I haven't been able to get enough of artists who fit into the freak-folk category.

The most appealing aspect of the purveyors of folk-gone-psychedelic, other than their music, is the rootless and non-exclusive community that they share.

A bit crazy and not at all conservative, this type of music puts me to bed at night, wakes me up in the morning, and stays with me all day. As Devendra Banhart said, freak-folk is "a moth antenna looking like a leaf and then a leaf looking like a moth, or a seashell looking like an ingrown nail... that's the main gist of it — everything is connected."

- "Lagoon" - Devendra Banhart
- "Candy Land" - CocoRosie
- "Kissing Without Lips" - Jana Hunter
- "Banshee Beat" - Animal Collective
- "Free At Last" - Antony and the Johnsons
- "Sylvania" - Diane Cluck
- "Lately" - Vashti Bunyan
- "Apparition" - Patrick Wolf
- "Clam, Crab, Cockle, Cowrie" - Joanna Newsom
- "Berry Metal" - Metallic Falcons

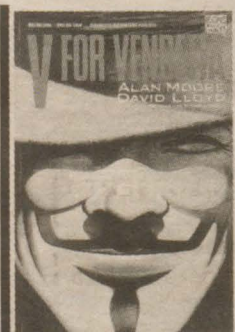
SIDE B: PUNK ROCK Bridgette Sullivan / Assistant Arts Editor

In last April's *Rolling Stone* spread on the 100 greatest artists of all time, I feel Lenny Kaye best summarized the punk rock ethic with his statement about the Ramones: "The Ramones celebrated rock 'n' roll. If they could do it, you could do it; just be resolute. Count to four."

- "Cigarettes" - X-Ray Spex
- "Loudmouth" - Ramones
- "Hybrid Moments" - The Misfits
- "I am A Poseur" - X-Ray Spex
- "Police On My Back" - The Clash
- "Electricity" - Orchestral Manoeuvres In The Dark
- "Chain Saw" - Ramones
- "Holiday In Cambodia" - Dead Kennedys
- "We Are 138" - The Misfits
- "Gimme Danger" - Iggy and the Stooges

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E O L A S A G U S O B A I R

D A L H O U S I E ' S O F F I C I A L E N G I N E E R I N G N E W S P A P E R

For Pete's Sake

PETER WHITE
Editor-In-Chief

In a school meant to teach some of the world's brightest students how to solve the world's problems, no one is yet able to solve the Sexton Campus stolen computers issue.

As an interesting side note, the school with these incredibly bright students is also advertising a Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament. Chess? No, thank you. We're much too intelligent for chess. Bring us something a little more challenging, like Rock, Paper, Scissors. The future is in good hands, I assure you.

But back to the computers. If there are any of you out there who read this top notch publication on a regular basis, you are aware that we at the Sextant were recently blamed for not fixing this problem.

We were told to, and I quote, "suck it up and put some real solutions in place" by what I can only assume is a very intelligent, gutsy person who chose to boldly remain anonymous. Well this week at the *Sextant*, we received another letter about the rash of computer thefts, although thankfully this time it was a much more competent letter; which is well researched and carries a very important message, delivered with passion and emotion not before seen at the *Sextant*.

So passionate is the author, that sometimes he even neglects full sentences or proper grammar. But that is beside the point, the message is what matters.

Here is the message from one Scott "Scotty Questions" Moore:

Computer Labs STILL Closed

20+ computers stolen and the students are suffering.

For those of you that do not know what happened, I will provide you with a brief history. During the summer months and the first couple of weeks of school this year, over 20 computers were stolen from the sexton campus computer labs. These acts of larceny lead directly to the closure of all computer labs on the Sexton campus. Obviously, Dalhousie Security did not see these thefts as posing an immediate threat to the students, and as such the students were not informed. So here is a description of the suspect I received, this description is from Randy Barkhouse of Dalhousie Security (17th of October, 2005).

"The suspect is a white male about 6 feet tall, quite lanky, possibly 20 to 25 years old. He has dark complexion, dark eyes, dark hair and fairly thick dark eyebrows. He usually wears a baseball ball hat with a Nike emblem, sometimes the hat is worn backwards. He was last seen wearing blue jeans or long denim

shorts, a dark blue or grey hoody-type sweatshirt (worn or carried), sneakers and carrying a large black gym bag (empty) over his shoulder. When questioned he has responded in a rude manner. This person does not appear to be a Computer Science student but has been seen in our labs and playgrounds and sitting idle in the computer cluster areas. If you see someone that fits this description please call Dal Security at 494-6400 immediately."

