

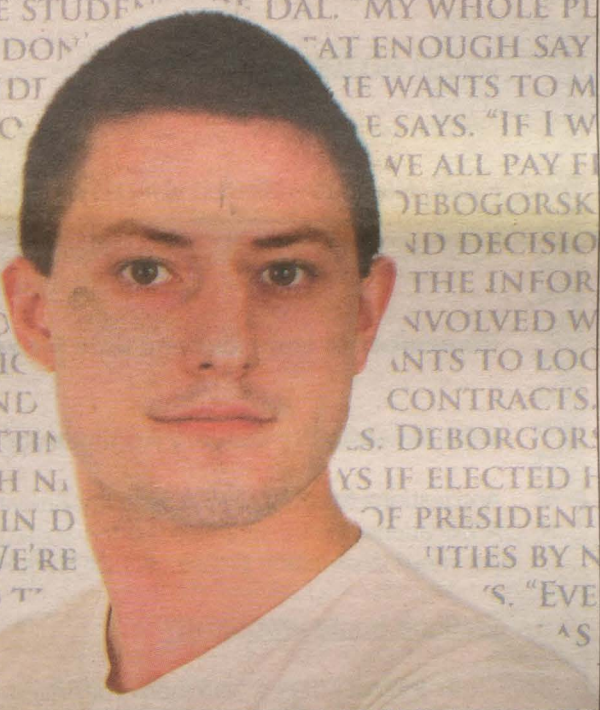
The Dalhousie Gazette since 1868

Gazette



REFORM

GREGORY DEBOGORSKI SEES BEING PRESIDENT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE STUDENTS OF DAL. "MY WHOLE PLATFORM IS BASED ON INCREASING STUDENT EMPOWERMENT, I FEEL LIKE STUDENTS DON'T HAVE ENOUGH SAY IN THEIR UNION," HE SAYS. THIS IS DEBOGORSKI'S SECOND YEAR RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT OF THE DSU. HE WANTS TO MAKE THE COUNCIL MORE ACCESSIBLE TO STUDENTS. "I'D LIKE TO TAKE THE EXECUTIVE OUT OF THE BUILDING AND PUT MY DESK RIGHT ACROSS FROM THE INFO DESK. IT'S RIDICULOUS THAT WE CAN'T GO TO, AND YET THE PEOPLE THAT MAKE DECISIONS IN THE UNIONS AREN'T ACCESSIBLE TO STUDENTS. I WANT TO PUSH FOR A MONTHLY REFERENDUM, WHERE STUDENTS CAN HAVE THEIR SAY ON THE DECISIONS THE UNION IS MAKING. THE WEBSITE IS ALSO A BIG PRIORITY. DEBOGORSKI WANTS TO MAKE THE WEBSITE EASIER TO FIND AND ADD DEBATE FORUMS. HE ALSO SAYS HE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE CAMPUS RADIO STATION OFF AIR AND REPLACE IT WITH A FOOD SERVICE. HE SAYS HE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ALL THE COUNCILS OFF CAMPUS AND MOVE THEM TO THE CITY OF HALIFAX AND SAY THAT STUDENTS SHOULD BE MANAGING THEIR OWN FOOD SERVICES AND GETTING INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY. DEBOGORSKI SAYS HE'LL BE A GOOD PRESIDENT BECAUSE HE'S NOT AFRAID TO EXPERIMENT WITH NEW IDEAS. HE'S WILLING TO PAY A GROUP OF STUDENTS OUT OF HIS OWN POCKET TO SPECIALIZE IN DEVELOPING RESPONSIBILITY HOPING TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND DELEGATE AUTHORITY. "WE'RE NOT HAVING THE COURAGE TO EXPERIMENT ON CAMPUS AND ACTUALLY TRYING TO DO THINGS THAT WE'VE FAIL, WE'RE MISSING THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE." GREGORY DEBOGORSKI SEES BEING PRESIDENT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE STUDENTS OF DAL. "MY WHOLE PLATFORM IS



EMPOWERMENT

EIL BAILEY'S PLATFORM FOR PRESIDENT IS CENTERED ON OPEN COMMUNICATION. BAILEY SAYS IF HE BUILDS RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE DSU, FACULTIES AND ADMINISTRATION, HE CAN BE A MORE EFFECTIVE AND PRODUCTIVE DSU PRESIDENT. "THE MAIN CONCERNING IDEA THAT TO BE ON THE EXECUTIVE YOU HAVE TO BE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH HOW TO RUN AND HOW TO KEEP THINGS IN LINE" HE SAYS. "IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MUCH YOU WANT TO CHANGE INFORMAL RELATIONSHIPS TO COMMUNICATE WHAT YOU'RE REALLY FEELING." BAILEY WANTS TO BE TALKING TO STUDENTS. HE'S HEARD IDEAS FOR HOT-BUTTON ISSUES LIKE STUDY SPACE, SUSTAINDAL, CAMPUS ACTION ON FOOD (CAF) AND STUDENTS MOBILIZE FOR ACTION. BAILEY WANTS TO START A "FOOD VISION ON CAMPUS" LAST WEEK. "A LOT OF WHAT THEY'RE TRYING TO DO IS TO BE MORE INFORMAL BETWEEN STUDENT UNIONS AND STUDENT ACTIVISTS ARE CONFRONTATIONAL, YOU NEED TO HAVE A RESPECTFUL CONVERSATION," HE SAYS. BAILEY WANTS TO OPEN UP A SPACE THAT ENCOURAGES INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION. HE WANTS TO DO MORE OPEN WORK, STUDY AND MEETING SPACE IN DOWNTOWN HALIFAX. BAILEY ALSO WANTS TO BRING A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE DSU EXECUTIVE AND STUDENTS. "ANY STUDENT CAN WALK INTO MY OFFICE AND TALK TO ME," HE SAYS. "I WANT TO MAKE MYSELF MORE ACCESSIBLE AND HAVE MORE INFORMAL AND DEEPER CONTACT WITH EVERYBODY." HE HAS VOWED TO SPEND ONE HOUR OF HIS OFFICE HOURS OUTDOORS, WHERE HE CAN BE MORE PERSONAL LEVEL. BAILEY HOPES TO INSPIRE A BROADER DAL IDENTITY - SOMETHING THAT IS REPRESENTED BY THE NEW CLUB FOOTBALL TEAM. BAILEY SAYS HIS OPENNESS, OPTIMISM AND POSITIVITY IS HIS CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE DSU. "I REALLY ENJOY BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER AND HEARING THEIR VOICES. I'M INTERESTED IN PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. THE

INSPIRATION



Cover image by Pau Bailite



WEEKLY DISPATCH

DSU Weekly Dispatch

Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 23

Annual General Meeting

The DSU's AGM will take place in the McInnis room of the SUB and will commence at 6:30pm.

For more information please contact Matt Kelly via email at dsuchair@dal.ca

Wednesday, March 31

DSU Teaching Awards

Forms to nominate your professors for a teaching award are available at the Information Desk in the Student Union Building.

The DSU Teaching Awards will take place on March 31st, in rooms 302/303 of the SUB. The awards ceremony is scheduled to begin at 6:00pm (time subject to change)

DSU ELECTIONS

Election period is now upon us! Check out the schedule below for this years events:

Friday, March 19 – *Presidential Debate* – Grawood – 3:00pm

Saturday, March 20 – *Residence Charity Hockey Game*
– Dal Memorial Arena – 7:00pm

Remember to come out and vote for YOUR DSU executives!

DSU Accessibility Bursary Applications

Applications for the DSU Accessibility Bursary are available online at www.dsu.ca. Applications can be submitted to the Society Administrator in room 222 of the SUB. For more information please contact Mark Hobbs at dsuvpi@dal.ca.

Walking home after dark?

Tiger Patrol offers a walk-home or drive-home service that operates 7 days a week (6:00pm – 12:30am). Visit <http://dsu.ca/services/tigerpatrol> for more details.

DSU Executive Office Hours (Sexton Campus)

Shannon Zimmermen - <i>President</i>	Tuesday	9:00am – 12:00pm
Mark Hobbs - <i>Vice President, Internal</i>	Monday	3:00pm – 6:00pm
Rob Leforte - <i>Vice President, Education</i>	Wednesday	12:00pm – 3:00pm
Doyle Bond - <i>Vice President, Finance</i>	Monday	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Kris Osmond - <i>Vice President, Student Life</i>	By Appointment	

Sincerely,

Your DSU Executive

P.S. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter: @dalstudentunion, and visit us at www.dsu.ca



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THE FINE PRINT

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CORRECTION

The Gazette printed an article last week without disclosing a conflict of interest. The Sports article was a positive profile about sailor Paul Brikis. Brikis is friends with Sports Editor Joel Tichinoff. The Gazette apologizes for this mistake.

FIGHT THE POWER!

OR DON'T.

BUT... WRITE FOR THE GAZETTE!

Contributor Meetings are held each
Monday @ 5:30 pm
in room 312 S.U.B.



Letters to the Editor

Sex discussion sets scary precedent

To the Editor,

I take issue with last week's discussion of new understandings of sexual abuse. I was thrilled by the editorial discussion of emotionally healthy sex and I think it's so important that we work on changing sexual obligations and expectations but further coverage proposed a rather narrow minded understanding of sexual abuse. (For the sake of full disclosure, I have to say that I did not attend the recent talk by Jaclyn Freidman, and the problems that I'm addressing arise only from reading the Gazette's coverage.) There are two problems with the kind of radical broadening of the definition of rape discussed in last week's issue. The first is the supposed female weakness and victim-hood that necessitates such ridiculous "empowerment". Sober, healthy women are perfectly capable of asserting what it is that they do and do not want. To suggest otherwise is insulting.

I am personally offended by the implication that given the full and proper use of all my mental faculties, I still cannot be trusted to know what I want and speak up for myself. Certainly "consent" given by a drunk or mentally unstable person is not to count as a green-light for sex, but being timid is not grounds for claims of injustice. That there are women who do not have the confidence to express what they do and do not want or who think so little of their feelings that they can be convinced to say otherwise worries me. To solidify this

as justification for making accusations against someone else merely deflects from the issue of low self-esteem. This kind of response actually reinforces this sad "female role" mindset that remains so common and places blame on potentially innocent and certainly confused men.

This leads me to my second problem. We don't get to sue a salesperson because they were too good at convincing us to buy something or we were just too shy to say no. That would be shockingly unfair. It would seem from the articles written recently that no one has taken the time to think about the other party here. This kind of understanding of consent would open the door to any girl who wants to get back at the guy who hurt her feelings. Having sex because you feel like it's your duty usually makes for a pretty crappy lay, but to call it rape sets a scary precedent. In the effort to invest women with enough power to be free from sexual abuse this new understanding winds up robbing men of any agency whatsoever. In over-victimizing women, men are subject to false accusations, and potentially being dragged into a he said/she said battle where their words mean nothing and they are painted as the evil predator from the first moment of accusation.

I do agree that "change needs to happen on a larger scale," which is why I'm glad that these articles were written and that Freidman came to speak at Dal. Any social progress is best when it happens from the ground up. That means teaching both girls and boys about mutual and self-respect. With enough confidence, men and women won't want to

have lame "just-because-you-consent" sex - not only because it's wrong but also because it sucks.

-- Ginny Movat

Use new Nov. 12 study day to toast veterans

To the Editor,

Ben Wedge makes the argument that Dalhousie's new "study day" next fall should be moved from Nov. 12 to Oct. 29. He believes having the day off will encourage some students to drink and perhaps forget the true meaning of Remembrance Day - that is, to remember our veterans' sacrifices. While I am more or less impartial to the exact date of our study break, I must question Wedge's reasoning for his dislike of the Nov. 12 day off. The people who ignore or neglect remembrance on Nov. 11 would probably do so whether or not Nov. 11 was a day off. If you are concerned about Dalhousie students forgetting the sacrifices of our veterans, your efforts should be more focused on informing and enlightening them about the past. Students need to feel a connection with our veterans, and that connection should be down-to-earth. It should put things in perspective for them, and students should be able to relate to what they are remembering. For example, if students want to sleep in and then drink all day on Nov. 11, so be it. But when you're in the bar on Nov. 11, have a look around. Chances are you'll see a lot of folks in uniforms, many with medals denoting overseas

service. Many of those folks are students or alumni of Dalhousie. Having a conversation with one of these servicemen or women would allow you to gain a better understanding of what Remembrance Day really means - a much better understanding than what you would get from simply abstaining from alcohol and staying at home studying on Nov. 11.

So enjoy your day off on Remembrance Day, and the day after. Have a few beers, and give some cheers to our veterans while you are at it. I can guarantee you I'll be at the bar with all my fellow soldiers.

-- Daniel Campbell, Dalhousie student/army reservist/veteran

Digitization of journals would save \$300,000

To the Editor,

Your article on the removal of journals from the Dalhousie Libraries requires some clarification.

Removing the print journals, which are fully duplicated in electronic form, has enabled the building of the second floor Commons and a Graduate Student Centre in the Killam Library, as well as group study rooms in the Health Sciences Library and increased study space in the Law Library.

All of the journals have been digitized, are owned by the libraries in electronic form and are readily available on our website.

The libraries have negotiated an agreement with University of Toronto to

house these journals in a secure repository, and to assure access to them on request.

Print journals, where digital copies exist, are now seldom if ever used, and then only for specialized study or to correct any errors in the digital reproduction. These needs can be easily satisfied by the liberal access rights Dalhousie has negotiated with the University of Toronto.

Many academic libraries throughout North America are moving towards consolidating print journal collections. U of T and the University of Alberta, among others, are positioning themselves as journal repositories of last resort to relieve other libraries of the significant financial burden of continuing to house duplicate print journal titles. Their libraries already contain most of the journal titles held by institutions such as the Dalhousie Libraries. The 1,000 titles being considered for removal represent a \$300,000 savings to be used for new acquisitions over five years. On a national scale, these savings and the ability to redirect funds normally invested in "dark" storage (warehousing) would amount to tens of millions of dollars annually. It would be poor stewardship of the universities' scarce resources to ignore such opportunities while not diminishing our ability to serve clients effectively.

-- Bill Maes, university librarian

The Gazette regrets the errors in the article "Dalhousie library might trash 1,000 academic journals" (Issue 142-21). We apologize for our mistake.

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News

News

Race to the eco-finish

Dalhousie students design environmentally-friendly car for competition

Katrina Pyne
Staff Contributor

Wrenches, chains and aluminum scrap metal are everywhere. People scramble to make last minute adjustments. The finished product might as well be called Greased Lightning.

This year's eco-marathon car proudly sits atop a table in all its glory. It's been two years in the making to get it to this point and it's finally ready for the big debut in Houston at the Shell Eco-Marathon Competition.

It will race on March 27 and March 28. The Dalhousie Eco-Marathon team has put countless hours into this beauty since they started the re-vamping process in September of last year.

There are more than 70 teams entered in the competition, seven of them being from Canada. The grand prize is \$5,000.

Dal's team is split in two: the drive train team and the body and frame team.

John Langille heads up the drive train team. He works with mechanical engineering students Brandon McNeil, Travis Esau and Ross Penner.

"Driving it is like a cross between a car, a bicycle and a motorcycle," says Langille.

This year, the team hopes to surpass Dalhousie's record in the competition, which is just less than 1000 miles per gallon.

"We had to do a complete redesign," he says. "We started pretty much from scratch and put last year's on the shelf."

According to the team, this year's car is something that can be built upon. Next year's mechanical engineering team will be able to take the concept and go even further with it.

The rules state the eco-marathon car has to maintain a certain average speed of 15 miles an hour, but the challenge is to complete the six-mile course using the least possible amount of fuel.

According to Shell, an eco-marathon car and driver combined generate less carbon dioxide than a world-class athlete, run-



This car will have to maintain an average speed of 15 mph on a six-mile course. | Photo supplied

ning around a circuit at 15.5 miles an hour.

Langille says the best technique is a "burn and coast" strategy to get better fuel mileage. The driver brings the vehicle up to speed, shuts the engine off and then coasts along the track for as long as he or she can.

This year the team focused on a weight-reduction of 15 per cent from last year's model. This will reduce the vehicle's rolling resistance.

"Driving it is like a cross between a car, a bicycle and a motorcycle."

"Everything that we do is a trade off between the strength of the material and the weight," says Langille.

He says he isn't concerned that the car uses empty Coke bottles to pressurize the fuel system.

Peter Inglis is a member of the body and frame team with Scott Flindall and Jason Belliveau.

"I'm not sure you'd exactly call it comfortable," says Inglis.

"It doesn't have a radio. No air-conditioning either. But it's more than safe enough."

In the competition, there are two main categories; Dalhousie's car is in the "prototype vehicle" category for more aerodynamic streamline vehicles. There's also an "urban concept" category where the vehicles more closely imitate actual street vehicles.

The team even gave a sneak speak to HRM fleet staff. They hope that this car will encourage innovation around vehicle fuel efficiency.

"Of course it seems like an extreme case," says Langille. "It's not what you're going to be driving on the street, but there (are) some things you can take away from this (for) your own vehicle."

Concordia to stop paying for Muslim prayer space

\$15,600 annual bill for 800 Muslim students too high for university

Justin Giovannetti
The Link

MONTREAL (CUP) — After more than two decades of paying for Muslim prayer space near its downtown campus, Concordia University says that it can no longer foot the bill.

Along with providing a smaller prayer space in one of its own buildings, Concordia has been paying \$15,600 a year to rent a room at the nearby Masonic Hall for Friday congregational prayer. Nearly 800 students attend the prayer weekly.

