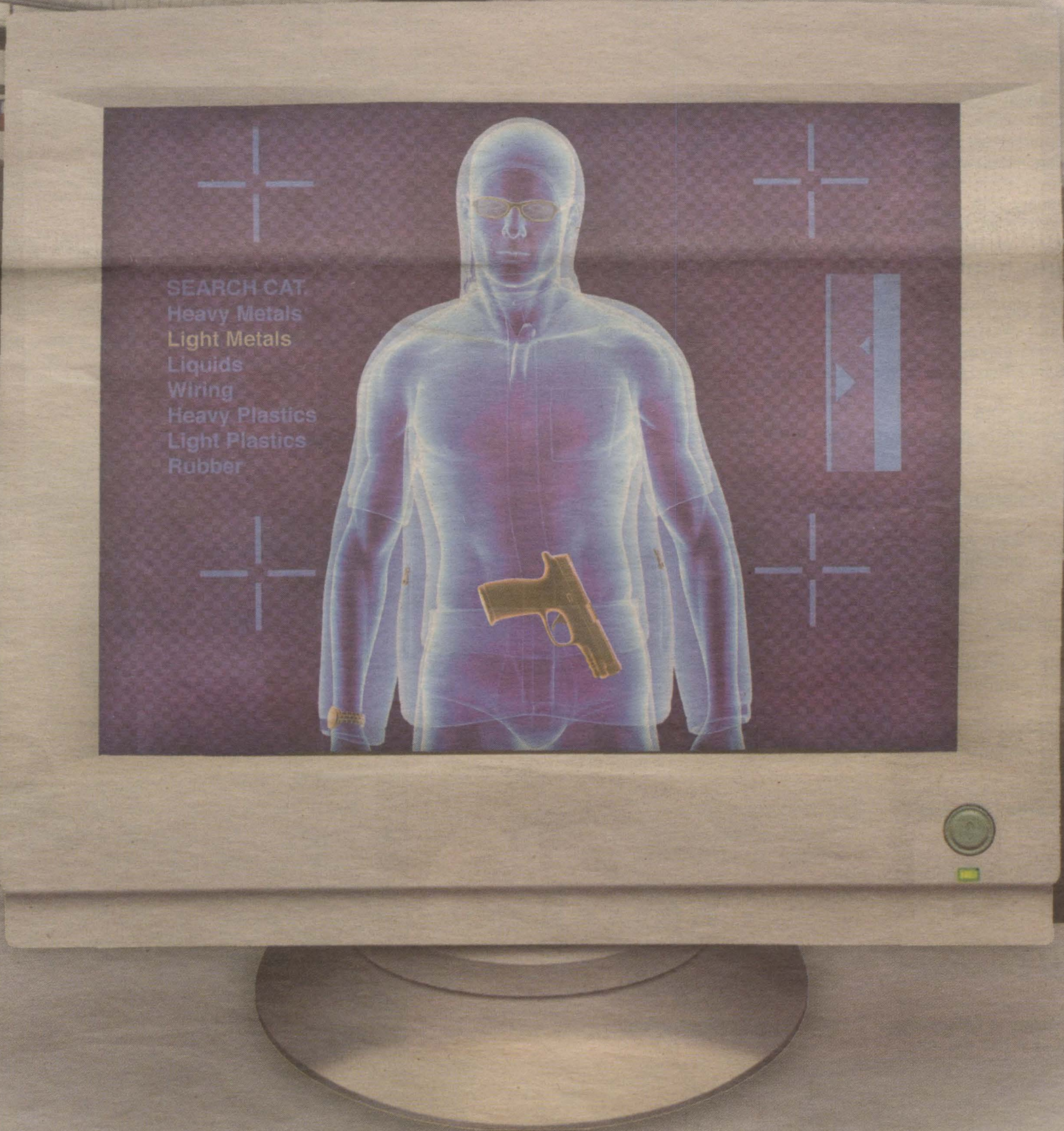


The Dalhousie Gazette. Since 1868

# Gazette







# WEEKLY DISPATCH

## DSU Weekly Dispatch

### Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Events

#### Events:

#### January 23 and 24

##### Brains for Change

Come join over 150 students in guided workshops aimed at developing student-centered approaches to classroom learning, career preparation, and community engagement. Sign up by January 14, 2010 at [BrainsForChange.ca](http://BrainsForChange.ca)

#### Monday, January 25

##### DSU Speaker Series Presents:

The "Me to We Speakers' Leadership" - Be the Change Series presents: **Michel Chikwanine** - From Child Soldier to Child Activist. The lecture will take place in the McInnis room located in the SUB and will begin at 7:00pm.

#### January 27-30

##### Winter Carnival

#### Wednesday, January 27

- 1:00pm-2:30pm - FREE Skate @ the DAL Arena (Helmets are required)
- 2:30pm-4:00pm - Snow Sculpture Contest in the SUB Amphitheater
- 9:00pm-1:00am - Dalhousie Got Talent Quarter Finals @ The Grawood (WET/DRY)

#### Thursday, January 28th

- 1:00pm-2:30pm - Sled Building Competition on Citadel Hill (Speed & style competitions)
- 9:00pm-1:00am - Winter Carnival Trivia Night @ The T-Room (19+)
- 9:00pm-1:00am - Ill Scarlette & USS Live @ The Grawood (WET/DRY)

#### Friday, January 29th

- 7:00pm-9:30pm - Men's Hockey Game, DAL vs. STU @ The DAL Arena
- 9:00pm-1:00am - Varsity Night and Post Game Party @ The Grawood (Live DJ)
- 9:00pm-1:00am - Two Hours Traffic & The Danks Live @ The T-Room (19+)

#### Saturday, January 30th

- 7:00pm-12:am - DSU's Annual Charity Ball, "Arctic Ice Capades," In support of Camp Triumph

#### Accused of Plagiarism? Failed a Course?

The Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service (DSAS) assists students with academic appeal and discipline matters. All inquiries are confidential. DSAS is located in room 310 of the SUB. Phone: (902) 494-2205 Fax: (902) 494-6647

#### Job Opportunities

##### DSU Elections Chief Returning Officer

This is a paid honorarium based on performance.

##### DSU Council Chair

This is a term position. The chosen candidate will conduct council meetings on a bi-weekly basis.

##### Member at Large (1<sup>st</sup> year)

This is a volunteer position

Applications are due by January 15, 2010

Anyone interested can email [dsuvsfpo@dal.ca](mailto:dsuvsfpo@dal.ca) or visit [www.dsu.cs](http://www.dsu.cs) for more details.

Sincerely,

Your DSU Executive

P.S. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter: @dalstudentunion, and visit us at [www.dsu.ca](http://www.dsu.ca)



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## THE FINE PRINT

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

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

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

Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, The Word at Dal, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in the Streeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not

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

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## ckdu's weekly top 10

for the week ending  
Jan 11, 2010

- 1 WILCO / WILCO (THE ALBUM) / NONESUCH
- 2 BLUERODEO / THE THINGS WE LEFT BEHIND / WARNER
- 3 JENOCIDE / MACHINES TO MAKE US WET / SELF-RELEASED
- 4 AMELIA CURRAN / HUNTER, HUNTER / SIX SHOOTER
- 5 THE RAVEONETTES / IN AND OUT OF CONTROL / VICE
- 6 GHETTOSOCKS / TREAT OF THE DAY / DROPPIN' SCIENCE
- 7 TINARIWEN/ IMIDIWAN: COMPANIONS / OUTSIDE
- 8 COUSINS / OUT ON TOWN / YOUTH CLUB
- 9 GYPSOPHILIA / SA-BA-DA-OW! / SELF-RELEASED
- 10 THE FLAMING LIPS / EMBRYONIC / WARNER

Salaam Halifax: Islamic culture and music  
isten live: Thursdays, 8pm-9pm

Maple Mothership: all-Canadian hip-hop  
isten live: Saturdays, 1:30pm-4:30pm

Share the Air: live performances and interviews  
isten live: Sundays, 9pm-10:30pm



# Editorial

## DEMAND SCANNER SATISFACTION

Hilary Beaumont  
Copy Editor

How do you feel about 'naked' body scanners?

Would you feel violated if you were picked for 'secondary screening'? Would you feel better if given the option of a full-body pat-down instead?

Chantal Bernier hasn't asked you these questions. The assistant federal privacy commissioner did, however, ask them of the national air security agency. A week ago, she was satisfied by their answers. This brief inquiry opened the way for 44 body scanners to be installed at major airports across Canada.

Bernier said these scanners, which produce a 3-D outline of a person's unclothed body, make it difficult to see travellers' faces. The scanners will only be used to examine travellers picked for secondary screening. And these specially selected travellers will be given a choice: full-body

pat-down or scan. Bernier said this option would lessen the "sense of invasion." Are you satisfied?

Has Bernier asked a person who has been groped, harassed or sexually assaulted whether a choice between nudity and a pat-down would lessen the "sense of invasion"? She certainly hasn't asked at-risk individuals how they feel. This leaves certain groups vulnerable because the masses can cope.

We already know certain groups are targeted more often for additional airport screening. It may not be policy, but it happens. So let's consider an individual who belongs to one of these groups. Let's single out a Muslim woman wearing a hijab. Let's flag her for additional screening, and give her the choice: scanner or pat-down? It's not much of a choice. This goes beyond privacy rights and becomes a potential violation of religious freedoms.

Has Bernier asked celebrities or other notable figures how their privacy might differ from the average Cana-

dian's? Within that realm, Pamela Anderson might have a different take on body scanners than Margaret Atwood.

There are individuals who may value their privacy to a higher degree than others. Hermaphrodites, or people undergoing gender transition. People with Chron's Disease who carry urine and fecal collection bags on their person. People who have been sexually assaulted. Celebrities. People whose privacy is pivotal in their religious practice. Or that chance guy with the evolutionary remnants of a tail. How does he feel?

Would you allow a stranger to see you naked if it would guarantee your security, and the security of the other weary travellers queued behind you?

Unfortunately, these special scanners do not guarantee travellers' safety from terrorist attacks. They do, however, provide a façade of security. Though no security measure – not shutting down air travel, not closing borders – can prevent another

terrorist attack from happening, Bernier thinks this measure will help. The next, more invasive security measure, after the 3-D scanner, will also help. Our government

Is your security guaranteed?  
No. And no one pretends it is.  
Is your privacy guaranteed?  
No. But it's meant to be protected by

**"Pamela Anderson might have a different take on body scanners than Margaret Atwood."**

will continue to allow the violation of our privacy rights in the name of false security. Do you feel safe?

How is it possible to "successfully answer" these questions in only three weeks? They are deeply controversial, and each Canadian harbors a different opinion. It is obvious the national air security agency does not prioritize privacy over national security. This group is also unlikely to undermine their own premise: that security is possible. Bernier should have asked someone else.

law as a fundamental right.

A year from now, it will be more difficult to object to a 'naked' body scan. These scanners will become routine.

Until the next threat to Canadians' security.

Until the next increased 'security' measure.

Do you care?



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## DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY GOVERNORS' AWARDS

In 1992, to mark the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Dalhousie Student Union, and to recognize students' contribution to the quality and vitality of the University, the Board of Governors established a set of awards to be known as Governors' Awards.

Up to four awards can be made each year, for exceptional contributions or leadership in the extracurricular realm in such areas as university governance, development of a sense of community on campus, community service, internationalizing the campus, visual or performing arts, minority access or athletics. To be eligible, students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or equivalent. Otherwise, all students - undergraduate, graduate or professional faculty student, full or part-time, at any stage in their academic career - may be considered for an award.

Recipients are chosen by a committee consisting of the President, three members of the Board of Governors and the Vice-President, Student Services. Nominations are invited, but the committee may consider other persons as well. Awards, in the form of a plaque, are presented annually in the spring by the Chair of the Board or designate.

Nominations should include a written description of the student nominee's contribution to the University and up to three letters of support. To assist you in planning your submission, a nomination form can be found on the Student Services website, [studentservices.dal.ca](http://studentservices.dal.ca).

Please submit nominations to:

The Office of the Vice-President  
Student Services, Room G28, Main Level  
Killam Memorial Library, Dalhousie University  
6225 University Avenue  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4H8

The deadline for nominations is **Friday, January 22, 2010.**

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# News

**News**

Gazette News covers Dalhousie and the greater Halifax community. Contributions are welcome! E-mail Lucy or Laura at news@dalgazette.com



Lucy Scholey, News Editor  
news@dalgazette.com

## A Google approach to email.

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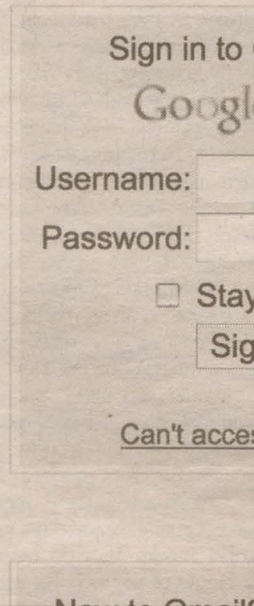
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Dal alumni are on Gmail, but the move to an American-based e-mail system might cost students their Internet privacy. | Stock photo

## Dal experiments with Gmail

### Alumni e-mail accounts test Google as provider

**Katrina Pyne**  
Staff Contributor

Dalhousie is putting Google to the test. The university's alumni e-mail accounts are now hosted through Gmail, instead of through the university's website.

Dwight Fischer, assistant vice president of Information Technology Services at Dal says it's a way of "dipping their feet in the water."

It's a move that might see 52,000 Dal student, alumnus and employee accounts switch to Google or Microsoft providers. The current school provider has experienced problems crashing and losing e-mails.

Fischer says the system needs to be replaced, but it would cost Dal several million dollars. Switching to a Google or Microsoft provider looks ideal.

"Both Google and Microsoft have tremendous capacity beyond what we offer," he says.

But with affordability comes another issue – privacy is lost under a switchover to an American-owned e-mail account.

The United States Patriot Act gives U.S. authorities the right to search phone, e-mail and other records sourced on American soil.

"It does make me concerned, but that's the world we live in," says Fischer.

He says e-mail privacy is a "dated concept."

"At the point of send, we lose control," he adds.

Today's technology-savvy generation live in a different world. They tend to disclose sensitive information through e-mail.

"Don't operate under false assumptions of privacy," says Fischer. "Stop using e-mail

for private, sensitive communication."

There are many draws to Google or Microsoft. Google now offers 25 gigabytes of space compared to Dal's current e-mail system, which has about 0.5 gigabytes.

"What we're driving is a 1990 Buick," says Fischer. "We can keep putting money into that but it's still a 1990 Buick. We have to ask where we want to be."

It's not uncommon for Dal employ-

ing, not commodity services?" he says.

The term is "cloud computing." It's a general term for anything that involves delivering hosted services over the Internet, such as e-mail or storage. It allows for companies to focus on their main business rather than the surrounding infrastructure.

In Dal's case, it would theoretically allow the university to put more

**"It does make me concerned, but that's the world we live in."**

**-- Fischer, on U.S. Internet privacy laws**

ees to reach the capacity every few weeks. When you get close to that barrier, it's a matter of cleaning it up, deleting e-mails and losing records.

But for students, storage is less pressing. "Most students don't approach their capacity," says Mark Hobbs, DSU vice president (internal).

David Lewis, first year representative on the King's Student Union, agrees.

"What we have here in terms of storage is fine," he says. "However the interface is not user friendly."

"It needs to be re-organized," says Dave Etherington, president of the King's Student Union. "The e-mail system right now is insensitive to more involved students."

