



The Dalhousie Gazette
North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper Since 1868



***Gazette Picks (on and off campus)**

Dal fights fire, pg 4 • Gradhouse grand opening, pg 21 • Campus guide to sports, pg 17



DALHOUSIE
STUDENT
UNION

DSU Weekly Dispatch

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

Society Fair

Wednesday September 15

Whatever your interests the DSU has a society for you!

We will be hosting our annual Society Fair in the McInnes Room of the SUB. The event will begin at 11:00am and will finish up at 3:00pm. This is your chance to come out and meet new people with similar interests and get involved!

For more information contact your Society Administrator, Holly MacDonald at Society. Coordinator@dal.ca.

Shinerama Golf Tournament

Wednesday, September 22

Be sure to register your team of 4 for the DSU's annual golf tournament. Registration forms can be found on our website at www.dsu.ca. This year's event will be held at the beautiful Glen Arbour Golf Course. The registration fee is \$150.00 per person, which includes lunch, dinner, a spectacular gift pack, and of course an 18 hole round of golf! The day will begin at 1:00pm with all proceeds going to support Shinerama.

Picture of the Week



Vice President (Academic and External) Rob Leforte selling pies. For the full story, check out our orientation video on www.dsu.ca

Check us out on the web
www.dsu.ca

September 10 - September 16, 2010 •

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The Dalhousie Gazette

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the fine print.

The Gazette is the official written record of Dalhousie University since 1868 and is open to participation from all students. It is published weekly during the academic year by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general. A "staff contributor" is a member of the paper defined as a person who has had three volunteer articles, or photographs of reasonable length, and/or substance published in three different issues within the current publishing year. Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, The Word at Dal, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in

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NUMBER ONE!

ROME IS FALLING CFOS 2010

news.

news
news covers Dalhousie and
the greater Halifax community.
Contributions are welcome!
E-mail Laura at
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Laura Conrad News Editor



U-Pass saved

Students to pay \$116.50
for year-long bus pass



The U-Pass is back returns to Dal for another year. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

Samantha Durnford
News Contributor

Dalhousie students will be receiving their U-Pass stickers this September for the same price as last year. On Aug. 17, Halifax Regional councillors decided against Metro Transit's price increase for the bus pass many students count on.

In May, Metro Transit received flak from students when they announced a 15 per cent price hike for the U-Pass – from \$116.50 to \$134. City council initially approved the increase. The decision almost meant the end of U-Pass stickers for university students.

Metro Transit announced the increase after Dal's Board of Governors met in April to approve student fees for the upcoming year. Since the board already approved the budget, it was too late for the university to accept the U-Pass increase.

A letter written to Mayor Peter Kelly from the student union presidents of Dal, Saint Mary's University, the University of King's College and Mount Saint Vincent University stated each university would be unable to make any changes for funding and distribution before September.

Dalhousie Student Union President Chris Saulnier said he and the DSU were strong lobbyists for the U-Pass – he and other members of the DSU contacted each of the councillors by phone.

"We have been advocating very strongly that the students continue to have a U-Pass," Saulnier said.

He was confident an agreement could be reached between City Council, Metro Transit and the universities. If not it would likely have meant the end of the U-Pass program for the 2010/2011 year.

Many students were seriously concerned by this possibility. One of them was second-year Dal student Kaitlin Pettipas, who relies on Metro Transit on a daily basis.

"I rely on that pass to get me to and from school," she said. "I wouldn't want to have to drive my car to school everyday – it's expensive and not environmentally friendly."

Without the U-Pass included in tuition, Pettipas and other students who rely on Metro Transit would have had to buy monthly bus passes for \$64 per month.

Sue Uteck, city councillor for District 13, suggested an amendment to the city budget. This suggestion was discussed at the city council meeting on Aug. 17, and council voted in favour of it. As a result, Metro Transit will hold off on the increase until the 2011/2012 school year. However, all universities with the U-Pass program will absorb a \$500,000 increase next April when the 15 per cent price rise occurs. Since the change will not happen for another year, university student unions can hold a referendum against the increase.

Dealing with those darn post-frosh week blues

Michelle Hampson
News Contributor

Time to put your nose to the grindstone, put your shoulder to the wheel and work your fingers to the bone. In other words, turn your brain on and get your pen out because in case you didn't know, school has started.

It's hard to get back into school mode. Especially after that incredible frosh week when new friends were made, drinks were had and parties were thrown. The party doesn't have to stop here though. It just has to slow down a bit.

An excellent way to get over the post-frosh week blues is to find a good balance between books and fun. You don't want to fall behind on your studies, but at the same time, you want to take advantage of the best time of the year to make new friends. Spend a bit of time on both.

A great way to meet people with similar interests is through societies. Dalhousie has no shortage of these. There are societies for horseback riding, tea, wine, figure skating, dancing, camping, sustainability, biochemistry, English, rowing and so on and so forth. Check out the Tiger Society website (dsu.ca/tiger_society) to find the perfect one.

Going to the gym on a regular basis is a good idea. It keeps the endorphins going and you can meet new people at the gym. Burn off that freshman fifteen before you gain it and you'll feel great.

Your gym membership was included in tuition fees, so there really aren't any excuses. A swimming pool, weight room, running track and group fitness classes are available at the Dalplex. At an extra cost, you can try the cardio room or rock climbing.

Staying mentally fit is important too.

That brain might be a bit rusty after four months of no textbooks – warm it up with a few crosswords or Sudoku. Ease into some intellectual conversations with friends before you wildly and passionately delve into an intense political battle in front of your political science class of 250 people.

If you need some help getting started academically, the Writing Centre is at your disposal. It's located on the ground floor of the Killam Library in room G40C and appointments are free, since it's a service included in your tuition fees. That's the place to go if you need help or advice with an essay.

The Writing Centre provides free seminars on writing. On Sept. 16 there's a seminar on research papers at 5 p.m. There is another seminar for science papers on Sept. 26 at 5 p.m.

Right after frosh week is also the

time to get organized. It's the time to buy binders, highlight due dates and plan out some form of order for all your future notes. Seriously, it's now or never. Handling the work load well during the post-frosh week blues will make the mid-term blues less brutal. The stress that school brings can make it harder to deal with personal problems. If you're feeling anxious, want someone to talk to or need help but don't know where to turn, you can visit the Dalhousie Counselling Services Centre on the fourth floor of the Student Union Building.

Homesickness might be kicking in at this point too. Long distance phone plans are truly beautiful and should be taken advantage of. Sometimes it can be hard to find a nicely priced plan, but there's always Skype, MSN and web conversations to keep in touch with those far away loved ones.

Res rooms can be cold if you're feeling homesick, so personalizing your room might make it feel more welcoming. Add some colour, cool gadgets or anything that reminds you of home.

Don't be too attached to your old home, though. Explore your new one. Halifax has some amazing local bands and comedians. A walk along the harbour and downtown will give you a taste of this unique city.

And last but not least, Advil and Pepto usually fall in the post-frosh week category. Meet your new best friends. Just try and make a few real friends, too, and you'll be set.

Find links to the resources mentioned in this article at our website, dalgazette.com

news.

As the biggest section of the paper, the news section can sometimes be misunderstood. Really, news is considered to be anything of interest to the audience - in this case, the entire Dalhousie student body.

However, this is not really what happens. If it were, we would have way more stories about keg parties and cheap drink nights. All joking aside, the news section is not meant to be made up of stories that are vaguely interesting. News is about more than just reporting on campus events - it's about making a contribution to the community, maintaining accountability and keeping the public informed.

Writing news is a different form of storytelling - there has to be a reason. These stories are important because they reflect our values, and keep the connection between the Dalhousie community and the Halifax community. By being a part of the news section, you will not only get to see your name in print, but have opportunities to interview interesting people, go to community events and be the first to provide information. If you want to take part in reflecting student values back to the community, gain journalism experience or just improve your writing skills, don't hesitate to be a part of the news section of the Gazette for 2010/2011.

And if not, there will always be more keg parties.

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Resources for low-income students

It's still cool to be poor, if you're an undergrad

Bethany Horne

Copy Editor

If you take living expenses and textbook prices into account, going to school at Dalhousie can cost more than \$15,000 a year. After four years of studies with that price tag, many of us will graduate poor, or in debt.

Last year, more than \$2 million in university bursaries was given out to students who proved financial need. If you are suffering from financial burdens, you are not alone.

Here we've compiled some serious money-saving strategies for low-income students.

Shelter

Co-ops

A co-operative is a housing model where tenants are members of a decision-making body and pay housing fees into the communal pot. The co-op does not profit off the fees of its members and uses the money toward improvements and repair as needed, and as directed by the membership. Because co-op housing is not a for-profit model, it is usually cheaper than paying rent.

Several established co-ops in the city have vacancies. Metro Student Living, an initiative to make co-ops open to students, forged a partnership with Pathways Housing a few years ago to help student get into their units, which are sometimes eligible for government subsidies.

For a full list of Pathways vacancies go to pathwayshousing.ca/vacancies.php, or contact them at 444-7277.

The other big co-op management company in the city is Concord: 468-4140.

Affordable rent from government

The Department of Community Services funds a "limited number of affordable rental housing units for low-income single parents attending university." On top of those requirements, the applicant must be a full-time student working toward a first degree, the lone custodial parent of the child or children, approved for a Nova Scotia student loan, and eligible for public housing.

If you can check off all those boxes, read more about it at gov.ns.ca/coms/housing/rental/LoneParentStudent.html, or contact the Metro Regional housing authority toll free at 1-800-565-8859.

Peter Green Hall Student Family Housing Co-op

Married students who decided to take affordable housing into their own hands built Peter Green Hall in the 1960s.

To be a member of this apartment complex co-op, applicants must be a married or cohabitating couple, a single parent or a couple with children, comprised of at least one full-time university student.

One-bedroom units cost \$697 a month and two-bedrooms go for \$870, utilities included.

Residents are also expected to contribute at least a couple of hours of volunteer work each month to the society.

For more information, go to: petergreenhall.dal.ca.

Herizons for single mothers

Nova Scotia has the highest proportion of single-parent families in Canada, according to the YWCA's brochure about their housing program for single moms in Halifax.

Herizons has space to house up to five women-led families.

"Recent statistics show that there were 228 single parents attending university who applied for student assistance in HRM, of which one can estimate that there are 189 are single mothers attending university in Halifax," their website says.

Education is one of the keys to reducing the risk of homelessness, but Halifax has some of the highest tuition rates in the country, and rent for a two-bedroom averages \$899 a month. Education is not always an option for those who most would benefit from it.

Women at Herizons have access to more than just an apartment: they have on-site after-hours childcare, emergency staff, access to referrals and advocacy services, and are surrounded by a supportive community.

Phone 423-6162 extension 222 or fill out the form at ywcahalifax.com/main.php?page=survey_herizons to apply.

Food

Dalhousie Student Union Food Bank

The Student Union runs a food bank out of the basement of the Student Union building. With only the flash of your Dal card, you can walk away with an armful of canned goods and other non-perishables, for free, right here on campus, to help during those tight grocery weeks.

The hours of operation will depend on the number of volunteers, but the VP-Internal can let you in, if you're in a pinch. For more info contact Kayla Kurin at 494-1276 or e-mail dsuupi@dal.ca.

Parker Street food bank

Clients of the Parker Street Food Bank begin lining up at the Maynard Street location half an hour before the doors open at 8:30 a.m.

Parker Street Food bank is different from most because it fills orders more frequently—every three weeks—and lets folks choose which foods they want to take home instead of giving you mystery grab bags. The food bank also stocks fresh fruit and vegetables and a variety of donated bread.

Bring some of your own bags as well as a Nova Scotia Health card or proof of residence to 2415 Maynard Street on Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings. For more information call 425-2125.

Free meals

There are several places in the city that serve free meals on different days of the week.

On Sunday, Saint Matthew's United Church serves breakfast between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. (1279 Barrington Street).

For lunch, try the free vegetarian meals shared by the activists of Food Not Bombs. At 1 p.m. the group meets on the front steps of the North Branch Library at 2285 Gottingen Street.

