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Lie-in outside Traves office

The AANA (Acronyms Association of North America) rallies in support of the DFA
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Conciliation fails again

The university administration's request to bring their "best package" to a vote by DFA membership has been rejected by the union's executive.

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Students 'Fire' Traves & BoG

Sick of a faculty strike that has dragged on for over two weeks, five activists from Students for a Democratic Dal 'fired' university president Tom Traves and the board of governors.

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News >

Oopsie we made a boo boo, we say we're sorry to Dr. Stone,...bang bang your dead fifteen bullets in your head; or not- no more poor spending says Teixeira...PIRG needs a board of governors wait so does Dal, students fire the entire board...six by six by sixteen and you'll be poisoned or at least full of splinters...there goes the neighbourhood, tuition is through the roof again...negotiations fail again...rally big but unnoticed again

Opinions >

Tyler says he is sorry and Caitlin joins in...Jon 'it'll be done tonight' Elmer is writing his manifesto...Dr. Stone has a say and Rebecca does too, Traves think of the students says a student...Israel is debated - a comeback to Riteman's comeback a response to a response to a response really

Arts >

Slainte Mhath aith aith I can't pronounce it hurts my head but they make you dance dance dance I say...Frenetic fun on its way driving in a rickety van to play...Oh Tina you are so old how can you still be going I want to look as good as you when I'm 60. But wait why do you have nuts now? Underground and Leon Thomas he fell on his head and busted his lip to make a funny sound...Tonie isn't cool but we still love her...the ritalin kid is on his way to brazil.

Sports >

Karate CHOP! Kelsey Cameron is a fierce warrior says Kristina Robinson, so uh I will say nothing bad because I am a big wimpo...Home court schmome court, Nova Scotia does poorly for the first time in years why we cry WHY Quentin Casey says why. Casey is up to the plate again for an in-depth relay of the Sunday game.



Ciamar a tha sibh?

Confused? Don't worry, you're not alone. Although many people enjoy Celtic music, the ancient language of Scottish-Gaelic is only spoken by approximately 70,000 people.

> Arts pg 8

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DSU Dalhousie Student Union

Strike Update:

The DSU has taken a stance in regards to some things, although we have not chosen a side in this dispute. The most important point that the DSU council and executive are trying to get across is that this strike hurts students, and as such we want both sides to negotiate a settlement as quickly as possible. The DSU has also taken a stand on some of the issues involved in this dispute. To read about this stand please visit www.thedsu.com.

Students have rights during a strike. Professors cannot require you to hand in assignments either during the strike or the day you return as you are not required to know information that is not taught. This does not mean that you should not be working during the strike; rather, you should assume that your assignments will be due shortly after the strike ends and that you will want to be ahead in readings because the curriculum will be accelerated after the strike. A Senate Committee was set up during the last strike to deal with student academic issues in relation to the strike and the Student Senators will be asking for the same committee to be set up this year.

The DSU council has been and will continue to meet during the strike.

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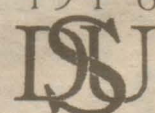
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Strike mediator appointed

by tyler kustra

the gazette

Nova Scotia Labour Minister David Morse appointed a mediator, on Tuesday, to try to resolve the two and a half week long faculty strike.

Pictou lawyer Milton Veniot will meet with the university administration and the Dalhousie Faculty Association on Friday. Talks are scheduled to run through the weekend and the sides say they will stay at the table for "as long as it takes."

Morse has been successful in resolving other tough labour disputes before - both with strikes at UCCB and the Halifax Regional School Board.

Dalhousie Student Union president Shawn Tracey said appointing a mediator was good news for students.

"The appointment of a mediator is a step in the right direction. The mediator will hopefully bring about a more prompt and fair and equitable settlement to this dispute," Tracey said.

Both sides echoed his comments.

"We welcome the

appointment of Mr. Veniot, and we look forward to working with him and the DFA to find a resolution to the faculty strike," Dalhousie public relations manager Stacey Lewis said.

"This means the [administration] will not be able to hide behind ultimatums and preconditions," DFA president Andy Wainwright said. "They will be forced to bargain at the table," he said, referring to a proposal made by the university administration on Monday at the conciliator's request.

They asked the DFA negotiating team to put the administration's "best package" to the union membership for a vote. They would not allow the team to see the package unless they first agreed to a vote.

The negotiating team, in consultation with Wainwright, refused, which is why the conciliator ended talks on Tuesday.

"This is not negotiation. It is not bargaining in good faith," Wainwright said. "It is a blatant attempt to undermine the legitimacy of the DFA negotiating team and the DFA executive, and therefore the DFA itself."

"The Dalhousie [administration] does not want to deal with the DFA or its representatives. It wants to bargain, as it has tried to do all along, directly with faculty," he continued.

Upon hearing the news, one professor on the picket line along Coburg Road called administration's actions "arrogant."

Another said, "They're trying to do an end run around the union. The first reaction would be one of 'up yours.'" He added, "This is beginning to get really impossible to complete the term."

Lewis disagrees by saying the offer was another attempt by the administration get students back to class.

"The university presented the revised offer in the hope that it would end this strike if accepted by Dalhousie's professors."

She added that despite the strike dragging on for more than two weeks, the academic year is not in jeopardy.

"We have every intention of finishing on time," she said, adding that as a last resort the administration could extend the term.



photo by kipling ermanuel keen

Wainwright said professors will do everything possible to ensure students complete the year. But he added the administration should not make academic commitments without consulting with the faculty.

"The faculty are the people who are in the classrooms. They are people who know best what

can and can't be done, and by when the year could be completed."

It was the DFA negotiating team, in consultation with union president Andy Wainwright, who refused to bring the administration's offer to the DFA membership. We are sorry for the inaccurate information that appeared on the cover.

Students 'fire' Traves and BoG

by caitlin kealey

the gazette

Sick of a faculty strike that has dragged on for over two weeks, activists from Students for a Democratic Dal fired university president Tom Traves and the board of governors.

Traves refused to accept his pink slip on Tuesday, scurrying past Ezra Edelman, Katherine Ross and Justin Pike who were trying to serve him with his letter of dismissal.

Ensnared in his office, Traves' secretary Bonnie Van Buskirk told the students, "he's tied up at the moment."

When the students asked to make an appointment, she said that it would be impossible for them to get in because he would be busy for the entire day.

"We have no authority to fire Tom Traves," said Edelman. "It was mostly a publicity stunt to get the students back into the picture."

Edelman said they decided to

fire Traves and the board because the media weren't paying enough attention to the student voice.

"The strike's been going on for over two weeks now. It's getting to the point where it's ridiculous," he said. "We've been writing letters and sending faxes. It's about time we up the ante a little."

The letter of dismissal blamed both Traves and the board for the faculty strike.

"The students feel that you are responsible for the crisis at Dalhousie [since] you have adopted a rigid position on the issues in the current labour dispute with the [Dalhousie Faculty Association], and refused to negotiate in good faith, particularly in relation to the replacement of full-time faculty."

Edelman says that if he had the power to, he would fire them.

"I think they've remained far too anonymous. From researching them I think there's a lot of potential conflicts of interests."

He also delivered a notice of

immediate termination to board chairman Jim Cowan during a meeting on Tuesday morning.

Edelman said Cowan took his "dismissal" well, and they discussed pressing issues facing the university such as the number of full-time faculty members and government funding.

Dalhousie public relations manager Stacey Lewis said "a select group of students are looking for some attention for their position. Obviously there's no change to the status of the board of governors' appointments. They're simply looking for publicity."

DFA president Andy Wainwright said he was proud of the students' actions.

"I admire it," he said.

Dalhousie Student Union president Shawn Tracey said the activists flattered him by not firing the DSU representatives on the board.

"The letter is not from all students. The student union doesn't condone the firing of the board," said Tracey. "What it comes down to is when the board of governors has to ratify, much like the DFA membership does, any agreement that's reached at the table. I think firing the board of governors at this point would do nothing but delay the strike."

The letter notwithstanding, Traves remains Dalhousie's president and the board of governors are still in place.

MEA CULPA

The Gazette apologizes for two stories that ran in last week's edition. Dr. Stone comments were taken out of context, changing their meaning. She did not make allegations about Dalhousie president Tom Traves that we reported. We also deeply regret to references to her professional identity as both a professor of English and Women's studies, assistant dean, research, arts and social sciences and DFA's student liaison were inadvertently edited out.

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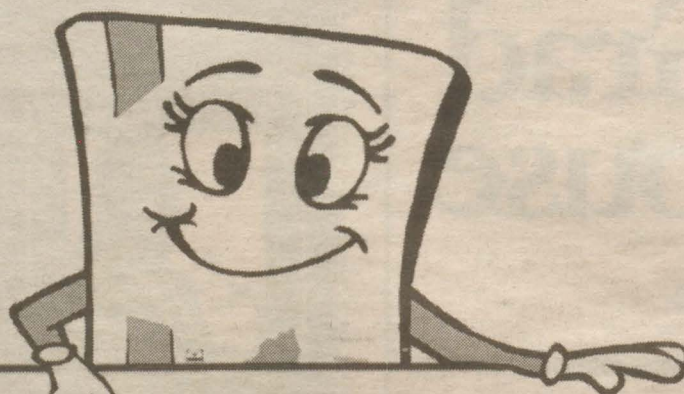
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"Walked all over by admin..."

by christopher a. walsh

The Gazette

Over 100 students and 550 faculty members packed the street outside the Killam Library last Friday afternoon rallying for an end to the already drawn-out strike. The DFA sponsored event brought in faculty associations from across the country to show support in resolving the labor dispute.

On top of a makeshift platform, guest speakers from the different faculty unions, along with an international student representative and a concerned parent spoke to the crowd, conveying their concern and desire in seeing the labour dispute brought to an end.

