

# GAZETTE

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Dalhousie University Student Newspaper

free

## Surviving Sierra Leone

Dal grad student  
Joseph Bangura  
reflects

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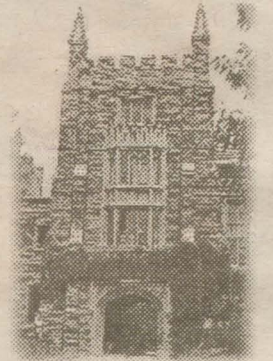
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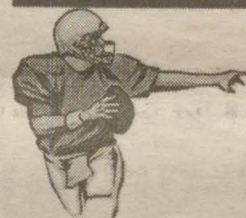
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## War of words:

### DSS and Library trade shots over reference section merger

by ben maclean

the gazette

Things are far from quiet at the Killam Library following the controversial merger of the arts and science reference sections.

The Dalhousie Science Society (DSS) and the library administration have dug in their heels on opposite sides of the issue.

In a statement published in the *Gazette* on Oct. 5, Johanne Galarneau, chair of the DSS, said that her group was "vehemently opposed to the amalgamation." In a response published last week, Bill Maes, the university librarian, wrote that the society's position "is difficult to accept when little of it is grounded in fact."

At issue is the elimination of the science reference desk. Many science journals have also been moved to the ground floor of the Killam.

According to Maes, the changes are part of a long-term strategy to provide better access to electronic resources. He also claims that rearranging staff will allow for longer library hours.

"This is an interim step,"

said Maes.

But the DSS is not convinced the supposed benefits outweigh the inconveniences students have encountered.

"[The library administration has] forgotten why the university exists. This is taking one of [Dalhousie's] best resources and putting it through the wringer," says Joey McDonald, President of the society.

The society points to longer line-ups and overcrowding in the combined reference section. The DSS is also concerned that its students are dealing with staff who are unfamiliar with science materials. When it comes to getting help from a librarian, McDonald says, "You're playing your cards."

To rally support, the DSS recently circulated a petition asking for the changes to be reversed. In a 50 hour span, 2000 signatures and 200 letters of complaint were collected.

The Dalhousie Arts and Social Sciences Society (DASSS) is helping with the campaign.

"We agree with all the issues they're talking about," says Jenn Pelley, DASSS president. "We're still experiencing inefficiency."

Maes sees such comments as an overreaction.

"I think it's unfortunate. There's a lot of misinformation out there. Up until now feedback has been positive. It's business as usual," said Maes.

In his written rebuttal to the DSS, Maes stated that "the quality of service remains the same." He says that line-ups have not increased, and the odds of dealing with reference staff who specialize in a given area are the same as before the merger.

"[The move] is a convenience for all faculties. The increasingly interdisciplinary nature of studies, the serendipity of having to walk by other [journal] titles [in the reference section]," said Maes.

He blames the DSS for stirring up disagreement. For instance, he claims the DSS pushed the arts society to take action, even though nothing has changed for them.

This is despite the fact that the DASSS president herself says she has experienced unusual delays.

There has been an obvious breakdown of communication between the two sides.

The DSS claims that during the past ten months Maes made no effort to contact them regarding the move. Only after the petition did he invite consultation.

"It's too late. He's been smoke screening all the issues," says McDonald.

Maes maintains several public meetings have been held over the past year to discuss the merger. However, not many students showed up.

He also argues the DSS has never asked him to attend one of their meetings to make his case.

"It's not one-sided," said Maes.

In the meantime, the librarian says no further changes are being made, pending a review of the situation by the Senate library sub-committee.

Even with this intervention, an easy resolution is nowhere in sight. Maes remains committed to his vision for the library, insisting that the merger "will prove itself in due time."

Across the fence, the DSS continues to defend its own perspective.

"The library is an essential resource for students. We look forward to fighting with [Maes]," said Galarneau.

## Faculty of grad studies on shaky ground

### Students worried masters degrees won't be worth as much in the marketplace

by morgan dambergs

the gazette

Earlier this year, the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) was under review by a committee appointed by the Dalhousie Senate.

The merits and negatives of the FGS were evaluated, and potential solutions were discussed for the problems that were brought up. One of the main issues was the FGS' authority over admission to the graduate studies program.

Right now, the FGS has the ability to set the basic standards that all entrants to Dalhousie's graduate studies program must meet. The problem brought to the committee by the deans and directors of several faculties, was that those standards are too high, and that they are playing a big role in excluding potential students who have been out of school and working for several years. The solution put forward by the committee was that the Dean of FGS could give jurisdiction over admissions to any faculty that requested it, and it could simply keep watch over these faculties to make sure they didn't abuse the power in a way that would compromise their program.

There are two main things

about this suggestion that have people up in arms.

First, admissions authority is one of the greatest power the FGS holds. It's feared if this is taken away from them, it will be the first step, and a large one, toward the elimination of the entire faculty.

Second, if admissions standards are allowed to be lowered further, the result could easily be that a Master's degree gained in any discipline at Dalhousie would be less appealing by potential employers, when compared with one gained at a university with higher standards.

"What is the value of my Dalhousie Master's degree in history if you can take a Dalhousie Master's degree in Business Technology... without meeting a high academic standard?" said Suzy Waldman, former President of the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Studies.

Within the committee's report, it was stated that the actual elimination of the FGS is not a possibility. It's too important a resource; losing it would have very serious consequences for the graduate student population.

Students feel that even the weakening of the faculty's power is cause for concern.

The FGS is also the

organization grad students usually turn to when they're faced with the various problems that can arise while working towards a Ph.D.

"[Things like] ... being asked to work too much as research assistants, or to forfeit credit for discoveries we have made — because graduate students do work that has potential value, both financially and for the reputations of our supervisors, we are subject to exploitation," said Waldman.

The FGS is a place where a student can express concern about these issues with little chance of their complaint becoming known by any professors involved.

Overall, as Waldman stated, dissolving a main authority of the FGS would weaken the grad students position in the market place.

"It will make Dalhousie a less hospitable and less attractive place for graduate students that might wish to come here. It is not an exaggeration to claim that diminishing FGS would, in the long run, diminish the reputation of Dalhousie as a graduate institution, and consequently as an undergraduate institution."

The committee's suggestions are currently still up for debate in Senate.

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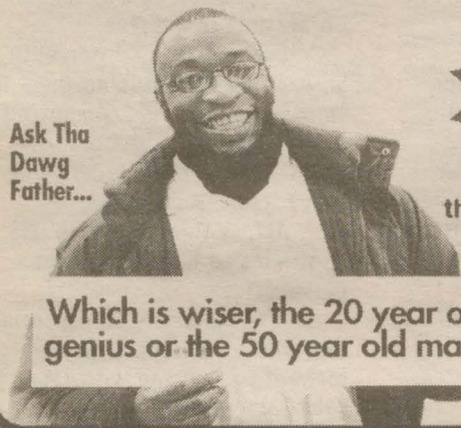
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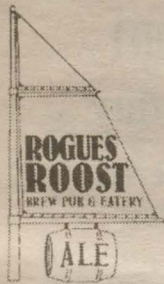
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# National News

compiled from the Canadian University Press newswire  
by Wendy Sawatsky

## UBC students protest Canada's spy agency

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Students at the University of British Columbia recently spoke out against Canada's national spy agency during a career information session the agency was hosting on campus. The protest, organized by the Spartacus Youth Club, centred on the effect the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) has had on freedom of speech and the spy agency's influence on student protests and student activism.

"Students have the right to express dissenting viewpoints without fear that they're being spied upon," said protester Garth Mullins.

A CSIS public liaison officer said CSIS was on campus to offer students information about pursuing a career with the agency, which is a federal government department under the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

Last year, the National Post reported that former solicitor general Herb Gray revised the government's policy regarding CSIS in 1997, giving the director of CSIS more power to unilaterally approve some undercover operations involving human sources on campuses. While CSIS denied the allegations, asserting that ministerial approval is still required in most cases of campus spy activities, students remain concerned about the possible lack of restraints on campus spy activities.

## British Columbia heads into sixth year of frozen tuition

VICTORIA (CUP) — Post-secondary tuition fees in British Columbia have been frozen at \$2,280 per year for the sixth year in a row.

B.C. Premier Ujjal Dosanjh made the announcement Tuesday to a crowd of roughly 150 students. He was on campus to kick off a three-part education forum sponsored by the university's student association.

In his speech to students, Dosanjh compared B.C.'s tuition with other provinces - Alberta now charges \$3,841 per year while Ontario has set the bar at \$3,971 and has even deregulated tuition entirely in some professional programs.

Rob Crift, executive director of the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of B.C., says his organization supports the tuition freeze, but he worries that British Columbia universities can't offer the same level of quality education as schools in other provinces because they have less cash.

A 1999 survey by B.C.'s council of university presidents found that universities in the province have \$860 less per student than their counterparts across the country. Although the provincial government closed that gap by about 20 per cent in last year's budget, there's still a long way to go, says Crift.

## Assistants and contract faculty on strike at York

TORONTO (CUP) — Teaching assistants, contract faculty and graduate assistants set up picket lines around York University last Thursday morning, beginning a strike after months of faltering contract negotiations between their union, CUPE 3903, and the university.

The union made the last set of concessions and says the university has not moved from its position since. Tuition assistants are hoping to preserve last year's agreement's tuition rebate clause, which gives T.A.s rebates that match tuition increases. Job security is a key issue for contract faculty. Graduate assistants, who are negotiating their first contract with the university, are looking for fair wages and a benefit plan.

The university feels the offer they have tabled is fair. A York spokesperson said they offered a package that would put CUPE 3903 members among the best paid and best placed in the province. She also said the university is committed to achieving a settlement with minimum disruption to students.

The York University Faculty Association and the York Federation of Students are supporting striking union members, both monetarily and by encouraging students not to cross picket lines. Though they may be delayed by picketers, the union said students would not be prevented from entering the university.

## Six arrested in Toronto anti-Harris protest

TORONTO (CUP) — Toronto police arrested six people Friday who were protesting the annual provincial Progressive Conservative policy convention. About 200 students objecting to the introduction of private universities and cuts to post-secondary education clashed with police when a group entered the CBC building across from the Metro Toronto Convention Centre where the Tories were meeting.

At the Tory policy meeting Premier Mike Harris entertained delegates, ministers and members of the press. A large police presence and metal barricades separated more than 1,000 protestors from the convention.

Tensions between police and protestors were high all afternoon.

The arrests were made as students attempted to enter the CBC building across the street from the Convention Centre, in order to join a group of students who were already inside, planning to make a statement to the CBC regarding their anger at the Harris government.

Six people were arrested on charges that ranged from obstruction of police to assaulting a peace officer. Police said in a press release that the suspects were trying to gain entry into a secure area and "attacked police lines."

All six have been released on bail.

## Christian school on tour to promote court case

VANCOUVER (CUP) — The vice-president of private Christian university Trinity Western toured the country last week to promote a Supreme Court of Canada case he says threatens religious freedoms.

The four-year old legal battle between the B.C. College of Teachers and Trinity Western centres on the Christian university's "community standards agreement," a contract which requires students to refrain from extramarital sex, including same-sex relationships. The teacher's college says this agreement violates basic human rights, and is an inappropriate setting to train teachers. The teacher's college has refused to approve Trinity Western's teacher education degree program, in spite of rulings from the B.C. Supreme Court and the B.C. Court of Appeal in favour of the university.

A lawyer representing the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, which intervened in the case in 1997, says that because Trinity Western is a private institution it is not subject to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, so the school can let who they want in.

Following the hearing before the nine Supreme Court justices in November, a final decision is expected on the matter in spring 2001.

# Mini-budgets education stand draws mixed reviews

by jay nathwani

the gazette

The federal Liberals' pre-election mini-budget commitments to post-secondary education have drawn mixed reviews.

The mini-budget promised to double the amount on which the education credit is based from \$200 to 400 for full-time students, and from \$60 to \$120 for part-time students.

This means students will be able to deduct twice as much from their taxable income.

It also promised to help create world-class research facilities in universities and hospitals by providing \$400 million of new funding to the Canada Foundation for Innovation for operating costs of research.

This move was praised by the Canadian Association of Student

Associations (CASA). "Post-secondary students and their parents and Canada's universities and colleges will all benefit from the measures proposed today," said Mark Kissel, president of CASA.

Students and their families are facing both a rising cost of living and a soaring cost of education. They will receive some necessary relief through the doubling of the education amount which they can claim on their tax returns.

However, the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) criticized the proposal as doing nothing to address the basic concern of students: high tuition.

"There is absolutely nothing in the budget to stem the rising cost of education because of increased tuition. There is nothing substantial about responding to the real problem — student debt. The increase in the tax

exemption won't help students most in need in terms of providing student employment in the form of summer jobs or lowering the cost of education," said Michael Conlon, National Chairperson for CFS.

He also criticized it as simply an election strategy.

David Herbert, a student at Kings College, citing the \$400 million pledged to hospitals and universities for research, was also unimpressed.

"They're gearing towards business as opposed to grassroots education in the form of bursaries and student assistance."

CASA recognized the broader issue with respect to the funding of post-secondary education when it said, "Core funding is a core issue." The organization has been lobbying for the restoration of funds slashed from the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST) in 1995. The cuts to the CHST implemented by the federal Liberal government to deal with the deficit, now eliminated, seriously depleted the funds available for provinces to fund post-secondary institutions.

In the 1995 budget, the government said, "The provinces will receive \$29.7 billion in transfers under the existing programs for 1995-96, about the same as in 1994-95.

Several years of cuts followed. In the 2000 budget, the government pledged an increase of \$1 billion to the CHST for fiscal 2000-2001, bringing the CHST to \$15.5 billion.

The pre-election mini-budget announced \$21.1 billion dollars over five years, which CASA welcomed.

The \$21.1 billion infusion into the CHST will go a long way towards restoring Canada's key social programs. The provincial governments should remember that public education has always been one of Canada's key social

programs.

Provincial governments are under no obligation to spend this money on education.

Given that \$3.2 billion is explicitly set aside in the budget for purposes other than post-secondary education, that the money will be allocated over the next five years, that the current level of funding is still

much lower than it was five years ago, and that an aging population and public concern over the state of health care make that a priority for investment, there is no guarantee that universities and colleges will see significant new funds.

Even if they do, it may not be enough to freeze or roll back tuition fees, the main concern of students.

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## AT THIS TIME OF ANGUISH IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Halifax Jewish Students' Federation joins hand and heart with all of the peoples of Israel as we mourn the dead and weep for the injured. They are our brothers and sisters, our neighbours and our partners in Peace. We share the pain of families bereaved, and we pray that they may be comforted.

**WE ARE UNITED IN FRUSTRATION.** We strive for peace and we are answered with violence. The road to peace is long and difficult, one fraught with many obstacles. We are willing to walk it, but we will not walk it alone.

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**WE ARE UNITED IN DEDICATION.** We are committed to the pursuit of the fundamental Jewish values of democracy, respect for human rights, belief in the sanctity of human life, justice and peace.

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Jewish Student  
Federation



# Digging for peace

## a commodity more scarce than diamonds

by graham simms

the gazette

Around this time last year, Dalhousie MA student Joseph Bangura was displaced from his home by a civil war that has been ravaging Sierra Leone for nearly a decade. During his escape, friends were killed in his presence, walked over dead bodies and was beaten and nearly killed by drunk teenage rebels with AK 47 rifles before returning to his partially bombed house.

Things changed for him a few months later when he won a scholarship to Dal. Things are still the same in Sierra Leone, a country where a Chinese AK 47 is easier to buy than a bar of soap. It is a country plagued not only

threatened to kill me, tortured me, and when he left me for a while I was able to escape. I sought refuge in a church for three weeks before a New West African force expelled them from the area where I was.

"When we were on the run we used to jump over corpses on the highway. People were shot in my presence so I've seen a lot of dead bodies. I lost intimate friends. Sometimes I do not want to recall that memory of them. It's really painful.

"[Before this war, Sierra Leone] was a very beautiful place. It had a very precious commodity which everyone wanted and everyone spoke about and which everyone enjoyed — that was peace.

they can lend a hand to assist the languishing refugees in the neighboring countries and displaced communities.

"An end to the conflict does not seem to be in sight. A military solution is the best prescription for this conflict. The government and the official constitutional army is still undergoing training by the British. The rebels do not seem honorable. They keep on violating cease fires that have been signed, etc. So perhaps what may resolve the crisis is when the UN and perhaps West African troops embark on a decisive counter offensive on the rebels. Either UN troops or UN Peacekeepers. The goal is to bring peace to Sierra Leone and whatever strategy that could be employed to bring peace will be appreciated by Sierra Leone be it military, be it diplomatic.

"Whatever assistance which will accelerate the end of the conflict. If Canada wants to intervene she has the capability to do that. Too many diplomatic overtures have been embarked on and the war doesn't seem to be ending. So perhaps some other strategy should be embarked on to fight the rebels. I believe a military solution is the best way out of this crisis. I feel a massive military build up and counter offensive may speedily resolve the crisis. If not force the rebels to honor their pledges, honor their signatures in all the accords.