According to Dal's technology services, 10 per cent of students forward their e-mail to Google. So Fischer says the resources to maintain the university's e-mail system could be put elsewhere.

"Wouldn't we be better off putting our money towards the classrooms, invest in the teaching and the learn-

ing, not commodity services?" he says.

The shift to cloud computing has become huge amongst businesses, according to Fischer.

According to a University of Alberta study, switching to Google would provide centralized e-mail and calendaring, and increased security from viruses.

After doing the study, the University of Alberta signed a four-year contract with Google. They hope to begin the switchover in early 2010.

So where does that leave Dal?

According to Hobbs there has been a significant drop in the number of student complaints concerning Dal's e-mail system in the last year.

"There is no e-mail ambulance going to the hospital any time soon," says Hobbs.

Although Hobbs would like to see changes to Dal's e-mail, he says there's no driving force to switch over.

"It just has to work and it just has to be functional," he says.

## Academic evaluations to be posted online

### Students might be able to read other students' ratings

**Lucy Scholey**  
News Editor

Many students have scribbled in many of those little bubbles on academic evaluation forms; in the bubble under the number five to indicate an instructor's enthusiasm in class, or in the bubble under the number one to say a professor didn't mark fairly. But these forms might soon mean more to students than just a chance to dish on a favourite or most-hated professor.

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) and the Senate Committee of Learning and Teaching (SCOLT) are working on a policy to open course evaluation results to students. It would allow students to see their instructors' ratings online.

If you have ever visited [www.rate-myprofessors.com](http://www.rate-myprofessors.com) when choosing your classes, this probably sounds familiar. But it will be different, says DSU vice president (education) Rob LeForte.

"There won't be little chilli peppers saying whether a professor is hot or not," he says, of the little icon that shows up beside an instructor's name. "It'll be more professional."

LeForte says current evaluation forms can differ between faculties, but the new forms would follow a common format. They would also ask a lot of questions similar to current evaluations, such as whether an instructor was accessible, enthusiastic or gave timely feedback. A professor or department could add other questions to the form, but those answers would not be made public. Neither would written comments.

"So it remains instructive, as opposed to some of the destructive stuff that's on ([ratemyprofessors.com](http://ratemyprofessors.com))," he says.

The policy isn't finalized, but discussions between SCOLT, the DSU, deans and students have been ongoing since last year. LeForte says the DSU council has pushed this policy for years. Now that it's finally underway, he says it could benefit both the students and the professors.

"For students, it's going to be good to be able to see the results when they're choosing courses," he says. "For professors, it's really going to be for whoever wants to opt-in and to give their students ... or future students that insight when choosing their courses."

It will also give instructors more incentive to better their teaching skills, he says.

But the policy won't be mandatory. Instructors will choose to opt in if they want to make their evaluations public. Newer professors will be encouraged not to opt in because "it takes them quite a while to get used to teaching in an academic environment" says LeForte.

"Many of the professors say that this is not a problem," adds Alan Shaver, vice president (academic and provost)

of Dal's senior administration. "Other professors have questions about privacy. They have questions about what the students want to do with this."

Sean Clark, PhD candidate and lecturer in the political science department, says he likes the idea of the new policy. It allows students to make a more informed decision in something they're paying for, he says.

"Post-secondary education is much like any other business transaction," he writes in an e-mail. "Students are paying ... consumers of an extremely specialized product."

But he cautions students against relying on instructor evaluations when choosing a class. There could be

**"For students, it's going to be good to be able to see the results when they're choosing courses."**

other factors affecting students' ratings, such as course material that's inherently dry or uninteresting.

"If engineers only selected classes on the basis of professor popularity, I would not be so keen to fly in airplanes or drive over bridges," he writes.

Instructor ratings would only be available to students. They would have to log onto the website using their Dal accounts and passwords.

Other Canadian universities have taken on a similar initiative – among them McGill and McMaster. Shaver says Dal has looked to the G13 schools, Canada's research leaders, as examples.

Amy Higgins, a first-year student at the University of King's College, says she would probably use the website for choosing future Dal courses.

"I think it's really great because it might help me," she says. "But I feel like it also might be misleading because certain professors might be good for a certain learning style and they might have poor ratings, but that doesn't necessarily mean they wouldn't work for me."

Costs and resources needed for the policy are also still in the works. Once the policy is more concrete, it will have to go through Dal's senate in March. It would then be implemented for the 2010/2011 academic year.



# DSU budget sees increase

Net revenue nearly \$101,000 higher than expected

Lucy Scholey  
News Editor

The student union isn't as badly in the red.

After last year's VP (finance and operations) predicted this year's whopping \$68,824 deficit, the Dalhousie Student Union budget came out on top with \$31,985 in net revenue.

"There is an average-sized deficit of \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year," current VP (finance and operations) Doyle Bond says.

But Bond predicts the recession and the uncertainty underlying the Pepsi contract as a few reasons for the unusually low prediction.

"We didn't know how much and from whom any revenues from (the Pepsi contract) would be coming from," says Bond.

Pepsi cut its funding to the DSU in the 2008-2009 year because the union wasn't meeting its target sales. Though the union had enough funds to pull through, this loss was still significant – the contract, at the time, was the largest in the DSU. The union has since renegotiated its contract with Pepsi – with a smaller target volume and shorter contract – and is receiving funds from the company this year.

Despite this, the DSU's sponsorship profits increased. Bond partly attributes the increase to orientation week events.

"Most years, (orientation week revenue is) always better than what we predict," he said in an earlier interview.

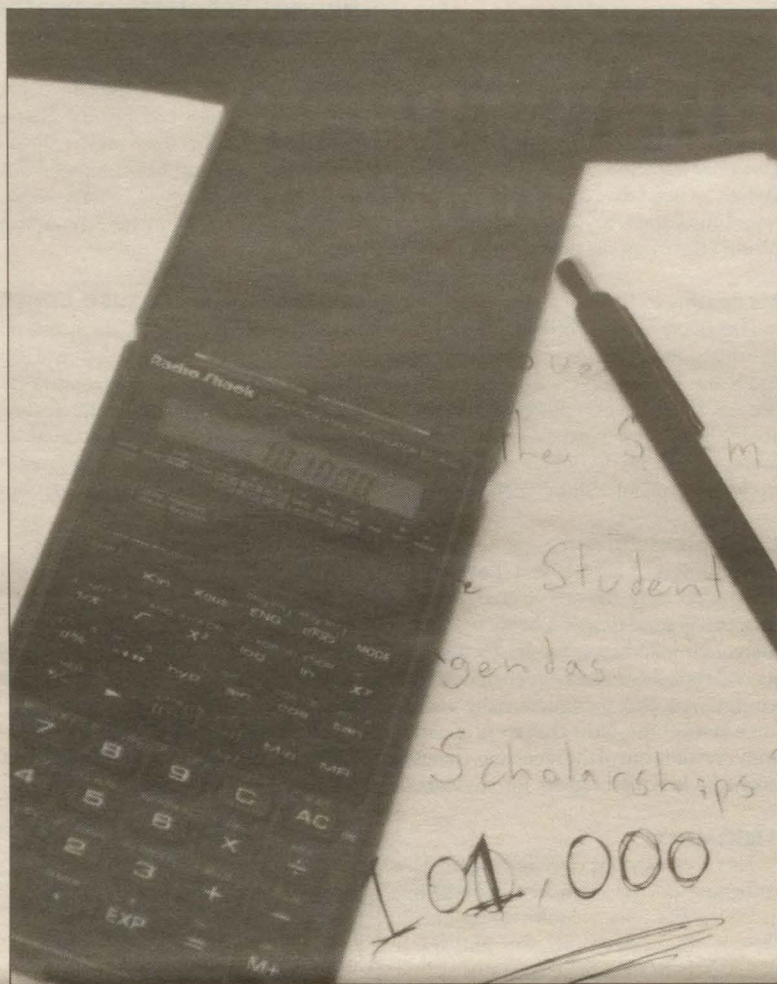
"However, you can't bank on that." So, like with other departments, the DSU projected a lower budget line, to be safe.

But nearly every department on the budget saw an increase. At least a higher prediction than what the DSU thought.

The Halifax Student Alliance (HSA) is an exception. The multi-school coalition saw a \$13,046 decrease. That's because last year, members dropped out for reasons such as lack of interest or funding shortfalls, says DSU president Shannon Zimmerman.

The organization lobbied the municipal government on issues such as late-night transit and student safety. Last year, the DSU put a freeze on Health Savings Account (HSA) funds until the organization has enough support to get back on its feet again.

"It wouldn't have gotten any other



DSU numbers are up. Way up. | Photo by Matt Ritchie

financial resources other than from Dal and we didn't feel that that was appropriate" says Zimmerman. "It's supposed to be a coalition of metro universities and colleges. It should have all of them committed to it, rather than just one financially committed."

The DSU is working on restarting the coalition, but progress has been slow, Zimmerman adds. It may take another few years, she says.

The only other revenue decreases were to the full-time and executive departments. Bond attributes that to "small, trivial things" such as unattended conferences or cut backs on office supplies. Though Bond says the cuts weren't intentional.

There was also a shift in full-time positions. After three people left the

policy analyst, administration assistant and communications departments, the three positions were slimmed down to two – a society coordinator and a policy/PR position.

Without much debate, the DSU presented and passed the budget at the last council meeting Dec. 2.

Bond says the new budget should be in line with the needs of all departments.

"I'm confident that what we've done with the budget this year and what we're predicting as a surplus will be really close," he says. "I've talked closely with all the department heads and they all predict all their different expenses and revenues coming in. They're predicting to be on par to what I said and predicted to council."

Students can access the budget on the DSU website.

# Invasion of the body scanners

Diane Salema  
McGill Daily

MONTREAL (CUP) – X-ray vision is usually the stuff of science fiction. It's available only to comic book heroes, such as Superman, who has the ability to selectively "see" through certain objects in order to find bad guys, fight crime, and make the world a better place.

In the real world, science has developed technology that appears akin to the superhero power, but in reality is much less refined and directed. Clark Kent's idealized penetrative gaze cuts a couple of corners when it comes to physics. Still, recent applications have a similar, albeit more contested and controversial, goal: airport surveillance.

Last week the federal government announced that airports across Canada would be introducing full body scanners – large portals that use electromagnetic radiation to detect a weapon or bomb a traveller may have concealed beneath their clothing – to enhance security measures for U.S.-bound flights. The investment was sped up in response to the Dec. 25 attempted bombing of Northwest Airlines flight 253, which was travelling from Amsterdam to Detroit.

Using electromagnetic waves to detect materials such as metal, the rays are unable to penetrate very far below the skin's surface, producing a reflected three-dimensional image of, essentially, a naked human body – accessorized only by any metal or plastic items stowed on a person.

According to the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority, the purchased portals belong to a new generation of scanners that use millimetre wave radiation, which, electromagnetically-speaking, is comparable to the microwave.

Shirley Lehnert, a member of the Montreal General Hospital's radiation oncology division, said that the energy of the technology's radiation is "too low to directly disrupt chemical bonds or cause electronic transitions." She did, however, recognize there are some concerns with radiation such as this, which is also found in cell phones.

Another type of body imaging machine – first-generation scanners – use low-energy x-rays, which have a much higher frequency than millimetre waves. Frank Verhaegen, professor and head of research at the Maastricht Clinic in the Netherlands, explained that the concern with these x-rays is the energy they transmit through the human body during a scan – a potentially harmful effect, according to his research.

"X-rays do their damage by breaking DNA strands, which may lead to genetic instability, cancer in the long-term, or acute diseases if the dose is high enough," Verhaegen said.

While the millimetre wave technology is less damaging than these x-rays, Ver-

haegen is concerned about airports where the old x-ray scanners may still be in use.

Besides the questions about health concerns, the scanners have also raised issues of privacy. Stéphane Leman-Langlois, associate professor of criminology at the Université de Montréal and author of *Technocrime: Technology, Crime and Social Control*, believes passengers should be turning their attention to this aspect of the technology.

"Scanners, with their actual impact on reducing terrorism or other crime, are in fact going to be used for other stuff ... like a guy who forgot nail clippers in his ... pocket," said Leman-Langlois.

Security guards are "going to catch a lot of these guys, whether they are trying to pass these things wittingly or unwittingly ... They're going to catch zero terrorists."

One reassurance is that full body scanners do not disclose unique details about an individual's identity: when your body is scanned, the security official does not discover your name or see your face.

However, the same cannot be said for other areas of surveillance research currently in development, such as radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags for passports, which Canada plans to roll out in 2011.

Leman-Langlois explained that these computer chips can store information about identity and facial recognition, meaning that in the future, an airport official could scan a passport chip and instantly confirm you are who you claim to be.

"Any kind of card that contains information stored on an RFID chip is actually readable at a distance," Leman-Langlois said. "But that means if (airports) can do it, anyone else can do it with less legitimate intentions."

Leman-Langlois remains unconvinced that measures like digital passports and full body scanners would serve their security purposes effectively, pointing to the flaws of reactive security.

"The problem with this is that it assumes terrorists are going to try the same thing that they tried before," he said. "In that loop of constantly reacting to small detailed actions that terrorists or criminals or whoever will come up with over the years, you're never really going to catch up."

Leman-Langlois called instead for proactive security, and old-fashioned investigation and intelligence.

"This is how you do security. It's far less spectacular and it doesn't have that appearance of the perfect, magic, one-security-fix that the portal has – but it works. The portal: we don't know if it works or not."

Scanners have been introduced to Canadian airports, but passengers can choose to submit to a physical pat down instead, if they prefer.

## SUMMARY OF 2009-2010 BUDGET CHANGES

### Net revenue

Predicted: - \$68,824  
Budget: \$31,985

### DSU president's office

Predicted: \$41,197  
Budget: \$39,879

### DSU VP (internal)

Predicted: \$41,089  
Budget: \$39,270

### Halifax Student Alliance

Predicted: \$13,047  
Budget: -\$13,047

### DSU VP (education)

Predicted: \$49,602  
Budget: \$48,691

### DSU VP (student life)

Predicted: \$68,615  
Budget: \$67,773

### DSU VP

(finance and operations)  
Predicted: \$36,722  
Budget: \$36,279

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News

# Big news of 2009

## What topped the list last year

**Lucy Scholey**, News Editor  
**Laura Parlee**, Assistant News Editor

### Swine Flu

Feeling under the weather? The H1N1 epidemic was inescapable in the news world this year. It was linked to nearly 387 deaths in Canada. They told us we could get the vaccine, they told us it would only be available to priority groups, then they told us we could get it again. This roller coaster of information created long line-ups and cranky parents at the vaccine clinics. Now there's a possibility of a third wave.

### Lisa Raitt

Nova Scotian reporter, Stephen Maher, came across a sweet scoop this year when he found a tape recording of Minister of Natural Resources Lisa Raitt dishing her true thoughts about other ministers and important issues.

She dismissed health minister Leona Aglukkaq's abilities, and called the isotope crisis a "sexy issue," creating media frenzy. Cue a teary apology, fire responsible assistant and viola: crisis averted.

### Obama's Nobel Prize

Shit hit the fan when Obama received the Nobel Peace Prize last October. With his support for the war in Afghanistan – a 30,000 troop surge shortly after receiving the Nobel – and wavering Middle East peace talks, many people were baffled at his win. But he had his supporters, too. After all, one of his first orders of business was closing Guantanamo Bay. He's also promoted nuclear nonproliferation and reached out to the Muslim world.