The Dalhousie Student Union declined to speak at the rally. DSU president Shawn Tracey said

the student union is remaining neutral.

"Since the student union doesn't support either side," he said. "I don't think it appropriate to send official representation to a rally of either party." He added that he was sick and could not attend anyway.

After an hour, the crowd disbanded while some students headed for the hall outside Dal president Tom Traves' office in the Arts and Administration building for a "lie-in."

"It was a symbolic statement," said Adam Squibb, a third year Dal student who lay down outside the administration offices. "We've been walked all over by the administration for a long time. They might as well just go ahead and actually walk over us."

While 50 students were inside protesting, members of the faculty association marched around the building chanting wild slogans taught to them by Dal's own radical cheerleaders. Inside, things were getting cozy.

Traves and Dalhousie public relations manager Stacey Lewis refused to speak to the sprawled out students. The staff locked themselves in the office but continued to work, raising doubts in some students' minds about Traves' whereabouts.

Eventually a representative from Dalhousie's board of governors came to address the crowd.

"He suggested that we were a fire hazard," said Dal student Rob MacGregor. "We informed him that the point of the action was to hold some space in the administration building."



The students entered the building around 1 p.m. and stayed until the offices closed for the day at 4:30 p.m. They said they've planned more action.

Although no faculty were

allowed to enter, DFA president, Andy Wainwright, said he approved of the action taken by the students.

"I think whether [Traves] is there or not, he gets the message."

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Surprise - tuition's going up

by christopher a. walsh

the Gazette

Tuition at Dalhousie is going up next year, although just how much more is still unknown.

The administration says it could go up anywhere between 6 and 14 percent.

Dalhousie public relations manager Stacey Lewis, says the increase is unavoidable. She points to the ongoing faculty strike and the expected decrease in government grants as the major reasons for the tuition hike.

"It's difficult to say until we reach a settlement [with the DFA]," she said. "We anticipate an increase between 6 and 8 percent."

Lewis' figure is based on the administration's package offered to

the striking professors. The DFA's proposal, if accepted, could raise tuition as much as 14 percent.

DFA president Andy Wainwright calls suggesting that accepting the DFA's offer would cause a spike in tuition "blatant fear-mongering."

He says the university has the money to pay for the union's proposal.

Dalhousie's only other revenue comes from government funding, which does not look promising for next year.

Dal student union president, Shawn Tracey, hopes the funding stays at the current level.

"The best case scenario for Dal would be a freeze in provincial grants," he said. "But it's looking just as likely that there might be a rollback."

That "rollback" could put an even greater strain on Dal students who already pay the second highest tuition in the country. It appears that no relief is coming soon. Jennifer Mealiea, a fourth-year music student, says tuition is getting out of hand.

"It's ridiculous," she said. "Education is a right, it should be accessible to anyone who wants it. It shouldn't be a privilege for the rich."

Adele Poirier, spokesperson for the Minister of Education, says times are tough for everyone and that more funding is nearly impossible.

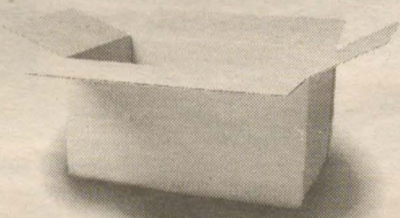
"We are in a fiscally challenging situation," she said. "We're not anticipating increases anywhere."

Although tuition has steadily increased over the last ten years, bafflingly, so has enrollment.

Tracey worries that at some point in the near future, enrollment will start to slide as it becomes more difficult for students to afford post-secondary education. He sees university becoming less accessible.

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Group calls for diversion of military funding

by sarah jane steele
the gazette

A group of Halifax women's rights activists picketed the grassy knolls of the Spring Garden Road Regional Library last week to protest what they say is the federal government's lack of spending on women's health, living, and educational programs.

The protesters were circulating a petition calling for more money to be diverted from military funds into causes such as financing for battered women's shelters, single parent families, and feminist education.

"There aren't many feminist activists [speaking] out now, [so] Canadians may believe that everything is fine and that there aren't issues and concerns that should be dealt with," said Cristina Teixeira, an activist and women's studies student at Mount Saint Vincent University.

In the 2001 budget, the government increased defense spending by \$7.7 billion to enhance Canada's personal and economic security. The budget website says the goal is to create the most modern sophisticated border possible by using state of the art technology.

Teixeira disagrees.

"We do not set aside nearly enough to women's issues, women still don't have pay equity, women are still objectified, we shouldn't have to rely on activist feminism but if it means people realizing these concerns then, in those cases activist feminism is necessary," she said.

Jean-Michel Catta, spokesperson for Federal Department of Finance said that the government is doing enough.

"21.1 billion dollars over five

years is allocated by the government for increased funding for key social programs, including health care, post secondary education, and early childhood development," said Catta. "These increases are particularly important to women, many of whom depend on the programs and services funded under this transfer."

"It's not enough," said Linda Laffin, communications director for Nova Scotia's Ministry of Finance. "The federal government has actually reduced [the Canadian Health and Social Transfers] on a percentage basis."

"The money is transferred to the provinces and then the provinces allocate the money as they wish" said Catta. "The province then determines what its priorities are." Catta did not specify on which services were offered to just women.

Catta said the government had invested significant amounts of money into social programs, such as education and health care.

Teixeira said that some women's rights activists see Canada's military as receiving too much money from the federal government. By presenting an appeal to the Canadian government

she, and other feminist political activists, say they hope to funnel government funds from the military into social programs like women's education, and financial assistance to causes like battered women's shelters, and female single parents.

For the next fiscal year, Canada expects to put \$6.5 billion to increase intelligence and policing, as well as support for the military. \$1.2 billion will go to screening border flow.

That is why activists like Teixeira say they are speaking out on such issues. She wants to see the Canadian government aid women's financial advancement.

"[They can do it] without breaking the military piggy bank. They could invest money, first in small rural towns where women may be less educated and apt to giving up because they don't feel they have any other options."

Teixeira said the government could benefit by allocating more funds to women's issues.

"Women could become more politically active, we'd have more of a democracy because women would know how to participate...if we keep our eyes open it's amazing what we can see."

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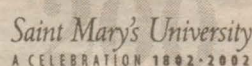
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Occupying the already Occupied Territories

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by jon elmer

the gazette

Italian photographer Raffaele Ciriello was negotiating the war-ravaged streets of Ramallah last week when an Israeli tank turned a corner barely 100 metres in front of him, the tank hatch popped open and an Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) soldier rattled off a spray of heavy machine gun fire which eviscerated the journalist - leaving him, his press tags and his cameras slumped in a pool of blood. After having his limp body dragged from the street by a colleague, Mr. Ciriello - a veteran of Kosovo, Bosnia, and Afghanistan - ultimately bled to death as Israeli tanks blocked ambulance access to the reporter for more than an hour.

The killing of Ciriello occurred during the IDF's "takeover" of the West Bank, the largest offensive from Israel since the 1982 invasion of Lebanon - a bloody war that forced then-Defense Minister Ariel Sharon to resign his post in response to the infamous Sabra and Chatila refugee camp massacre some 2000 unarmed women and children. The present intifada has been a war of shocking brutality which reached its grim climax this past week.

I watched with astonishment last Tuesday as a CNN correspondent gave a mid-night report huddled with a flashlight to illuminate his clearly panicked face, while Israeli tanks flattened cars and launched shell-fire into the night. He talked of friends and colleagues - all foreign journalists - who had been strafed by tank fire just hours before, no doubt the source of his panicked expression. CNN cut to footage so incredible that the only frame of reference I could call on was the red and blue streaks that accompanied the cartoon gunfire on GI Joe. For fully 15

minutes, the Israeli army fired into the hotel being used by journalists, as reporters covered their heads and sprawled on the ground behind their cameras as bullets made that terrifying 'ping, ping'.

An ABC news camera had seven shots fired at it, including one that hit the lens dead-centre. Fortunately, this particular camera was unmanned, but when an IDF tanks passed the hotel in the morning and again turned its cannon on it, it was a clear enough message for the journalists who evacuated the hotel they had used as their command centre.

The stories from journalists in the Occupied Territories abound: an Egyptian correspondent had his clearly marked 'TV' van machine-gunned by Israeli forces, his life saved by his flak jacket. In all, 40 journalists have been injured or killed covering the 18-month intifada, according to Reporters Without Borders. Many journalists feel that this no coincidence, and the story of Raffaele Ciriello does little to disprove the theory that Israeli forces act with impunity and often contempt for the unarmed witnesses.

The latest take-over of the West Bank brought with it the most shocking footage of this latest intifada's battle of attrition. As many thousands of Israeli troops entered the West Bank behind the force of more than 150 tanks, armoured bulldozers tore up water mains and downed power grids - leaving the terrified Palestinian citizens (refugees) holed-up in their homes waiting for the inevitable door-to-door ransacking by the Israeli forces 'rooting out terrorists'.

"...including a hospital director who was shot in the head...an ambulance worker trying to reach the wounded...a hospital administrator and an ambulance worker were among Palestinians killed."

The violence prompted outrage from the normally placid UN Secretary General Kofi Annan who condemned the "the means and methods employed by the IDF" in a letter to Ariel Sharon released by the New York Times. "I feel obliged to call your attention to disturbing patterns in the treatment of civilians and humanitarian relief workers by Israeli Defense Forces," the letter said.

"Judging from the means and methods employed by the IDF - F-16 fighter bombers, helicopter and naval gunships, missiles and bombs of heavy tonnage - the fighting has come to resemble all-out conventional warfare. In the process, hundreds of innocent noncombatant civilians have been killed...and heavy explosives have been dropped mere meters from schools were thousands of children were in attendance," Annan wrote.