"The situation in Sierra Leone is harrowing. People, civilians are being maimed by the rebels. The security situation is rather precarious in that the rebels have occupied substantial parts of the northern provinces and that has left well over 400,000 people living in between the territory bordering Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia. Often relief agencies cannot access them and so they are starving for food, medicine, good drinking water. Not to mention lack of goods, the unhygienic conditions that exist. They don't seem to receive the kind of attention that displaced people should be receiving. UNHCR is assisting them in some ways, but they are still suffering.

"It is one of the most inhuman crises, one of the most destructive crises, where people's hands, arms are amputated.

## When we were on the run we used to jump over corpses on the highway.

by a civil war that has left hundreds of thousands civilians murdered but by diseases, poverty, draughts, floods, famine, pollution, lack of drinking water and apathy from the west.

Now studying African History and working as a teaching assistant, Sierra Leone is still on Bangura's mind. He hopes to start a committee based at Dal to sensitize Canadians to the crisis in his home and the immediate need for assistance in one of the world's worst humanitarian disasters.

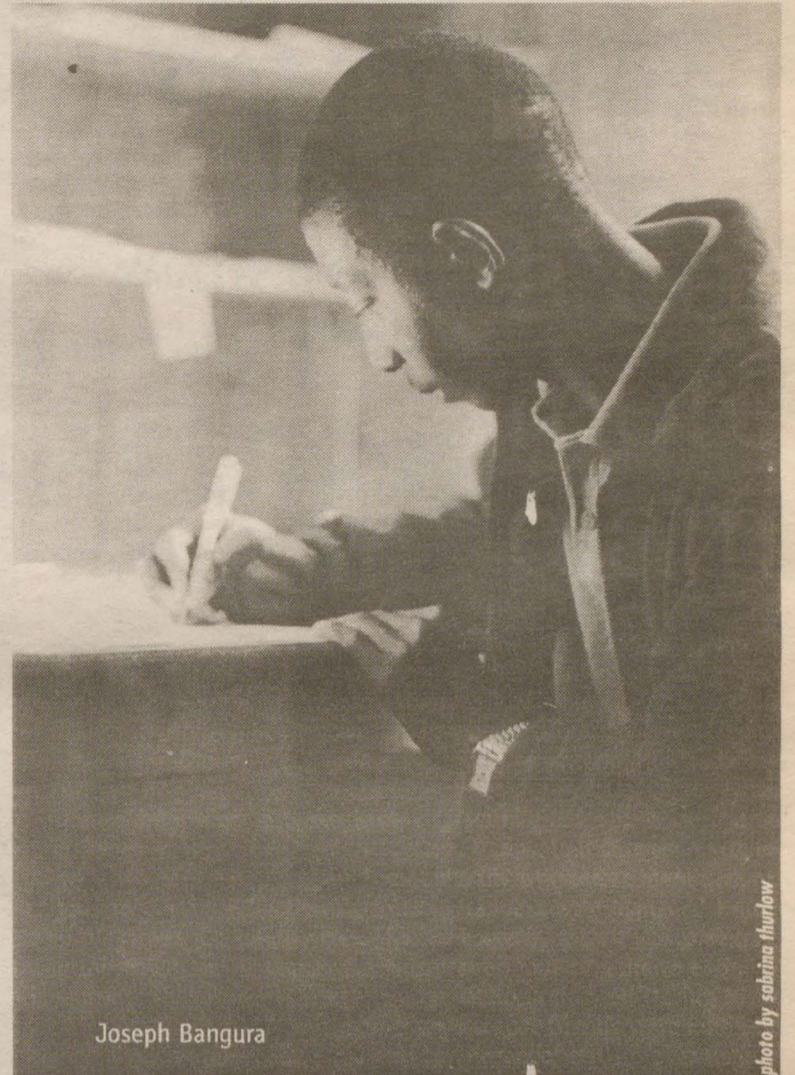
Bangura spoke to *The Gazette* about his experiences and plans for the Dal community.

"I was caught in the invasion of the city in January 1999 by some lads about fourteen. They had AK 47 rifles and they demanded money from me. Then at night, another group of them, dead drunk, found me in the area where we were seeking refuge. They attacked us, hit me with the gun, made us dance for them,

Sierra Leone never knew war. There was no conflicts, no rebellion, no insurrection until 1991. It was a peaceful place with hospitable people that were receptive and open to foreigners.

"When I came to Canada I realized that the knowledge about the crisis in Sierra Leone is sparse — particularly here at Dal. I thought that I could embark on a mission of getting Canadians and other interested parties to be sensitized. The committee will try to inform Canadians about the dreadful nature of the crisis in Sierra Leone — so that's a movement to evoke sentiments, hopefully it will evoke a sentiment that's been called into action.

"The committee will be looking at ways and means of raising awareness about the crisis in the minds of Canadians who are not too aware of what's going on there. Perhaps their idea about the crisis in Sierra Leone is rather sketchy. The committee will also look at ways and means of influencing NGO's and the government to see how



Joseph Bangura

photo by sabrina thurlow

Pregnant women are hacked to death, babies as young as four months old are hacked to death, some are thrown in houses that are set ablaze...so I feel that it could be categorized as one of the most destructive and diabolical crisis in the world.

"Totally flabbergasted, I attribute that to the double standard attitude of the western powers and to the fact that they can be very selective in their

"I'm shocked and amazed at the stand-offish attitude of major western powers save for Britain. Britain has done a lot. She's rendering military training to the government, she has been very helpful by way of financial aid and other relief supplies, she has also championed resolutions in the UN in favour of Sierra Leone. The most recent being the Diamond Resolution, which was recently adopted, insisting that

## I believe a military solution is the best way out of this crisis. I feel a massive military build up and counter offensive may speedily resolve the crisis.

interventions. We've seen the prompt response of western powers with their military wing, NATO intervening and mounting pressure in other crisis. To see Sierra Leone as a nation that is bent on upholding democratic principals and for that she has been attacked and invaded and ruined by a group of savage bandits and left out in the cold by most of these world powers. It's difficult to imagine and perceive. It's an attitude of double standard and hypocrisy, selective intervention or conflict resolution in the world.

diamonds that are exported should be accompanied by a certificate of origin from the exporting nation. As a patriotic Sierra Leonian, I am most grateful to Britain and I implore them to continue with unrestrained enthusiasm.

Anyone interested in consulting or contributing to the committee to sensitize the minds of Canadians to the situation in Sierra Leone can contact Joseph Bangura at 492-8536 or through the Department of History.

## Contributors Wanted!

### GAZETTE HOT AND STEAMY PERSONALS

Are you lonely, here's some *gazette* editors  
that love to please:  
For a good time call 494-2507 and ask for:

Female, 21, copy editor, into animal jokes and the bulk-barn. Looking for somebody to warm me up when I'm cold... which is all the time.

Male, 21, editor-in-chief, into leather and domination. Looking for submissive partner(s) who are into chains and oils. I'll provide the place, you provide the passion.

Male, 20, production manager. I wear big brown sunglasses and smelly blue sneakers. Into long drives and long drags. Get back to me.

Female, 20, co-news editor. Cuter than a teddy bear; giggles more than Elmo. Hates the rain, loves being warm... wink, wink.

Male, co-news editor. Can't tell you anything, or I'll have to kill you.

Female, 22, arts and entertainment editor. I'm into anything. REALLY! I DON'T CARE!

Male, 20, sports co-editor. I like holding hands and walking along the beach at moonlight. I love to picnic and tell my childhood stories about growing up in Cape Breton.

Male, 19, sports co-editor. Here for beer. If you have beer, me friendly.

Female, 19, focus editor. I wanna be a stah! If you can help me out, I can really help you out... use your imagination. I wanna see my name up in lights!

Female, 20, lifestyles editor. Into neatness, organization and cleanliness. I am so close to perfect it hurts, and I have a boyfriend... so, why am I in this column?!

Male, 19, science and environment co-editor. Are you into making racy videos? I am! If you are a voyeur, or want to be, come and we'll talk about my home video collection.

Male, 20, science and environment co-editor. I am gorgeous. I can't help it! When I leave the room, all the women (and some men) talk about me... I am looking for someone into relationships and saving the planet from corporate monkeys.

Female, 23, photography editor. Wanna see my negatives? Come into my darkroom and see what happens...

Female, 25, national news editor. I'm married! Jeez, the things I have to put up with here... but I can punctuate better than anyone's business...

Male, 21, feedback editor. I like to be a mystery. Come and figure me out... Don't be lonely, pick up the phone! Cat got your tongue?

Female, 19, dalendar editor. I am totally into group action. If you make porn, call me, I'll do it for a dollar. (Really, I said it last week and would say it again.)

Female, 20, office manager. I am here and then I'm not. I am on the move and if you can catch me, then who knows what will happen. Can you keep up?

Male, 20, online manager. I am new to this stuff. I'm pretty shy at first, but get me going and it's crazy time!!!

Male, 36, layout and artist extraordinaire. Into spreads and layouts, two or four-up. I'm waiting!

Male, 30, ad manager. Ex-basketball star, likes to dribble his balls and shoot through hoops. Into netting and hard wood floors.

By Geid Rawllins

Meetings every Monday at 4:30,  
room 312 SUB. Come as you are.

## LETTERS & OPINIONS

### A letter in response to Ishmael Zayid

Dr.Zayid,

As Jews we believe that we are all children of God, created to celebrate spirit together on this earth. We prayed that both sides would recognize that God gave the land of the earth to all people. Saying that, we hope that we can still share a homeland and a place in the sun. For us, Oslo was the light of hope that would bring peace to the Middle East could remain in cruel darkness. You have cried, "Israeli Massacre" and "Palestinian genocide". We shout that these accusations are untrue.

The truth is that those people like you, who carry the message of the Rejection Front, have brought self-inflicted devastation upon your own people. Some examples of this are as follows: In 1948, the Palestinians rejected the partition offered by Israel and they instead demanded possession of the whole country. This resulted in hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees and no territory. In 1967, the Palestinians and the PLO urged Arab states to conquer Israel and they lost and Israel took the west Bank and Gaza. From 1968-1970, the PLO waged war on Israel from Jordan and it was the Jordanians who banished the Palestinians from there. In 1983, it was Syria that attacked the PLO and killed many Palestinians. In 1990, the PLO killed their dialogue with the United States by refusing to condemn terrorist acts by its members. In 1991 the PLO backed Iraq against Kuwait and the Gulf Arab states cut off money. In 2000, the intifida stopped the peace process from succeeding which may result in a more conservative government coming to power and offering even less to the Palestinians.

Through the propagation of half-truths and the miss-truths you have shown us that you are

not for peace. You have demonstrated that nothing short of a total elimination of Israel and a total Palestinian victory is acceptable to you. In order to gain this victory, the Palestinians have demonstrated dishonesty. Where is your mention about all of the violence that had occurred prior to Likud leader Ariel Sharon's visit to the Temple Mount?

It was in truth Jibril Rajoub, chief of Palestinian security, that said Mr. Sharon could visit the temple Mount as long as he did not enter any mosques, which he did not. Also, Arab Kinneset members had accompanied Sharon on his visit. What about the truth that Arab schools were closed that day and children bused to the Temple Mount to fabricate a reaction to Sharon's visit; that taxis were hired to transport stones to the Mount; that families are paid for injuries and deaths that occur for the jihad. What about the truth that the Israeli government still regularly transfers to Arafat about NIS 50 million a month, while also providing Palestinians safe passage, water and electricity that enable them to continue the jihad against Israel without much effort.

At least speak the truth.

Last summer at Camp David, Arafat rejected that most generous offer ever made by an Israeli statesman. As you know, Barak wagered his political future on these concessions and lost his parliamentary majority in the process. Of course, what Barak offered was less than what the Palestinian authority's demands. Yet, short of giving everything, Barak gave all that he possibly could and Arafat rejected the offer. We all know how difficult compromises are, but they are the test of a true statesman. Who is Arafat to justify violence and hatred toward another of God's people all in the name of territory? Where are your Arab brothers,

represented by eight nations surrounding tiny Israel? Why do they not offer your people a homeland?

We shout peace, you shout in Arabic to "kill the Jews". Daily there are reports of Palestinian abuses toward Jews in Europe and North America yet not one report of a Jew harming a Palestinian. Violence is a manipulative tool used by those who fear loss of power and yet this violence perpetuates the very situation that you feel victimized by. You are creating an Israeli government who must fight even more vigilantly to protect its people. We too have empathized with Palestinian anger and frustration and felt anguish about the losses of homes, children and hopes that have incurred on both sides.

The anguish that we have felt for the bloodshed on both sides has caused us to do much soul-searching. Alternately, it seems that no soul-searching has been done on the Palestinian side. What came out on the streets of Halifax, among the Palestinian elite on CNN and within the mainstream media was and is hatred and the fundamental rejection of Israel. How much hatred the Palestinians must feel to put their own children in the firing lines and use the media in an untruthful way.

For example, I challenge the famous picture used in the media of the so-called Israeli soldier standing with a gun over a Palestinian boy on the Temple Mount. Noticing the gas station in the background, we cannot help but wonder when gas stations were built on such a holy site? In fact, it was a soldier standing over a Jewish boy who had taken ill at an urban gas station. These mistruths are continuously used in the media to perpetuate hate and violence. Would it not be easier to work in truth for peace?

Respectfully,  
The Halifax Jewish Students'  
Federation

## THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

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Volume 133, no. 8

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The *Gazette* welcomes letters to the editor and commentary. All letters will be printed up to four per week. The printing of additional letters will be at the discretion of the Feedback Editor. Letters may be edited for length above 300 words and we reserve the right to edit commentary.

All submissions must be e-mailed, or on a Mac or IBM 3 1/2 inch disk, in a "text" format. The deadline is Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, the *Gazette* is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, the *Gazette* is published every Thursday by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all students of Dalhousie University are members. The *Gazette* exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. All editorial decisions are made collectively by the staff. To become voting staff members, individuals must contribute to four issues. Views expressed in the *Gazette* are not necessarily those of the editors or the collective staff. Unless otherwise noted, all text © 2000 the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. ISSN 0011-5819

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## Were We In The Same Lecture?

Dear Editor,

On reading Ariella Kaufman's article in *The Gazette*, Oct. 26, 2000, entitled "Zayid's propaganda pumped sermon", I could not believe that we were attending the same lecture of Dr. Ismail Zayid at Dalhousie University on Oct. 13, 2000.

Ariella Kaufman contradicts herself in many locations of her article, which indicates lack of objectivity, twisting of the facts; and lack of knowledge of the real dimensions of the disaster of the Palestinian people.

For example, A. Kaufman states, "I argue that Dr. Zayid was

making a distinctly anti-Jewish statement". Dr. Zayid directed his attack at Zionist and Israeli policies, and at no time did he refer to Jews except to praise many intellectual Jews and Jewish Israeli and North American leaders of human rights groups and people of conscience, who are critical of Israeli policies. A. Kaufman also states,

"Dr. Zayid, throughout his lecture, rapidly fired off definitions, statistics and quotes from Arabs, Americans, Canadians and Jewish friends in support of his thesis". A. Kaufman did not mention a single word in regard to many of Dr. Zayid's quotations

given by the very founders and fathers of the Zionism ideology, such as Theodore Hertzl, David Ben Gurion, and many others. Dr. Zayid documented carefully, in his lecture, how Zionist and Israeli leaders planned and implemented expulsion of the majority of the Palestinian people from their homeland, quoting the exact words of those leaders, including Hertzl, Ben Gurion and Rabin. Israel then expropriated their land, destroyed their towns and villages and denied them the right of return to their homes, in defiance of many United Nations' resolutions.

Another example of twisting the facts by A. Kaufman is that she uses in her article the term "enslavement". The term "enslavement" used by A.

Kaufman was never mentioned by Dr. Zayid. In his lecture, Dr. Zayid documented thoroughly Israeli violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people under illegal Israeli occupation. Furthermore, A. Kaufman states, "Israel is by far the only democracy in the Middle East and still behaves as one". Perhaps the words of a well-known Israeli Jewish writer, Maxim Ghilan, describe this better. He wrote in an editorial, in February 1983, in the Paris-based Magazine *Israel and Palestine* the following: "Israel is a western-type democracy, for Jews only. Arabs, who are citizens of the state, are less fortunate. They are often arrested arbitrarily and are discriminated against. Arabs, in the territories conquered by

Israel since 1967, have no rights whatsoever. Their children are shot, beaten up and jailed; their young men are assassinated; and their women are brutalized. Their cars wantonly destroyed by hammer and bomb. Foreign settlers jeer at them, provoke them, squat in their homes and on their lands".

If this is Ariella Kaufman's idea of democracy, then God help us all.

However, I invite and encourage Ariella Kaufman or any member of her community to challenge Dr. Zayid in an open public debate, concerning any of the points mentioned in his lecture or any thing else related to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

H. Salem

## The Other Face of Israel

Dear Editor,

We write in response to Ariella Kaufman's article "Zayid's propaganda pumped sermon" published in *The Gazette* on Oct 26. This article presented naïve historical arguments that typify the mainstream pro-Zionist opinion. Unfortunately, such views still dwell in the "western" popular culture and media outlets, ever since the creation of Israel in May 1948. We will respond to some of her points, despite the fact that Ms. Kaufman has distorted the information presented by Dr. Zayid in the seminar.