Now why did I receive this information? Well that is easy, I started to ask questions. I wrote e-mail messages to the Dean, my Dept Head, the Head of Security, Tom Traves, the Head of UCIS, etc... I have been pushing this issue since the fall term began, and now that I am graduating, I feel that someone else needs to take up the torch. This may seem trivial but, before any computers are placed back in the Alcove, UCIS intends to install a security gate, similar to the ones on the doors to stores at the mall, and lock all computer labs at midnight, including the alcove. I see this as a problem for all of you and if you don't put up a fight, the thieves win and Dalhousie revokes another one of our privileges.

And it's true; someone does need to carry on the fight. It's not quite the war against terror, or the fight against cancer, but it's worth some

attention. So, I decided to bring this issue to someone who might be in a position to do some good. I recently talked with DSEUS President James Schwartz, and he had this to say:

"It would be great if [semen] tasted like kiwi!"

Ok, so I didn't actually ask Mr. Schwartz about the computers, but

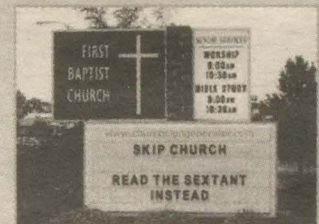
I did have dinner with him, and that quote actually did come from the mouth of our Engineering Society President. But I'm sure that if I did ask him the question, he would strongly agree that these stolen computers are a terrible thing, and I hope someone does something about them. Right after this killer Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament...

Random Google of the Week

We take a standard, Sexton Campus related word or phrase, and plug it into Google Images search engine. If you've never done a random Google Images search, you haven't lived.

There was no search this week. The Sextant got too distracted by the following website:

www.churchsigngenerator.com



"Finally, a religion that makes sense"

Send your suggestions for the Random Google Search of the Week to sextant@dal.ca

Fabulous Life of Dalhousie* Varsity Athletes

ALEXANDER MACDONALD
Managing Editor

Justin Timberlake, Diddy, Paris Hilton's Chihuahua Tinkerbelle, and Dalhousie* Varsity Athletes. What do all of these people have in common? They have expensive homes, avoid the paparazzi, and are viewed as sex symbols. Yes Tinkerbelle is a sex symbol. I'm sure The Littlest Hobo loves that bitch.

VH1's *The Fabulous Life* has done an episode on all of the aforementioned celebrities except for one. Surprisingly, they have never focused on Dalhousie Varsity Athletes*. So I am afraid some of you may be grossly uninformed of the lavish lifestyles we lead. Thus, I am dedicating this week's article to describe the perks we may or may not enjoy.

If you're not familiar with *The Fabulous Life*, you probably spend too much time doing work on Sundays at 8:30. Sunday is a day of rest, so relax a bit more. God wants you to watch this show and learn all about Tom Cruise's devotion to Scientology. That is assuming that God is the galactic tyrant Xenu that Scientologists believe in, who brought billions of aliens to earth on exact replicas of Douglas DC-8 airplanes (equipped with rocket engines) then brainwashed the aliens with a "three-D, super colossal motion picture" and blew them up with hydrogen bombs, after which the aliens became spiritual parasites and infected humans. Oh yeah, and Xenu is jailed in a mountain by a force field that's powered by a perpetual battery. I wish I made that all up.

Dalhousie* Varsity Athletes are a select group of individuals that stand apart from your ordinary Dalhousie varsity athlete. You see, the asterisk stands for Sexton Campus. It is an important distinction to make as Sexton teams compete with an entirely different set of rules than Dalhousie's AUS teams. The biggest difference is that Sexton teams don't get to compete in

AAAA or CCAA playoffs. Why? Well, I wish I knew the actual reason, but my best guess is that the other teams in the league are really, really afraid of us. As engineering students, we solve complex problems involving trajectory and momentum on a daily basis. If we were to apply this knowledge to the world of sports, it would give us an unfair advantage. We would never miss a three-pointer or free kick. Either that or we would make a mistake rounding-off and only get half value.

In reality, it's somewhere in the middle. At press time, the men's basketball team was 3-3 which was good for fourth place in the league and the men's soccer team finished their season in second place.

So how do Sexton teams attract athletes if there is no chance of post-season glory? For starters, they only accept students that absolutely love their sport and would play regardless of the situation. Dedication and drive are two important character traits and engineering students have nothing if not a work ethic.

But some people just need a little extra incentive to go to try-outs. Luckily, there are many perks offered to the athletes that help make their lives fabulous.

Since our campus is home to both architecture and engineering students, it would make perfect sense that we should have a practically designed gymnasium. But no, the powers that be decided to go the other way, and pamper the athletes with the most unique design in Halifax. The exterior walls of the gym form an ellipse and also have translucent windows all the way around. This makes the building really nice to look at from the outside, and draws fans inside in droves. It doesn't matter that the setting sun streams directly into players' eyes while looking at the basket; we care more about the ambiance of our home gym than anything else.