### Olympic Torch relay

The upcoming 2010 Winter Olympics has almost everyone hyped up. In Nova Scotia, many people gathered on

Brunswick Street to watch hockey prodigy Sidney Crosby carry the torch and hand it to Olympic snowboarder Sarah Conrad. That's not to say the sporting event has attracted all positive attention. People across the country have protested the games, saying the province is hosting the event on stolen Native land.

### MJ death

Pop icon and controversial court case winning Michael Jackson died suddenly last summer of heart failure. The media erupted, as stories about his assets, custody of his children and full live coverage of the star studded funeral dominated news.

### Economic meltdown

If you weren't already in a "how-will-I-find-work-with-my-arts-degree" crisis, then this gem of news probably put you there. Many students gave grad school a second thought or stretched their degree a little longer. Best to hide from the work force at this time. Now that we're apparently crawling out of the recession, things might be looking brighter for students.

### Afghanistan

This is an obvious one. Since Canada embarked on the Afghanistan mission in 2001, we've seen endless headlines. Despite the usual, pro-war anti-war debates, there have been flare-ups with the treatment of Afghan detainees and a promised exit date that wasn't met. We'll see whether and how the gears will shift once the next 2011 exit date approaches.

### NS NDP win

They called it "orange crush" for a good reason. As last June's election drew closer, the question changed from "which party will win?" to "will the NDP have a minority or a majority?" It was the latter, when the party swept 31 out of 52 seats in the legislature. The party's win was also the first in Nova Scotia history.

## NEWS BRIEFS

Laura Parlee | Assistant News Editor

### Rhodes Scholarship awarded to Kings student

University of Kings College student Rosanna Nicol has been awarded the Rhodes Scholarship. The scholarship will cover all expenses for Nicol to live and study in England at the University of Oxford. Nicol plans to finish her degree in economics and history this spring, and start her masters in development in September. Not only is she a high-achieving student, she's involved in her community and has volunteered with World University Service of Canada and the OSU Children's Library Fund in Ghana. She is also an active member of the Dal/King's Ultimate Frisbee team, and the King's College Chapel Choir.

### Body scanners cause controversy

In response to the Christmas Day attempted terrorist attack, Minister of Transport John Baird will be installing 44 of the so-called "naked body scanners" across Canadian airports. The scanners give airport officials the ability to see a three-dimensional outline of a passenger's naked body. Some experts have questioned the effectiveness of the scanners, raising questions of privacy and even child pornography concerns. The machines will only be used on passengers flagged for "secondary screening."

### Striking words

Nova Scotia school and hospital support staff are threatening to strike over wage parity. CUPE workers say Halifax staff are paid higher than out-of-city people, and are asking for a 2.9 per cent wage increase every year for the next three years. The province is opposing the increase, saying they can't afford to comply with the union demands. Essential services would be maintained, but the strike would still cause major pressure for hospitals and schools in the HRM. The union will strike on Jan. 18 if an agreement isn't reached.

### Khyber in for some changes

The Khyber building – Halifax's historic arts and culture centre – could be changing ownership. The city has started a feasibility study that details the needs and benefits of the building and is asking for public input. The Khyber Arts Society currently occupies the building, but only 28 per cent of the old building is usable. This is the last week to vote in the online survey. Results will be presented to council for a final decision.

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# Canadian faculty rally against climate change

Ashley Gaboury  
CUP Central Bureau Chief

**W**INNIPEG (CUP) – Dr. Helmut Burkhardt, a professor emeritus at Ryerson University, believes there is no question about the scientific necessity of replacing oil and coal with renewable energy.

Politicians often claim economic infeasibility as the major hurdle to jump from tried and true fossil fuels to renewable energy, said Burkhardt, whose discipline is physics.

"In my view, the ecological (issues) should be above the economic issues," he said.

"Economics may be a hardship or not, but that's what we have to deal with. Furthermore, it may not be economically bad for our society if we change to renewable energy as fast as we can."

Burkhardt sits on the board of Science for Peace, a Canadian organization of scientists and scholars that

studies issues of environmental destruction and social injustice, and disperses its research to the public.

In an effort to bring attention to climate change, faculty members from universities across the country signed an open letter to the Canadian government at the end of December through Science for Peace, enforcing the need to drastically reduce carbon emissions as quickly as possible.

Addressed to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, cabinet ministers, and leaders of opposition parties, the letter has been signed by over 500 university faculty members from a range of disciplines at universities from coast to coast.

"It is unacceptable and horrifying by standards of public health and morality that many industrialized nations are doing the opposite of what is required, by actually increasing greenhouse gas emissions," the letter reads.

"The Canadian government is particularly culpable, as it has persistently

obstructed co-operative global action and even continues to invest in the growth of a carbon-based economy."

"The danger is imminent of an irreversible alteration of climate," it continues.

The letter cites data from paleoclimate studies that outline how much carbon dioxide can be in the atmosphere while allowing the world to maintain its current conditions. The data shows that when the levels stood at 450 parts per million (ppm), the world's polar ice had disappeared.

In order to avoid reaching this, levels of carbon dioxide must be kept below 350 ppm, according to the letter, which cites estimates by NASA scientist James Hansen; the current concentration is 390 ppm.

The message the letter drives home is that it is essential that we move to zero, or as close to zero, carbon emissions as soon as possible.

Burkhardt said that risk analysis of climate change led him to sign the letter.

"Neither the scientists of the International Commission on Climate Change nor the opponents ... who oppose climate change cannot be certain," said Burkhardt.

"When there is uncertainty on both sides, I prefer to trust the believers of climate change because the consequences of them being wrong is that we go to renewable energy a bit faster than absolutely necessary," he continued.

Although the letter does not outline a specific timeline to reduce carbon emissions, Burkhardt said the change has to happen within the decade.

"I guess that it may be wishful thinking that (the letter) would be effective. But it ought to be. The government is further removed from the scientists, who are truth seekers. The government should listen to scientists.

"Whether they do or not, that remains to be seen," he said.

# Canadians take to the streets online

Michael Bramadat-Willcock  
The Concordian

**M**ONTREAL (CUP) – Canadians have been anything but quiet since Prime Minister Stephen Harper once again requested that Parliament be suspended.

Some voices have defended the Conservative leader's actions, arguing it is the right of the country's leader to prorogue Parliament, a right that has been exercised by many former prime ministers.

But since Dec. 30, when Harper asked the Governor General – for the second time in a little over a year – to suspend Parliament, there has also been a tidal wave of public backlash.

A contingent of anti-prorogation Canadians has convened through a Facebook group called "Canadians Against Proroguing Parliament," which, as of the evening of Jan. 13, had a membership of close to 183,000.

In contrast, the "I support the Prime Minister of Canada, Stephen Harper" Facebook group, which specifically supports Harper's decision, had about 800 members at the same time.

The anti-prorogation group's mission states that Harper is "forsaking his responsibility to be accountable to his employers, us Canadians citizens."

Prorogation – or suspension – of Parliament has its roots in the British system, said Bobby Ansari, a former graduate co-ordinator for the department of history at McGill University. And the public didn't take it any better back then.

"When King Charles I of England dissolved Parliament in 1628, people took to the street in protest," she said.

Riding the wave of prorogation dissenters, Liberal leader Michael Igna-

teff has asked his party's members of Parliament to return to Ottawa on Jan. 25, the day the House of Commons was originally set to reconvene.

"Because of the huge response to the Facebook group, the Liberal Party has jumped on it as a way to promote their campaign," Ansari said. "They have been putting radio and print ads up, using the Facebook group as a platform for their campaign."

Ansari said she takes issue with the fact that, throughout the duration of the prorogation, Canadians will lose their representation in Parliament.

"For example, there will be no one in Parliament to stand up for the protesters at the Olympics in Vancouver," she said. "If you're a protester and get arrested in Vancouver during the Olympics, you won't be able to contact your MP until after Parliament resumes."

Some members of the Facebook group have described Harper's request to prorogue as an insult to Canadians.

In a post on a discussion board, Richard Wierzbicki wrote, "This prorogue of the house is the PM's way of saying he has no respect for Canada or its institutions."

Another group member, Nona MacDermid, speculated on how Canadians might react if Harper ever fails to be re-elected as Prime Minister: "(Look at) the global euphoria when Obama took office – there were celebrations in places around the world. I think we are going to have some pretty happy people partying in the streets when Mr. Harper gets his permanent prorogation from politics."

Apathy has also found its way to Facebook – the "Canadians Who Don't Really Care the Parliament has been Prorogued" group had 248 members on Jan. 13.

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## Features

# Features

## Features

Gazette Features publishes one long feature or two short features every week. E-mail Tim at features@dalgazette.com to pitch an idea.



Tim Mitchell **Features Editor**  
features@dalgazette.com

# STUDYING IN ICELAND

## Dalhousie students visit Arctic Circle

Josh Mackintosh  
Features Contributor

When we first arrived in Iceland two months ago, we ate all things Icelandic, such as fish quesadillas and lamb hotdogs, which Bill Clinton has been known to enjoy. We drank all things Icelandic, such as licorice schnapps and \$9 pints of mediocre beer. We did all things Icelandic, such as soaking in the Blue Lagoon for hours, and visiting Ikea. Besides coming here to study Resource Management, we came here to experience Iceland.

The three of us barely knew each other a year ago. Jennifer was raised in Saint John, N.B. and moved to Halifax for work, and later for school. Lindsay is from Rothesay, N.B. and moved to Halifax to go to Dalhousie. I am from Kentville, N.S. and attended Acadia before going to Dal to study Environmental Planning. We were all studying planning on Dalhousie's Sexton Campus. We did our studio projects, internships, and theses together before we graduated in 2009. Now we are studying in Iceland, working on our Masters of Resource Management, specializing in Coastal and Marine Management. It's a multi-disciplinary program with students from all over the world; from Canada and the United States to Latvia, Iran and Mauritius. The program also includes professors from across Europe, the U.S. and Canada who are well known in their respective fields. Some of them even attended or taught at Dal.

The University of Akureyri offers our program in Isafjordur, Iceland. Isafjordur is in the Northwest corner of Iceland in an area called the Westfjords. Isafjordur is the biggest town in the Westfjords and has a population of about 3,000



Three Dalhousie alumni and one current Dal student stand in front of the Blue Lagoon in Iceland. | Photo supplied Josh Mackintosh

**“Of course, being a fairly reserved North American, this made me even more uncomfortable.”**

people. Because of the city's location (66 degrees North, at the mouth of the Arctic Circle) there are nearly 24 hours of light per day in the summer, and in the winter nearly 24 hours of darkness. In the Westfjords there are plenty of opportunities to go horseback riding, on boat trips, fishing, hiking or exploring for wildlife in the Hornstrandir Nature Reserve or on either one of two of the biggest seabird cliffs in the North Atlantic.

In Isafjordur, we have countless opportunities for hiking over the moun-

tains around the fjords, over the avalanche barriers, and through the tunnels that borough deep under the mountain or along the seaside. We sailed around the Westfjords, and saw a glacier and the nature reserve. That trip, however, had to be cut short due to a gale warning. Despite a few nauseous classmates and a broken boom, the motor back to the town was one of the best ways to see the Westfjords. In September we experienced our first Icelandic snowfall. We have been told to expect it in May and sometimes June as well, so

that is something to look forward to.

The Blue Lagoon was an interesting experience. When you see brochures about travelling to Iceland, you are bombarded with pictures of the Blue Lagoon. When you Google images of Iceland, the first image that shows up is of the Blue Lagoon. So naturally, we had to check it out. As we approached from kilometres away, we saw this cloud of perfect white steam escaping into the air. As we got closer we saw the perfect blue water, which is almost glowing. It doesn't look real.

We came to the entrance of the Lagoon and saw hundreds of people. They were all trying to take token pictures of themselves in front of the lagoon's bright blue water. When we entered the payment area, we were overwhelmed by the amount of people who were trying to get into the water at the same time. By this point, we had decided it was perfectly reasonable to pay \$50 to access this lake of warm water.

We went into the changing room, which, if you don't play sports growing up, is a place of extreme discomfort to begin with, especially in Europe where there is no shyness about nudity. Posted on the Blue Lagoon changing room walls was a sign that read: "All bathers must shower in the shower room with no clothes on before entering the lagoon." Of course, being a fairly reserved North American, this made me even more uncomfortable.

After not complying with the posted naked shower rule, I quickly slipped out the door to the deck that runs around the lagoon and blended in with the crowd. The Blue Lagoon, despite being kind of cool, continued to disappoint me. It was packed with people who each wanted something different from it, ranging from families having fun putting mud on their faces, taking pictures and swimming around with orange arm floatation devices, to couples on honeymoons who were trying to have

a romantic time kissing and snuggling.

The Lagoon can make you feel quite sick if you stay in too long; however, we wanted to get as much time in as we could for \$50. It was a delicate balance. Once you see a floating Band-Aid it's game over – time to leave.

We left the change room and were corralled like cattle through the Blue Lagoon shop, where you can buy \$100 Blue Lagoon Shampoo or a \$5 bottle of water, which you need, because the lagoon has dehydrated you to the point of collapse.

Coming to Iceland was quite an adventure. We each had varying first impressions of the place that we will call home for the next year. One thing that struck me upon arrival in Iceland is how much some areas look like the moon. Iceland is beautiful. The island is lush and green and full of expression in the summer, which is much too short. What Iceland lacks in long, warm summers, it makes up for with friendly people.



# Opinions

## Opinions

Gazette Opinions welcomes any opinion backed up with facts, but we don't publish rants. E-mail Kaley at [opinions@dalgazette.com](mailto:opinions@dalgazette.com) to contribute.



Kaley Kennedy **Opinions Editor**  
[opinions@dalgazette.com](mailto:opinions@dalgazette.com)

## SEX ED

### Going down doesn't have to leave you on your knees



Katie Toth  
Sex Columnist

While in my hometown of Toronto over the holidays, I went to a class at my local sex shop to learn about "Giving Great Head." Sitting with notepad in hand, I was ready to polish my mojo like no woman had before me.

My jaw dropped as our instructor passed around flavoured condoms and dildos before telling us about herself: "Some people wonder how you end up teaching a blowjob class."

"Wait!" I wrote to the friend I'd dragged along. "This is a blowjob class?"

I don't know why, but when I saw the notice for the "womens-only workshop," I had anticipated a lesbian or bisexual brouhaha, featuring a sort of Sapphic sage imparting equal-opportunity wisdom to her youthful disciples.

Ah, well. Such are the pitfalls of over-enthusiasm and a meagre attention span.

Maybe this was the perfect time to bone up on my mediocre fellatio skills. Still, I felt suddenly uncomfortable about this new dynamic. Something about the concept of the class seemed almost... well... subservient.

Wait a minute.

Why do I think that?

In many aspects of hetero culture, from romantic films to pornography, a sense of entitlement to sexual pleasure is often associated with the male role in a relationship.

A feminine role, in contrast, is associated with delivering that pleasure to a dominant recipient. Images of women who have sexual power usually involve not giving but withholding the pleasure which they are capable of offering.

Even if we haven't all been there, most of us know someone who has refused to get his or her partner off until he or she apologizes, does the dishes, or quits smoking.

It's pretty obvious how lack of sex can be used to assert some power in a relationship. However, this presents a fragile dynamic, since it basically means that the only power we see women having

involves them not having sex (or fun).

I guess these norms had convinced me that going down on anyone necessitated a sense of acquiescence. Giving someone pleasure, I now realize, can be just as empowering, if not more so, than withholding it.