Get your Sunday supper in the gymnasium of St. Andrews United Church (6036 Coburg Road) between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

On Monday, bring your re-usable mug to the Student Union Building to get free coffee or tea at SustainDal's Muggy Mondays stand. They will be there every week of the school year to raise awareness about our habits of waste, and to fight back with piping hot caffeine rewards.

On Tuesday, with a re-useable container and your own cutlery in hand you can get vegetarian food by donation from the Tuppy Tuesdays table in the McCain lobby, another SustainDal initiative. Tuppy Tuesdays is a big hit, so get there early.

On Wednesday, the Food Not Bombs activists re-appear at the Spring Garden Road Memorial Library (5381 Spring Garden Road) at 5 p.m. to serve their vegetarian fare. This meal is targeted at university students.

Last year, the students of Campus Action on Food (CAF) did some free

servings in the SUB to show how hard it is to get affordable, healthy, vegetarian food on campus. If you're interested, you can find out more about them on their Facebook page, their Wiki, campusactiononfood.wikispaces.com/, or by e-mailing campusactiononfood@gmail.com.

Extras

Parker Street furniture bank

The people at Parker Street run a furniture bank along with the food bank. They accept donations and redistribute used furniture to families with proven needs, though sometimes a delivery fee applies. If you have a Nova Scotia health card, drop by during office hours to fill out an application for that bed, dresser, table or couch that you need. Even if they don't have an item you are looking for, they can add your name to a waiting list and let you know when new donations come in. Call 453-4886 to schedule a pick-up or drop-off.

Dalhousie Student Union online book exchange

This textbook exchange website allows students to sell their old course books for any price. Users of the site can search the directory by title, author, subject or ISBN, and can contact the seller directly by e-mail.

Although professors frequently update their requirements to the newest edition, this is not always the case, nor does it always mean the content of the old edition is not the same.

Do some research and search for books you need at www.tigerbooks.ca.

If you can't find what you're looking for, don't forget that many students also post their books for sale on the dal.ca message boards, and at halifax.kijiji.ca.

Dal Women's Centre child care

This little house on South Street is packed with support for low-income students, but the specifics of what goes on in the space change yearly. The centre tries to be completely responsive to the women that use it. This year, it kicks off the school year with a review process that you can read more about in The Dalhousie Gazette next week.

In the past, volunteers have organized childcare to help single-parent students. A clothing bank, toy bank and community kitchen also share the space. Film series, support groups and social events are always going on in the DWC's lounge.

Drop by 6286 South Street, or go to

www.dalwomenscentre.ca for more information.

City Mail

If you're in the North End, you can now send letters for free. A mysterious mail-aficionado (or team of them?) offers a service called City Mail: "an initiative dedicated to the delivery of inner-city postables, in Halifax."

All your package or envelope needs is an address: no postage required. Schedule a pick-up by e-mailing citymail.halifax@gmail.com, or by trusting your precious correspondence to the boxes at Gottingen Street and Cunard Street, Fuller Terrace and North Street, Windsor Street and Lawrence Street, or on Brunswick Street, near Steve-O-Reno's. The mailboxes will be emptied "on a minimum-weekly basis," and delivered to their destination.

Hard Cash

Dal bursaries

Although this cash source is not meant to fund your whole education, it does a nice job at filling in the gaps. Students who have financial need and applied for a student loan can apply for fall bursaries beginning in October. The amount you are awarded can depend on your estimated need, the funds the university has available, and the number of applicants, but it usually ranges between \$200 and \$600 a term.

Keep checking moneymatters.dal.ca/02_bursaries.html to find out when applications for the fall term will be available.

Dal Women's Centre bursaries

The centre offers the only financial support on campus specifically for students with children. Students can apply for bursaries throughout the school year and can find more information on the centre's website, listed above.

Temporary loans

Dal offers interest-free emergency loans of up to \$1,000 to help students pay for living expenses until other funding arrives.

These loans are available for 30 days, but could cover a period of up to 90 days. Applicants need to prove they can pay the money back.

Applications are processed every week, due on Wednesdays. To read the fine print or to print out an application form, go to moneymatters.dal.ca/04_templans.html ☎

Dal fights fire

Flames contained to LSC roof



Dalhousie's Life Sciences Centre, not shown aflame. ••• Photo by Paul Balite

Laura Conrad

News Editor

A fire struck Dalhousie just before midnight on July 24 setting off a chain reaction of damage.

The fire originated on the roof of the Life Sciences Centre and was luckily contained to the roof. However the heat from the fire set off the sprinkler system soaking all eight storeys.

Also as a result of the fire, a water line broke in the tunnel connecting to the Chase Building. Due to the broken water line, the Chase Building as well as the Macdonald and Chemistry Buildings were closed for several days. The basement of the Chase Building suffered water damage as a result.

Emergency responders were called to

the scene right away, and after a few days of investigation the fire was determined to have been an accident.

The day of the fire construction workers were installing a new access hatch on the roof of the Life Sciences Centre. They used a torch to soften the rubber membrane surrounding the access hatch and the remaining embers from the torch caused the fire to develop later that evening.

Most of the damage from the fire was limited to the roof of the Life Sciences Centre. At one point the flames overheated a fire extinguisher on the roof, which exploded.

"The explosion didn't contribute to the fire, it was caused by the fire," Dalhousie University Spokesperson Charles Crosby said.

He said the fire damaged some administrative offices on the eighth floor, including the biology department. The greenhouse on the eighth floor also experienced minimal damage.

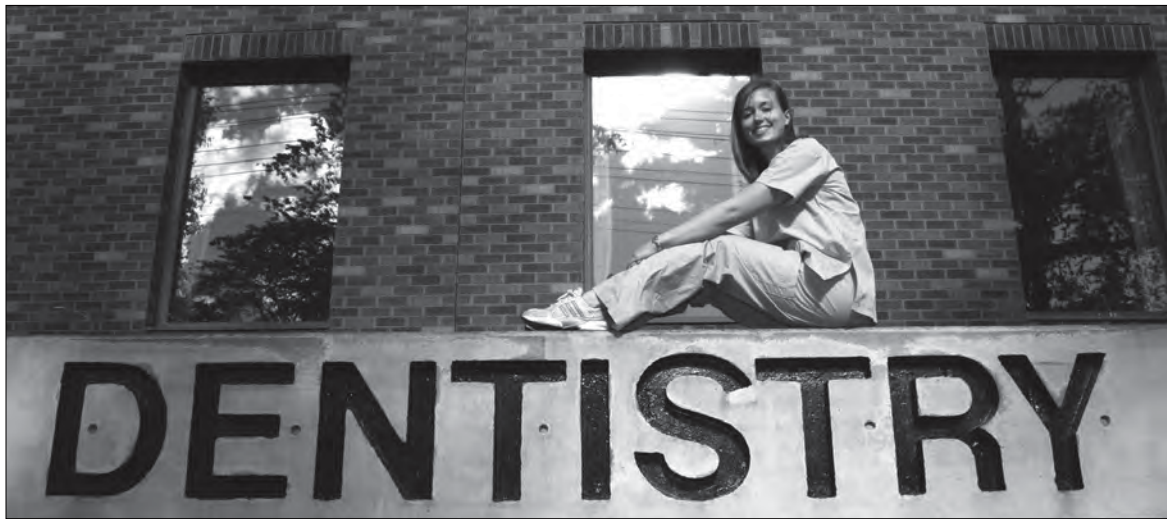
"There was no research lost," Crosby said. "We're very lucky in terms of the extent of actual fire damage, and that the spread was minimal."

Fortunately new students attending Dalhousie in the fall will not be facing limited building access because of the fire. Crosby said the fire damage should have no impact on students and all repairs should be completed by the end of the year.

"Emergency responders did their jobs," he said, "so we don't expect there will be any long-term impact for students." ☎

Dentistry's total tuition cost jumps

Cash influx will pay for equipment upgrades and services



Anne Loban, 1st-yr, will use new equipment as she earns her degree, thanks to a steep fee increase ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

Bethany Horne
Copy Editor

By increasing first-year auxiliary fees by 45 per cent, Dalhousie's school of dentistry has taken the drills in their own hands.

This year, first year dentistry students will pay \$15,506 in instrument fees, on top of their tuition: a \$4,806 increase when compared to last year. Their total first year will cost them \$30,453.

Dean Tom Moran says the increased fee will buy better equipment and services for the students in their programs.

"We wanted to address the fee so that it would address replacement of equipment and supplies, and provide services for the students ... We looked at how we would do an increase and how, in the long term, we wouldn't need to do it again."

The equipment the fees will buy include new drills, and digital radiography. The services the fees will pay for will include regular maintenance and sterilization of the tools students use. The new drills alone will cost a total of \$1.5 million, Moran says.

Even after the fee increase, when compared to other dentistry schools, Dal's total tuition is one of the lowest.

"You can't compare us to Quebec, because they're so heavily subsidized," says the dean.

But Dal's instrument fee is now among the highest.

Moran says this is because other schools hide those costs in other places

"It's not just the equipment, it's the services that go along with maintaining those that you don't see in the others

schools' instrument fees. Those fees might be somewhere else: in another fee, in tuition, or not really published until the student arrives. You're not going to pick it up on a website," he says.

"It's a little bit like comparing apples and oranges."

He says at other schools, students are responsible for buying their own drills, or for maintaining and sterilizing their own tools.

"We did it as a package, rather than piecemealing it out. The students

.....
"No one likes a fee increase ... but they could see what we were doing"
.....

certainly appreciate it. They don't have to worry about those parts of it; it's there for them."

Moran says that the fee increase was introduced to students at a packed meeting in May, during a lunch hour.

After presentations and a 40 minute Q&A session, Moran says the students appeared satisfied with the schools' plan to pro-rate the costs.

"No one likes a fee increase ... but they could see what we were doing."

First year students will see the steepest increase because they will reap the highest return on investment. Student in their last year face a fee increase of \$2,595, or 39 percent higher than last year's auxiliary fee prices.

After this meeting, the increase went to the Dalhousie Board of Governors, who approved it in July. As part of the Memorandum of Understanding with the province, tuition at Nova Scotia universities is frozen, but auxiliary fees are governed by the university.

Krista Higdon, spokesperson for the Department of Education, says that the university only has to advise the department about the increase, and that any "fees that are charged need to cover the cost of what they're for."

They have not received any complaints from students about the new costs.

Moran says he only received one email from a student about the increase.

"No, they didn't like the increase but they understood what we were doing, and supported our endeavours."

Sarah Orser, a second-year dentistry student, says that dentistry is an expensive program to begin with, and the fee increase won't affect her much.

"My parents help me out," she says.

She says that she is glad for the new equipment she will get to use as a result. Price of tuition and quality of equipment were not huge motivators in her decision to leave home in British Columbia and pursue her studies at Dal.

"I wanted to be by the ocean, but I did not want to go to UBC. I find them a bit stuck up, actually. They are extremely costly and don't have a great reputation."

She decided that the grade requirements, smaller class sizes, and the laptop program (Dal sets every student up with a MacBook Pro containing all the textbooks and software needed for the program) available at Dal fit her best. ☎



A comparison chart of tuition and instrument fees at the eight English-speaking dentistry school in Canada. For links to sources, see our website, dalgazette.com

School	Total 1st yr tuition	1st yr instrument fees**	Total instrument fees (4yrs)	Degree offered
UBC	\$52,783	\$28,508	>\$100,000***	Doctor of Medical Dentistry
Dalhousie U	\$30,453	\$15,506	\$47,175	Doctor of Dental Surgery
U of Manitoba	\$15,343	\$15,508	\$38,551	Doctor of Medical Dentistry
McGill U*	\$29,767	\$0	\$32,285	Doctor of Medical Dentistry
Western Ontario	\$36,994	\$10,825	\$28,020	Doctor of Dental Surgery
U of Sask	\$42,669	\$7,100	\$27,700	Doctor of Medical Dentistry
U of Alberta	\$39,035	\$18,000	\$27,084	Doctor of Dental Surgery
U of Toronto	\$34,033	\$6,687	\$26,748	Doctor of Dental Surgery

* Instrument fees are charged starting in second-year at Quebec universities

** At different schools, these were called clinical fees, kit costs, or auxiliary fees. We have not include any other fees, such as student union fees, in these figures

*** UBC's website was down at press time, but its total fees cost over four years is the highest in Canada

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news

Halifax hits puberty

New market, transit depots and bars signs of city change



What is different about this city? (Hint: Read the story for the answers.) ••• Photo by Aleasha Carr

Lisa Delaney
News Contributor

Around this time of year Halifax usually gets an upgrade, aesthetically speaking, and in the past year Halifax has received more than just a facelift. The expansion of Metro Transit's service in Dartmouth – changing atmosphere of the downtown scene – and the makeover of the Halifax Farmers' Market all signify the beginning of change.

