

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

Gazette

PAINTED OVER

HRM PASSES BUCK TO BUSINESSES FOR GRAFF REMOVAL,
OVERLOOKS URBAN ART

P11

P. MAC
DOGS BELINDA

P9
• P11

STUDENT MOTHER
FIGHTS FOR JUSTICE

P6

CKDU
SETS SIGHTS ON \$50K

P12

ATHLETE
RUNS FOR GOLD

P15





WEEKLY DISPATCH

Our Federal Lobby Priorities:

Every year our national lobby group, The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, holds a conference in Ottawa, which is likely the most influential lobbying event that any Canadian student group conducts. This year, the Lobby Conference will be taking place from Nov. 3 to 10. As a lead-up to the conference, I want to let you know what we will be pushing for in November. Below is an excerpt from CASA's pre-budget submission, outlining our four lobbying priorities. The whole document with a more in-depth discussion of each priority can be found at www.casa.ca.

1. Dedicated Education Transfer:

The federal government should re-invest in post-secondary education by creating an independent Canada Education and Training Transfer. This dedicated transfer payment should be funded at a minimum of \$4 billion annually. Furthermore, the government should take a leading role in working with the provinces and territories to develop a Pan-Canadian Accord on Post-Secondary Education. The accord should outline at a minimum, the role that post secondary education plays in Canada, and the level of commitment that both governments are willing to contribute in terms of accessibility and funding.

2. Review of Student Financial Assistance:

The federal government should work with the provinces, territories, and post-secondary stakeholders to review Canada's student financial assistance system. The review should focus on improving access and allowing all students to afford a post-secondary education without accumulating an unsupportable amount of debt.

3. Improve Access Through Targeted Funding:

The federal government should work to improve access to post-secondary education for groups currently under-represented in the system. This should include:

- Expanding the Canada Access Grant so that it is available to students throughout the duration of their studies and covers a greater portion of the total costs of education, not just tuition.

- Increasing grant funding for Aboriginal students and improving access for all Aboriginal Canadians, regardless of status.

4. Renew the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation:

The federal government should renew or indefinitely extend the mandate of the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation and supply it with enough funds to continue providing needs-based grants to the same proportion of students, and at the same grant value, as it has for the past 8 years.

These priorities were set by the DSU and the rest of CASA at our Policy and Strategy, held at Brock University last June. If you have any questions about these priorities or any of our lobbying activities, please contact me.

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

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

Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, Top 10 listing, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in the Streeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff. All quotes attributed to Joey Ryba in the Streeter feature of this paper are written, in good humour, by staff, and do not necessarily represent the views of Joey Ryba. This publication is intended for readers 18 years of age or older. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

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

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Contributor meetings take place every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in Room 312 of the Dalhousie SUB starting the first week of the academic year. We need writers, photographers, illustrators, readers and ideas. If you can contribute any of these, please drop us a line or come by the office.

Atlas shrugs

Halifax's proposed graffiti bylaw won't do

RAFAL ANDRONOWSKI
Editor-in-Chief

It was a bleak September day. Low clouds blanketed the sky, the occasional drizzle adding an unwelcome sprinkle of misery. The landscape outside the train window didn't change much. It was reminiscent of the sky, flat and endless, but instead of a dull gray, the fields were the faded green of pasture and the pale yellow of grain.

Every once in a while a town appeared, the buildings built out of typical, uninspired, communist concrete. At the station, the train screeched to a halt, stopping alongside ancient engines oozing dark fluid from some broken gasket deep within, and row upon row of rusting brown boxcars.

The doors, panels, roofs, even wheels, of each and every boxcar were covered in spray paint — tags and gang affiliations, proclamations of love and hate. The trains were like mobile message boards crisscrossing the country.

I looked away as the train pulled out of the station.

In the midst of acceleration something bright caught my eye. I turned so quickly that my head hit the window.

It was worth it.

There, sitting separate from the others, was the most fantastically painted boxcar I've ever seen. Covered in a veritable rainbow of colours — yellow, red, green, blue, orange, white, purple, others I don't know the names of — the car stood proudly apart, wheels overgrown with grasses and weeds. The vividness and freshness of colours indicated it had been recently painted.

The scenes and designs can't be described, mostly because I only got the one glimpse of it and all I remember is how bright and cheerful that one rusting hulk appeared.

This took place in an unremarkable town in central Poland. But the lesson of embracing and understanding graffiti, instead of rejecting it, is equally applicable to Halifax.

Tags and graffiti are common in the city. Most of it is illegal and on private property, causing undue headaches and expenses for building owners. It will become even more of an issue for business and

property owners if the city council passes a proposed bylaw that would require tags and graffiti to be removed promptly — at the owner's expense.

If passed, this bylaw will address only the end product of spray painting. Instead of seeking a way to simply remove graffiti from walls and buildings, at no cost to the city, the council must also look at ways to allow graffiti and urban art throughout spaces in the city. As is, the proposed bylaw would drop the burden of the problem onto the backs of business owners, while disregarding the value of urban art.

Designated spaces that are visible and easily accessible would allow artists to display their skill and creativity without breaking the law. There are many large, empty walls in the city that could benefit from some colour. With proper planning and execution, there is room for such expression within the law — but the law has to be willing to accept graffiti and urban art as credible means of expression.

Urban artists will continue to spray paint and tag, regardless of the bylaws in place. Without providing an alternate space to paint, the need to clean up and remove graffiti will remain. The bylaw, which in effect just shrugs the cost of clean up onto someone else, is a Band-Aid solution at best.

The proposed bylaw would also prevent minors from buying spray paint. This will likely be about as effective as prohibiting the sale of alcohol to minors—that is to say, not very. With a little determination and money, minors will always find someone of legal age who will buy them cans, whether those cans hold paint or beer. And this proposal totally disregards the fact that most graffiti artists are in their early 20's, not mid teens.

Cleaning up the city is important, especially in light of its bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, but catering to its residents is more important.

The painted boxcar I glimpsed in a small trackside town in Poland showed an understanding of urban culture much greater than that displayed in our city. Giving urban art a place to exist and artists a space for expression will benefit the city by reducing illegal painting, as well as increasing the aesthetic value of our streets.



Photo Illustration: John Packman

Gazette

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Surplus announcement spurs calls for cash

REID SOUTHWICK
News Editor

Unexpected student enrolment figures have stuffed Dalhousie's coffers with an estimated \$1.5 million in extra cash, raising questions across campus about where the money will go.

The surplus was announced during a Board of Governors meeting on Oct. 17, following reports that enrolment has declined by just 76 students from last year, while the university budgeted for a drop of 400 students.

President Tom Traves suggested at the board meeting that some of the funds could help cover hundreds of thousands of dollars the university has spent on scholarships and bursaries, but didn't budget for in the spring of 2006.

The president said the remaining money could be tucked away in a reserve fund that the university could use to offset unforeseen budget shortfalls in the future.

Last year, Dal faced enrolment declines, pension fund deficits and rising oil costs, which sucked roughly \$3.5 million from the university's operating budget. The administration used the \$1.4 million it saved from the year before to help cover the shortage, but it still had to implement mid-year budget cuts in nearly every university department.

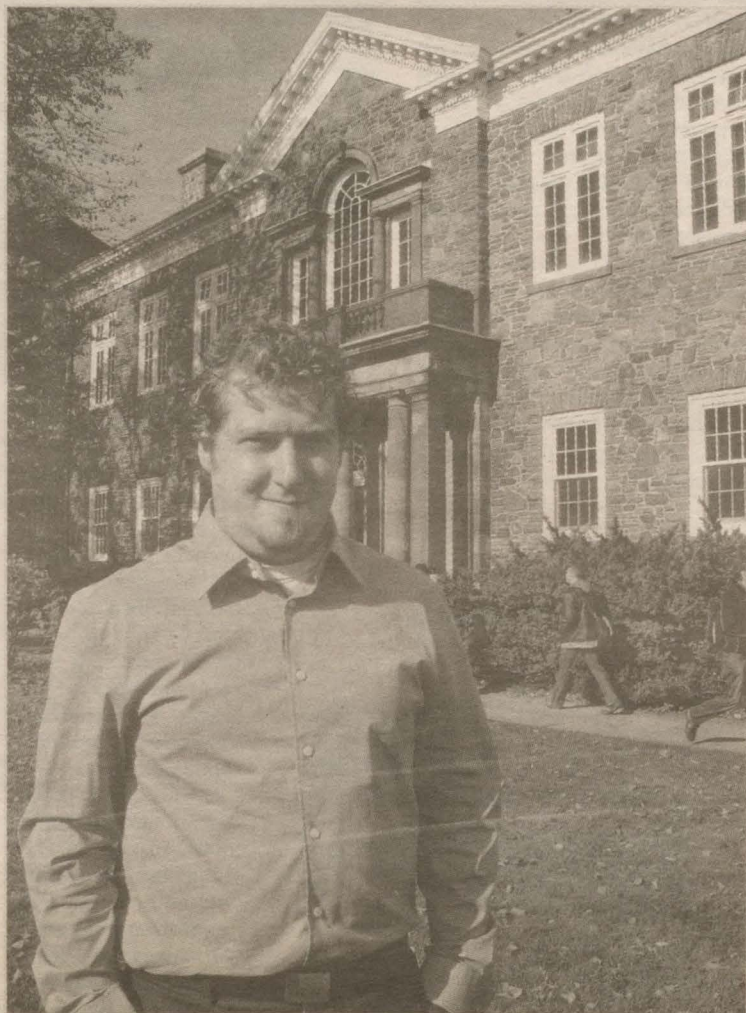
Bryan Mason, vice president (finance and operations), said Dal doesn't currently have a reserve fund, a problem that could impose constraints on future operating budgets.

"It would be wise for the university to have some small surplus to take care of unforeseen circumstances," said Mason.

The university would consider other spending proposals for the surplus, said Mason, but it likely won't agree to start any new projects since the funds are only available this one time.

Registrar Asa Kachan announced at the Board of Governors meeting that her office has already spent most of its budget for the marketing and advertising components of the university's student recruitment strategy. Kachan said she might need additional funds to meet spending priorities for recruitment.

Meanwhile, in the Life Sciences Centre, many world-class professors and researchers are teaching students with outdated equipment.



DSU President Ezra Edelstein said student scholarships, bursaries and on-campus employment should be at the top of the university's funding priorities. / Photo: John Packman

Dan Jackson, director of finances, research and development for the faculty of science, largely credited his professors with the fact that *Science* magazine recently named Dal the top university in Canada to pursue a research career. But he said some of the equipment, such as the microscopes in the second-year earth sciences teaching lab, are older than some professors.

"We've got 18-year-old students who are trying to identify rocks and minerals in microscopes that are, in some cases, 40 years old," said Jackson.

A new microscope costs roughly \$10,000, said Jackson, which means outfitting a lab for 20 students would come with a price tag of \$200,000. "If we got \$1.5 million plunked into our faculty, we would definitely be spending at least most of it on equipment," he said.

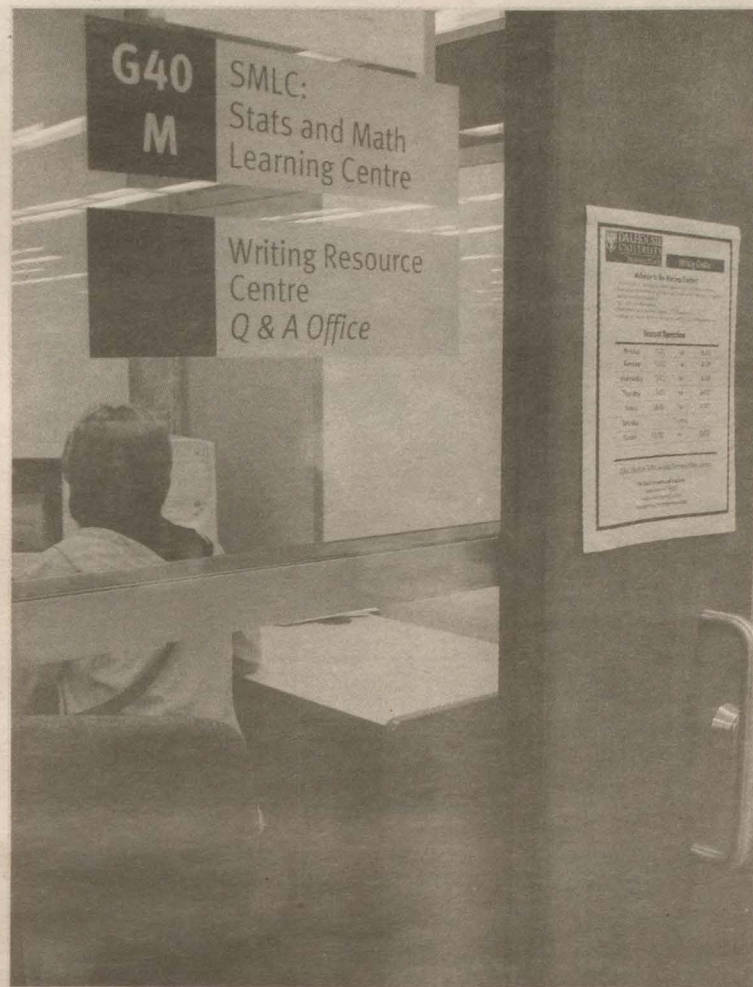
But Ezra Edelstein, president of the Dalhousie Student Union, said

student scholarships, bursaries and on-campus employment should be at the top of the university's funding priorities. "Ideally, the money should go to student assistance. And a disproportionate amount should go to students who received disproportionate tuition fee increases in the spring," he said.