It can certainly be more active and involve more control.

The sexual mores of queer women can attest to this. Because queer relationships and sex are not as consistently displayed on mainstream TV, film and advertising (with the exceptions of ratings seasons and attention grabs), the gays don't always experience the watchful eye of the media in the same way.

The lack of representation and visibility means that queer sexuality does not come with the same cultural baggage. Thus, certain power dynamics in-

comedies, build up certain roles within oral sex that make it hard for a guy to relinquish control, just as they make it hard for a girl to see how much control is possible within the act.

So what did I learn in blowjob school that can counteract these conceptions?

First of all, being aware of the power of what you're doing can be a great first step to overcoming those feelings of insecurity. Look at his face and you'll see just how much pleasure you're able to bring him with your hands and mouth.

Oral sex doesn't have to be a chore—ask yourself how you could get more out of it.

Also, ask yourself if this is about positions of power, or just about your jaw hurting. You don't have to just suck through the pain: use your hands more, lick it like a lollipop (thanks, Lil' Wayne),

### "Be courteous: someone is being kind enough to suck your junk."

herent or possible in the oral sexual experience can make themselves visible.

Let me give you an example. In dyke culture, power roles seem to be practically reversed from that of hetero norms. Being "on top" for girls is often associated with the power of giving pleasure, of forcing the person underneath you to be incapacitated with orgasm.

I know someone who ties her butch identity to not allowing the other party to give her pleasure: being on the bottom or allowing someone to pleasure her would involve vulnerability as much as it would entitlement. In the lack of orgasm, however, you don't relinquish control.

Giving a dude head can be an equally powerful act. You are overwhelming your partner with pleasure, and you get to decide how much cock is in your mouth, where and when. Likewise, for a dude to lay back and enjoy the ride, relinquishing control of the sexual situation, can be an incredible adventure—maybe even a frightening prospect.

Unfortunately, the legacy of sexism shields male power from this moment of vulnerability.

Mainstream porn gives us the money shot—the male orgasm—after he thrusts his cock into the mouth of his deep-throating partner. These images, whether filtered through mainstream pornography or Hollywood

and give your inner cheeks a break.

Dudes: look at your partner and communicate, even if your shlong is kind of in the way of their mouth. Putting your hand on their head or the back of their neck while they're going down on you makes some people uncomfortable.

Thrusting, as fun as you may think it seems at the time, can cause people to gag on your cock.

I'm not trying to make you feel insecure about an experience you should let yourself enjoy without hang-ups, but if you're not sure, you should ask.

Be courteous: someone is being kind enough to suck your junk.

For some, no tip or trick will make them hot about giving head. Oral sex might be a trigger to bad memories that even tying their partner up in all four corners won't get them past.

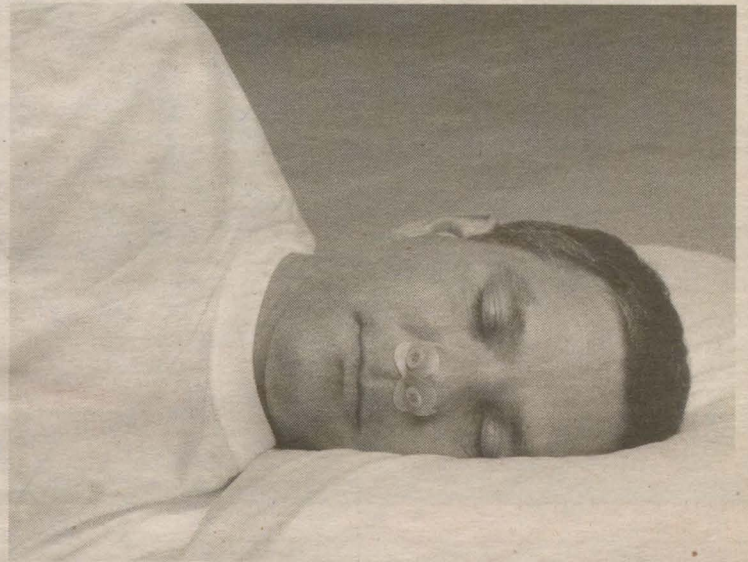
If you really, really hate giving blowjobs, that doesn't make you a bad person. You can compromise or try to think of some alternatives that work for both of you.

But remember that oral is most likely to be got when it's given. And, if it's consensual and approached with enthusiasm, it can be a rockin' time.

If you're not a fellating fan, consider giving it another go from a different angle this time. Or, as I tasted in class, try adding a chocolate flavoured condom. Who knows what might happen?

## FROSH SURVIVAL GUIDE

### Getting back into the swing of things



Extending your vacation into the second term might seem like a good idea, but if you're not careful you'll wake up and it'll be exams again. | Stock photo



Katie Ingram  
Opinions Columnist

It doesn't matter if you celebrate a holiday during December; after winter break, it's easy to find yourself having trouble with school work. After two weeks of relaxing, trying to read a text book or writing an essay at the beginning of the winter term is one of the hardest things to do.

Some people avoid this problem and fall right back into the daily grind of school, but others tend to fall into two categories: the guilt-stricken and the procrastinator.

Guilt students tend to realize they could have accomplished a lot over the past two weeks, and begin to panic. As a result, the guilt-stricken student becomes overly stressed, even before the term has officially begun.

If you are this type of person there are a few ways to tackle the new year and your workload without feeling at fault about taking time off to enjoy a well-deserved vacation.

First, step back and take a breath. The term has just started; there is no need to worry yet. If your marks were good last semester, there is no reason to worry; you've already got a handle on university and you should be fine.

The main way to stop feeling guilty is to stay on top of work by re-evaluating your time management skills. If you have a break in the morning, use this to do your readings, so that

your evenings are free for assignments. Look at your due dates and the lengths of your assignments.

If you have a lab report to do and you don't need to spend a lot of time on it, then don't devote an entire night to it. On the other hand, if you have an essay due and are having trouble with it, devote more time to it. Budget your time correctly and you will be able to ease back into school without many problems.

Or maybe you fall into the second category: the procrastinator.

There is really only one way to conquer this problem. You must retrain your mind for school.

No matter how early your classes start, try to make sure you're up at least one hour before you have to leave for class.

This will not only help you avoid sleeping in too late, but you will also have time for step two. Use the time before your first class in a productive manner. It's very easy, especially during the first week of classes to avoid doing any work at all, even if it's just readings.

To avoid slacking off before class try reading that novel for English or do research for that pending history paper; anything that can help your brain move from vacation mode to work mode.

Finally, give yourself a bed time. For example, try going to bed at 11:00 or 11:30; you will be showing yourself that you cannot stay up as late as you did on the break because the holidays have passed.

Overall, January is much like September. As first year students, you should always be taking a 'planning' approach to the new term. Therefore, no matter what problems you are having, you can tackle them with ease as your solutions will be carefully laid out and hopefully enable you to successfully finish the year.



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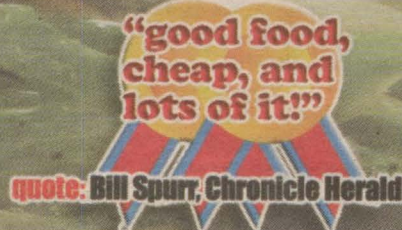
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MARK WAHLBERG RACHEL WEISZ SUSAN SARANDON STANLEY TUCCI MICHAEL IMPERIOLI SAOIRSE RONAN

Directed by PETER JACKSON

# THE LOVELY BONES

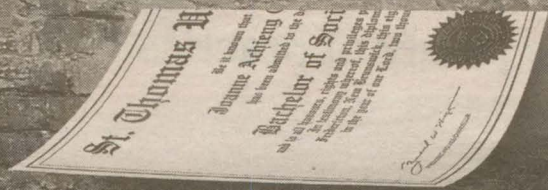
THE STORY OF A LIFE AND EVERYTHING THAT CAME AFTER...

DREAMWORKS PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH FILM4 PRESENT A WINGNUT FILMS PRODUCTION MARK WAHLBERG RACHEL WEISZ SUSAN SARANDON 'THE LOVELY BONES' STANLEY TUCCI MICHAEL IMPERIOLI SAOIRSE RONAN ORIGINAL MUSIC BY BRIAN ENO EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STEVEN SPIELBERG TESSA ROSS KEN KAMINS JAMES WILSON PRODUCED BY CAROLYNNE CUNNINGHAM FRAN WALSH PETER JACKSON AIMEE PEYRONNET BASED ON THE NOVEL BY ALICE SEBOLD READ THE NOVEL FROM LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY SCREENPLAY BY FRAN WALSH & PHILIPPA BOYENS & PETER JACKSON

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Posted on 07. Nov. 2009 in **Editor**

Gazette Staff

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Posted on 07. Nov. 2009 in **News**

Joshua Brown

Staff Contributor

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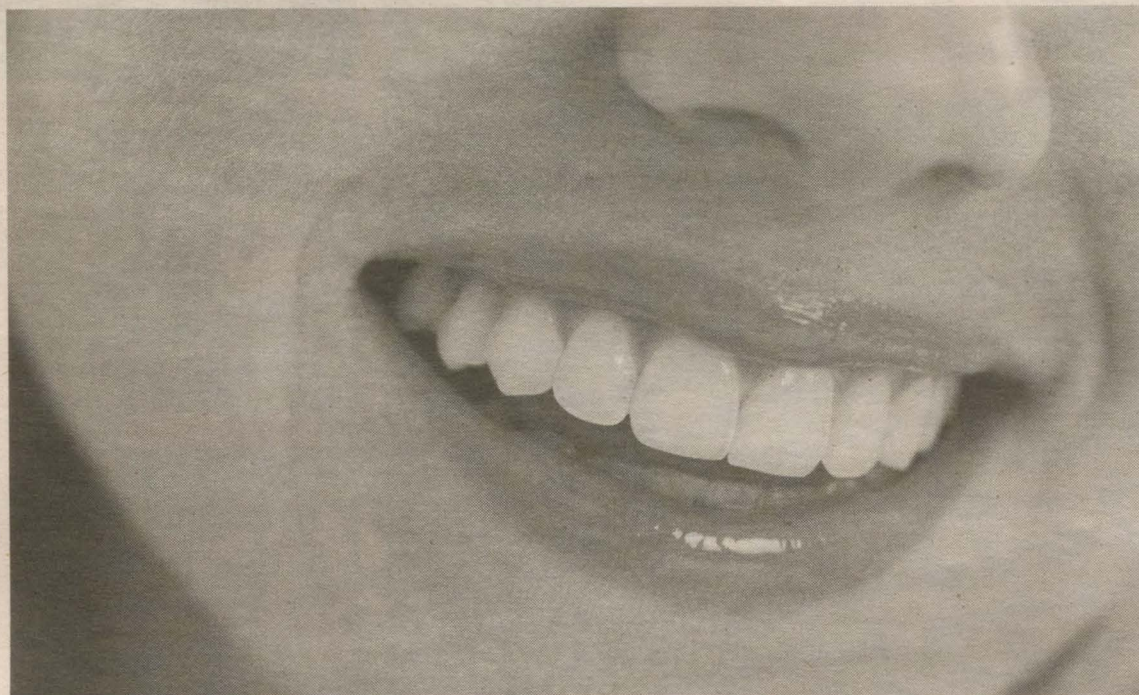
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Opinions

# THE HEALTHY STUDENT

## Pearly whites take plenty of practice



Keeping your teeth happy and healthy takes more than just talk. | Stock photo



Rachel Sunter  
Health Columnist

Blood, pain and shame; that about sums up my recent dentist check-up. It was supposed to be a regular cleaning, and I'm sure the receptionist would attest to that. For me, it was a deserved punishment, and a lesson learned.

Since my teenage braces came off, blue-masked faces have oohed and aahed over my gaping jaws, commenting on the general splendor of my pearly whites. "Good brushing, I see," and "so white!" and even, "Joan, come have a look at these."

Life gets busier, bedtimes get later, and as I've gotten older my tooth-brushing practices have gone a little slack.

For years dentists didn't seem to notice my corner cutting, and I let it get to my head.

This time last year, twice-a-day brushing had fizzled down to once. Mouthwash became an extraneous commodity. And flossing? Pah! Only when I'm feeling really productive.

My chief concerns were that I continued to have good breath, and white teeth in pictures. Gradually, my dental-upkeep guilt lessened, and I was able to happily settle into a low-maintenance routine.

One year later, I'm prepping for tomorrow morning's appointment. As I floss my teeth in the dim light, I am shocked to see red blotting teeth and fingertips alike. I wonder if maybe gums need to get used to floss or something, like calluses with new shoes.

The next morning, my gums are so sore and red I don't dare floss again in the hour before my appointment. Anxiety builds in my tummy in the

waiting room. Too soon, I am called in.

The dental hygienist is chatty and pleasant, making sure I'm warm enough and my shoulder bag is off to the side so no one steps on it. Chair buzzes back, light flicks on, open up wide, and it begins. With the same metal tools I'm long past caring about, she scrapes around each tooth to remove my annual build-up of plaque.

I'm half-focused on answering the usual questions about school and boyfriends when piercing pain interrupts my thoughts. The hygienist says nothing out of the ordinary, so neither do I. As she goes along, the pain builds, spreads and rings with stinging.

I begin to wonder if she's unpracticed, or distracted. I stop talking, half to encourage her focus, half because I'm tense with anticipation for the next slice of her hand, but nothing improves.

sages from my favourite medieval fantasy books, where protagonists bravely undergo all degrees of physical strain. Embrace the pain, I chant to myself. None of it helps.

When the hygienist finally tells me to take a good rinse and pick which flavour of gritty toothpaste I'd like for my polishing, I practically shiver with relief. After the slice-and-dice I've just had on my raw flesh, the irritating tickle and hum of the rubber polishing brush is a warm massage in a mountain spa.

Before I go, the dentist comes in for a look. She comments on how readily my gums are bleeding.

How often do I floss? Oh, once every few days or so. I privately wonder if all dentists have a rule when it comes to patients' hygiene claims. To calculate actual flossing habits, divide maximum

**"To calculate actual flossing habits, divide maximum admitted days between flossing by three."**

If my pain is any measure of the bleeding going on in there, it's a wonder she can see anything to keep scraping at.

Sure enough, the hygienist pauses to, "Give a little rinse, there," with a water tube. Unbelievably, the pain from each freshly cleaned tooth persists, doubling and tripling as each tooth gets its metal cleanse.

I find myself newly eyeing the shining curves and points of those things she's using. I feel like I'm seeing these "tools" for the first time: torture devices.

I willfully daydream to distract myself from the pain, though images of iron maidens and thumb-screws keep reappearing. I wonder if hundreds of years from now, scholars will chortle at the primitive nature of 21st century dentistry, what with their crude utensils and absent anesthetic.

As a last resort, I mentally recite pas-

admitted days between flossing by three.

Though the tenderness and bloodiness of my gums shout my lies, the dentist prescribes the usual daily flossing and careful brushing around the gums to avoid complications.

Turning to make some notes, she adds that running from it only makes it worse.

For once, I hush the "blah-blahs" in my head and listen. Convinced and determined to improve my at-home dental care, I openly admit my motivation is one-part health, one-part aesthetics, and two-parts pain.

It's been nearly two weeks of nearly daily flossing, and my gums are bleeding less than they have for a year. With a resigned sigh, I admit defeat. Out with the tooth gunk, hello happy gums.