Soccer just isn't as popular in North

America as it is in European nations. My personal theory is that the nets are just too far apart, so scoring chances are limited and it makes the games too boring. Again, Sexton campus athletes have been spoiled with respect to this problem. The pitch on Sexton campus is only a fraction of the size of a regulation one, which means there can be a lot more scoring chances. Unfortunately, somebody thought this was an unfair advantage, as the Tigers must play all home games on the Studley field. At least at Studley there's more room for the inevitable hooliganism that goes along with engineers playing soccer.

Sexton athletics don't get a lot of publicity from major (or minor) media outlets. In fact, this is the first time it has been mentioned in the pages of the *Sextant* during my brief tenure. Rest assured, there is a very good reason for this.

These events could really be hot-ticket items, but there are no facilities large enough in Halifax to satisfy the potential demand; we don't want anyone to get trampled trying to catch a glimpse of basketball superstar Igor Prevelic. Therefore, the advertising of games is kept low key, and only a few privileged people are ever informed. Occasionally, games are advertised on campus, but this is just to wet the appetite of the fans and keep them interested. Kind of like when The Stones play an intimate club gig. Only without cigarettes, failed livers, and "Paint It Black."

Luckily for you, I got the "OK" from the basketball team, and they're allowing me to advertise their last home game of the term. This Sunday, the women tip-off at 2:00 followed by the men at 4:00. Both games are versus St. Thomas at the Sexton gym. Come out and support the only students from Sexton Campus who have better ball-handling skills than math skills. It's not that the ball handling is that great, it's just that our math is really that bad.

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Women's hockey

Dal 8 UPEI 3
Dal 2 STU 1

Women's volleyball

Dal 2 MUN 3

Women's basketball

Dal 63 MUN 53
Dal 65 CBU 59

Men's basketball

Dal 81 MUN 87
Dal 75 CBU 70

Men's hockey

Friday, Nov. 25 @ 7 p.m. Dal Arena
Dal vs St. FX.

Women's hockey

Sunday, Nov. 28 @ 1 p.m. Dal Arena
Dal vs Mt. A.

Men's basketball

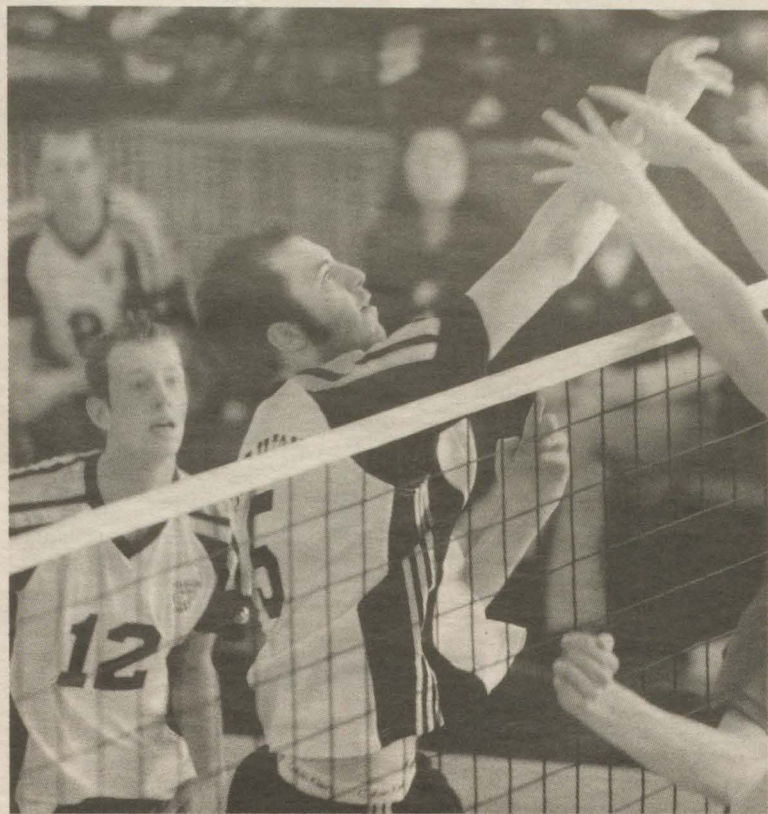
Tuesday, Nov. 29 @ 8 p.m. Dalplex
Dal vs Acadia

Women's basketball

Tuesday, Nov. 29 @ 6 p.m. Dalplex
Dal vs Acadia

VARSITY RESULTS

UPCOMING GAME SCHEDULE



Jessu Mighton plays a tough game on the court. / Photo: Nick Pearce

Mighton brings volleyball team success

JOEY RYBA
Sports Editor

The Dalhousie Tigers men's volleyball team is undefeated in AUS play. One player contributing to the team's success is third-year middle Jesse Mighton.