More troublesome still, has been the wanton killing of medical personnel by Israeli forces, a grisly truth that has spotted media casualty reports. An example of a single day's coverage in the International Herald Tribune (March 10): "...including a hospital director who was shot in the head, ...one of them was an ambulance worker trying to reach the wounded, ...a hospital administrator and an ambulance worker were among Palestinians killed." Reports indict that 70 percent of all Palestinian ambulances have been destroyed.

The IHT's coverage from the same day included an appalling photograph of an Israeli tank pushing bullet-riddled Palestinian ambulances around like 'dinky' cars. "In recent days, several medical relief workers were killed when Israeli soldiers fired on clearly marked ambulances... In addition, Israeli forces repeatedly declined to grant medical personnel access to conflict areas to treat and evacuate the

wounded," Annan said.

The letter from Annan, which was dated 12 March and turned up at the UN headquarters in New York, sites the "unfounded and unsubstantiated allegations" by the Israeli government that ambulances had been used to "smuggle Palestinian militants and weapons" - a claim that government made in 1982 as well, when a helicopter-gunship sent two missiles through the back door of an UN ambulance in full view of journalists, "hurling it twenty metres through the air" and killing a 60-year old woman and her 11-year old niece.

The latest violence was no secret mission, Ariel "the Bulldozer" Sharon promised a to "inflict greater losses", hoping that a "bad beating" would put Palestinians in a position where they would "beg for surrender". He was right, the losses inflicted by the take-over of the (already) Occupied Territories were so great that, for the first time in the intifada, actual death tolls were postponed in favour of terms like, "heavy losses".

The CBC's National showed some remarkable footage of the world's second-most advanced military battling pathetically under-equipped Palestinian guerrillas. "Here, a Palestinian gunman resists an Israeli tank attack," anchor Peter Mansbridge said, as video captured the guerrilla firing through a hole in a free-standing brick wall. As the gunman pulled back for cover behind the wall Mansbridge said, "this was the Israeli response": as a tank shell exploded the entire wall in a shocking fireball that filled the video screen. So it goes in occupied Palestine.

Although President Bush II mentioned, in his first press conference in five months, that Sharon's tactics were "not helpful" in finding a path to peace, the American response to "our good friend" Israel has been slovenly throughout the violence. Always quick and thorough in condemning Yasser Arafat, Senator Hillary Clinton neatly encapsulated the official response from the American administration when she claimed two weeks ago that her role as a US Senator is "to support Israeli people." To which 25-year Mideast-veteran correspondent Robert Fisk, responded: "Really? What's wrong with supporting innocent Palestinians as well? Wrong religion? Back-to-front writing? Wrong eye colour?"

While the suicide bombings of Israeli innocents are without a doubt an abomination, the tactics of the Palestinian resistance to occupation should not be the sole focus of the discussion on the Middle East. As Columbia Professor Edward Said, a leading Mideast scholar, wrote in January, "since when does a militarily occupied people have responsibility for a peace movement?"

It is a question that is worth thinking about as American envoy, retired-General Anthony Zinni tours the region meeting Israeli representatives without set plans to meet with Palestinians. Some context on Zinni (who said "war is the easy part") is worth noting: as a Commander he oversaw the post-Gulf War massacre of revolting Iraqi's by Saddam Hussein, he was a Commander in the Somalia debacle, as well as during the 1998 bombing of Iraq, on top of being in charge of the Central Command deployment of 36,000 troops to Saudi Arabia before the Gulf War.

Zinni's resume is one that might not be welcomed by the Arab world, especially given that he is under strict instructions to not discuss the "political" side of the conflict (ie. restoration of '67 borders, removal of settlements, right of return) but simply to focus on curbing the violence that stems from those factors.

In short, unless the political side is addressed, there can be no hope of peace with justice in the Middle East. Is it any wonder then that Vice-President Dick Cheney - on an Arab-state tour to gain support for another attack on Iraq - is surprised that all the Arab world wants to discuss is the Palestinian question?

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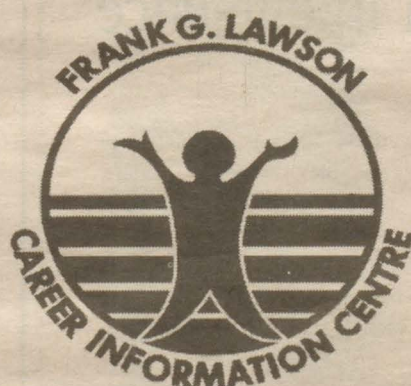
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"There is no such thing as a neutral educational process. Education either functions as an instrument which is used to facilitate the integration of the younger generation into the logic of the present system and bring about conformity to it, or it becomes the practice of freedom - the means by which men and women deal critically and creatively with the reality and discover how to participate in the transformation of their world."

Pedagogy of oppressed, 1970, Paulo Freire

"Reaction is not Revolution. It is not revolution when the oppressed adopt the manner of the oppressors."

'The Female Eunuch', 1970, Germaine Greer

"There comes an hour when protest no longer suffices; after philosophy there must be action."

Les Misérables, 1863, Victor Hugo

Letters

Dear Tyler Kustra,

I am quoted by you in two March 14 articles of the Gazette (Dal allegedly hiding \$\$\$, Dal allegedly has the money): In the first, you state "the wife of DFA president Andy Wainwright said Tom Traves asked the government to delay the announcement of a \$4.6 million grant for Dalhousie until after the strike. 'It looks like Traves delayed the announcement until after the strike,' Marjorie Stone said to a meeting of Students for a Democratic Dal. 'We should be celebrating that money and not trying to hide it.'"

In the second article, you state that I said in the same meeting, "President Traves probably asked the minister to postpone the announcement."

I categorically deny that I made such statements at this meeting. I also find it strange that a reporter whom I have never met, whom I have never spoken to, and who was not at the meeting in question is including a direct quotation from me in these news reports. As students who were at this meeting will attest, what I did say was that, while it looked to some that there may have been a request from the President to delay the announcement, there was no proof of this fact. I also said that if we had in fact received this money, we should be celebrating the fact.

Your report turns my statement about perceptions that may exist among some into a statement of fact that constitutes a very serious allegation against the President of Dalhousie: an allegation I did not make, and have no grounds to make. It also completely omits my emphasis on the absence of any proof for the perceptions I referred to.

As well, my colleagues and students I have spoken to are amazed that in 2002, the same reporter could, on the one hand, identify a male faculty member (Dr. Bradfield) as "a widely respected economics professor," and on the other hand, identify a female faculty member simply as the "wife" of another faculty member.

The students (of SDD) who were at this meeting attest that this letter describes what I actually said concerning the speculations I reported at the meeting. They join me in calling for a retraction of your statement. They also think that you should in the future recognize that women have professional identities and professional titles too.

Sincerely yours,
Marjorie Stone

Professor of English and Women's Studies
Assistant Dean, Research, Arts and Social Sciences
(during the strike, Student Liaison Officer for the DFA)

SDD undersigned: Ezra Edelstein, Caroline St-Germain, Jessica Squires, Jen Pierce, Katherine Ross, Andrew Angus, Dave Wallbridge, Chris Hamilton.

Tyler Kustra responds

Dear Dr. Stone,

The staff of *The Gazette*, and me personally, would like to apologize for the stories that ran in last week's edition of *The Gazette*.

You are correct in saying I was never at the meeting in question; *The Gazette's* associate news editor, Caitlin Kealey, was. She gave me the quotes I used in the story. We deeply regret if the context you said them in was lost, changing their meaning.

We also apologize for accidentally cutting out references to your professional identity during editing.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work you have done, and are doing, as a professor of both English and Women's studies, assistant dean, research, arts and social sciences and the DFA's student liaison during the faculty strike. An infinitely better description of you would read "Assistant dean, research, arts and social science and the DFA's student liaison during the strike."

We are very sorry about the incident.

Yours truly,
Tyler Kustra
News Editor

Were you on drugs???

I must commend Mr. Kustra's restraint in not pointing out that Marjorie Stone also enjoys baking lasagna and caring for the homestead (not that these aren't worthwhile pursuits, but they have about as much relevance to Marjorie Stone's statements as, say, her marital status does). In Tyler Kustra's article, "Dal Allegedly has the \$\$\$" professor Michael Bradfield is referred to as "a widely respected economics professor" which he rightfully is.

However, in the same article, the only relevant qualifying title

that could be conceived for Dr. Marjorie Stone was not "the Assistant Dean of Research for Arts", nor "the Dalhousie Faculty Association's Student Liaison" and not even as "a well respected professor in Women's studies and English." No, all these titles pale in comparison to her status as Andy Wainwright's "wife".

Mr. Kustra's second article begins with the words "The wife of DFA president Andy Wainwright said: 'again, I implore you Mr. Kustra, we are not pre-feudal, we do not need to constantly preface a woman's remarks with her closest kinsman to give her legitimacy, particularly when her other qualifications abound."

In not recognizing Dr. Stone's status beyond that of "wife of-dom" her comments' authenticity are thrown into doubt, until we get two other references to 'official' people: SMU president Colin Dodds who affirms her statement, and a denial by a "spokeswoman for the minister" whose marital status, it is fortunate that Mr. Kustra didn't know or she probably wouldn't even have registered as that.

Having vented, I would like to add that I am impressed with the fact that Tyler found the time to cover three ginormous articles this week - outside of the flagrantly sexist bits, they were quite good.

- rebecca grant

Bad Bog! bad!

President Traves,

As a fourth-year student at Dalhousie University, I am deeply disappointed with the position that the Board of Governors has taken with regards to the current contract dispute. Furthermore, I believe that the administration is sending misleading emails to student accounts, and creating half-truths in its press releases in a blatant effort to sway public opinion in its direction. I am here to say that your publicity campaign will not work.