# Art meets activism in Jane

## Play recounts struggle for abortion rights

Heather MacLean  
Opinions Contributor

Forty years ago in the United States, single motherhood was taboo. It was difficult for single people to obtain contraceptives, and abortion was illegal.

So if you were pregnant, and didn't want to be, what did you do? If you lived in Chicago between 1969 and 1973, you may have looked in the phone book for the number listed under the name "Jane Howe," and arranged a safe, but illegal, abortion.

Officially known as the Abortion Counselling Service of the Chicago Women's Liberation Union, "Jane" was run by women who arranged abortions in secret apartments throughout the city. The idea was to decrease the cost but increase the availability and safety of the procedure for otherwise desperate women.

"It wasn't that we were for abortion," Heather Booth, an early Jane organizer told The Chicago Tribune in 1999. "We were for women having the right (to) make this most personal decision."

At the time of Jane, Booth was a University of Chicago student and activist who went on to become a leader in the Democratic National Convention.

After helping many women, and surviving police raids, Jane disbanded after the Roe vs. Wade ruling legalized abortion in the United States in 1973.

Often, it is easy to forget these important points in history. There is a need to preserve records of the struggles of women, but they can't always fit into the clean and proper spaces of history books. In the case of Jane, the story has been preserved in a play.

"I was intrigued by these bourgeois housewives running an illicit abortion service between car-pooling and

dance lessons," author Paula Kamen told The Chicago Tribune in 1999.

But the play does more than tell these women's stories.

The Saint Mary's Women's Centre presented the first international production of the renowned play Jane: Abortion and

**"Sometimes it feels as if women's rights, especially the right to bodily autonomy, are treated like a political football."**

the Underground on Jan. 9 and Jan. 10.

"I wanted to inspire an understanding of women's political struggle for reproductive rights," said SMU Women's Centre board member Jane Gavin-Hebert, who organized the play.

A silent auction and art show were also part of the two-night event, featuring drawings by local artist Rebecca Rother. All proceeds from the play and silent auction will go toward Trust Women: A Conference on Reproductive Justice.

Sometimes it feels as if women's rights, especially the right to bodily autonomy, are treated like a political football, and could be taken from us at any time. This play reminded us of how much more choice and control women now have over their bodies, but we could lose our rights at any moment, unless we fight for them.

Opinions Editor Kaley Kennedy co-ordinated security for this play.

## OVERHEARD AT DAL

**Prof:** "You guys are getting a little bit loud..."

**Girl:** "You're getting a little bit boring."

**Outside the Killam Library:**  
"If I went to Hogwarts, I would do so much more school work."

**In the Howe Hall cafeteria:**

**Girl 1:** "She didn't get out of bed this morning."

**Guy 1:** "I think she caught mono."

**Girl 2:** "But she got to go home this weekend."

**Guy 1:** "Maybe she's just clinically depressed. Don't worry; I have pills for that at home."

**Two guys with scarves entering the Dunn:**

**Guy 1:** "So the physics and engineering departments are in here?"

**Guy 2:** "Yeah. It's like heathenism's global headquarters."



# Oh, Harper Proroguing parliament

You've changed Canada's stereotype abroad

Leyland Cecco  
Opinions Contributor

Oh Stephen, you've giving us quite the reputation.

In the heart of Turkey, where knowledge of Canada is a conflation of How I Met Your Mother and "that sport in the snow with the sticks," you've given the Turks some new fodder.

After your performance in Copenhagen, some environmentally leaning students approached me: the Canadian.

"Why is Canada such a polluter?"

"Why are you taking oil from the tar sands? It's bad for nature!"

This verbal attack was coming from a country that, in many major cities, doesn't have a recycling program. To them, Canada has become a shame-

ful land of environmental disrespect. Which, judging by the response by many Canadians, might be how we see ourselves after Copenhagen.

I managed to stammer a response that we've got a lot of land, so we can abuse some of it, and the rest will be all right. That didn't work. They also didn't buy my defence of cautious emissions cuts.

Then you made life a little bit harder, Harper, when you decided to go on holidays.

To some of the people who don't mind waxing political, we've become a country of questionable democracy. That's right – the (few) followers of Canadian politics abroad have taken to mocking our system of government as being 'undemocratic.' This again coming from a country whose ascension to the European Union is jeopardized by countless human rights violations and a fiercely right wing government that enforces media bans on government criticism.

Although we've become comic mate-

rial abroad, I do thank you for boosting our presence in conversation. Before your two last performances, I was forced to explain that "No, I don't speak Canadian," and that "Actually, Canada isn't part of Europe." I've also been forced to ask myself, "Am I sure that Colorado isn't in Canada? These people seem to think so."

You've been able to stimulate discussion about this country that deviates from the well-trodden path of igloos, snow, hockey and bears. We're no longer a heavily caricatured nation of loggers and fishermen that gather each week in kayaks to play hockey, using a beaver as the puck.

Inadvertently, (although I've read you're a sly strategist) you've reinvigorated the discourse on what it is to be a Canadian. Before you awed pollut-

Leyland Cecco, a Dalhousie student, is studying in Turkey for a year.

Ben Wedge  
Staff Contributor

Parliament is full of quirks and precedents. One of those is prorogation.

Could you believe that a Prime Minister would dare ask the Queen to shut down Parliament for 63 days in order to attend the Olympics, and reset the makeup of Senate committees? Oh, and delay a political circus looking into an Afghan prison guard beating a man with a shoe three years ago after that man killed a Canadian soldier?

Well, that folks, is what happened last week.

It's scary isn't it? It's a good thing Jean Chrétien didn't prorogue Parliament for 83 days (19 more than Harper) in 2003 so that Canadians couldn't ask him why the Liberals stole \$130 million of our money to line their pockets in an attempt to guarantee perpetual electoral victories for the Liberal Party.

While on the thought, I'm glad that Louis St. Laurent didn't prorogue Parliament for five months, and Diefenbaker for six months, though those two weren't trying to duck the firing squad, as Chrétien did.

Chrétien seemed to have been judged differently than Harper. There was barely a

voice that spoke out against his move. Probably because he wasn't an "evil Conservative."

Instead, he raised taxes for all Canadians, and watched millions of people in this country slip into poverty, the opposite of the more than one mil-

**"Harper leads. It's that simple. When Ignatieff bellowed that he would no longer support the government, Harper shrugged."**

lion additional Canadians that are now above the "welfare wall" thanks to the tax changes brought in by Harper.

Chrétien's record should be critiqued even more in comparison to Harper's: under Chrétien, Parliament sat approximately 119 days per year, on average. Under Harper? 135 days last year,

and the projection for this year, with prorogation, is 115. That hardly seems like someone who is "hiding" to me.

Harper may not be the most charismatic Prime Minister we've ever had, but that's just fine. Charisma is for people who are afraid to lead. Harper leads. It's that simple. When Ignatieff bellowed that he would no longer support the government, Harper shrugged. Layton ended up backing him up on his Employment Insurance bill that, in Layton's opinion, was a start, and better than an election.

Sure, Harper hasn't been the role model of co-operation, but one need only look back at Chrétien and Trudeau to see ruthless politics in action.

Harper sticks to his guns. He knows that by next fall, most Canadians will have forgotten that he took a short break this year. At least he spent his Christmas in Canada, which is more than Michael Ignatieff can say. He spent three weeks, concluding on Jan. 7, at his family's French villa.

Love him or hate him, Harper's policies deserve a lot more credit than he's getting from students. Time to go back to proroguing homework.

Ben Wedge is a member of the Dal-King's Conservatives.

## World Juniors 2010

A blessing in disguise

Ben Wedge  
Staff Contributor

Millions of Canadians are disappointed we lost the IIHF 2010 World Junior Hockey Championship, but I'm not one of them. Canada has enjoyed a hockey dynasty since the sport was invented some 200 years ago, with five consecutive wins at the tournament in the past six years to reconfirm our status. The loss this year, however, is exactly what the Canadian team, and the sport in general, needed.

Every year, the NHL pays millions of dollars in development fees to countries with hockey programs in their early stages, based on who gets drafted to the NHL, but development fees alone aren't going to bolster the international hockey tournaments. Switzerland's surprise showing, a fourth-place finish

after being promoted from Division I this year, will hopefully encourage young Swiss hockey players to succeed.

Outside of the traditional powerhouse countries, hockey in Europe is struggling. Some teams will crack the Championship Division ranks every so often, only to face a 16-0, 12-1, or 10-1 thumping from Canada, the U.S., Russia, or sometimes the Czech Republic. Teams are then sent back to Division I, where they will wallow for a time, before qualifying for the World Championships once again. Teams need a chance at success to strive for something more, and Canada's loss may just provide that opportunity.

Teams from Eastern Europe, where hockey is becoming more and more popular, want to see their local heroes do well. Dominik Hasek, Jaromir Jagr, Tomas Kaberle, and Patrik Elias are just four names of Czech players to provide

inspiration for many kids in the region. For those in the most unfortunate living conditions, seeing a local hero do well on a global stage may inspire local children to strive for more as well.

While hockey teams will not turn around overnight, hopefully this tournament will start the ball rolling to a more competitive playing field at the international level, as is currently the case with soccer, cricket, and to a lesser extent, rugby.

Seeing Canada win close matches provides for better hockey than the 16-0 blowouts we normally see at least once per tournament. When three or four close matches determine promotion to the semi-finals, everyone wins.

To Canadian hockey fans who are disappointed, let's hope that the shake-up at the top will help sow the seeds for better international hockey down the road.

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## Arts

## Arts

## Free fortune telling and detective service

Profile of the prolific Guthrie Prentice

Laura Dawe  
Arts Editor

“Free Fortune Telling” reads a hand-written sign on a foldout table in the Student Union Building. There is a seated lineup, five deep. A rapid-fire voice floats above the din, predicting the future from playing cards. A little while later, the sign reads: “Free Fortune Telling and Detective Service.” And then, days later, an additional sign appears in red: “Free Matchmaking.”

Before we're seated, Guthrie Prentice wants to know if my friend, who's come to have her fortune read, is single. The answer is sort of.

In a flash Prentice puts his hand to the bridge of his narrow nose. He hunches further, head down, one hand up like an antennae, to receive these premonitions about my friend and “the guy”:

He says she doesn't think guy likes her enough. Not true. He says friends set her up with the guy. Not true. He says she is undecided about the guy, and she's keeping her options open. True.

Nine years ago, Prentice started reading fortunes because he was annoyed with the number of people claiming high accuracy rates. He uses their “charlatan techniques” to expose them, but he says people have said his readings are accurate.

“In all honestly, I have no idea one way or the other. I'm relying on their feedback.”

Prentice is 24 and a frequently self-proclaimed “former world traveller.”

“I have extensive life experience,” he says, and in the same breath: “I've read extensively on a wide variety of subjects.”

The table in the SUB is Guthrie's “volunteer thing,” his “day job” while he's in school. The chemistry and mathematics major rapidly spews String Theory. He says fortune telling is the same as police profiling, or the work of a good psychologist.

His front of skepticism is undermined by the sudden flashes of premonition he gets about my friend. They're not all psychic though. Once, mid-word, a scent hits him like a message from the future. He holds his face and mulls the smell like a mouthful of wine.

“It's wool,” he says, features scrunched. “Something that smells like wool or something like that.”

“Is it my sweater?” asks my friend, whose wool sweater is practically in his face. We decide it is.

Guthrie attended Mount Allison University for two years in political science, but the professors there were “so highly irrational” he had to switch to a hard science. He wants to go to grad school for physical chemistry: to develop the first stable chemical system for nanobots and rework human DNA to slow



Photo by John Niven

the aging process. Or get a masters or doctorate in mathematics so he can test a tentative hypothesis about gravitational flow backward through time.

Four months ago, Prentice transferred to Dalhousie, where he's been at his table in the Student Union Building everyday except when he has too much school-work, or when he's sick. He's volunteered as a “professional mentalist/magician” for about five years. Professional seems like an odd word for someone whose services are free. But sometimes he makes money, he says, “depending on the gig, depending on the day.”

Guthrie's motivations when it comes to mentalism are as follows:

1. To help people.
2. The useful training of con-artistry.
3. To catch a crook.
4. To protect someone's identity.

As a detective, Prentice is now a volunteer on the South End prowler case. He's working with his mentor, trying to figure out how the prowler is getting into apartments while making it appear as if he's going through unlocked doors. Prentice says the prowler isn't just jiggling door handles to see which ones are undone, because then he would get caught.

“What we deduced is the guy was most likely a locksmith,” says Prentice.

He has tipped the cops off and they're currently investigating the lead. Prentice reads the cards quickly. He is

sure my friend is looking for a logical man – a man that will care about her as much as she deserves. From the cards, he can tell she is lucky and charming. He keeps making sure he's got her name right.

As we're about to leave, he lowers his dark head frantically, one hand up to receive the message, and says, “OK, there's one other thing I keep getting.”

He's picking up that my friend's mother doesn't support her career choice. Not true.

“It's just a general reading,” Prentice shrugs, smiling.

Before we go, he looks in his match-making book (a small notepad kept in his pocket). He gives my friend the e-mail address of John Smith, which is actually the guy's real name, Prentice says. This man is rational and intellectual, he says, and though Smith has no money of his own, he could help her with the money managing problems Prentice read in her cards.

The matchmaker says so far he's set up four couples based on their psychological profiles, which he deduces during their readings. He doesn't know how any of the dates turned out. He just tells people about themselves, solves their crimes, pairs them off for romance, and continues to serve the student body from behind his foldout table.

## Arts

Gazette Arts covers cultural happenings in the Halifax community. You heard it here first. E-mail Laura or Matt at arts@dal-gazette.com to contribute.

Laura Dawe Arts Editor  
arts@dalgazette.com

## Ghettosocks - Treat of the Day

Cheryl Hann  
Staff Contributor

## Grade: A-

*Treat of the Day* is the third release from Halifax's finest throw-back MC, Ghettosocks. Filled to the brim with well-chosen samples, both from hip-hop classics and your favourite childhood movies, “The Grand Wizards” new full-length album is a loving marriage between nostalgia and skill. And it comes with a Teen Beat-pin-up-sized poster of a hamburger.

*Treat of the Day* opens with “Rappin' For Fun,” which despite its title, is strangely threatening. MCs who lack skills should probably “stop yappin’,” before they hear the sound of their “lungs collapsing,” at Socks' hand.

The album really gets going on the second track, “Onlyindamornin’,” a Bubb Rubb and Lil Sis inspired jam that features Socks' clever, fast-paced rhymes over a dynamite beat from Dexter Doolittle.

Since his debut on the local hip-hop scene, Ghettosocks has been known for his clever one-liners, and charming sense of humor. These skills have not diminished. With gems such as “Hit the hood in Atlanta with your cameras out? That'll get you Lynyrd Skynyrd – you know – band from the south,” the rhymes on *Treat of the Day* are some of Socks' most clever.

But *Treat of the Day*, like Ghettosocks' previous releases *Get Some Friends*, and *I Can Make Your Dog Famous*, isn't all about Socks himself. The album is packed with cameos from local, national and international MCs who take turns punishing your ears with vicious verbal assaults. For examples of these top-notch collaborative efforts check out “Don't Turn Around” featuring North Carolina's Edgar Allen Floe, or the soul-soaked “Pink Lemonade” featuring Halifax's own Apt.

Even if you never hear the album, be sure to check out Socks' live show. It seethes energy.

## Down With Webster at the Toothy Moose

Rebecca Spence  
Staff Contributor

## Grade: C

Down With Webster is, like, totally awesome ...if you're a 13-year-old girl.