"The university has done its best to provide them with space for a number of years, going back to the '80s, but the sheer number of people has kept growing," said Concordia spokesperson Chris Mota. "We've gotten to the point where, financially, we can't do this any longer."

Concordia's Muslim Student Association said if the funding is cut, they will consider filing a public grievance.

"If they do stop providing that space we might file with the (provincial) human rights commission or the Quebec court as they are legally bound by their contract," said Abdullah Husen, the association's president.

Husen said that a decade-old contract with the university stipulated that space would be provided for all Muslim students to pray on Fridays. In September 2009, the Muslim Student Association was given a one-year notice that the university would stop paying for the space.

"It is definitely within the financial capacity of the university to provide this," Husen said he believes. "It makes no sense that the university would stop accommodating Muslims and push that responsibility on the MSA."

The university said the allotted prayer space was only a temporary measure.

"We would like to accommodate them on campus but we just don't have the space," said Mota. "The univer-

sity decided for a short period of time that we would rent space downtown, with the understanding that this was a transitory solution until they organized themselves on a permanent basis."

Husen said that the MSA did not have the financial or human resources to maintain a larger prayer space for the university's Muslim population, nor have they begun to look at other options.

No other religious group on campus has asked for similar space.

The prayer can hold only 100 practitioners at a time, leading to cramped conditions.

"During Ramadan we pray there every night," said Aoub Muntasar, vice-president external of the Concordia Student Union. "When the room is full it is beyond sweaty, it is nasty."

The Friday sermon could not be held in shifts at the space, Husen said, as there would not be enough time and it could represent a fire hazard.

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



People lined up for free, locally sourced food on Feb. 2. Campus Action on Food (CAF) served food in the Student Union Building - against contract rules - in protest of exclusivity contracts. | Photo by Pau Balite

CAF and DSU can't agree

Members of campus food group say they just wanted to prove a point

Lucy Scholey
Staff Contributor

It won't be that easy to serve free, local food in the Student Union Building anymore. Nearly one month after a campus food group served food in the SUB, they learned that they won't be able to meet certain serving conditions set out by the Dalhousie Student Union.

"It ended up hindering us in some way ... because we don't have insurance," says Aaron Beale, of Campus Action on Food (CAF). "We were able to get around health, safety things, but it became a lot of bureaucratic work."

On Feb. 2, CAF staged a protest in the SUB. They brought locally sourced and prepared food, and dished it out for free. Under a contract with Sodexo, the DSU's food provider, students aren't allowed to run food services in the building.

DSU President Shannon Zimmerman tried to propose an agreement with the group last month. They could serve food in the Student Union Building under certain terms and conditions. Under the regulations, CAF had to become a ratified DSU society, serve food that's inspected under provincial health codes and refrain from handing out propaganda.

But the group was not looking for an approval to serve food in the SUB, say some CAF members.

"Our point was about exclusivity and the lack of transparency in the contracts," says Ryan Lum. "There was a misunderstanding about what we were actually trying to achieve."

Beale says the stipulation that prevented CAF from distributing offensive propaganda was also as unacceptable. The day of the protest, CAF handed out pamphlets with information about the group and why they are against exclusivity contracts.

Zimmerman says the pamphlets that CAF distributed during the food protest had inaccuracies.

"If they disagree with what Sodexo or the DSU is doing, that's fine," she says. "So long as their information is factual because that was the concern with the last pamphlet that they released ... some of the information was not factual," she says.

The pamphlet lists Aramark as an organization that's contracted with the DSU. But

Sodexo is the DSU's food provider. Aramark has a contract with the university and only serves the residences and university buildings.

The pamphlet also mentions student-run food initiatives at other universities, such as the free vegan service - People's Potato - at Concordia University and the Midnight Kitchen at McGill University. Zimmerman says the pamphlet doesn't mention that People's Potato is a group that's run through Concordia's student union. The DSU is willing to do something similar, she says.

"Our point was about exclusivity and the lack of transparency in the contracts."

"If what they want to do ... is have groups like these, then we're willing to do that," she says. "We're trying to help them offer alternatives and do programs like this and that's what I'm trying to work with them for and if that's not what their ultimate goal is, then we can revisit that."

For CAF members, it's about getting a message across to students.

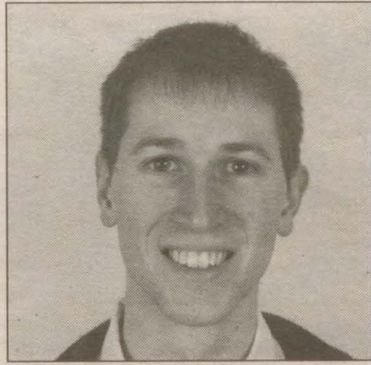
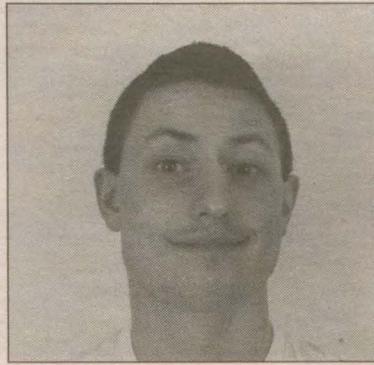
"Once exclusivity ends, who knows where we will go?" says Lum. "It's all contingent upon exclusivity falling. That was essentially our goal."

The group is still planning other projects for upcoming months, such as building a mobile kitchen and planting mini vegetable gardens across campus.

Senate representative Glenn Blake is an advocate for more locally sourced and vegan options on campus.

"Food is really important to me because I'm vegan," he says, adding that he doesn't think Dal's food situation will die down anytime soon. He predicts it will become a key DSU election topic.

"That's going to be a really big issue for all the people running (for DSU elections) this year."



PRESIDENT

Responsibilities: Acts as spokesperson of the DSU, manages all daily union activities, writes the union's policy, sits on the University Board of Governors and the University Senate, acts as contact to the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations and the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations.

Name: Neil Bailey
Age: 28
Year: First
Study: Masters of urban planning
Hometown: Winnipeg, Manitoba
Past experience: Communications officer, programmer, hallway representative in residence at University of Manitoba, founding member of Urban Initiative, member of Winnipeg Rapid Transit Coalition
What do you want to be when you grow up? "The sky is the limit. Something to do with public engagement."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Manatee. Manatee is an integral part of humanity."

Bailey's platform for president is centered on open communication. Bailey says if he builds relationships within and between faculties and administration, he can be a more effective and productive DSU president.

"There's this overarching idea that to be on the executive you have to be primarily concerned about how to manage the union and how to keep things in line" he says. "It doesn't matter how much you manage if you don't have the informal relationships to communicate what you're really feeling."

Bailey says he has heard ideas from students about hot-button issues such as study spaces and food services.

He met with SustainDal, Campus Action on Food (CAF) and Students Mobilize for Action on Campus (SMAC) to develop a "food vision on campus" last week.

"A lot of what they're trying to do is really great, the problem is that student unions and student activists are confrontational. You need to start a forum where you can have a respectful conversation," he says.

Bailey says opening a 24-hour study space is important, but he also wants to open a space that encourages interdisciplinary collaboration, like the Hub, an open meeting space in downtown Halifax.

Bailey also wants to create more communication between the DSU executive and students.

"Any student can walk into my office and talk to me," he says. "I want to make myself more accessible and have more informal and deeper contact with the student body."

He has vowed to spend one hour of his office hours outdoors, where he can interact with students on a more personal level.

Bailey says his openness, optimism and enthusiasm will make him a great choice for president of the DSU.

"I really enjoy bringing people together and starting conversations" he says. "I'm interested in public engagement and public participation."

-- Laura Parlee

Name: Gregory Deborgorski
Age: 28
Year: Fourth
Study: Management
Hometown: Calgary, Alberta
Past experience: Owned a small business, ran labour crews, executive of Dal Junior Investment Society
What do you want to be when you grow up? "Industrialist."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Lion, because they're strong, proud, they take care of each other and they're majestic."

Deborgorski sees the role of president as an opportunity to serve the students of Dal.

"My whole platform is based on increasing student empowerment. I feel like students don't have a great enough say in their union," he says.

This is Deborgorski's second year running for president. If elected, he wants to make council more accessible to students.

"I'd like to take the executive out of their offices," he says. "If I won, I'd put my desk right across from the info desk. It's ridiculous that we have a union that we all pay fees to, and yet the people that make decisions in the unions aren't accessible for students."

Deborgorski wants to push for a monthly referendum where students can have their say about issues and decisions the union is making.

He says the website is also a big priority. Deborgorski wants to clean it up, make the information easier to find and add debate forums.

He also says he would like to see more students involved with CKDU, the campus radio station.

Another priority for him is food services. Deborgorski wants to look into all the options before signing another contract with Sodexo. He says he wants to get rid of secret contracts. He thinks the students should be managing their own food services, and getting the best deals.

Deborgorski says he'll be a good president because he's not afraid to experiment with new ideas. He says if elected he's willing to pay a group of students out of his own pocket to specialize in different areas of presidential responsibility hoping to increase efficiency and delegate authority.

"We're missing opportunities by not having the courage to experiment on campus and actually trying to do things different," he says. "Even if we fail, we're missing the opportunity to lead by example."

-- Laura Parlee

Name: Chris Saulnier
Age: 22
Year: Fourth
Study: Engineering
Hometown: Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Past experience: Chair of Engineering Society on Sexton Campus, councillor for DSU (member at large), has served on several committees including the Executive Review Committee, the Communications and Awareness Committee and the Promotion of Diversity Committee
What do you want to be when you grow up? "A biomedical engineer."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Bird, so I could get to fly."

Saulnier says after working closely with the executive as member at large, he knows what's up with the union.

First, he wants to see a better managed union.

"One of the biggest problems that we have with the union is that candidates have great ideas, but they get into office and they realize there's all these day-to-day tasks that they need to accomplish," he says.

His solution is to delegate those day-to-day tasks to part-time student staff. "Then they'll have the time to do the visionary things that they want to do and that students want them to do."

He also wants to expand the leadership development initiative – a program to ease the job transition of a new DSU executive – to include and councillors.

Saulnier also wants to start live, streaming council meetings from the website, and make them available as online videos.

"I want to make council more open and improve the communications that we have," he says.

Food services are also high on his priority list. Saulnier says he will ensure Dal's food services are more sustainable, and will offer students more options.

Another initiative is to improve students' university experience. This includes investing in a 24-hour study space beyond what the Killam Library provides.

Finally, Saulnier wants to increase external advocacy for students on a provincial and federal level.

The Memorandum of Understanding between universities and the province is being renegotiated next year. Saulnier wants to see a continued tuition freeze and says he will lobby towards eliminating differential tuition fees and bursary opportunities for out-of-province students.

"(The DSU president) deals with a lot of different things, and I think I have the experience in all those different areas ... to step in and make a difference."

-- Laura Parlee

VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

Responsibilities: Co-ordinates activities such as Orientation Week, the DSU Charity Ball, Student Appreciation Night, DalFest, FallFest, Winter Carnival and the Residence Hockey Game; also sits on other committees related to these events

Name: Hannah Dahn
Age: 20
Year: Fourth
Study: Physics and neuroscience
Hometown: St. Margaret's Bay, Nova Scotia
Past experience: President of Risley, residence representative on the DSU council, vice chair for Orientation Week 2008/2009, commissionaire for current VP (student life), vice president of the Physics Society
What do you want to be when you grow up? Likely a doctor, but would also love a career in wedding planning
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Horse – running free, independent and wild."

Dahn has been working closely with the VP (student life) for the last two years.

Beyond running the events this year, Dahn hopes to increase event attendance with more effective and frequent advertisement.

"There are tons of students at Dal," she says. "Where are the rest of them?" She hopes to increase attendance at Fall Fest and Winter Carnival – events she says aren't getting the "attendance and support they deserve."

She hopes to work closely with Dal to increase advertisements outside of the Student Union Building. She hopes the new DSU website will be an opportunity to broadcast events.

Fall Fest will be combined with Dal's Homecoming next year. Dahn says she hopes to better collaborate with Dal event planners.

Orientation Week is also a huge priority for Dahn. She says it's her favourite time of year, and she wants to ignite school spirit.

"I want to carry on that spirit through the rest of the year. There's no reason for that to go away," she says.

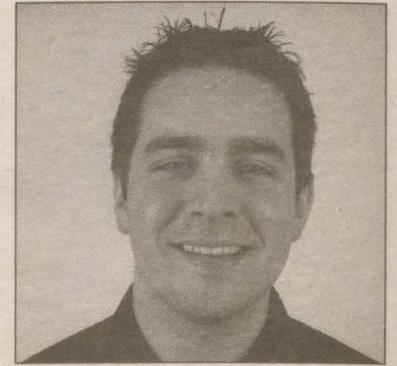
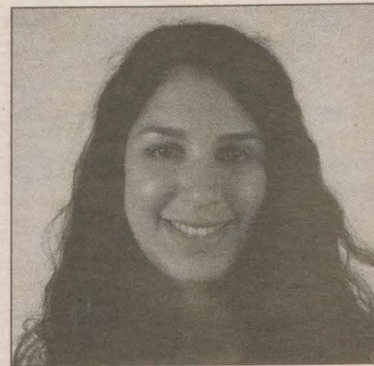
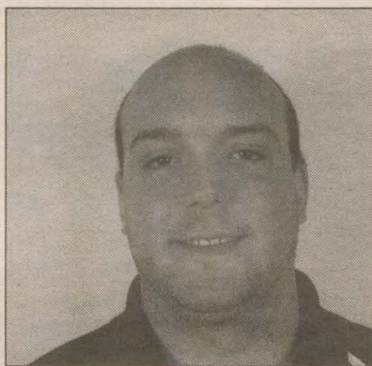
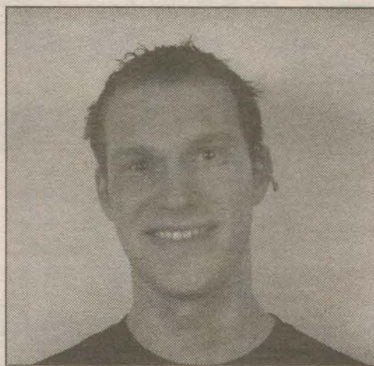
Dahn also wants to work closely with the new athletics director, to better promote Dal's athletic teams.

-- Laura Parlee

DAL VOTES TO

News

DAL VOTES '10



VICE PRESIDENT (INTERNAL)

Responsibilities: Oversees communication between societies, manages the DSU website and the student handbook, facilitates societies, organizes the annual Leadership Conference.

Name: Glenn Blake
Age: 24
Year: Third
Study: International development studies and economics
Hometown: Whitby, Ontario
Past experience: DSU senate representative 2009/2010, national outreach director for the Canadian Students for Sensible Drug Policy, founded the Halifax Vegan Potluck
What do you want to be when you grow up? "Possibly work for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Turtle because they wear their helm on their back."

Blake says he likes to be involved. In his first year, he joined so many societies that he can hardly remember most of them. "I was really looking to find my niche," he says. Now he's found a seat on the DSU council, he hopes to continue working toward change on campus. That involves starting up a DSU campus radio station, updating the website, making the website multilingual and starting a student-run food co-op. Blake wants to see more attention directed toward the diversity committee because it doesn't have a budget. He says someone from the DSU executive, such as the VP (student life) should be sitting on the diversity board. He also thinks societies need better training at the beginning of the school year. For example, the DSU should give sessions about how to run successful meetings or environmentally-friendly events. Blake wants to see more joint events between societies. Someone also needs to take a grants inventory because societies tend to run out of money every year, he says. "I am so excited to bring change here," he says.
 -- Lucy Scholey

Name: Tim Hiltz
Age: 22
Year: Fifth
Study: Kinesiology
Hometown: Wellington, Nova Scotia
Past experience: Night manager at the Student Union Building 2008 to 2010, societies commissioner 2009/2010, helped organize Brains for Change
What do you want to be when you grow up? "Athletic therapist or teacher."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Wolf, because they're fascinating."