The Halifax peninsula is the hub of the municipality, but the city centre might soon move over the bridge and across the harbour. Over the past year, downtown Dartmouth has experienced some modifications, the biggest being the planned expansion of the Metro Transit terminal next to the Dartmouth Sportsplex. The project will cost an estimated \$9.5 million, including 16 bus depots, and will likely begin construction in October 2010.

Dartmouth resident and fourth-year Dalhousie student Trevor Ritchie is excited about the change in design and the possibility for more bus routes.

"The one thing I would like to see in this terminal is space," he said. "The current terminal is too small for the amount of commuters who use it."

Those in favour of the expansion argue the revamped terminal will better serve the 17,000 daily users with wheelchair accessibility and enhanced

safety features.

The transit system is not the only part of the city receiving an overhaul. The Halifax Farmers' Market, previously located in the Brewery Market on Lower Water Street, has a new name and location on Marginal Road next to Pier 21. Now known as the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market, the Saturday morning market boasts local goods and produce, and makes buying fresh and local a possibility for Haligonians and students. With its refurbished, eco-friendly building, the new market is extending hours and offering free Saturday parking.

While the new market has already garnered praise for its expansive 4,500 square-foot shopping space, solar panels and rooftop garden, some vendors have been less optimistic about the changes. As of Seaport Market's opening day approximately 70 merchants had chosen to stay at the old location.

Despite this, many are still excited about the potential growth opportunities. Long-time market vendor Norbert Kungl has been selling his produce at the market for 19 years. "We've become a victim of our own success," he said.

Kungl believes the previous location is simply not large enough to handle the growth in consumer demand. He explained the new location also gives the merchants a sense of permanence: "We've got a secure future here."

The new market hopes to grow to accommodate patrons looking for daily

shopping opportunities.

The past year has brought a lot of growth and development to the city but new beginnings also bring endings. Returning Dalhousie students will be particularly saddened by the closure of some downtown favourites – including Pat's Grocery on Cornwallis Street, gelato bar Dio Mio, and popular club Bubble's Mansion – which all shut their doors for good.

But restaurant operator and club owner Brad Hartlin isn't focusing on the past. "Downtown has been changing a lot in the past few years," he said. "We're looking to draw people back." Hartlin has recently opened a new watering hole, Club Soda, in the former Bubble's Mansion location.

"We've created a fun, retro, and bright environment," he said.

Students will be pleased to know the club, which opened its doors for operation this summer, will host DJs from across Canada and feature a number of live acts.

The Atlantic Management Group – the organization responsible for the new club – is also looking to expand popular eatery Bubba Rays to include more space and improved restrooms.

It is clear from these many developments the city is in the midst of some major growth. As Halifax continues to grow to accommodate fresh goods, more transportation and a trendy downtown, the future of the HRM remains bright. ☺

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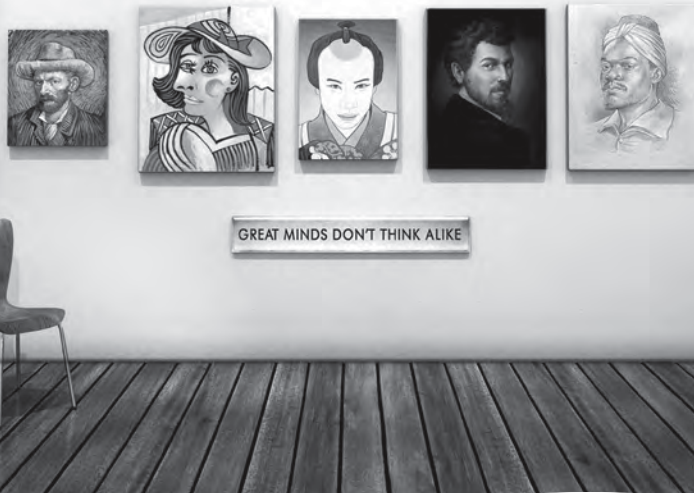


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Park51 debate

A disgusting display of xenophobia

David Bush
Opinions Contributor

This September 11 will mark the ninth anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Centre and The Pentagon. Unfortunately, instead of remembering the dead, and reflecting on the impact of 9/11, we in North America will be privy to a disgusting display of xenophobia that will pass for public discourse.

Located in lower Manhattan, two blocks away from the World Trade Centre site, Park51 is a planned Islamic community centre and mosque. Many people are opposed to its construction, referring to Park51 as a "Ground Zero Mosque".

The people proposing to build this Islamic community centre are not extremists, nor are they terrorists. Arguments opposing the building of Park51 include that Muslims should have collective guilt about 9/11, that Islam was responsible for 9/11, and that it is disrespectful for Muslims to pray near the World Trade Centre.

These arguments are Islamophobic and are being pushed into the national discourse by far-right groups and politicians from both parties. Those who oppose the construction of Park51 can offer only mangled facts and venomous hate speeches to explain their reasons.

The facts in this case are clear: The property at Park51 is privately owned and the owners are legally entitled to build a mosque there. Park51 is not on Ground Zero nor beside Ground Zero. Since 2009, the building has already been used as a prayer space for hundreds of Muslims.

There is already another mosque on Warren Street, just a stone's throw away from ground zero, closer than Park51 would be. That mosque, Masjid Manhattan, has been around since 1970 and draws roughly 1,000 people for its Friday prayers.

A strip club, called New York Dolls, exists just as close to Ground Zero as Park51. As Errol Louis of the New York Daily News recently pointed out, "the nightly boozing and lap dances do not

seem to have disturbed the sensibilities of those now earnestly defending the sacred ground near the World Trade Center site."

However, to examine this situation by virtue of logic and legalities misses the point completely. This should be understood as a debate about religious tolerance and freedom of expression. The Park51 debate, in various forms, is taking place across the Western world.

In July, France's lower house of Parliament voted in favour of banning all face-covering veils. In Switzerland, last November, voters approved a new constitutional amendment banning the building of new minarets in the country.

The overall theme in Europe and America is fear of foreigners, or xenophobia. Supporters of regulating dress and architecture or beefing up border patrols often couch their arguments in women's rights, protecting jobs, and the protection of secular values. These arguments don't hold water. Xenophobic laws aren't about justice for others or about protection

secularism. They are simply about the anxieties of "non-foreigners."

In America, the Obama administration is going to spend another \$600 million militarizing their border with Mexico, a country ravaged by the global war on drugs. According to No One Is Illegal - Halifax, under immigration minister Jason Kenney Canada accepted 56 per cent fewer asylum claims.

There has also been an upswing in raids targeting undocumented migrant workers. In Canada, refugees have been subject to egregious slander, called "queue-jumpers" and terrorists. This shameful treatment of refugees by the Canadian government and xenophobic sycophants in the media is best exemplified by the treatment of the boatload of Tamils who fled Sri Lanka and who arrived in Canada in August.

Rarely do we ask why people risk life and limb to come and work in the global North. It is worth noting that people who immigrate are coming here for rational and pragmatic reasons. The countries

they are fleeing or migrating from are often poor or have repressive political atmospheres.

The question we should ask ourselves is: Why? Why are there such repressive regimes and faltering economies in the global south? The answers are uncomfortable. The global economic system created through a process of western imperialism and neo-colonialism has impoverished the global south in order to benefit the rich in the global north.

When we deny the construction of mosques, the wearing of religious clothing, or debate stricter border security, we are not engaged in a reasoned discourse. All the facts won't change a xenophobe's mind.

However, if we are active in talking about issues of economic and social justice we may be able to get beyond racist hysteria and start to realize that by hiding behind xenophobic walls and words we are becoming a society defined by those very things. ☹

Sex Without Sue?

While the DSU scrambles to talk safes spaces with Sue, a grassroots group gears up for an alt sex talk



Last year, a group of Dalhousie Allies felt that Sue Johanson's sex talk was "hetero-normative and refused, essentially, to talk about gay sex in any form."

••• Photo by Paul Balite

Katie Toth
Sex Columnist

For about 10 years Sue Johanson has been coming to Dalhousie to talk sex. However, on Monday, Sept. 13 at 7 p.m., Dalhousie's tradition will experience a surprising twist.

Members of the Halifax and Dalhousie communities are collaborating on a queer-inclusive sex talk, which they hope will be an alternative to Johanson's annual sex education lecture.

Hayley Gray, who is a board member for the Dalhousie Women's Centre, sits on the Steering Committee of the Dalhousie Allies and was concerned about what she and her colleagues heard at last year's Sex With Sue talk. "We felt that the talk was hetero-normative and refused, essentially, to talk about gay sex in any form."

When asked to comment, Johanson is anything but evasive: "You are absolutely right, and this is not the first time I have heard that," she responds to the request to comment about perceived hetero-normativity in her Dal show.

"The only problem is that there is so much information that kids need to know about themselves as sexual human beings, and for me to devote any great amount of time on same-sex relationships would be not fair.

"There's so much information that young people really need to know about homosexuality, it's a whole 2 hour presentation on its own that I do for lesbian, gay, bi and trans kids."

Johanson says she's "well aware" that the use of heterosexual and gendered pronouns when talking about sex can be exclusive, but "it just makes

it so much easier."

"I would love to find a way to be more gender inclusive," she says; "For me it's important for young people to be comfortable with themselves as sexual human beings."

Michael Gillis, on behalf of the Dalhousie Allies and an amalgamation of concerned sexual health groups in Halifax, wrote Johanson a letter stating the group's concerns.

Dalhousie Student Union VP of

.....
"Having a talk that's open to all types of sex is really important."
.....

Student Life Hannah Dahn followed up on the letter, and encouraged Johanson not to use terms such as "fudge packing" or to evade discussion of same-sex relationships. Dahn says that she got a response from Johanson's agent.

Chris Saulnier, president of the DSU, also noted what he called the "proactive" steps to get in touch with Sue.

"We contacted her, we outlined the concerns that there were with the show last year, and asked her to take those into consideration."

When asked to comment on her response to that feedback, Johanson was surprised. "I did not get that letter. I don't know where they sent it," she responded. She did, however, encourage this journalist to "ask them

to give me a call" as soon as possible, saying that feedback from the Dalhousie community would be "wonderful."

Gray insists that a "supportive" environment is imperative for offering new students who want to talk about sex a space where they feel secure. "When we have all these first-years and other members of the community coming to Dalhousie and hoping to get a sex education that maybe their parents weren't up for, having a talk that's open to all types of sex is really important."

Johanson says that she would "prefer if the gay, lesbian, bi, trans [...community] would have their own information sessions. That way they can focus on homosexuality as such, and make it open for heterosexuals and bisexuals or just people who are curious".

Gray, however, does not want to describe her alternative talk as "homosexual" or "queer-focused".

"I'd call it inclusive," she says. Gray hopes the event will be "an event that will be incorporating all types of sexuality, all types of people for whom sexual interests may vary".

This year's alternative sex talk will be hosted by Shannon Pringle, the educational co-ordinator for Venus Envy. After the talk, there will be an open forum where Pringle will answer written or oral questions from the floor.

Pringle was unavailable for comment at time of press. ☹

Hayley Gray is Katie Toth's roommate. They directed the 2010 *Vagina Monologues* together.

Sex With Sue, Monday, September 6th: Dalhousie Student Union Building.
Sex Without Sue, Monday, September 13th: Location TBA.

opinions

'Peas'-ful Protest

What's growing on behind the SUB?