Mighton sports some impressive credentials. He was named to the CIS all-rookie team in 2002/2003 and was a member of the 2002 national junior team with fellow Dalhousie volleyballer, Jeff Weiler.

In his youth, Mighton played goalie in hockey but quickly outgrew the position and decided to switch sports.

"I became too big for the equipment, so I switched to volleyball," says Mighton. "All you need is a pair of shoes and it seemed to work out fine."

Mighton, a Toronto native, played for two years on the Queens University men's volleyball team before coming to Dalhousie in 2004/2005. He missed the 2003/2004 season due to injury, and realized during that season that Queens wasn't the best place for him to pursue his academics.

Mighton says his transfer to Dal was fairly easy because Weiler, his longtime friend, was playing for Dal. Mighton and Weiler were teammates on the Scarborough Solars volleyball club. They also played together on the Ontario Provincial team and on the 2002 National Junior team.

"Jeff and I have been playing together for my whole volleyball career," says Mighton. "He's a player who I know really well and I'm really comfortable playing with. Obviously, he's one of the best out there."

Mighton says playing on the 2002 National Junior team was an amazing experience. In addition to Canada, the United States, Mexico and Puerto Rico also competed in the tournament held in Kelowna, B.C.

Mighton says it was great to play in front of a hometown crowd and his team felt really appreciated. His teammates worked hard and many of them have gone on to do great things in volleyball, he says.

Besides Weiler, Mighton says former Dalhousie volleyball player Adam Jones helped him become a

better player. Jones, who now plays pro on one of the top European teams, inspired Mighton with his style of play and showed him how to represent his school.

"He's the man, as far as I'm concerned," says Mighton.

Presently, Mighton is studying English and hopes to pursue law or business. He says that English and the study of literature caught his interest when he finished high school. He says Dal has a solid English program with interesting courses and great professors.

Before entering the workforce, Mighton hopes to play professional volleyball in Europe. He says playing pro overseas has always been one of his goals, but it all depends on how things work out after he graduates from Dal.

After his playing career is finished, Mighton says he will stay involved with volleyball. He wants to coach children and has some coaching opportunities lined-up in his hometown in the next couple of years.

"It's a growing sport," he says. "They need people to give back after they're done the athletic part of their careers."

Mighton is already giving back to the athletic community. He's the president of Ambush, Dalhousie's booster club. Away from volleyball, Mighton is a huge hockey fan, and with the booster club, he wants to show people how great it is to be a fan.

"I know how it is on both sides of the fence," he says. "The more people we can convince to become a fan, I think that's for the best."

Away from the court and the books, Mighton plays bass guitar and says that musicians are his role models. One of his role models is Flea from the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

"He's crazy," says Mighton. "He goes out there without many clothes and does his thing."

Mighton says he also likes rappers because they're tough. And he tries to incorporate that element in his game on and off the court.

"I think rappers are pretty cool," he says. "Even if I can't be a rapper myself, maybe I'd like to represent them."

Screaming Eagles

Inexperienced team shows signs of promising future
Talk from the water cooler

JOEY RYBA
Sports Editor

The Cape Breton Screaming Eagles have undergone a dramatic turnaround. They started the season with a dismal 2-7 record, but have picked up the pace and won 14 out of the last 18 games.

The team sports a 16-11 record and sit in third place in the QMJHL's east division ahead of their arch-rivals, the Halifax Mooseheads.

Much of the turnaround can be attributed to fifth-year winger and assistant captain, Kevin Asselin. Asselin leads the Eagles with 18 goals and 14 assists in 25 games. The gritty winger plays an intense brand of hockey and has charged up his team, which is currently one of the hottest clubs in major junior hockey.

Asselin plays on the Eagles' top-line with sophomores James Sheppard and Vladimir Kudus. Sheppard and Kubus have really stepped it of late and have 29 and 27 points, respectively.

Sheppard, the Eagles first-round draft choice in 2004, has impressed NHL scouts with his on-ice intelligence and playmaking ability — so

much that he's considered to be a top-10 pick in the 2006 NHL entry draft.

This past summer, Sheppard competed for Team Canada at the World Under-18 Championship in Slovakia and this week he will suit-up for the QMJHL All-stars who will take on Russia.