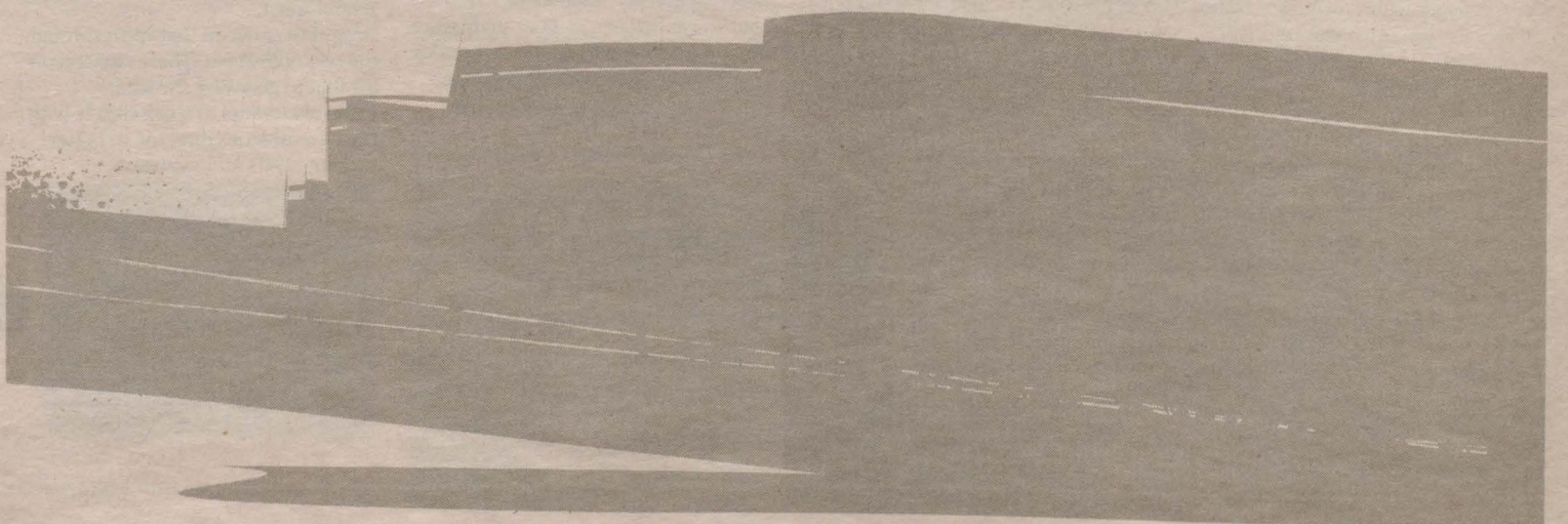
As a night manager at the Student Union Building, Tim Hiltz says he knows the building inside and out. But he's not just familiar with the building's layout. He says he knows the opportunities the SUB can offer students. "I would love to reach out to students and bring them in here to share with them what really a great place this is, that really nobody knows about because the involvement level isn't that high," he says. To get more students involved, Hiltz says he wants to update the website and use it to post different events around campus. The website should also be a valuable resource tool for students to access information about where to get grants and how to join societies. Hiltz says he also wants to make the society ratification process more efficient, with a quicker turn-around time. He says he also wants to see an easier grants application process. For Hiltz, the DSU is all about the societies. "As the age old saying goes around here, societies are the lifeboat of the union," he says. "They are what keep us going."
 -- Lucy Scholey

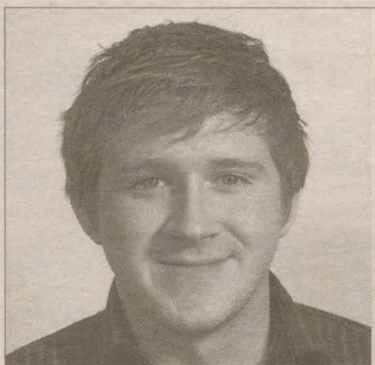
Name: Kayla Kurin
Age: 20
Year: Fourth
Study: Psychology and classics
Hometown: Thornhill, Ontario
Past experience: Dal Association of Psychology Students 2007/2008, president of Students for Peace in the Middle East 2007-2009, DASS representative for the Undergraduate Classics Society 2008/2009, DASS vice president 2009/2010, Dal-King's Film Collective treasurer 2008-2010, DSU member at large 2008/2009, DSU arts representative 2009/2010

What do you want to be when you grow up? "A movie producer."
If you were an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Snow leopard, because I'm always cold and they have really warm fur coats." Kurin says she's gained a lot of experience working with societies in her past three years at Dal. She says she wants to take that experience and put it toward helping societies start off on the right foot early in the year. For her, that involves better training at the beginning of the school year. She says she would like to see the school host Brains for Change (a two-day leadership conference designed to kick-start student discussion about the university) earlier in the year rather than later. That would help give societies the guidance they need, she says. She would also like to update the society handbook and add a green guidebook. Her platform also includes updating the DSU website regularly and posting lists of society events. "It's a lot of fun and you meet some really great people," she says, about being an elected member of the DSU. "I think I've learned a lot in the past few years."
 -- Lucy Scholey

Name: Henry Whitfield
Age: 22
Year: Third
Study: Major in English and minor in Journalism
Hometown: Oakville, Ontario
Past experience: President of Howe Hall 2008/2009, Residence Relations Committee 2008/2009, DSU events committee 2009/2010
What do you want to be when you grow up? "Sports journalist."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Kangaroo, because they're really awesome."

Whitfield says he's about "bringing you back into the DSU." "There are tons of opportunities that students are missing out on," he says. "I'm really passionate about improving the student experience." Whitfield says he wants to get students more involved in societies and sporting events at Dal. To him that means finding other ways of informing students about what's happening on campus. One idea is broadcasting these events, updates and mock interviews through a DSU YouTube channel. "People are going to watch a 30-second video instead of reading the DSU Dispatch," he says. As someone who often goes out to soccer games, Whitfield says he wants to see students more excited about sports. "We're really proud of academics at Dal, but we're not really passionate about athletes," he says. He hopes to see a homecoming event at Dal, where students can get more into the school spirit. Whitfield also wants to help foster campus sustainability. He says that can start through promoting the use of re-usable mugs on campus. "We give out thousands of travel mugs to the first-year students, but there's no promotion to get students to use them."
 -- Lucy Scholey





VICE PRESIDENT (EDUCATION)

Responsibilities: Informs students about academic issues such as plagiarism, represents students through various federal, provincial and municipal lobby groups, chairs the Academic and External Affairs Committee

Name: Karl Dempsey
Year: Fourth
Study: Major in sociology with a minor in film studies
Hometown: St. Croix, Nova Scotia
Past experience: Dalhousie Open House volunteer 2005 to 2010, founder and co-ordinator of the Peter Fogarty Memorial Golf Tournament in Cambridge, N.S. 2003 to 2010.
What do you want to be when you grow up? "Something in the film making industry."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "An octopus because they can lie at the bottom of the ocean and just relax."

Dempsey hopes to work on improving student co-operation with the provincial and federal governments on education issues such as student debt. Dempsey also thinks it's important to focus on academic integrity. "There are still a lot of issues surrounding this, and there's a lot of work that can be done in these areas," he says. Dempsey hopes to implement a Plagiarism Awareness Day. He also thinks professors' evaluations should be made public for students. "Transparency is needed and I agree with Rob's imaginative efforts." Dempsey changed his mind about academic evaluations on March 18. He previously did not want the evaluations to be made public. He also hopes to improve students' educational environment, with a particular focus on improving conditions for students with disabilities. Dempsey has been a student at Dalhousie for five years, and he recently decided it was time to get involved. "If I didn't, I would regret it," he says.
 --Laura Conrad

Name: Rob LeForte
Age: 21
Year: Fourth
Study: Political science
Hometown: Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Past experience: DSU VP (education) 2009/2010, vice-chair of the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations, delegate to the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), co-ordinator of DSU Toy Drive 2008, acting Marketing and Promotions Officer of the Arts and Social Sciences Society 2008, DASSS rep 2007/2008, president of the Dalhousie Undergraduate Political Science Society 2008/2009, Orientation Leader 2007 to 2008, Dalhousie University Rugby Football Club 2006 to 2010
What do you want to do when you grow up? Grad school
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "A giraffe, because they can see things from really far away, identify challenges in advance and prepare for them."

LeForte says the funding agreement between the provincial government and university administrations is one important issue to address next year. As the current agreement comes to an end, he says it will have to be renegotiated. He also wants to improve student spaces on campus. Due to budget restrictions, he will maximize the amount of student space already available. LeForte also plans to ensure that the university administration increases funding and support for international students. "The University Strategic Plan hopes to achieve 17,500 students, and we are currently sitting just below 16,000," he says, adding that if nothing is done to improve recruitment, the number could drop to as low as 15,000. He also wants to change how the university is governed. "Seeing the changes we've put in place this year for the students has motivated me to go for this position again."
 --Laura Conrad

Name: Evan Price
Age: 26
Year: Third
Study: Finance
Hometown: Truro, Nova Scotia
Past experience: Volunteering with and working for political parties in Truro, 1992 to 2010
What do you want to be when you grow up? "Continue volunteering as a firefighter and being Chief Financial Officer for the Mavericks of Social Change."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "A panther, because they can blend in when they need to, but are also quick to act."

Price wants to help students give back to the community. When he helped organize the Brains for Change conference, he noticed a lot of students were interested in seeing a culture of social responsibility. "Everyone has different capacities to give," he says. "I'm hoping to really foster these kinds of feelings at Dalhousie." Price plans to start a program in which faculty could give students the option to do 10 hours of volunteer work for a five per cent class credit, rather than a 10 per cent participation credit. Price says professors and instructors from different departments could form advisory committees and students could apply to them to work in a particular field. "Students could have that on their transcripts as well," he says. "So it wouldn't show just marks and numbers, but also what you've contributed as a student." Price says he feels that his political background and experiences have prepared him for being part of the DSU. "I've been working and preparing for the last 17 years to have this skill set," he says. "It's my time to step up and do what I can."
 --Laura Conrad

TRAVEL CUTS



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#58

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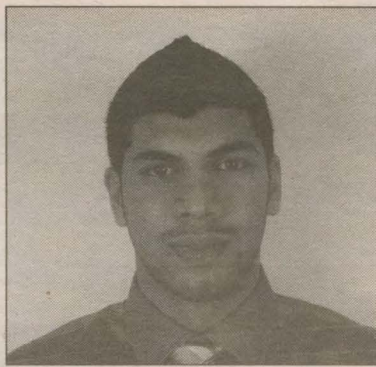
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News

DAL VOTES '10



SENATE REPRESENTATIVES (UNDERGRADUATE)

Responsibilities: Meet regularly throughout the year to receive committee reports and recommendations, approve degrees and new academic programs, create and amend academic regulations, advise the president on the university operation budget prior to its approval by the board of governors

Name: Christian Browne
Age: 21
Year: Third
Study: Kinesiology and international development studies
Hometown: Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Past experience: Board of Operations and Finance 2009/2010, kinesiology representative on SAPPHER
What do you want to be when you grow up? Something in Medicine
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? A tiger, because "our school mascot's a tiger. A tiger can be sneaky and powerful. It symbolizes strength. It's always on alert."

Browne's platform is about discipline - a hot-button issue for many senate candidates this year. He's especially concerned with the disciplinary process for students who plagiarize. "There are still many innocent students, especially first years, going through that when they really don't need to. ... There should be some sort of process that differentiates between what was actually plagiarism and what was an innocent mistake."

Browne says he'll "advocate for students."
 "That's what an Undergraduate Senate rep does."
 Browne would also like to work on campus infrastructure, specifically Dal's internet systems.

Browne hopes to sit on the IT and facilities committee if elected. He'd like to see Dal catch-up to SMU in terms of campus buildings. Browne would like to see one of his own haunts, the Killam Library, get a "revamp."
 "It's an amazing campus, amazing students," Browne says. "I want to make incoming students' experiences even better than mine."
 -- Dylan Matthias

Name: Maggie Lovett
Age: 21
Year: Third
Study: Biology
Hometown: Halifax, Nova Scotia
Past experience: Worked at the DSU info desk 2008 to 2010, SustainDal member 2007 to 2010, volunteers at an animal shelter 2009 to 2010, volunteers at the Halifax Sex Health Clinic 2009 to 2010, volunteers at the Saturday Free Clinic 2009 to 2010, DSUSO board member 2009 to 2010
What do you want to be when you grow up? Doctor
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? "Bear, because they are the greatest creature."

Those plagiarism blurbs in every class syllabus aren't enough, says Lovett. She says the DSU senate representatives need to do more to teach first-year students about the academic sin. That means increasing awareness around campus and tapping into Student Services to help make that happen.

Now that academic evaluations might be posted online, Lovett says she wants to make sure students know about them. She says she wants to educate students about the importance of using the system. The forms will help students make decisions about their classes and keep professors accountable, she adds.

Lovett also wants to see students equally represented on both the senate and the DSU council.
 She says she will keep a blog of senate issues and make herself available to students.

"I've been involved with the DSU for the past two years," she says. "I want to be a voting member."
 --Lucy Scholey

Name: Carly Nicholson
Age: 21
Year: Third
Study: International development studies and political science
Hometown: Winnipeg, Manitoba
Past experience: Residence assistant in Howe Hall 2007/2008, DSU residence representative 2008/2009, commissioner to Rob LeForte on the external education committee 2009/2010
What do you want to be when you grow up? Working in international law. "I'd like to work in Africa with the UN at some point."
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? Fox, because "they're cute and foxes mate for life."

Nicholson has an infrastructure-heavy platform, ranging her goals from library contents to the campus master plan.

"A lot of people tell me they'd like to see more use of online journals," says Nicholson of the Dal library's contents. She says the convenience and immediacy of online journals beats having to wait for a delivery from another university.

She praises the Killam for staying open until 3 a.m. now as a study space, but wants more.

"It's something the students want, despite the fact that the administration may think we're bad," she says, referring to the late-night closure of the computer science building due to vandalism and theft.

Like many other Senate candidates, Nicholson wants to address plagiarism, but she'd use more preventative methods.

The plagiarism policy is put in every syllabus, she says, "but people just flip over that page."

Instead, Nicholson would make the issue known during Orientation Week to make sure incoming students know the dangers.
 --Dylan Matthias

Name: Ben Wedge
Age: 20
Hometown: Summerside, Prince Edward Island
Year: Second
Study: Engineering
Past Experience: Studley engineering rep 2009/2010, grants committee 2009/2010, website committee 2009/2010, nominations committee 2009/2010, DSU rep for the Dalhousie Undergraduate Engineering Society 2009/2010, member of the Dal-Kings Conservatives 2008 to 2009, member of the German society 2008 to 2009, editor of The Sextant 2010
What do you want to be when you grow up? An industrial engineer in healthcare.
If you could be an animal, what animal would you be and why? A liger because it has "the strength and leadership of a lion and the finesse of a tiger."

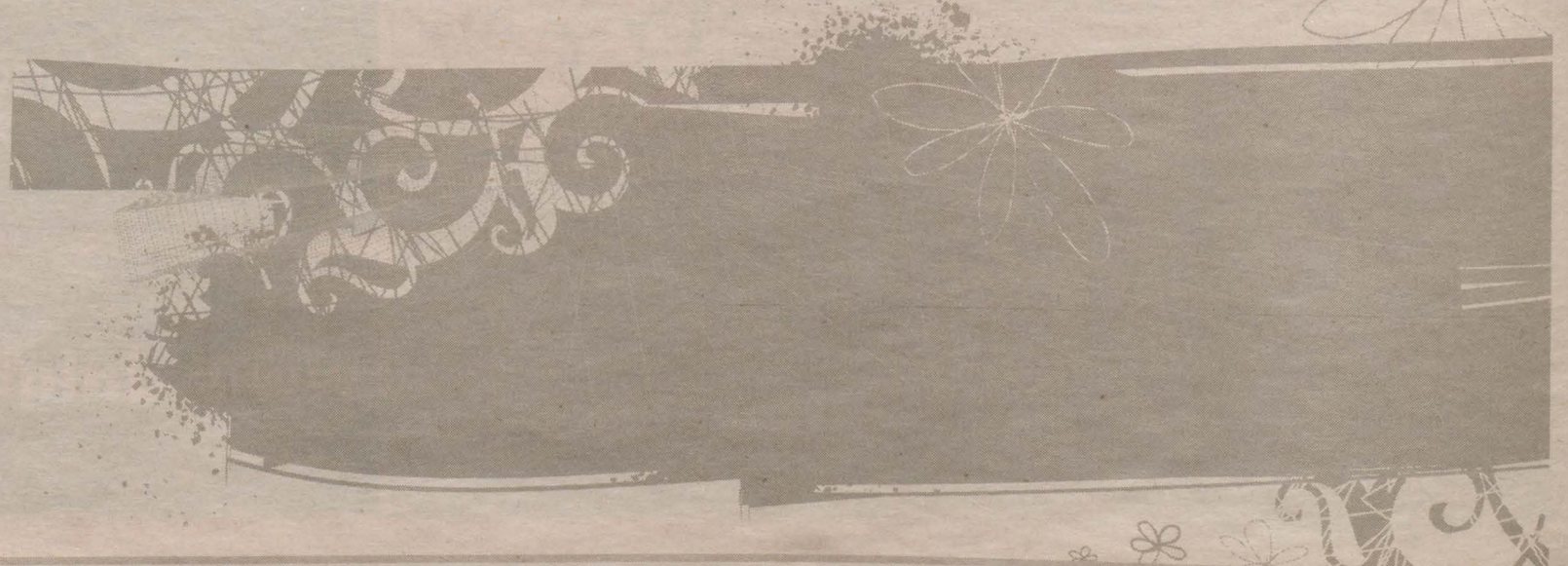
The theme for Wedge's platform is diversity and thoughtfulness. As the only engineering student running for Senate, Wedge says he brings a different perspective.

Wedge says IT infrastructure is something he'd like to improve, and he would sit on the Senate computing committee.

Wedge wants to work toward a fair disciplinary process for plagiarism and a standardized system of grade appeals to give students an idea what to expect. "Appeals are a gong show," says Wedge. "Every faculty has a different process, different timelines."

He'd like to see a difference in the disciplinary process between minor plagiarism offences and willful copying. He also supports initiatives such as the Navitas program for international students and co-curricular grading.

Wedge writes opinionated articles on contemporary politics for the Gazette. "If everyone voted for me, I'd be happier. If everyone voted I'd be happier."
 --Dylan Matthias



News Briefs

Laura Parlee | Assistant News Editor

Dal takes lead on Child Soldier Initiative

Dalhousie University is now the primary researcher in the Child Soldiers Initiative. The organization, headed by Romeo Dallaire, aims to eliminate the use of child soldiers worldwide. It's a joint organization between universities and research institutions such as McGill University, the University of Victoria and the Humanity United Fund. Last fall, Dal received word from the steering committee that it would head the project. According to Shelly Whitman, deputy director for the Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, this will allow Dal to become better connected to the international community and take the lead in ensuring research is carried out.

Sick days need documentation

The Dalhousie University Senate has reinstated their policy on doctor's notes. According to academic regulation 16.8, professors can reschedule exams or tests and give extensions on assignments on account of illness at their own discretion, but a doctor's note will be mandatory. The note can be obtained from University Health Services or their personal physician and must state the dates and duration of the illness and why it is disabling the student from getting their work done. The regulation was approved on March 8.