Dentistry, medicine, law and international students, who were left out of the agreement that capped undergraduate tuition at 3.9 per cent, face fee increases as high as 9.9 per cent over last year.

"These students have been making up the shortfalls in the university's budget that can't be met with undergraduate tuition," he said.

Senior administration officials, however, said they won't be able to determine the exact figure of the surplus until registration figures for the 2007 winter term are released. Until then, Dal will not announce any changes in spending.



Dalhousie Writing Centre instructors guarantee they can see ESL students who request help within a maximum of 36 hours. / Photo: John Packman

Students in the dark about ESL services

KALEY KENNEDY
Staff Contributor
REID SOUTHWICK
News Editor

The story is part of a series on student services at Dalhousie

Dalhousie's student services department is challenging widespread rumours that the support it provides for students who speak English as a second language is insufficient.

But student leaders on campus say many of their constituents lack the necessary language skills to integrate into the university community, which suggests Dal needs to improve its promotion of ESL services.

"We're able to meet the need that we know of," says Patricia De Meo, director of Student Academic Success Services. "I suspect that if it were more widely known, there would be a greater need."

The Dalhousie Writing Centre offers one-on-one tutorials as well as a 10-week course for ESL students, which focus largely on academic writing. Instructors say neither of these services are operating at full capacity. They guarantee they could see students who request help either the same day or within a maximum of 36 hours, and that the language course has room for more students.

Until the current semester, however, the university offered little in the way of oral communication skills training.

To address this gap in services, De Meo says the university introduced small group conversation classes for all students. It has also started offering students enrolled in a specific professional program one-on-one communication support. She doesn't want the name of the program published to protect the identities of students involved.

"The idea this year is to start with something and build on that for the future," says De Meo.

But further expansion of ESL services would be expensive, she says. The two instructors hired to provide the new services are students who are paid through the student employment fund and the university can't afford to hire more profession-

al staff, she says.

But while the university says ESL services are available, student leaders say their constituents still lack basic language skills to properly function in the university.

Ann Beringer, president of the Dalhousie International Students Association (DISA), says she had difficulty communicating with students during orientation week. A group of foreign students approached her for clarification after she gave a speech, she says.

"Some students are really shy," says Beringer. "They don't want to admit that they aren't understanding things. They want to be like everyone else."

Mike Tipping, vice president (education) of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), says ESL students are brought before the Senate Discipline Committee (SDC) in disproportionately high numbers because they don't grasp the language in the university's policy on academic integrity.

Beringer says she's had to explain the processes and potential consequences of SDC hearings to ESL students because they can't understand the letter that the Senate office sends out to inform them of their alleged offences.

"I know my audience better than anyone else and if they're not even getting me when I'm trying to explain it, I think we might have a little bit of a problem here," says Beringer.

In 2003, an ad hoc Senate committee reported that the university needs more ESL support to cut down on the number of foreign-language students who face disciplinary action.

But Beringer says the university has not responded sufficiently to the call.

To address this problem, the DSU is translating information materials made available by the Student Advocacy Service for students who are accused of plagiarism into several languages.

"It's important for this university to continue attract ESL students," says Tipping. "It makes our campus a better place."

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Students keep quiet to raise awareness about human rights

JAMIE MUNSON
Staff Contributor

Students gathered at the University of King's College for a 24-hour vow of silence on Oct. 20 to pay tribute to the roughly 25 million people who have died of AIDS worldwide.

"The Speak Silence campaign uses the vow to symbolize people in other countries who don't have a voice to speak against human rights," said Jamie Lee, a member of the King's chapter of Journalists for Human Rights (JHR), an international charity group that works to increase the quality of human rights reporting in the media.

The Speak Silence campaign is JHR's largest national event, and involves 22 university chapters across Canada. The King's campaign raised \$620 in pledges, almost five times last year's total.

Nine students took the vow of silence that started at noon on Friday. Participants handed out cue cards that asked for donations and explained the reasons behind the campaign.

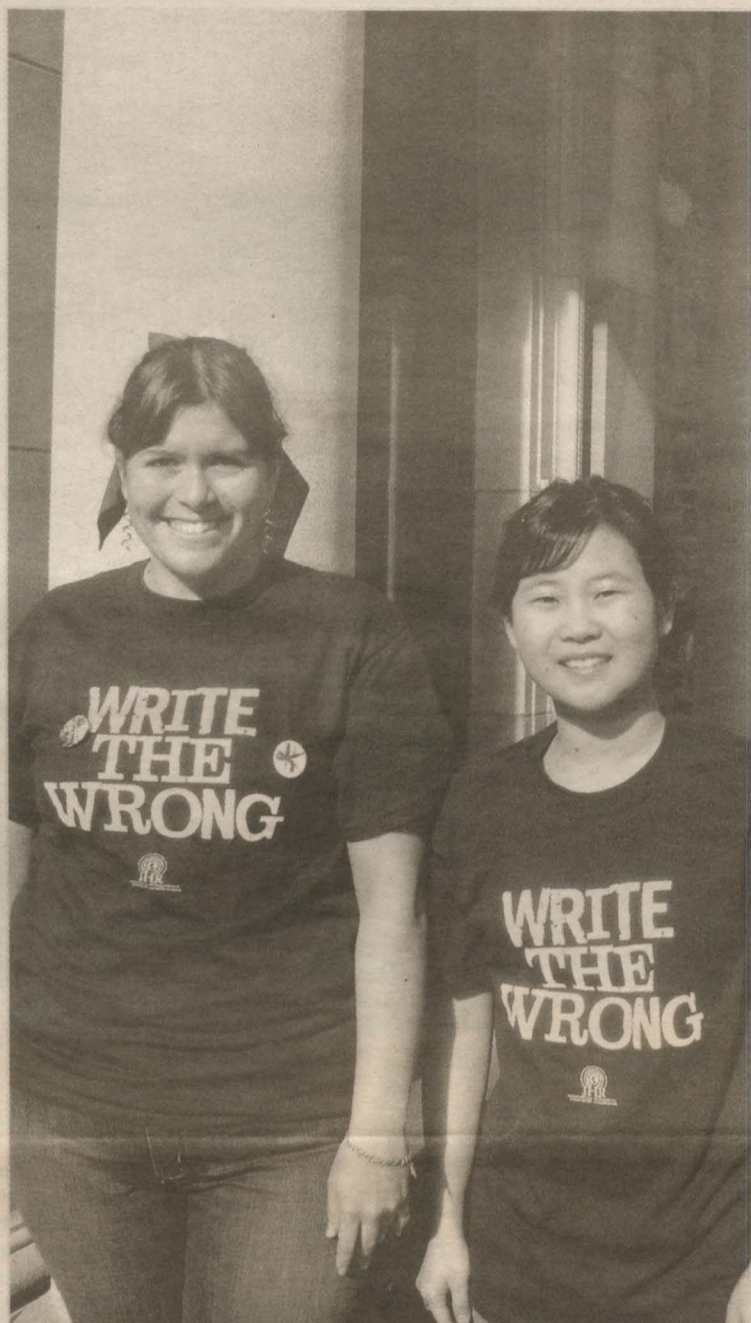
"When someone isn't talking, people will wonder why," said Lee. She told the students to continue with their daily routines, which she said would make people more curious and draw broader interest in the campaign.

Participants gathered for the end of the vow at 12 p.m. on Oct. 21. Before counting down the final moments of silence, students communicated by notepad and used improvised sign language. First words were replaced by shared laughter as the vow came to an end and students spoke about their experiences.

Journalism student Julie Keenan said she didn't avoid social events during her vow of silence. "The hardest part was the menial stuff like hello and goodbye," said Keenan.

Sarah Higgins, a second-year international development studies and theatre student, passed the time reading *Race Against Time*, a collection of lectures by Stephen Lewis, the former United Nations Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa. She also went to dance auditions without speaking. "I had to consciously tell myself to not talk," said Higgins. "I used a lot of half-words and then caught myself."

First-year student Cathy Lewis said her silence had a great effect on

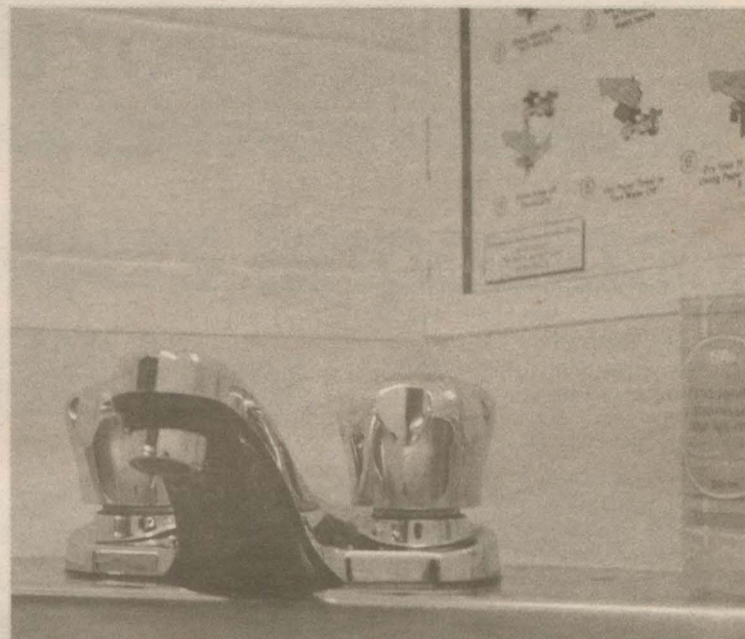


"When someone isn't talking, people will wonder why," said Jamie Lee, pictured right, a member of the King's College chapter of Journalists for Human Rights. / Photo: John Packman

people. "When you join a conversation, it seems you have something to say or you're going to introduce yourself," she said. "It got a lot of attention."

Peter Chiykowski, a Foundation Year Program student, asked students for \$1 donations, knowing they likely didn't have much money to spare. His classmate, Melina Giannelia, raised more than \$200 by sending out e-mails to friends and family.

Funds raised from this year's Speak Silence campaign will help support other human rights campaigns and programs, according to the JHR website. The King's chapter will use 80 per cent of the pledge money to support campus projects, such as showing human rights films to students. The remaining 20 per cent will go to JHR headquarters in Toronto to fund programs that include sending journalists to Africa to promote human rights reporting.



Dal's precautionary measures against a Norwalk outbreak include placing hand sanitizers in high traffic areas. / Photo: Josh Boyter

Norwalk not at Dal — admin

JOSH BOYTER
Staff Contributor

Rumours that the Norwalk virus has spread to Dalhousie are unfounded, says the university's senior administration.

Only 21 Dal and King's College students have reported to student services that they are sick, and the illness is identified as the regular flu with no evidence of the Norwalk virus, says Bonnie Neuman, Dal vice president (student services).

The university sent an information bulletin by e-mail on Oct. 20 advising students to report sudden vomiting and diarrhea. Ill students are asked to stay at home until they feel better to avoid spreading the flu.

"We've tried to figure out if it's been just the flu by looking at the symptoms, when they begin, and how long the students have been sick to rule out Norwalk," says Neuman. Residence assistants are conducting floor checks in university dorms to find out if anyone is sick, she says.

The virus that's struck two Maritime universities to date is a strain of Norwalk known as Norwal. The symptoms of vomiting and diarrhea last roughly 12 hours to appear and take 24 to 48 hours. The virus goes away on its own.

Norwalk-type viruses can survive for up to 12 hours on certain surfaces, says Dr. Todd Hatchett, director of virology and immunology at the QEII Health Sciences Centre. The virus is contagious, but can't be spread through the air. It must be

ingested, he says.

"Washing your hands and different things such as cough etiquette are the best things for illness prevention anytime of the year," says Hatchett.

Classes were cancelled at Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B. on Oct. 13 after roughly 300 people fell ill with what officials confirmed as the Norwalk virus. The virus likely spread through residence bathrooms and cafeterias. By Oct. 18, St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, N.S., faced a Norwalk-type outbreak after students returned from visiting Mount Allison. More than 50 students and staff members became sick before the end of the week.

Dal's precautionary measures against a Norwalk outbreak include improved cleaning and sanitization services, prevention information posters across campus and supplying hand sanitizers in high-traffic areas. Students are advised not to travel to Mount Allison or St. FX.

Dal has never had an outbreak of Norwalk, says William Louch, director of environmental health and safety. Over the past week he learned about new health measures that will help keep students healthy in the future.

"This has been an excellent test of our preventative systems for these types of situations," says Louch.

Dal experienced an outbreak of the mumps between December 2005 and January 2006 that only affected 19 students. The virus originated from an outbreak in New England where a Dalhousie student had visited.

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For the love of a son

Single mother fights for autistic children's futures

JESS McDIARMID | Copy Editor

Robab Haghpanh is a student at Dalhousie. And she is much more than that, too.

The single mother has a gentle way about her, speaking in hushed tones, her voice soft and soothing like she's singing a baby to sleep.

Alone, she cares for her eight-year-old son while studying part time as a science student, in the hope that she can provide her boy, who she still calls "my baby," with a better future.

Her son has autism.

"I'm a single mother and education is the only way to help my baby," she says, sitting at a table beside Tim Hortons in Dal's Student Union Building, her eyes misty.

She hopes an education will allow her to get a job where she'll make enough money to pay for therapy that could help her son.