Kubus, who was selected in the 2004 CHL import draft, is meshing well with his line-mates. His overall game and production have improved over last season. This December, Kubus will play for Slovakia at World Junior Hockey Championship held in Vancouver, B.C.

The Eagles second line — Chris Culligan, Dean Ouelette and Paul MacIveen — has also contributed to the Eagles' success. Ouelette, who was injured in October, has 20 points in 20 games. Culligan, known for his on-ice vision, started slowly, but has managed to find the back of the net of late.

MacIveen was a late addition to the team. He played last year for the OHL's Ottawa 67s, but was released. So far, MacIveen has chipped in with seven points in as many games.

On the blue line, Charles Fontaine

and David Victor lead the defensive core. Fontaine and Victory play a stay-at-home style of game and don't shy away from the physical stuff. The two overagers punish the opposition with solid body checks and have dropped the gloves when needed.

The biggest surprise for the Eagles this season is rookie defenceman Jason Swit. Swit made the team as a walk-on. His steady defensive play and offensive touch have contributed to the Eagles success. He has five goals and 12 assists and improves with each game. Swit will be looked upon next year to anchor the defence with the departures of Fontaine and Victor.

The Eagles have also gotten strong goaltending from Ondrei Pavlec and David Davenport. The two net-minders have played well in this last stretch of 18 games and received QMJHL defensive player of the week honours last month.

With the team starting to gel, and well over half a season to play, the Eagles' outlook is promising. The team isn't likely to have a long playoff run, but should finish with a winning record nonetheless. This young and inexperienced team is no doubt on the rise.

10 QUESTIONS

With MARTY GASCON, Hockey Superstar

By: Jenny Cooper / Staff Contributor

Boxers or briefs?

Boxers. They're a lot more comfortable and easier to take off.

What is your pre-game ritual?

Well, I usually try to have sex the night before. It reduces stress and muscle tension. I also try to eat pasta as a pre-game meal. I'm not sure which one works better.

If one person could play you in a movie about your life, what celebrity would it be?

I think I'd like to be Adam Brody a.k.a. Seth Cohen. He gets to dress in penguin shirts all the time and gets to sleep with Rachel Bilson on and off the show.

If you were king of the world for one day, what would you do with your powers?
I want to be on you.

Who is your dream girl?

Well as said before, I wouldn't mind dating Rachel Bilson, but she'd have to fight with Molly Sims to get me.

Give me three adjectives to best describe you. Don't be modest!

1. A French beauty
2. Golden hands.
3. A lactose intolerant fuck

Give me your best skinny dipping story.
Unfortunately, the St. Lawrence River is too polluted for such activities.

If given the opportunity, would you wax

or shave all your body hair?

Given the fact that I never actually had to shave my whole face once in my life, I think a wet towel would do the trick.

If you could bring three items with you to a desert island, what would they be?
My guitar, my girlfriend and milk.

Give me one word to describe your experience at Dal.

Do you know who I am? I don't know how to put this but... I'm kind of a big deal around here. People know me. I have many leather-bound books. And my apartment smells of rich mahogany. I'm friends with Ross McCain, Nigel Newland and even Jimmy Cuddihy.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

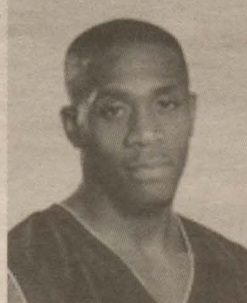
FEMALE ATHLETE



RYAN MCKAY
BASKETBALL

Ryan McKay was on fire as she led the Tigers to victory in both games this past weekend. First up on Friday, the Tigers hosted the Memorial Sea-Hawks and McKay balanced solid defence with a 13-point offence in the 63-53 win. On Saturday, the Tigers faced the Cape Breton Capers and McKay was outstanding yet again. She counted 19 points and was unstoppable on the defensive contributing to the 65-59 win.

MALE ATHLETE



MONTE FRANCOIS
BASKETBALL

Monte Francois led the Tigers this past weekend in two exciting matches held at Dalplex. In Friday's game, the Tigers faced the Memorial Sea-Hawks in an exciting home opener and finished regulation play even at 71 points. A five-minute overtime decided the game in favour of Memorial 86-81. Francois counted a team-high of 20 points. The next day Francois led yet again, with a team-high of 13 points. The Tigers carried over their intensity from regulation play and were victorious over the Cape Breton Capers 70-75.