Hybrid buses hit Halifax

Two hybrid buses are driving the streets of downtown Halifax. Along with support from Conserve Nova Scotia, the city has paid \$2.4 million for the two buses. They will run on the number one bus (Spring Garden Road) and the number 10 bus (Dalhousie). The buses have low emission diesel engines, and will use 25 to 30 per cent less fuel. Mayor Peter Kelly says they city has been looking into more sustainable transit for years, and that they will be testing the fuel usage and operating costs of the new buses over the next 18 months.

First Nations University still struggling

The First Nations University of Canada, located in Saskatchewan, is still struggling to fight against funding cuts. Both the federal and provincial governments have withdrawn funding from the university. They say the cutbacks are due to governance problems and financial mismanagement. Delegates from the university have been meeting with federal education minister Chuck Strahl and provincial minister Rob Norris to propose solutions to their mismanagement. As of now, federal funding will cease on March 31 and provincial funding will stop in April.



Blackout poetry lines the walls of the Candahar in Granville Island on the last day of the Olympics. | Photo by Andrew Bates

Expression by erasure

Contributors spoke on the Olympics by redacting media reports

Andrew Bates
CUP Western Bureau Chief

VANCOUVER (CUP) — From artists to events staff, a whole raft of people weren't allowed to speak critically about the Olympics last month. Sometimes, though, you can say more by saying nothing at all.

Blackout was a project by Vancouver artists Alex Leslie and Elizabeth Bachinsky that put Vancouverites and visitors in Candahar — a performance installation that emulated an Irish pub — and let them use a black pen to create their own messages from photocopies of Olympics coverage.

"Our project is a response to all of the censorship around the Olympics," Leslie told the Canadian University Press.

Controversy had started when Vancouver poet laureate Brad Cran declined to participate in the Cultural Olympiad, according to the CBC, due to a clause that would block participating artists from making negative comments about the Olympics or sponsors.

"We've had a number of aboriginal art-

ists who've participated in the project," Bachinsky said, "and many of them have participated in the Cultural Olympiad." She estimated that about 80 per cent of submissions were completely anonymous.

According to Leslie, they have received all kinds of blacked-out submissions. "Some are funny, some are playful, some are really confrontational, some are gibberish," she said. "Our idea ... was that we wanted to do something that wasn't really didactic."

"We wanted to do something that took all the materials that represent the Olympics in the media and say, 'Look at this, what happens when we take this apart.'"

Some submissions include references to housing and other protest movements.

"Quatchi kid don't like war at all, but he do love the miles he get when he protest war," read a piece originally about a small child watching a celebration involving the Olympic mascot. A quote about what volunteers should do if approached to speak by the media now reads "You are a roach in our home," another reads. "Go roach off."

A quote about a bylaw that would allow police to enter houses to remove ambush marketing signage was blacked out to say "This bylaw is to protect the billions of public coffers to the hands right of mega products."

Some were less politically active, including one that read, "If you have sound, cover the brand" and one that changed a roster announcement for the men's hockey team to look like a lottery card.

Despite the artists' desire to be neither pro- nor anti-Games, a lot of the material ended up confrontational — but that was up to the individual participants. "I think the people who really jumped on the project ... were people who really wanted to respond critically to the Olympics," Leslie said.

She noted, however, that contributors have come from a wide range of backgrounds. "We also have contributors who were children, contributors from all over the world who came to see the Olympics," she said.

Bachinsky agreed. "Every night ... has been a really different space," she said. "From night to night, the audiences have been really varied."

CASA national director resigns

Sharma to step down from national student organization's top position April 1

Emma Godmere
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP) — Arati Sharma has resigned from her position of national director for the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, the Canadian University Press has learned.

An email from CASA chair Tina Robichaud was sent to several CASA member associations on the afternoon of March 15, explaining that Sharma had handed in a letter of resignation.

"Her last day in the office will be March 31, 2010. Ms. Sharma will be exploring new opportunities in the city of Toronto," the e-mail read.

CASA is Canada's second-largest student lobbying group, representing about 25 student associations throughout the country.

Few details of the resignation have been given, apart from Robichaud's mention of an upcoming conference call with members to "discuss next steps." The announcement comes only days after the organiza-

tion's annual lobby conference wrapped up in Ottawa on March 11, where CASA members from across the country met with federal politicians to discuss student issues.

The resignation was officially confirmed by Robichaud in a separate statement, which indicated that Sharma "has not chosen to seek a second term" and noted her resignation will come into effect April 1, 2010.

The position of national director is elected for no more than two years. After the first twelve months in the position, the national director is traditionally expected to enter a re-appointment process. It has been learned that Sharma chose not to apply for re-appointment.

"The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations would like to thank Ms. Sharma for her year of service and wishes her nothing but success in her future endeavours," Robichaud wrote.

Sharma, who was elected in March 2009, is currently on vacation and unavailable for comment.

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Tim Mitchell Features Editor
features@dalgazette.com

REBUILDING AFTER KATRINA

Dal students head south to help hurricane survivors

Tim van der Kooi | Staff Contributor
Dave Berg | Features Contributor

The coastal city of Biloxi, Mississippi offers a beautiful view of the Gulf of Mexico from the longest man-made beach in the United States.

A 180-degree turn reveals a different abyss.

There are no homes on the coast. Before Hurricane Katrina, oceanfront property lined the coast. Now all that's left are driveways leading to nowhere and flat slabs of concrete. Tall grass and dead trees stand in the background. If you look hard enough you can spot a few homes in the distance.

There's a mixture of new houses and old homes that survived Katrina. The homes that have survived symbolize their perseverance with a water line that indicates the height of the flood that accompanied Katrina. The flood would have filled the entire first floor of the Student Union Building.

The mainland only reveals a portion of the destruction. The Bay of Biloxi was severely damaged in Hurricane Katrina, destroying most boats that were stationed in the bay. Bridge support columns of the Biloxi Bay Bridge sit shifted sideways in the water, separating the tight-knit city of Ocean Springs to Biloxi. For two years, there was no connection between the two cities, forcing residents of Ocean Springs to drive an hour-long alternate route to reach Biloxi.

Restoration has been time-consuming and expensive. Biloxi constructed a \$336 million bridge to reconnect Ocean Springs in 2007. Biloxi spent close to half a billion dollars reconstructing the infrastructure of the city last year. Most importantly, home-building has been a major investment since Katrina and continues to be a leading task in restoration.

New homes are built on raised concrete and wooden foundations that stand over 10 feet above the ground. This is to avoid the risks of future floods, and to qualify for flood insurance if the home is in a flood zone. In these areas, flood insurance can be over U.S. \$3,000 a year, compared to less than U.S. \$1,000 before Katrina. Compound this expense with hail and wind insurance and it becomes apparent that homeowners find it difficult to pay up for protection.

I only realized a portion of the underlying implications of Hurricane Katrina on a small town like Biloxi. Nearly 150 Dalhousie students representing Habitat for Humanity crammed onto three coach buses to build homes in Biloxi for Reading Week. Fourth-year history student David Berg and I decided to help out this year after hearing plenty of positive feedback from our friends who experienced the trip before us.

Here is David's first-hand account of his experiences in Biloxi representing Dalhousie and Habitat for Humanity:

My starkest memory of the trip was holding a ladder, shivering and wondering where's this warm southern climate? For most of the trip, the temperature varied from zero to 20 degrees Celsius. While



Tim van der Kooi and Dave Berg volunteered for Habitat for Humanity over Spring Break. | Photo supplied

travelling during the 48-hour bus drive, I would anxiously watch the digital thermometer at the front of the bus hoping

something quite unlike your typical spring break. Not to devalue the experience at all, you might wonder how working con-

struction for a week on a house with little prior experience might be a big help. A quick conversation with any of the locals or other volunteers makes it apparent

“When the group became cold and tired, but still pressed on with our work, we realized we were doing something quite unlike your typical spring break.”

to see a continual rise in the temperature.

However, when the group became cold and tired, but still pressed on with our work, we realized we were doing

struction for a week on a house with little prior experience might be a big help. A quick conversation with any of the locals or other volunteers makes it apparent

that there's still a deep gratitude for our work. By rebuilding homes, we're helping to restore a community that's still suf-

fering five years after Hurricane Katrina. Waking up at six in the morning to eat breakfast, then making a brown bag lunch before diving into eight

hours of construction work is a slight change from the normal student routine. However, change may be needed as school usually seems more daunting with the short days and chilling wind.

Habitat for Humanity offers a chance to get away and meet many great people and do something rewarding. If you ask someone who has gone on the trip about the experience they'll gladly talk of the work they did and the locals they met in their interaction with the community. The positive feelings evoked from the trip are the perfect way to re-energize for the rest of the semester.

One of the great benefits of the trip is the wide variance of experiences on the build site. The students from Dalhousie (with a couple representatives of the other universities in the areas) were split up into groups of about 30 to work on different houses. Each house was in a different stage of construction.

Some people worked on building the floor of a house where another group started to paint the side of a house. By the end of the week, each group at the different build sites felt they had had the most fun, which is the key point of the trip. I know my group working with our supervisors – Denise (from Ohio) and Joe (from Maryland) – had a ton of fun on the build site. The sense of camaraderie from working with people is one of the lasting impressions of the trip.

While the working on the build site is the main activity of the trip, the time off at night allows for some exploration of the community of Ocean Springs (30 minutes outside of Biloxi). Dotted with numerous churches and restaurants, Ocean Springs is a welcoming place. Regardless of the fact that week after week new groups of volunteers will come down and invade their community, the people there never stop thanking everyone.

One particular bar, Shady's, was even gracious enough to make a sign saying “Welcome Canadians.” This was even after we packed the little restaurant for the first Canada/U.S. hockey game and forced some regulars to experience our love of the game. We stayed at a Christian camp that is a converted sewing factory, which offers a place to sleep, unwind and eat after the work site. With a basketball court, park, and beach all within a 15-minute walk, we could easily get outside and see the sights.

In trying to explain all the various experiences that make up a habitat trip, I almost left out the most important aspect: the bus rides. The number three bus was definitely proud of our drivers Terry and Kenny. I personally am thankful for their pivotal role in a speedy trip back to Canada so we could watch the gold medal game on Canadian soil. Their knowledge of the various truck stops and places to eat on route always provided a nice respite from the confines on the ride down. It is one of those luxuries that you can't truly appreciate, until you experience it.

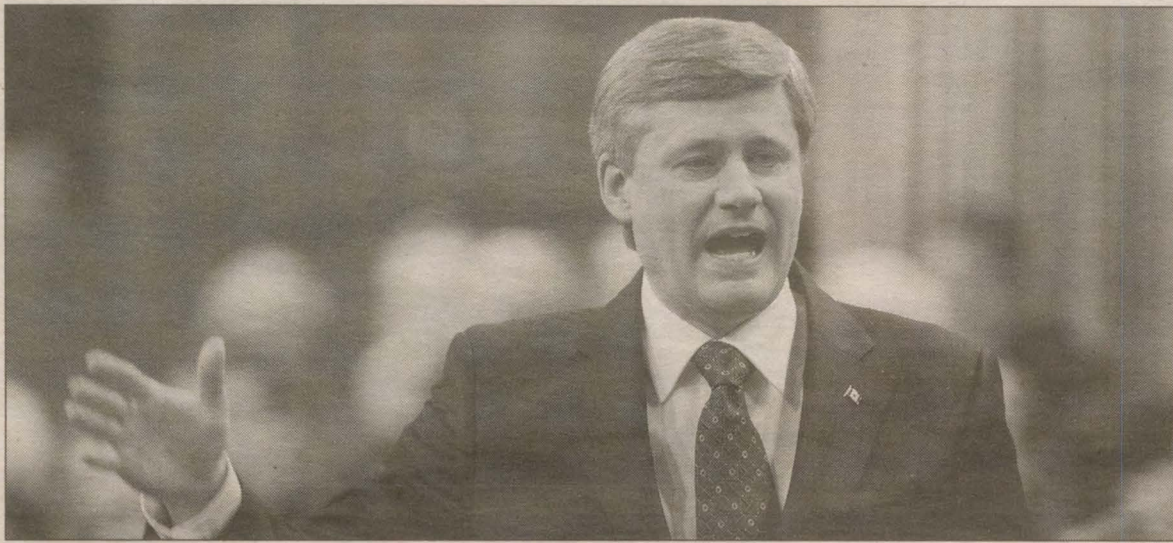
Opinions

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Stephen Harper's most recent budget offers nothing new, according to Staff Contributor Justin Ling. | Stock Photo

Harper's budget A recipe for more of the same

Justin Ling
Staff Contributor

Jim Flaherty had his new shoes on. Stephen Harper and his tightly muzzled cabinet came out with a silver platter of tax cuts for middle-class families and huge meaty bonuses for big businesses. The dish came nicely coated with promises of jobs, jobs and more jobs, though deep down inside the budget cordon-bleu, there were hasty cuts to social programs of all types. Completely missing from the dish was any action on climate change or health care.

That was 2006.

Now we're picking up the broken branches after the worst recession Canada has seen in 80 years, and where are we? Behind where we were four years ago.

Perhaps the most integral part of Harper's campaign in 2006 was demanding tax relief for middle-class families. Ironic, because this year's numbers show Canadian families have increasingly become the main source of revenue for Ottawa. Canadians may be paying for Harper's agenda, but it sure isn't working for them.

In the 2006-2007 fiscal year, income tax made up 47 per cent of government revenue.

In 2010-2011, taxpayers will be responsible for 51 per cent of that revenue, and businesses will be paying 11 per cent.

That means that those of us paying

clearly as in Harper's commitment, or lack thereof, to the environment. Four years ago, the government had just given up on Kyoto and made no effort to even attempt a serious emissions reduction. The same can be said for this government's actions in Copenhagen and the subsequent obstruction this government has shown towards any environmental action.

In regards to green technology, the United States previously spent 14 times per capita what Canada has spent. Harper's most recent budget has exacerbated the problem, meaning that the U.S. is now spending almost 18 times more than Canada per capita on green technology. That doesn't even constitute lip service.

In 2006, Canada was rated eighth on Yale's Environmental Performance Index. It is now 46th.

So while Harper tells the country he's interested in creating the jobs of the future, he seems pretty intent on chaining those jobs in Alberta's Tar Sands. Rather than investing more in proven renewable energy, he has diverted the funds to researching carbon capture schemes, which only aim to mitigate the problems of fossil fuels.

And why is the government reigning in spending? It seems like the only reckless deficits he is fighting are his own. This budget concludes Harper's hasty Economic Action Plan, which turned

liamentary budget watchdog Kevin Page has released a thorough rebuttal of Mr. Flaherty's optimism. According to Page, the budget should include another \$10 billion in debt over the course of the next few years.

It's a nice idea to wrestle the national debt, but it can't be a short-term political strategy. There will be consequences to Harper's cuts.

The invisible sledgehammer that the Tory caucus has swung will affect public servants directly. While Harper's 'spending freeze' may not sound harsh, it will lead to \$6.8 billion in cuts in the public sector, says the Canadian Union of Public Employees. That's unappetizing for public employees who want to keep their jobs.

Foreign aid will get hit, too. After this year, the government will not make any more commitments to a world increasingly having to cope with the natural disasters and war. National defence, on the other hand, has had its budget boosted by \$5 billion over the past four years – an increase in spending bigger than the entire foreign aid program. Rather than having to endure the same spending freeze that most programs must, the military's budget is projected to increase until at least 2021.

That being said, this budget could be worse. Harper could have pushed the boundaries of his small-government, deficit-battling agenda to a much further extreme. However, it poses a more serious issue: it delays an election.

With the Tories barely a nose in front of Ignatieff's teetering Liberal ship in the polls, it would have been prime time to defeat Harper once and for all. Delaying a vote until the fall could enshrine Harper's place even more and allow him to set a precedent of social spending freezes that allow every progressive aspect of Canadian society to lag behind rising costs and inflation.

This budget is just another demonstration of Harper's belief that buzzwords such as 'deficit-fighting' and 'fiscal responsibility' will divert the Canadian public away from the real costs of his government.

Being yellow in a white, white world

Misunderstanding the rates and causes of crime leads to wrong solutions

Rachel Phan
The Sputnik

BRANTFORD, Ont. (CUP) – The other day, a man in an oversized camouflage jacket walked past me. He was pushing a baby in a stroller and puffing on a cigarette before he looked me square in the eyes and said, "fucking Chinese."

Any other day, I probably would have cried, or at the very least shot him the finger, but that day I had no energy. So, I just kept walking.

When I was a little kid, I never noticed that I was different. I had gone to the same public school since I was four years old and all my friends and classmates were white. Since they had grown up with me, they were used to my different eyes, my coarse hair and the fact that I ate canton chow mein for lunch while they ate their Lunchables.

For the most part, I was just like them.

It wasn't until high school that I fully realized how much of a minority I was. My high school was tiny with only about 500 students, and for the better half of my high school years, I was the only Asian student. I started going to parties and meeting people from other schools, but these people hadn't grown up with me – to them, I wasn't just Rachel, but I became Asian Rachel.

Luckily, it didn't bother me too much. I've always been a proud person and my race is just another thing I can embrace about myself. I love being Chinese. I love my culture, my quirky family, our food. I love that I can get drunk after one shot, and that I've never had to shave in my life. There's nothing about my ethnicity that I would change, and if in another life I got the opportunity to pick my race, I would always choose to be Chinese.