As Haghpanh talks about what she is trying to do, she begins to cry. All she wants, she says while fighting a losing battle with the tears she soaks up in a napkin, is for her boy to grow up and go to school, to have a job, to become a taxpayer. The alternative is a life of dependency, either with her or in a group home, where autistic individuals who are left without proper treatment can end up.

Autism is a neurological disorder that affects sufferers' ability to communicate with others and interact with their environment. But research shows that intervention, such as behavioural therapy, at an early age means nearly half of those treated lose their symptoms.

But the later treatment starts, the less chance it will be highly effective. And it's expensive — around \$80 per hour for speech and \$150 per hour for behavioural therapy. Autistic children require as much as 40 hours of behavioural therapy each week.

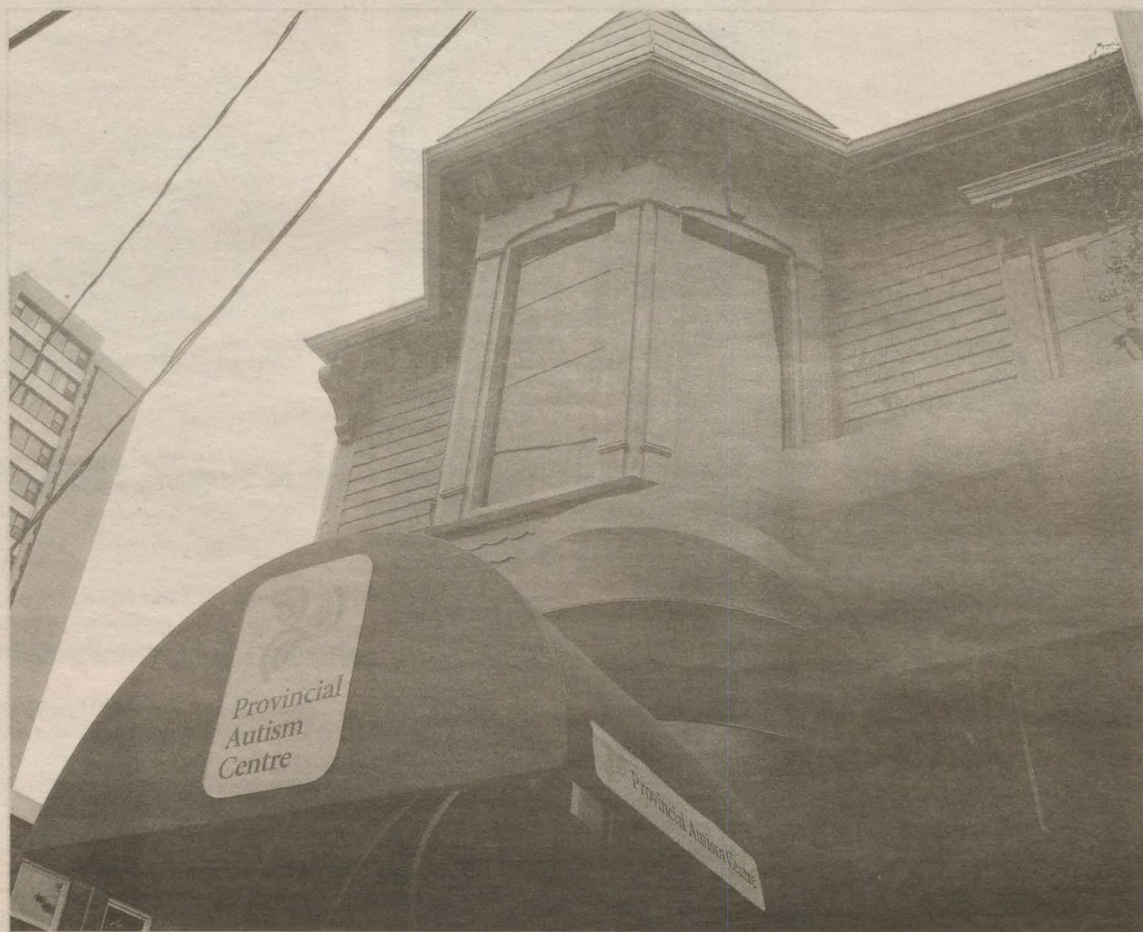
In 2004, Nova Scotia was one of only two Canadian provinces that didn't provide funding to help offset treatment costs for families with autistic children. This meant that for many, the cost was just too high.

Haghpanh, in her struggle to help her son, changed some of that.

Her son was born in Alberta and everything was going well, she says. By the time he was a year-and-a-half old, he could talk.

But when he was two, he stopped. "He was a completely different person, he wasn't the same boy," she says. "He couldn't talk, and he'd withdrawn completely."

He began speech therapy in Brit-



The estimated lifetime cost of caring for an autistic person is \$2 million, but studies have shown that figure can be reduced by 75 per cent if individuals receive proper and effective treatment. / Photo: John Packman

ish Columbia, where they lived at the time.

In 2002, two weeks before Haghpanh came to Nova Scotia, her son was diagnosed with autism.

She found out that Nova Scotia didn't pay for therapy, as B.C. had. Nor did the province have many people trained to provide treatment.

"I realized that I had to do something," she says. "I realized that something has to be done and I started lobbying."

In 2003, a provincial election year, she began sending letters to newspapers, meeting with candidates and talking to other parents of autistic children to rally support. She spoke with the provincial health minister and launched a petition, which was signed by 225 health professionals, faculty members, students and others who "knew about the issue."

When she went to her Clayton Park MLA, Diana Whalen, she found someone willing to listen. Haghpanh's story of her struggle to help her son inspired Whalen to take up the cause.

"This just brought it right home,

to our riding, to an individual that was really being harmed, which made it so clear that our province was so behind in terms of other provinces and in terms of helping their families," says Whalen. "I felt we had to do something."

Whalen went to Province House with Haghpanh in May 2004 to table the petition and introduce a private member's bill, which called for government-funded support for autistic children.

On Dec. 2, 2004, the government announced it would join nine other Canadian provinces to offer programming for autistic children aged six and under.

Whalen says Haghpanh saw a real need for action and assumed a leadership role as an advocate for her son and others like him.

"The fact that the government did introduce funding has something to do with her efforts, no question," Whalen says. "And I think that's something that's really commendable."

Vicki Harvey, executive director of the Autism Society's Nova Scotia branch, says she's pleased that the government recognized the need for

kids to receive help.

"This was the first step, and I think the next step is helping people in other parts of their life span," she says. Four Canadian provinces — B.C., Alta., Man. and P.E.I. — already provide programs and funding for autistic children older than six years.

Now, many children who need help can get it, says Haghpanh, and that makes her happy. But for her son, who was already six when the funding came through, it was too late to be eligible for the programs.

Haghpanh began studying at Dal in September 2004. She says her decision to return to university wasn't just because of her son — she wanted to finish an education she began years ago out West — but he's a strong motivation to keep going.

"It's the only way I can help him," she says. "I'm living my life for my son. I'm holding myself together to help him become an independent person."

Dal law professor Archie Kaiser met Haghpanh in 2003, when she approached him for help. He's provided her with advice on her lobby efforts

and resources available to her.

Kaiser calls Haghpanh a "tireless advocate" for children with autism, while facing the challenges of being a single parent and student, and having little support for her son.

"I can't help but admire her tenacity and her courage in trying to get appropriate supports for her son," says Kaiser. "For someone who is not a professional advocate, but who is driven by both necessity and passion, I think she has been a remarkable spokesperson on behalf of children with autism."

Attending university for a single-parent student is already difficult, Haghpanh says, and it's 10 times harder when caring for an autistic child. She has to keep a cell phone with her at all times. She often receives calls from her son's school and has to leave campus to pick him up.

And he, like many autistic children, doesn't sleep well, so she rarely gets much rest.

Daily events as simple as going to a grocery store are challenging, she says, because autistic children such as her son have great difficulty handling all the sensory information. Even walking down a street is hard because loud noises upset him. And when he cries or get agitated, it's often made worse by people staring and trying to get involved.

"Society is not really open to these children because of the differences," she says. "For these children, it's really hard to understand the society and for us to understand them."

But with proper treatment, autistic children can lead independent lives, she says, while without it, many will become dysfunctional and end up in group homes. The estimated lifetime cost of caring for an autistic person is \$2 million, but studies have shown that figure can be reduced by 75 per cent if individuals receive proper and effective treatment.

"So it really benefits everyone if they get short-term help and become taxpayers," she says.

Haghpanh credits support from professors and fellow students for helping her manage her responsibilities. Students have shared notes with her when she couldn't attend classes and professors have let her bring her son to class when she needed to.

"It's been difficult, but I guess it's the love of a mother to do anything for her son," she says. "I really appreciate the help I've got. I'm so grateful."



Student Employment Centre

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30: Kinross Gold Corp

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Information Technology

Oct 30
2:30 - 4:00

Engineering

Nov 1
6:30 - 8:00

Public Service

Nov 2
2:30 - 4:00

Campus makeover underway

JONATHAN SIMMS
News Contributor

A bulge in Dalhousie's maintenance budget is allowing the university to revamp its campus buildings.

Facilities management, the university department responsible for maintenance projects, received roughly \$8 million in funding for the 2006/2007 academic year, compared to almost nothing in 1999.

The funding increase has allowed facilities management to expand its maintenance activities on campus, including renovating the Chemistry Building on Studley campus.

"There are 20-year shingles that have been up there for 25 years," says Patrick MacIsaac, facilities management project leader. In addition to replacing the shingles, the building's windows will be replaced and the mortar and rock will be repaired. And the cupola, the dome-shaped centrepiece that sits on top of the building, will be made more secure.

Facilities management has also revamped Carleton campus. The courtyard has new lighting, grass and pathways. The brickwork on the Forrest building received a major facelift and roofs were replaced on two townhouse-style buildings.

Cameron House, a residence on

Studley campus, also underwent major renovations.

But work is far from done. Many of Dal's buildings require extensive maintenance on their electrical, water and heating systems, as well as cosmetic enhancements, such as paint and new windows. Some of the older buildings require new roofs, walls and floors.

Jeff Lamb, director of facilities management, says the university would have to shoulder a total cost of roughly \$184 million to cover every outstanding maintenance project — a figure slightly above the national average, comprising almost 20 per cent of the total value of the university's infrastructure.

The university must step up to shoulder the costs, says Peter Howard, associate director of operations for facilities management.

"The infrastructure of the buildings are expensive and if you want to preserve them then you have to spend money to maintain them," says Howard. "Having decent programs is obviously important, but the appearance and performance of the university is a big issue."

Howard says he hopes the increase in funding will help Dal maintain its reputation as a "prestigious" university.



Dalhousie has earmarked roughly \$600,000 to restore the Chemistry Building as part of a broader effort to invest in maintenance projects on campus. / Photo: John Packman

Uni-briefs

CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS

Sainte-Anne strike averted

A potential faculty strike was averted last week at Université Sainte-Anne after professors and the university's administration held several "marathon" negotiation sessions.

Professors and librarians at the Church Point, N.S. school have been without a contract since June 30, 2004, and have been in negotiations since April 2005. The teachers cited wages, benefits and video-conferencing of classes as contentious problems facing the negotiations. Faculty previously voted 98 per cent in favour of striking on Sept. 6.

Judge annuls Sask. CFS vote

The University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) is still without a national lobby group after a judge overturned the results of a student referendum earlier this month.

After voting to leave the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) in early 2004, the USSU held a referendum in October 2004, when students chose to join CASA's rival organization, the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

The USSU election board, however, recommended the vote be held again, due to "operational conflicts" that occurred. The USSU executive ignored the ruling and declared the results valid.

Former USSU President Robin Mowat launched a lawsuit against the union for its decision, which he won on Oct. 13.

The University of Toronto's student newspaper reports that the student union is considering an appeal and that CFS national executives still regard the USSU as a member of their federation.

B.C. smokes more pot

According to a study conducted at the University of Victoria, British Columbians smoke more marijuana than the national average.

The Centre for Addictions Research of B.C. (CARBC) found that 52 per cent of B.C. residents have tried pot, compared to 44 per cent

nationally.

Another recent report filed by the Fraser Institute found that B.C.'s marijuana industry is worth roughly \$130 billion per year, which is between one and three per cent of the provincial GDP (2000 est.). The report also noted that the province could gain as much as \$2 billion annually if it taxed cannabis production and sales.

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

Wisconsin student found dead

Searchers found the body of 21-year-old Luke Homan floating in the Mississippi River in La Crosse, WI, earlier this month.

Homan, a sophomore guard for the basketball team at the University of Wisconsin at La Crosse, is the eighth college student to drown in the river in nine years.

Town officials say they aren't sure if anything more can be done to prevent future accidents. La Crosse is home to three colleges and three rivers. Residents say drinking is part of the local culture, with \$5 all-you-can-drink specials common at downtown bars.

Most of the scenic waterfront is without guardrails, and Mayor Mark Johnsrud would like to keep it that way to preserve the view. He said he would rather have a motion-activated light system installed to warn people if they come too close to the edge.

MCAT goes digital

Beginning in January 2007, the Medical College Admissions Test will undergo several major changes. It will become an entirely computer-based exam offered 22 times annually, compared to the current schedule of just twice a year. But each testing session will be limited to approximately 20 applicants due to a limited number of computers. The exam length will also be reduced by three-and-a-half hours from the previous length of eight hours.

Sources: *The New York Times*, *The Chronicle-Herald*, *The Gauntlet* (University of Calgary), *The Varsity* (University of Toronto), *The Peak* (Simon Fraser University).