In the article, she presented her opinions as historical facts with no consideration to bibliographical references or the consultation of primary sources on the history of the conflict. Ms. Kaufman argues that "Dr. Zayid was making a distinctly anti-Jewish statement." Does criticizing PM Jean Chretien mean making an anti-Christian or anti-Canadian statement? By the same token, is Ms. Kaufman's criticism of Dr. Zayid an anti-Palestinian or anti-Muslim statement? We have attended the seminar, and we have the complete text of Dr. Zayid's talk before us, there was not a single anti-Jewish statement in this seminar. He did not even use collective terms such as "Jews" or "Israelis", he used specific words such as "Israeli government", "Israeli soldiers" ... etc. It is sad to know that if a gentile criticizes Israel, s/he is brandished "anti-Semitic",

and if a Jewish person criticizes Israel, s/he is automatically a "self-hating Jew".

This ideology assumes that Israel is simply incapable of human rights infringements, and thus infinitely innocent. It also ensures that Israel is a country above international law, hence not obliged to implement UN Security Council Resolutions like other civil governments. It is essential to draw attention to the fact that terms such as "anti-Semitism" and "anti Jewish" were coined to stop the unjust practices against the Jewish people, which have deep roots in European history. However, since the creation of Israel, Zionism as a political ideology has used terms such as "anti-Semitism" and "anti-Jewish" to silence all criticisms of Israel's racist and colonialist atrocities against Palestinians. These terms when used in the context of the Palestinian struggle for human rights and nationhood act as a cover-up to racism and injustice inflicted by the Israeli government and armed forces against the indigenous people of Palestine. As Dr. Zayid actually did in his seminar, we will support our arguments from Zionist and Israeli primary sources, so we wouldn't be accused of being "one-sided".

In 1896, Theodore Hertzl, widely regarded as the founding father of Zionism, published a book called *Der Judenstaat* (The Jewish State). In his writings he proudly spoke about Zionism as a "colonial idea", he also saw the

future of Zionism as "a portion of the rampart of Europe against Asia, an outpost of civilization as opposed to barbarism." Hertzl's book led to the formation of the World Zionist Organization, and in its first meeting on 31 August 1897, they issued the "Basle Program" which called for: "The promotion, on suitable lines, of the colonization of Palestine by Jewish agricultural and industrial workers." Hence, when we say Israel is colonialist, this is not an Arab opinion, nor the opinion of "Jewish friends" but the words of Israel's own heroes. Ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians was the means by which Israel created itself as a "pure" Jewish state. Josef Weitz, a leading Zionist of the "Transfer" policy of Arabs in the 1920-40s said: "The only solution is Eretz Israel [the Land of Israel].....without the Arabs.....and there is no other way but to transfer the Arabs from here to the neighboring countries, transfer all of them.....only with this transfer could the country absorb millions of our brothers." Traditional Israeli historiography, such as Walter Laqueur's *A History of Zionism*, denies the existence of Palestinians; he does not mention the Palestinian people or the refugee problem created by founding Israel. As if Zionism operates in a vacuum, it does not affect non-Jews. Thus, Palestine was reconstructed as an imagined place, a haven for the Jews: "a land without people [to] people without a land." (This slogan was coined by Max Nordau, who is a contemporary of Theodore Hertzl). Benny Morris, an Israeli historian, confirms in his book *Birth of the*

Palestinian Refugee Problem 1947-1949, between 600,000 and 750,000 Palestinians were expelled from Palestine and 369 Palestinian villages were destroyed. Despite the UN Security Council Resolutions, these refugees are not allowed to return to their homes and villages. Thus, we have 3.5 million Palestinians living in exile forcefully. Some critics of Zionism, such as the anthropologist Ted Swedenburg, argues in his book *Memories of Revolt* that Israel "expelled the indigenous inhabitants [of Palestine] and rubbed out all the traces of their past existence." Edward Said on the other hand confirms in *The Question of Palestine* that Israel has "destroyed as many Arab traces as it could." How can Palestinians and Arabs negotiate peace with an enterprise with a continuing history of racism and colonialism? In fact on 19 October 2000, the UN Commission on Human Rights issued resolution number (E/CN.4/S-5/L.2/Rev.1) condemning Israel for "war crimes and crimes against humanity" toward the Palestinians. This is not to

mention the reports, which are written by Amnesty International and other human rights organizations inside and outside Israel. It is ironic to note that war criminals against the Jewish people during WW2 are still being pursued to face justice, while Israeli war criminals against Palestinians are made into ministers and hailed as Israel's peace heroes. In the words of Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben Gurion in 1956, "If I was an Arab leader I would never make terms with Israel. This is natural: we have taken their country." It will definitely take more than a newspaper article to respond to the falsified "facts" presented in Kaufman's article and other media sources about Palestine. We would call upon all those who want to write about the Middle East to invest time in research, or to critically consult the few references given above. When one sees the other side of Israel, one would definitely feel like Ms. Kaufman in Dr. Zayid's seminar: "sick and frightened."

Hakem Al-Rustom (B.Sc)  
Magi Abdul-Masih (Ph.D, Ph.D)

## Pap Test Awareness Week

Dear Editor:

When planning for Pap Test Awareness Week (Oct. 25-31), we recognized that women of different ages and sexual orientations have very different questions about their health, specifically about Pap tests. It's not something most women want to bring up in casual conversation, but there's a strong need for accurate information about Pap testing. Nova Scotians now have access to Pap test fact sheets that are tailored to young women, to mature women and to lesbians and women who partner with other women. Why the

difference? Young women who have never had a Pap test may have fears because they do not know what's involved or whether they need one. Mature women may question the need for a test after a hysterectomy. And lesbians may not be aware of the need for regular cervical cancer screening. Across the province, there are women who are very much in need of Pap testing because, without regular testing, they may be in danger of cervical cancer. None of them should suffer or die because they lacked information or thought a Pap test wasn't necessary. The doctors of Nova Scotia want all women, no matter what your age or sexual

orientation, to be aware of this serious, even deadly disease, and how it may be prevented. To find out more, take a few minutes at your computer, or at a computer in a library or community access centre. You can find each of these Pap Test Fact Sheets at the Medical Society of Nova Scotia's web site at [www.doctorsns.com](http://www.doctorsns.com) or by calling (902) 473-7438 (Halifax area) or toll-free 1-888-480-8588.

Medical Society of Nova Scotia  
Nova Scotia Gynaecological Cancer Screening Programme  
Department of Health  
Canadian Cancer Society - Nova Scotia Division

## RANT OR RAVE

Canada is a bi-lingual country. This fact didn't fully register in my head until last weekend. Sure there are French stations on the TV and sure, everything that you buy in a store has both French and English descriptions of the product printed on its packaging, that obviously wasn't enough.

There is a large land mass less than a ten-hour drive from Halifax occupied by French speaking people. I always knew about Quebec, but the reality of our brother culture that lives next door to us never sank in. I must say that I am quit' ashamed of the fact that I cannot speak French. A couple of friends and I took a road trip to Montreal last weekend and every person we encountered on our trip was more or less completely fluent in both official languages. It may be an overgeneralization based on a small but somewhat random sample to say that most Quebecois speak English as well as French. I am sure that a French person venturing to my province would not encounter as many French speaking people as we had English people in Quebec.

It doesn't seem right that francophones bear the burden of accommodating anglophones in a bi-lingual society. Sure they teach us French in school, obviously that doesn't help the situation much.... I went through the school system but can not speak French. Perhaps French should be mandatory from grade primary to University in English speaking Canada. I always hated studying the language in grade school, but now wish that some wise teacher or parent would have forcedly guided my education down a path that included the other first language of our country.

Bonjour  
JVS

Nov. 02 — 09

**Get Folked** is having an evening of live amateur music on November 9 in the Green Room of the Dalhousie SUB from 6:30-11:30. Advance tickets are available in room 314 of the SUB.

**Meditation Workshop at Dalhousie** is having a series of three classes on concentration, meditation and the inner life. The classes will be November 3, 7-9p.m. in room 401 of the arts centre, November 4, 11-1p.m. and 3-5 p.m. in room 224 of the SUB and November 5, 10-2 p.m. in room 307 of the SUB.

**Study Abroad Information Sessions** will be held on Wednesdays from 12-1 p.m. at Lester Pearson International. Contact Amanda at [lpispare@kilcom1.ucis.dal.ca](mailto:lpispare@kilcom1.ucis.dal.ca) or 494-1350.

**Canada's Parliament** needs English and French bilingual full-time students to work and learn as Parliamentary guides for summer 2001. Guides are hired from all across Canada and from every academic discipline. Most travel costs are paid for, including travel to and from interviews. For more information call the Library of Parliament's Information Service at (613) 992-4793. Applications are available at [www.parl.gc.ca](http://www.parl.gc.ca). The deadline is November 20, 2000.

**An Organ lecture/recital** will be held on November 9 at 3p.m. at St. Mathew's United Church.

**A Concert at Dalhousie University Art Gallery** will be held November 9 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students. All proceeds go to Women's division, Dalhousie University Scholarship and Bursary fund. For ticket information call Jean Hattie at 422-2600.

**Women's Health Collective** is having a meeting November 9 at 6 p.m. in room 314 of the Dalhousie SUB.

## Classifieds

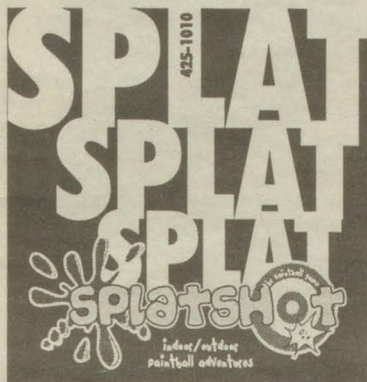
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## STUDENT EMPLOYMENT NEWS

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## Where the sun shines

**Where would I go for a vacation? How would I get there? How would I, being a student, be able to afford it? Who would I go with? What would I do once I get there?**

by neeti tomar

*the gazette*

As the season begins to get colder, many people's minds wander to a place where the sun is shining, the beach awaits, and the climate is sizzling hot! Yes, it is that time of year where, undoubtedly, I am not the only one who is thinking about a "fun in the sun" vacation.

The thought, however, can be quite discouraging when one tries to think about the details of travelling. Some of the questions

that come to my mind are, where would I go for a vacation? How would I get there? How would I, being a student, be able to afford it? Who would I go with? What would I do once I get there? If these are some of the concerns that you have about going away, one thing that you could do is pay a visit to your local travel agency and ask them the very questions that you have on your mind.

Tara Turner is a representative from the Travel CUTS office at Dalhousie University who has had extensive travel experience. According to Turner, the Dominican Republic and Cuba are the biggest travel hot spots of the year, and are popular destinations for Reading Week.

"[They] are the most popular sun destinations for students because of the price," says Turner. "You can stay in four star hotels and it would cost eleven to twelve hundred dollars, taxes included, which is pretty much what a student's budget is. The reason why the cost is lower is because these places offer direct service out of Halifax. Other places, like Jamaica, fly out of other cities, making the cost a little bit more expensive."

Prices do, however, range in accordance with what a person is looking for. Different packages,

activities and accommodations cost different prices. Some packages may cost as low as eight hundred dollars while others can cost almost 1500 dollars.

"There is a wide range of places to go and stay," says Turner. "There are your deluxe places and there are your places with the basic Holiday Inn type of style."

These places and packages include food, activities and drinks. They address the basic concerns. There are different types of packages to satisfy different needs.

"The services depend on the client," says Turner. "Usually students will take advantage of what is offered at the property. There are games, water sports, and animation teams with activities like trivia games. Most properties have a spectacular show every evening with the staff. There are also discos for the late night people."

Group trips and grad trips are organized regularly by Travel CUTS. However, you do not have to be in a large group to take part in one of these travel packages. You could travel with two or three other people, you could go with one other person as a couple, or you could even travel by yourself. You can also be placed with people of your own age group — you are likely to meet people along the way.

"They generally have an informal meet and greet session," says Turner. "There are a wide variety of opportunities for the consumer."

There is a vast range of people to accommodate the traveler's needs on the trip.

"The hotel staff is there to help out and refer to while you are there. They can give you advice on what not to eat or drink for example. They are helpful in that aspect. They may

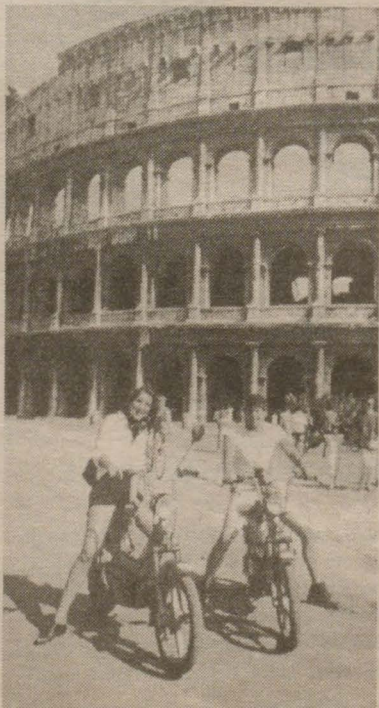
also be able to tell you about the effects of the sun in that area. Someone who has never traveled to that area before may not know because they haven't had the experience. The staff offers advice from their own experiences."

You can also refer to the destination representative who would be there to pick you up from the airport, get on the bus with you, and take you to the property. They would also take you back to the airport at the end of the trip. This is usually included in the package price. The destination representative can also tell you about opportunities to travel around,

off of the property.

"Excursions are at an added cost of about fifty to five hundred dollars," says Turner. "These excursions include transportation to the event by shuttle bus, or even sometimes by flying to the other destinations."

Whatever your questions or concerns might be, there are people out there who are specially trained to address them. Tara Turner, for example, has experienced the good and the bad aspects of travelling. She has been to the dark sand and the white sand beaches of the Dominican Republic, and can tell you everything that you need to know.



## Calzones - easier than you think

Calzone is a dish that people think is really complicated, but is surprisingly easy to make. Accompany the calzone with a tossed salad for the perfect casual meal that is sure to impress.

The dough is a standard pizza dough, and you can use virtually any filling you wish. The only catch to this recipe is that since this dough is a yeast bread dough, you need to have adequate time to let the dough rise. This recipe makes enough dough for six calzones or two 10 to 12-inch pizzas.

The calzones freeze really well, and are far superior to any commercial product such as "Pizza Pockets". Trust me - you'll love them.

**Ingredients:**

- Calzone Dough—
- 3 cups all purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 tsp easy-blend dried yeast
- 1 to 1-1/2 cups lukewarm water
- 1/2 cup olive oil

**Instructions:**

Dissolve the yeast in the lukewarm water. Let sit for three to five minutes. Sift the flour and salt into a large mixing bowl. Make a well in the flour mixture, and pour in the dissolved yeast and two tbsp olive oil.

Mix to a soft dough. Knead the dough for 10 minutes until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl, cover with a clear film and leave to double in size in a warm (but not hot) place for one hour.

Preheat to 425 ° F. Turn out to a lightly floured surface, knead gently for two to three minutes.

Divide dough into six equal sized pieces. Roll out each piece on a lightly floured surface to a seven-inch circle. Spread the filling over one half of each circle, leaving a one-inch border, then scatter cheese, if desired.

Dampen edges with water, then fold the other half of dough to enclose the filling. Pinch edges firmly together to seal. Place on greased baking sheet.

Brush with olive oil and make a small hole in the top of each to allow steam to escape. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes until golden.

Remove from oven and brush with olive oil. Serve immediately.

**Suggested Fillings:** Make them while you're waiting for the dough to rise.

**Sausage-Tomato Filling —**

- 1 lb spicy Italian sausage, removed from casing
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed or minced
- 3 tbsp tomato paste
- 2 tsp dried basil
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- tsp chile powder
- 1/4 tsp flaked red pepper
- 1 can plum tomatoes
- 1 can tomato sauce
- 1 cup grated mozzarella cheese

## Recipe Showcase

by **johnen manning**  
*the gazette*

**OR**

**Ham & Spinach Filling—**

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 lb sliced or cubed ham
- 3 cups uncooked spinach, cleaned and trimmed
- 1 tsp basil
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 2 cup grated swiss cheese

Heat olive oil in medium skillet over medium heat. Add ham, spinach, basil, salt and pepper. Cook until the spinach is wilted, then use as calzone filling, sprinkling generously with cheese.

Brown sausage in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and garlic until onions are translucent. Mix in tomato paste, and cook for three minutes before adding spices, tomatoes and tomato sauce. Allow to simmer for 30 minutes, then use as calzone filling, sprinkling with mozzarella cheese.

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## Vanessa's Closet

by *vanessa owen*  
advice from someone completely unqualified

Dear Vanessa,

I was wondering if penguins have penises?

Arctic Explorer

Dear Frozen Balls,

Why? Were you thinking of f\*\*king one?