Emma Kiley
Rachel Deloughery
Sustainability Columnists

You're sitting in your mid-morning lecture when your stomach starts growling. If the first thought that pops into your head is "Some beet greens would totally hit the spot right now", the people at Campus Action on Food (CAF) are trying to make your lunch dreams come true. A working group of the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG), CAF is focused on changing the landscape of food on campus.

"A compromise was only reached when they announced that, with or without administrative approval, they would go ahead with a launch involving local media and politicians."

The container garden tucked behind the Student Union building on a rectangle of grassy ground is the pilot project for CAF's Edible Campus initiative. The containers, built largely from recycled and reclaimed materials, make it possible to grow food on

concrete, part of the group's intention for the project. "There are so many unused concrete spaces on campus," points out Kayleigh MacGregor-Bales, a member of CAF and participant in the Edible Campus project. "We thought it would be great to have things growing there instead."

The initiative has its roots in the Edible Schoolyard project developed in the mid-90's by chef Alice Waters at a middle school in Berkley, California. The idea behind the movement was growing organic produce as a way to introduce healthy food choices, educate students, and enhance communities. In 2007 an academic research group at McGill's School of Architecture teamed up with NGOs to launch an award-winning Edible Campus project in Montreal. The partnership has garnered extensive media coverage, and its success has inspired the creation of similar projects elsewhere in Canada, including the one here at Dalhousie.

As we sit on the grass with several members of CAF, they talk about some of the environmental, social, and aesthetic benefits of the project. They explain that container gardens are sinks for greenhouse gases; locally grown veggies also mean no packaging, and food travels fewer miles to reach your plate. The project's organizers are enthusiastic about getting the community involved. They view the garden as a tool for teaching others about self-sufficiency, as well as how food production ties into broader environmental and social systems.

When we paid a visit to the garden Sonia Grant, another CAF member and participant in the project, showed us the kale, beets, squash, tomatoes, chard, beans, and herbs that are currently thriving in the planters. However, it required more than a green thumb to get this project up and running. "It was five or six months from the time we first submitted our proposal to



Eat your campus. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

the Dal administration and Facilities Management before we finally got permission" says Grant, "There were a lot of obstacles put in our way."

The University's main concerns, as described by CAF, were about the location of the project, and its insurance coverage. They were told that the \$2 million liability insurance held by NSPIRG was insufficient. At least \$5 million in coverage would be required to protect against liability associated with eating any of the food that would be produced.

The original Edible Campus proposal put the containers in the wide paved expanse between the chemistry building and the Killam Library. However, CAF was told that location was "too visible" for the pilot project; the present site was given as an available alternative. According to Grant a compromise was only reached when they announced that, with or without administrative approval, they would go ahead with a launch

involving local media and politicians.


"They agreed to increase NSPIRG's coverage from \$2 million to \$5 million, if we agreed to use this location," Grant explains.

The project is one of CAF's initiatives in support of the food sovereignty they envision for Dal. They define food sovereignty as making sure that accessible, affordable, and diverse food choices are available to Dal's student body. They want to see a campus where students have opportunities to get involved in their food chain and where cost is not a limiting factor when making lunchtime choices. Aaron Beales, another CAF member, emphasizes that the idea of shifting away from the current model, where food options on campus are monopolized by large corporations, is central to their vision.

With the success of the pilot project, CAF sees the Edible Campus expanding to other sites. In the long term they

would love to see a student run food co-operative in the SUB, although they haven't yet broached the idea with the Dalhousie Student Union.

The members of CAF we spoke to are excited about how this school year is shaping up, in part because of the positive relationship they've cultivated with the newly elected DSU council members. At the time of our visit, they were getting their hands dirty planting seeds for a fall harvest, as most of their summer crops have come to fruition. Anyone who wants to try out their green thumb, or otherwise get involved with CAF and the Edible Campus is invited to drop by their space behind the SUB Mondays at 4pm starting September 13th. Or contact them by email: campusactiononfood@gmail.com.

Spend an hour or two playing in the dirt and you could leave with a week's supply of beets (or whatever happens to be in season)! 

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Letter from the President

Tom Traves shares his reflections about the upcoming year

Tom Traves

Dalhousie University President

I love the fall at Dalhousie. Thousands of students pour into the campus and new adventures in learning and living begin as Dal students “come home” to the most exciting university experience in Canada.

Each of you arrived this fall with your own unique dreams and ambitions. We are totally committed to your success at Dalhousie—and that means helping you turn those dreams and ambitions into reality.

Your university is a very special place. Dalhousie is Canada’s most national university, attracting more than half of our students from outside Nova Scotia. With students from every province and territory in Canada and 159 other countries, you’ll learn from each other as well as from your professors. That’s important – the different life experiences you each bring to your class discussions and personal conversations will be part of the richness you add to the Dal experience.

Dalhousie is proud to have the smallest student to professor ratio of any major university in Canada, at 15 students per faculty member. Most other universities are close to or over double that ratio!

Of course, many of you have larger classes than this, especially in your first and second years. But as you move through your studies, this richness of faculty resources gives you the advantage of smaller, personalized learning opportunities as well as a far

greater choice of courses and variety of professors. And don’t be surprised when your Dal professors know who you are! You’re a person here, not a number.

We survey students each year, and I’m especially proud that almost nine out of ten Dal students report easy access to their professors outside of classroom hours. These personal contacts make a huge difference to your academic and future career success, so don’t hesitate to take advantage of Dalhousie’s informality and openness.

Student success comes in many forms. First and foremost, of course, we want you to succeed academically. You’ll find a host of academic supports to help, from writing and study skills tutors, to student peer mentors and academic advisors through our Student Academic Success Services in the Killam Library. But, as well, it’s important that you develop your organizational and leadership skills, that you pay attention to physical fitness and healthy living, and that you start connecting your academic interests to possible career pursuits sooner rather than later. Again, you’ll find Dal has a host of services to help you pursue these goals for personal success.

If this all sounds a bit paternalistic, I want to emphasize that we do see you as an adult learner in charge of your own experience. Most students learn that what you get from your Dal experience is tied closely to what you put into your time here. You can review Dal’s huge variety of clubs and student societies at www.dsu.ca. They are all eager to welcome you as a new member, so go ahead and explore new interests or interests you already have. You’ll meet

like-minded new friends from all corners of campus.

There’s lots of new things happening this year that I’m really proud to share with you. Our campus gets better every year. We’ve just opened a new academic building on Coburg Road. Our current renovations in the Life Sciences Centre will finish next spring and, by then, we’ll also complete consultations with students on the design of a new Learning Commons in the outdoor space at the center of the LSC complex. It should rival the Killam.

The Grad House reopens for business this fall in a new space on LeMarchant Street (FYI, you don’t have to be a grad student to go there.) Sherriff Hall dining room is also completely refurbished (you don’t have to live in residence to join the “all you can eat” fans in the rez dining rooms).

And finally, to give a different twist to the notion of “building sites”, we launch a brand new Dal web site at the end of September. These improvements all focus on making Dal a better place for you to learn and live.

I’m always happy to talk about what makes Dal so special and about our plans for making it an even better university. So over the coming year, I’m going to write occasional letters to the Dalhousie Gazette to do this. If you want to share your thoughts with me on these or any other issues, please feel free to contact me at president@dal.ca. I promise that I will personally read your messages and follow up on the matters you raise.

Have a great year at Dalhousie!

NSPIRG makes getting involved easy

Sébastien Labelle

Opinions Contributor

Challenging the notion that university students are apathetic, or don’t care beyond the beer bottle, The Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG) empowers, educates, and inspires students to take action on issues that concern them on and off campus. Workshops, research funding, rallies, community support, alternative library, gardening – NSPIRG organizes many events to get involved and connected.

Students do indeed care. The desire to take on issues of justice and environmental stewardship has been steadily growing in recent years. Food production and service monopoly on campus are some issues that have prompted students to work towards together during recent years.

This year, NSPIRG’s Campus Action on Food (CAF) group is initiating the Edible Campus project, where students and community members are reconnecting with the source of their food by working in new contained gardens around campus. Beyond education, the food produced in these gardens is served free on campus.

NSPIRG’s SeeMore Green collective garden has also been growing strong, drawing students throughout the summer to free workshops on topics covering composting, herbalism, seed bombing and plant care.

Off campus, migrant issues are a growing concern in Halifax. Reacting to the current government’s increasingly hostile policies toward migrants in Canada (the number of approved asylum claims, for example, has dropped by an alarming 56 per cent since the current government took power), NSPIRG’s No One Is Illegal campaign provides resources for students to defend the rights of migrants and offer support to struggling local families who lack status.

In partnership with student groups at Dal, King’s and NSCAD, NSPIRG is starting this school year with a full calendar of events and workshops. An alternative orientation series called ALT 101 will complement existing frosh week activities, presenting a more inclusive gateway to the diversity of Halifax.

By collaborating with grassroots partners on and off Halifax’s campuses, ALT 101 organizers hope to establish bridges between multiple student bodies and the community in which

they are embedded – something they consider to be lacking in typical orientation programs. ALT 101 aims to empower students by giving them opportunities to meet new people, skill-build, and engage with the community.

Now in its fifth year, ALT 101 events include: Media skills workshops offered by CKDU and the Halifax Media Co-op, a Know Your Rights workshop offered by the Social Activist Law Student Association (SALSA), a tour of Halifax’s sustainable businesses with the King’s Alternative Food Cooperative Association (KAFA), a Harvest Party at the SeeMore Green collective garden, a panel discussion on tuition freeze offered by the Canadian Federation of Students, a welcome BBQ with DalOUT, a movie screening with Free Reels, a presentation of NSPIRG’s new Study In Action program, and a live concert with Toronto-based soul-tech band LAL. 🎧

For further details and a full calendar of events, visit nspirg.org.

Sébastien Labelle is an NSPIRG Board Member

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••Point•Counterpoint

This round is on us

Lance Chua
Keith Lehwald
Opinions Contributors

POINT (Keith):

Turning 19 is a cause for celebration in Canada – and often a cause for getting drunk. The legal drinking age is something that tends to be taken for granted in North America.

However, many European countries don't actually have laws regulating the consumption of alcohol by minors. With this in mind, I will be arguing that the legal drinking age be completely abolished in Canada, while maintaining a minimum purchasing age.

Firstly, this would work to eliminate some of the mystique of alcohol. Currently, drinking is seen as a privilege afforded only to adults. This increases its desirability among people who are underage and can actually have the effect of increasing underage drinking if the law is not very strongly enforced. In abolishing the law, alcohol loses most of its status as a symbol of "maturity", and with it much of its desirability to minors.

.....
"It's foolish to think that a legal drinking age is an arbitrary number selected by the government"

COUNTERPOINT (Lance):

Laws regulating the consumption of substances are not there simply for arbitrary reasons; there are sound principles behind these restrictions that stem from the mandate that a government receives from its people.

Government, regardless of whether you are on the political left, right, or a centrist, has the duty to protect its people's rights and to hold people who disrupt the exercise of other people's rights accountable for their actions. Society also recognizes that there are significant harms associated with the consumption, especially the excess consumption, of alcohol. These harms put not only the person drinking at risk but also places other people and their property at risk as well.

By employing a restriction on the consumption of alcohol access to

alcohol is restricted to a much smaller set of individuals thereby reducing the number of people exposed to the risks of alcohol.

Disregarding the minimum drinking age is similar to handing out car keys to any individual, regardless of age or ability. It doesn't make the lure of driving any less significant, furthermore it significantly increases the risks of being on the road for the driver and other motorists.

Keith: Furthermore, when underage drinking does occur, it mostly happens clandestinely, hidden from adults and others who would otherwise be supervising the behaviour. People often tend to binge and take part in activities like pre-drinking in an attempt to get the most out of the occasions when they are able to get away with drinking, creating bad habits even before one is legally able to drink.

Even where this does not occur, the drinking age can still have harmful effects. People who actually do fully or mostly abstain before their nineteenth birthday still have a tendency to abuse their newfound right when they legally can, something certainly not helped by friends taking advantage of the ability to buy them a drink for the first time.

Lance: Clandestine drinking events and the creation of bad habits are not going to end with the removal of the legal drinking age.