Here is an example of what I, and many others, find deeply disturbing with regards to your media campaign. The board wrote the following in Wednesday's press release:

"On the third day of renewed bargaining between the two parties,

the process ended when the union presented the university with two new proposals that only reaffirmed their previous position on the central staffing issue. Because the union was unwilling to change its position, the university made the decision that very brief meetings over a period of many days were not helping the two parties to move toward an agreement."

Your media release says nothing with regards to the fact that the DFA has proposed that the Board and the DFA submit the complement issue to binding arbitration. As a result, you are deliberately misleading the public by stating that the DFA has not changed its position. When two parties cannot come to a collective agreement, taking the issue to binding arbitration is a very reasonable proposal; in fact, this is why binding arbitration exists. The

fact that the board outright rejected this proposal only reaffirms the growing public sentiment that the board has little concern for the quality of education at Dalhousie.

The absolute least the board could have done in this matter would have been to get the facts straight. Since this wasn't the case, one can only assume that the board is either grossly incompetent, or that they do not want the public to know what is really going on. I am not unequivocally putting my support behind the DFA. Rather, I believe that both sides must compromise in order to arrive at a settlement that is satisfactory to the University, faculty, and students. However, in order for this to occur, the public must first be made fully aware of the facts, a commitment that the Board of Governors seems perfectly willing to ignore.

- josh bates

Rebuttal

I fully agree with Mr. Larry Reitman that "Justice requires the truth." Sadly, however, his letter {"Division of the Middle" March 7} shows total lack of factual truth.

He claims that the "Ottomans relinquished all claims (to Palestine) to the British, at the Treaty of Sevres, 1920". False, because it assumes that the Turks have a legitimate right to relinquish the land of the Palestinians (Palestine) to the British or any one else.

The Sevres Treaty, between Turkey and the Allied Powers, was not ratified by the Turkish National Assembly, because of its reference to the Balfour Declaration. Three years later the Allied Powers concluded with Turkey the Treaty of Lausanne, July 24, 1923. Unlike the abortive Treaty of Sevres, the new treaty omitted any reference to the Balfour Declaration, or to its acceptance by Turkey.

Be that as it may, the reference to the Balfour Declaration displays how hollow is the Zionists' claim to Palestine. This declaration is a letter from Lord Balfour, the British Foreign Secretary, to a Jewish British citizen, Lord Rothschild, stating: "His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing no-Jewish communities in Palestine".

It is interesting to note that the four-letter word "Arab" occurs not once in this 'document'. To refer to the Muslim and Christian Arabs of Palestine - who at the time constituted 92 percent of the population of Palestine and owned 98 percent of its land - as the "non-Jewish communities" is not merely preposterous but deliberately

fraudulent. Needless to say, the letter from Lord Balfour has not a shred of legality in international law because Palestine did not belong to Balfour to assume such acts of generosity.

Noted British historian, Professor Arnold Toynbee, described the British role in issuing this document: "We [the British] were taking it upon ourselves to give away something that was not ours to give. We were promising rights of some kind in the Palestinian Arabs' country to a third party." Similarly, the well-known Jewish writer, Arthur Koestler, summed it up aptly when he described the Balfour Declaration as a document in which "one nation promised another the country of a third".

Let us now look at the facts regarding the UN General assembly Partition Scheme of Nov. 29, 1947. At that time, the Jews in Palestine constituted one third of the population, a large number of them illegal immigrants, and owned 5.6 percent of the land. This scheme allowed 56 percent for the Jewish state and 42 percent for the Arab state, 2 percent for Jerusalem as an international entity. Would any people, in the place of the Palestinians, accept such an injustice?

Mr. Riteman reaches the height of audacity by questioning the number of the refugees and the way the Zionist forces uprooted them and cleansed them from their homeland, through a planned orchestrated process. It would take volumes to document the massacres and procedures used. He re-produces the old Israeli lie that the refugees left "at the urging of their own leaders," through radio broadcasts. This fable was dismantled and exposed by Erskine Childers *The Spectator*, 12 May 1961, who examined the American and British monitoring records of all Middle East broadcasts throughout 1948, and reported: "There was not a single order or

appeal or suggestion about evacuation from Palestine, from any Arab radio station, inside or outside Palestine, in 1948. There is repeated monitored record of Arab appeals even flat orders, to civilians of Palestine to stay put."

I will let Nathan Chofshi, a well-known Israeli thinker, tell Mr. Riteman, as he told Rabbi Kaplan, another Israeli apologist, how Israel's leaders drove the Palestinians out of their homes: "If Rabbi Kaplan really wanted to know what happened, we old settlers in Palestine who witnessed the flight, could tell him how and in what manner we, Jews, forced the Arabs to leave their cities and villages... Here was a people who lived on its own land... We came and turned the native Arabs into tragic refugees. And we still dare to slander and malign them, to besmirch their name. Instead of being ashamed of what we did and of trying to undo some of the evil we committed by helping these unfortunate refugees, we justify our terrible acts and even attempt to glorify them."

I think it behooves Mr. Riteman to take heed of the truth instead of maligning Ms. Grant, who has the courage to tell the truth.

- ismail zayid

GAZETTE
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ROCK N' REEL

by malcolm kempt

the gazette

Ciamar a tha sibh? A bheil thu a'tighinn air cheilidh orm a-nochd?

Confused? Don't worry, you're not alone. Although many people enjoy traditional songs and Celtic music across Canada, the ancient language of Scottish-Gaelic is only spoken by approximately 70,000 people worldwide. Many of those people reside in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia as a result of the great immigration during the Highland Clearance of the eighteenth century. Descendants of native speakers and language enthusiasts who have learned the language throughout the province have carried on the oral tradition.

Slàinte Mhath (pronounced 'slawn-cha-va') is a Maritime band that upholds the tradition. This highly successful Celtic group derived its name from a Scottish expression meaning "good health to you." With their unique brand of rockin' and reelin', the young quintet pushes the boundaries of traditional music into the future while keeping the crowd on their feet.

When fellow Celtic artists, Uisce Beatha (pronounced 'ish-ka ba-ha'), changed their name back in 1997 to the terribly bland, Red, their career took a turn for the worse. Widely held as one of the most exciting and promising independent Canadian acts of the '90s, the band all but disappeared from the musical map and alienated most of their fans with the change. Despite the similar difficulty Canadians have in pronouncing Slàinte Mhath, the group has no plans to change its name and continues to find success with its perplexing handle.

"I regretted it at the odd time in the beginning, but it seems to have gotten us more attention than anything else," says founding member Ryan MacNeil during a sound check at the Marquee Club. "I studied Gaelic for a year; myself and Boyd [Ryan's brother and co-founder] when we first started the band. Our grandparents were Gaelic speakers and that's how we came across the name. We were young then and we weren't thinking about marketing and promoting. We just slapped a name on and it stuck."

The band first formed in 1994 after The Barra MacNeils asked brothers Ryan and Boyd to put together an opening act. Fiddler, percussionist and stepdancer Lisa Gallant, percussionist/bassist Brian Talbot and piper John MacPhee were added to the line-up shortly after. Eight years and millions of touring miles later, this innovative and progressive group has garnered dozens of awards, established a growing fan-base and wowed audiences around the world.

Slàinte Mhath has established a solid foundation from playing to sold-out crowds in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and Scandinavia as well as appearing on a number of Canadian and European television programs. Following this year's East Coast Music Awards, the band headed to Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto for a few dates before catching the red-eye to London for a short tour that included a stop at the BBC Folk Awards. Seemingly always on tour, the group has shared the stage with Emmy Lou Harris, Arlo Guthrie, the Chieftains, Great Big Sea, Ashley MacIsaac, Natalie MacMaster, Leahy and a host of other great performers over the past few years with positive responses at every show. The members hope this success will continue in 2002 with the release of their new, as-yet-untitled album.

"We haven't decided on a distribution company yet, so as soon as that is resolved, we'll set a release date. I'm not going to give you an exact date because I don't want to jinx it," says Gallant as she knocks sharply on the barroom table. "The mixing and mastering is finished. We are just about wrapped up on the album design and stuff, as well. So, it will be soon, very soon."

Fans of the band will be excited to hear that the group hasn't strayed too far from its original sound on the new recording; rather expanding on it with more modern



influences.

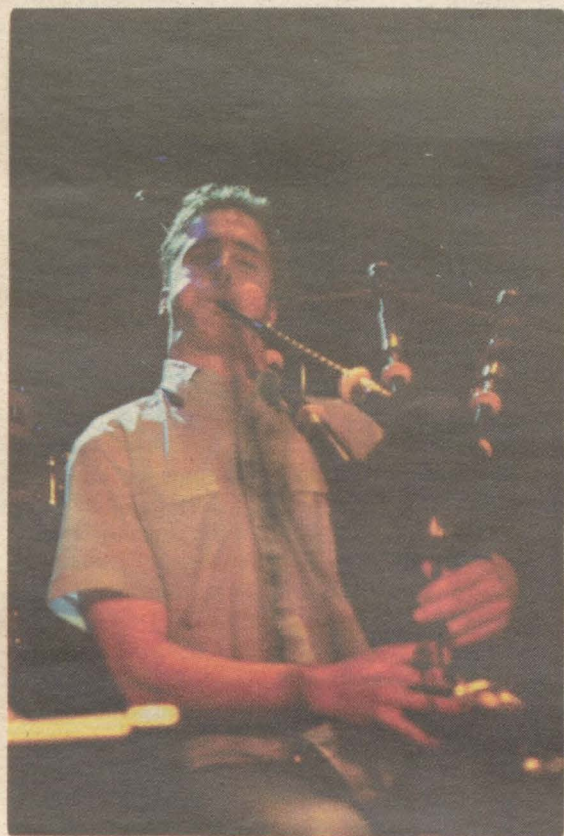
"If anything, I think it's a bigger sound," says MacNeil. "We used a producer from Toronto named Joao Carvalho. He's worked with Hayden and more recently with the Rascalz so he's used to a pretty broad range of stuff but he's never done a Celtic album. We went to him and he really understood what we wanted to do. We actually used some vocal sampling on this record and I'm getting more into the old analog keyboard sound. Boyd also used a 486-computer and a shareware program to create some really original drum loops without a kit. He used all kinds of percussion stuff he had lying around. We ended up using some of the original loops on the album. I think people will really like it."