Unfortunately, this overpowering sense of pride also leads to a fierce sensitivity regarding my race. You can tease me about anything: my slightly large feet, my love affair

with writing essays, my little Buddha belly, but you cannot say anything about my ethnicity. I just can't take these jokes. And what surprised me most about coming to Laurier Brantford is that people love telling them.

There was a guy on my floor who used to joke that, unless you were white, you weren't a "real person." There's another who loves saying my name in a "Chinese" accent. I pretend to laugh, but I'm holding back tears and the urge to punch them all in the throats.

This conflict of emotions – being both proud and sensitive – has caused me to be hypervigilant. I'm always cautious when people are around me, and I am almost always aware that they could say something racist. For instance, if a stranger is walking by, I'll typically put my head down so they won't see me. Or, if I have sunglasses in my purse, I'll put them on so I won't get heckled for my "slanty eyes."

It's not an ideal way to live, but I deal with it because I am too in love with being Chinese to hear someone make a mockery of it.

Now, I'll admit that I've gotten way more love in my lifetime than I've gotten hateful remarks, but even that can be a little odd. Some people – mostly men – love Asians way too much ("Hey Rachel! I have yellow fever. Wanna give me my yellow belt?").

No, I don't.

I am both Rachel Phan and Poon May May. I am the product of two proud Chinese people who accept the fact that my mangled Chinese has turned into a hybrid of Chinese and English ("Chinglish"). I may not be good at math, but I'm still a damn good student. I eat tongue and duck hearts, but not cats and dogs. I was born in Canada in a predominantly white town and I feel just as Canadian as I do Chinese.

And yes, I get giddy whenever I see another Asian on campus.

I'm different and I know that, but it's part of who I am. And I like me.

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RATTLE RATTLE

taxes have contributed \$7 billion more over the last four years, whereas corporate taxes have declined by \$12 billion.

Why, then, is the government catering to big business?

Nowhere can this divide been seen so

into more of a PR campaign than a real stimulus package. The action plan has barely created half of the jobs it aimed to.

Flaherty's budget would certainly seek to assuage the fears his economic mismanagement, regardless of the fact that Par-

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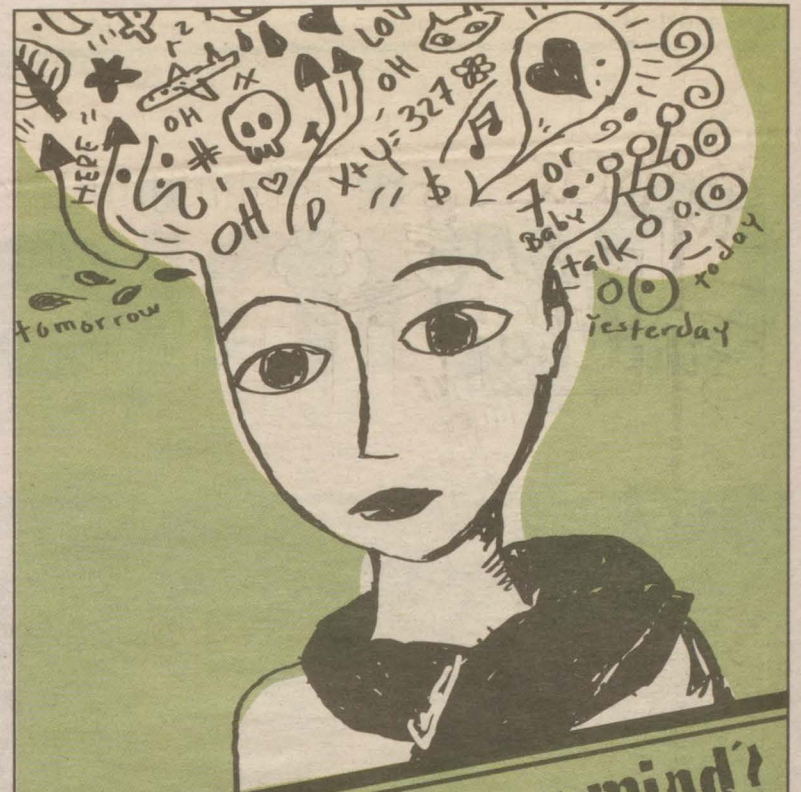
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A Message from Megan Leslie MP for Halifax



Community Office: 1-2207 Gottingen Street, Halifax, NS B3K 3B5 - Phone: 426-8691

photo: Robin Hart Hiltz



Our economy is facing one of its greatest challenges in generations, but the federal government has failed on many accounts in its 2010 budget. The budget did little to help Canadians and instead gave big tax-cuts to oil companies and banks.

I want your input on how best we should improve post-secondary education, stimulate the economy, protect jobs and bolster our social safety net and I will take your ideas to Ottawa on behalf of the community. Please take a moment to write, cut out and mail your views and ideas to me, so that I may best represent your interests. I am here to work for you! - Megan Leslie

Have Your Say:

Mail postage-free to: Megan Leslie, MP, House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 or Leslie.M@parl.gc.ca

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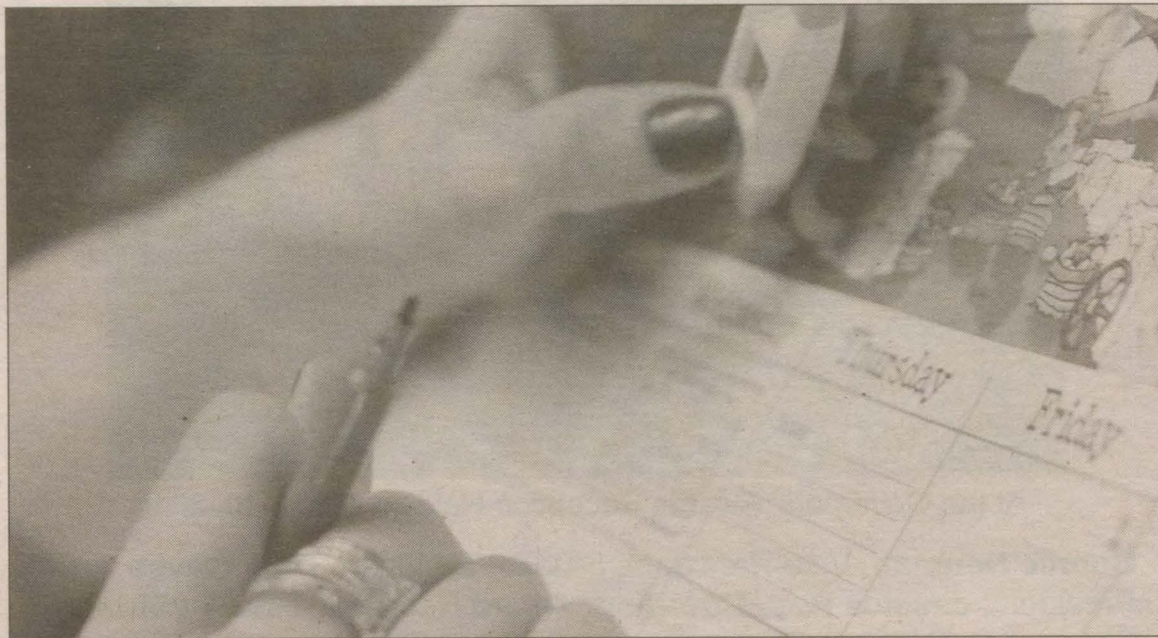
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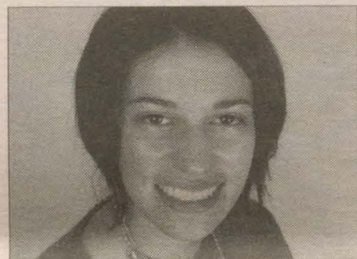
Opinions

SEX ED



Charting your cycle can have benefits, even if you're not planning on using fertility awareness as birth control. | Photo by Miguel Cortel

Fertility awareness: the art of the chart



Katie Toth
Sex Columnist

Once roughly every 27 days for about one and a half days, I go hysterical. So I've started charting my cycle. With a Vinnie's Roller Coaster Period Chart calendar, a keen eye for what fluids come out of my lady-bits when, and a diligent effort to record the connections between my body and my state of mind, I've taken to analyzing my body like an exciting, long-term science experiment.

"The fertility awareness method is not incomprehensibly complex or physically strenuous, but it does require routine."

Charting my cycle has helped me learn the bad times within the month for me to make crucial life decisions or take myself too seriously. It's also helped me figure out when I'm going to get pimply, when I'm going to be dancing dirty on everyone at Reflections, and when to tell my roommates to go buy me food and presents.

Awareness of your fertility cycle can be a fantastic tool for your physical and mental health.

Savayda Jarone is a fertility awareness educator and medical herbalist who runs workshops at the Halifax Sexual Health Clinic and the Dalhousie Women's Centre.

She emphasizes the important health benefits and empowerment that can spring from better awareness of our bodies.

Most women, she says, have "a general disconnect" between themselves and the cyclical changes they experience. "If we know what's normal and what we should expect," she says, add-

ing that we can then act more quickly on deviations and present our gynecologists with more useful information about what's been up down there.

If you're aware that you're experiencing strange PMS or irregular periods, you can troubleshoot to analyze what the cause of these symptoms might be.

In short, fertility awareness offers basic information that can add to body awareness.

But have you heard that, when done properly and rigorously – dare I say religiously – the fertility awareness method can potentially work well with condoms as a secondary method of birth control?

Learning this leaves me wary. As someone who went to Catholic church regularly as a teen, I've seen the products of women who use what they describe as the rhythm method. Those products are called babies.

Jerome assures me that the difference between the rhythm meth-

od and Fertility awareness is vast. tinctly near ovulation, you always need to avoid sperm turning into your spawn.

However, condoms fail. Sometimes they fall off, or slip, or snap in two. Some think it's a good idea to fill it with water first to make sure that it's not going to break before they put it on (it's not).

An awareness of your body can leave you better equipped to act accordingly. For example, if you know that you're near ovulation, you'll know that you need the morning-after pill. However, if you know that you're post-ovulation and not fertile, you might feel comfortable skipping it.

The fertility awareness method is not incomprehensibly complex or physically strenuous, but it does require routine. It demands a decent amount of reading, practice and persistent self-awareness.

According to Planned Parenthood "between 12 and 25 out of every 100 couples who use FAMs each year will have a pregnancy if they don't always use the method correctly or consistently."

Of course, always practicing these methods correctly will make them more effective. And a certain amount of time charting and learning how to understand the signals of your body – from at least a month, if not more like three cycles – is a key requirement for using fertility awareness as any kind of birth control.

For this reason, many like to get started on their practice by meeting with a specialist for workshops and regular meetings. You can also start reading *Taking Charge of Your Fertility*, the seminal text by Toni Weschler, MPH.

If you're just interested in having a better understanding of your body, your investment in charting can take whatever dimensions you want. It doesn't have to be nearly as rigorous to be immediately valuable. I started by recording my periods, mood swings, estimated dates of ovulation, and whatever else was going on downstairs.

Then I started to see patterns. Some of those interested me. I do not use fertility awareness as a form of birth control, but appreciate the empowerment it offers in my relationship to my health.

Ultimately, what you do with your body is your choice. Might making fertility awareness a bigger part of your life be the choice for you?

Canadians 'get tough' on crime for all the wrong reasons

Misunderstanding the rates and causes of crime leads to wrong solutions

Brittany Thiessen
The Uniter

WINNIPEG (CUP) — A new poll shows that Canadians are favouring harsher punishments for criminals than previously shown. The latest Angus Reid poll found that 62 per cent of respondents in Canada favour capital punishment for murderers and 31 per cent believed rapists should be put to death.

It appears that Canadians have acquired tougher feelings toward crime, as a poll from 2004 showed only 48 per cent favouring capital punishment.

Furthermore, the latest poll shows that 65 per cent of Canadians believe mandatory minimum sentences are sending a message to criminals that Canada is getting "tough on crime." With mandatory minimum sentences, judges are not able to consider all relevant circumstances pertaining to the accused during sentencing, such as background and previous criminal record. Instead, if the accused is found guilty they are sentenced according to a "mandatory minimum" punishment for the crime they have committed.

If a person commits a relatively minor crime, they may be too severely punished because of mandatory minimum sentences. What's worse, the mandatory minimums have been found not to work. As *The Globe and Mail* recently stated: Canadians are ignoring warnings that mandatory minimums don't deter crime.

"They are not thinking the way criminals think: most criminal acts are impulsive, not well thought out," said Sanjeev Anand, a University of Alberta law professor. Craig Jones, director of the John Howard Society of Canada, said offenders pay little attention to the sentence and more about how best not to get caught, suggesting that deterrence isn't an effective strategy. Deterrence doesn't take into consideration the causes of why people commit crimes.

Sixty-two per cent of Canadians thought that long prison sentences are the most powerful way to reduce crime. Even though the majority of Canadians support harsher

sentences, statistics have shown that incarceration has no significant impact on overall crime rates and is only effective when used for violent and high-risk offenders. Forty-four per cent of Canadians also believed that crime rates have been increasing over the last five years, when crime rates have actually been decreasing for years now. Only a mere 26 per cent believed that crime rates have decreased.

The majority of Canadians are oblivious to the fact that crime is dropping, and therefore still support harsher sentences. It's clear that Canadians have a distorted perception of crime rates, but how does this happen?

The majority of Canadians get their information about crime and the criminal justice system from television and the newspaper. The problem with this is that the media tends to sensationalize and over-represent violent crimes, which in turn distorts Canadians' perception about crime, leading them to believe that violent crimes are increasing.

What they don't realize is that media reporting does not reflect the actual crime patterns. Violent crimes only account for 11 per cent of all reported crimes. Property crime, on the other hand, accounts for 45 per cent of all reported crime, yet you rarely hear about property crime in the news. Also, the media rarely explores the causes of crime pertaining to the individual, such as poverty, family life and abuse, which is a significant factor in why they commit the crime.

We need to focus our efforts on the causes of crime and judges need to start considering alternatives to prison when possible, because prison doesn't reduce crime and is grossly expensive. Canadians need to realize that harsher prison sentences will not translate into less crime. We need to understand why people commit crimes and to focus our efforts on the prevention of crime before it happens.

Brittany Thiessen is a criminal justice and sociology student at the University of Winnipeg.

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Arts

Out Like A Lion Festival roars into the city

Jazz festival marks break between summer and fall concert series

Rebecca Spence
Staff Contributor

The old weather proverb says that March comes in like a lion, and out like a lamb. But in the year 2010 circumstances might be a bit different.

"It's going out with a bang," says JazzEast Artistic Director Laura "Lulu" Healy.

That's because this is the first year ever of the Out Like A Lion Winter Jazz Festival. JazzEast Concerts calls it a "Roman-style triumph in honour of spring-time's anticipated win over cold, dark winter." And if it proves to be a success,

five nights, running from March 25 to March 29. Healy says it will encompass a wide variety of jazz, as each show will represent a different form.

Out Like A Lion should be off to a roaring start on opening night, when much of Halifax's jazz elite will team up with saxophonist and Dalhousie music professor Chris Mitchell on stage at Stayner's Wharf. Vocalist Lisa MacDougall, guitarist Geordie Haley, trombonist Danny Martin, bassist Jamie Gatt and trumpeter Rick Waychesko will join together as the all-star Jazz Journeys group. They'll take the audience through all the different

show fun Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton short films, and one nighttime show for students and adults featuring Chaplin's *The Circus* and some other surprise shorts. That event takes place at St. Paul's Anglican Church on Saturday, March 27.

One show that might be of particular interest to King's and Dalhousie students is the Torngat concert. The Montreal trio is best known for their majestic instrumental music, energetic performances, and a heavy use of organs that will make you draw comparisons to Tom Waits. They are the only out-of-town band involved in the festival, and are set to perform on Sunday, March 28 at the Paragon. Their opener will be Halifax's own Paper Beat Scissors.

Feeling open to something entirely new and different? On Saturday, March 27, experimentalists and improvisers Zokugaku will be exploring new ways of producing sound with their refurbished Casio keyboards and old synth-guitar. The group includes Tim Crofts, a music professor at Dalhousie, on piano. Also in the group is guitarist Geordie Haley and drummer Doug Cameron. Their performance will incorporate visual elements from Susanne Chui, a contemporary dancer. This event takes place at 1313 Hollis Street, an intimate venue that seats audiences up to 80 people.

And if none of this is making any sense to you at all, it might be worth dropping in at the Jazz for Dummies workshop, taught by former St. Francis Xavier music professor and renowned bassist Skip Beckwith. He runs through the evolution of jazz, touching on each point of revolution in the history of the genre.

After all, JazzEast intends that nobody should be excluded from this new event.

"I think everybody should have access to the arts," says Healy. "Then they can decide what they like."

Healy believes that this offers everybody an opportunity to take advantage of the culture that Halifax has to offer.

"It's something different," she says. "It's not your usual weekend fare. It's music that's spontaneous – and you're all a part of the creative process."