Because an adult can supply any minor with liquor without consequence supervision of drinking will not be done by adults with a vested interest in the safety of the youth that they are with, if they are with any adults to begin with. The habits that proponents of this motion so fear will not be stopped by removing the legal drinking age.

Most people who drink do so in the company of friends, most of whom would be considered their peers. Those habits therefore are built not in the company of parents but instead with people of the same age and similar mindsets. Among children and teenagers the mindset would generally be the same as it is now: doing what is cool and appealing, and doing it better than everyone else. These people will therefore still drink and will still abuse their ability to drink.

Keith: By removing the laws against it, underage drinking would lose much of its stigma. People would become more open to drinking publicly and in the presence of adults, and adults would become more open to seeing minors



Teddy gets shit-faced. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

drinking. Through early and supervised introduction to alcohol through older friends and family, responsible drinking habits could be formed that would serve people well once they became old enough to buy alcohol themselves. The "nineteenth birthday binge" would effectively be eliminated, since many people would have already started drinking openly by then, and those that had not would have made more of a conscious choice to refrain from it rather than having their hand forced by a law.

Lance: As I've already mentioned most of these habits aren't formed in the company of parents but instead in the company of their peers. Added to this however is the fact that young people below the age of 19 don't need to be exposed to alcohol to develop these "responsible drinking habits" that proponents claim can be developed. People don't need to have sex to recognize the benefits of practicing safe sex and other beneficial habits and the same logic applies to alcohol. Furthermore I don't think it's a good idea for the government to in any way reduce the stigma associated with a substance known to have significant risks to the population's health and well-being. Science has proven the dangers that alcohol poses to people, especially

young people. The stigma is necessary to reduce the number of people who engage in this action. And it falls to the parents or guardians of a child to develop the proper habits and attitude towards alcohol.

Keith: But perhaps most importantly, it encourages greater responsibility in teens and young adults. The legal drinking age is a largely arbitrary point in time in which the government decides a person is ready to make choices about alcohol. By abolishing this age, the government would recognize that people under the age of 19 are able to take responsibility for their own actions and make their own choices. Rather than drinking as a way to rebel against the system, young people would drink simply because they wanted to drink, an attitude less likely to lead to excess. By transferring the responsibility to control drinking from the government to the individual, the individual will also have a greater incentive to take that responsibility and develop good habits.

Lance: It's foolish to think that a legal drinking age is an arbitrary number selected by the government. Risky behaviour due to the consumption of alcohol happens whether or not you practice "good habits." People drink and drive, over-consume,

and accidents do happen. For our society to function smoothly, some people need to take responsibility for these actions. However, as a society we recognize that certain people can't be held responsible for their actions because we realize that they don't fully comprehend and are unable to make the necessary calculus about the consequences of their actions. It's for this reason that we don't allow seven year-olds into business contracts, 10 year-olds behind the wheel of a car, 12 year-olds to marry, or even 15 year-olds to vote. We recognize that certain abilities and privileges come with age. Consuming alcohol is one of those.

Keith Lehwald and Lance Chua are members of Sodales, the Dalhousie debate society. Debaters are at times forced to argue for things that they do not necessarily believe in. Therefore the opinions expressed in Point/Counterpoint are not necessarily held by the debaters, Sodales, or the Gazette.

If you are interested (or simply curious) about debating, want an avenue to express and share your opinions and beliefs check out Sodales. The first General Assembly will be on the September 15 in Rowe 1007. Subsequent meetings will happen every Wednesday at LSC 220. ☎

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Dalhousie's hidden sweatshop

Poor work conditions for part-time faculty mean lower quality of education for students

Kaley Kennedy
 Features Contributor

Laura Penny is an author of two full-length books. She has a PhD in Comparative Literature and has written for several magazines and newspapers, including the Globe and Mail. She is as funny as hell, her students rate her high on course evaluations, and she has plenty of teaching experience.

She also can't land a full-time university teaching position in Halifax.

Penny is one of tens of thousands of academics across the country working as contract faculty, also known as a sessional or adjunct professors or part-time instructors. Universities don't employ Penny and her cohorts full-time. Instead, they are contracted to teach individual courses that cannot be covered by existing tenured faculty. Unlike full-time professors, contract faculty members are not paid for doing research, or participating in the university community.

Increasingly, full-time, tenure-track positions are being replaced by contract faculty as a way to save money, says Jim Turk, executive director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers – the national union representing most of the faculty at Canadian universities. Contract faculty are paid less, often receive little to no benefits, and have little job security, making it a “sweet deal” for administrators, he says.

According to Statistics Canada, over 74,000 people, or about 56 per cent of working university professors worked part-time in 2005. Between 1999 and 2005 the percentage of university professors working on a non-permanent basis doubled to over 30 per cent. There is currently no usable data available on how much of actual teaching is done by part-time or non-permanent faculty. This also does not account for contract faculty who may be teaching full-time, but who are paid significantly less than their tenure-track colleagues.

According to Turk, until the early 1990s, Statistics Canada did a part-time faculty survey, similar to their full-time faculty survey, but universities said it was too difficult to collect the data, resulting in a vacuum of usable data on the extent to which the use of contract faculty is on the rise.

According to a study published by the American Federation of Teachers, in 2003 to 2004, only 41 per cent of undergraduate classes at American universities were taught by full-time, tenure-track faculty. The remainder were taught by graduate students working as instructors, part-time or adjunct faculty, and full-time contract faculty.

“Anecdotaly, Canada is going the same way [as the U.S.],” says Turk. “But the plural of anecdote isn't data.”

Sweatshop U

Last year, Penny taught a total of six courses at three separate universities—Mount Saint Vincent University, Saint Mary's University, and the University of King's College. All for an annual salary of \$24,000—just \$5,000 above the poverty line.

“The pay is appalling, which is why university administrators find contract faculty appealing,” says Turk. “They can get 15 courses taught by contract faculty for the price of five courses taught by full-time faculty.”

Full-time faculty members in Canada teach two to three courses per semester, depending on the terms of the university's collective agreement with the faculty association. At Dalhousie, an assistant professor is expected to teach two courses per term. The salary for an assistant professor at Dal in 2008/2009 was \$57,339. According to the collective agreement of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3912 (CUPE 3912) – who represents part-time faculty – a part-time contract faculty member who did the same amount of teaching in 2008/2009 would receive between \$17,050 and \$20,850, depending on how long they had been teaching.

This summer CUPE 3912 was finally able to negotiate a new contract, after a year without a contract. Wages were a key issues, since the university had initially offered no increases.

“When negotiations come up, both sides will have certain expectations. This time around, the universities said they were not in a place to give any pay increases,” said Christina Brehme, a vice-president of CUPE 3912.

The university cited the poor performance of the pension fund for the difficult financial situation, but Brehme notes part-time faculty don't draw from the fund.

While the details of the final agreement cannot be released because the agreement has not signed the agreement, Brehme says the agreement includes only “modest pay increases.”

Part-time workers, full-time work

While contract faculty members are viewed as part-time employees because they are only employed at an institution on a part-time basis, they often teach as much or more than their full-time colleagues. Contract faculty members are also more likely to commute between several campuses in order to get enough work.

Ideally, part-time faculty would only work at one school, but Brehme says that many of the part-time faculty members work at universities other than Dal in order to make a living.

The current situation for part-time professors, adds Penny, is a lose-lose

situation for professors and students because while part-time faculty often teach full-time, they don't have access to the same resources as full-time faculty, such as printing and office space.

Last year, for example, part-time faculty working at Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU) requested one computer for the 11 staff members who use the part-time faculty office. The university initially denied the request, which meant faculty had to continue to do printing and computer work in a separate office—the Faculty Resource Centre—used by a much larger group of staff. When MSVU finally agreed, it was discovered the university had simply moved a computer from the centre to the part-time faculty office.

At Dalhousie, office space and administrative resources vary from department to department, says Brehme, who has been working at Dal for six years.

Many part-time faculty members are assigned offices outside of the department they are teaching in, making it difficult to engage with colleagues, and making meeting with students and accessing available department resources more difficult.

“The vast majority of busy students don't know the difference in the resources available to their professors,” says Penny.

While many universities present teaching as their priority, she adds, they rely on part-time instructors who have little administrative support.

“What university is going to brag about how little they pay for teaching and how little they care about 1000-level courses?”

This fall, Penny will not be teaching any classes because instead of applying for any classes she could, she waited to apply for courses that were closest to her field of study. In the past, Penny has taught classes that fall outside her expertise because it was what was available.

Concerns about job security remain the main issue for part-time contract faculty, says Brehme. Though CUPE 3912 maintains a seniority list that means that the longer you teach, the better chance you have of getting work, it is still not a guarantee of work.

“Once you're on that list, especially if you are the top, you have a reasonable chance of getting a job if jobs are available. But you have to get there in the first place,” she says.

Two castes of faculty

Moving from working as a sessional instructor to a full-time, tenure-track position can also be difficult.

“Most contract staff are very serious, dedicated teachers who do the best they can with the limited resources they

have at a threat to their health, and to scholarship in their field,” says Turk. “Most contract faculty would like a full-time job, are qualified for a full-time job, but are denied full-time jobs.”

At Dal, contract faculty are guaranteed access to a library card, a mailbox, and have access to up to \$300 per academic year to help cover the costs of presenting at a conference or going to a professional development event, but get no paid sabbaticals, research facilities, remuneration for research work, or time to keep up with the developments in their field of work.

Full-time, tenure-track professors are expected to fill three components of their job: teaching, research, and service. Since contract faculty members are only paid for teaching, they have to complete research and service in the community on their own time and money.

After three or four years of teaching—even if a full-time, permanent position does open up—contract faculty who have been struggling to make a living still have to have published work to show in order to be competitive in the job market, says Turk.

According to Brehme, Dalhousie is not interested in supporting part-time faculty who publish. In the most recent round of contract negotiations between Dalhousie and CUPE 3912, the university said that it was not viable for part-time faculty to claim they are affiliated with Dalhousie when seeking publication.

“As far as Dalhousie is concerned, part-timers are teachers, and they are not interested in helping them facilitate their careers,” says Brehme.

Both Turk and Penny note that the implications of these working conditions are a reduction in the quality of education students receive. When professors don't have office space or don't get paid for the time they meet with students, and have to balance a large amount of students at several institutions, and teach outside their expertise, their ability to do their job is compromised.

Solutions

The Canadian Association of University Teachers, which has an on-going campaign for fair working conditions for contract faculty, proposes that universities move to a “pro-rata” model. Under this type of model, contract faculty who are hired part-time would be treated equivalently to their tenured, full-time colleagues. If a contract faculty member was hired to teach 50 per cent of a regular course load, they would also be expected, and paid to do equivalent work in the areas of research and service. Their pay would also be pro-rated based on the percentage of a full-time load they were contracted for.

This model, says Turk, would not only improve conditions for workers but also

take away the financial incentive for universities to exploit contract workers.

“There has to be a mechanism so that you don't ghettoize contract faculty,” he says.

Laura Penny and Jim Turk will be panelists, along with Gazette Copy Editor Bethany Home, at a public discussion about the purpose of post-secondary education. ☎

The panel, facilitated by the CBC's Michael Enright, will happen Sept. 14 at 7:30 in the Ondaatje Auditorium, at Dal.

Their participation together on this panel is purely coincidental: Home received the invitation weeks after this feature had been assigned.

features.