Dear Vanessa,

I've been seeing this girl who I really like, and I know likes me. But some mysterious stranger has been sending her flowers and tickets to some good shows that she's been taking me to see. She doesn't know who this guy is, but when she finds out, would it be proper for me to send him a note thanking him for the tickets? It was a really good show, and he must have spent a lot.

Wonder Cheese

Dear Cheese,

It might be appropriate to wait until you receive HIS thank-you card for the use of your living room to conduct clandestine pharmaceutical exchanges while you were not present.

Dear Vanessa,

I am interested in becoming a weatherman. Do I need weather experience or just good looks? Peter Coade isn't attractive. Are there weather colleges? I need some advice here.

Stormy Front

Dear Stormy,

A weatherman? Don't you mean a meteorologist? You definitely don't need good looks, but you do need a cool name: Storm Field, Raine McCloud, Cyndi Day, etc. You also need to know the Canadian map. That's very important. I don't know of any weather colleges per se, but you can take some courses on meteorology and the atmosphere here at Dal. One thing I want to know though is: What's the difference between partly cloudy and mostly sunny?

Send your questions to: [vanessacloset@xweb.ns.ca](mailto:vanessacloset@xweb.ns.ca)

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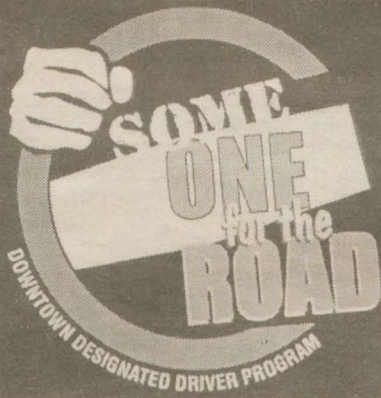
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 Docksidlers Barbecue & Bar,  
 Sheraton Halifax Hotel, 1919 Upper Water St.  
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 Lawrence of Oregano Pub, 1726 Argyle St.  
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 Historic Properties  
 Maxwell's Plum English Neighborhood Pub,  
 1600 Grafton St.

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 Brew Pub, 5435 Spring Garden Rd.  
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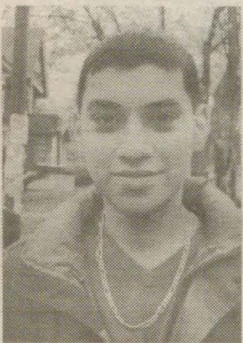
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presents a  
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## Match the answer to the person.

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Yousef Abunaamsa  
2nd year Commerce

?



Colleen Drover  
4th year Science

?



Jennifer Mosher  
1st year Arts

?



Rob Fletcher  
4th year Commerce

?



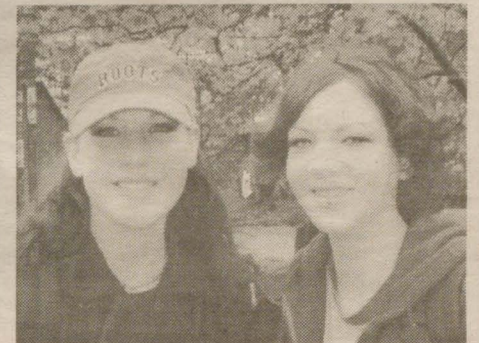
Ellen Swan  
4th year Arts

?



Lindsay Jarves  
2nd year Science

?



Stephanie and Amanda Wetmore  
1st year Science

?

?

1) Studied.

2) Dressed up as Batman and saved the world from crime.

3) I was abducted by an alien race and upon returning to Earth, had a cool coming-out party.

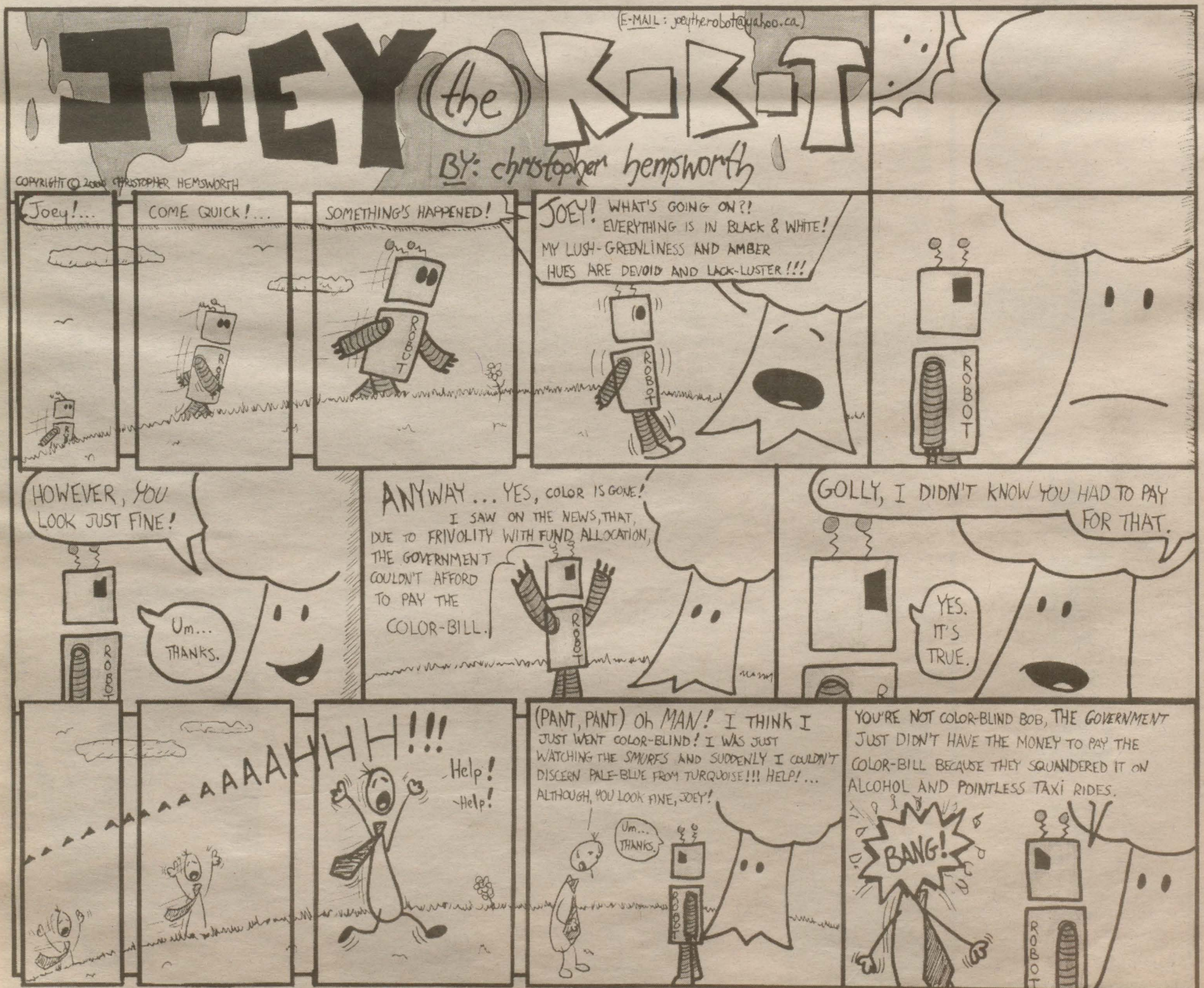
4) Drank like a fish and went for a swim.

5) Woke up in a ditch about supper-time wearing someone else's clothes.

6) Had intimate relations with a can of pepper spray.

7) Stole some little kid's candy, he cried while I laughed.

8) Worked.





**Baby Blue Sound Crew  
pumpin out the beats ...16**



**MIR  
more fun than a  
Russian  
cosmonaut in  
an orbiting can ...17**



**Blair Witch 2**

**Book of Crap,  
or work of art**

**...18**

**Jazzberry  
Ram**

**making mood gusic**

**...19**





# Baby Blue and his Crew

by Jason Kun

the gazette

Taking even steps through the Holiday Inn's automatic doors on Saturday night, I was received with a heavy reggae bass line. The Toronto-based Baby Blue Sound Crew was in Halifax and judging by the buzzing procession jostling for ticket position, this was a much-anticipated event.

Baby Blue Sound Crew consists of four members, Kid Kut, the Producer/MC/DJ, Single Foot, the MC/hypeman, KLC (a Hali-Local) the DJ/MC and C Boogie (DJ) who was unable to make the venue. Baby Blue has a 74 min CD album in circulation titled *Private Part Collection Edition* and are also enjoying the limelight with the second most requested video on Much Music, 'Money Jane' featuring Toronto artists July Black, Kardinal Offishal and Sean Paul.

Their first album is not your regular DJ compilation. Artists such as Saukrates and Glenn Lewis bless the mix tape with four original tracks integrated into a continuous play party format. Baby Blue has opened for other artist such as D'Angelo, LL Cool J and is the official sound crew for the Toronto Raptors.

Before going into the interview with The BBSC I'll brief you on *the Gazette's* coverage on their live show this past weekend.

10:55-11:20 p.m.: *Gazette* representatives J. Kun and Tommy drink an expensive one to local DJs, RS Smooth and Loonie Toonz spinning some warm-up tracks for a small casually seated crowd. In search of thicker drink, they left the Holiday Inn's comfy confines and headed north.

12:06 a.m.: Properly moistened, we slide through a dense collection of heads waiting for entry into the main room. The climate has changed considerably: guys and girls pack the empty space of one hour ago with a sea of bright colors and undulating airs of approval are in the air.

Baby Blue Sound Crew has overfilled the contents of the room, like kids coloring outside the lines. The scene was live and energy flowed through the audience with the ease of a warm tropical wind.

For the next hour or so, BBSC played a bumpin' set of Calypso/Soca/Reggae/Old School Hip Hop and Funk while giving shouts out to everyone from Bermuda to Halifax to Trinidad. Kid Kut and Single Foot both had their turns on the microphone and although I had expected more straight emceeing they did not disappoint with their live party vocals.

I enjoyed the Reggae and Calypso mini-sets the most and even shook my ass to some of the more mainstream jiggified tracks.

The sound levels were proper, the tracks featured some glossy vocals that made me wish I was dipping through palm-tree lined avenues and damn! the ladies were dressed for

a heated evening on such a cold-breeze Halifax night.

1:45 a.m.: Getting drink is a daunting task with three bartenders trying to accommodate about 350+ thirsty hip-hop heads hyped on a live act. The tracks were getting a little 'jiggy' and I became aware of my long sleeved shirt retaining a lot of heat. I also noticed the heat and humidity of the dark room increasing at an exponential rate and realized that this is the point in the night where you either go double fist ed or go home. I went home.

The next afternoon The Baby Blue Sound Crew along with their Hali contact, Katrina, met me and my mango juice at the High Life Café. The interview was more of a discussion and I sensed that the crew was still feeling last night while keeping mind on their second show later on that night at the Velvet Olive.

Originating from Toronto, the most diverse city in the world, BBSC's first comments revealed that they were a product of the wide diversity and that they catered to the varied tastes of their city's denizens. KLC mentioned that although their tastes are diverse, each genre of music they play is represented to the fullest.

Properly dubbed a 'sound crew,' this group of Toronto locals embodies the representation of urban music for the masses of audiences in Canada. Single Foot, the DJ/Vocalist for BBSC, had some critical comments concerning the mainstream radio and urban music industry. 30-40 percent of music sold on the public market now consists of urban rhythms, hip-hop, R&B, soul and DJ music, while mainstream radio play only allows urban music to occupy a marginal six to ten percent of air time.

BBSC is definitely attempting to reclaim their proper share of air time while promoting the local artists and producers. After numerous attempts by the urban music community to claim a frequency in Toronto, dedicated to urban music, a radio station has finally been established, properly named Milestone, on 93.5 FM debuting across the nation in January.

The group cites 'out of touch' program directors as a main factor impeding the progress of hiphop music and who are "still ignorant to the changing needs of the audience."

Single Foot stated that Toronto artists and producers need to be properly recognized for their work on the national and transnational level. The crew believes the international appeal of Torontonians artists will cross boundaries and allow professionals in the Toronto scene to be respected and acknowledged worldwide.

When asked how they felt about the underground scene becoming more prominent throughout Canada they also gave respect and recognition for all those making good music. BBSC is a hype crew that is out for recognition and big game.

photo by Thomas Edelson

## Art at eyelevel



Fenster by Yvette Poorter

by kaitlin naugler

the gazette

I ventured to the Yvette Poorter exhibit, *Lapping It Up*, at the eye level gallery.

My first impression was not what anyone would call nice. What I was looking at seemed to be pieces of furniture and legs. I was more than considerably perplexed, as anyone else viewing may very well be. The title piece of this exhibition is certainly one of the more interesting pieces. It attracted my attention first, standing in the middle of the gallery. I moved closer to see that it was a sculpture of legs made from some form of construction material (similar to a Styrofoam.)

I could still not decide what to think of any the surrounding art. It was clear that the name of the exhibition fit, but that was about all I could gather at this time.

After a few more minutes of pondering and making an attempt to make a conclusion myself, I knew it was time to ask for help.

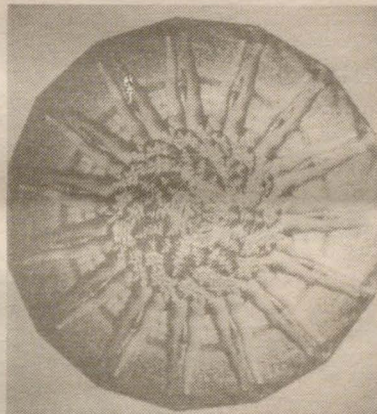
I found the director, David Diviney, and the chair, Andrew McLaren to see what they could do. They proceeded in an attempt to guide my thoughts in the appropriate direction.

Apparently the main idea of the exhibition is to make people confused about what they are looking at. This of course made me feel much better about myself, but not much better about the exhibition. The materials used are also supposed to be influential to an extent. Some are made from domestic materials, depicting something more feminine, while other materials are more masculine, made out of things such as construction material.

I must admit the exhibition does have some interesting concepts behind it, but somehow it just didn't work for me.

Should you feel the need to view this, the exhibition runs until Nov. 18. I mean, if you are walking on Barrington St. and you are cold, or you are waiting for a bus, it's definitely worth it. Don't get me wrong, I'm sure there are tons of people out there who think it's amazing.

I, on the other hand, walked twenty minutes to get there.



Freefall by Yvette Poorter

## And the Cool Kids will be...

**Friday Nov 3** — PEI rockers, **Flush**, are throwin' a party! A CD release party that is and everyone is invited. I've heard the album and it rocks so get down there and buy one but make sure to get there early to check out openers **Edgy** and **Bucket Truck**. Tease your hair and put on some tight pants cuz it's metal night at the Attic kiddies — its time to rock out with your cock out!

**Saturday Nov 4** — The annual **Mir Supershow 2000** is tonight at the Rebecca Cohen Auditorium. **Mir** are joined by **Kim Stockwood**, **Gordie Sampson**, **Mary Jane Lamond**, **DJ Michel Deveau**, and a shit load of other talented Atlantic Canadians. It should be great with lots of stuff going on and its for a great cause. It's a benefit for the Centre for Diverse Visible Cultures. It starts at 8p.m. and advance tickets are available through the Box Office.

Another option is seeing **Sid Six** at the Attic, these Torontonians rock the house or hell you can go see **Flush** again at the Marquee because they are just so damn good. They are opening for **Shyne Factory**. Or if you are an under-ager — you can go see **Edgy** with **Kary** at the Pavilion. The Pavilion is always a good time — except I now feel incredibly old when I go there... maybe I am old.

**Monday Nov 6** — The changing of the guard — **The Heelwalkers** have finished their Month of Mondays at the Marquee and are stepping down for **The Guthries**. Get out your cowboy hats and put on your chaps 'cuz its gonna be a hoedown.

If you're putting something  
oil let us know — it might be  
cool enough for the cool  
kids...

Caitlin Kealey

gazette@is2.dal.ca



# Super band for a super show



by **anna i. al-banna**  
the gazette

Mir isn't just defined as peace in Russian. It also means little village and me in other languages.

It is a suiting name for a band that cites their influences as everything from belly dancing music to British pop.

Mir found its roots back in 1997 as a four piece. They then spent time in England before going somewhat separate ways in 1998.

"We played a lot of showcases and we sponged in a lot of influences from around that scene," says Asif Illyas, lead vocalist and guitar who has been around since the Mir's inception.

The band morphed into its present form back in 1998. Joined by Adam Dowling, drums, who had been playing for Ashley MacIssac, and working for Jones & Co. Management Company.

Dowling likes having a say in the band and the democratic process, which follows when a three piece band gives all members artistic input in the creative process.

"I liked Mir, it was one of the only bands I ever used to go see. I used to work as backup for MacIssac, so it had been awhile since I was in a band as an important member with a say in the decisions."

With a lot of hard work put into it, their new album has just been finished.

"We're really just newly released and practically responsible for everything — marketing, recording, equipment. Instead of spending big bucks in studios, we took the money we would have spent and bought ourselves the equipment and figured out how to use it," says Dowling.