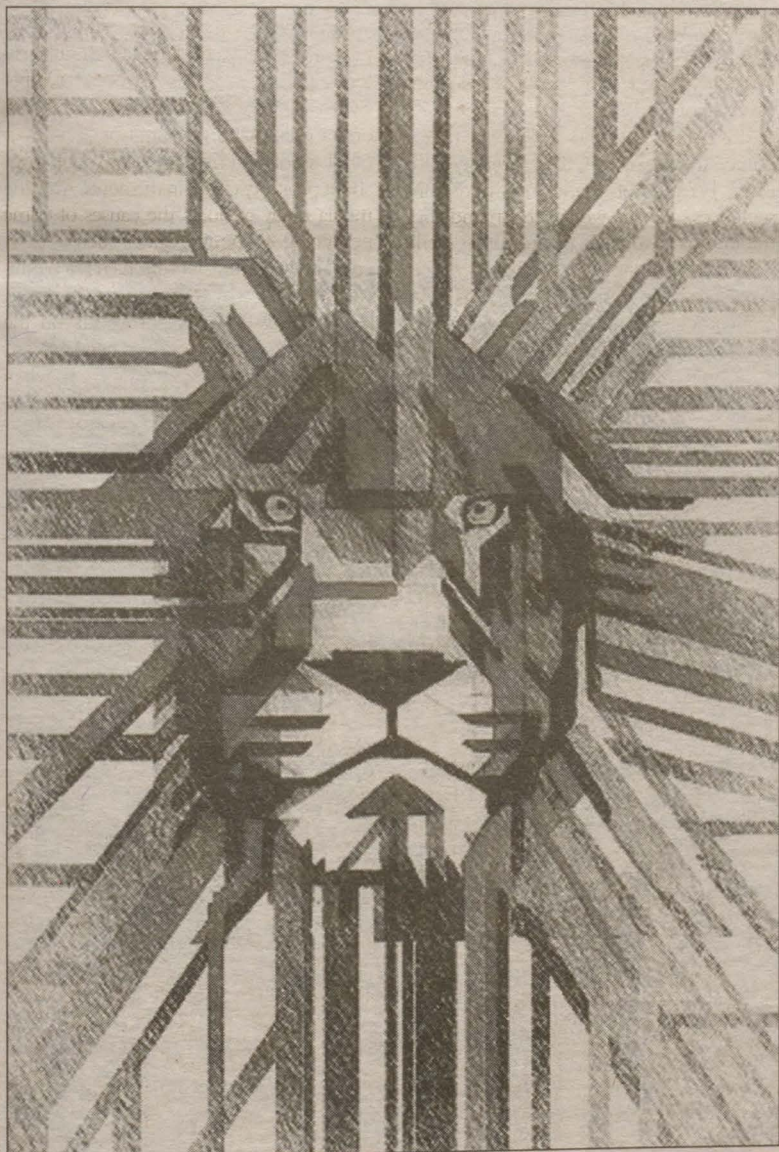
All she asks of students is to take a chance on at least one concert out of the 16. She thinks of the new festival is a "nudge" to get people to start paying attention to what's going on all around the city.

"It's good to have a festival focused on the local community and local players," she says. "This is really putting a spotlight on the talent here."

Tickets for a select number of the *Out Like a Lion* festival shows are available through Ticketpro, including a limited fan package for \$35. Prices range from \$5 to \$65. For more information, visit www.jazzeast.com or call 902.492.2225.

eras and highlights of jazz history, featuring music by greats such as Charles Mingus, Miles Davis, and Billie Holiday.

But if you're more outgoing and experimental, you might want to check out the spontaneous multi-instrumentalist and composer Sageev Oore. He plans to present two silent film and live piano concerts, which JazzEast calls "acoustically grand and visually glorious." There is one matinee geared toward families that will



This lion is almost as weird as the album cover by the Bitches Brew, but not quite. | Photo supplied

Healy hopes to make it an annual event. Halifax has no other major festivals at the end of March, and a huge gap existed between music events in the fall and summer.

"The jazz community shouldn't have to wait. It's nice to be able to break things up," says Healy, 30. "I think people need exciting, fiery events to keep them going until the spring."

The festival features 16 concerts in

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.



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Arts



I think one of the guys in this band had a song in a Zellers ad. | Photo supplied

Out from hiding

Thrush Hermit reunites, but why now?

Matthew Ritchie
Assistant Arts Editor

Who doesn't love Canadian indie rock heroes Thrush Hermit?

Obscurity for most of those belonging to Generation Y and those living west of Toronto aside, Thrush Hermit may be the most important indie rock band of the '90s in Canada.

The four-piece band formed in 1992 in Halifax. Thrush Hermit released a

few EPs and one LP under Sloan's Muddercords. Elektra signed them around '95. In an attempt to feed off of the energy of Halifax's burgeoning music scene, Thrush Hermit made a video for their single "French Inhale," which gained airplay on Much Music. The band gained even more '90s credibility by getting their song "Hated It" on the soundtrack

to Kevin Smith's *Mallrats*, a gloriously shitty movie that gained a cult following. However, a cult following doesn't necessarily equal record sales. After being bought out by their record label following the '97 classic *Sweet Home-wrecker*, the band released *Clay-ton Park* in '99. Then they bid adieu.

A decade passed. This month marks the reunion of the band since their break up in 1999. So the question remains: Why now?

To find the answer, let's look to the

critics. Both bands disbanded in '99 at the height of their careers while producing their best music to date. Both bands had enigmatic front men who left to reach even higher acclaim while overshadowing their old band mates' musical efforts.

Pavement is undoubtedly the best band of their decade next to Radiohead, but they were pretty obscure during their heyday and never reached the mainstream potential they were capable of. There was also something romantic with the way they left. They promised to never return, leaving a legacy that would be untouchable, like the Hartford Whalers.

However, Pavement returned this month with a world tour, and Thrush Hermit are touring on a small scale as well. The question of why may still remain unanswered, but that doesn't mean there is any less reason to attend one of their many shows on the East Coast this month.

Not just for Joel Plaskett fans, the Thrush Hermit reunion marks a chance for young music fans that weren't able to see them the first time they were around to see one of Canada's most important independent rock bands.

Catch the best '90s Canadian Rock Band that doesn't start with the name Sloan at the Paragon Theatre on March 19.

only group who now find themselves in a similar situation. No, not Sloan. I'm talking about American indie rock icons Pavement, who have similarly started a reunion this month (albeit, one involving four sold-out days at Central Park). Both bands emerged in '92 with beautiful, rickety indie rock that was crap to commercial radio, and gorgeous to the ears of

critics. Both bands disbanded in '99 at the height of their careers while producing their best music to date. Both bands had enigmatic front men who left to reach even higher acclaim while overshadowing their old band mates' musical efforts.

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Arts Briefs

Matthew Ritchie | Assistant Arts Editor

Rapper Speech DeBelle nabs Mercury Prize

U.K. music award the Mercury Prize has become one of the sought-after trophies in recent years next to the likes of the Brits and the Grammys. This year, the Mercury Prize judges threw a curveball by awarding little-known rapper Speech DeBelle with the famed prize by Jools Holland at the award show in London. Other nominees included Friendly Fires, Florence and the Machine, as well as newcomers Glasvegas.

Mad Men gets Barbie treatment

If you're a fan of watching AMC drama sensation *Mad Men* in the comfort of your own home, you soon will be able to act out your scenes as well. Mattel, the makers of Barbie, have announced the sale of four dolls inspired by the characters of the hit show. The dolls include fashionable accessories including floral dresses, matching pumps and pearls, and some rather dapper suits. The price of the collectibles will be \$74.95. If only Mattel would make Transformers-inspired *Mad Men* action figures.

Shortlist for Atlantic Book Awards packs a bang

The shortlist for the Atlantic Book Awards was announced this week, shocking readers with some good and bad surprises. Shandi Mitchell and Anna Quon impressed the judges, even though they are relative newcomers to the world of fiction. The Coast's and Kings College's own Stephen Kimber also made the list for his non-fiction work *IWK: A Century of Caring for Families*.

'Tis Pity She's A Whore

Tonight, March 19, is the last night you can catch Vile Passeist Theatre's first Halifax production of "Tis Pity She's A Whore, a play the organizers call: "A dynamic tale of love, lust and revenge." To reserve tickets (\$10 for students), call 802-5223 or e-mail tickets@vilepasseisttheatre.com. The production, which is the theatre company's first Halifax show, starts at 8 p.m. at the University Club.

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CDs will be worth something someday Either \$0.50 or \$50 a piece

Matthew Ritchie
Assistant Arts Editor

Almost anyone who is a fanatical collector of anything is generally a little weird. Whether it's model trains, Nike shoes or late 80's skateboard decks – fanatical collectors are known to be the most awkward human beings on the planet. But what if the thing you collect has little monetary re-sale value, is a dying art form and is the sign of an industry in collapse? Then you just might be dumb.

Imagine the collector of numerous pairs of Nikes over the past 30 years. It's easy to see that having an original Michael Jordan signature pair of shoes in the original box will net hundreds of dollars one day. What about the guy who owns a rare Jason Lee Blind Skateboard deck, the one with David Bowie painted on the bottom? Not only would saving this item seem stupid in 1991 when the board came out, but watching it sell 19 years later on Ebay for more than \$500 to a My Name is Earl fan is even crazier. What about the guy who religiously collects pop records no one cares about like the Tony Rich Project, R Kelly's R and every Top 40 Mariah Carey record (which is all of them, by the way). It would probably seem kind of dumb to be collecting these CDs from a record store going bankrupt. But in reality, it may be one of the brighter ideas to come out of this editor's head.

Every kind of audio recording goes through a period in which the medium seems obsolete. However, that usually changes, because nostalgia is a funny thing. CDs may seem redundant now, but what about vinyl? When vinyl was transferred over to portable mediums such as cassettes and compact disks in the late '80s, music fans dropped the old medium and began purchasing all their records in new and better formats. Flash forward to today when wealthy 40-somethings who miss their original Knack records from their youth are sick of the shitty quality of mp3s. There people are willing to spend \$20 to \$40 per record for original pressings from someone who went to a record store in the early '90s and probably got it for a buck. Maybe even found it in a box on the street outside of an apartment.

Then you get even more rare and popular records such as Led Zeppelin III, Black Flag's *My War*, or a single of The Boomtown Rats' "I Hate Mondays." Not only will someone who has experienced these tracks from their youth pay good money to reclaim part of that, but you also have people who are experiencing a false sense of nostalgia trying to obtain similar feelings for things they didn't even experience from their youth. The kid who just got into early 80s hardcore and British punk who has a disposable income and time to kill; chances are he's going to be trying to get those Crass records you want with more youthful fury than you could ever imagine.

Now our culture is in a similar turning point with CDs. With the impending closure of Halifax's lone CD Plus on Barrington Street, home of some of the most random and obscure recordings in the city (I bought all four of Japanese composer Cornelius' records for \$20), collectors are coming out of the woodwork to stock up for the possibility of an increase in worth in the next 10 or 20 years.



These items cost under \$100 total. | Photo by Erica Eades



Barrington gets even bleaker. | Photo by Aleasha Carr

That, and to get some jammin' tunes. Although it may be hard to see how this rapidly failing medium of music would be an otherwise ridiculous investment, I argue you that it's possible to see that one day, years from now when you and your

peers are in their 40s, you will long for the days of double disc Red Hot Chili Peppers and Smashing Pumpkins CDs. You will also be willing to pay top dollar for it. Until then I will sit on my mountain of New Radicals and Chemical Brother's EPs.

You can thank me for selling you a rare single of "The Setting Sun" that I purchased for \$0.50 20 years earlier. I had the good mind to pick it up then and you should have to. But whatever, the past is the past. I can sell it to you for \$50, probably.

Sheepdogs Learn and Burn

Michaël Côté
Staff Contributor

These boys from Saskatoon are infiltrating Canada one city at a time while promoting their new album *Learn And Burn*. The album, released on Feb. 23, offers something common yet great. The sound is soulful and complex, and hints at influences such as the Rolling Stones and The Kinks.

With a more refined sound than on their last album, *Trying to Grow*, and with an aim to bring soul to southern rock, Sheepdogs have accomplished something. It certainly isn't something you've never heard but they stick to a recipe that works.

From the first track, "The One You Belong To," all the way to the last, "I Should Know," the foursome never lets go of their essence. The melodies easily melt within one another, creating a somewhat seamless album.

The complex guitar play offers a perfect accommodation to Ewan Currie's voice and the back up vocals hit the right notes and heartstrings. Any more and you'd think you were in a saloon with Beach Boys impersonators.

Sure, the songs may lack a little differentiation and the back vocals may be enough for you to start hearing voices, but The Sheepdogs are bringing something that no one in Canada has dared to touch. Their sound is a bright reminder of "super group" The Raconteurs. They're lacking Jack White's smart vocals and the overall band's heavier sound, but hey, we're Canadians – we're a little shy at first.

Learn And Burn is a brilliant album. It remains a little bit on the safe side of the track, never venturing too far into the unknown tangles of southern rock, but one thing's for sure: these guys know how to play with familiarity, and they do it damn well.

They may not be leading the pack, but they're not sheep either.

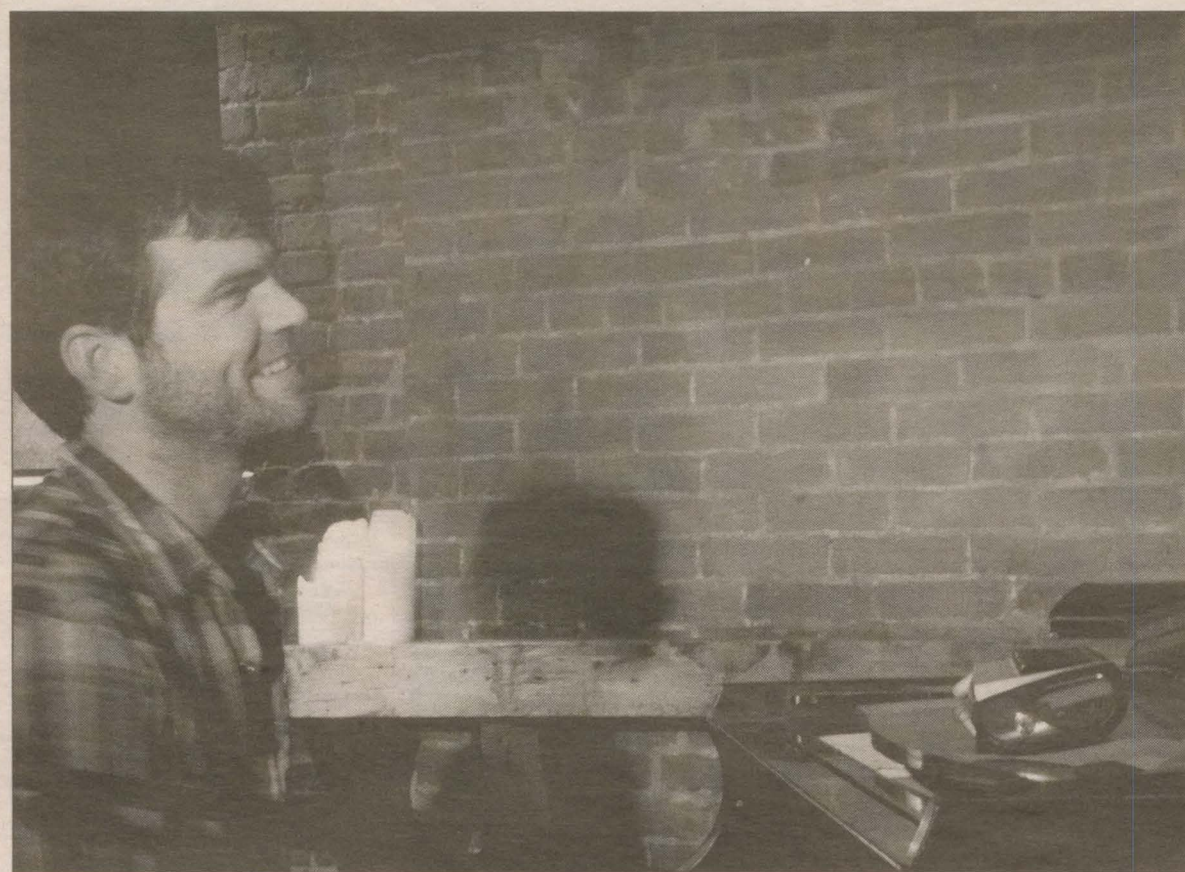
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Arts



Post Data bring the noise to the brick-walled Sonic Temple. | Photo by Rebekah Higgs

Post Post Data

Wintersleep's charm follows the band's front man into his new project

Laura Dawe
Arts Editor

It was a breath-holding experience. The performers seemed nervous, forgetting lyrics and making awkward stage banter between beautifully crafted songs. You would think that after playing to crowds of thousands, Brian Borchardt (of Holy Fuck) and Paul Murphy (of Wintersleep) would be pretty relaxed about a 100-person audience in a wooden pyramid of a room at the top of a seemingly endless flight of stairs. Maybe it was the religious aura of Sonic Temple, with its open ceiling and candelabras that brought on a little stage fright. Or maybe, in Murphy's case, it was the newness of the songs and the pressure of performing them live. Most likely it was the video cameras. The stationary one trained on them from the back was unobtrusive enough, but the other camera was on a jib, a massive arm above the crowd, and was swooping in and out while its operator grinned from ear to ear at the magic he saw on his monitor.

Toronto singer-songwriter Julie Fader

opened the show. Her controlled voice and heart-aching lyrics filled the room right up to the wooden rafters. Graham Walsh of Holy Fuck joined her on pedals and electric guitar. Walsh created tones, notes and hums that filled the absolute and almost terrifying silence of the room. It was so quiet that I was afraid to take a photograph and deafen the audience with the noise of my camera. Locals Rebekah Higgs and Nathan Doucet backed up Fader with vocal harmonies and spare drum beats. Fader in turn backed up Brian Borchardt and Post Data.

Borchardt started a charming and confident cover of Kim Mitchell's "Easy to Tame" but was obviously really embarrassed when he forgot lines to a heartfelt ballad from one of his older albums, which had to be yelled out by an audience member. He fidgeted and apologized, blaming the cameras for robbing him of the words he knew at the show last night.