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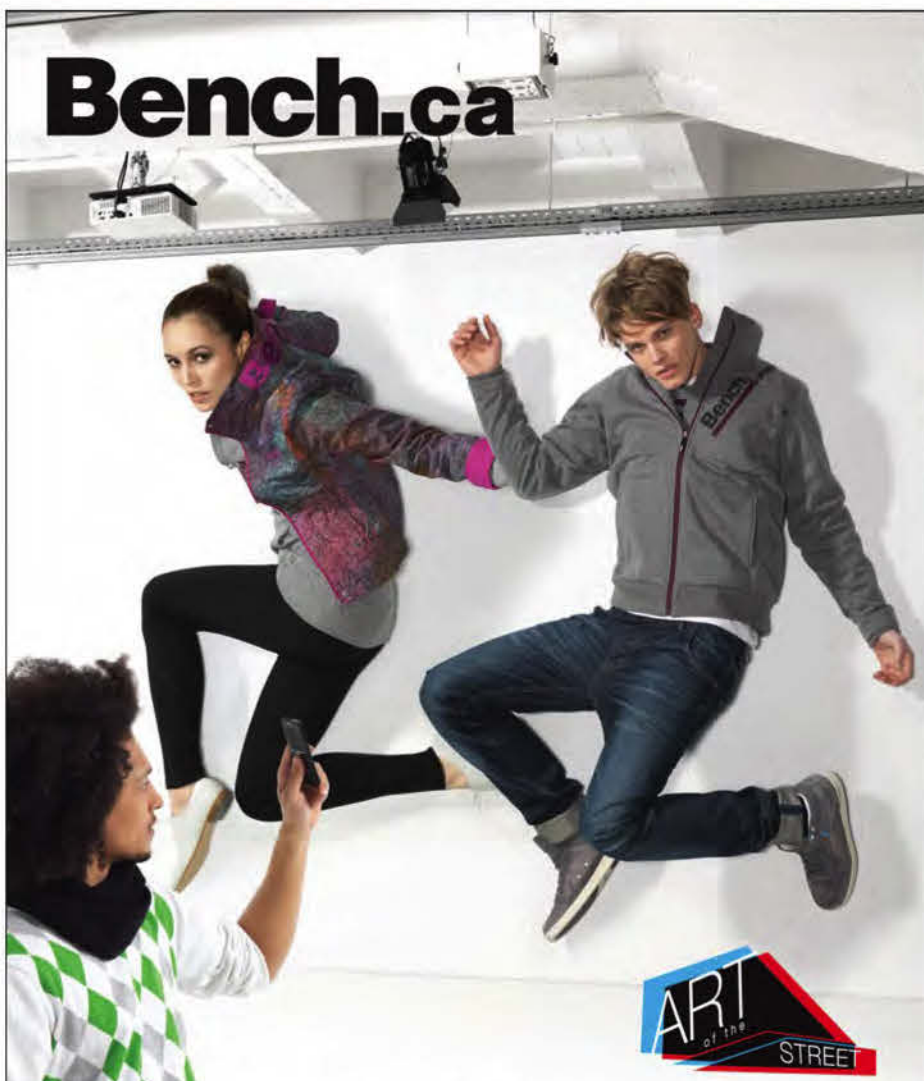


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meet your gazette



Joel Tichinoff
editor-in-chief.

"Two pirates were walking down a beach looking for treasure. When they met they stabbed each other with their swords. Later when some children found them. The first pirate was dead. All the other one could say was 'brandy...'" Dictated to loving parents, Joel's first foray into the world of the written word at age 5 was the beginning of a life-long love. Born and raised in Timmins, Ontario Joel attended Lakefield College School before enrolling in the Classics programme at the University of King's College. Armed with the Classics and a smattering of electives ranging from Psychology to Russian to Environmental Science and African History, Joel began at the Gazette as a casual sportswriter. Quickly seduced by the charms of journalism, Joel worked as the Gazette's Sports Editor prior to becoming Editor-in-Chief last March. Joel has been published by the Queen's Journal and the McGill Daily among other student papers as well as by Rugby Canada, Football Canada, Canadian Yachting, and the Globe and Mail. Following his term as Editor-in-Chief Joel plans to pursue a degree in Aboriginal Law. Apart from his duties as EIC Joel enjoys surfing and hockey and is co-chair of the Dalhousie Leadership Program and a founding member of the Dalhousian Society.



Laura Conrad
news editor.

Laura Conrad is a fourth-year King's student who has been passionate about journalism since she learned what the word meant. Since then, she has been dedicated to learning how to become a good story teller. Along with journalism, Laura is doing combined honours in international development studies and enjoys being involved in community initiatives and local projects. Laura has worked in community development at the Halifax resource centre Veith House and the new Out of the Cold Shelter. She has also been involved with organizations such as Oxfam and War Child Canada. Laura has been writing for the news section of the Gazette for two years, and has also had work published in media outlets such as the Burnside news, the Nova Scotia Business Journal and Business Voice magazine. After graduation, Laura hopes to take a year off to travel, before continuing her journalism studies by completing a Masters in International Journalism from City University in London. In her spare time, Laura can be found hanging out in the King's journalism department or the Gazette office, and consuming large amounts of caffeine. Feel free to email the news editor with questions or comments, or drop by the Gazette office to share an idea, an opinion or a coffee.



Dylan Matthias
sports editor.

Dylan Matthias is a combined Journalism and English student, who attends both Kings' and Dal, and has been writing about both for the Gazette since 2008. He was first assigned to cover lacrosse but quickly moved into soccer journalism and has spent so much time at Wickwire field over the past two and a half years that he now has a de facto reserved spot on the terrace. He can either be found surveying the afternoon's soccer or in the Gazette office's old green couch. He is the tall guy with the beard.

He also covers hockey, lacrosse, and occasionally basketball, as well as more general sports events. He has a keen interest in online journalism and runs an AUS and ACAA soccer blog called Dal Soccer Live. He also appears occasionally on CKDU Sports with Bill McLean, AUS soccer webcasts, and Haligoniac.ca. His pet project this year is to start a Gazette Sports podcast dedicated to CIS and Halifax sports.

Dylan has a passion for all writing and writes both creatively and journalistically. In 2010, he hopes to finish revising a novel and help produce a large community play. He brings a journalism student's rigour to his editing while also trying to nurture a unique narrative and style within the sports section.



Hilary Beaumont
features editor.

This year Hilary Beaumont shamelessly enters her fifth year in King's Journalism with more journalism credits and electives than she can count. In May she hopes to graduate with a combined honours in Philosophy and Journalism. When she's not taking ethics courses or writing the Gazette Ethics Code, Hilary contributes photos and stories to The Coast, Halifax's alternative weekly. She's had her grassroots journalism features published on Rabble.ca and the Halifax Media Co-op, and this month will have a cover story in the Dominion all about the judicial side of rape—a subject about which she has written nearly 8,000 words. Hilary pumps out lengthy articles that question our understanding of racism, sexism, mental health and other social justice topics — and she takes on the Halifax arts scene for dessert.

As Features Editor this year, Hilary hopes to have a flexible schedule to make room for controversial articles that will probably get her (and you, if you write them) in delicious trouble. If you have the underground scuttlebutt on Dal's injustices, or those in the wider community, send her an e-mail: editorhilary@gmail.com.



Bethany Horne
copy/online editor.

Bethany started making stories when she could count her age on the fingers of one chubby little hand. The stories were mostly about rabbits. Or lions. Eventually, her handmade, stapled, comic books evolved to be about a family of magical weirdos, reminiscent of the Adams Family but with more extreme personality disorders.

When her drawing skills didn't mature quite as quickly as her language skills, she switched to telling stories with words instead of pictures. And when her imagination stalled somewhere during the teenage years - in the void left by imagination she developed a different and lesser character trait: a social conscience - she became interested in telling true stories rather than fabricated ones.

Eventually finding her way to journalism, and not long after, to the Gazette, Bethany has been writing and working in media ever since. Even though she secretly believes what we call "journalism" is on its way out, and that new storytelling will emerge in a form almost unrecognizable to anyone too entrenched in the old mediums, she still writes because it's the only thing she's any good at at the moment.

She has been writing for the Gazette for going on four years now (fuck!). During the summer, she covered the G20 protests in Toronto from a community news perspective for OpenFile.ca. She has a shelf of old journals filled with tales about growing up in Ecuador, driving across North America on vegetable oil, and surviving minor mental illness.

This year, she's heading into her fourth year of journalism school at King's. She's also the Copy Editor and Online Editor for the Gazette, two jobs completely devoid of an obligation to write anything for the pages of the paper, at all. But she probably won't be able to help herself. The stories are no longer about rabbits, but they still come out just as unbidden from her dreaming mind.



Rebecca Spence
arts & culture editor.

Rebecca, 21, is a fourth-year student at the University of King's College. She is finishing up a combined-honours degree in journalism and history. A Toronto native, she finds Halifax to be a refreshing change from the Big Smoke. She has loved the past three years she has spent in Halifax, and loves the fact that the city has its own, distinct culture that university students can take a part in. Some of her favourite cultural aspects of Halifax include The Mellotones' performances at the Seahorse Tavern on Thursday nights, the Dawgfather's juicy signature Phat Boyz, and the small, intimate stage at the Bus Stop Theatre. She especially can't wait for the Atlantic Film Festival and Halifax Pop Explosion to roll around this fall. There are always a ton of events in the city to cover, so she hopes that any King's or Dalhousie student with a passion for the arts and for writing will consider contributing to the Gazette's Arts & Culture section this year.



Erica Eades
arts & culture editor.

At only five-foot-three, Erica Eades is a pretty tiny lady. But what she lacks in height she makes up for in an abundance of creative ideas and a refined writing style that helps express her ideas onto paper. Growing up in the small town of Almonte, Ontario, Erica was brought up in a creative household where she trained in classical piano. A band geek to the core, she also played clarinet and alto sax in her school's concert band. That interest in art continues to this day as Erica pushes herself to discover new creative outlets. She recently decided to pick up painting and to begin learning the bass.

She is in a two piece Abba cover band with her boyfriend and makes a mean vegetarian lasagna.



Jonathan Rotsztain
art director.

Jonathan Rotsztain is a graduate of the University of King's College and Dalhousie University. After receiving his expensive Bachelor of Arts, Jonathan went to an inexpensive community college and now works as a graphic designer for a variety of clients in town. Jonathan is pleased as punch to return to Dal in the role of Gazette Art Director. What do you think of the redesign? Any questions, comments, suggestions? Drop Jonathan a line at design@dalgazette.com



Abram Gutscher
photo editor.

Abram Gutscher is a second year graduate student pursuing a degree in Master of Health Administration. Originally from Alberta, Abram is thoroughly enjoying his stay in the East Coast having spent the summer working for the Cape Breton District Health Authority. Serving as Photo Editor, Abram hopes to recruit, inspire, and attract aspiring photographers and enthusiasts.



STREETER

Question:

Frosh: What are you most excited about for this year?



.....
"The independence, and the girls"

Ali,
1st year



.....
"The gallon challenge. Four Litres of Milk!"

Dan,
1st year UTR
Spanish/Latin American Studies



.....
"Partying, and hopefully not getting kicked out of res"

Roy,
Commerce



.....
"Excited to experience the East Coast"

Emma and Daina,
1st year Science and Kinesiology



.....
"The Weather, I love hurricanes. I'm tired of the Heat and dryness of Alberta"

Curt from Medicine Hat Ab Alberta,
1st year Science



.....
"Being in a city and around new people. We're also excited for our first winter"

Emma and Bryiana from the Bahamas,
1st year Arts and Biochem



.....
"Starting University classes. I really don't know what to expect"

Natasia,
1st year Kinesiology



.....
"What? I'm just excited for gettin'r done on and off the field."

Rick Astley,
Supposed 1st year Alcoholology student

shinerama 2010.





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sports.

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sports covers athletic events
and topics relevant to
Dalhousie. E-mail Joel at
sports@dalgazette.com
to contribute.



Joel Tichinoff Sports Editor

Campus Guide to Sports

Dylan Matthias
Sports Editor

Let's get the misconceptions out of the way quickly: this is the sports section of a campus paper for a school that is not a sports school. Dalhousie does not have a varsity football team. We don't have the superstar athletes. If you came to Dalhousie, it's unlikely sports entertainment made your decision for you. So lower your expectations.

But you're a new student in Halifax, and there's this large plastic green thing in the middle of your campus. You may as well make the most of it. And while we may not have the headliner sports, there is some above average, even excellent, sport at Dal—all year. That's why Gazette Sports exists. We guide you through it.