From The Gazette archives

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

Condom-carrying over-reported

Researchers at the University of British Columbia determined that the university's students exaggerated when asked if they carried condoms to bars.

A survey of roughly 375 students found that almost a third of participants said they would be very or somewhat likely to carry a condom with them if they went to a bar.

But when researchers performed spot-checks at the campus bar, the actual rate of condom-carrying students was quite different. Out of nearly 350 students entering the pub, only 16 men and no women were carrying condoms.

"Not everyone goes to the pub to have sex," said one UBC researcher. "But it's probably a socially good answer [to say], 'I'm going to carry a condom.'"

20 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

In defense of frats

A previous week's article on the state of fraternities in Halifax provoked several readers to write letters to the editor and defend the fraternities.

"The fraternity provided me with friendships that will last a lifetime," wrote Gerald Regan, a former Nova Scotia premier and a Dalhousie Phi Delta Theta alumnus.

The article in question was written by *Gazette* reporter Ashley Abbot, and detailed her night observing drunkenness and debauchery at a frat party.

Etudiants en grève

Quebec's largest student association was calling for an unlimited strike at the end of the month to force the provincial government to maintain a tuition freeze.

Over 40 college and university student unions voted in favour of launching a province-wide strike on Oct. 22 to pressure the provincial Liberal government to maintain its existing freeze on tuition fees. The student delegates also pledged to

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lobby harder for a better student aid system and to keep CEGEP tuition free.

At least 11 student councils already had mandates from their members to strike for an unlimited period of time, but provincial organizers said they would cancel strike plans if fewer than 20 student unions ratified the proposal.

30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

Venereal disease in N.S.

A study completed in June 1976 revealed that the incidence of ve-

neral disease (VD) in Canada had risen 100 per cent in the previous 10 years.

The VD clinic in Halifax treated between 20 and 30 cases in 1976, compared to only one or two cases 10 years before. Doctors said this was likely an underestimate, as people kept away from clinics due to stigma.

At Dalhousie, however, the VD problem was less dramatic. An official at Dal Health Services ranked VD as the 10th most serious ailment the clinic treated, noting that it was not as important as malnutrition, alcoholism or unwanted pregnancy.



Gazette

Editorial

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

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

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

University must reach out to ESL students

Many Dalhousie students who speak English as a second language suffer from severe miscommunication with the university about the availability of services. ESL students frequently suggest that they are not provided the support that would allow them to better integrate into the university community. At the same time, Dal officials say the language services the institution offers are not operating at full capacity.

This inconsistency between student perception and service availability must be rectified.

Students who do not speak the language inevitably feel isolated and segregated from the wider community, struggling to communicate with their professors in an academic setting, as well as their peers socially.

All too often, ESL students are not aware of Dal's commitment to academic integrity or simply don't understand the policy. The misunderstandings lead to a disproportionately high number of ESL students appearing before the university's Senate Discipline Committee (SDC), where oftentimes they do not have the language abilities to understand the instructions given, let alone the charges against them.

Furthermore, many ESL students are also international students, meaning they pay differential fees of more than \$6,000 on top of Dal's tuition, which are already the second-highest in the country, and rising.

A major complaint of the Dalhousie International Student Association (DISA) in recent years has been that the university does not offer services for international students that justify forcing them to pay double the tuition of domestic students. The most glaring omission, according to DISA, has been the lack of ESL services.

But the university does offer some ESL services, such as a 10-week course and one-on-one sessions. Neither of these programs, offered by the Writing Centre, operates at full capacity. Student Services also has small group classes to aid students in conversation skills.

Clearly, with students suffering from glaring language inadequacies while available support systems are not fully utilized, the university is failing to inform those who need it that help is available. Communicating the existence of ESL services is just as important as having the service in the first place.

Dalhousie does not make solid and consistent attempts to ensure these students are aware of the services available to them, suggesting administrative officials do not appreciate the inherent feelings of isolation that struggling ESL students experience.

To compound the problem, many students who could likely benefit from ESL assistance are reluctant to ask for help. Many students wish to assimilate quickly, and while language barriers hamper assimilation efforts, some do not want to admit they are having trouble with English.

The university must not only launch an effort to inform students that help is available, it must assure them that asking for help is all right.

Dalhousie must reach out to ESL students, not only through traditional advertising materials such as posters and websites, but also by working with those who know the students best. Organizations such as DISA and Dal's department, International Student and Exchange Services, are the first contacts many ESL students will have at the university. Therefore, these organizations must know what services exist and spread the word to their clients.

In addition, professors and teaching assistants, who are in a ready position to identify students struggling with language, must be made aware of the options ESL students have available to them. And instructors must pass the information along to their students.

The current situation leaves the problem largely unaddressed and, as a result, disproportionately large numbers of ESL students end up in front of the SDC with their university careers on the line — all because of a language challenge. This does not even take into account the emotional, social and academic hardship students who can't communicate must endure.

ESL services should not be a fringe benefit or an afterthought. These services are a necessary tool to aid students who require help, and are also a highly marketable asset for a university to recruit foreign students — something Dal wants to do more of. If students are expected to pay twice as much for their education, they must be able to get the full benefit of it. ESL services must be available — and students must be aware of them.

Gazette: Opinions

Opinions Editor: Li Dong

Contact: opinions@dalgazette.ca

Sunday shopping

A shopaholic's dream comes true

ANNA FONG
Staff Contributor

OK, I admit it. If I have a bad day, shopping makes me feel better. And yes, I have been known to shop alone and purchase items I don't need because they looked cute or were on sale. Needless to say, it was a dream come true when I heard Nova Scotia adopted Sunday shopping. Yet my dream might have come as a nightmare to those against shopping seven days a week.

I voted in favour of Sunday shopping because I like to have a choice whether to shop on Sundays and I felt there was inequality between retail and service industries.

Who else wanted to buy something, such as a can of tuna, but couldn't because that section was only open Monday through Saturday due to building size restrictions?

People who argue against Sunday shopping say that if it's a case of fairness between retail and service industries, then all workplaces, government included, should be open on Sundays. I am not against this idea, but the referendum was on shopping.

I used to work in the service industry. I understand what it's like to work on Sundays and holidays when most people have the day off. My job was in a movie theatre that was open 365 days a year. Our manager said we worked Sundays and statutory holidays because not everyone celebrated religious holidays and the theatre wouldn't deny anyone



Who else wanted to buy something, such as a can of tuna, but couldn't because that section was only open Monday through Saturday due to building size restrictions?

who wanted entertainment.

I had an understanding manager who did her best to accommodate our shift requests. Those who wanted Sundays off for religious or other reasons were given the time off.

It's unfortunate that retail and service workers may have to work Sundays, but as long as employees' rights are respected and they're allotted time off when they need it, I think those who are against Sunday shopping will soon realize it's not that bad.

Another major cause for criticism of Sunday shopping is the removal of paid statutory holidays, with the exception of Remembrance Day. But this could be addressed by substituting a number of paid vacation days, which would allow people to take days off for religious reasons or just have holidays entitled to them.

It could just be the shopaholic in me, but I am happy we have finally joined the majority of the country by allowing Sunday shopping.

Is Facebook your friend?

JIMMY KAPCHES
Staff Contributor

You would never go stare into someone's window for a night, would you? You could stand there in the dark just watching the party unravel and turn into the best kind of debauchery, its participants ending up sprawled spread-eagle on the hardwood.

You could look your friends up and down, sneak peeks at their most shameful or most glorious moments and then scream happy witticisms at them through the open door. You could do that on Facebook, my friend.

If your first instinct for getting people to pay attention to you is to pelt them with beer bottles, Facebook is for you. Second only to displays of public nudity, Facebook and its offshoots are the best ways to keep your life looking interesting and your "friends" in the know.

Not only can you tell them you're in the library *right now*, you can also go so far as to prove, with pictures, that last night you were swimming in the Northwest Arm.

The people you know are checking you out while you sit there perusing the drunken nostalgia pictures of your hundreds of friends. Those heart-felt friends are so close to you it's almost as if you drank milk from the same breast when you were babies. That's Facebook close!

What better way to make friends. You can randomly select and seek out traits such as "very conservative" or "looking for women" and rush into a full-fledged "friendship" with an innocent stranger. Or if that random thinks you're a creeper, you can always just stalk the dark mazes



That inter-you can look perfect all the time, because you never need to post that photo of you at the Split Crow hanging cross-eyed between two Dutch sailors.

of your friends' connections, keeping your eye on them without ever telling a soul.

Despite all the stalking that goes on, which is *obviously* unequivocally normal, you can also make a little description of yourself to say who you truly are. Hell, you can spend all day telling strangers how much you enjoyed *Little Women* and how heavily you rock out to Journey.

You can make yourself into who you want to be, and it's so much easier than going out and making friends the old-fashioned way. You're friends first and after that it's all check off the box. Conversation is such a bourgeois piece of shit, isn't it?

So here we are: one half fleshy body that gets vicious hangovers, the other half a pseudo-intelligent creation on a network of wires. That inter-you can look perfect all the time, because you never need to post that photo of you at the Split Crow hanging cross-eyed between two Dutch sailors.

Inter-you never says stupid things. It can make perfect repartees

with bombshell wit because you can mull over words order for hours. Best of all, out there on the Internet, you're exactly who you want to be — a human cartoon character. Congratulations, you're finally Sailor Moon!

Having access to forgotten people and hundreds of significant pictures is an epic innovation. Just think of the old friends who are bounding back into your life. There's no real problem with having a *few* incriminating pictures up on the Internet. They won't come into play until you're trying to be a CEO or a politician.

We should look to Paris Hilton for a role model, remembering how her self-incrimination was good for business. After all, Facebook only means that someone with a little ingenuity could manage to figure out everything you've ever done.

It will be great for biographers of the future, unless the people who bought into the trend never get anywhere, because of that one photo, one comment or one mistake that everyone knew instantly. I should quit.

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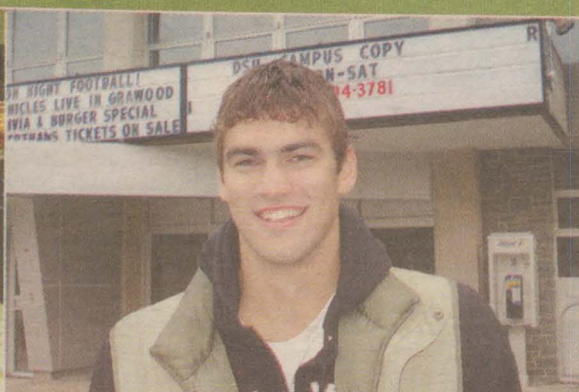
STREETER

WHAT DO YOU MISS ABOUT YOUR HOMETOWN?



“The different cultural pockets, such as Little Italy, Chinatown, the Danforth, etc., and more live theatre.

Meaghan MacSween (Toronto), one year journalism program



“The remote cottage where you could drink your face off. There’s nothing remote in Halifax.

Matthew Terauds (Middleton, NS), fifth-year mechanical engineering



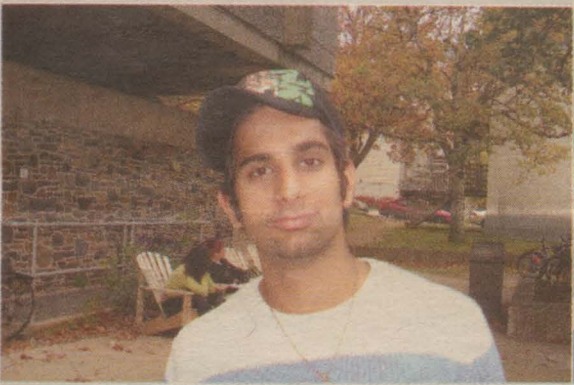
“The abundance of blueberries.

Tessa McWaters (Oxford, NS), third-year history



“I miss the real ‘Smarties.’ For some reason they’re called ‘Rockets’ here.

Emily Robb (CT), third-year English and psychology



“The hookah bars.

Omar Ahmed (Dubai), third-year philosophy



“More than one street where prostitutes are available.

Markus Rannala (Toronto), third-year history



“The marijuana march in early May.

Brittany Smith (Toronto), third-year IDS and political science



“I miss skinny-dipping in the tar ponds... now that’s brisk baby!

Joey Ryba (Cape Breton), eleventh-year vertical-stroke instructor

Got a question you want to see answered by students? streeter@dalgazette.ca

TOP 10

- 1 **GETTING CALLED A DOG BY YOUR EX-BOYFRIEND IN THE MIDDLE OF QUESTION PERIOD** And MacKay’s the one running away to the doghouse with his tail between his legs.
- 2 **GETTING CALLED A DOG BY YOUR EX-BOYFRIEND IN THE MIDDLE OF QUESTION PERIOD** We all knew Belinda’s bark was bigger than her bite.
- 3 **GETTING CALLED A DOG BY YOUR EX-BOYFRIEND IN THE MIDDLE OF QUESTION PERIOD** When asked how sex with MacKay was, Belinda simply said, “Ruff.” (I could go all day with this one)
- 4 **SAMUEL L. JACKSON IS THE VOICE OF GOD IN A NEW AUDIO BIBLE** “Get those motherfucking snakes out of my motherfucking garden!”
- 5 **FINALLY, SCIENTISTS HAVE INVENTED AN INVISIBILITY CLOAK** It’s called “not being cool in high school.”
- 6 **OVER 100,000 PEOPLE HAVE GRADUATED FROM DALHOUSIE** And some of them even got jobs.
- 7 **CANADIAN WOMEN NOW HAVE UNLIMITED ACCESS TO SILICON BREAST IMPLANTS** Thus enhancing the Canadian identity. (Did you catch it?)
- 8 **A MOVIE SET IN NEWFOUNDLAND ABOUT VIKINGS AND ALIENS** Apparently explaining where Newfies come from.
- 9 **TOM JONES TO FIGHT MIKE TYSON FOR CHARITY** Where’s the charity part? When Mike finally puts you out of your misery?
- 10 **HALIFAX HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL SHOCKED TO SEE KIDS “FREAK DANCING”** Just wait until he figures out what “skeet skeet skeet” means.