They took it a step further and instead of going the normal route of getting a graphic artist in, they went to a friend of theirs, Nick Imrie, who studies Industrial Design at Carleton University.

The result is an interesting new age cover that, if held up to the light, you can see through the case. Imrie molded the idea around the title of their new

release, *Invisible Science*. The design includes the use of translucent sheets of paper that appeared two weeks later in the exact same form in the Radiohead CD, *Kid A*. They swear it was done by them first though.

Their CD release and annual Supershow is this coming weekend. It's a benefit for the Centre for Diverse Visible Cultures and it has a star-studded cast, featuring Kim Stockwood; Gordie Sampson, Mary Jane Lamond, DJ Michel Deveau and oodles of

other great local musicians.

After this weekend, the guys plan on relaxing a bit.

Then they are heading back into their studio to remix their album with Michel Deveau.

"We want to make it so that instead of Michel playing along with us or us trying to play along with him, we can make something together," says Shehab Illyas, who isn't just the bass player for the band but happens to be Asif's little

brother.

The band will be joined on stage by not only Michel Deveau but also by a symphony.

Asif was a music student at Dalhousie. It was then that Asif acquired the ability to write symphonies and do arrangements.

"I took music at Dal and learned a lot about orchestration and as a result, I've been able to write for the symphony and do a couple of arrangements. There is also a good deal of the strings element in our music."

## CD REVIEWS

### Black Eyed Peas— Bridging the Gap (Interscope)



Black Eyed Peas have returned with their sophomore release *Bridging The Gap*. The album is a sweet blend of live instruments, good beats and straightforward positive lyrics. This new album far surpasses their debut release, *Behind The Front*, and will keep the listener's head boppin' for a long time to come.

BEP, made up of Taboo, Apl.De.Ap, and Will.I.Am, are a Cali based group who have emerged to the front of the rap game with a definite and refreshing old school flow. Musically, the beats on this album are upbeat, combined with positive, but not preachy, lyrics that offer a break from today's typical topics and repetitive themes. DJ Premier steps by to lace the track for *BEP Empire*, which is definitely one of the strongest tracks on the album. Production by Apl.De.Ap and Will.I.Am definitely deserves credit for keeping the album solid and consistent.

The only weaknesses of the album are guest spots by Wyclef Jean and Macy Gray that are not overly impressive but are made up for by appearances by Mos Def, De La Soul and particularly Jurassic 5's Chali2na on the smokin' track "Get Original."

In summary, if you're looking for a nice break from played out themes and recurrent tracks, then *Bridging The Gap* is a necessity. A good original party album that will keep the true hip-hop heads satisfied. *Simon*

### Madonna — Music (Warner)



After the 'sum-what' successful *Ray of Light* dance groove, Madonna has returned with another attempt not to fade into the music history books. I see this CD as the former 80's Queen of Pop's effort to conform to the changing music scene; don't we all want to be like Cher.

This disc features ten tracks of a strong bass fit for any dance club on a Thursday night. Not Friday (not hot enough), not Saturday (not trashy enough for the Palace), but Thursday. The title track, *Music*, did send many individuals to the Merrills' dance floor last Saturday, however I have a good feeling that all the other songs belongs to the average Thursday at the Argyle.

Madonna Fans: do not let the queen down! Buy! Buy! Buy! If you liked her before, I am sure that you will get what you want.

All others: get the hit single off Napster and save the cash for the Wardroom on Friday or the Grawood on Thursday. *Dan*

### Oscar De la Hoya (EMI)



I think I speak for everyone who likes music when I ask Oscar De la Hoya to fuck off, and stay fucked off. His pathetic, although that word doesn't quite represent it, attempt at musical creation is weak, talentless and generally frustrating. Why does a guy like good old Oscar think he has anything to add to the music community? Because he has received numerous hard blows to the head. Besides, he probably is just in it for the chicks.

Actually, he probably doesn't even know about it. His trainer probably inserted the sentence "put out a crappy CD" into his daily training.

He tries to mimic the Latin-love music, and may very well succeed. I really do not know enough about the genre — if there is such a thing that incorporates good, or talent-requiring music. His one song in English is filled with "I need you baby's" and "you're so beautiful's."

To sum it all up, the only thing moderately good thing about Oscar's attempts at artistry are the pictures of himself posed in the CD's jacket, and they are only good for comedic value. To take yourself seriously while trying so hard to pose sexily is a sad statement to humanity. *Pat*

## Classics, I says...

Each week we ask a different person to share their idea on a classic book, movie, and CD.

by **amy durrant**  
the gazette

Book

### *Great Expectations*, Charles Dickens

I know most of you are sitting there saying that since you read this for English 1000, it can't possibly be someone's favourite book. Maybe it's because I never did read Dickens' book for a class that I love it so much. To be honest, I'm not at all sure about the book as I am about the memory of reading the book. That's what makes my favourite things favourite — the memory of things that have passed before.

Sure, *Great Expectations* is slow to start off. Once it does, though, the book is great.

It's the story of a young orphan, who doesn't seem to fit into any part of society, except the one he builds for himself. He gets a bunch of money from a mysterious person, falls in love with a girl who tells him she's out of his league. That's a surface description of the book. The rest of the book — the actual underlying meaning is what really count for me.

CD

### *The Ultimate Soul Collection*

Someone told me that you can't have a various artists CD as your favourite one. He's wrong.

This is an excellent CD collection, consisting of two different CD's, one for the "soulful" listener, and one for the "sweet soul" listener. My favourite CD is like my favourite novel — associated with times, places and people. It's a great CD to listen to in the car, driving through New Brunswick, singing along, holding someone's hand. Featuring such musical geniuses as Aretha Franklin, Otis Redding, and Marvin Gaye, this CD is not one to be missed.

Movie

### *Run Lola Run*

I have only ever watched this movie once — tylenoled up to high hell after having a wisdom tooth removed. Loved it.

It's just a movie that sticks with you after the tape stops rolling. Lola has to get money for her boyfriend and the movie entails all of the different possibilities that could happen as a result of small, seemingly insignificant changes in her search for money. Another thing is that *Run Lola Run* is only a little over an hour, so for those squeamish ADD victims out there, this movie is one you can sit through.

# Blair Witch II

## Book of Crap

by mark evans  
the gazette

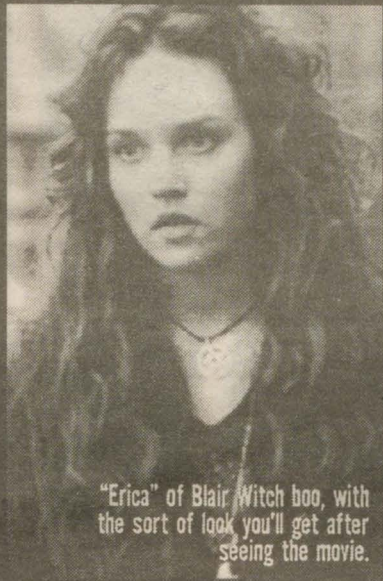
*Blair Witch 2: Book of Shadows* begins with a little sign like the original saying that it is a fictionalized account of actual events that took place after the release of the first movie.

Whereas *BW1* claims that its own story is based on true events, *BW2* immediately puts itself head-to-head with its predecessor. The ensuing contest isn't pretty.

The story is about Jeff Patterson, a guy who sells stickmen and trinkets over the internet to cash in on the Blair Witch phenomenon. He has decided to diversify by starting a tour of the woods that visits many sites of the movie. His inaugural tour is taken by four people — Kim, the token Goth girl, Erica, the token Wiccan girl, and Steven and Tristen, who are researching a book on the phenomenon, but who are actually the token couple.

After spending the night at the site of Rustin Parr's old cabin, where the first movie ended, the group discovers upon waking up that they have misplaced five hours of time that they cannot remember. They find video documentation they made of the night and try to figure out what happened.

*BW2* is much less subtle than its predecessor. Whereas the first film relied on people's imagination to supply the horror, the second one is more blatant and trashy. Horror movie clichés are propagated in ruthless fashion and parts are so obvious it induces eye-



"Erica" of Blair Witch boo, with the sort of look you'll get after seeing the movie.

rolling.

What the movie doesn't explain, however, is just what the heck happened out there? We're given a pseudo-explanation of sorts, which is supposed to be eerie and unsettling but ends up as witless. The ending is likewise abrupt and meaningless, showing the evil as goofy more than anything else, and it leaves a number of plot threads just drifting in the wind.

The five principle actors are so hammy they smell like an explosion at a sausage factory. Nothing worsens bad dialogue like having it presented by bad actors.

Bottom Line: Only two scenes in *BW2* managed to ring true: One scene of rampant alcohol and drug use, and another of a character bouncing off the walls of a mental institution.

Love it or loathe it, the original movie had both heart and an idea, both of which are lacking in this cheap copy. It's really hard to judge the sequel on its own merits since it has none to speak of. I didn't expect much from this movie, but I don't think actual entertainment was too much to ask.

# Blair Witch Ditch

by malcolm kempt  
the gazette

*The Blair Witch 2: Book of Shadows* is the sequel to the most over-hyped, over-parodied and over-discussed film of 1999.

Rather than give a straightforward review, I've decided to answer the top five questions people have been asking me when I tell them I have seen the film.

Question #1: "Is it any good?"

I'm honestly not sure. It wasn't awful. Then again, it wasn't great. I left the film thinking about where I was going to eat, rather than dwelling on what I had just seen. It certainly doesn't break any new ground. In fact, it manages to rip-off key elements of *The Omen*, *The Exorcist*, *Evil Dead 2*, *Usual Suspects*, *The Haunting* and the *Scream* trilogy without making any effort to disguise this fact. It was a sequel. What do you really expect from it? Outside of the *Godfather II* and *Army of Darkness*, sequels aren't exactly blessed with a great track record.

Question #2: "Is it like the first one?"

No. Its not nausea inducing and ultra-shaky like the first one. Unlike the original — which was shot using hand-held cameras — director Joe Berlinger uses a combination of 35mm, 16mm, Hi-8 and digital video, as well as computer graphics to give it a much more polished feel. Most of the action takes place in a Civil War-era factory that has been turned into a giant loft apartment in the middle of the wilderness, like where the fuck did that come from?

The creepy what-you-can't-see-is-scariest-than-what-you-can-see style of the first film is replaced with a smorgasbord of special effects and endless gore turning the sequel into a run-of-the-mill Hollywood horror flick that will

remind you of *The House on Haunted Hill*. Oddly enough, I later discovered that writer Dick Beebe's only other feature film screenplay is *The House on Haunted Hill*.

Question #3: "Is it scary?"

Sadly, no. Even if the original gave you nightmares — which would put you in a category with about two percent of the population — you will probably be able to go camping alone after this one. Engrossed in the process of having to answer the many questions left by the first film, the nice people at Odeon Films somehow forgot to make their sequel frightening. In fact, it gets downright confusing. The director wants viewers to try a figure out what parts of the movie are real and what is imagined. Is there a Blair Witch? Was all of this just a group hallucination? What is really going on here? The only problem with this concept — which also plagued the original — is its reliance on the audience actually giving a shit about the characters. Like *The Blair Witch Project*, you may find yourself just wanting the annoying campers to die so you can go home.

Question #4: "Do you get to see the actual Blair Witch?"

Again, no. As a consolation

prize, however, you get rabid dogs, ghosts of drowned children, campfire orgies of murder, lots of nudity, gore and even more rabid dogs. Rather than answer questions about the infamous spirit left by the first film, the *Book of Shadows* — which, by the way, is a stupid title because there is almost nothing in the film about a book of shadows — poses twice as many questions as the original.

Question #5: "Should I bother to go see it?"

If you are a Wiccan, you will probably choke on your own rage. In the first film, witches were portrayed as evil beings. In this one, they are portrayed as annoying and stupid. One of the characters is a mindless "Wiccan earth child" and you will probably cheer when she turns up dead. Personally, I'd say wait for a slow night and grab the video when it comes out. But, if you're like many of the morons that I run into who say things like, "No, man, the first one was kinda based on a true story and stuff," you will probably think this film is a brilliant statement of our generation and/or proof that things are not really what they seem. (Don't laugh...there are more of these idiots than you think.)



"Jeff" of Blair Witch itch, takes his eyes off the road.



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# A beanut putter and Jazzberry Ram wandsich



photo by Sabrina Thurlow

The multi style band has put out three albums. The first two having no marketing or distributing fees, with the latest being called *That Music We Make* — a great CD that will satisfy anybody's craving for original sound. It literally cannot be classified or pegged down as pop, jazz, or ska. It is a successful combination of all.

The band has had many achievements other than the thousands of records they've sold. They have had their songs played on TV shows like Jennifer Love Hewitt's *Time of your life*, and on the popular children show *The Rugrats*. They have also appeared on talk shows, like late night's *open mike with Mike Bullard*.

"The first time we were on *Mike Bullard*, out came a topless fat man wearing pajama bottoms with black hair dye on his head and beard and a cigar in his mouth, screaming 'What are these punks doing on my stage!' It was all just a joke. He is a Goof. He's funnier off screen cause he has to tame it down for TV," says MacInnes.

Next for the band is a new CD titled *Jazzberry Ram: Bootlegged* which is a combination of live music taken from their cross Canada tour. It includes six songs from shows in Halifax. They will be heading back to the East Coast with a stop in Halifax at the Marquee on Nov. 10.

So what's the difference between a West Coast audience and our East Coast audience?

"East Coasters are a little more crazy. They know how to have fun. They're the friendliest people in the country."

Jazzberry Ram has a great sound and should be given more recognition for their originality and passion for music.

by jodi maglario

the gazette

Bands break up all the time and for the most trivial reasons. So how did a band of four guys from Vancouver survive for eight years?

"We've all ripped our hair out. We're all bald now," is the non-serious response of bass player Allan MacInnes.

For him, and the three other members of this indie band — Drew and Stephen Stewart, and Colin Stobie — it has all been worth it; they are living their dream, and doing it on their own terms.

The band has survived all these years by word of mouth, with no help from corporate big shots. Obviously it's working — Brian, the lead singer of I Mother Earth is a huge fan of the band, and even went to see them play in Antigonish. There is even a band in Boston claiming the same name.

# Flamenco artist Jesse Cook sizzles

by zeeshan shaikh

the gazette

This summer in Toronto I was excited to hear that Jesse Cook was playing — but I was out of luck because I was booked to fly back to Halifax before the concert. So you can imagine my delight when I found out that Jesse would be coming to me, to perform in our very own Halifax. He played Oct 14, along with his talented group at the Rebecca Cohen auditorium.

For those of you who are wondering who the heck this Jesse Cook guy is, maybe a little info is useful.

Cook, born in Paris, picked up his first guitar at the age of three and hasn't put it down since. He spent many years studying guitar in Canada, but returned to France and Spain to rediscover flamenco.

His distinctive style embodies elements of rumba flamenco, Latin jazz and world

beat with an ingenious mix of the classical guitar. He has quickly risen out of obscurity and achieved some recognition on the world music scene over the last few years. This dramatic popularity is hardly surprising to anyone who has listened to his music.

In fact, anyone who likes Spanish or Latin influenced guitar music will love what this guy can do.

Last time Cook was here, he performed for an audience at a local church. Cook returned to Halifax this time ready to impress the full house at the Cohen. He started things off with one of my favourites, the upbeat "Rattle and Burn" from his album, *Vertigo*. The crowd was great — very alive and energized with applause, howls and even some shouts of ole! On some of the slower, guitar intensive pieces, the crowd would settle down and some would close their eyes and listen with a smile.

It was a fiery performance, with Cook playing some of his

finest music including songs from his other two albums, *Tempest* and *Gravity*. He also played some brand new music from his latest release, *Freefall*.

Cook was joined on stage by percussionist Arturo Avalos, guitarist Kevin Laliberte and on the violin by our very own Halifax native Chris Church.

The finale came with Cook displaying great finesse and blinding speed on his guitar, an ending that brought the crowd to its feet. The standing ovation forced the group to return to the stage for another two songs, in one of which Jesse left his guitar to join Arturo. After the show Jesse met with fans and signed copies of his CDs while chatting with them.

Cook's newest album, *Freefall*, is in stores now and already in the top 10 on the billboard charts. More information on tour dates and his music can be obtained at his website: [www.jessecook.com](http://www.jessecook.com)

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THE GAZETTE

# Piggy and Veda Hille: Oooh don't stop!

by pamel smith

the gazette

Go on, ye tortured souls — dance! And so they did.

That was the Saturday night scene at the Marquee. The place was oozing of Halloween spirit. A diverse crowd of ghosts, clowns, devils, vampires, and — the most hideous of them all — hippies awaited patiently for Veda Hille's performance.

Fortunately, there was a lot to keep us busy in the meantime. Palm readers and psychics eagerly took our money while Piggy, the Calypso Orchestra of the Maritimes, managed to get the more energetic members of the crowd up and dancing.