"We've always been described as being progressive Celtic but I'm never really sure what it is we're progressing toward," says Gallant with a laugh. "It's more of a fusion of many different styles. We always try and blend each one into our own sound."

This summer, the band hopes to promote its new album on home turf as it tours the Canadian festival circuit. As you head to your respective hometowns and job placements at the end of the school year, keep your eyes peeled for strange Gaelic band-names in your local bar listings and pick up Slàinte Mhath's new album.



photos by matt greer



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Tina Turner Drag Queens

What's nuts got to do with it?



by christopher a. walsh

the gazette

It was a private dance for approximately 100 people. Debbie Dallis—the drag queen performed a tribute to the notorious queen of soul last Sunday night at Reflections Cabaret.

The stockings were tight, the dresses were short, and the make-up was thick as Debbie and the Free Zone dancers ripped through the Tina Turner catalogue, performing classic hits like “Private Dancer” and “What’s Love Got To Do With It.” Sporting five-inch heels and a bundle of luxurious gowns, Debbie delivered everything the smoky standing-room crowd wanted, inspiring some to show their appreciation by stuffing crumpled bills down her bra.

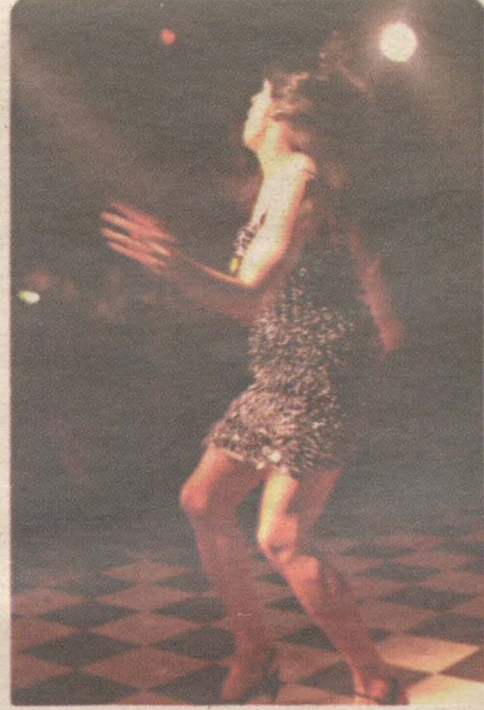
Debbie didn’t mind; those big spending fans were allowed to steal a kiss and cop a feel without throwing her off the mark. Her constant showmanship was apparent throughout the night as Debbie tried to capture a little bit of that old “high octane, soul-testifying” magic Tina is known for.

She wasn’t alone in creating that sweaty enchantment though. Helping her out between songs were other talented drag queens like the incandescent Rhoda, who seemed to draw as much praise from the audience, if not more money.

But money is not the way drag queens value or judge themselves. On that cold St. Patrick’s night, it was about the music...and the dancing. Debbie stole the show and the crowd’s heart, winning over new fans like the albino wizards and the group of estranged irishmen who appeared to accidentally walk into the bar.

They stayed for the entire show, cheering and wooing as Debbie stalked the dance floor with the same raw, strong legs Tina boasts. The wizards got lost in the excitement and could be heard shouting “Look at those legs,” while toasting each other and trying their best to keep their wife-beaters dry. And this is where the real magic was.

Debbie may not be black, and Tina may not be a man, but on this night none of that mattered. The lines between race, gender, and sexuality were obscured for that brief moment in time when Debbie Dallis took the stage at Reflections and mouthed the words “we don’t need another hero.” And maybe we don’t. But just knowing that Debbie is out there, is all the comfort any of us really need.



photos by tonie mcMahon

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underground initiations

by ryan delehanty

the gazette

Leon Thomas Had a Masterplan

A man who has yet to achieve true stardom in the jazz world, the late Leon Thomas exists as a unique and talented jazz vocalist.

Thomas inspired and influenced a devout group of fans during his career. His lyrics were poetic, spiritual and soulful, his voice deep and expressive, precisely painting the soul of the music.

Thomas first made his mark on the jazz scene in 1969, singing "The Creator Has a Master Plan" with Pharoah Sanders. The song was felt deeply by many because of its uplifting lyrics, screeching horns and Thomas' unique vocal warble, a pygmy-like yodeling with mysterious origins Thomas refers to as "Soularfone."

Leon Thomas was born in East St. Louis, Illinois on Oct. 4, 1937. Thomas began singing in school choirs, and at the age of 16 he was spotted by a local disc jockey while jamming in a small club. This encounter garnered Thomas a weekly radio spot for his scat singing, and with this exposure he developed a significant local following. Thomas moved to New York, in 1958, where he recorded an album for RCA which was not released before he left to tour with Art Blakey. Thomas then replaced Joe Williams for a brief stint in the Count Basie big band in 1961. With

Basie's band Thomas was able to tour and sang at the inaugurations of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, but never recorded.

Thomas then moved to L.A. where he spent several months working with Horace Tapscott and the Members of the Underground Musicians and Artists Association (UMAA). Tapscott was a politically outspoken pianist, who was emerging as a leader in the avant-garde jazz community. The time spent in L.A. acted as an artistic awakening for Thomas. Thomas returned to Brooklyn and began playing with Randy Weston, a pianist heavily influenced by African Rhythms. Archie Shepp, avant-garde tenor saxophonist, pianist, and vocalist began to visit the pair along with Pharoah Sanders, who had spent the past few years playing in John Coltrane's free jazz ensembles of the mid-60s. The near nine-minute track featuring Sanders on sax marked the first appearance of Thomas' scat-yodeling which would become his trademark for the remainder of his career.

A strange combination of sounds, Thomas' distinct vocals have even stranger origins. Trying to collect money owed to him, Thomas decided to exercise his mental powers and force this debt-dodger to answer the phone. Leon began his yoga exercises and got into a head stand before proceeding to walk upside down towards the phone. He transcended upon entering his bedroom and fell flat on his face, his teeth puncturing his

bottom lip, blood flowing freely. One day and eight stitches later Thomas took the stage with Sanders thinking he wouldn't be able to sing, when it came time for him to scat he was shocked by the noises he made, his throat articulation which he later dubbed "Soularfone".

A month after they recorded Izipho Zam, Sanders and Thomas were hard at work on the album *Karma*. Thomas added lyrics to an old Sanders song "Pisces Moon" transforming it into his most famous work, "The Creator Has a Master Plan." This album along with its 1970 follow-up *Jewels of Thought* featuring Thomas' contribution "Hum-Allah" brought the duo a worldwide audience, and introduced many to Thomas' unique style. In 1969, Thomas released *Spirits Known and Unknown*, the first of his solo albums for Thiele's Flying Dutchman Records. Bob Thiele also produced several of John Coltrane's classic recordings.

Flying Dutchman Records offered Thomas the freedom he sought, and was home to the bulk of Thomas' creative output. Thomas' second album *The Leon Thomas Album* was released in 1970, followed by several live albums, *Blues and Soulful Truth* (1972) and *Full Circle* (1973). These albums showcase Thomas' diverse talents and eclecticism as Thomas mixed politically conscious lyrics with free-jazz, blues, Latin percussion, spirituality, and black pride. Thomas could also be heard playing a variety

of flutes: Thai, South American, conch shells, and African flutes (hindewe).

Among his many fans were Louis Armstrong and Johnny Hodges. Thomas appeared on Armstrong's final album singing a new rendition of his classic "The Creator Has a Master Plan". The quality of Thomas' solo output is also reflected in his winning best male jazz vocalist for four consecutive years in *Downbeat Magazine's* readers poll from 1970-1973.

The eclectic Thomas' appeal wasn't limited to the jazz scene; Carlos Santana was also a big fan of Thomas' and asked him to join the band in 1973 before a tour of Japan. Thomas, having always wanted to go to Japan, eagerly agreed. He also played flute, percussion and did vocals on Santana's albums *Lotus* and *Welcome*. He left Santana after only a year, having found the touring and frequent drug use that accompanied it too demanding.

Thomas' work has influenced a diverse group of artists, such as hip-hop act The Herbaliser, The Band and Tim Buckley. On the other side of the spectrum is Captain Beefheart who began to incorporate free jazz ideas into his music in the late 60s.

Thomas remained in relative obscurity during the 80s and 90s. Plagued by drugs and other personal problems, he released little that was of the same calibre as his classic Flying Dutchman recordings. Thomas cut tracks with his old friend Sanders on his albums *Shukuru* (1983) and *Oh Lord, Let Me Do No Wrong* (1987). Thomas then released a live album *Precious Energy* (1993) with saxophonist Gary Bartz.

Still troubled by drug

problems from his days with Santana, Thomas cleaned himself up in 1994 and attempted a comeback.

Unfortunately his health was failing him, and by 1997 he was wearing a hearing aid and his singing became inconsistent - although when he was on, it was still considered to be incredible. Thomas' final release was a collaboration vocalist Jeri Brown on her 1998 album *Zaius*. Thomas and Brown sang a number of duets including two of his own creations "The Creator Has a Master Plan" and "Sun Song."

Leon Thomas died on Saturday, May 8, 1999 in a Bronx hospital near his home of heart failure related to leukemia.

Still playing shows up to the night before his death, Thomas never succeeded in making the comeback he had dreamed of. Despite this disappointment, Thomas has left behind a unique and diverse body of work that will insure his influence on future generations of both jazz players, and musicians working in other genres. His message of peace and brotherhood was universal, and his solo work and collaborations with Pharoah Sanders are sure to make for many wonderful discoveries for generations of music fans to come.