And then Post Data played. Paul Murphy was humble and friendly. He loosened the crowd up a little by addressing them, and the awkwardness. He got some laughs. He introduced his brother, Michael, who

played a wide variety of little instruments, and Tim Deon, his Wintersleep bandmate, who played keys, pedals and the always-charming melodica. They played pretty much every Post Data song there is.

The project started as an album recorded by the Murphy brothers as a Christmas gift for their mother. Murphy's voice, and his lyrics, carried the whole room with him through narrative tunes about family, loss and love. Julie Fader backed him up on some songs. Though they pulled the set off amazingly well, the two good friends were baffled afterward by their own nervous stage banter and awkward hug. The whole team of Doucet, Walsh, Fader, Higgs and Borchardt sang choir parts from the back of the room during the "Tobias Grey." All in all it was an intimate, inimitable experience to be so close to these musicians in a room that sounded so good and with an audience so attentive.

Laura Dawe is friends with Rebekah Higgs, Nathan Doucet and pretty much everyone in this story.

Gorillaz - Plastic Beach

Matthew Ritchie
Assistant Arts Editor

Grade: B+

It's hard to believe it's been nearly 10 years since the first Gorillaz album, and 12 since the band's conception in the minds of Damon Albarn and Jamie Hewlett. Releasing albums at a rate of one LP every five years, multiple rarity compilations and one dub remix album, as well as numerous DVDs, the four cartoon characters that make up Gorillaz have been on music listeners' radar even when they aren't releasing new material.

Damon Albarn's grandiose focus returns this month with *Plastic Beach*, a summery collection of orchestral pop songs similar in style to Vampire Weekend and a more light-hearted fare than previous LP *Demon Days*.

From the title and Banjo Kazooie-esque cover art, it's easy to see this is a concept album through and through. But what that concept is, I have no idea.

Hit lead-off single "Stylo" is reminiscent

of Carl Craig's electronic beats mixed with Quincy Jones' orchestration. The song seems to be referring to the mini electronic synthesizer stylophone that was popularized in the mid-'80s, but it's pretty hard to hear amidst all the layers on the track. It could be in the chorus background, but it's hard to tell. Either way, having a song with Mos-Def rapping over top and a guest-spot from Bruce Willis in the music video allows this song to easily cement itself on a Gorillaz iTunes mix.

Songs such as "Rhinestone Eyes" and, obviously, "Orchestral Intro" show Albarn's orchestral prowess. It's exciting to think about what he might do at the Olympic opening ceremonies in London.

With guest spots from a variety of hip hop's biggest stars (even Snoop Dogg makes an appearance), juxtaposed against the tender song-writing of one of England's best creative minds, *Plastic Beach* is a refreshing change from the usual pop albums encountered in the past five years.

Who would have known something so fake could feel so good?

Fan Death - A Coin For The Well

Matthew Ritchie
Assistant Arts Editor

Grade: B

Do you like Depeche Mode? If so, you'll like Fan Death. No joke - this band sounds almost exactly like *Violator* era Depeche Mode, except with girls singing.

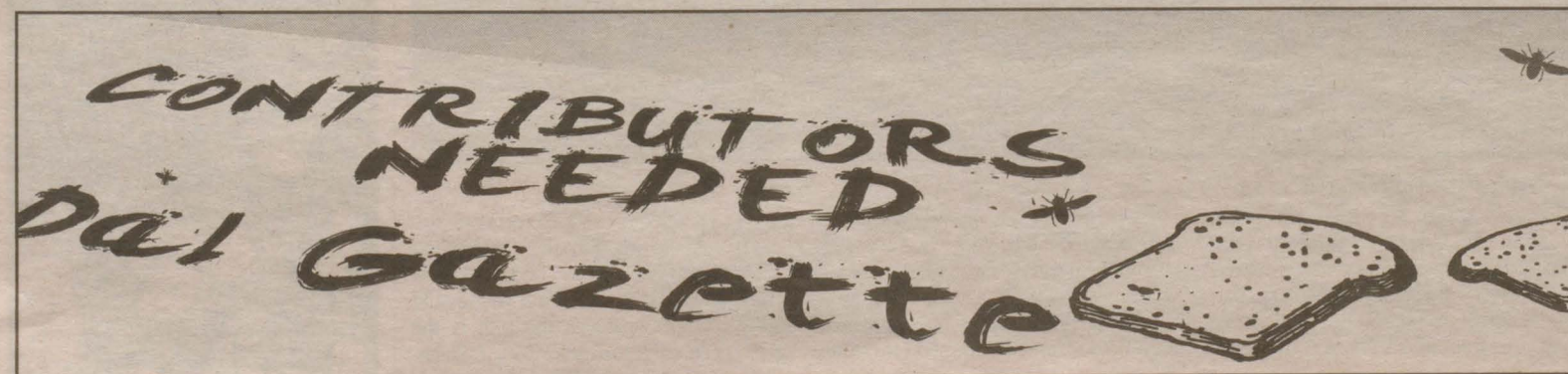
A case could also be made that they sound like a far more serious female equivalent of MGMT, but that would be pushing it. These girls sound like Depeche Mode. They also sound like Q Lazzarus, which is fitting because they cover "Goodbye Horses" in their live sets.

Fan Death's five-song EP *A Coin For The Well* is being released on Toronto's own Last Gang records, so it totally has the feel of a record that would be released from the electronic giants' label. It has tinges of label mates MSTRKRFT, Metric and most importantly Crystal Castles, but they are far more listenable than the previously mentioned electronic duo. This is straight up throw-back '80s electro-pop. "Reunited" sounds like the middle part of Depeche Mode's *Violator* (the

part that has "Enjoy the Silence" and all those other tracks that were never released as singles). "Cannibal" sounds like some kind of rejected ABBA disco track, but obviously more gruesome, because the song is called "Cannibal".

"Power Surge" has the oomph of a Hercules and Love Affair track; the female vocals are especially strong in this song, which accompanies the lyrical content perfectly. It feels like Siouxsie Sioux could have sung it. Her or Debbie Harry.

If smooth and sexy disco tracks that convey the emotion of a dance-floor battle are your thing, pick up *A Coin For The Well*. It may be a short listen, but that doesn't mean it isn't any less fun to dance to.



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Songoscope

Wolf Parade - At Mount Zoomer

Hilary Beaumont | Copy Editor

Horosscopes are a bunch of hoey. You can't predict the future based solely on your birth date. However, it's plainly obvious you can predict events based on your favourite Wolf Parade song. So, in preparation for the band's April 3 show at the Paragon, listen to *At Mount Zoomer*, pick your favourite track and find out what your future holds.

Disclaimer: Songoscopes are not as accurate as the superior Magic 8 Ball.

1. "Soldier's Grin"

The future looks upbeat. What you know can only mean one thing. March across a mellow bridge, riding waves of victory. You'll be dancing when you reach the other side.

2. "Call It A Ritual"

The beliefs of a loved one will conflict with yours. Call their bluff - they only swing their swords for show. Whip out your nun-chucks and they will falter.

3. "Language City"

Insomnia dilutes your waking life. It will tear down the bond between you. Seek therapy or face separation. Meanwhile, it wouldn't hurt to cool down your hot side project. It amounts only to a Sunset Rubdown.

4. "Bang Your Drum"

Critics are quick to group you with the rest, but stick to your guns. They pretend to understand you. They claim to know you. But your art-work's got them stumped. Strike up the band - you have survived.

5. "California Dreamer"

Until the young stay pretty and the pretty stay quick, you'll find yourself dealing with some ugly, stupid people.

6. "The Grey Estates"

Time for a change of scenery. A quick ballad. A great escape. Attempts to lose your way will fail. Release the wheel to steer an eternal trip with no destination.

7. "Fine Young Cannibals"

Life's slow pace will make you wish for the end, but hold on. A surprise is in store. Listen closely. Synthesizers sing.

8. "An Animal In Your Care"

Don't fall for crime. Don't fall for beauty. Glamour wastes the mind and soul. You stand at a crossroads between solemn tone and howling genius. Toward the end your mood will evolve.

9. "Kissing The Beehive"

Ditch that woman, but don't apologize to the Queen Mary. When she speaks, you hear buzzing. When you make love, it stings. Move on. Start kissing the lipless.



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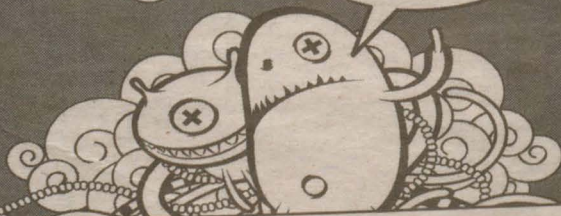
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Joel Tichinoff **Sports Editor**
sports@dalgazette.com

Tigers fail to defend title in Sydney Cape Breton advances to basketball final four

Natasha White
Staff Contributor

Last weekend, I joined the Tigers men's basketball team on their journey to Sydney to defend their 2008-09 AUS title. As I climbed the stairs to the bus, Coach Campbell assured me he'd introduce me to the team. The five-hour haul up to the Cape would give sufficient time for maximum awkwardness, as the intro never came. Campbell's mind was understandably on other things. Would his team step up and perform? Could they upset the top-three ranked teams and repeat?

The men didn't play until Friday at 6 p.m., but the AUS tournament banquet called for a Thursday departure. All was quiet on the eastern front, as laptops, iPods and Blackberries captured everyone's individual attention. Three hours into the journey, we crossed paths with Acadia at the Big Stop. We filed out and loaded up on junk food, obeying Coach Campbell's "No Hot Food" rule. Fittingly, I was first back on the bus, as mine were the shortest legs to stretch. Dal's first game would be a match up against Acadia Friday night, in the unforgiving lose-and-you're-out tourney set-up.

If there were any nerves before Dal's game, they were well hidden. The team exuded a quiet confidence walking into the Centre 200. Serious journalists/die-hard Dal fans may have felt the flutter of a few butterflies. The Tigers' last game of the regular season, against Acadia, was a disappointing loss. For Dal to beat the Axemen in the quarters, certain things would need to happen: first Dal would have to smother the hot-hands of three-point shooters Casey Fox and Anthony Sears; second, Tiger centre Joe Schow would need a repeat of his best performance of the year, which came the last time these two teams met; third, Dal would need to set the pace early against the lower-ranked, under-skilled Axemen.

Acadia maintained a full-court press the entire game, but the superior ball handling skills of student athlete and community service award winner Andrew Sullivan and first-team all-star Simon Farine weren't fazed. Unfortu-



The Tigers were unable to repeat last year's final four performance. | Photo by Nick Pearce

nately, other Tigers did cough up the ball three times in the first half by travelling. Perhaps there were some nerves after all. At the half, Dal sat with a comfortable 13-point lead, thanks in part to Farine's 19-point contribution. The second half proved to be a different story.

My Oilers ulcer started acting up as the Axemen clawed their way back to a one-point deficit with 2:26 left in the fourth. Tiger big-man Sandy Veit had

fouled out a minute earlier. A timely three by Nick Flynn and crucial free throws by Sullivan kept Dal in the lead. The smattering of Tiger fans that made it up for the Friday evening show held their collective breaths as Dal squeaked out a 76-75 victory over Acadia. It took a good 15 minutes for the collective heart rate to return to a normal level.

With that stressful win, Dal moved on to Saturday and the semis against

the host Cape Breton Capers. Forty minutes before tip-off, Caper fans started to file in. Thanks to their first-place season finish, the Capers bypassed the quarters; the Tiger-Caper game would be the home crowd's first opportunity to make some noise. Clad in obnoxious Caper orange, with drums, cowbells and things that go bang in the night, and the piper - mustn't forget the piper. It was clear that this was the place

to be in Sydney on a Saturday night.

Sadly, Dal would get no love from the rims, refs, or fans this night. Costly defensive errors of leaving checks and too loose coverage at the arch saw Dal down 15-28 after the first quarter. I'm not entirely sure which game the refs were watching, but a plethora of calls, some rather phantom (picture an all-ball stuff by Farine called as an intentional), put the Capers to the line seven times in the first quarter. Dal wouldn't earn a free throw attempt until midway through the second quarter. The defence would tighten up in the second as Dal out-scored CBU 17-13, cutting the lead to under 10, 32-41 at the half.

I'm having a T-shirt made up. It reads: "I hate Jimmy Dorsey." That kid has such a sweet shot. Dorsey led the Capers with game high 25 points, edging Dal's Simon Farine, who had 23. Unfortunately, the game was not that close; Dal lost to the Capers 60-76. The Capers went on to defeat St. FX in the finals 94-77, sending them to Carleton this weekend for the national finals.

Notes: Tiger forward Rob Nortmann came through with some big buckets and second year Galen Enlow came off the bench in the fourth to provide some great defence. Sully, solid as ever, finished up his final game in a Tiger uniform with 13 points (going four-for-four from the line) and seven assists.

On the bus ride home when asked for some final thoughts on his basketball career (trainer extraordinaire Jessica Nichols introduced us) Sully said he was "thoroughly satisfied," humbly noting his trip to the nationals, an AUS title, and his co-captaincy. His last words (it sounds like he's dead) were of his "13 best friends," his teammates.

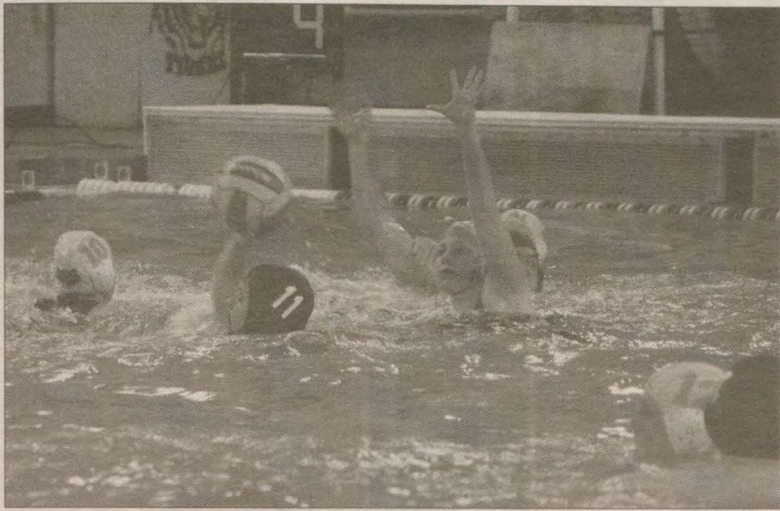
When I asked Coach Campbell his final last thoughts, he was not quite as sentimental, but rather, notably frank. He expressed "disappointment" in their inability to defend the title, and spoke of the Tigers serious need to improve in order to be consistently and successfully competitive. It's clear Coach Campbell wants to be number one, and nothing but. No doubt Dal fans want that too.



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Dal reintroduced water polo to the Maritimes. | Photo by Abram Gutscher

Sixth annual Dal Spring Invitational Water Polo Tournament

Dal club pioneers sport in Maritimes

Joel Tichinoff
Staff Contributor

The Dalhousie Water Polo Club and its annual Spring Invitational Tournament may owe their existence to the collapse of the Soviet Union. It was in the capital of Soviet Ukraine that Dalhousie Water Polo Club founder and former coach Nikolay Shulga first began coaching water polo at the Kiev State University in the 1970s. Though two decades had passed since the famous 'Blood in the Water' game at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics between Hungary and the Soviets, water polo was still a major sport inside the Iron Curtain.

"Back then, to make the Soviet National team was tougher than making the NHL today," says Shulga, who played professionally for Kiev Dynamo and was assistant coach of the Soviet National junior team during the heydays of Soviet water polo supremacy. In the aftermath of the USSR's collapse, Shulga coached his former pro team Kiev Dynamo before leaving to coach the Saudi National team between 1994-2002. In 2003 Shulga came to Nova Scotia in order to re-introduce water polo in a region that had been without an organized team since the 1980s.

With a daughter at Dal, Shulga's first move was to organize a university team and build his sport in the Maritime region from a Dalhousie base. Soon after putting the Dal team together, Shulga organized the first Spring Invitational, with two Dalhousie teams and two community teams from Saint John facing off in the inaugural meet.

In just six years the spring invitational at Dal has grown into the biggest water polo tournament in Atlantic Canada. This year the university hosted 10 teams from across the Maritimes, including a strong Newfoundland team and the Nova Scotia under-18 provincial team.

While no longer directly involved in the Dal club, Shulga continues to keep tabs on his brainchild and hopes to soon see a truly competitive program operated out of Dal.

"Dal deserves to have a competitive team," says Shulga, "Doing this (tournament) we are trying to cre-

ate a real program, but it goes slowly."