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JAZZ VESPERS
(A Contemporary Riff on an Ancient Prayer Service)
 Date: Sunday, December 4, 2005
 Time: 7 p.m. for Jazz Vespers
 Light refreshments to follow
FREE!
 Location: First Baptist Church Halifax
 1300 Oxford Street (near South)
Jazz Vespers includes an eclectic mix of prayer, spoken verse, ambient art, and live jazz.
 Everyone is welcome!
 Please come as you are!
Praise...Psalm...Proclamation...Prayer
 422-5203 Fax: 422-8665
 fbaphfx@eastlink.ca
 www.firstbaptisthalifax.org

NOTICE TO DAL STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF

Dalhousie students consistently rate their university experience better than their counterparts at comparable Canadian universities do:

- 86 per cent of our students are happy with the overall quality of their education;
- 79 per cent say their profs look out for their best interests;
- 87 per cent are happy with class sizes;
- 80 per cent like their residence.

That's good, but not good enough. Everyone at Dal — students, faculty, administration and staff — wants the student experience here to be everything it can and should be. We are asking you to get involved in our commitment to improve service to students.

Can you identify a policy or a process at Dalhousie that has no sound academic or administrative justification, and that impairs service to students? If you can, then we want to hear from you! We will be awarding up to 10 prizes of \$100 for the best suggestions we receive. Please send your suggestion(s) to ImproveService@Dal.Ca by **Friday, December 2, 2005** in order to be eligible for a prize. There is no deadline for good suggestions!

Thank you in advance for your help! Oh, and the comparators at other universities are, in order: 82%; 70%; 81% and 80%.

Sam Scully,
 Vice-President
 Academic and Provost



Dalhousie athletes demonstrate excellence in the game — and in the classroom. / Photo: Nick Pearce

Dal's top student-athletes honoured

TERI LAKE
 Sports Information

The cream of Dalhousie's student athlete crop was honoured on Monday, Nov. 21 at the seventh annual Academic All-Canadian Luncheon. A total of 73 varsity athletes were recognized in the presence of peers, professors and parents for their academic accomplishments according to standards set by the national university sport authority, Canadian Inter-university Sport (CIS).

"This event is designed to recognize our student-athletes reaching one of the highest honours they can

achieve," says Al Scott, the director of athletics. "We're very proud of the exceptional achievements of our student athletes in both their athletic and academic endeavours."

This prestigious honour is awarded annually to varsity student athletes who achieve an overall academic average of 80 per cent or a cumulative grade point average of 3.43, or higher. Dalhousie ranks eighth in Canada for the number of academic all-Canadians with nearly one-third of student athletes meeting this standard — twice the national average.

Dalhousie's women's soccer team had the most academic all-Canadi-

ans for 2004/05 with 12 student athletes selected.

The year 2004/05 was especially outstanding for our top honoree at the luncheon. Hilary Burn started the academic year with a team gold medal at the CIS cross-country championship and followed that with an individual gold medal at the CIS track and field championship. She finished the academic year by graduating from Dalhousie's Law School and being named in the top-eight student athletes in university sport in Canada. Burn is now working in Boston, Mass., as a special assistant to a judge.

Dalhousie's 2004-05 academic all-Canadians:

Last Name	First Name	Sport	Last Name	First Name	Sport
Agar	Miles	hockey	Jankovic	Ivana	volleyball
Alambets	Angela	cross-country	Jaremy	Darcie	soccer
Algar	Christopher	cross-country / track and field	Jones	Lori	hockey
Ashworth	Janice	cross-country	Kutcher	Leah	soccer / hockey
Bennettc	Sean	volleyball	LeClair	Corey	hockey
Borgal	Lori	swimming	Lessard	Maxime	hockey
Brothers	Erin	soccer	Long	Kaitlin	basketball
Brothers	Natalie	soccer	Marriott	Leslie	volleyball
Brown	Jennifer	swimming	McCain	Ross	hockey
Browne	Billy	hockey	McInnes	Caroline	cross-country / track and field
Burn	Hilary	cross-country / track and field	McKay	Ryan	basketball
Butko	Alison	soccer	McNeil	Cary	track and field
Carter	Natasha	track and field	McNeil	Kathleen	basketball
Chaf	Paul	country-country / track and field	Mighton	Jesse	volleyball
Clarke	Jaclyne	soccer	Mowbray	James	swimming
Crowdis	Heather	swimming	Mullowney	Tara	hockey
Dalton	Alan	soccer	Penney	Monique	track and field
Daniels	Geoff	volleyball	Power	Adrienne	track and field
Davidson	Peter	soccer / track and field	Power	Stacey	volleyball
Dean	Jessica	volleyball	Profit	Maria	swimming
DeVries	Rachel	hockey	Rademacher	Niklas	volleyball
Dobranowski	Alicia	track and field	Richer	Paul	volleyball
Donald	Gillian	basketball	Scharf	Laura	soccer
Doyle	Patricia	cross-country	Sheffield	Matthew	cross-country
Dunlop	Chris	volleyball	Smith	Jennifer	hockey
Eghan	Raphael	soccer	Stratton	Drew	basketball
Gascon	Martin	hockey	Tabor	Meghan	soccer
Goulet	Christopher	cross-country / track and field	Tan	Minh-Tiet	cross-country
Greenwood	Meaghan	volleyball	Theobald	Brent	hockey
Harrison	Rebecca	swimming	Totosy	Julia	soccer
Haughn	Ryan	soccer	Townsend	Scott	volleyball
Heathcote	Joanna	track and field	Tung	Bryceton	swimming
Henderson	Christina	soccer	Vessie	Ellen	cross-country
Hollinshead	Katherine	soccer	Walker	Rebecca	cross-country / track and field
Hopkins	David	hockey	Weiler	Jeff	volleyball
Huck	Leanne	soccer / track and field	Whyte	Bronwyn	hockey
			Wiley	Tim	volleyball