Check out Underground Initiations Radio on 97.5 CKDU FM Thursdays from Midnight-2 a.m. Os Mutantes will be featured on the March 21 edition, Leon Thomas on March 28, and an electronic music special in April with Suicide, Adult, Polkadot Chokealot, Gravy Train, Tracy & the Plastics and others. Please email any questions or comments to undergroundinitiations@hotmail.com

Notice to Students: Dalhousie Term will be Completed

As the strike by the Dalhousie Faculty Association continues in its third week, our students are more and more worried about its effect on their ability to complete the academic year. Students have common questions and concerns: *Will the term or the year be cancelled? At what point will it be necessary to extend the year into May?*

The University has no intention of cancelling the term or year. We wish to protect the time, energy and money that students have invested in their studies. We will endeavour to end the academic year on schedule, around April 29. We know that our students, whether they are graduating or not, have plans—jobs, summer school, or other priorities that are important—that they cannot afford to have delayed.

How this can be achieved will vary from one academic program to another. When the strike ends, changes to the academic schedule, including compression of the examination timetable and other measures, will be recommended to Senate. Our goal is to allow our students to finish their classes and earn their credits without interfering with their summer plans. We believe that this is possible, even if the strike extends into a fourth week.

If the strike lasts even longer, the University still intends to complete the year. This would be done in a way that minimizes the disruption of our students' summer plans and will take account of any special difficulties they face because of an extension of the academic term.

We believe that our faculty who are on strike share our concern for the welfare of our students and will cooperate in helping them complete their studies once the strike ends.

We will continue to update Dalhousie students through student e-mail, Web for Students and media announcements.

Classes will not resume until further notice.

For more information, students can contact the labour dispute telephone line: (902)494.3358 or 1.866.677.2961



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Getting to Halifax Took Years of Practice

The Frenetics finally hit the east coast

by Caitlin Kealey

the gazette

If their van can hold up for the 14-hour trip, the Frenetics will finally get to play a show in Halifax.

Lead singer, Malcolm Bault calls from a garage somewhere in Montreal to talk about the upcoming shows, their new video and their recent release. He's getting their van fixed up to make the long drive with Kiss Me Deadly to play with Dead Red on Sunday night at the Khyber.

"I think it's never not been broken. It's stressful on the non-existent band fund," says Bault, amid the clamour of the garage. During their May 2001 US tour, they had to cancel a show in Chicago that they were looking forward to the most.

"It turned out to only be a 20 dollar part, but we thought it was

very bad because it was making very scary noises."

Bault sees being a band in Canada as having two sides.

"There's always the interesting thing that we [Canadians] don't necessarily recognize bands until they become popular in the States. You see that a lot and I think it's quite difficult for groups here to tour the country because the population is quite a bit smaller and the fact that the distances between cities is quite large I think that's quite a challenge."

Bault says the Frenetics have taken advantage of grants offered up by the Canadian government. They received one factor grant for touring and are in the process of applying for another. They also received Videofact funding to work on their new video. The first part of which was shot last weekend.

"It's money that is being put

aside by the government for artists like us. I think there are advantages here with Canadian content but that sometimes can be a double-sided coin. There are obviously benefits and draw backs of being a Canadian band."

The Frenetics seem to be enjoying it so far. From their inception in Aug. 1999 Bault and drummer Anne Gauthier, have seen two bassists come and go but they are still going strong with the recent addition of Alex Seliger.

In September 2001, they released *These Mistakes Took Years of Practice* on Montreal's the Union 2112, which is 1/3 Stomp Records, home to the Canadian ska all-stars the Planet Smashers and the Kingpins.

The Frenetics are musically far from ska. Bault is reluctant to pigeonhole their sound into one easy digestible sentence but sees it as a necessary in the music/publicity business.

"We have been using is a mix of '70s British punk and '90s indie American rock, says Bault. "That sort of fits into a sentence, but it's sort of evil to have to do that."

Many people liken their sound to pre-*London Calling* Clash. A few critics say they sound too similar and need to become more original.

"If they say we sound like



them - guilty as charged. I think it's okay to sound like other bands, I don't think you have to be a 100 percent original. I think the important thing is whether or not people enjoy what you're doing or not. I think most people are intelligent enough to know it's all been done before. I know that doesn't stop me from enjoying a lot of the bands I like, I realize they sound like other bands but that's part of the nostalgia too."

The other band making the long haul to Halifax is Kiss Me

Deadly, another Montreal-based band. Bault describes them as emo-ish with both a drum machine and live drumming, screaming male and female vocals, combined delayed guitars playing competing melodies. The band is on a label called Blue Skies Turn Black.

The Frenetics are excited to finally get out to Halifax. They've been trying to play here for a while, but have never been able to get a date that works for them. They've never made it further east than Saint John, New Brunswick.

The long-term effects of Ritalin

a column by greg angevine

If This So-Called "Middle East" Actually Exists, It Must Be Wild!

I'm not one to jump to conclusions, but lately I've noticed more and more references to a place southeast of Europe and northeast of Africa commonly referred to by Hollywood types as the "Middle East". This seems to be a very fierce place, full of angry people who hurt on the inside and then hurt each other. Like most disaffected college students, I had assumed that this place was similar to the scenes in Mel Gibson's Road Warrior movie, especially since purchasing the new collectors edition DVD. Is this what the "Middle East" is like? Is Tina Turner there? Sort of like a superiorly written version of Waterworld? When you go to a movie in the "Middle East" do people shout out "Dry land is not a myth!" as a joke? Why don't people get along in the "Middle East"? Is it because some appreciate Kevin Costner as an accomplished film producer and can't understand people who appreciate him as a quality dramatic actor? Honestly now, why can't the presidents of Hollywood film companies dictate a peace settlement to the peoples of the "Middle East"? After all, it was their crazy ideas that started all the problems anyway. Like the movie "The Postman", and most recently the remake of "Planet of the Apes". Those films are obviously linked to the ongoing crisis in this mystical place northeast of Africa. Where have you gone T.E. Lawrence, where have you gone?

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Alberta wins national crown

by quentin casey

the gazette

The University of Alberta's men's basketball team has been crowned this year's CIS champion. Alberta defeated the University of Western Ontario 76-71 in front of more than 6,600 fans at the Metro Centre in Halifax this past weekend. Sunday's final was a battle of the tournament's two top seeds with Alberta pulling off the slight upset over the number one ranked Western.

Western came into the three-day tournament as the favourite, backed by sharp-shooting forward Andy Kwiatkowski. The fourth-year Kitchener native was this year's national player of the year and was second in the country in scoring with an average of 25.1 points per game. The Mustangs defeated Victoria 71-65 in Friday's opening game and won a hard fought battle against Laval in Saturday's first semi-final by a score of 79-64.

Alberta came into the tournament led by first team All-Canadian forward Robbie Valpreda and explosive guard Stephen Parker, an All-Canadian honourable mention. The Golden Bears claimed

a 68-58 quarterfinal win over the hometown St. Mary's Huskies and knocked out York 66-59 in Saturday's second semi-final.

Sunday's final proved to be the tournament's most exciting and closest game, from start to finish. Alberta maintained a slim lead until Western tied the game at 22 a piece on two free throws. Both teams rallied back and forth until half-time when Alberta took a slim 38-37 advantage into the break.

Alberta maintained their slight lead throughout the second half by getting to the foul line 27 times. Constant fouling in the low post by Western allowed Alberta to score 21 points from the line alone in the second half. Western cut the lead down to two points with a three-point play with little over two and a half minutes to go at 69-67. But Stephen Parker quickly answered for the Golden Bears with an acrobatic reverse lay-up to push their advantage to four points.

"This is the time of the year when you've got to pull out all the stops. I aimed for the basket and it went in, that's all that matters," said Stephen Parker after the game when asked about his clutch shot.

Western continued to press

on in the dying minutes. With one minute left, they cut the lead to a single basket and regained possession. As he had done all season, Andy Kwiatkowski took control of the ball for Western's last shot. But as he fell into triple coverage he threw a dangerous cross-court pass that was picked off by Stephen Parker who took it the length of the court for the score.

"I knew they were looking for Kwiatkowski at the end because he's their go-to guy. We were giving them some good pressure so he couldn't get a good enough shot and had to pass it out as a good player would do, he didn't want to force up a bad shot. I just timed it right, went down and dunked it," said Parker.

"That's the way the pace of the game went, we went to the line and we made some big shots. Those shots contributed just as much as any two-pointer that I hit, or that Robbie [Valpreda] hit, they all added up," he continued.

Stephen Parker finished the game for Alberta with 17 points, while Robbie Valpreda added 12 points and eight rebounds. Andy Kwiatkowski paced Western with a game high 25 points, seven rebounds and four assists. 6'9" centre Chris Brown added nine points and six rebounds in the losing cause for Western.

Parker's strong play throughout the tournament earned him the weekend's MVP award. Fellow Golden Bear Robbie Valpreda was named as an all-star along with Western's Andy Kwiatkowski and Jim Grozelle. Laval's David Brownrigg, and York's Dean Labayen also made the all-star team.

AUS teams bomb at nationals

by quentin casey

the gazette

Home court advantage was meaningless this past weekend at the CIS men's basketball championships, held at the Metro Centre in Halifax. Both AUS representatives, St. FX and SMU, had poor showings in the tournament. Number five ranked X lost 74-56 to Laval in Friday night's first quarterfinal, while seventh seed SMU put on a good show until Alberta took over to claim a 68-58 victory in the second game. Neither team qualified for Sunday's consolation game, leaving both winless in the tournament.

In the end, it was the Alberta Golden Bears claiming the W.P. McGee trophy for the top men's team in the country with a 76-71 win over Western in Sunday's final.