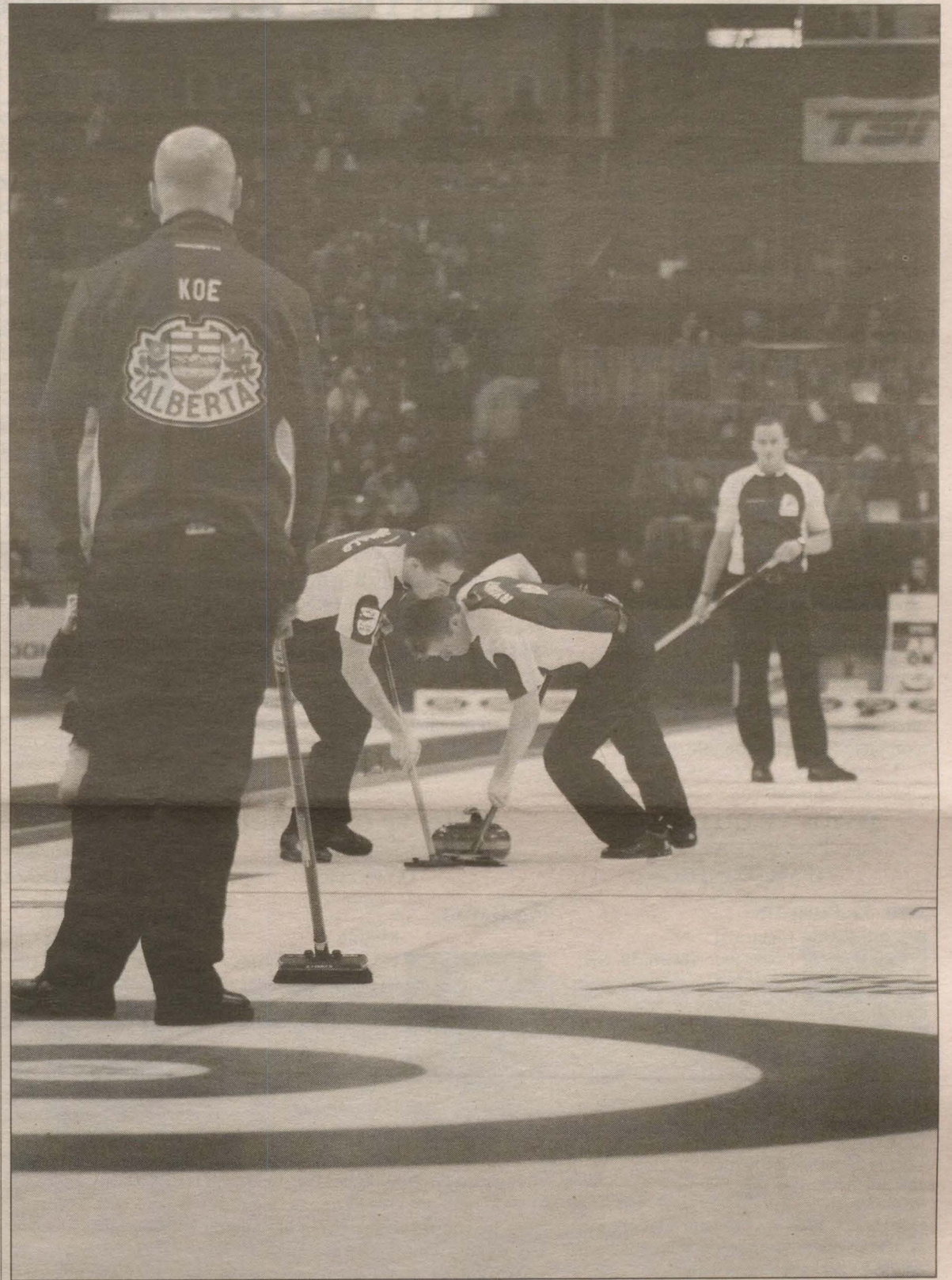
The club currently receives financial support from the Dalhousie Athletic Department and the DSU. Most Dal players come from outside of the Maritimes - Ontario, Quebec and the West support strong clubs. Though many come to the sport from competitive swimming background, the Dal team draws interest from across the student spectrum. Dal's advanced and intermediate teams are co-ed and range in player experience from former high school players to students who just wanted to stay active and try something new. While physically demanding, the Dal program avoids the aggressive violence often associated with the sport. "Water polo is only rough when you make it rough," says player Jonathan O'Neill. "Every team has a few aggressive players but because this league is a combination of experienced players, former swimmers and newcomers who just want something fun to do, you don't really see a lot of the punching and kicking in games."

Dalhousie's 20-member club submitted advanced and intermediate teams in this year's tournament with neither team achieving a top-three finish in either category. Water polo is not a CIS sport, but the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) supports a highly competitive water-polo league, which attracts the vast majority of student water-polo talent to Ontario schools. Although Dalhousie was invited to a recent failed attempt to create a national university water polo championship, the club declined. Though Shulga's goal of a competitive Dalhousie team remains out of reach at the moment, student-players Alex Martineau and Jonathan O'Neill are working with other Atlantic universities to bring other school teams into the pool.

"St. FX has been pretty enthusiastic (and) so has Mount Allison," says Martineau. "Acadia has a strong swimming program so there's potential there as well."

From small beginnings the Dalhousie Water Polo Club can be proud of being the driving force behind their sport in the region and having fun while doing it.

Alberta wins Brier



Alberta won the 81st Brier in Halifax. | Photo by Pau Balite

TICK-TOCK!

Now's the time to write for the Dalhousie Gazette



THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

EDITOR IN CHIEF: BEN WEDGE

MARCH 19TH, 2010

DSEUS AND DUES ELECTIONS—VOTE VOTE VOTE!

VOTE MARCH 22nd to MARCH 24th www.dsu.ca

THE LOW DOWN

The Engineering council elections are underway and the Sextant is providing coverage to all candidates. For those who are new to DAL, the way our system works is that the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) is in charge of the major societies including: the Dalhousie Sexton Engineering Undergraduate Society (DSEUS, years 3,4, and 5) and Dalhousie Undergraduate Engineering Society (DUES, year 1 and 2). DSEUS is then in charge of all the discipline councils.

This year voting for these societies will happen online, at the same website as the DSU voting. From March 22nd-24th, go to www.dsu.ca, and simply click the voting link! From there you will log in a cast your vote. It is that easy!

The societies are important, as a portion of your student fees goes directly to them, and they plan what is done with your money! Read on for information about the candidates in the DSEUS and the DUES elections, and flip over to the gazette for complete DSU election information!

DSEUS PRESIDENT

In charge of the general management of the society
(SLATE) (FYI: *Slate means running as a team!*)

KAYLEE SHANNON (FALL)



Civil
Hometown: Bathurst, NB
Favourites-
Color: Green
Food: Ice Cream
Place in Halifax:
Point Pleasant Park
Place on Campus: Design Commons (for working!)

I am super excited to be running for President! I have been involved with student councils for the past 9 years (eeks!) and for my last four months of school I guess I better be involved in a BIG WAY! I spent my first two years at DAL, and was VP internal for DEUS in my second year. I have been an active member of the civil society since starting on sexton campus, and I am currently president. I have experience organizing large events, and being in a leadership position. I am ready to take on the challenges as president, and hopefully have a lot of fun too!

MICHAEL MARCHAND (WINTER)



Mechanical
Hometown: Dartmouth, NS
Favourites-
Colour: Teal
Food: Poutine
Place in Halifax:
Point Pleasant Park
Place on Campus: T-Room

Over the past 4 years at Dalhousie University I have represented Dal in engineering competitions and helped organize awarding winning charity events such as Frag for Cancer and Pulling for the Kids. After gaining insight into the DSEUS through my duties as a sports and co-op representatives for my Mechanical engineering class, I am ready to take the next leap into a more active role in the DSEUS. I am ready to dedicate my last 4 months of school to all the engineering students, by working with the council to fix some problems and plan a lot of fun events!

DSEUS VP EXTERNAL

Connects DSEUS with outside organizations
(FALL/WINTER)

JENNA HAZELTON



Chemical
Hometown: Bible Hill, NS
Favourites-
Color: Purple
Food: Pizza
Place in Halifax: Walking downtown on a nice day after a long winter
Place on Campus: Library, when I am being productive

I am a fourth year (I guess!) Chemical Engineering student (I am not in co-op). I came from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in September. I am currently the VP Internal for the DSEUS and I think my experience from this year will be a great asset for next year. I am an outgoing person who has been involved in Student Government for the past 3 years in some capacity. I would love to be involved again next year, and don't forget to vote!

DSEUS VP OUTREACH

Promotes DAL ENG
(FALL/WINTER)

NEIL MCPHERSON



Electrical
Hometown: Miramichi, NB
Favourites-
Colour: Blue
Food: BarBQ steak
Place in Halifax: The waterfront
Place on campus: IEEE lounge

I'm a 31 year old mature student currently serving in the Canadian Forces as a Communications Engineer. If I was elected as VP Outreach, I would be bringing a lot of experience with me from serving on numerous councils and committees within the Forces as well as within Dalhousie University. I am the incumbent VP Communications for the DUES the chair for the Events Committee for DUES, VP Communications for the Dalhousie IEEE society, and I'm also on the Dalhousie ROV team.

VP Outreach is a position that involves being a liaison to other Associated Universities as well as to high schools to promote Dalhousie Engineering. I have experience in both fields having attended ACES and CFES this past school year. I believe my experience makes me the perfect choice for VP Outreach.

DSEUS VP OUTREACH

Promotes DAL ENG
(WINTER)

IAN BAILEY



Mining
Hometown: Halifax
Favourites-
Colour: Blue
Food: Nachos
Place in Halifax : The Pubs
Place on campus : Engineering

The reason I'm running for VP-Outreach is so I can help put DAL-Engineering out there for Halifax to see. From organizing and running community events, to helping other engineers enjoy the many benefits here; I want to spread the benefits of engineering to everyone. I have plenty of community outreach experience and feel that having grown up here, engineers have plenty we can give back. Ultimately the best part of this position would be helping bring new students into this program. I can't say enough good about DAL and the opportunity to bring in and help new students is great. So if you see me, say hi, come have a drink, and talk. After-all there's plenty more to engineering than studying.

DSEUS VP ACADEMIC

Brings students' issues to the faculty
(FALL/WINTER)

ERIN DWYER



Chemical
Hometown: Harbour Grace, NL
Favourites-
Colour: Green or grey; but not some combo of the two; sick!
Food: Crumbs from peanut butter toast
Place in Halifax: Anywhere on the Harbourfront that doesn't smell.

Place on campus: The parking lot of Gerard (westward) because that means I'm headed home after a hard day's work!

Why should you vote "yes" for me? Because I've lasted this long without failing and I like books, so that must have something academic-based right? I also like to line my nest with lost mittens, dryer lint and bits of string AND my fav food is crumbs from peanut butter on toast... oh wait. That's a house hippo. But mostly I want to try and help you all as much as I can with any of your academic concerns as well as make this a wicked awesome year on Sexton! Oh and I'm pretty good with keeping Kaylee in line too...

DSEUS VP INTERNAL

Organizes discipline councils, and internal affairs
(FALL)

MICHAEL MATTHEWS



Mechanical
Hometown: Coquitlam, BC
Favourites-
Colour: Blue
Food: Sushi
Place in Halifax: Maxwells
Place on Campus: Tims

I have two years of experience on the DUES as the First Year Representative and the VP External. In working on the DUES I gained a lot of experience planning events and operating under an 'A' level society structure. I ran several high budget events throughout the year and I am very comfortable continuing to do just that. For more information on how I can be an asset to the DSEUS and you the student, search for my facebook group. I hope that you will vote for me come March 22 as your new VP Internal of the DSEUS!

CO-OP CORNER

Things to Remember:

The co-op website offers many tips and is very informative. The website is: www.engandcompcoop.dal.ca
Round 2: Going on now Check PlacePro

DSEUS dalhousiesexton
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



Visit Sexton Campus's Online Resource dalsexton.ca

a.dalsextant

www.thesextant.ca

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THE SEXTANT

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MARCH 19TH, 2010
PAGE 2

DSEUS VP FINANCE

Manages the money of the DSEUS
(FALL)

ELYSE GREGOR



Chemical
Hometown: Glace Bay, NS
Favourites-
Color: Usually pink, often purple, & sometimes red
Place in Halifax: Pogue Fado
Place on Campus: The Gym

A little about me: I love music and playing my guitar, baby blue. I snowboard, love to dance and shouldn't be allowed in public with my i-Pod on! I'm a gym fanatic but can't resist anything chocolate. I can meet the expectations of your 2010/11 DSEUS VP Finance because I'm responsible, honest, and committed to the position. I'm a very outgoing, sociable person and would love to be a member of the DSEUS!

DSEUS VP COMMUNICATIONS

Gets the word out about events
(FALL/WINTER)

LAURA WEEDEN



Civil
Hometown: Ottawa, ON
Favourites-
Colour: Purple
Food: Sushi
Place in Halifax: The Beach
Place on campus: lounging on the couches in the Alumni lounge

I'm a friendly, outgoing, adventurous person with the experience to be a valuable part of the DSEUS executive. As an elected President of the Engineering Society at Saint Mary's in my second year and Saint Mary's Student Association as the Engineering Representative in first year I have all the skills required to be the best VP Communications! As your VP Communications I will ensure YOU know all about what is going on campus. Your DSEUS is here for YOU; let me help make the experience the best it can be! Vote Laura VP Communications Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday!

DUES ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT:

BRETT ZEIGLER

Having already sat on the council for a term as a first year representative, I have gained relevant experience that sets me apart from the competition. If elected, I intend to pursue a strong connection with the DSEUS council to provide a unified student council to service all engineers, from first to fifth year. I look to continue providing ways for engineering students to get involved in both social and educational activities. Vote Ziegler

KYMBERLEE DIXON

Vote for Kymberlee!



VP EXTERNAL:

JESSIE WATSON

V.P. external's main job is to coordinate with other societies, organizations, businesses etc. If elected for V.P. external I will do my best to ensure that DUES has the best reputation possible among these groups. This year I was on the event committee and spent a large amount of time helping council plan and run events, so I feel that I know a bit about how the society works and what their responsibilities are. A large focus of mine is first year involvement, and making everyone's university experience as awesome as possible. Vote Jessie Watson for DUES V.P. External.

QIYI ZHENG

Vote for Qiyi!

ROBERT (BOBBY) MYLES

I strongly believe that I would make the greatest VP External possible for the 2010-11 school year as I have had plenty of great leadership experience both as VP of Student Council in high school and as an army cadet. I know that I will make an important contribution to the team in an effort to give undergrad engineers a great year.



VP INTERNAL:

VERNA THOMAS

Vote for Verna!

VP FINANCE:

NIKHEEL PREMSAGAR

Vote for Nikheel!

JAYE O'BRIEN

Vote for Jaye!

DANIELLE COMEAU

I am a first year engineering student proceeding a career in Industrial Engineering. I think I should become your VP-Financial because I am very well organized, have a great work ethic and have held a position similar in the past. I have a lot of experience running events which required budgeting of money and of time. I believe that my skills that were of result will benefit me as VP financial. If you want your educational money in good hands, while knowing it will be used to its full potential, vote for me, Danielle Comeau.

JAMIE SWEETE

Vote for Jamie!

ALEX HOLGATE

Vote for Alex!



VP ACADEMIC:

WILLOW SEREDA-MEICHEL

Vote for Willow!

VP COMMUNICATIONS:

JUSTIN COOKE

I would like to increase first & second year communications. I plan on branching out the ways in which DUES communicates with the students so that information can get out to more students in a broader, more efficient manner. I would also explore the possibility of redesigning the DUES webpage with more interactive features such as a working events calendar, more useful links for students, and a cleaner, more user-friendly interface. As DUES VP of Communications, I would like to make the student's lives easier by making sure events & information they need to know are broadcast early and efficiently.

MEGAN TUNNEY

Vote for Megan!

JORDAN WILSON

Vote for Jordon!



DSEUS REP:

HONGSHEN (ART) CHEN

Vote for Art!

SEEF-WHAT DOES IT EVEN MEAN?

Kaylee Shannon, Civil 11'

Most people don't even realize what SEEF is, let alone they are giving it money! The SEEF is the Sexton Engineering Endowment Fund. Every term part of every Sexton engineering undergraduate student's fees are placed in this fund. But why?

The fund is used to buy equipment, furnish lounges, contribute to larger projects and more. Basically, the money is used for anything that can benefit a large amount of students! In the past the following items have been SEEFed

- Treadmill in Sexton Gym
- Contribution to Alumni Lounge Furniture
- Contribution to Mechanical Department Dynimometer
- Contribution to Student Machine Shop
- Mining Department Grinder

This term there is over 20,000 dollars available! You can apply for a SEEF grant if you think there is anything your discipline, student group, or Sexton Campus as a whole needs!

If you want more information on the application process please contact Martin Crawley current SEEF chair at mr410668@Dal.ca.

Applications are due on March 25th at 6:00pm.



Mechanical Night Thursday

Trivia every Friday!

FOUND - at the T-Room on Saturday, March 6th, 2010 (Iron Ring), an item of value (not clothing). If you believe it is yours please email troom@dal.ca with a description of the item.

**Want a DSU position on Sexton Campus:
Check out the following positions and links!**

Sexton Campus Director:

<http://dsu.ca/aboutus/sexton-campus-director.pdf>

Sexton Campus Manager:

<http://dsu.ca/aboutus/sexton-manger.pdf>

Sexton Entertainment Director:

<http://dsu.ca/aboutus/sexton-entertainment-director.pdf>

Other DSU Employment Opportunities Available!
Check out www.dsu.ca

**WRITE FOR THE
SEXTANT!
GET MONEY!**

**Sextant will also be
looking for involve-
ment next year!**

Email: sextant@dal.ca

WEDNESDAY'S

Half price pizza, 4:30pm-close. (while quantities last)

Power Hour 9 p.m. - 10 p.m.

THURSDAY'S

Surf and Turf.

Twin bacon wrapped tenderloins and a skewer of shrimp.
Served with spicy potato wedges. \$11.95

DAL students get in free before 8 p.m. (with id)

Power Hour 9 p.m. - 10 p.m.

THE SPLIT CROW PUB
Eat. Drink. Be Social.

www.splitcrow.com | 422.4366



**SPLIT CROW
POWER HOUR**
\$2.50 draught

Sat: 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Thurs: 9pm - 10pm

Wed: 9pm - 10pm



Your ex. Your sister.
Your brother's girlfriend ...
This could get awkward.

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which, **come see us.**

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