Contribute!

The Gazette is looking for a couple to model for our annual Sex issue cover.

photos@dalgazette.ca

Dalendar

dalendar@dalgazette.ca / classifieds@dalgazette.ca

DALENDAR

Send your Dalhousie related events to: dalendar@dalgazette.ca (FREE)

Thursday, Nov. 24

Dal Stage Society presents Improv with Julu
Akin to Whose Line is it Anyway
8:30 p.m. @ Ondaatje Hall, Marion McCain building
\$2
info: stage@dal.ca

Friday, Nov 25

6th annual Computer Science Snowball.
Join faculty, staff, and students for a semi-formal evening of pleasant company, dinner, and dancing.
6 p.m. @ McInnis Room
\$15/student, \$20 staff/faculty
info: society.cs.dal.ca/wiki/bin/view/CSociety/SnowBall

Buy Nothing Day street party and musical march

5:30pm @ Grand Parade
Free

Gypsophilia Swing Dance Party

9 p.m. @ The North Street Church
\$12
info: 492-2225 for tickets

Matt Mays & El Torpedo and The Novaks
10 p.m. @ The Marquee Club
\$20adv/\$25door

Saturday, Nov. 26

Swing Dancing Class
Progressive weekly classes continue!
6:30 p.m. @ Howe Hall Cameron Room
\$25 term membership
info: www.dalswing.tk

Sunday, Nov. 27

Chamber Series II: "Chamber & Co."
3:00 p.m. @ Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts
\$15/\$10
info: music.dal.ca

Tuesday, Nov. 29

DAL-Outreach program presents "Canada Corps: Contributing to Good Governance in Sierra Leone and the Ukraine"
Featured speakers will include Bill Gunn, Atlantic Regional Director for CIDA, and Chris Dyck and Nick Kulyk, Canada Corps interns in Sierra Leone and the Ukraine
7:30 p.m. @ Case Room 1016, Rowe Management Building

info: dal.outreach@dal.ca

Symphony Nova Scotia Celebrity Concert Classical Cornucopia
8:00 p.m. @ The Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
\$29 - \$45
info: www.dal.ca/artscentre

Wednesday, Nov. 30

Dalhousie Chamber Choir
8:00 p.m. @ First Baptist Church Halifax, Oxford Street
\$15/\$10
info: music.dal.ca
Thursday, Dec. 1
A Beary Merry Christmas with The Stadacona Band
7:30 p.m. @ The Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
\$5
info: www.dal.ca/artscentre

Campus Wing Night

Live entertainment by Merimac
7 p.m. @ The Grawood
Info: www.grawood.ca

Thursday, Dec. 1

World AIDS Day Benefit
CANFAR Dalhousie (the Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research) is

throwing a benefit party
8 p.m. @ Duffy's Speakeasy
\$5
info: my.dsu.ca

Friday, Dec. 2

Rankin Sisters Christmas Concert
8:00 p.m. @ The Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
\$41
info: www.dal.ca/artscentre

DSU Executive Review!

Students! Councilors! Have your chance to weigh in on your DSU Executive. From Thursday November 24th until Wednesday November 30th, the DSU Executive Review Committee will be accepting your comments, along with responses to a standard survey, regarding the areas of success and possible improvement for DSU executives.

Visit us at <http://s87117064.onlinehome.us> to complete the survey! Your money funds the DSU; please, help us make sure it's well spent!

CLASSIFIEDS

Send your classifieds to: classifieds@dalgazette.ca

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HeartWood Centre for Community Youth Development needs a Marketing Coordinator for a full-time contract position. Applicant must be EI eligible. Application Deadline: December 5. EMAIL FOR DETAILS: home-place@heartwood.ns.ca.