DWW performed last Thursday night at the Toothy Moose on Argyle Street to a wild herd of university students back from the winter holidays, and ravenous for some sweet “frost week” jams to feed their burning appetites. Tickets were \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, so patrons were expecting to get their money's worth of entertainment.

The opening band, Ten Mile House, served some traditional tunes as appetizers, including the always popular and satisfying rendition of Journey's “Don't Stop Believing.” The crowd gobbled it up.

But by 1:05 a.m., impatient chants of “dee dub dub!” began to materialize. It was not until 1:11 a.m. that the seven-man band began their first and only set, which would come to an end only 49 minutes later. The chorus changed its tune to yelling: “fuck yeah!” and some semblance of order returned to the Toothy Moose.

The boys from Down With Webster, known only by their nicknames, are certainly quite nice to look at. Pat on vocals and guitar is blessed with a natural charm and boyishly good looks. Vocalists Bucky and Cam both had solid stage presence, and drummer Marty attracted lots of attention with his spirited performance and sassy ‘fro. The rest of the group consists of Tyler on bass and keyboards, Diggy as the DJ, and Kap as

the “hype man” – whatever that means.

The guys originally formed the group for a junior high talent show in the late '90s. They won. Their fame boomed when the band won the Rogers Mobile/Universal Music Best Unsigned Canadian Artist award in 2008. They eventually signed with major record label Universal Motown in April 2009. Since then, the band has seen a lot of success. Their single, “Rich Girl\$,” debuted at number 47 on the Canadian Hot 100 last October.

Of course they played “Rich Girl\$” on Thursday night. It appeared to be one of the few songs that truly pumped up the energy in the audience. Although DWW's version could never beat the Hall and Oates original, it's just so damn catchy that it's hard not to sing along.

Their song “Grind” also received an especially positive response, and was definitely a highlight for many students I spoke to that night. DWW clearly is a talented, motivated and energetic group.

That said, I would not buy their album and I would not pay to see them perform live. I respect their creativity and passion for music, and I predict that they will experience great success in the coming years. Most of DWW's tracks are simply not very appealing, and sometimes rather crude and irritating to my ears. Down With Webster is right up there with Hedley and Fall Out Boy.

Before returning to Ontario to continue their tour, Down With Webster will play an all-ages show at the Pavilion, which is more appropriate. DWW should stick to playing for the 13-year-olds who have never heard of Hall and Oates.



## Avatar

Rebecca Spence  
Staff Contributor

### Grade: A

Watching *Avatar* in 3-D is like immersing yourself in a dream. By the end of the 162-minute fantasy, you find yourself not wanting to wake up.

James Cameron's *Avatar* takes one of the oldest stories in the book and pairs it with some of the most advanced visual effects to ever grace a movie screen. Every penny of Cameron's estimated \$230 million budget (15 per cent larger than that of 1997's *Titanic*) is up on screen for the audience to absorb. The 3-D aspect of the movie was surprisingly well done, considering *Avatar* is the first major film not targeted towards kids to employ this technique. Rather than using gimmicky 3-D effects similar to a ride at Universal Studios, Cameron chooses to place the audience right in the middle of the layered action, creating an ultra high-definition sensation. *Avatar* proves not to be merely something you watch on a screen. It is an all-encompassing experience.

*Avatar*'s story demonstrates Cameron's ability to rework tired old themes

into becoming fresh cinematic gems. The story takes place in the year 2154 and centers on a paraplegic marine named Jake Sully (played by Sam Worthington) and his experiences on a planet called Pandora that humans have recently discovered. On Pandora live the Na'vi: a race similar to humans except they're about 10 feet tall and their skin is blue.

Due to some cool technology and science that involves DNA transfers and lucid dreaming, Sully is able to control an avatar that looks just like the rest of the Na'vi. Sully can see, hear and feel through his avatar all from the comfort of the lab. Soon he (his avatar) is living with the real Na'vi, learning their ways, falling in love and eventually protecting them against the greedy, capitalistic humans who are trying to strip Pandora of its precious and whimsically named resource: "unobtainium".

For some, *Avatar*'s story might be a bit too reminiscent of Kevin Costner's *Dances With Wolves*, but what sets this film apart is Cameron's completely unique execution. From the editing to the music to the most miniscule visual details, these are the elements that draw you in and compel you to become invested in the characters. Cameron is a

natural at storytelling on the big screen.

One of my favourite things about the film is the talented and tantalizing Zoe Saldana, who plays Neytiri, the Na'vi tribe's princess. Saldana brings strength and depth to the role just as many of Cameron's leading ladies – including *The Terminator*'s Linda Hamilton and *Titanic*'s Kate Winslet – have achieved in the past. My only problem with the film is with Worthington's character. Much like Cameron's characters Kyle Reese from *The Terminator* and Jack Dawson from *Titanic*, Sully appears to be a perfectly heroic male figure without any personality flaw whatsoever. It is difficult to trace any real path of character development for Jake, which takes some believability away from the script. Still, it is hard to criticize Cameron too much for bestowing upon us such a beautiful man – inside and out – to gaze at for almost three hours.

My advice is not to wait until this comes out on DVD and to see it at least once in theatres. Be whisked away to Pandora and forget about life on Earth for a while. This incredible excursion is definitely worth \$10 for the ticket.

## Lil Wayne - No Ceilings

Matt Ritchie  
Assistant Arts Editor

### Grade: B

Lil Wayne's *No Ceilings* mix tape has recently seen an official release. The album was leaked prematurely before its Oct. 31, 2009 schedule. Following the leak, a higher quality version with four extra tracks was released. Although the bonus songs are nothing more than throwaways, this freestyle mix tape will draw any Lil Wayne fan deeper into his bizarre world.

Upon release, critics jumped onto his Martian persona and claimed it was the most spacey of his records yet. This seems to be an overstatement. What you get with *No Ceilings* is a freestyle mix

tape that is entirely unpolished. His lyrics and beats don't transport the listener into a far off galaxy. Instead it sounds just like the kind of record a rapper who is addicted to cough syrup would make.

For mainstream music fans, this record is alienating. Although Lil Wayne samples some well-known pop tunes such as The Black Eyed Peas "I Got a Feeling" and Jay Z's "D.O.A.", these songs are by far the worst on the album. When Lil Wayne opens "I Got No Ceilings" by singing "Tonight's the night/I'm high as height", listeners will either fall for his silly charm or dismiss the song as the ramblings of a mad man.

Lil Wayne takes his bigotry one step further (from his days of rapping "no homo" in between verses) on *No Ceilings*. On "Poke Her Face" he raps: "I

made her fuck her friend/She said 'Don't call her a dyke, well that's gay.' It's obvious Lil Wayne won't be winning the position of Poet Laureate anytime soon.

With these ludicrous freestyles and obscene rapping, why is the album so hard to put down? For Lil Wayne fans and hip-hop fans the answer may be that this unpolished glorified freestyle record is pure fun. In a music scene dominated by polished beats and lyrics, Lil Wayne makes an catchy record that is even self-referential. On "That's All I Have", he says: "Let me start off by saying I don't even like this beat." Well, Lil Wayne, if you don't like Tyga's beat why are you rapping over it?

Perhaps it's because Lil Wayne truly has no ceilings, and that is where his charm lies.

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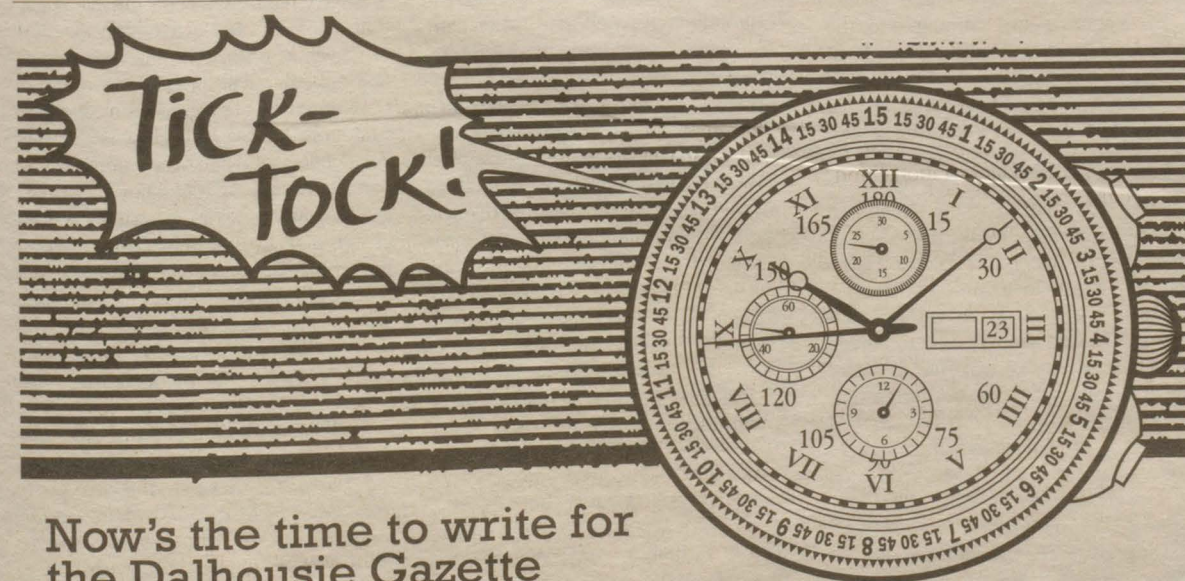
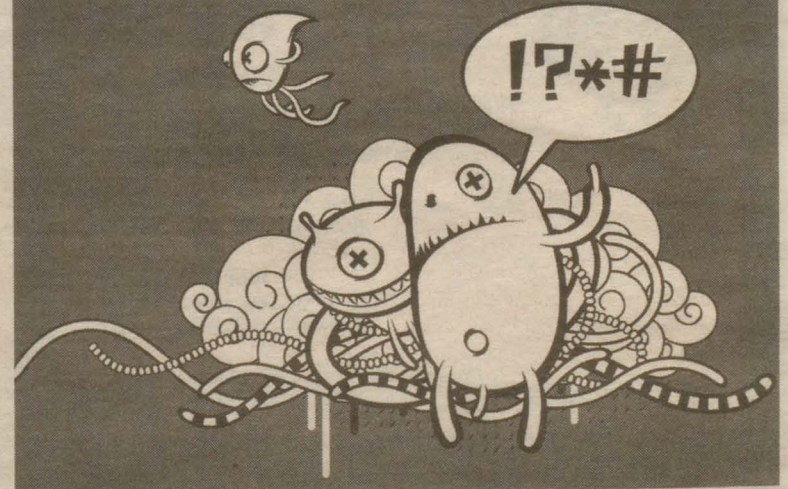
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Sports

# Sports

## PROVOST SCORES FOUR AGAINST DAL



Dal back-up Emilie Ederfors had 19 saves in last Friday's loss. | Photo by Pau Balite

## FITNESS WITH FUREY 2010 resolutions

**Chad Furey**  
Sports Columnist

In the new year, many of us make the resolution to "finally start going to the gym." Unfortunately, simply saying you're going to get fit is no reason to celebrate. If you genuinely want to improve your fitness, you're actually going to have to exercise. That doesn't mean a weekly 20-minute walk around the track, or 30 minutes of Zumba.

Take my advice if you want to get back in shape but don't know how to start. If it sounds as if you've heard these suggestions before, that's because you have; this stuff is true.

### Go with a friend

Going with someone else allows you to be more comfortable in a new situation. This will improve your chances of continuing to exercise because you will keep each other motivated.

### Start small

People often try to do too much

too quickly. Start with simple lifts, light weights and short routines until you get comfortable with your surroundings then make things harder. Complex lifts and heavy weights may damage your body or discourage you from returning.

### Make friends

Getting to know your fellow gym-goers makes working out a much more enjoyable experience. Gym members can be polite, and may be willing to share fitness knowledge with you.

### Work out like you mean it

The gym is a social environment but your priority should be to work out. Don't flirt or stop to chat during a routine. Not only does flirting waste time, it makes your workout less effective. Chat during your warm-up and during your cool down, but not during your work out. If you can converse during your workout, it's too easy. Staying focused is the key to an effective routine.

### Learn what you don't know

Just because you can't do something doesn't mean you can't learn how to do it. Focus on continuously learning new functional exercises (exercises that apply to the real world). That will keep things interesting without getting boring.

Remember that exercising shouldn't be a chore. Yes, it should be hard – but above all you should enjoy doing it. If you're not feeling great about fitness, it's not going to make you come back for more.

*This column's goals are to make being fit enjoyable, and to keep you informed on the well-known and unknown aspects of becoming an overall healthier person.*

*My new year's resolution is to write a weekly column about improving your overall health. I plan to discuss fitness-oriented topics, from the minute details of proper technique to the all-encompassing importance of nutrition. I will answer any questions students might have about fitness. Please e-mail me at [chad.furey@dal.ca](mailto:chad.furey@dal.ca).*

## Women's basketball welcomes 2010 with a win Acadia Axewomen 46 - 75 Dalhousie Tigers

**Dylan Matthias**  
Staff Contributor

A good offence is always built on a solid defence, or so goes the cliché. But sometimes clichés carry more truth: the Tigers rode a strong defensive presence to basketball victory last Friday night against a talented Acadia team at the Dalplex. The victory had to feel good for Dalhousie, who lost the inaugural Dyrick McDermott tournament to Acadia last weekend at the Mount.

First-year coach Anna Stammberger stresses defensive intensity and despite a 1-6 league record coming into the game, her team delivered. Throughout the game the Tigers carried a physical presence over the quicker, but smaller, Acadia forwards. Forward Abbey Dinker spent most of the second half on the bench after a good, but physically difficult first half. Stefanie Chapman had difficulty penetrating past veteran guards April Scott and Rachel Harrison and was held to only two points.

The Axewomen were without star forward Keisha Brown due to injury. Keisha's sister, Alise Brown, tried to carry the Axewomen offence, but found herself marked out of the game. She showed flashes of brilliance and recorded 14 points, but was obviously frustrated by her lack of space, being constantly hemmed in by Dalhousie defenders.

The consistently tight defence allowed Stammberger's Tigers to wear Acadia

down. The Axewomen had no answer for the Tigers' high-scoring forward Cailin Crosby. The six-foot-three, native Prince Edward Islander overpowered defenders under the Acadia basket, netting 15 points for Dal. Laurie Girdwood, tied with Crosby for the team scoring lead, struggled early in the game only to come on late to great effect, racking up 16 points in the second half. Coach Stammberger was very pleased with the win.

"We're just enjoying the moment," she said after the game. "With our 1-6 league record, it's nice to come up with a decisive win." Stammberger also stressed the 40-minute defensive effort from her team.

Although it's tempting to give the result less weight because of Keisha Brown's injury, the Tigers were playing with forward Alex Legge, a fourth-year neuroscience major, below full fitness after an off-season ACL surgery. She missed the majority of the first half of the season, an absence that may have had some bearing on Dalhousie's poor record.

"She's strong," said Stammberger of Legge. "And she hasn't played very much basketball in the last eight months." Legge had eight points in the game, and played 27 minutes in her first game of the season. Teammate Laurie Girdwood called Legge "an inspiration."

"Alex just has a great intensity and leadership and she's a born leader."

"We want to be in AUS championships in as high a spot as we can. We want to be at the playoffs and take it one

game at a time," said Stammberger. "We have every bit of a chance at winning it."