Piggy, in the spirit of Halloween, served up a delightfully spooky set. Songs like "Glowworm," which is about a little girl whose brain gets eaten by a glowworm, and the equally

scary song titled "Gottingen Street," which is about, well, Gottingen Street, had the crowd doing creepy dances and pretty much making asses of themselves. All in good fun, of course. Piggy finished off their time on stage with a pretty cool rendition of "Monster Mash." The audience loved it.

To add to the excitement, there were contests and prizes. Oh, boy! Were there prizes! Cookies, whoopee cushions and severed fingers, to name a few. An ambitious zombie couple scored a lobster claw harmonica for their interpretive murder/suicide dance.

At the peak of this action came Veda Hille and her Skilled and Devoted Band.

Just when you thought things couldn't get any better, Veda, decked out in a two-foot afro wig, gave the onlookers a taste of what music should be.



Veda Hille: the woman does know how to rock!

photo by sabrina thurlow

She took the place by storm, performing songs mostly from her latest 1999 independent release, *You Do Not Live In This World Alone*. A trained classical and jazz musician, Hille sets those skills on fire both in the studio and on the stage.

"Musically, we're better than we've ever been," says Hille, speaking of herself along with her Skilled and Devoted Band. Although Hille is nothing short of a musical genius, she's been unable to find a label willing to carry her music. Gasp! Big-dick multi-million dollar corporations unwilling to sign on an incredibly good but non-mainstream musician? I'm shocked! It's too bad to see truly talented musicians such as Veda Hille go

unnoticed, while mass-produced pretty boy bands and manufactured silicon girls shoot to the top of the charts overnight.

But Hille's not bitter. She seems as though she loves her job, and guess what, Halifax — she digs you too.

"I really love this place," she said in the pre-show interview. "I haven't been here in four years, and I'm happy to be back!"

Judging by the turn out, Halifax loves her right back.

Her performance was terrific. One minute the crowd swayed to her haunting sounds, and the next they were dancing and bopping happily to her upbeat tunes. Veda Hille is definitely not

all sombre melodies, as seems to be the general consensus among critics.

Though her slower songs are beautifully intricate and consistently compelling, the woman does know how to rock! Her fast-paced song, "Killzone," sent the crowd into a rock-n-roll frenzy. "It is a trap, it is a trap, it is a trap," sang Hille, as I fought frantically to dislodge myself from the tight group of funny little bouncing people.

Veda not only treated us with great music, but live art creation to boot. While Hille and her band did their set, there was an artist on the stage working on a portrait.

Neat gimmick, I thought, as the painter (whose name I have unfortunately forgotten) slapped colours on a canvas.

About halfway through the show I remember thinking the painting was a real piece of shit. Heck though, I don't know anything about art and besides, I'm only here for the music.

But, as the show unfolded itself beautifully, so did the painting. By the end, it looked to me like a really cool depiction of a disfigured woman tangled up in big green worms. A nearby onlooker told me that the painting was a "representation of sinking genders," whatever that means. I didn't get the guy's credentials, but I suppose his word is as good as mine.

But anyway, forget that. The important thing here is Veda Hille. If the opportunity ever presents itself, go see her. Abstract art and incredible music. I look forward to her return.



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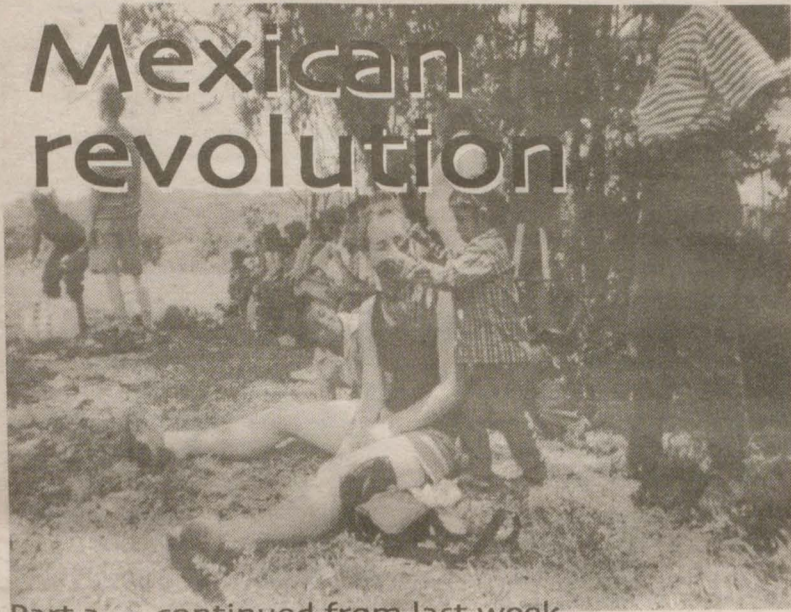
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# Mexican revolution



Part 2 — continued from last week

by chris arsenault

*the gazette*

Despite the civil war, and a backward economy, Chiapas has become a model for democracy in action. One Sunday, at least 300 people came to Francisco Gomez from the surrounding areas to make community decisions. All the stores were built by the people of the community, so the profits would be put back into their economy. Specialized collectives, open to anyone, including the women's co-op, the education collective and the construction team all helped to create infrastructure and equality within Zapatista territory.

The people we met cared about political events because they could be active participants, rather than passive bystanders.

When the armed Zapatistas need to make a decision, they send emissaries to all the Zapatista communities so everyone has a fair say. There are some laws that are universal throughout Zapatista territory, like the prohibition of alcohol. The Zapatistas weren't prepared to fall into the trap of alcoholism, which has destroyed indigenous societies the world over.

While living on Zapatista land, we were asked to organize ourselves in a collective fashion. STAC is about solidarity, not charity, so we gladly obeyed their age-old traditions and made all of our decisions democratically. The idea of having one leader or private property has only existed among the Maya since the Spanish forced the idea upon them. Scholars throughout the world are starting to re-examine these concepts that make up the status quo in most of the "developed" world. After two days of enjoying the accommodations at Oventic, including bunk beds and showers we had to leave for Francisco Gomez. After enduring 20 hours of straight driving from Mexico City to Chiapas, another six hours speeding along mountain roads didn't sound so bad.

At 2:00 a.m., 35 exhausted and irritable volunteers began to lug their backpacks up the mountain. At around 3:30 a.m. two rickety cattle trucks came rumbling down the road. The trucks weren't much bigger than pick-ups, but still we hoisted our bags and then ourselves to begin this less than glamorous six-hour ordeal. Several volunteers got sick from the twisted dirt road and the exhaust fumes that blew into our compartments.

Travelling at this time on these trucks was an unfortunate, but necessary measure. During the day, the roads are patrolled by army, immigration, and paramilitary forces, who disapprove of foreigners helping the Zapatistas.

Founder of S.F.C. Peter Brown, a teacher from San Diego, is never allowed to set foot in Mexico again. The army had taken pictures of him working with the Zapatistas and then they stamped his passport at an immigration checkpoint as a Zapatista sympathizer. We avoided any check-points and with less than a kilometer to go we began to rejoice, until we saw the camouflaged trucks forming a road block less than one kilometer away from Francisco Gomez. The Mexican side of our group began negotiating, and after presenting our passports we were allowed to continue.

The trucks rolled into Francisco Gomez at around 10:00 a.m. local time. A group of local people and some community representatives had gathered to welcome us and after some introductions, and a brief tour of the sight, we headed for the open air living quarters to set up our things, and get a little rest.

That night the local people, descendent from Maya natives, held a party in our honor. The people did their best to dress up for the occasion; the women wore colorful dresses with bright beach towels as shawls, men sported old work cloths and small children ran throughout the crowd in tugged in shirts and rubber boots, some had no shoes at all. Together we danced to polka music and attempted conversation. The people of Chiapas are hard working, and did their best to be kind to us, although they didn't quite understand why we were there. Some of them may still hold resentment against foreigners, and this feeling isn't hard to understand. However the children, like children in most of the world, didn't see us as foreigners, white people, or outsiders, to them we were just friends.

Much of our two weeks at Francisco Gomez was spent lugging bricks for the school and feeding ourselves. However, volunteers learned the most about life in Chiapas, when they were working with the local people. At 7:00 one misty morning a group of us went to cut wood with some of the local women, and in the process learned how average people here live. After a 20

minute trek into the heart of the Lanacondon jungle we reached the designated location. The indigenous women, each about 5 foot 2, and hardened by a life of toil, began to hack wood with their machetes. Fit male volunteers could not cut the wood with half the strength or efficiency of these tiny women.

I asked one of the women, whose name I cannot pronounce or spell, where she got her machete.

"We got them back after a group like yours bought them for us. Last winter the army came and robbed us of our machetes, saying they could be used as weapons. Without machetes we would starve, because they are essential for cutting fire wood, and working in the fields."

On the way back to Francisco Gomez we stopped off at one of the women's houses to drop off the wood we had cut, and she invited us in for lunch. Her kitchen was a tiny wooden shack with a roof of palm leaves where she cooked for her family of seven. She began to prepare a meal of tortillas and beans on the block of mortar, which was her stove. With these bare ingredients and two rusty pots she made us a delicious meal. We offered to help with the preparation, or to pay for what we ate, but she wouldn't allow it.

The winds of change have blown through these jungle high lands, but most of the people we spoke with feel it won't come through the political arena.

Mexico has just elected The National Action Party (PAN) after the 71-year rule of the PRI. Although president elect Vicente Fox has promised to end the conflict, the indigenous people feel this ex Coca-Cola executive won't fix the problems in Chiapas.

"We aren't registered to vote," one farmer told us. "A new government will just mean another group supporting the rich land-owners."

Other Zapatista supporters fear that the pro-free trade agenda Fox has proposed will destroy locally run industry, and hurt small farmers.

Increased relations with the United States, and the corporations that comprise it, are the last thing people in Chiapas want.

When the uprising began, a confidential memo was sent from the Chase Manhattan Bank, one of the largest financial institutions in the world, to high-ranking army officials advising them to, "eliminate the Zapatistas". This blatant collusion proves that the principles of the Zapatista revolution are going against some powerful interests.

Whatever happens with the new government the Zapatistas will continue to forge a new society. Living with them opened the volunteers to many things they hadn't encountered before, both good and bad.

"In this community everyone knows everyone else, I don't know any of my neighbours," said one volunteer put it.

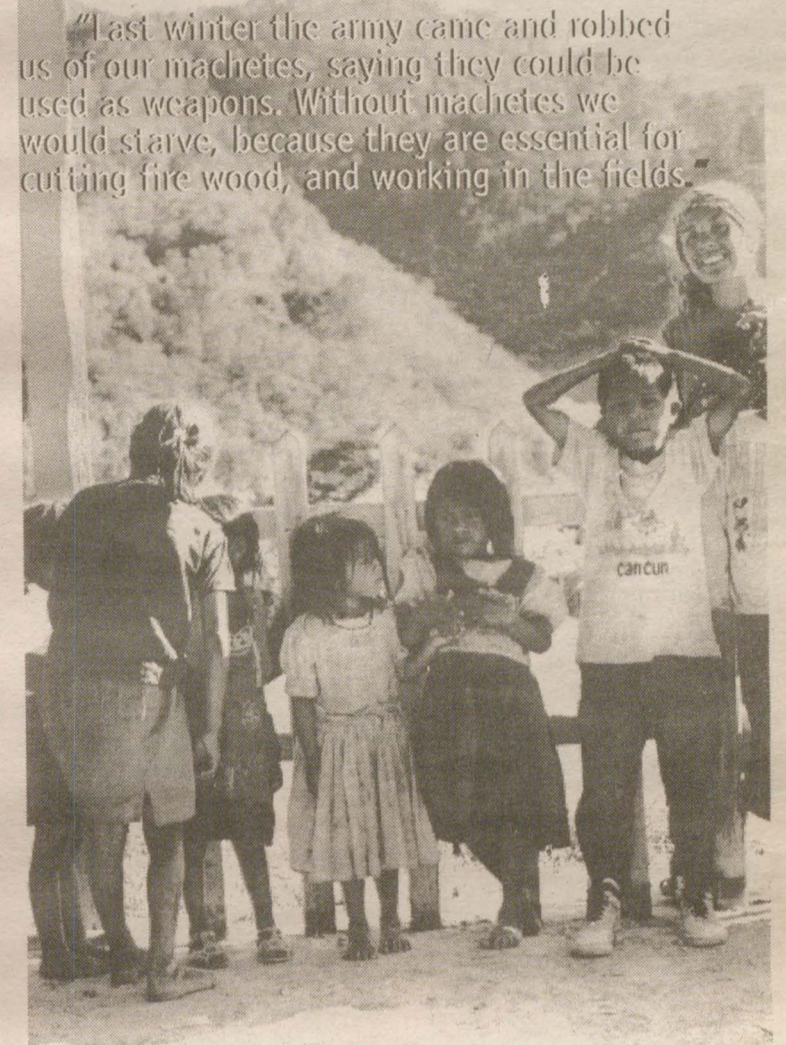
"I think the people in

Chiapas are on the road to progress," said Dal student Heather O'Keefe. "Our work is satisfying because if we don't help these people, no-one else will, politics shouldn't stop kids from getting an education. There is something magical about living in that community, and while we may have given them money, they

gave me hope."

Students Taking Action in Chiapas plans to send another delegation to Chiapas next summer.

To go to Mexico, contact: Students Taking Action in Chiapas (STAC), [chiapasbrigade@hotmail.com](mailto:chiapasbrigade@hotmail.com), 422 9771.



## Designer babies

by jodi magliaro

*the gazette*



We have all heard of designer clothes and designer cars, but designer babies? Children who will be "born cured" of all ailments — tuberculosis, AIDS and even the common cold. Parents will be able to choose the sex, eye color, hair color, and maybe someday, the personality of their future children. A fetus could be denied the gene for anger, shyness or certain fears. It could be altered to look like its mother, or given features of its great-grandmother.

But whatever happened to leaving it all up to chance, or fate? Perfection is an unattainable goal, yet humanity is obsessed with it. We seek it for ourselves and those we love, so the idea of creating the perfect child is very desirable. What parent doesn't have something they wish they could change about their child? But what about the human soul, the question of playing God, and the ethical questions that are raised?

Society contains many types of discrimination — gender, age, and race, but with a society containing these "perfect" beings, won't there also be created a new type of discrimination — gene discrimination. The movie "Gattaca" could be a glimpse into our future, with genetically superior beings running the world and the rest of us cleaning up after them. According

to Princeton geneticist Lee Silver in his book 'Remaking Eden: Cloning and Beyond in a Brave New World', the Gen-rich, "who account for ten percent of the population, all carry synthetic genes. Genes that were created in a laboratory...The Gen-rich are a modern day hereditary class of genetic aristocrats...all aspects of the economy are controlled by members of the Gen-rich class. Naturals work as low-paid service providers or as laborers."

The results of designing babies are great. It does not only mean disease-free, healthy children; holding the notion that only a perfect baby deserves life threatens our sympathy for people who are disabled and raises standards of perfection to unreachable limits.

The moral problem at the core of the issue is this — a fetus cannot give its consent to be genetically altered. So back to the age-old question — is a fetus a living being, and should it be given the same rights as any human? A fetus does represent a living being and is given these rights only when it becomes fully developed and is removed from its mother. Until then it is seen as something not needing protection or granted rights. Some would argue that it is in the benefit of the fetus

continued on page 22

## Babies

continued from page 21

Most gene therapy involves the introduction of genetically modified viral vector; a virus designed to carry new genetic information that will reprogram the cells in the fetus. The virus may aggravate the immune system and could alter the reproductive cells; causing birth defects in future generations. Efforts to do this, in about 500 clinical trials, have been unsuccessful. However, where adults have two or three billion cells, a human fetus can have as few as four to eight cells — the chances of the procedure succeeding are therefore greater. But does the benefit outweigh the risks, and the consequences?

It does, according to Transhumanists. They are a group of individuals who want to "take humanism further by challenging human limits by means of science and technology." They believe that if humans can be improved they should be. They seek enhancements to their physical and intellectual abilities and see humanity as "a transitory stage in the evolutionary development of intelligence." It is, of course, normal to seek improvement of ones self, but genetic alteration seems like taking that desire a little too far.

Throughout history, people have been obsessed with perfection, the definition of which is very subjective. To take it to the extreme, look at Adolf Hitler. He wanted a world of pure, superior beings, with blonde hair and blue eyes. Wouldn't creating "perfect" children be basically the same idea? His idea of superior beings could go hand in hand with the idea of superior babies. These superior babies would be preferred over the "natural" children, eventually suppressing most of the population, with the minority running the world, while the majority watch jealously, and helplessly, because they now actually believe they are inferior. This may seem extreme but we never look at the long term picture, shouldn't we?

One question never raised is the idea of freedom. Wouldn't denying a baby the right to develop naturally, the way it would without interference, be like denying it a kind of freedom — freedom to be his/her self? And isn't it freedom that we value so highly in society?

## Institutionalized Dysfunction

By Rita Henderson

With nearly 45 percent of all marriages ending in divorce, the publishing world is by no means shy of any who-dunnits, or do-it-yourself guides about taking on the 'Big Divide.' There are classics out there peppering the internet and bookshelves across the continent dissecting the issue with great care.

There is even a divorce.com and a Tao of Divorce!