HOT / NOT

- HOT:** Skinny-dipping / **NOT:** Double-dipping
- HOT:** *The Departed* / **NOT:** Scorsese’s Oscar count
- HOT:** Addison / **NOT:** Meredith
- HOT:** Costume parties / **NOT:** Realizing that it’s not a costume party
- HOT:** Adventurous nights out / **NOT:** A comic book memory the day after
- HOT:** Newfies / **NOT:** Roofies
- HOT:** Movie trailers / **NOT:** Dal’s wack trailer ad
- HOT:** Anything / **NOT:** Weird AI
- HOT:** Seeing London, seeing France / **NOT:** Lindsay Lohan sitting down
- HOT:** Belinda’s sympathy factor / **NOT:** MacKay’s ex factor

Suggestions? hotornot@dalgazette.ca

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Chi whiz

Untapped energy source or oriental mysticism?

CATHERINE HOLLOWAY
Staff Contributor

In 2004, Chicago's Fox Action News sent reporter Danielle Serino to investigate a so-called "human stun gun" — a suburban martial arts teacher named Harry Thomas Cameron who claimed he could knock out opponents with a single hit using an ancient technique known as "dim mak."

Cameron said the technique involved hitting pressure points and using "energy" to disrupt an opponent's neurological system. When camera crews invaded his studios, it appeared to work. His students were hit and they went down like they'd been shot with a stun gun. Medics reported that their heart rates went up suddenly, as if they were in shock.

Then Cameron tried his technique on Serino. He said he was going to jolt Serino's nervous system with a light tap. "What, you just hit me in the head," said the sceptical reporter after the tap had no effect. The Fox crew took him to try his methods on members of another martial arts studio, where Cameron was unsuccessful.

His excuse was that athletes learn to control energy so that it doesn't affect them. But the technique worked on him when one of his students used it. Was he not as much an athlete as the other martial artists?

The energy Cameron refers to is the ubiquitous chi, the "natural energy" that is the basis for many practices, such as acupuncture, feng shui and even chiropractic medicine.

Belief in natural energy isn't an



Martial arts expert Harry Thomas Cameron claims he's a human stun gun.

oriental phenomenon. Indians have Chakra, the ancient Greeks believed in animus and the ancient Romans in spiritus, while the modern western world has Orgone and etan vital.

All of these forces rely on vitalism, the idea that organisms contain a magical property that allows them to live — magical because despite our extensive knowledge of biology, chemistry and physics, there's no substantial proof of the existence of vitalism.

There's a reasonable explanation for why dim mak works on its

followers and only its followers. If one's sense of security comes from a belief that one can take out any enemy with touch, they will suspend scepticism about that belief. People can go into shock from exposure to a phobia, so it's not inconceivable that dim mak would work on true believers.

But if you're going to use dim mak as your only means of self-defence, you'd better hope what Batman said was true — that criminals are superstitious. Otherwise, you could be dead before your finger leaves the pressure point.

Letters@dalgazette.ca

Smells like mean spirit

Dear Editors,

I find it interesting that Rafal Andronowski has such an issue with the appearance of members of independent rock bands (*Gazette 139-07*). He criticizes the "typical look" of such bands, citing "thousands of lookalikes" to support his argument.

This may have been credible, that is, if Andronowski did not end his piece with a tasty little morsel of hypocritical moral advice concerning superficiality. Ironic!

He omitted the fact that the lookalikes are all artists, making fun of the way they dress instead of even considering criticizing their art (which is the only thing that brings them into consideration at all), and then gives the reader advice on looking inward instead of focusing on appearances!

I demand justice.

Adam Boulton

have no conscience about.

Maybe you should be a fashion columnist or something.

Sincerely,
Anna Haley

Kudos to bike lanes

Dear Editors,

Excellent piece by Brendan Osberg (*Gazette 139-08*, "Halifax needs more Bike Lanes"). I am from Ireland and was surprised by the lack of bike lanes when I got here. It is a perfect city to get around on a bike and would be ideal for commuters, etc., to use these lanes.

In Dublin, they have implemented bike lanes around much of the city and it reduced traffic as well as provided a route to see the city easily.

Well done on bringing this to the table for people to discuss.

Tony Griffin
Third-year kinesiology

An un-warming reception

Dear Editors,

I found John Hillman's article, "Eco-lies" (*Gazette 139-07*), a waste of both paper and time.

Global warming doesn't cater to kids who want time off school. The last thing you should be pissing and moaning about is getting days off.

Global warming is a serious issue and passing it off to students as if it's a good thing will make them cease to recognize it as the horrible thing it is. "Planeteers" who know something on the subject realize that irregular, unpredictable weather is a definite indication that global warming is ever-present.

Not only will it affect our weather, it will destroy ecosystems that will be unable to adapt to the inconsistencies. Don't waste energy talking about something you clearly

Band obsession

Yo Arts Eds,

Couldn't let two cases of the same problem slide in your Oct. 12 to 19 issue (*Gazette 136-06*, profile on Cadence Weapon p.12 and Entertainment Pick on Four Tet p. 13). Rollie Pemberton and Keiran Hebden are not sole members of respective bands. There are no members of Cadence Weapon or Four Tet. These are aliases for the aforementioned men. Rollie Pemberton is Cadence Weapon, not a member of it. Same goes for Hebden and Four Tet.

Getting this straight would make y'all sound a lot cooler and less like a bunch of stiffs who think music is only created and presented by bands.

Peace,
Cole Wild

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City considers imposing new graffiti law

KALEY KENNEDY
Staff Contributor

Imagine a teenage boy walking slyly up to a store counter and placing half a dozen cans on it.

"ID please," says the cashier. The boy darts out of the store, leaving behind his attempted purchase: six cans of spray paint.

This incident, though invented, could become a reality.

Following in the footsteps of Vancouver and London, Ont., the Halifax Regional Municipal (HRM) is exploring the possibility of a new graffiti bylaw that would force businesses to clean graffiti in a timely manner and might also bar minors from buying spray paint and certain types of markers.

"Tags are the biggest issue," says Sheila Fougere, city councillor for Connaught-Quinpool. "The essence of the bylaw is to look at having property owners remove graffiti."

The potential bylaw is based on a report delivered to the council in August, which called for new legislation. Several councillors had already expressed concern with the cost of repairing vandalism in the city. The Quinpool Road Mainstreet District Association spent nearly \$23,000 cleaning graffiti over the past four years, says Fougere.

But just because HRM staff is preparing a bylaw doesn't mean council will accept it, she says.

The Graffiti Eradication Program (GEP) was established in 2003, and removed over 50,000 square feet of illegal graffiti in its first year, according to the Creative City Network of Canada.

GEP community coordinator Peter Myatt says the city now oversees graffiti removal and the GEP concentrates more on education, community building and public relations.

The GEP links graffiti with decreases in property value and a heightened fear of crime in the community.

"It's the broken window effect," says Fougere. "If you don't look after aesthetics, tag graffiti, broken windows, peeling paint, it leads to an attitude that no one cares about this anyways, and crime escalates."

But local graffiti artist Kevin Giberson says the same characteristics that make an area easy to spray paint, such as low visibility and limited police presence, are also the characteristics that make crimes easy to commit.

Giberson says graffiti art actually steered him away from crime. Before he started spray painting, he says he was lost. "I was experimenting with drug use, I was on the edge of a bad group," he says. "Graffiti art gave me the outlet to develop my



City councillors and graffiti artists agree that urban art vandalism are two separate issues. / Photo: John Packman

artistic skills into a marketable skill. Now I'm a graphic designer."

He says the proposed legislation doesn't separate urban graffiti art from vandalism.

The GEP stresses the need for mural space. "Urban art is one thing and graffiti is something completely different," says Fougere. "If you can provide an outlet for urban art, then you can help weed out that unfavourable aspect of graffiti."

Graffiti artists took over the wall at Lower Water St. and Morris St. to cover the "obscene" graffiti that was there, says Giberson. "We went down with the idea that we were doing the community a service."

The wall is not legally sanctioned for graffiti art, but is referred to as a "permission wall," meaning there is no attempt to paint over the graffiti.

The system isn't perfect though. Myatt says one problem that's developed due to the wall is that people practice nearby, creating problems for businesses in the area. In Spryfield, a similar permission wall caused a conflict between artists that led to more graffiti in the area.

"Unfortunately there aren't enough artistic outlets," says Fougere.

Giberson says working under pressure without having permission to spray paint graffiti helps artists hone their skills, and that permission walls, such as the one on Lower Water St., are largely reserved for those who have perfected their art.

"You had to have the paint skills and you had to be around town to get the respect to be on that wall or you'd get covered quickly," he says. "That element still exists."

Despite the city's acknowledgement of the need for permission walls, there are still councillors who say the solution is to ban minors from buying spray paint and markers. Fougere says those who believe this will fix the problem are "dead wrong," but says some councillors are convinced it's the only way.

Vancouver's graffiti program, which the HRM bylaw proposal will be based on, relies heavily on the creation of new artistic spaces and owes its success to using murals, rather than banning art supplies.

"It's a complex problem and I don't think there is an easy solution," says Fougere. "I think if we can promote the positive, while taking away the negative, we will be successful, but we have to take a broader view."



MacKay should just shut his beak before someone mistakes him for a seagull that squawks and shits offensive material all over the place.

Peter MacKay: eight-year-old, MP, human or seagull?

PHILIP CARPENTER
Opinions Contributor

I wish I were a Member of Parliament. I could get paid to sit at a desk and tease the pretty girl like an eight-year old — that is, call her offensive names behind her back and then pretend it didn't happen despite 10 of my classmates hearing it.

The difference between an eight-year-old and Peter MacKay, aside from a hefty paycheck funded by taxpayers, is that MacKay, at his age (41) and position (minister of foreign affairs), should know better.

MacKay allegedly responded to the Liberal taunt, "Don't you care about your dog?" with "You already have her," and pointed at Belinda Stronach's empty seat. MacKay clearly equated his former lady friend with a canine. How rude! How sexist?

Why the question mark? Because I love dogs, especially my Labrador retrievers. How could comparing Stronach to these two fine, gentle, intelligent, loyal and handsome animals be sexist? At first I felt, but didn't understand, the insult. I had forgotten what it meant to call a woman a dog. How could comparing someone to the animals so many of us love and cherish be an insult?

The answer is in the double standards and stereotypes already present in our society. By allegedly calling Stronach a dog, MacKay passed judgment on her status as a human, dismissing her as so ugly that she no longer qualifies for recognition as a human being. In doing so, he perpetuated the double stan-

dard that women should be judged and valued for appearance, rather than character or intellect.

It is this way with all animal epithets. Pigs wallow in their filth. Asses are stubborn. It is an assignment of inhuman qualities to people in an effort to denigrate them. When our elected politicians do this, we should call them what they are — stupid, petulant, and in this case, sexist humans who should apologize or resign.

MacKay does have one saving grace, likely inadvertent: irony. This wasn't the first time he compared Stronach to a dog. Upon getting dumped when she crossed the floor, MacKay flew home to Pictou where he was photographed with his dog. The Globe and Mail reported that MacKay said, "Dogs are loyal" — unlike Stronach. So is she a dog or not, MacKay?

To call Stronach a dog is laughably inaccurate. I'm not referring to the fact that she is a rather attractive woman. She simply doesn't meet the Oxford English Dictionary definitions.

She is not a politician of "poor quality" like a bad movie or a falling stock. Rather she seems to be ascendant in politics these days. And last I checked, she was walking on two feet as a member of the species homo sapiens, not the genus canine. As a human she deserves all the dignity and respect that comes with being one.

MacKay should just shut his beak before someone mistakes him for a seagull that squawks and shits offensive material all over the place. If he does it too much, someone might ruffle his feathers with a knitting needle or two.

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According to Hal Niedzviecki, all rebels are conformists.

'Indie rebel' takes on rebellious conformity

KATE ROBERTSON
Staff Contributor

When indie rebel Hal Niedzviecki turned 30, he received a Hallmark card from his parents that read in celebratory bold font, "Happy Birthday to a Non-Conformist." The mainstream brand of the card caused him to rethink his status as a "non-conformist."

He began work on his latest non-fiction book, *Hello, I'm Special: How Individuality Became the New Conformity*.

Co-founder of *Broken Pencil* magazine and the Canzine Festival, Niedzviecki was in town last weekend promoting his book at Canzine East, a zine festival that was part of the Halifax Pop Explosion.

The book explores the contemporary culture of rebellious individuality, which Niedzviecki says is in every aspect of society.

"It's conformist, because it's playing into this idea that we have to be rebels and come up with this edgy attitude that will show our greatness in very conformist ways," he says. "If so many people are trying on these rebellious attitudes and looks, it gets pretty hard to determine who is for

real and who isn't for real."