AUICIS

If you want to follow university sport at all, you'll need to learn your way around the acronyms. AUS is the league in which Dalhousie (and Saint Mary's, our biggest cross-town rivals) play. It stands for Atlantic University Sport and encompasses schools in Newfoundland, New Brunswick, PEI, and Nova Scotia. Its website (atlanticuniversitysport.com) has schedules and scores, but we at the Gazette also bring those to you without all the clicking.

CIS

CIS is Canadian Inter-University Sport, a national federation that oversees AUS, QSSF (Quebec), OUA (Ontario) and Canada West. Whenever one of our sportswriters uses the term CIS they either mean other schools across Canada or they are referring to CIS national tournaments – the big trophy tournament at the end of every season.

ACAA and CCAA

You'll also run across ACAA and CCAA, which are the equivalent of AUS and CIS but for smaller schools, like King's. The competition is just as fierce and the quality just as high in most games. The Gazette covers King's sports as much as we can.

Where are the Tigers?

The Dalhousie Tigers – our varsity teams – are based in the Dalplex, along with all the fitness facilities. The Dalplex is a good spot to wander into for information, although you'll soon discover it's a bit of a labyrinth.

The basketball and volleyball teams both play in the field house, which can be accessed up the ramp just through the front doors. The roof is suspended by air pressure, so be prepared for ear popping.

Most exams are also written in the field house, so it's not a bad idea to pop your head in at some point and get used to the pressure.

Atlantic Canada leads the way

Eastern Canada likes to act all neglected sometimes, but when it comes to CIS hockey, AUS is the powerhouse conference.

The benefit for Dal students is that the best university hockey teams in the country play in the uncomfortable, badly-lit Memorial Arena. University of New Brunswick have some of the best non-NHL hockey players in the country. Saint Mary's aren't far behind, and the Tigers-Huskies rivalry always draws out the fans.

Usually, Dal get thumped in these games – for the past eight years we've held one of the worst records of any hockey team, anywhere. But once in awhile – and increasingly since all-star coach Pete Belliveau joined Dalhousie – we make a game of it with the big boys. CIS rosters are made up of CHL talent that didn't make the NHL. The players are fast, strong, and play with intensity that often exceeds the Mooseheads. Not many people realize this, but those who go to an AUS game or two tend to be hooked for good – it's fun stuff to watch.

The New Kids on The Block

Football is back. Expect to see a few headlines to that effect in the coming weeks.

This is a big thing for Dal. We used to have a football team in the '70s. Then the school cancelled it.

It's back, although largely outside of the Athletics Department. It will exist as a sport club funded by alumni, meaning anyone can try out for it. The team will play in the Atlantic Football League with teams from UNB, UNB Saint John, Moncton, and Holland College.

A basketball city?

Halifax is something of a basketball city. The new PBL team, the Halifax Rainmen, are very successful and Halifax routinely hosts and bids for AUS and CIS basketball championships.

Both the men's and women's teams went through some rebuilding last year, but both are usually competitive. Games are usually fairly well-attended and close-fought. CIS basketball has an authentic feel to it, a fresh and natural excitement without the drama of the NBA.

We're good at this one!

If you're beginning to wonder if any Tiger teams ever win, look to the men's and women's soccer teams.

Dal's best team sport is the beautiful game, and one of the fastest-growing sports in the country. CIS soccer isn't the English Premiership – it's not even

the NCAA (though it sticks to FIFA rules without all the silly changes, thank goodness) but it's decent quality for its amateur level. The women's game, especially, can get quite skilful.

Both Dal's teams are among the best in AUS, and games against Cape Breton (both men and women) are well worth coming out to.

Last year, a fan group developed to cheer on the Tigers through the season and Wickwire Field became a fun place to be.

The pool and the park

Dal has varsity swimming and track and field events. We're especially strong in cross-country running.

Meets are few and far between, but there's usually one or two significant AUS meets at Dal once a year. They're worth going out to for a little change from the typical. Cross-country events are held in the beautiful Point Pleasant Park, which is worth going to any time.

Did we mention it's free?

Dal students don't have to pay to get into sporting events. Just flash your DalCard and you're in. Basketball, soccer, and volleyball play double-headers: women followed by men. You can fill a rainy Saturday afternoon with sports for nothing.

Beer – that all important substance for college students – is available at most Tigers games – even Wickwire Field has a beer tent. Snacks and non-alcoholic drinks are also available, and prices are reasonable.

Dal lacks the fan culture of a Laval, or Saint Mary's, or much of anywhere else, for that matter. We're not a particularly wild bunch. You'll meet people at Tigers games. The people range from sport-specific experts, to parents, to other students. If you follow a team regularly, you'll get to know the crowd.

That last all-important plea

If you're a sports fan, you'll read the Gazette. We provide some of the only consistent AUS coverage in town. And we're always looking for writers. Most of our contributors are just fans who want to share their love and knowledge of a sport with their fellow students.

We have a podcast, and we have blogs where we all discuss CIS sport. There's lots of room to get obsessed with this and lots of people who will welcome you to the club if that happens.

University sport is curiously addictive and surprisingly entertaining. The athletes may not be professional, but they're still worth spending an hour or two watching, and they're also your fellow students.

The Dalhousie Tigers soccer team kicks off against Acadia at 1:30 p.m. on Sept. 11 at Wickwire Field. ☎

MEET THE TIGERS!



KERRY WEYMANN, SOCCER, Centre Back, 3rd year
Hometown: Mission, BC
Program: Environmental Engineering
Favourite place on campus: Fourth floor movie room
Favourite pro athlete: Zinedine Zidane
Actor who would play you in a movie: Samuel L. Jackson
Pre-game superstitions: Must have a shot of pickle juice
On roadies: Enjoy listening to our captain Ross Hagen serenade everyone on the ride home! A true captain!

JEANETTE HUCK, SOCCER, Striker/Right Back, 5th year
Hometown: Hatchet Lake, NS
Program: Commerce, Major in Finance
Favourite place on campus: Killam stacks
Favourite pro athlete: Lebron James
Actor who would play you in a movie: A.J. Cook
Pre-game superstitions: I eat bananas before every game
On roadies: I like spending lots of time with the team but don't like not getting school work done or the songs the men's soccer team sing.

THE TIGERS ARE BACK IN ACTION!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
SOCCER HOME OPENERS vs. Acadia @ 1/3:15pm
Get AMPED with the Tigers - student VIP contest starts!
Meet the Tigers Varsity Night @ the Grawood, 9pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
SOCCER vs. UdeM @ 1/3:15pm
Tigers Target Shootout contest at half-time!

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This is the year

Will men's hockey make the playoffs

Dylan Matthias
Sports Editor

Is this the year?

Forgive the cliché, but we don't quite mean it the way you think we do. Dal aren't going to win AUS or CIS hockey honours this year.

The question is will this be the year Dal men's hockey finally make the playoffs? It's been a long time coming, and that time has included many years of being nearly the worst university hockey team in Canada, and, in 2007-2008, statistically the worst in North America. But that has changed, and there's reason to hope this season might be the year.

Last year, men's hockey missed the postseason by one agonizing point, albeit one point they could have snatched in the final few games but failed to do so.


The Tigers were a far better team after January last year, especially when Buffalo

Sabres' draft-pick Ben Breault arrived from the QMJHL and started scoring immediately. They have consistent and deep goaltending with Bobby Nadeau and Josh Disher. This is a team that has enough pieces to get to the playoffs, now they need to have a consistent season. To help them do just that coach Belliveau made impressive additions to his squad over the summer including right-wing Pat Daley who lead the OHL's Peterborough Petes last season with 28 goals and 73 points. Belliveau recruited additional fire-power in Pierre-Alexandre Vandall who lead the QMJHL's Shawinigan Cataractes in scoring last year with 31 goals and 75 points.

The women's hockey team have one of the better university players in the conference in Jocelyn LeBlanc, but when she got hurt last year, the team struggled. Secondary scorers Rebecca Sweet and Fielding Montgomery need

to be more consistent, and the rest of the group needs to be more healthy – the Tigers rarely iced a full roster down the stretch last year.

Rookie goalie Ashley Boutilier showed potential last year but didn't quite grow into the starting spot she was offered. 8 of the Tigers 11 wins last year came at home which suggests that the team could be headed for a promising year if they can figure how to win on the road. The key will lie in the team's ability to supplement LeBlanc, who accounted for 1 of every 4 Dalhousie goals last season; until the Tigers find a new way to put the puck in the net, so goes LeBlanc, so go the Tigers.

Dalhousie head coach Lesley Jordan was knocked out of the playoffs by her sister Liza, head coach of Saint Mary's women's hockey team. The two meet again on day two of the season, Oct. 17. 

It shouldn't happen again Dominant Dal soccer fizzled in 2009 playoffs

Dylan Matthias
Sports Editor

The Dalhousie Tigers soccer teams should collectively promise their fans that it won't happen again. They have probably already promised themselves that.

On a freezing cold November weekend in 2009, both the women's and men's Dalhousie soccer teams – dominant forces in AUS – fell at the first playoff hurdle to vastly weaker teams. A year that could have seen Dalhousie compete properly at nationals ended early, and AUS soccer fans got to watch UPEI and St. FX get bounced quickly at Nationals in Toronto and Burnaby.

The men will be strong, and would have been even if head coach Pat Nearing had not addressed the weakness in full back by adding numerous multi-role defenders, including Zach Bauld and Kieran Hooley. Nearing has also recruited a new striker

in Tyler Lewars to replace the departed Michel Daoust who lead the Tigers last season with six goals. Ben Ur is one of the best university goalkeepers in the country, and Dal have box-to-box man Ross Hagen in the midfield. Adding Lewars and some wide defense should make the team very hard to beat.

The women were defensive specialists last year, a fact emphasized by a roster that included four goalkeepers. This is the last year for the Tigers' core, which includes Jeanette Huck, Katie Richard, and Kate MacDonald, so the team shouldn't lack motivation.


The Tigers did lose midfielders Teresa Morrison, Laura Johnstone, and Ashley Donald, but they still possess a deep midfield, including Reika Santilli, Anna McKilligan, and Beth O'Reilly.

The rookie trio of Emma Landry, Joanna Blodgett, and O'Reilly managed one competitive goal between them in 2009. They need to score more or risk losing playing time to new recruits

Bianca Jakisa and Daphne Wallace up front.

The Tigers best area is their defense, which is loaded with talent. Their starting back four would usually be Huck, Amanda Henry, Colleen MacDonald, and Alannah McLean, a group that could take on any AUS attack. Head coach Jack Hutchison has also added Andie Vanderlaan, a potentially stand-out rookie to the group. Stephanie Crewe should also help cover for the oft-injured McLean, as well.

The Tigers are a balanced group and, barring another playoff defeat in a Newfoundland snowstorm, should challenge at CIS nationals.

But we said that last year, too. The Dalhousie Tigers women's team opens the 2010 season ranked 5th nationally and 1st in the AUS, the men's team opens at 8th in Canada and 2nd in the AUS behind Cape Breton University. 

sports.

Sports is different. It's a beast of its own. It gets weird looks from all the other journalists, and there is a certain paranoia that the Peter Mansbridge's and Lloyd Robertson's of the world are secretly laughing at us.

But once we sportswriters get past that complex, we can do better work than anyone. We're presented with a social-cultural event that is mostly meaningless to the grand schemes of nationhood and power, but which people care about on a day-to-day level. And because of that, sports can carry great political, social, and cultural weight.

It's not that we get to be irresponsible, it's that we get to have a little fun. Sports are fun and powerful. There's room to maneuver in sports journalism. If cut and dry 600-word match reports are your thing, there's space for that. Or you can explore the depths of sport in society.

Or you can write satirically. And, for the most part, it's all understood by sports fans—it's all commonplace.

We bridge media, too. Sports broadcasting is an adventure. Sports radio is a tradition. And online sports sites can do anything. This year, the Gazette will touch all the types of sports journalism, from video match reports to pithy profiles in the paper. We're online. We'll have video. We have audio. And we have the paper, too.

Gazette Sports is a writer-driven section. We go where you want. We're still journalists—and we never forget it—but we're also writers, and we value that. We're student media and alternative media. We try new things. We experiment. We have fun. We eat pizza on Monday nights. Eat, and consider live-blogging something, or joining the next podcast, or writing a 600-word match report.