- Don't like something in the paper?
- Have a need for a creative outlet?
- Want your voice heard?
- Want to be part of something and/or meet new people?



- Give you a public outlet
- Nurture your talents
- Give you something to do with your time
- Socialize your ass (figuratively)

How does this amazing relationship work? Well, you have several options: 1. E-mail us at info@dalgazette.ca and ask for more information; 2. E-mail a section editor (above) and pitch a story idea; 3. Every Monday at 5:30 p.m. we meet with our current and prospective volunteers. This is your best bet to make a difference or get an assignment. Show up at Room 312 in the Dalhousie SUB. We don't bite, but we might cuss. Sorry mom.

Think

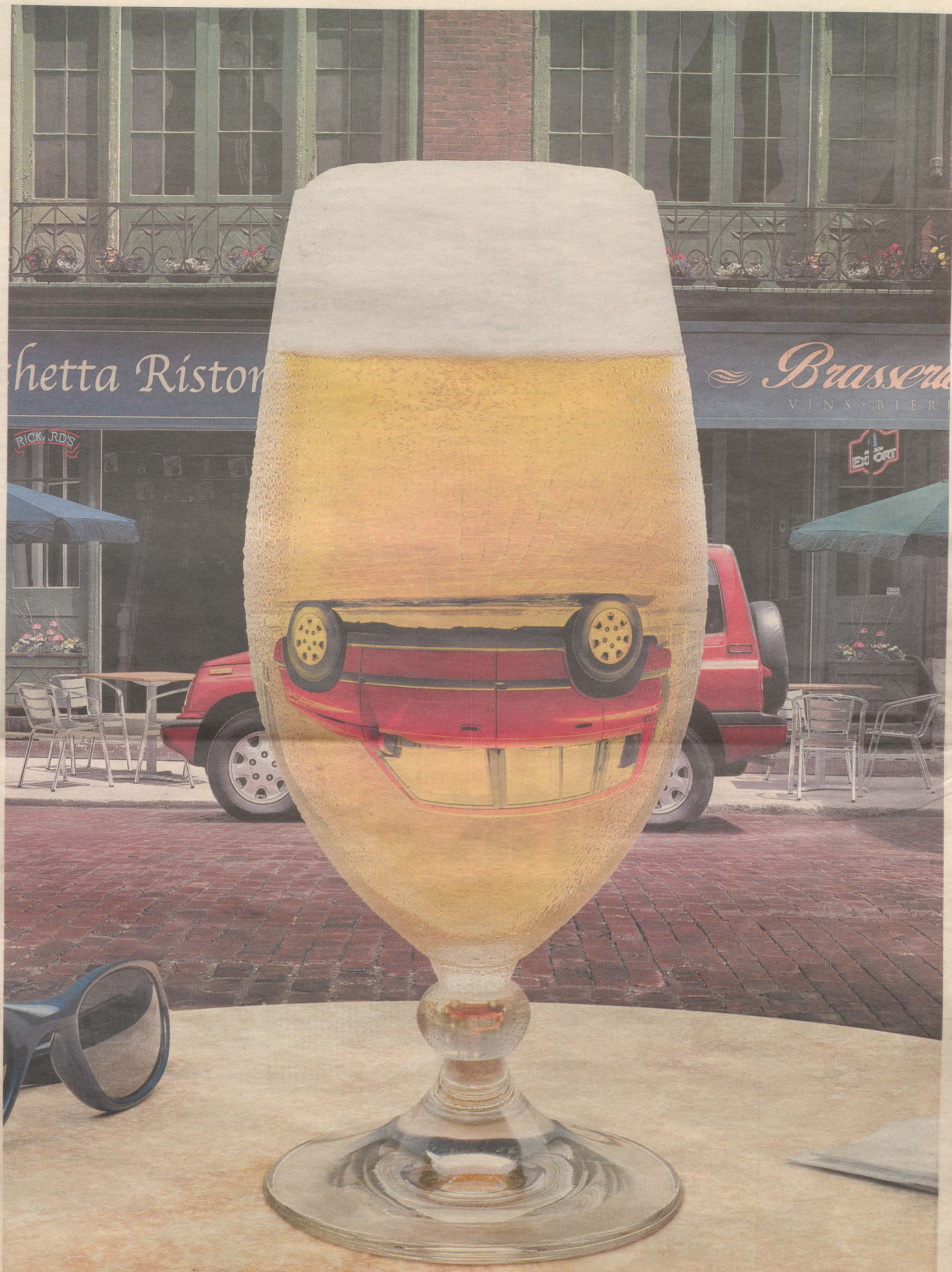
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