One of the main issues in *Hello, I'm Special* is celebrity and the individual. Celebrities are the ultimate pseudo-rebels, he says. "They have attained the highest status in society and every privilege that you can achieve. And they've done so by claiming that they're rebels."

To counteract the dilemma of conformity in the guise of individuality, Niedzviecki says people should look to community leaders. "Individuality is where you have a community of people who work together and manifest change in smaller, more meaningful ways than, 'Look at me, I've adopted a baby in Africa,'" he says.

Niedzviecki also advocates independent creative efforts such as zines — homemade and self-published artwork and literature — to achieve a more meaningful version of individuality that discourages delusions of fame and superiority.

"You don't have to be an expert or a superstar," Niedzviecki says. "You can put out your own independently-made creative acts into the world, and they can be respectful of your own individuality and your community."



CKDU-FM hopes to reach its fundraising goal for the first time in five years. / Photo: John Packman

CKDU-FM sets sights on \$50,000 funding drive

MARK BUCKLEY
Staff Contributor

Dalhousie's CKDU-FM station has come a long way since its inception as a radio club in 1969, but its future depends on a fall funding drive that's failed to reach its target for the past four years.

"The funding drive generates between a quarter and a third of the entire operating budget of [CKDU-FM]," said newly appointed fundraising coordinator Charles Hsuen. CKDU-FM has to restructure its budget every year depending on the results of the funding drive.

This year's drive runs from Oct. 25 to Nov. 4, when CKDU-FM puts on a variety of events around the city and listeners are urged to call the station to pledge money.

"People think it's only indie events, but we have lots of different events," said Melissa Buote, CKDU-FM's program director. "We have a poetry night, there's a pop culture trivia night, rock shows and punk shows, an African music night."

Buote said she hopes to see an increase in pledges this year, following CKDU-FM's move to high power on Feb. 14, 2006, which expanded the station's broadcasting footprint from peninsular Halifax to all of HRM.

"Most of our funding comes from the [Dalhousie Student Union], but it doesn't cover everything," said Buote. CKDU-FM received nearly \$133,000 from the student union last year. "People think we're all buying mink coats but [the funding drive] is a real part of our budget."

The station missed its \$50,000 target for the past four years, but Hsuen said he's altered troublesome features of the drive and fine-tuned others that worked.

"We gave incentives to the programmers to bring their advance pledges in and we had a special draw for the early bird advance pledges," said Hsuen. But he said it's still too early to make concrete predictions for the funding drive.

As funding coordinator, Hsuen oversees the gathering of money

from companies and government grants, organizing sponsors and teaching programmers how to solicit donations from listeners.

During a speech at this year's CKDU-FM annual general meeting, Hsuen said the station would attempt to reach its goal. "However, the fate of the drive rests on all of us," he said.

More than 200 volunteers participate in the funding drive and local musicians often play for free to help the station raise money.

Hsuen said he's looking forward to the drive. "This is the only time in which 200 to 300 people from different backgrounds, different ethnicities, different beliefs, different political standings, all walks of life, come together for one single common cause," he said. "[They are] able to support a station, which gives them the freedom to broadcast what they want to."

A CKDU-FM funding drive schedule is available on the station's website at <http://fundingdrive.ckdu.ca>.

Local Crop

Sarah Mortimer / Arts Contributor



If Death Comes

It wasn't the cutesy wallpaper clippings or upside-down hearts pinned to the cover that drew my eye to this zine. It also wasn't the creator's outfit or the underground points I thought I'd score by reading it, which pulled 50 cents out of my pocket.

Printed in black and white, and thin as a Grade 8 Sex Ed pamphlet, *If Death Comes* drew me because of its literary content. It's a diary-style zine written solely by Todi.

Todi's zine isn't written like a magazine or a comic book. It actually reads more like a to-be-continued novel. Each issue gives readers a picture of where Todi is in his life and leaves the reader wondering where he'll end up

next.

The most recent issue, written in June of 2006, features Todi on a vagabond trek across Canada. Hitchhiking from the centre of Ontario through the almost-hallucinatory prairie plains, Todi leaves readers with a trail of diary entries inviting them into his exciting life and tortured inner conscience.

Embarking on such a trip seems impossible in a post-Beatnik era. Todi sleeps on a bench in Stanley Park and accepts rides from large male strangers. But his bold actions are in stark contrast to his confused and insecure inner voice.

In the centre of Todi's zine, there's a photo of train tracks sewn into the ground and reflecting light into the camera lens. The photo has a Stompin' Tom Connors lyric: "Crazy fools have got to learn, what we country boy has gotta get burned."

This crazy fool Todi has obviously got lots more learnin' and burnin' to do.

If Death Comes is available by mail from 6265 North St., Halifax N.S., B3L 1P4

Creating the sound of the future

Afro Cuban All Stars blends genres

CHRISTINA STEFANSKI
Staff Contributor

For 30 years, Juan de Marcos Gonzalez has made it his objective to show the beauty of Cuban music to the world. He is the bandleader and arranger of the Afro Cuban All Stars, a band that consists of musicians who range in age from 13 to 81 and have brought wider recognition to Cuban music.

In differentiating between Cuban and American music, Gonzalez focuses on the beat arrangement in both categories. "In pop music, the accent of the rhythm is on the first and third beat of the bar," he says. "In Cuban music, the accent is on the last beat of the bar."

The Afro Cuban All Stars' impact is strong because its rhythm is danceable, says Gonzalez.

The sound of the Afro Cuban All Stars is accentuated by more than the music its members play. Though the band creates an invigorating and upbeat sound, the Afro Cuban All Stars has created a harmony through which audiences "catch images" of Cuban culture.

He says an artist's music is more powerful to audiences when it's performed outside its country of origin. His band's music serves as a "bridge between Cuban culture and other cultures throughout the world," he says.



Juan de Marcos' Afro Cuban All Stars: not your average ensemble. / Photo: Christian Munoz

The Afro Cuban All Stars has toured the world from North America to Australia and the band has been nominated for several Grammy Awards. Gonzalez says there's difficulty for world music in the entertainment industry but recognition from the American industry has given the Afro Cuban All Stars many opportunities.

In 1969 Havana, Gonzalez says there were six million people and 75 different styles of music and dance. Cuban music, he says, continues to evolve as it mixes elements of traditional music with hip hop, popular music and jazz. In the future, he sees Cuban music integrating different genres of music even more. "We

have to go with the world and assimilate to the music in the world," he says.

Gonzalez says that with hundreds of bands bringing in their own dances and styles into Cuban music, it will continue to expand. And he says he's confident artists will preserve their Cuban roots no matter how much the music changes over the next few years.

"We should show the people how music is evolving but stay connected to the roots," he says. "We have to use the heritage of Cuban music to create a sound of the future."

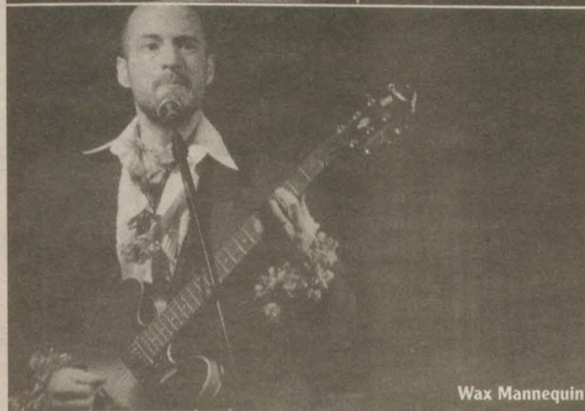
The Afro Cuban All Stars perform at the Cunard Events Centre on Friday, Oct. 27 @ 8 p.m. Doors open @ 7 p.m.



Wintersleep / Photo: Rafal Andronowski



Just Friends Brunch / Photo: John Packman



Wax Mannequin



The Cliks

HPX Report Card

WINTERSLEEP / the Marquee / Friday, Oct. 20 / Reporter: Rafal Andronowski

Stage presence: A
Audience reaction: A
Sound: A
Get-it-on-ability: A
Looks-so-good-factor: C

By the time Wintersleep got on stage the crowd was uncontrollable. Slowly but with unyielding force, the mass of people inched closer to the stage.

The metal barriers designed to keep the crowd away from the

stage were ignored and climbed over and I glanced at other photographers who were just as desperate as I to keep our stage-front space.

But as soon as the first notes of "Assembly Lines" rang out, everything was forgotten — the stifling heat, the complete lack of room, the jumping and screaming crowd behind me — and the shutter began clicking. The atmosphere was intoxicating. Singing along, the mass of fans soaked up every word

as I cursed the terrible lighting and busy backgrounds. Yet all I had to do was close my eyes and the music took over, my body writhing and head rocking to the rhythm.

After playing for close to an hour, the band came back for a short encore. Like the rest of the show, it was over too soon. Ears ringing, I crossed the now-empty dance floor, strewn with beer bottles and spilled glasses, and exited into the pouring rain.

WAX MANNEQUIN / Seahorse Tavern / Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006 / Reporter: Susan Zakaib

Stage presence: A
Audience reaction: B
Sound: B+
Get-it-on-ability: A+
Meow factor: A+

Those who were at the Seahorse on Saturday night might have noticed at some point during the evening that a strange man with roses in his suit took to the stage. Armed with a drum machine and guitar, he talked about animals and meowed.

That was Wax Mannequin. And if you decided not to pay any attention to that strange man, shame on

you.

Most in attendance chatted during his performance, the norm during an opening set. It's difficult to comprehend how these people could have heard an opening line that went "Animals jump/jump up and down/jump up and down down down up up to favourite song" and decided their own conversations were more interesting.

Despite the chatter that pervaded most of the venue, the eyes of the excited attendees who crowded around the stage were glued to the Hamilton-based performer. He

played a disappointingly short set of songs mostly from his new EP *Orchard*, with a couple of favourites from 2004's *The Price*.

The originality of Wax Mannequin's song writing and the intensity of his live performance make him one of the most exciting musical acts Canada has to offer. This is the only man I have ever witnessed who can sing about Bryan Adams and animals and remain completely convincing as a serious performer.

So next time, please, listen to the guy with plants in his suit. He's fantastic.

LAURA PEEK, BRENT RANDALL AND HIS PINECONES & THEIR MAJESTIES
 One World Café / Saturday, Oct. 21 / Reporter: Saman Jafarian

Stage presence: B
Audience reaction: A
Sound: A-
Get-it-on-ability: B+
Brunch-a-liscious-ness: A+

Arguably the most laid back show of the Halifax Pop Explosion, the Just Friends Brunch was a heartwarming and tasty affair.

The three acts that played at the One World Café are all prolific local bands, which any Haligonian has likely had, and will have, ample opportunity to see.

The memorable parts of the show were not the actual performers — though they all played excellent sets — but rather the details one can only notice at a show in a local coffee shop with about 75 people jammed in.

Laura Peek played without her band, the Winning Hearts, because her two musicians had to run out to rent a piece of equipment for a desperate fellow band. Brent Randall & His Pinecones forgot to do a sound check. Niall Skinner, the drummer for Their Majesties, played without his shoes on.

All three bands promoted the brunch that was on sale and demanded a round of applause for the One World staff. Many audience members were unable to clap since they were eating standing up.

A couple danced outside on the sidewalk to the music heard through the One World's glass walls.

At a show by a well-known band, such details are irrelevant. With the influx of out-of-town bands this past weekend, however, these features reaffirmed what makes any local music scene special.

THE CLIKS / Hell's Kitchen / Friday, Oct. 20, 2006 / Reporter: Jen Bond

Stage presence: B+
Audience reaction: B+
Sound: A-
Get-it-on-ability: A
Bowie/Hynde/Hailey-ness: A+++

The Cliks sound like what might happen if Chrissie Hynde and the Murmurs' Leisha Hailey fell in love, got Bowie to help out with insemination and gave birth to an indie-rock love child.

The way the Cliks praised the crowd and the city of Halifax on Friday night, one would have assumed it was a grand homecoming for the

four-piece, all-girl band.

Unfortunately, Toronto claims this fantastic group of rockers, and the Cliks have only been to Halifax once before, this past summer during the Halifax Pride celebrations.

At the band's Halifax Pop Explosion show, the audience was small — most people had gone upstairs to the Marquee to see Wintersleep perform. What the crowd lacked in numbers, however, it made up for in enthusiasm. By the middle of the set, the small space was filled with people dancing around to the

band's infectious riffs.

Front woman Lucas Silveira had a powerful stage presence, enticing the audience to sing along and dance with abandon. She shows all the swagger and confidence expected of more experienced vocalists. Her band mates could probably take a few notes from her — at times it felt like Silveira carried the show.

Overall, the Cliks put on a great show that incited some serious rocking out by almost all in attendance. A definite act to catch the next time they are in town.

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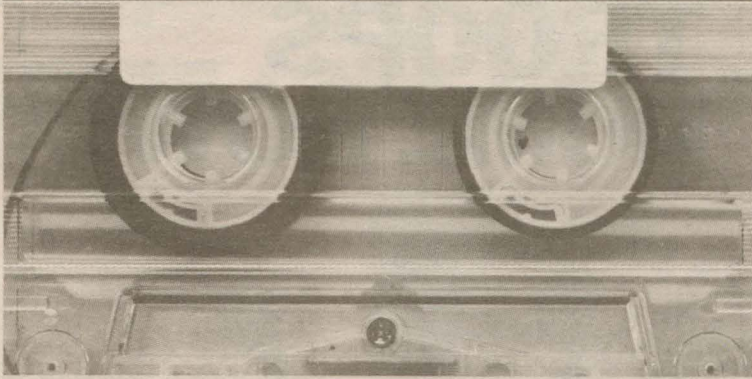
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Burn Baby Burn



JEN BOND / Staff Contributor
SAMAN JAFARIAN / Arts Editor

Someone we know got kissed this weekend. We didn't. But we're not bitter — well, maybe a little. Accordingly, we have compiled a list to commemorate this illustrious occasion.