The Tigers were runners-up last year. The Tigers' outlook is good, even if the reality right now is bad. They sit second from bottom ahead of a UPEI team with a 0-6 record that has been blown out almost every game they've played.

The Tigers aren't going to win many all-out offensive battles, so Stammberger's focus on defence will be crucial. The inexperienced defence of the Tigers means this is a risky strategy, but between Anne Kiberd, Anna von Maltzahn, Trish McNeil (sister of former Tiger Kate McNeil), and Carla Norrad, each of whom saw some minutes on Friday, Stammberger will have lots of options.

None of the Tiger guards looked entirely comfortable on the ball Friday, but von Maltzahn was steady and McNeil had a good second half defensively. Megan Wiggins provides experience to the group, making Stammberger's defence-first philosophy a plausible strategy.

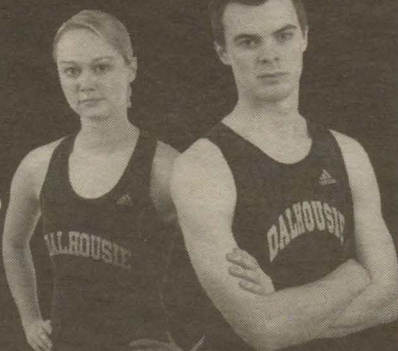
There is another cliché, too: defence wins championships. The second half of the Tigers' 2009-2010 season will prove if there's any truth to that one.

*Dalhousie will be back at the Dalplex on Saturday, Jan. 16 hosting first-place Cape Breton at 6 p.m. and second-place St. Francis Xavier Sunday, Jan. 17 at 2 p.m. Admission is free to Dalhousie students.*

## MEET THE TIGERS!

**SUSAN SOBEY, TRACK & FIELD**  
Height: 5-6  
Year of Eligibility: 5  
Program: Masters Health Administration  
Hometown: Searlestown, PE

**ANTHONY BERNARD, TRACK & FIELD**  
Height: 5-10  
Year of Eligibility: 4  
Program: Kinesiology  
Hometown: Alberton, PE



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W Hockey vs. UPEI, 7pm

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 16**  
Join us at the volleyball and basketball games as the Tigers raise funds and awareness for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. Wear your best pink outfit to win prizes!

Volleyball vs. MUN, W 12pm\*/M 2pm\*  
Basketball vs. CBU, W 6pm\*/M 8pm\*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17**  
Track & Field Evening Meet, 6pm (Exh)  
Basketball vs. StFX, W 2pm\*/M 4pm\*

\*Visit [www.athletics.dal.ca/tigers](http://www.athletics.dal.ca/tigers) to view the webcast. Admission is free for Dal students with ID



[WWW.ATHLETICS.DAL.CA](http://WWW.ATHLETICS.DAL.CA)



## Dal third in AUS Men's Basketball rankings

### Acadia Axemen 59 - 78 Dalhousie Tigers

Dylan Matthias  
Staff Contributor

The Dalhousie Tigers may have beaten the Acadia Axemen last Friday by a score of 78-59, but they'll need to put a more solid game together to compete with top teams such as Cape Breton and St. Francis Xavier in the coming weeks. The Tigers open 2010 ranked ninth in national standings behind the X-men (third) and Capers (fifth). Dalhousie rode a strong first quarter from guard Simon Farine and capitalized on a weak Acadia offence late in the game for a win that looked easier than it was.

"That's been an issue for us all year," said Tigers coach John Campbell of his team's inconsistent performance throughout the game. "We focus on the idea that we're going to play every possession as well as we can. If we focus on the moment, then that's how we have our most success."

Campbell's team led 20-16 after the first quarter, largely thanks to Farine, who had 17 first half points, mainly in the first quarter. "We shot the ball a little bit better than we had shot the ball over the past week," said Campbell.

Farine hit about 75 per cent of his shots, and the team hovered around 50 per cent most of the game. Acadia kept things close through the first half, going into half-time trailing 39-29.

A forgettable third quarter from the Tigers gave Acadia some hope; within five minutes, the Tigers had taken 10 fouls. Farine had to be withdrawn after a string of three fouls in just over a minute that saw him risk fouling out. The Axemen took advantage of the withdrawal of Dalhousie's top player and had their best quarter, notching 19 points. They could have had more but for a lacklustre performance on free throws. They scored only 58 per cent in the second half.

Campbell put Farine back in for the final 10 minutes. Still, Acadia had opportunities to narrow the 55-48 Tigers lead. The Axemen didn't really play with any urgency until the last few minutes, however, and were frustrated by the Tigers, who played three guards in the fourth quarter. Axemen forward Owen Klasen had to be withdrawn with four fouls. By the time Acadia did start a rally, the Tigers had pulled ahead 61-48. Farine re-emerged in the last two minutes, scoring five points late to secure Dalhousie's win.

"Defensively, we had some breakdowns," said Campbell of the third quarter. The team has been dealing with key losses this year, including Josh Beattie and Germain Bendegue. Although Mari Peoples-Wong was acquired to replace some of the Beattie and Bendegue's scoring, he is currently out of the line-up with a separated shoulder.

"We try and get the people who are playing to execute," said Campbell. "We try to play to their strengths. We have some people who are ready to step up. William Yengue is a great example."

Yengue, a first-year arts student from Nkongsamba, Cameroon, had a solid game, playing 29 minutes and scoring 13 points. This is an encouraging sign from a rookie who hasn't seen a lot of court time this season. The Tigers also got a decent performance from Cole Taylor, who has stepped in to fill the void left by Peoples-Wong. "We're in the mix," said Campbell. Our goal is to get back into the playoffs and be playing our best basketball at playoff time. If we do that, we have a chance to repeat."

The Tigers currently sit four points out of first place in the AUS, although they have played more games than fifth-place St. Mary's and the leaders, Cape Breton and St. Francis Xavier, whom they face this weekend at home.

*The Dalhousie Tigers will be back at the Dalplex hosting Cape Breton University on Saturday, Jan. 16, and St. Francis Xavier on Sunday, Jan. 17. Admission is free to Dalhousie students.*

## Four misconducts in hockey brawl

### Saint Mary's Huskies 8 - 3 Dalhousie Tigers

Dylan Matthias  
Staff Contributor

It was just a typical game in the SMU-Dal hockey rivalry last Saturday, but chances are this one will be remembered for a long time. The 8-3 Huskies win at Memorial Arena was reason enough, but the game provided plenty of bad blood, with an incident that led to a confrontation between coaches at the end of the game.

"We were just trying to arrange a spot for a beer after the game," said Tigers assistant coach Scott Allison.

The Tigers, who have been rebuilding this season, managed to play with the Huskies through much of the first period but that didn't stop the Huskies scoring two: a high wrist shot over goalie Bobby Nadeau's glove, and then a second with 1:36 to go in the period. The Dalhousie team didn't come out in the second period, though, and by the end of 40 minutes, the Huskies led 6-0. Backup Chris Wall replaced Nadeau in the Tigers goal after the fourth Husky goal. Fans were heading for the exits by 5-0. Nadeau, the highly touted former goaltender of the QMJHL's PEI Rocket, was recruited by Dal in the off-season. Since joining the Tigers Nadeau has four wins in 13 starts and a save percentage of .886 while leading the league in saves-per-game at 31.

"We regrouped after the second—'Let's try to win the third,'" said Tigers coach Pete Belliveau. "We started to run around a little too much and try to do someone else's job instead of playing your own and you get caught. Next thing you know you turn the puck over and they put it in," said Benjamin Breault, who made his home debut Saturday after transferring from the ECHL's Florida Everblades. He was a seventh-round pick of the Buffalo Sabres in 2006. Elkhorn, Manitoba-native Devrin Stonehouse found a goal for the Tigers when he banged in a rebound at 9:52 of the third.

Then things unravelled. The Tigers have had discipline problems all year, and have already had four misconducts for hits from behind. Tiger forward Daniel Bartek had already been thrown out in on Saturday for a hit from behind. The Czech winger has six goals and 10 points for the Tigers this season.

"Kenzie Sheppard butt-ended Scott Brophy," said Huskies coach Trevor Steinburg. "At that point in the game, there was nothing going on. It was dirty, it was cheap," Steinburg continued. "He's a player who's got no character. He's not respected in this league."

Video evidence shows that, shortly after the faceoff following Stonehouse's goal, Sheppard butt-ended Brophy miles off of the puck. Six-foot-seven SMU enforcer Justin Wallingford then slammed Sheppard into the boards. Then a scrum broke loose, from which Wallingford, Sheppard, the Tigers' Shea Kewin, and the Huskies' Brad Smith were all thrown out of the game.

"Do I condone that? No," said Steinburg of Wallingford's response. But, he added, "When a liberty's taken at your player — there was nothing that Brophy had done to deserve that — in the hockey world it's unacceptable. You don't let that happen. I know there have been problems with Kenzie Sheppard's discipline while he's been there, and I know (Pete Belliveau and Dalhousie) are trying to deal with that. But I don't need Kenzie Sheppard injuring one of my players."

To be fair to Sheppard, AUS stats show he hasn't had a major penalty or misconduct (before Saturday) since he joined the Tigers in 2008. Therefore, referees haven't noticed any discipline problems he may have had.

After the game, Belliveau and Steinburg met near the rear entrance and yelling ensued. One of the linesmen tried to calm things down, and, according to Belliveau, there was no physical contact. "It was a discussion about running up the score. I thought they shouldn't have had the first power play," said Belliveau. "When it was 8-2, they had the first power play. You don't need to have that; they had enough goals. And (Saint Mary's) took exception to that."

Tigers captain Jeff Larsh snapped a shot past Huskies' goalie Brandon Verge off a face off to make the score 7-2. Brendon McDonald scored the Tigers' third goal, and Andrew Hotham scored the third for the Huskies.

"We just thought they were taking liberties with our players," said Belliveau. "They probably thought we were taking liberties with their players. We're just trying to play the game and not have anyone get hurt."

AUS has received no report from the referees about the incident, meaning no suspensions or fines will be issued for the clash after the game.

*The Dalhousie Tigers will host St. Francis Xavier at Memorial Arena on Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. Admission is free to Dalhousie students.*



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Sports

# Swedish backup falls to Moncton offence

## Universite de Moncton 4 - 2 Dalhousie

Dylan Matthias  
Staff Contributor

A US scoring-leader Mariève Provost scored twice and set up two other goals last Saturday, giving the Moncton Aigles-Bleues a 4-2 win over a battered Tigers team.

"The score doesn't really reflect the game at all - we were all over them, we just couldn't put the puck in the net," said Tigers assistant captain Robin Mullen.

Bad news hit for the Tigers coming into the game and continued pretty much all through the game. Dal's most potent offensive weapon and second-place league scoring-leader, sniper Jocelyn LeBlanc was in bed with mono. Leblanc, a third-year Kinesiology student from Moncton, N.B., has eight goals and eleven assists in 10 games this season. Tatamagouche-native Robyn Nicholson, who is tied with team-mate Fielding Montgomery for second in point-scoring for Dal, was injured, and starting goaltender Ashley Boutilier, who posted a .923 save percentage in eight starts in 2009 was sitting out to focus on schoolwork. To make matters worse, the Tigers lost rookie shooter Rebecca Sweet to a collision in the first period. In the second period, forward Cassie Banfield went down with a knee contusion. Dalhousie Captain Laura Shearer was playing injured. The beleaguered Tigers were counting on big performances from some of their depth and role players to keep pace

with the high-scoring Aigles-Bleues, who are 7-1-0 on the road this season.

The Tigers outplayed Moncton, whom they have not beaten since AUS started publishing stats in 2004, in the first period. Both teams had chances and both goaltenders looked solid, with five-foot-two Swedish goalie Emelie Ederfors getting her third start in lieu of Boutilier. The 24-year-old Ederfors, a fourth-year Kinesiology student from Aseda, Sweden, posted a .826 save percentage in the loss.

2008-2009 AUS MVP Kathy Desjardins was solid for Moncton, stopping 19 of 21 shots. After a quiet first period, Provost started to shine in the second, her vision, passing, and speed overwhelming the Tigers' defence.

"She's got some great individual skill," said Tigers coach Lesley Jordan. "She's probably the most skilled player in the league. Our whole strategy was trying to cut down their odd-man rushes."

Provost scored at 5:59 of the second, after getting in alone down the left she beat Ederfors with a quick fake out. Provost then assisted on Marie-Ève Couture's first goal of the season with a fast return pass to give Couture the open side on Ederfors, the two Aigles-Bleues having space after a horrific defensive turnover by the Tigers.

Provost then scored again, in controversial fashion, as she leapt on the ice to receive a stretch pass before Jill Stockton was anywhere near the bench. Provost in alone is a scary sight, and she fooled Ederfors with a fake before tucking the

puck in the side. The run of four goals in 14 minutes was complete when Kristine Labrie bundled a goal in, fractions of a second before the end of the period. Provost had pushed it across to her.

Moncton begins the new year sixth in national rankings and two points behind St. Francis Xavier for first in the Atlantic conference.

"We knew we were in a bit of trouble," said Tigers forward Tessa Boudreau.

"We were like, 'They scored four goals in 10 minutes. We definitely can go out there and comeback in 20 minutes,'" said Mullen, who was named Dalhousie's player of the game.

"We gave (Provost) a couple of chances and she buried them," said Jordan.

The Tigers did make a comeback attempt, scoring at 9:18 of the third on an Alyssa Hennigar deflection. They added a late goal with the net empty to make it 4-2, with Mullen deflecting Miranda McMillan's shot past Desjardins. Boudreau said the loss of Banfield affected the team's ability to cover Provost. She and McVey had been matching up against Boudreau. LeBlanc will help with the offence - she has eleven goals. But mono can take a while to run its course. Boutilier is expected back between the pipes next week.

*The Dalhousie Tigers host the sixth-place University of Prince Edward Island Panthers on Friday, Jan. 15 at Memorial Arena. Admission is free to Dalhousie students.*

# New year, new hope

## Canadian hockey teams at NHL season midpoint

Timothy Pain Van Der Kooi  
Staff Contributor

Change symbolizes the beginning of a new year for many people. NHL hockey fans are no different.

The new year marks the midway point of the NHL season, and consequently, it affects hockey fans' thinking patterns. They consider the midway point of the NHL season to be like a novel: after the completion of a book they turn hopefully to the new, exciting possibilities of the next one on the shelf. Thankfully, most Canadian hockey teams - with the exception of Edmonton - have put themselves in favourable positions to advance into the post-season. Let's take a look at the possible future for all six Canadian NHL teams.

### Calgary

With the great defensive presence from players such as Dion Phaneuf and Jay Bouwmeester backed by goaltender Mikka Kiprusoff, it's hard to put it past the team ranked fourth in goals allowed. If Rene Bourque can continue to put up goals, combined with supporting actors such as Curtis Glencross and Nigel Dawes, Jarome Iginla could lead Calgary to first place in the Northwest Division.

### Vancouver

The Canucks are in the same boat as Calgary, but with a little more dependence on their goaltender. However, since Daniel Sedin has come back, he has helped his twin brother Henrik lead the NHL in points. Alexander Burrows is another Canuck forward propelling the Vancouver offence to new heights, scoring back-to-back hat tricks last week. Their combined offensive production will alleviate some of the pressure from Roberto Luongo's shoulders. If this continues, it should lead to an interesting finale in the Northwest Division.