Divorce has officially claimed its place in the world, it is comprised of legal issues, financial issues, civil rights, emotions, property, minority, violence, criminal, and child rights. Divorce even has its own section in Chapters Book Store. With so many issues, it hits near the top of the list of Most Popular Institutions (ranking right up there with the government.)

Pause for a moment, and reflect on what the esteem of a dysfunctional institution may mean for the future of our society, if anything. Are we one step closer to democracy and free opposition? Must we now have new responsibilities to avoid messing our own lives up? Or is there decreased worry in being tied down by ugly marriages? Could we be in for a long haul if prenuptial agreements become a ritual of engagement, or will child psychiatry bridge that gap? Are women better off now that they have freedom to pursue their dreams? Are men worse off with penalty to domestic abuse?

Truth be told, people keep writing these books and articles, trying to answer something that there is no answer for. No husband or wife should be trapped in a loveless union, no child should be witness to household hate; divorce is indeed essential, if only to undo the poorly constructed mergers of our lives.

Marriage is the culprit that must answer for its own failures, not some institution that blinds the original offense.

Attacking marriage is the motivation behind the new steps being taken in many Christian

denominations across North America and by governments alike to regulate the ease of access to marriage, and not the accessibility to divorce.

Marriage has undergone such enormous transformations in the last four hundred years that its place in society has also needed to shift positions. One explanation to high rates of divorce is that unity in society has not yet caught up with its new purpose.

In times of yore, marriage was utilized in an effort to conform men and women in the objectives of religion, reproduction, trade and management. Marriage could be highly productive and efficient; a strong authority kept the ranks in order, while an obedient counterpart kept them conditioned. It made sense to have loyalty and stability between men and women for the sake of survival.

Today, stability between the sexes isn't the same game. It is called the transformation lag. The roles of husband and wife have changed entirely, while some lingering responsibility of expectations remain, becoming long-term catalysts for dysfunction.

Before a marriage, or in its early stages, role expectations are commonly brushed aside and excused in the name of individual character. For instance, the place of the 'wife' seems to lag behind the place of the 'woman' in society. Women have equal freedoms to men, but in marriage they often lack the foresight to see what will be expected of them as wives. A free-for-all household is universally unacceptable, but few new structural expectations have replaced the old ones. After years of battling the odds of not

satisfying the expectations of their husbands, many women face the blunders of divorce. In this case, the individuals involved only lacked the vision to see that their codes of marriage had not yet caught up to their codes of modern life.

Naturally, we are led to ask, who makes the codes? A couple can have a civil marriage, out of any church, synagogue, mosque or temple, where they unite themselves only by a legal contract that is supposed to be upheld by the government. It is in the currents of such civil contracts that a wider issue of the place for government is beginning to be stirred. Rather than debating government regulation on free rights to divorce, many amateur and major journalists are beginning to question a

government's place in regulating personal functions at all.

This is where the Roman Catholic Church in many American states began refusing to marry an engaged couple who would not agree to pre-marital counseling. They were still free to be married

under law, but community pressures and traditions could enforce the couple to think about the wisdom of the event through a little more. Many public schools in these same communities now hold courses discussing values and relationships. Perhaps a tad fascistic, these tactics have lightly indicated effect, a far cry more than the contracts the governments authorize and break.

The key to this particular marriage felony is that it is a favorite of young people (anywhere between the ages of 14 and 40). We live in a world where accountability is expounded around every corner, we are taught to take care, take responsibility, be stable, do what is right. If a baby were to come into the world amidst dysfunction, then a great wrong has been done. So many young

people, with incredible lack of foresight believe the alternative (which is marriage) must be the right answer to their dilemma. Little do they admit, two wrongs (unconsulted pregnancy + rushed marriage) hardly ever equal a right. Again, lack of vision before getting married — a breeding ground for divorce.

Love is the most dangerous offense to marriage. Through the media, from Jane Austin to Ally McBeal, love is what we are taught is the major pre-cursor to marriage, the be-all and the end-all hereafter. True, marriage has taken on a new role of companionship, making love less obscene to ask for. But, the critical error in this concept is that love, unlike marriage, is not necessarily intended to have longevity. In binding love to marriage, the individual's understanding of love and expectations of it are too often confused with ones understanding of the social institution involved. If a man loves his wife, he will go buy her something fancy. Yet, some women go so far as to expect it, that the lunacy of love can be defined by the riches it can buy, isolating the pair from the nurturing love offers them, regardless of social contract.

Nobody wishes divorce upon oneself, not even those fools that write books about making the most of the war. They cannot make divorce better or manageable or even marketable until society can make marriage worthwhile, modern, appropriate, and healthy.

Marriage is an important institution, but it is a modern mistake to think that important things need to be designed, sponsored, and licensed by the world.

So for now, remember that you don't have to get married. You don't have to get married if you have sex. You don't have to get married if you have kids. You don't have to get married if you love someone. You don't have to get married if you believe in dogma, you just may have to forfeit sex. You don't have to get married if you are broke, or if you are bored, or if you are gay, or if you are old, or if you are tired, or even if you are spry. You don't ever have to get married. And just when you see that you will never really need to get married, it will start to make sense. And it does have a purpose beyond divorce.



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## Scientists clamor for undisturbed public land

by erin johnson

the gazette

In July, a group of concerned environmentalists and citizens formed the Nova Scotia Public Lands Coalition. The Coalition is focussed on driving three main points across to the people at the Department of Natural Resources. According to Kermit deGooyer, the Coalition wants to see the remaining public wild lands (any intact land over 200 Hectares) protected, and the DNR to value the area that the Department of Environment identified for protection.

Many environmentalists, conversationalists and scientists are questioning how much crown land is actually going to be protected by the Department of Natural Resources, Integrated Resource Management proposal.

Over the last four years, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been collecting statistics, information and receiving input from the

municipal, provincial and federal government on land use in Nova Scotia.

The department drew up a proposal distributing the land in the province into three categories. The categories are defined on the website [www.publiclands.ca](http://www.publiclands.ca).

Category One — those crown lands that will be available for the full range of resource uses.

Category Two — those lands that a full range of land/resource uses may be permitted, but must be planned in such a way as to protect the integrity of predominant values that may be impacted by other uses. Category Three — those allocated to specific uses and where other resource activities may be very limited, modified, or denied.

The DNR conducted open house seminars and discussions in mid-September to present the Integrated Resource Management (IRM) proposal to the public and to provide the opportunity for feedback. Environmentalists and scientists have been very vocal as

to their opinions of the proposal.

The Public Lands Coalition believes that the IRM proposal is flawed in its current state and is planning to meet with any provincial minister in late November or early December to convince the government that the present IRM proposal is not in the best interests of Nova Scotia.

Dalhousie scientist Karen Beazley has provided input on the need for changes to the

IRM. She believes that the present proposal lacks the "backbone to maintain diversity of life in Nova Scotia."

She believes that the goal of the IRM proposal should be to preserve biodiversity, however the current proposal does not even protect the minimal amount of land required to do this. A statement of regarding the future use of land in Nova Scotia concern has been sent to people in the scientific community.

Currently, 60 scientists have

signed the statement, including well-known scientist David Suzuki. The scientific community is hoping to present the statement to NS Premier John Hamm in the next couple of weeks.

DNR representative Susan Maderzinck says that all of the feedback they are receiving from various sources is being processed into a database and will be reviewed by the department.

The DNR is hoping to produce a summary report before Christmas.

## Information Hash

### news & facts

by kip keen  
the gazette

#### Erectile Dysfunction

"Erectile dysfunction or impotence" comments the 4 impotence website, "is often a symptom of an underlying medical condition...It can also be an early predictor of coronary artery disease, peripheral vascular disease, and other cardiovascular disorders."

#### Erectile Dysfunction Babe

"Viagra enables men with erectile dysfunction to respond to sexual stimulation. When a man is sexually excited, Viagra helps the penis fill with enough blood to cause an erection. After the sex is over, the erection goes away."

Ahhhh. Why didn't you just say so mom?

#### \$6.47 a pop!!

If you order from the 4 impotence online website, ten 100mg pills will cost you \$129.95. The average man only needs a 50mg dose for a day. Sorry Honey, I'm broke...Ovaltine??

#### Kiss of death...

The Food and Drug Administration has "received reports of 130 US patients who died after having been prescribed this drug...77 had cardiovascular events."

#### I've got this problem...will labeling help me?

"The labeling now includes a warning about the reoccurrence of painful, prolonged erections," advises the FDA, and ask that "patients seek prompt medical attention if their erection last longer than four hours."

#### But I've had a hard-on for several days.

"Priapism," says the Columbia University Health Education Program, "is a prolonged, painful erection that can last from several hours up to a few days." It happens when red blood cells become stiff due to lack of oxygen, thus inhibiting the red blood cells "to squeeze their way out of the penis."

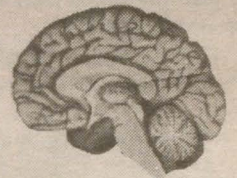
#### Ancient Greeks and Boners

The condition is named after Priapus the Greek God of fertility who seemed to be perpetually erect.

#### This bird's gotta fly!

"In most cases," the university reports, "treatment involves draining the penis with a needle placed in the side of the penis."

## The Mind of Mr. Minimal



Knoned,

Is it me or do most people dislike what they are doing, have done, and will do? It seems that everyone has something they would rather be doing than carrying on with the putrid monotony of day to day life. Everyday you do the same thing, every weekend entails the same routine of forced 'relaxation' while a mountain of alternatives are far off in the peripheral. Are we getting too lazy, or do people actually have to bottle up their natural instincts to survive on a daily basis?

Winners don't do drugs.

Flexx Hercules

Thank you, Flexx, for your perceptive take on the painful week and purple pleasure that we seek to counteract the pressure exerted by our economic system.

Ah, yes. Putrid monotony, a seemingly unavoidable feature of our all too convenient society. The technocratic super-structure defining our daily, weekly and yearly behavioural cycles is easily accepted. Compared to the African Tree Frog, whose lifecycle may depend on yearly precipitation and ecological disturbances, the inhabitants of America-North are influenced by the corporate monopolies who control everything from trans-national market trade to the time your alarm clock is set in the morning.

The seven week day is a framework endorsed and enforced by global business and media schedules, especially television and banking.

In Saratoga, Arkansas, the town's high school reverted to a four day week to cut costs in order to avoid merging with a larger municipality. Transportation costs were reduced, some students were more able to hold part time jobs, teachers became more involved in tutoring, students' grades rose significantly, and teacher absences fell.

Workers whose companies have reduced their work week have experienced the same results.

If the four-day week were correctly implemented, a wide range of social, economic and individual benefits would be manifest.

My point in this discussion is that as we break away from the five day work week, we may find ourselves free of the putrid pattern mentioned by Flexx. Instead of spending our weekends trying to forget about a bad week and/or attempting to avoid the fact that Monday is nearby we may actually have time to ponder and realize our roles as creative beings. Finally we will have more time to dedicate ourselves to those dreams and trades we entertained as younger, less-jaded individuals.

Does this make economic sense? On my island of origin, members of my community all played different yet equally important roles. Jimbu wove baskets from hemp and plant material and provided the entire island with baskets and other wares. My cousins specialized in coconut milk and boat repair. We were a tight community, self sufficient except for the gas and Beastie Boys bootlegs occasionally imported to fuel our generators and festivals.

When the fishing agreement was signed, I imagined it to bring more recognition to our little island. Recognition has arrived in the form of hotel chains vying for land to build resorts. The capital that was paid as wages to my cousins has left along with the marine life. Stores have been set up and there are plans for a small resort to be constructed. The youth are welcoming this change, many of them swayed by promises of technology and its comforts. Some young adults seek not the advice and valuable knowledge of our ancestors and instead television culture is quickly replacing ours. The closely knit, but effective island economy of days past is disintegrating.

By diversifying our income here in America-North we can become less dependent on the economic systems that seem to leave so many of us wondering if our lifestyles are healthy.

And if you do not question our economic system, I suggest you do. More suicide occurs on Monday than on any other day and most of us are not happy with our occupations. A wallet full of money signifies happiness and people are developing neurotic disorders similar to those exhibited by caged zoo animals.

I only speak of what I see.

So how do we diversify our incomes? Plant a garden of vegetable crops somewhere and stop supporting corporations that don't care about you or your baby. Learn to weave, paint, carve wood and make your own household tools. Support community-based businesses. Buy a food processor and make your own baby food, spend some time with your family, or better yet, get your whole family involved in such activities. Make clothes, bake your own bread and learn to maintain that gas-guzzling vehicle instead of trying to work a hell-ride five day week to buy a new one only to drive it off a cliff because it's not worth it. Make your life worthwhile and don't fall into a cycle of regression and regret.

I suggest we make our lives worthwhile and incorporate our desires and alternate activities into our lifestyles. Petty patterns are hard to break, but Mr. Minimal offers you epistemologists, existentialists, academics and apathetics a question for the times.

Has man's success as an evolutionary entity been attributed to his ability to create and follow patterns or to break away from them? Best answer wins a Mr. Minimal mixtape. Send submissions to [mr\\_minimal@hotmail.com](mailto:mr_minimal@hotmail.com).

"The most you can spend on any child is time" — jurassic 5

# 20 minute pharmacy lines explained — at last!

by  
nellie  
elhawary

the gazette

Have you ever wondered what your pharmacist does way back there in the...what's that place called? Oh, yes — the dispensary. Way up high on that platform thing? Why do they stand on that thing, anyway? Why does it take twenty minutes to fill my prescription? Don't they just count the pills and put them into a bottle?

First of all, pharmacists don't just count pills for a living. Believe me, you do not have to go to university for four years to learn to count by fives. Let me tell you Bill's story:

Bill hasn't been feeling very well lately. He finally goes to see his doctor who tells him that he needs a prescription. Bill takes his prescription to his local pharmacy. He drops it off and the pharmacist or the pharmacy technician tells him that it will take about 20 minutes to fill. Why would it take so long to fill?

Let's say that Bill has never filled a prescription at this particular pharmacy; the person who waits on him will need some information from him. A pharmacist, let's call her Claire, will ask for his date of birth, his address, telephone number, any drug allergies he may have, and if he has a drug plan. After receiving this information from Bill, the pharmacist will then

enter him into the database.

Each pharmacy has a computer system where all their patients are entered and each time a new prescription goes through, it is automatically added to the list of drugs that that particular patient has taken (otherwise known as the patient profile). Databases aren't linked, but Canadian laws have recently changed to allow transfers of prescriptions from pharmacy to pharmacy, as long as they are in Canada. If you have ten refills on your birth control remaining in Calgary and you are here, in Halifax, all you need to do is let the pharmacist know where you originally filled your prescription. The pharmacist will call the other pharmacy, obtain the needed information from the pharmacist in Alberta, and your entire prescription is transferred to Halifax.

Entering Bill's information into the database has taken about two minutes. So, we have 18

minutes left. The pharmacist then begins reviewing his prescription; she ensures that it is written correctly, and has all the information on it that is needed to legally dispense it. If Bill had been a returning customer, as Claire entered the prescription into the computer, the first thing Claire would do is check his prescription drug profile on the computer. This will tell her if he has already taken this drug before, if there should be special instructions on how to take this drug with other medications, as well as check for any interactions with any other prescription medications that Bill is currently taking. If any interactions arise, then it is her responsibility to contact the physician and decide if the drug should be changed.

She also ensures that the dosage prescribed for Bill will help his condition without harming him. Dosing of drugs is critical. If the dosage were too low, then the drug wouldn't be effective. On the other hand, if the dosage is too high, then Bill could suffer from some serious side effects.

Claire leaves the prescription in a little basket and asks the pharmacy technician to fill it while she has to catch up on checking the other ten prescriptions that are currently on the counter. Checking each one can take from two to five minutes.

A drug interaction comes up on the computer screen, and Claire has to decide if she should contact the physician and see if the drug could be changed. She calls the doctor up, they briefly discuss alternatives, and the two

health care workers agree on a different, more appropriate drug.

Claire finally gets to Bill's prescription and begins to check it: patient's name, physician's name, DIN (drug identification number), name of drug, strength of drug, amount of drug dispensed, instructions on how to take the drug, expiry date on the original bottle and number of refills. A prescription from the doctor's office is a legal document and must be filled exactly the way it is written.

A pharmacist takes the time to go over the possible side effects of a drug, and highlights any effects that would require a trip to the emergency room. Sometimes there are disease management programs a patient can enroll in that will make sure that a specific drug is effective for a patient, and will let pharmacists know if other drugs may be needed to control an illness.

Bill is quite impressed with all of the services that Claire has offered him and thanks her. She, in turn, reminds him that if he has any questions at all, to call anytime — they're open 24 hours!



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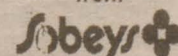
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### THE BIG ONE!



# Men's basketball looks to improve as 2000 season begin

by josh smith

the gazette

When the Tigers host the UPEI Panthers in their season opener, they will finally be able to put aside the memories of a season ago, one in which the team stumbled to a 5-15 record and finished last in the Atlantic Universities Basketball Conference.