Our compiled play list is in chronological order: from the first buds of love, to a heartwarming and innocent — yet probably drunken — kiss, to the inevitable downward slope that we are all familiar with.

We're down with the kissing, especially when it's someone kissing us. Did we mention that didn't happen? But we're not bitter.

The Darkness — "I Believe in a Thing Called Love"
The Dears — "Heartless Romantic"
Barbara Streisand — "Kiss Me in the Rain"
The New York Dolls — "Give Her a Great Big Kiss"
Franz Ferdinand — "Do You Want To"
Prince — "Kiss"
The Shins — "Kissing the Lipless"
Red Hot Chili Peppers — "Suck My Kiss"
Broken Social Scene — "Lover's Spit"
The Cure — "Just Like Heaven"
Les Savy Fav — "We'll Make a Love Out of You"
Madonna — "Like a Virgin"
Elliott Smith — "Say Yes"
Kiss — "I Was Made For Loving You"
Marvin Gaye — "Let's Get it On"
Death From Above 1979 — "Sexy Results"
Justin Timberlake — "SexyBack"
Imogen Heap — "Goodnight and Go"
The Unicorns — "The Clap"
Queens of the Stone Age — "The Lost Art of Keeping a Secret"

Review

The Little Years

Neptune Theatre and National Arts Centre
(Ottawa) co-production of

**THE
LITTLE
YEARS**
by John Mighton



OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 4, 2006

CLARE ESLEER
Staff Contributor

The Little Years, playing at Neptune Theatre, is written by John Mighton, directed by Leah Cherniak and co-produced with the National Arts Centre. The play spans four decades, starting in the 1950's. It deals with evolution, a theme mirrored by a rotating series of props.

A poster for the play depicts a set of handcuffs. One cuff is the female symbol and the other the male symbol. Not surprisingly, an overarching theme of the play is gender politics, particularly in education, and the subjugation of women.

The main character, Kate, is played by Tanja Jacobs, with Krystin Pellerin cast as her younger version.

An early scene is set in the high

school principal's office, where Kate's mother, Alice, is talking with the principal about Kate's performance in school. The principal, played by Christian Murray, glorifies the academic prowess of Kate's brother, William, while bemoaning her lack of focus and discipline.

Alice, played by Mary Colin Chisholm, explains that Kate wants to be a scientist. Girls don't do well in science, the principal says — a characteristic belief of the time. The two decide to send Kate to a technical school, where she learns to type, instead of nurturing her interests.

The scene exemplifies the repression Kate will suffer from for the rest of her life. As an extremely intelligent girl whose interest lies in mathematics, particularly concepts of time and space, she's discouraged by her teachers and family. Kate is constantly compared to her brother, who goes on to lead a glorious career as a writer, while Kate spends her life unhappy and unfulfilled.

The Little Years discusses big questions that are symbolic of larger social trends.

John Mighton created believable characters that are well cast in the Neptune production of *The Little Years*. But, given the topics covered, the play's short length of only 70 minutes made it seem rushed. A longer play would have allowed more character development and might have provided the audience member with a more enriching experience.

The Little Years runs until Nov. 4 at Neptune Theatre.

Sex with Hugh

What's booze got to do with it?

HUGH WALLACE
Sex Contributor

Alcohol has helped people escape from sexual inhibitions for as long as I can remember. Sometimes people are afraid to say or do something racy or sexual when they're sober. But with drinking often comes a certain disregard for responsibility.

Alcohol can be an aphrodisiac in this sense — it helps people get laid, though usually quite sloppily. For the most part, alcohol gives people an excuse to do things they wouldn't do when sober.

Women absorb alcohol more readily than men, tending to get drunk faster. Men, less susceptible to the effects of booze, also often believe they have to act macho and sober even when completely bombed. The website iAfrica.com says alcohol increases sexual desire in men and women. And if you've ever been to the Palace on Sunday or the Dome on Wednesday, you can tell that there's a lot of sexual desire out there.

But does booze really help people get laid? A friend once remarked that you have a better chance of getting laid at a bar than at a church. Alcohol is a social lubricant.

But it also reduces the possibility of achieving a satisfying orgasm — or any orgasm at all.

For men this is embarrassing — and obvious, for "biological reasons." Women have faked orgasms before and I'm sure they'll continue to do so.

But men have another problem associated with alcohol, and it can cause supreme embarrassment. 'It' is called Whisky Dick. To those men out there that love to drink, I'm sure you're quite familiar with this problem.

But women, beware. Whisky

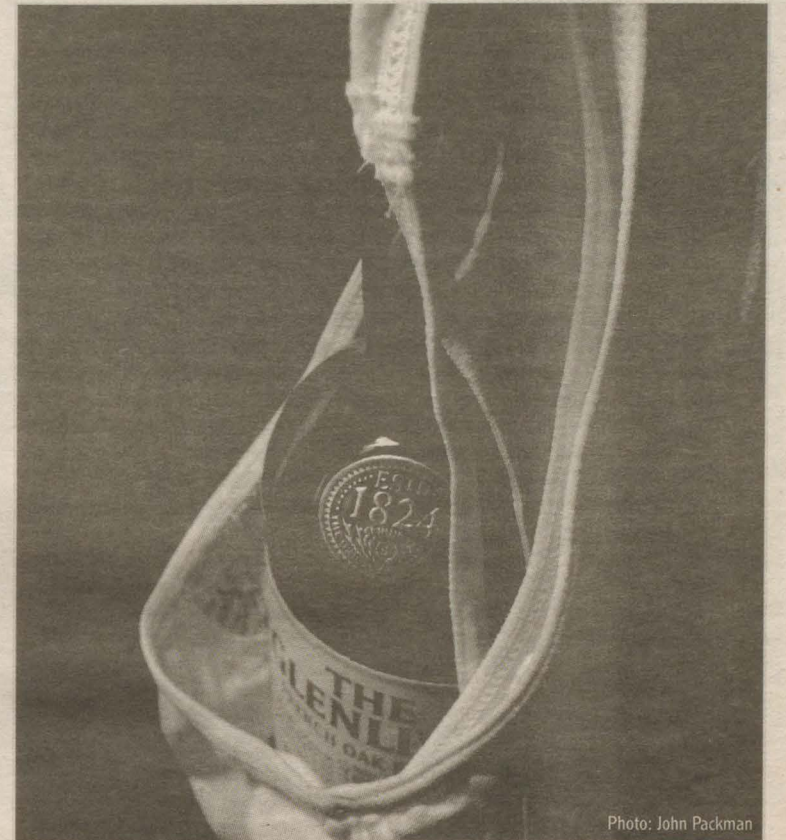


Photo: John Packman

Dick is a man's inability to achieve erection due to capillary dilation caused by alcohol consumption. And it's totally disappointing for everyone involved.

So at this juncture I really have to ask: does drinking make us better sexual beings? My answer is no. Alcohol can help you seal the deal or make shy people friendly, but it can also render your boyfriend (or anonymous partner, no judgment here) useless.

Drinking doesn't make you sexy either. It makes you stumble. It makes you barf. It makes most people annoying. The worst part

about bars is watching disheveled, awkward, liquored-up boys harass my girlfriends. Or having it happen to me.

Sex and the act of searching for it is a much more exciting and fulfilling process when one is sober. So stop being drunk and annoying. Be yourself and try to get action in a less stereotypical way.

You may find 'it' works out for you better.

Next week I'd love to not have to write something, and instead answer questions. Send some to me at sex@dalgazette.ca

Double Take: Kenny Vs. Spenny

SARAH PHILLIPS
Arts Contributor
JACK CARR
Arts Contributor

Last week, the infamous Kenny and Spenny sat down with *The Gazette* to talk about their hit show *Kenny Vs. Spenny* — and give their take on one another.

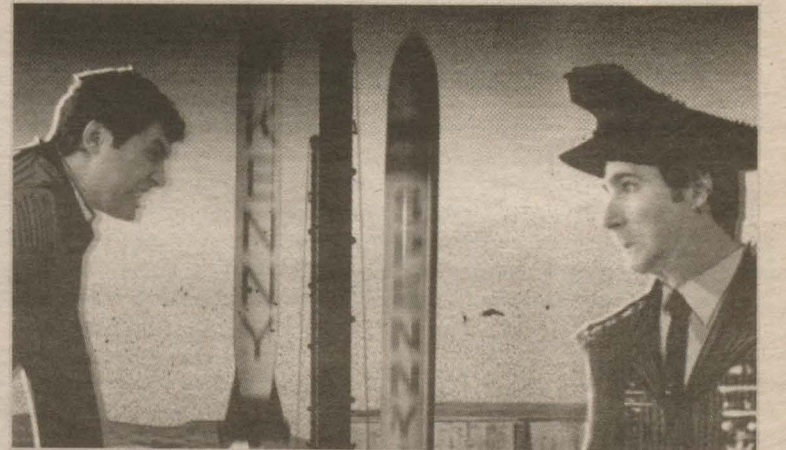
According to Spenny, Kenny is "someone in your life who you've known for so long that they can get away with anything." And Kenny usually does.

Kenneth Hotz and Spencer Rice are the co-creators and stars of the TV show *Kenny vs. Spenny*. In every episode they compete in a series of frat-boy style competitions, such as the infamous "Who Can Drink The Most Beer Before Puking" contest. And devious Kenny usually gets the best of "good guy" Spenny.

The loser of each competition must suffer at the hands of the winner, who assigns a humiliating act that the loser must complete. These acts have included everything from streaking through the streets to getting beaten by a transvestite dominatrix to eating cat food.

Because Kenny cheats and Spenny doesn't find out until after filming, who wins the contest is always a contentious issue. Regardless of Spenny's outcries that fair play should win the game, the nice guy rarely does.

Spenny handles his national humiliations by clinging desperately to the belief that he can use the show as a vehicle to demonstrate the consequences of wicked behaviour. "When you are documenting



[Kenny's] Machiavellian manipulations, you are also documenting the results of it," he says. "People might look at this and question the morality of someone like Kenny."

Spenny is also encouraged by fans of the show who tell him to stay strong and never compromise his principles. "I [might] go down in the history of television as one of the biggest saps, but I have a belief that I will be a long-suffering character, not an idiotic one." — Sarah Phillips

Kenny wants his Canadian viewers to know he's fulfilled his Canadian content quota by including Spenny in *Kenny vs. Spenny*, which left CBC to air on Showcase.

On the show, Kenny puts Spenny through an unremitting cavalcade of torture, but Kenny says Spenny should know who he's up against. "Nobody knows me better than Spenny, we grew up together, so people who feel sorry for him, they should sort of feel sorry for me, that I have to waste my life crushing

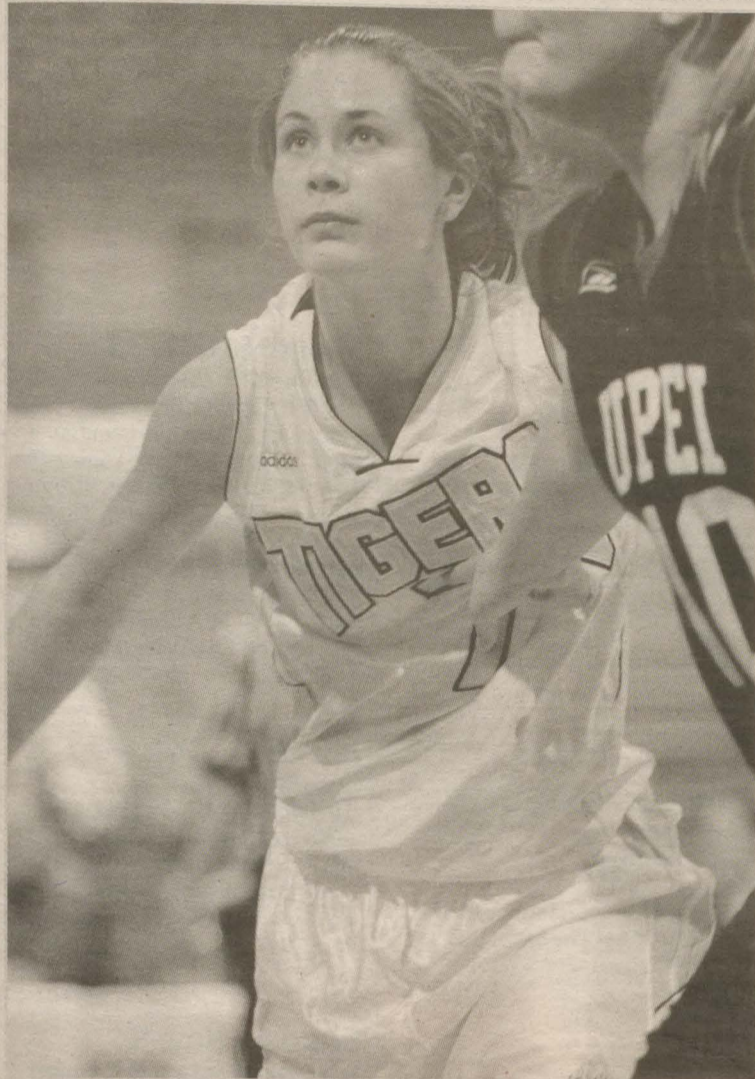
him," says Kenny. "I think we are the only real-life best friends on television."