### Montreal

If Jaroslav Halak can continue to make over 40 saves a night, then expect the Canadiens to make the playoffs. The return of Andrei Markov is sure to help Montreal on the score sheet, but they are missing pivotal defensive-minded defensemen to help out their psychologically battered goaltenders.

Team point leader Tomas Plekanec has been a nice surprise for the Canadiens and Michael Cammalleri has also filled a void in Montreal since joining the squad. However, this of-

fence does not make up for their lack of defence, and will ultimately harm their chances of making a playoff push.

### Toronto

If Toronto can tame their nightly shooting gallery into some form of precision, then Toronto could make the playoffs. This team is capable of surprising the best teams on any night, yet they are still a young, inconsistent hockey team.

Jonas Gustavasson has been a reliable goaltender for the Leafs, while Vesa Toskala continues to fade into the background. The Leafs will need Gustavasson to step up his game while players such as Phil Kessel, Mikhail Grabovski and Jason Blake find out where their shots are going.

### Ottawa

Inconsistency has affected this Canadian team as well. Goaltending has always been a major issue for the Senators, and this year is no different.

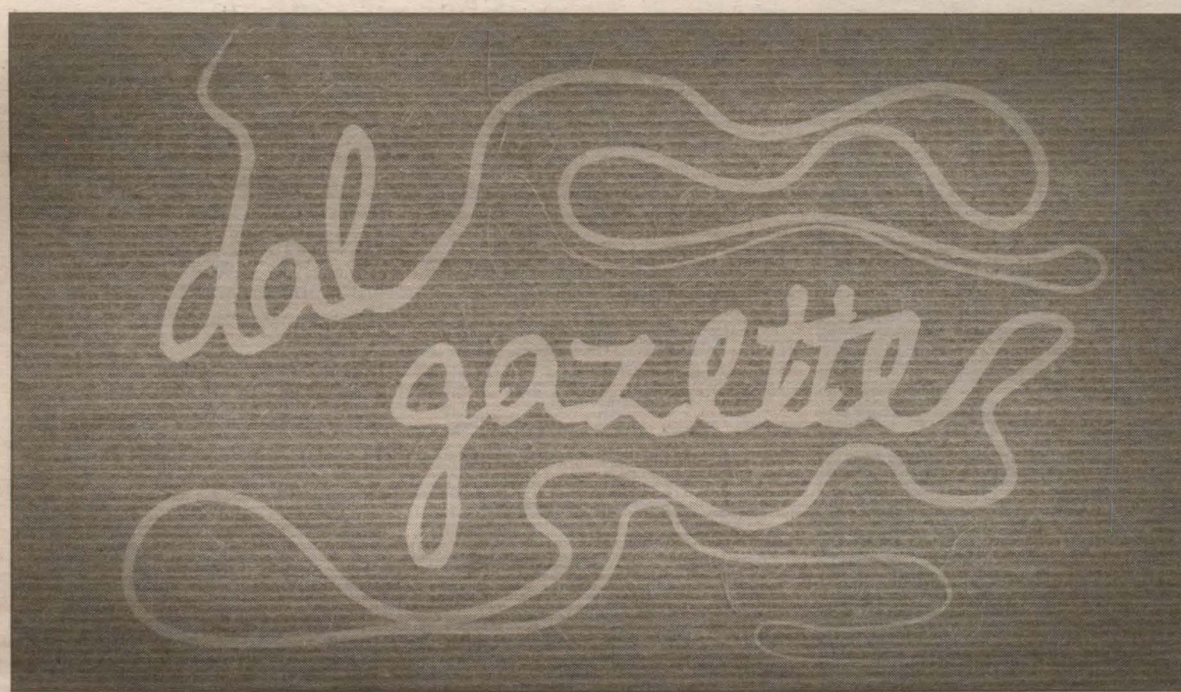
The team has found themselves jumping from Pascal Leclaire to Brian Elliot, who had two shutouts in the month of December against Buffalo and Philadelphia. However, with Jason Spezza out indefinitely with a torn right MCL, the Senators offence is too dependent on Mike Fisher and the underachieving Alexei Kovalev. Their offence does not provide the support for their shaky goaltending situation.

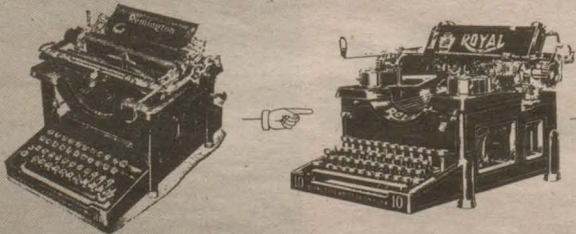
The Senators will need to turn it around quickly to make a stab at the playoffs.

### Edmonton

Poor, poor Edmonton. Injuries have plagued the team all season and have proven to be their toughest battle. At this point in the season the Oilers are last place in the Western Conference and are out of eighth place by over 15 points. The career year of Dustin Penner is the only highlight for Oilers fans this season.

The NHL season is playing out exactly like the last in the Eastern Conference, but the Western Conference has been mixing it up. The absence of the Detroit Red Wings and the rise of the Nashville Predators, Phoenix Coyotes and the Los Angeles Kings have been the biggest surprises (and should continue to surprise) in this NHL season. With less than 40 games left in the season, it should be interesting to see which teams will surprise and perform in the new year.

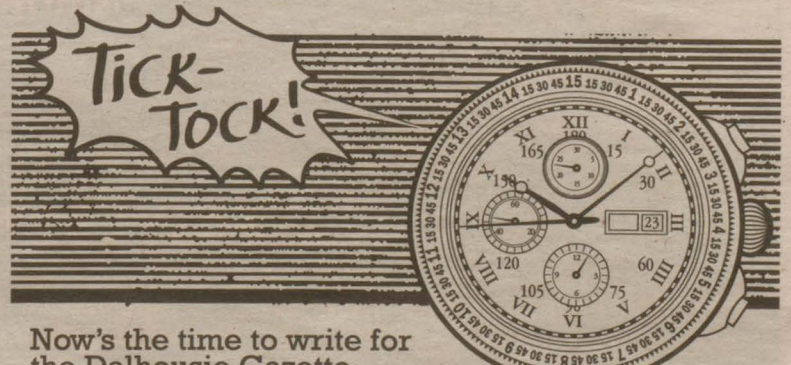




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# THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

## WELCOME BACK TO SEXTON

Jean-Pierre Brien  
Mechanical Engineering '10  
VP Communications, DSEUS

I would like to welcome all students and staff back to Sexton campus and wish them the best for the New Year. This article is meant to help the new and returning students familiarize themselves with sexton campus and its clubs and teams.

The first thing I feel students should know about sexton campus is that the book store will give you 5% back on your purchases if you pay with your Dal Card. The café in the alumni lounge will also give you 5% back on your purchases. While this does not sound like a lot, it adds up. Clubs and Teams

**Concrete Canoe** - The Dalhousie Concrete Canoe Team builds a canoe out of concrete each year and races it in a national competition. Unfortunately this year, the team is taking a year off and is looking for new leadership. Dalhousie has done quite well at this competition in previous years; if you are interested in taking on a leadership role to restart this team please contact the [dseus@dal.ca](mailto:dseus@dal.ca).

**Concrete Toboggan** - In true Canadian fashion the team's goal is to design and build an innovative toboggan with a running surface made entirely of concrete. The sleigh must meet a weight limit; have a functioning brake, and a roll cage to protect its occupants. The competition runs over 4 days and includes a Technical Exhibition where design reports are submitted and the teams present their innovative solutions to a judging panel of experienced engineers from industry and academia. To get involved contact the team at

[dalgnctr@gmail.com](mailto:dalgnctr@gmail.com).

**Engineers without Borders** - is helping people in developing communities gain access to technologies that will improve their lives. They believe that technology, when appropriately incorporated into each community's social, cultural, economic and political context, can drive extraordinary change. Visit their website at <http://www.dal.ewb.ca/index.php> for more information or contact them at [dal@ewb.ca](mailto:dal@ewb.ca).

**Remote Operated Vehicle** - Every year the ROV team designs and builds a new vehicle to complete a set of challenges offered by the MATE Center ROV competition, which consists of different tasks each year, always tailored to fit a theme relevant to real world marine applications. For example, the 2009 competition theme was the underwater rescue of a damaged submarine and consisted of four tasks: a hull damage inspection, oxygen replenishment, submarine re-supply, and airlock mating to simulate the evacuation of crew. For more information please visit their website at <http://societies.dsu.ca/privateers/> or contact them at [rov@dal.ca](mailto:rov@dal.ca).

**FSAE** - Formula SAE (FSAE) is a collegiate design competition hosted by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) in Michigan every May. Every year some 140 teams from across North America compete. FSAE cars are small open wheel formula style autocross vehicles that are completely designed and fabricated by student teams. Many aspects of design are judged in this competition, not merely speed and performance. While outright performance is an important part, considerations such as cost, marketability,

safety and overall design play an equally crucial role to placing well. If you are interested, visit <http://poisson.me.dal.ca/fsae> for much more information or contact [fsae@dal.ca](mailto:fsae@dal.ca).

**Pulling For the Kids** - This is the 3rd year of Pulling for the Kids and this year they are fund raising for Camp Triumph. Camp Triumph is a camp for children whose primary caregiver(s) or sibling(s) suffer from chronic illness or disability. It gives these children a week for themselves, not having to worry about what's going on at home and allows them to meet other children in similar situations. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact [pfk.participantinfo@gmail.com](mailto:pfk.participantinfo@gmail.com).

**Personal grant forms** in the order of \$50 are available from the DSEUS office in the design commons. Group grants for up to \$150 are also available for conferences and seminars. Grants are also available from the DSU and those forms can be obtained from [www.dsu.ca](http://www.dsu.ca). For more information on funding your trips and conferences please contact the DSEUS at [dseus@dal.ca](mailto:dseus@dal.ca).

Best places to study on campus  
Open classrooms on campus  
The not Sexy-ton Library  
Design Commons  
Alumni Lounge  
Computer Labs  
Killam Library

Also when you're through with school for the week, please join us at the T-room on Thursday nights for good entertainment and on Friday for the best trivia in the city as chosen by The Coast. For an added boost join us on Friday from 1:30 - 4:00 pm (doors close at 5) in the design commons for Engineering for the cheapest beer in the city.

## PULLING FOR THE KIDS



Don't forget!  
Pulling for the Kids on February 6th.  
Sign up or donate money at [www.pullingforthekids.ca](http://www.pullingforthekids.ca)

Look up Camp Triumph at [www.camptriumph.ca](http://www.camptriumph.ca)

## Barbeque for PFK!

11:30-1, January 20th  
Sir James Dunn Building

## CO-OP CORNER

Things to Remember:

- You can still try and get a placement for this semester, so long as you will complete 14 weeks of work before classes start again in May!
- The co-op website offers many tips and is very informative. The website is: [www.engandcompsscicoop.dal.ca](http://www.engandcompsscicoop.dal.ca)

## Have an opinion?

Share it with us.

Get \$25\*

[sextant@dal.ca](mailto:sextant@dal.ca)

\$20 for pieces shorter than 500 words, \$30 for pieces over 1000 words. We pay only for articles that are published.

## Good news!

The Dalhousie Bookstore will now offer sale prices at all three locations, if the item in question is regularly stocked at the bookstore location in question, according to Tina Shannon, manager of the Dalhousie Bookstores. -Ed

## Michael Ignatieff at Dal

Did you miss this event?

The full video coverage of the event is on our website, [www.thesextant.ca](http://www.thesextant.ca)!

## Website design contest

Suggest a Drupal theme by emailing [sextant@dal.ca](mailto:sextant@dal.ca)

If your theme suggestion is picked for [www.thesextant.ca](http://www.thesextant.ca), you'll get \$25!

Open to all Dal students, faculty, and staff. Deadline January 25th at 12pm.

## WHAT KIND OF ENGINEERER ARE YOU?

Beth Croteau  
Industrial Engineering '13

As engineers, it is imperative that we are invested in our education by being dedicated to our continual growth and development both academically and professionally. There are certain skills that are simply essential to the engineering trade, which one must take time outside of class to master. Because of this fact, most of you have probably been to at least one session of training in a certain art form almost exclusive to engineers. In fact, the name of these training sessions is so perfect that the English language was arguably constructed specifically so that two words - independently notable and admirable - could be combined to describe the event that every engineer looks forward to: Engineering.

Engineering is not simply a time to drown your sorrows about your rock-bottom GPA. If you choose to be observant, you can also take this time to analyze and understand your fellow engineers, and in the process maybe make some friends, if possible. Below is a guide to discerning the types of people usually found at these marvelous training sessions, based on the true, infallible indicator that is their drink preference.

**THE MILLER LITE GUY:** This guy who chooses ML does so for a weird reason, like "Miller" was his grandfather's middle name or the drunk outside his favorite liquor store back home was always asking for it. No matter why they choose it, however, they are typically neither lightweight nor heavyweight but still - Here for the party, man! Flip cup and dancing on desks will usually follow an MLG.

**THE KEITH'S PALE ALER:** Invariably a Maritimer, or someone whose Maritimer friends won't let them drink anything else. The classic DA-LENG ale, this guy sits and chills and brags about COD4 for the first couple bottles, but by round 4 has abandoned his attempts at cool and is going over every minute detail of the last math quiz with other KPAs. He may manage to talk to a girl briefly, but she usually drifts off, attracted by the boisterous Miller Lites.

**THE COORS LIGHT CHOOSER:** Most usually a West Coaster who assumed that since there were mountains on the label it was similar to Kokanee. He's not impressed, but meh, it's okay. The few girls that are to be found at Engineering (maximum 3) are drinking this, and when the

Keith's is gone even the Islanders will suck it up and grab a Coors.

**THE RICKARDS WHITE 'MAN':** Nobody's really sure why this is an option, but there is one guy who thinks it is just so manly to pull off RW that he's psyched on life. No one has the heart to tell him he's a little pathetic, but hey - at least he's happy, right? If this is an option, more girls will be found (maximum 5), but most likely at least 4 of them are history majors looking for a stable yet oblivious future sugar daddy.

**THE RICKARDS DARK MANLY MAN:** Again, why it's here, no-one knows, and even fewer order it; but in a crowded room you can always pick out the one who does. Usually a bit scruffy, he is quiet and unassuming and wearing plaid... and unbeaten at pong. He is happy as a clam to kill that 12-pack by himself, but when the Rockstar runs out someone's gonna think it's a good idea to use RD in Jagerbombs. At this point, whoever's pouring should yell last call.

There you have it - an easy character guide to your typical Engineerer. Come out to Engineering this Friday and use it yourself!

*Editor's Note: Engineering is held in the Sexton Design Commons (keycard access to keep non-engineers out!) from 2-4, and 5:30-late in the Dunn Engineering Lounge on Studley Campus*

Trivia Every Friday Night!

January 21: Band, TBA

January 22: Engineers vs. Faculty Trivia

January 28: Winterfest Show with Two

Hours Traffic

[www.dalsexton.ca](http://www.dalsexton.ca) is back up and running! Check it out for DSEUS updates.

The **T-ROOM**

**DSEUS** dalhousie sexton  
engineering undergraduate society

Every Friday Afternoon • EngiBEERing in the Design Commons Wear a Sweater Vest for a Free Beer!  
Apparel • Belt Buckles (Bronze, Silver and Gold Toned), Key Chains and T-Shirts

Questions, Comments and to Contribute [sextant@dal.ca](mailto:sextant@dal.ca)



Visit Sexton Campus's Online Resource [dalsexton.ca](http://dalsexton.ca)



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