On Friday night, the X-men could not contain the explosive offence of Laval. The Rouge et Or shot 51 percent from the field, while X shot a dismal 36 percent. Jordan Croucher had the only hot hand for X. The 6'2" guard scored 20 points, including four three-pointers. Former Dal Tiger Will Jernigan added ten points and five rebounds. Laval rode the back of Samuel Audet-Sow, the third-year guard scored 26 on 8/11 shots.

St. Mary's fared slightly better as they maintained a close game against the Golden Bears of Alberta. SMU took a 30-21 lead into the half but Alberta started the second half on an 8-0 run to cut the lead to one point. SMU struggled to find their range in the

game's closing minutes as their edge slipped away. St. Mary's guard Nathan Anderson led SMU with 18 points. Alberta was paced by tournament MVP Stephen Parker who scored 23.

On Saturday, both teams were fighting to advance to Sunday's consolation game, but both came up short. X dropped their game to the tournament's eighth seeded team, Victoria, by a score of 73-65. Jordan Croucher was the X-men's high scorer for the second straight game with 18 points. Victoria's Keith Bustard netted 24 points in the win.

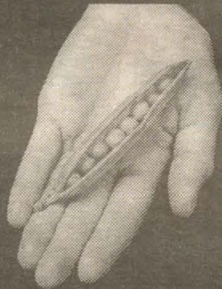
SMU struggled against Brandon by a score of 74-61. Home grown forward Damon Parachnowitsch had a team-high 14 points, while 6'9" centre Joe Prue had 15 for the Bobcats in the victory.

Saturday's game also marked the last career game for X's Dennie Oliver and Jordan Croucher. The two Halifax natives have been at the heart of the X basketball program for the past three seasons. During that time the X-men won the national title in both 2000 and 2001. Oliver capped off the regular season by leading the nation in rebounding and claiming a position as an All-Canadian. The departure of the two Xavier stars puts pressure on the program to rebuild for next season as the team hopes to win their fourth straight AUS title.

SMU on the other hand has a very young, talented team, with no senior player on their roster. If the team's nucleus can be held together they could prove to be a dominant force in the future.

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Dal's own Karate Kid

by kristina robinson

the gazette

Kelsey Cameron does not look like a fierce warrior. Appearances can be deceiving. Cameron looks like the average Dalhousie student. She's 21 years old and a scholarship student. She's also a third degree black belt and the chief instructor at the DalTech karate club.

Cameron began training in her hometown of Amherst, NS in the fall of 1992. She had participated in the usual mix of activities as a child until she had an open spot in her schedule.

"I had just quit figure skating and my dad thought it would be great if his teenage daughter knew how to defend herself," she says, "so I found myself in the beginners program with Sensei David Pyke and I've been going ever since."

Neither the physical or psychological aspects of karate revealed themselves to Cameron in a flash. In the beginning she was oblivious to martial arts as the next young whitebelt.

"I [recently] watched my orange belt grading and went in the next day and thanked my instructors for not giving up on me, because I was terrible," she says, laughing.

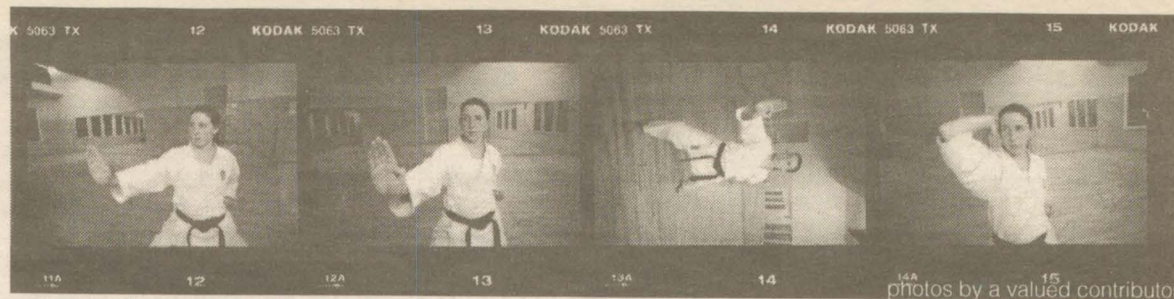
Eventually, though, there was a breakthrough. Cameron won her

first medal as a purple belt in a local tournament, and attended a karate camp in Toronto that summer. She trained with masters of the Caribbean, and began to realize that karate had a profound affect both inside and outside the dojo (training hall). "It was that summer that my eyes were opened to everything karate was about and what you could strive for."

In 1994, karate became increasingly important to Cameron. The Canadian National Championships were held in Halifax that year, and she placed third as a youth in kata - best described as choreographed blocks and attacks on imaginary opponents.

"That was when I was a brown belt, and I started training really hard," she says. "I'd come to class a half an hour early and just drill my katas. I liked that you got out of it what you put into it."

At the 1995 Nationals in Manitoba, she won a bronze, and then a gold the following year in British Columbia. She came to the attention of Master Frank Woon-A-Tai, sixth-degree black belt and chairman of the JKA-World Federation of Canada. He still takes a special interest in Cameron's training. In 1996, he invited her to compete at the World Shoto Cup in Japan as an adult rather than



in the youth division. At the Pan American championships in 1997, Cameron won gold medals in both Kata and sparring. Interestingly, Cameron decided to come to Dalhousie based on the strength of the karate club here. The Halifax-Japan Karate Association (JKA) is a well-established club, and has been a presence on both the Dalhousie and King's campuses for more than 20 years.

"I really wanted to train with the karate club here," she says. "It's been run by Tony Tam (a fifth degree black belt) and he's just an incredible instructor."

With two clubs on campus, there is a full range of classes for children, university students and adults, at beginning, intermediate and advanced levels.

Karate isn't really about smashing bricks or being the toughest kid on the block. Ideally, it becomes a lifestyle. Over time, the student—or karateka—learns the fluidity of the movements, and gradually realizes the confidence demonstrated by the masters. The student gains self-awareness and focus, not just in the dojo, but in

every other area of his or her life.

This profound confidence is the true goal of any karateka, and that is why it sometimes takes a lifetime to study. It's clear that Cameron is passionate about martial arts, for both its mental and physical benefits.

"It's a full-body workout; it emphasizes aerobic conditioning, strength and flexibility. Every class is a personal test, so you have something to train for; something to push yourself towards."

"There's the self-defence aspect, [which might be important to] people coming to the city for the first time. It's a different sort of environment [from other sports]. Respect is important and tradition is important."

And I would say that since I started karate, I'm better at

everything else I do."

Cameron hopes that Dal students will try a beginner class in karate, either in the King's dojo or at DalTech.

"You can come in at any level, and you can come in with any goals. If you think you don't have any coordination, so you can't do martial arts, that's a reason to come. Or if you don't think your flexible enough, it's the same thing. All your excuses not to come should be your reason to come."

But the facet of karate that pulls Cameron is the strong bond formed among the students.

"I had a friend that I joined the beginner program with, and we went straight through to black belt together," she says. "It was like a family, and I wanted to be part of it."

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Truro	7:00 am 8:15 am 12:45 pm 1:30 pm 4:00 pm 6:30 pm	8:10 am 9:35 am 2:05 pm 2:50 pm 5:15 pm 7:55 pm	1:20 pm 4:25 pm 5:05 pm 9:55 pm 10:50 pm	2:35 pm 5:50 pm 6:15 pm 11:15 pm 11:55 pm	\$12.94	\$23.01
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Saint John	7:00 am 12:45 pm	1:35 pm 8:15 pm	8:30 am 11:30 pm 6:00 pm	2:40 pm 6:15 pm 11:55 pm	\$62.10	\$110.40
Charlottetown	7:00 am 4:00 pm	5:20 pm 11:25 pm	8:00 am 2:20 pm	2:40 pm 11:55 pm	\$56.66	\$100.74
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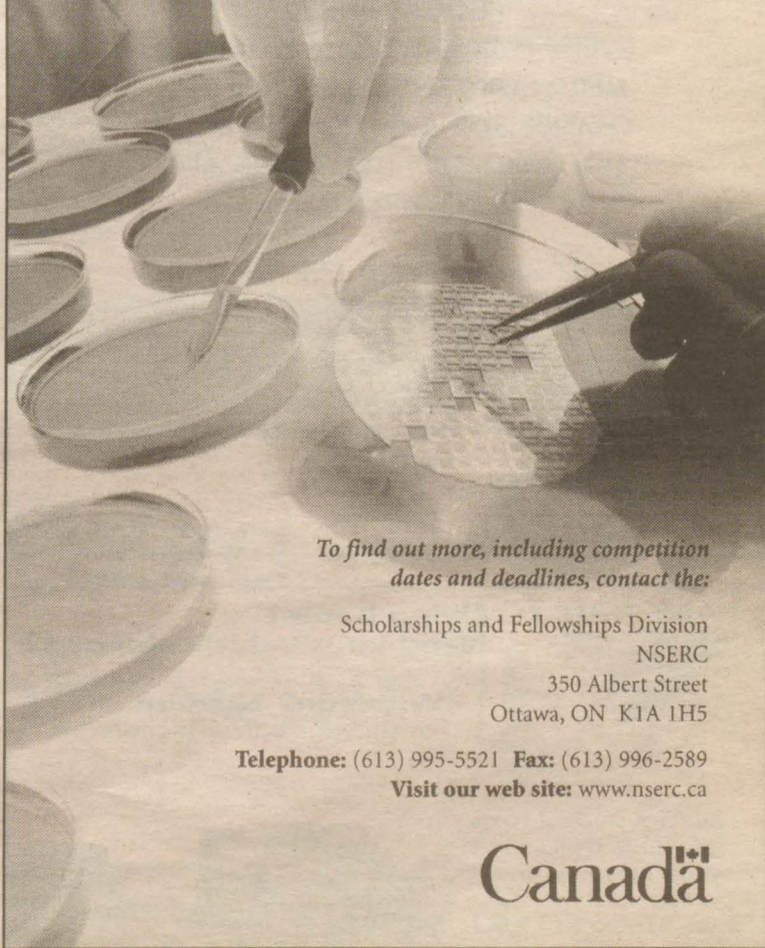
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Arsenic vs. splinters

by *lindsay o'reilly*
the gazette

It has been known for some time that chromate-copper-arsenate, or CCA, a preservative in pressure treated wood, is toxic. However, the amount of this arsenic-containing chemical that can leech from wood and how it affects people's health has recently become a topic of hot debate, both in Canada and abroad. This is following a rash of new studies in the US that have prompted the removal of pressure-treated wood from playgrounds and public areas in several states.