This year, they will be looking to return to the success they enjoyed in 1996, when they won the AUBC title and advanced to the Final Eight.

One thing is certain as the 2000 season approaches: the team will definitely improve. The impact of the younger players in starting roles will be the most important factor this season. Seven of the first ten games will be played at home, giving the Tigers a great chance to begin the season on a winning note. Beginning strong at home would ensure the team the opportunity to earn a post-season berth.

Having such an experienced coaching staff, led by two-time AUAA Coach of the Year Tim McGarrigle, should also be very good news for the noticeably

young team. The 2000 season marks McGarrigle's sixth year as head coach at Dalhousie, and he has led the Tigers to the playoffs in four of his five years. He is also the only coach in history to win AUBC titles with two different schools, accomplishing this with the Tigers and the UCCB Capers.

This season's schedule poses some interesting challenges for the Tigers. They will have four regular season games against the arch-rival St. Mary's Huskies, a team they have struggled with in recent years.

On the other hand, in

perhaps a stroke of good luck, they will only have to contend with the national champion St. Francis Xavier X-Men twice. As well, after opening the season against UPEI, they will only see the Panthers once more in the regular season. The Tigers will also play four games against Memorial University, and four versus the Acadia Axemen. However, the Tigers will see McGarrigle's former team, the UCCB Capers, just twice, along with two matchups with the University of New Brunswick's Varsity Reds and coach Dave Nutbrown.

Looking ahead to the coming season, which is now only days away, the Tigers appear focused and ready to rebound from last year's disappointment. In order to put last year behind them, they will need to improve on the defensive side of the ball, in order to contend with several high-scoring offenses in the Atlantic region. If they can do this, and if the younger players mature under the guidance of the veterans and coaching staff, the Tigers are expecting nothing short of a playoff berth in the 2000-2001 season.

## Golota runs from Tyson

by c.j. foote

the gazette

I saw the worst display of cowardice when I witnessed Golota refusing to go out and fight at the beginning of the third round during the boxing match between Mike Tyson and Andrew Golota on Oct 20.

My friends and I had shelled out the 60 or so dollars for this pay-per-view event in the hopes to see a dirty match between "over the hill" Tyson and "filthy fighter" Golota, but were disappointed by a premature ending.

The hype for this fight was evident for the last few months before the match, due to the previous acts of the fighters. Tyson, in a match three years ago against Evander Holyfield, bit his ear in a pathetic attempt to retaliate against Holyfield's unintentional head bunts. Since then, Tyson has had three altercations with refs in three different fights. Most notably, in his fight against Savorice, the ref came in to stop the fight after

Savorice was severely hurt. However, Tyson showed no respect for the ref and gave him a devastating blow that put him to his knees. Due to the previous acts of aggression, questions have been popping up whether Tyson should be allowed to box anymore.

These concerns are legitimate, given his past. Tyson was found guilty on Feb. 10, 1992, of raping 18 year-old Miss Black America contestant Desiree Washington in Indianapolis on July 19, 1991. He was then sentenced to six year prison term and released May 9, 1995 after serving three years. Since then, he has reclaimed WBC and WBA belts with wins over Frank Bruno and Bruce Seldon in 1996 and then lost WBA title to Evander Holyfield in 1996. However, he brought his career to a halt when he bit Holyfield twice in the ear during their WBA championship fight in 1997 and then returned to jail in 1999 for assaulting two motorists during a 1998 traffic dispute.

On the other hand, Golota's

fight track record is even worse. The loose cannon has bitten three fighters in different fights in which he was winning, then was disqualified. Also, in his two biggest fights against Riddick Bowe, he peppered him below the belt numerous times before being disqualified.

To make matters worse, in the pre fight press conference on TSN Tyson said to reporters that he was going to put a bullet in Golota's head if he didn't shut his mouth. Tyson also said that he wanted a chance at Lennox Lewis and that he was going to "eat his children" when he did. ESPN's reporters has objected to Tyson comment and stated that he should not be allowed to fight and believed that Tyson's actions are unacceptable in the sport.

The fight between Tyson and Golota unfolded in the following manner.

In front of a packed crowd at the Palace in Auburn Hills, Michigan, Golota and Tyson started the first round in conservative style "jab-jab" boxing for a couple of minutes.

However, this chanced rather quickly as Tyson took over. Tyson began throwing accurate haymakers at Golota, and Golota was unable to protect himself or get out of the way. Golota finally got caught with a devastating blow that put him on the canvas, and one which he would not recover from although he was able to get up.

The second round was impressive for Tyson. Not only was he beating Golota to the jab but his movement seemed much quicker and more accurate than I had seen from Tyson in a long time. The crowd was excited to see that he was performing well and the fight had remained clean.

In the third, the fight turned into circus when Golota refused to come out for the third round. On payperview, all viewed Golota refusing the trainer's attempt to put the mouth piece into his mouth followed by Golota quickly walking out of the ring to a hostile crowd that coated him with every sort of food and drink they could find.

Following the fight, Golota was ridiculed for his cowardance. There were apologies for all the rips after Golota visited a Chicago hospital and a physician said he had suffered from a concussion, fractured jaw and herniated disk.

Again, the story doesn't end here. There has also been some skepticism planted by Golota's quick release from the hospital and no apparent detection of his problems by physicians in Michigan immediately after the fight. There are suggestions that Golota is a coward and a faker.

Irrefutably, the sport always has walked the edge of credibility. There was a devilish kind of charm and a dangerous balance. However, the charm has been washed away by the sleaze. Just when you thought the public couldn't get enough of the garbage and antics of these ill-behaved boxers, it delivers a different message: That they are sick and tired of the fights being rigged, of the wrestling antics, and of the lack of talent and quality fights.

## Tigers football?

Revival of defunct program is just what Dal needs

by josh smith

the gazette

It's been a long forgotten tradition at Dalhousie University. Only fading memories remain. The Dalhousie Football Tigers are now only remembered by those fortunate — and old enough — to have seen the old team wage weekly battles for Atlantic supremacy decades ago.

These days, students and alumni focus their loyalty on programs such as basketball, hockey, and soccer.

But despite the support for many of the great sports programs at Dal, something is missing.

That something — the football program — has been a topic few seem to deal with, and one that is continually forgotten when athletic programs are brought up. This is mostly due to the fact that the old team was such an unsuccessful one, and, as the team got worse, less and less

people were interested in ever having a team again.

Metro high schools are constantly producing top CIAU football prospects. The best example is the very strong Queen Elizabeth football program, as well as top notch programs at both St. Patrick's and CEC in Truro. There is definitely available talent here and across the country. With the strong local talent as well as the best players from all across Canada, Dalhousie could very quickly become competitive.

Despite all these reasons, the bottom line, as always, is money. Dalhousie Athletics supports a variety of other programs, and may not be able to afford an expansion football team. If they have enough to support it, they will still have very little patience in waiting for the program to start winning.

Reviving the football program is exactly what Dalhousie University needs. It will undoubtedly restore the students' sense of loyalty to the university,

provide an incredible amount of support for Dal, and give the students, faculty, and alumni alike something to be proud of. If it is possible, it would be an incredible step forward for Dalhousie Athletics, already a very well respected program across the country. While just four schools in Atlantic Canada have current football programs, Dalhousie is truly missing out on a program that will be beneficial to the university in many ways. It would add to the already heated rivalry between the Tigers and Saint Mary's Huskies, as well as other schools such as St. Francis Xavier, Mount Allison, and Acadia. If the funding is there, the revival of the football team at Dal would be a great investment by Dalhousie Athletics, and would bring spirit and support for the University like it has never seen. Only time will tell, but in time, the Tigers may just be back on the field, and no matter how well they do, it will surely be a success.



# Season opens for men's volleyball

robin gillingham  
the gazette

Well, the season has begun and the starting line-up appears to have found a few new faces since the upset of number one ranked Laval at the CIAU National Championships in last year's season. Although a number of key players from last year's successful season are back and ready for action, the roster certainly looks different as head coach, Dan Ota, and assistant coaches Eric Villeneuve and Jason Trepanier, added eight new rookies to this year's squad.

The most notable change is the replacement of last year's setters, Dave Cox and Sasho MacKenzie, with two newcomers, Phil Brown and Tony Finch, both of whom are straight out of high school, and hopefully, prepared for the challenge of replacing the veteran players.

Tiger fans were able to see the new team in action on Saturday evening in their home opener against the University of New Brunswick Reds. Led by co-captain, Ryan Andrews, who destroyed the Reds with 12 kills, and Player of the Match, Josh Muise, who led in the defensive category with nine digs, the Tigers won the match 25-23, 22-25, 25-21, and 25-20. The games were tighter than the team had hoped for, however, in the end they did put everything together to capture the victory in their first game of the season.

The Tigers also saw action on Sunday as they completed the New Brunswick sweep with a 25-13, 25-7, and 25-23 blowout over the Université de Moncton. While the competition was not as strong as the evening before, with another game under their belt the Tigers appeared to be putting some "actual game" back onto the court once again, as anyone who watched the Saskatchewan series just a few weeks ago could tell you, there wasn't a whole lot of that going on then. Veteran Aaron Nutting put on a great show against U de M with ten kills and four digs to earn the title of Player of the Match.

After watching the guys play this weekend, there is little doubt in my mind that they can reach the fourth place finish that they achieved at last year's National Championships. The question remains: will the veteran players be able to bring together this relatively young and inexperienced team and uphold the desire to win that has been such a central part of past Tiger accomplishments? We hope that the guidance of former Tiger greats, Eric Villeneuve and Jason Trepanier, who know what it takes to win at the National level, will keep this year's team focused and victorious throughout this season.

The Tigers will be away next weekend, playing Memorial University in Newfoundland. However, they'll be back in action at the Dalplex on Nov. 12.

# Womens volleyball action at McGill invitational

by pierre daigle  
the gazette

Our women's volleyball team had their first taste of competition last weekend as they flew up to McGill University to challenge some of the top women teams in the country.

On Friday, in their first official match, they played last year's CIAU fourth place team, the Montreal Carabins. Montreal set out to show why they were one of the top finalists last year by defeating an aggressive Tiger's team in three straight sets (25-14, 25-20 and 25-14). Highlights from the game included Angela Cormier with six kills and an equal number of digs.

Their second set was against the eventual tournament winners Sherbrook. The Tigers were again defeated by scores of 25-11, 25-7 and 25-9.

Day two of the tournament saw Dalhousie facing former Tiger coach Leslie Erie and her new team the Saskatchewan Huskies. The Tigers started slow with a first set loss of 25-8 but rebounded with more aggression in the next two sets to come near victory but falling short both times with defeating scores of 25-21 and 25-20.

Highlights of the game included seven kills and seven digs by left-side hitter Ada Poranek.

With the loss, the girls finished 0-3 after the preliminaries and then proceeded to face the Ottawa Gee-gee's in the consolation semi-final. The Tiger's put up some tough serves which put the Gee-gee's in trouble throughout the game, but their play at the net proved to be the difference in the game, where Ottawa, a strong blocking team, was set to stop the Tiger's attacks. They finished the first two sets with Ottawa defeating the Tiger's both times with scores of 25-13, 25-13. Set 3 was a different matter, with the Tigers winning their first set of the tournament 25-23, brought on by their powerful serving.

In set 4, Ottawa tightened their service receive to finish the match despite a spirited effort by the Tigers. Highlights included 26 assists from setter/captain Allison Gillis, 16 digs by Janice Garton and ten kills by Ada Poranek.

In their final game of the tournament, the team rested up some banged-up bodies. First year setter

got the nod for the game against John Abbots College. After splitting the first two sets, the team took a blow when first year left-side hitter Angela Cormier injured her ankle which will take her out of competition for 2-3 weeks.

The Tigers fought hard in the final sets of the game but fell short and losing the last two by close scores. Highlights for the last game included 20 assists by setter Jen Purdy, ten kills, 11 digs by left-side hitter Angela Cormier and 11 digs by Janice Garton.

"The tournament was an eye-opener for us," says captain Allison Gillis. "Because it made us realize that what we are capable of doing if we put the work in. We were competitive against the top teams in the country, so were overall very pleased with the tournament and are looking forward to the regular season."

Although the weekend didn't produce any victories, the trip to McGill was still a success.

The young team picked up some needed experience proving they could play against some of the top teams in the country if they make the necessary commitments.

# DALHOUSIE TIGERS ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Week ending  
Oct 29, 2000



Marc Gardiner  
Men's Cross Country  
3rd Year Economics/  
Spanish  
Toronto, Ontario

Marc Gardiner of the Men's Cross Country Team is the Dalhousie Tigers Male athlete of the week, for the week ending October 29, 2000. The men's race was held on Sunday at UNB under snowy conditions. Marc ran a terrific race finishing 3rd in a time of 33:44.67. His AUS All-Star garnering performance helped the Tigers regain the AUS title for the 6th time in 8 years. Marc is a 3rd year Economics/Spanish student from Toronto, Ontario.

Eddie Baxter  
Women's Cross Country  
4th Year  
Medicine  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Eddie Baxter of the Women's Cross Team is the Dalhousie Tigers Female of the Week for the week ending October 29, 2000. Under extreme weather conditions on Sunday at UNB, Eddie pushed herself and qualified to participate in the CIAU's with a 7th place finish. Baxter helped her team finish in third place in the AUS Championships and earned an AUS All-Star award. Eddie is a 4th year medicine student from Halifax, Nova Scotia.

# Scoreboard

## MEN'S HOCKEY

Dalhousie 6 @ St. Thomas 3  
DAL: C. Stanley 3, D. Pyke, C. Pittman and C. O'Donnell  
STU: M. Zultek, M. Hanson and A. Proskurnicki  
UNB 1 @ Acadia 3  
ACA: C. Cavanaugh, M. Price, A. Armstrong  
UNB: R. Walsh  
UPEI 3 @ Saint Mary's 1  
UPEI: S. Cameron 2, B. Coalter  
SMU: Jim Midgley  
St. F.X. 4 @ St. Thomas 5 (OT)  
STU: Jason Sands 3, Dustin Virag,  
Troy Turyk  
SFX: Paul Andrea, Kurt Walsh, Carl Beaudoin, Yanick Evola

## WOMEN'S HOCKEY

St. F.X. 7 @ Dalhousie 2  
Acadia 0 @ Saint Mary's 8  
SMU: P. Hockney 2, E. Gray 2, S. Randell, C. Donovan, J. Curran, K. Boyle,

## MEN'S SOCCER

UNB 0 @ Dalhousie 4  
DAL: C. Duffy 2, N. Awanen, A. Bishop

St. Francis Xavier 0 @ UPEI 1  
SFX: G. Rudic  
Saint Mary's 2 @ Memorial 0  
SMU: M. Brabant, D. Fournier

## UCCB 2 @ Moncton 0

UCCB: M. MacGillivray, S. Brushett  
Acadia 1 @ Dalhousie 3  
DAL: K. Steeves, J. Grandy, C. Chisholm

ACA: M. Budreski

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

St. Francis Xavier 0 @ UPEI 0  
Saint Mary's 1 @ Memorial 0  
SMU: C. Walton  
UNB 1 @ Dalhousie 4  
DAL: J. Dooley, P. Norman, E. Howell, L. Scarf

• UNB: Dalhousie own goal  
UCCB 2 @ Moncton 0  
UCCB: D. Spowart, H. Ross  
Acadia 1 @ Dalhousie 2  
ACA: Laurie Corbett  
DAL: Julie Pigozzo, Jessica Dooley

## FOOTBALL

Saint Mary's 25 @ Mount Allison 19  
Acadia 15 @ St. F.X. 0

## FIELD HOCKEY

UPEI 0 @ Saint Mary's 2  
SMU: T. Andrews, A. Jenkins

## MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

UNB 1 @ Dalhousie 3 (25-23, 22-25, 25-21, 25-20)  
DAL: Player of the Match - Josh Muise

## WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Memorial 3 @ UCCB 1 (25-17, 25-19, 24-26, 25-17)  
UNB 3 @ UPEI 2 (25-23, 26-24, 25-19, 25-20, 15-8)  
Moncton 1 @ Mount Allison 3 (25-23, 13-25, 23-25, 23-25)  
St. F.X. 3 @ Dalhousie 0 (25-12, 25-21, 25-17)

## WOMEN'S RUGBY

Atlantic University Sport  
Championship Game  
UPEI 0 @ St. F.X. 23

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

(Exhibition)  
Results from Eric Garland  
Invitational @ UNB  
UPEI 8+, Acadia 73  
Bishop's 92, UCCB 74  
Western 82, UNB 56  
Carleton 100, Memorial 69  
Results from St. F.X. Invitational  
Consolation Game: Dalhousie 65,  
Mount St. Vincent 48  
Championship Game: St. Francis  
Xavier 87, Saint Mary's 67

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

(Exhibition)  
Queen's 67 @ Saint Mary's 52

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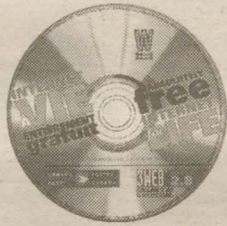
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▶ hard work and diligence

▶ hacking into the Dean's List to add your name

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