After watching the show, Kenny's tricks become abundantly clear. He focuses on humiliating Spenny, who Kenny says is too obsessed with the rules. "Drinking non-alcoholic beer in a beer drinking competition is a brilliant plan," he says.

Kenny insists his somewhat deceptive tactics are for Spenny's own good. "If I didn't do it, nobody would watch the show and [Spenny] would be sucking wieners on Hollywood and Vine, like before the show started," he says.

Although both came up with the show's concept, Kenny's scheming, plotting and trickery are the main reasons people watch. Kenny says he might seem cruel but viewers should understand that the contest is not personal — it's business.

"This is between Spenny and myself," says Kenny. "Spenny knows what he's up against and, if he's too stupid to prepare for it, then it's his problem." — Jack Carr



Kate McNeil will be one of the returnees leading the Tigers. / Photo: Nick Pearce

Coach optimistic despite 'losing core'

JOSH TAPPER
Sports Contributor

Despite losing two leading scorers and suffering a devastating loss in last year's playoffs, Dal's women's basketball head coach Caroline Savoy isn't fazed.

Ryan McKay and Leslie Duncan, the top scorers from last season, may be gone, but Savoy exudes a confidence that belies the obstacles her squad will face in the 2006/2007 season.

Last season the Tigers rolled to an 11-9 record and earned the fourth seed in the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) rankings. After trouncing Memorial University 65-48 in the quarter-final, the team lost to the Cape Breton Capers in the semifinal round.

Despite the loss of its core, Savoy says the Tigers haven't had any problems establishing chemistry early in the season.

"I think the team has very good chemistry," she says. "That's one thing I would say about this crew. With a good leader and having good chemistry, they don't seem to take it personally on the court."

Savoy says fourth-year guard Kelly Donald fills the leadership role. Donald, a kinesiology student from Moncton, N.B., averaged 7.6 points per game last season and led her team with 2.7 assists per game. Because she is a fourth-year player, as well as the captain, Savoy expects her to lead the team both on and off the court.

While the Tigers will look to Donald to guide them this season, there are a number of veterans who are expected to impart their knowledge to the younger players.

"I think the senior players, the more experienced players, [Donald], April Scott and Kate McNeil, who have spent a fair amount of time in this program, are certainly helping the younger players," says

Savoy. "They know the tenets of the basketball program."

Savoy's mantra is straightforward. She preaches loyalty, responsibility, accountability and competitiveness.

With five new players, Savoy doesn't expect to see her coaching philosophy come to fruition immediately. Instead, she continues to stress "in your face" pressure defence and tenacious rebounding.

For a team that led the AUS in rebounding last season and was sixth in team defence, holding its opponents to an average of 62.4 points per game, consistent effort and hard work will continue to spell success.

So far, Savoy is impressed with what she's seeing from her freshmen players. She expects great things from Alex Legge, a guard/forward from Mahone Bay, N.S. Legge, says Savoy, plays like a third-year player and will be relied upon to contribute right away.

Other first-year players such as Rachel Harrison, Abby Jakob, Brittany Sullivan and Chloe MacLean will naturally need to time to adjust, says Savoy. While the physicality and game speed at the university level is higher than in high school, Savoy says she thinks adherence to the basic fundamentals of basketball will help overcome any obstacles.

The Tigers experienced the frustrations of inconsistency last season as the team failed to win consecutive games, losing four out of six games in the final month of the season. But because of its overall success in recent years, the team will have targets on its backs.

"I think people gun for us because we have had a tradition of winning here at Dalhousie and every team wants to knock off the winner," says Savoy. "There is no one who comes in here and says, 'We don't have to work hard against them.' I think we've earned the reputation that you have to work hard when you come to Dal."

Working his way to the top

Captain could be 'one of top runners in the country'

JOEY RYBA
Sports Editor

The captain of the Tigers men's cross-country team has emerged as a force in Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) cross-country running this season. Veteran Rob Jewer cracked the top 10 at the Laval University meet on Oct. 14 and finished first at the UdeM meet earlier in the season.

Coach Dan Hennigar says Jewer is one of the team's hardest-working athletes.

"I don't think he's missed a single day of training even though he's supposed to be taking off days in the last two months," says Hennigar.

Jewer, a St. John's, Nfld., native, competed for Memorial University before transferring to Dal to do an MBA in 2005. Hennigar says Jewer's running has improved since he joined Dal.

Hennigar says Jewer came to Dal after having some success in the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) conference. "I think now, he could be one of the top runners in the country," says Hennigar.

Jewer says he chose Dal because of academics and a strong cross-country program. He says Hennigar puts a lot of time into the program and is an excellent coach.

"[Hennigar] is always looking for ways to alter our programs to help us perform," says Jewer. "It's been great."

Runners Chris Algar, John Corbit and Russell Christie also contribute to the team's success. Jewer says the trio is the hardest-working group of guys he's ever been around.

"The best part of having such a great group of guys to work with is everyday someone else can keep up the intensity, which is really important," says Jewer. "They're my teammates, but also my friends. We get along really well and there's great chemistry on the team."

Besides current Tigers, Jewer says former Dal star runners Paul Chafe and Matt Sheffield also helped inspired him to stick to his training regimen.

"[Chafe and Sheffield] kept the intensity up in the workouts, but they were also fun to have around," says Jewer. "Last year being with them kind of affected my training this year, even though they're not here, the examples they set stayed with us."

In 2005, the CIS cross-country championship was held at Point



Rob Jewer will be leading the Tigers on the course at the AUS championship. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Pleasant Park. It was great to race in front of the home crowd and it was one of those races where everything came together at the right time, says Jewer.

This season, the Tigers are battling St. FX. for top spot in the AUS conference. The Tigers are in first place, but St. FX. has one of its strongest teams ever. Hennigar says the Tigers have progressed nicely in the lead up to this season.

"When you look at the ranking, we were definitely an underdog for AUs," he says. "Things have progressed really well and everyone's starting to come around now at the time when they should."

The AUS cross-country championship is Oct. 29 at St. FX. Jewer says the AUs will be a very competitive event. The Tigers will have to stay focused and relaxed at the same

time in order to be successful.

After the AUS championship, the team will compete at the CIS championship at Laval University on Nov. 11. Jewer says the CIS championship is a big stage with really strong competitors and the Tigers have to apply the same game plan to the CIS as they do to the AUs.

"I think the biggest thing with CIs is staying relaxed... don't panic in the first mile," he says. "Everyone just needs to run what they're capable of running and we'll be fine."

Jewer was a top competitor at CIs last year. Hennigar says he doesn't want to make any predictions for Jewer but he expects a solid performance from the team captain.

"He's the athlete who's leading our team on the course," says Hennigar. "It's just a matter of him staying focused."

Athletes of the week

FEMALE ATHLETE



ANDREA SADOWSKI
SOCCER

Andrea Sadowski set up game-winning goals in two Tigers wins on Oct. 21 and 22. Both of the game winners for the Tigers came from Sadowski's perfectly placed corner kicks. The defender was a major contributor in both games, and has started to dominate play in a new position. Sadowski is a fourth-year sociology student from Markham, Ont.



MALE ATHLETE



ROSS HAGEN
SOCCER

Ross Hagen was the driving force behind the Tigers 2-1 victory over Mount Allison on Oct. 21. He set up both Tiger goals in the win, which led to the team clinching a playoff spot. Hagen also played very well in a tough 2-1 loss to Saint Mary's on Oct. 22. Hagen is a first-year commerce student from Calgary, Alta.



Dalendar & Classifieds

dalendar@dalgazette.ca / classifieds@dalgazette.ca

Dalendar

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

Thursday, Oct. 26

King's College to host Trust in Science Lecture Series

7:30 p.m. @ University of King's College Alumni Hall

The first lecture, titled "Setting the Scene: From Magician to Miracle Worker," featuring Dr. Steven Shapin and Professor Franklin L. Ford (Harvard).

Free

DASS/DSS Annual Ball

7 p.m. @ The MacInnes Room

This is a wet/dry formal event. Featuring a dinner and a live performance by The Eddie Fisher Band. Tickets available in Room 314, Dal SUB.

\$20

Celebrate Halloween with DalOUT & Rocky Horror

7:30 p.m. @ Dal SUB Rm 307

To celebrate Halloween, DalOUT will be holding an interactive screening of The Rocky Horror Picture Show at 7:30pm in Rm. 307

of the SUB. Halloween costumes are encouraged and Rocky Horror-themed costumes are strongly encouraged. Thanks to our successful fundraising as of late, we will be providing some Halloween treats to enjoy during the movie.

Free

Friday, Oct. 27

Vagina Monologue Auditions

Oct 27-29 @ Dalhousie Women's Centre For all female community members, not just for students! Sign up prior to the 27th at the DWC, 6286 South Street. For arrangements for persons with disabilities or for more information e-mail: vdaydalhousie@yahoo.ca

Free

Grawood Comedy Show

9 p.m. @ The Grawood

Stand up & improv with the cast of the Sunday Night Comedy Spectacular. Musical performance following the show by Deadline Sunday. Come out and support the School of Health and Human Performance Society.

\$3

Karaoke Party

10 p.m. @ Gus' Pub

Hosted by Windom Earle, aroake favourites and songs from local indie artists including tracks from: Windom Earle, Sharp Like Knives, Stolen Minks, The Maynards and others.

\$2

Saturday, Oct. 28

Alternative Approaches to Physical / Mental Health Body, Mind and Spirit

9 a.m. @ Capt. William Spry Centre A one-day workshop presented by the Maritime Sikh Society. Seats are limited to 40, register by calling 443-3269 / 445-5601 / 477-1949. Bring own yoga mat, blanket and pillow. No perfumes.

Free

Nasty-Nice Rail Jam

12 p.m. @ Gorsebrook Field

Tons of giveaways and good times. Check out www.nasty-nice.com for more info. After party to follow at the Grawood.

Free

Smart Patrol Hallow'ween Costume Party

7 p.m. @ One World Cafe

Spincycle ^2 (CD RELEASE), Assdroids, Be Bad. A fundraiser for CKDU Smart Patrol (Saturdays, 10:30pm)

\$3 w/ costume - \$5 w/o costume

SUPER SPECIAL HALLOWE'EN RETURN MAGIC SHOW

10 p.m. @ Stage Nine

Featuring The Grass and Whiskey Kisses. Costumes encouraged.

\$6

Sunday, Oct. 29

Come to Catholic Mass!

10:45 a.m. @ Front of A&A Building

Come see what this whole "freedom of the Gospel" business is all about by joining other Dal students and walking to mass at nearby St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

Free

Monday, Oct. 30

TRIVIA NIGHT

9 p.m. @ Gus' Pub

Test your Pop Culture IQ! Hosted by the awesomely hilarious Heath Matheson (from The Maynards!)

and between games entertainment will be a hilariously awesome Speaking Engagement with Mark Black. A fundraiser for the CKDU shows *Popped Culture* (Mondays, 5:30pm) and *The Report* (Tuesdays, 6pm).

\$1 per trivia game

Tuesday, Oct. 31

POETRY NIGHT

9 p.m. @ Ginger's Tavern

Hosted by David Rimmington. A fundraiser for the CKDU Show *The Poetry Show* (Wednesdays, 8:30pm)

Free

DALLOWE'EN!

9 p.m. @ The Grawood

With City Field! A fundraiser for the CKDU show *DSU Now!* (Mondays, 3:30pm)

\$6

CRAZYWAVE HALLOWEEN

10 p.m. @ Stage Nine

With Dog Day, Gilbert Switzer, Torso and Big Edith. A fundraiser for the CKDU Shows *CKDU Smart Patrol* (Saturdays, 10:30pm) and *The One Inch Punch* (Sundays, midnight)

Price TBA

Sunday, Nov. 5

Vegan potluck and a movie/speaker!

6 p.m. @ NSPIRG office (312, Dal SUB)

The first and third Sunday of every month is a potluck sponsored by NSPIRG. Anyone is welcome to come and bring a vegan dish for 8-10. Donations for the Humaine Society welcome!

Free

Classifieds

Send your classifieds to classifieds@dalgazette.ca

BARISTAS WANTED!

The Wired Monk Coffee Bistro is opening mid-November on the corner of Hollis and Morris and needs a brilliant line-up of new staff. P/T and F/T avail. Must love serving people and making great coffee and food.

Phone Lisa at 223-4565 to apply!

Room Mate WANTED

Single parent seeks other single parent or mature student(s) to share house in Halifax, as close to Dal/St. M's as possible. Gay friendly, drummer friendly. Shared use of kitchen etc., as well as 12' trampoline and musical instruments (key board, drum kit etc.). Pet friendly.

237-2492, marko@istar.ca

FOR RENT

Newly renovated 2 bedroom apartment. Laminate & ceramic flooring throughout. Walk in closet in master bedroom. Located in Bedford and close to all amenities. \$725/month - utilities and laundry included.

431-4045 / 471-3467

FLAT FOR RENT

4 Bedroom Flat on Henry St. on Campus. \$1200. plus Utilities.

425-5843

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Small Furnished Bachelor Apt. Henry St. on Campus. \$345. Utilities included.

425-5843

FOR RENT

Apartment for rent. 2735 Agricola St. (back). 1 large bedroom \$775/month. Deck & parking available. Utilities included.

Reg Giles @ 444-7545 / 455-4545

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