In a recent article in *Natural Life Magazine*, Nova Scotia environmentalist Brian Bradley refers to pressure treated wood as "a bomb, which, tomorrow, a month, or ten or more years from now, may show devastating and irreversible effects if action is not taken today."

Troy Massie, an employee of the Kent building supplies store on Chainlake Drive, says he's never received complaints about the pressure-treated wood he's sold, but

that he is aware of a growing public concern over its safety.

"We've actually been talking to our manufacturers, Suntrellis and Pantherace lately about these problems," said Massie. "They've assured us that a two-month-old would have to eat a six-by-six-by-sixteen block of wood in order to ingest enough of the chemical for it to be considered dangerous. And that even then, their main problem would be splinters."

When asked if he or his fellow employees passed along warnings concerning the wood to customers, Massie said they "don't say a thing."

Colin Mitchell, an employee of Kent's on Mic Mac Drive said he doesn't discourage the use of pressure-treated wood for things like playgrounds and decks. In fact, he said many of their pre-designed playground packages include pressure-treated wood.

Brian Bradley, of Sackville, NS, has been trying to educate the public about the risks of pressure-treated wood since he read an article about it in *Organic Gardening*

Magazine in 1994.

What a lot of people fail to realize is that pressure-treated wood contains arsenic, which is considered to be a non-threshold neuro-toxin," said Bradley. "This means that, no matter how little of this substance we ingest or inhale, it is doing damage. We are literally 'losing our nerves.'"

Bradley said that his efforts have met mixed reactions, "from completely supportive to completely rejecting." He gives talks to groups like the Kinsmen's club and the Kiwanis group on the hazards of pressure-treated wood, and currently has a petition in circulation demanding its removal from the market. However, the pressure-treated wood is a \$4 billion a year industry, and it won't be going down without a fight.

Henry Walthert, a representative for the Canadian Institute of Treated Wood, said that there is no real evidence that pressure-treated wood is harmful, "when used properly."

It's true that this product contains arsenic but arsenic is a natural element in the environment," said Walthert. "It's in shellfish, it's in the soil...you have a greater chance of



getting skin cancer from the sun than you do of getting it from pressure-treated wood."

Walthert said that in the more than 70 years that pressure-treated wood has been around, and the 40 years that it has been used residentially, the only reports of it having caused health problems have been in cases in which it was used improperly. Often, this means that people have burned the wood and

inhaled the smoke, or have sawed it without a mask and inhaled the dust.

Although Walthert said that in the past consumers buying the wood were not warned of the dangers of doing these things, he said that building supply stores in Ontario have begun putting warning labels on pressure treated wood as of this year, and that the same thing will soon be done in Nova Scotia.

A different kind of Board of Governors

by *chris hamilton*
the gazette

The Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group is now accepting nominations for the upcoming election of its board of governors for 2002-2003. The PIRG, for those unfamiliar with its workings, is a group that seeks to "enable more diverse, balanced and public involvement, dialogue

and debate about the decisions which affect us all." To that end, they engage in research and educational campaigns around alternative perspectives on pressing issues.

The NSPIRG board of directors works on a consensus basis and is responsible for the decisions affecting the administrative workings of NSPIRG. They are also responsible for deciding on the grants and funding applications made to the organization. The board consists of seven Dalhousie students, and two non-student members from the broader Dalhousie community. Positions on the board are volunteer, and last for one

year.

In light of recent events regarding labor disruptions and the consequent drop in the number of students spending time on campus, NSPIRG has extended its nomination period until March 25. Campaigning will begin on March 26, and the elections will be held on the April 1-3. Every Dalhousie student is a member of PIRG, and thus has the right to vote in upcoming the board of directors elections, or to run for a position on the board. If you are interested in becoming a board member, or would like to nominate someone, stop by the PIRG office on the third floor of the SUB, and pick up a nomination form.

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The **Alexander Keith's** Nova Scotia Brewery is preparing for it's third season and this is your chance to land a **job**. We are seeking individuals with retail, hospitality or tourism experience. Mail or fax resume to: 1496 Lower Water St., Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 1R9, Fax: (902) 422-1077, No phone calls please
Deadline: March 20, 2002

ACTORS NEEDED - Time Travel an Asset!
If you have experience as an interactive tour guide, have musical ability and just love to act, we want to hear from you. Applicants must be of legal drinking age. Send resumes and call for an appointment by Friday March 15 to Jennette White, Neptune Theatre School, 1593 Argyle St. B3J 2B2 (Fax: 429-1211; Phone 429-3750)

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Friday, March 22: The Society for Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility (CESR) celebrates **World Water Day**. Free events throughout the day at Dal. Including: a RADIO SHOW on CKDU 97.5 FM 9-10:30am, WORKSHOPS from 10am-4pm in the SUB, and a FILM & DISCUSSION "Captured Rain: American Thirst & Canadian Water" at 7pm in the Scotiabank Auditorium, FASS Building. Go to <http://is2.dal.ca/~cesr> for more information.

The Chemistry Department of Dalhousie University presents Dr Shawna MacKinnon: "**Marine Toxins and Singing the Blues**" at 1:30pm in CHEM 226. Coffee and donuts will be provided at 1:15 in Room 225, bring your own mug.

The Nova Scotia Red Cross presents **MASH**, an evening of fun and entertainment to support Red Cross community response and disaster preparedness programs. Come to the Royal Canadian Legion, Cogswell Street for a casino, silent auction, food, and refreshments. Tickets are \$15. Call the Red Cross at 424-1422 for more information or to purchase tickets.

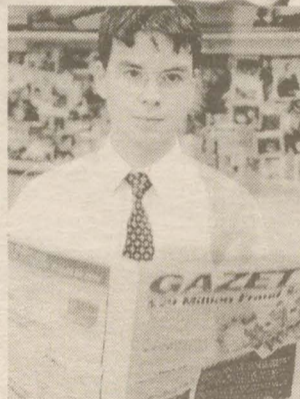
Saint Mary's University Department of English presents **Mark Anthony Jarman** at 5:30pm in the Art Gallery of the Loyola Academic Complex, Robie St.

Shambala Centre Halifax presents a **Level I Shambala Training program** beginning 7:30pm, and continuing through Saturday evening. Meditation can teach us to soften our hearts and appreciate the sacredness in everyday life. Program takes place at 1084 Tower Road, and costs \$75. Call 422-2216 ext. 34 for more information.

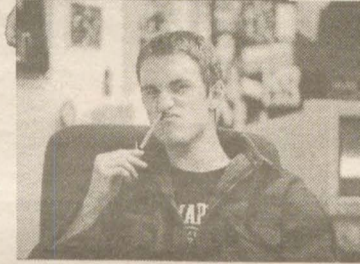
Tuesday, March 26: The Multicultural Art Gallery at Pier 21 presents Lynn Rotin: "**Holocaust and Memory**," an art installation which reflects on the experiences of aging survivors. Opening reception from 5-7pm.

Wednesday, March 27: The Canadian Lawyers Association for International Human Rights presents "**The Responsibility to Protect: A Step Forward for Human Rights Protection**" a discussion on the report of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty with Justice Louise Arbour of the Supreme Court of Canada, former Prosecutor for International War Crimes Tribunals for Rwanda and the Former Yugoslavia. 7pm, King's College Foundation Year Program Hall on the Ground Floor of the New Academic Building.

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STUDENT EMPLOYMENT NEWS

Dalhousie's Student Employment Centre is your one-stop student employment location. Offering on- and off-campus employment opportunities as well as permanent placements, summer and part-time. SEC services are available to Dalhousie and Kings students as well as recent Dalhousie graduates. Visit us on the 4th floor of the SUB, 9 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, or on our web site www.dal.ca/sec

GERMAINE LAWRENCE INCORPORATED
Positions available: Residential Counselors and Special Education Teachers
Germaine Lawrence located in Arlington, MA, is a non-profit agency serving adolescent girls through innovative residential treatment programs. For more details on these positions go to our website at www.dal.ca/sec
If you are interested please sign up for an interview asap at the Student Employment Centre, Room 446, SUB. Interviews will be held on March 20. There will also be an Information Session on March 19.

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION IN CANADA
As a participant in the Youth International Internship Programme, funded by the Dept of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and CIDA, the United Nations Association in Canada is now accepting applications for our **Junior Professional Consultant Programme**, for which there will be approximately twenty-five placements. These **paid internships** are with UN organizations around the world and are for a duration of six to eight months. For more information and how to apply please visit our website at www.dal.ca/sec Deadline date to apply: April 26

HALIFAX CITADEL REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION
Has summer positions for Military Interpreters for 78th Highland Regiment/Royal Artillery and 78th Regimental Pipe and Drum Band at the Halifax Citadel National Historic Site. Dress as and portray the military garrison of the Halifax Citadel in 1869. The positions will require personnel to portray the Scottish 78th Highland Regiment and the Royal Regiment of Artillery. Deadline date: March 31/02
For more details go to www.dal.ca/sec

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