We do it all and we want you to be a part of it.

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HOW WILL YOU LIVE WELL THIS WEEK?

Dalhousie University's Department of Athletics and Recreational Services offers Dal students plenty of opportunities to get active, meet up with friends, show your competitive spirit and take your mind off the books! You can also head to Dalplex with your student ID and unwind while staying healthy.

FRIDAY September 10

Today is your last chance to save big at the Dal Athletic Shop!

Buy 1, Get 1 50% off sale ends today at 7pm.



SATURDAY September 11

Soccer Home Opener vs. Acadia
W 1pm M 3:15pm

"Get AMPED with the Tigers" student VIP contest starts!

Meet the Tigers Varsity Night @ the Grawood, 9pm

SUNDAY September 12

Soccer vs UdeM
W 1pm M 3:15pm

Tigers Target Shoot-out contest at half-time!

Lacrosse Home Game, 7pm



MONDAY September 13

Want to try a group fitness class but don't know the moves? Come to Fitness 101 @ Dalplex from 6:30-7:30pm and we'll teach you!



TUESDAY September 14

Try Zumba @ Dalplex from 7:45-8:45pm ... FREE for Dal student members!



WEDNESDAY September 15

Intramural registration deadline for Beach Volleyball, Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee & Flag Football Leagues

THURSDAY September 16

Want to rock climb? Check out the Rock Court at Dalplex, open 4-10pm today!

\$5.30 or \$8.85 for Dal student members.

Guide to Dal Sport Clubs

Tim van der Kooi
Staff Contributor

The Dalhousie Gazette wants to provide you not only with where to watch sports, but also where to play them yourself. Dalhousie has sport clubs beyond the basic intramural programs, and we've compiled some of them here. The list is in alphabetical order, so just roll down the list until you find your sport, sport.

Competitive

These sports are for the dedicated athlete. While most of these club teams encourage players of all skill levels to attend tryouts, they usually expect their players to have previous experience in a competitive league.

Baseball

The Dalhousie Baseball Club plays in the Atlantic division of the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association. Tryouts are held during the first week of September and the regular season runs from September to the end of October.

Why play? The club crams 16 games in one month, playing two doubleheaders each weekend. If you like competitive baseball and lots of it, this is the club for you.

Contact: tm679891@dal.ca
Facebook? No

(Full disclosure: Tim van der Kooi is president of the Dalhousie Baseball Club.)

Women's Field Hockey

Dalhousie's field hockey team plays in the Maritime Field Hockey League from the middle of September until the end of October. Training and tryouts are held at the beginning of the school year.

Why play? The season is short but packed with games. Aside from the regular season of 12 games, the ladies usually participate in three other tournaments across the Maritimes.

Contact: Coach Linda Bonin, amb01@eastlink.ca or Lauren Hutton, horsefanatic_99@hotmail.com
Facebook? Yes

Football

Dalhousie's newest and most anticipated club begins playing its first season in the Atlantic Football League on Sept. 18. Training camp/tryouts begin on Sept. 1 and run until Sept. 12.

Why play? This is Dalhousie's first football team in decades. The fan base should be large since Wickwire Field is spitting distance from all residences.

Contact: Jeff Pond, jsjpond@dal.ca or Rick Rivers, fbrivers@yahoo.ca
Facebook? Yes

Men's Lacrosse

The Dalhousie Men's Lacrosse team looks for their third championship in a row in the Maritime University Field Lacrosse League. The season starts at the beginning of September and runs into the early days of November.

Why play? Try to be a part of a modern dynasty.

Contact: Stephen Fyfe, fyfe_22@hotmail.com
Facebook? Yes

Women's Rugby

The Dalhousie Women's Rugby Football Club is looking for players of all levels and abilities. Their season runs from the middle of September until the end

of October. No previous experience is necessary to try out for the team. Please contact the club for more information.

Why play? Dalhousie needs complete gender dominance in the sport of rugby. Make it happen ladies.

Contact: Rory, womendalrugby@gmail.com
Facebook? No

Men's Rugby

Entering its 129th season, the once-legendary Dal Rugby club has in recent years returned the ranks of Canada's best varsity rugby squads. Dalhousie participates in two tiers of competition in the Rugby Nova Scotia University League. Both of these teams are defending Maritime champions in their respective divisions and enjoy a fierce rivalry with perennial Quebec-league champions the McGill Redmen. Their season runs from the second week of September until the end of October.

Why play? Your great grandparents may have played on this team. This is Dalhousie's oldest club dating back to the year 1881.

Website: dalrugby.com
Contact: Adam Sketchley, adam_sketchley@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Non-competitive

These clubs are for the recreational athlete. While most clubs offer competitive options such as university tournaments, the average player with little to no experience should feel welcome at any one of these clubs.

Badminton

Membership in the Dalhousie Badminton Club is open to Dal students and Dalplex members, regardless of ability, who are interested in playing badminton.

Why play? Relive your high school gym class each week.

Contact: Steve Foster, ac628@chebucto.ns.ca
Facebook? No

Dal Board Club

One of the most active club on campus DalBoard will get you in touch with the student surf, snowboard and skateboard communities. Good resource for finding rides to the beach, coordinating weekend ski trips, and hosting related events on campus and around Halifax.

Why join? Mexico surf trip over Christmas break.

Contact: dalboardsociety@gmail.com
Facebook? Yes

Cheerleading

The Dal Cheer team has been around since 2008 and this is its first year as a recreational club. No cheering experience necessary.

Why cheer? The lonesome Dalhousie Tiger needs some company.

Website: dalcheer.weebly.com/index
Contact: dalcheer@gmail.com
Facebook? Yes

Dalhousie Curling Club

The Dalhousie Curling Club curls once a week at the Halifax Curling Club starting in late October and running until mid April.

Why curl? You want to holler and drink beer with the respect and admiration of your peers.

Contact: Karen, k.e.m.smith@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Dalhousie Dance Society

The DalDance society offers dance classes for jazz, ballet, modern, hip-hop and many other styles throughout its weekly schedule. No dance experience necessary, just be ready to move.

Why dance? You need to work and practice on your night moves.

Website: societies.dsu.ca/daldance
Contact: daldance@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Fencing

The Dal Fencing team meets in the dance studio of the Studley Gym for their practices and sparring. They participate in numerous tournaments in Nova Scotia and they host an annual fencing tournament. Basic gear is provided for fencers. New fencers are encouraged to take the fencing course from the Dalplex.

Why fence? You want to make chivalry popular again.

Contact: Mike Casey, mcasey@ap.smu.ca
Facebook? Yes

Figure Skating

The Dalhousie Figure Skating club meets several times a week for practices in the Dal Arena. Members can participate in local tournaments if they choose. The club encompasses all levels of skaters.

Why skate? Once you reach a certain level you can skate without a helmet at the Dal Arena!

Contact: am260573@dal.ca
Facebook? No

Judo

The Dal Judo club meets three times a week at the Dalplex Fieldhouse. Everybody is welcome to attend. If you think you're good enough you can enter into tournaments.

Why play? Paint the fence. Wax on, wax off.

Website: dalhousiejudoclub.dsu.dal.ca/
Contact: Paul, p1476215@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Kayaking

The Dalhousie Kayaking Club provides members with previous paddling experience an opportunity to hone their skills during the school year. It also offers lessons to those with no previous paddling experience the chance to learn the basic strokes and rolls.

Why kayak? Can't escape the allure of this cottage activity.

Contact: dks@dal.ca
Facebook? No

Master's Swim

The Master's Swim team offers intensive practices for experienced and non-experienced swimmers.

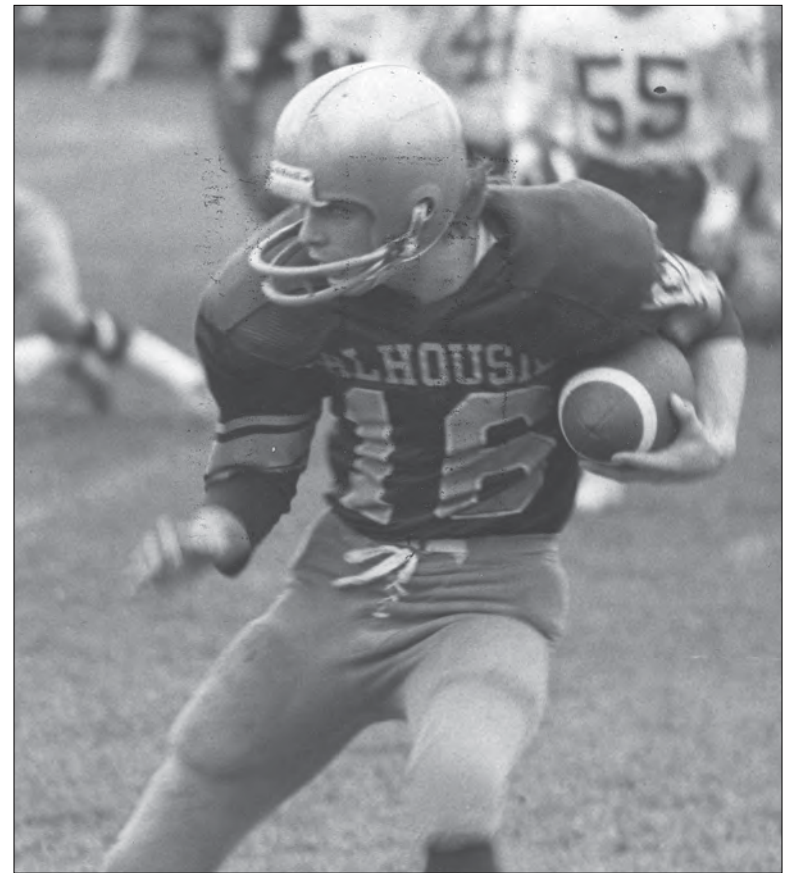
Why swim? You've started the Michael Phelps diet and you need to work off around 10,000 calories.

Contact: Brian Todd, brian.todd@nrcan.gc.ca
Facebook? Yes

Dal Sailing

The Dal Sailing club calls the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron its home. They are associated with the New England Intercollegiate Sailing Association. Recreational sailing is available for Dalhousie students with or without sailing experience.

Why sail? Beat Harvard.



Classic football returns to Dal. ••• Supplied by Dalhousie Archive

Contact: Dave Castle, david.castle@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Scuba Diving

The Dalhousie Scuba Club meets on the weekends to organize dives for beginners. However, you must be at least Open Water Certified to dive with the club. You can get this certification by taking a course at Torpedo Ray's in Halifax.

Why dive? It's a whole other world down there.

Contact: cuba@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Squash

The Dalhousie Squash club plays with Squash Nova Scotia in the humid depths of the Dalplex. For beginners an introductory lesson is available. For experienced players there is a tier system amongst members.

Why play? You can meet a lot of people. They have the largest squash club in Atlantic Canada, boasting 80 members.

Website: dalsquash.ca
Contact: David Westwood, david.a.westwood@gmail.com
Facebook? Yes

Table Tennis

The Dalhousie Table Tennis club meets two to three times a week to play the glorious sport we usually call ping pong. Ranging from casual playing in the evenings to tournaments, players of all levels are welcome to attend.

Why play? You want to engage in those epic battles that take place 40 feet off the table and into the stands.

Contact: Kevin Chong, kv551436@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Tennis

Members of the Dalhousie Tennis Club play on the tennis courts in front of Sherriff Hall. There is a tier ladder for experienced players and practices for

players with little experience.

Why play? It's free!

Website: tennis.dsu.dal.ca
Contact: jrbaptist@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Ultimate Frisbee

The Dalhousie-King's Ultimate Frisbee team (DKUT) plays several times a week in early September. They have a men's and a women's team which both enter into the national tournament. The team also participates in other tournaments around Nova Scotia.

Why play? From what I've gathered, the drinking afterwards is just as important as playing.

Website: dkut.brokenultimate.com
Contact: jackson.byrne@gmail.com
Facebook? Yes

Water Polo

The Dalhousie Water Polo team is open to swimmers of all levels. They practice in scrimmage games on Fridays and attend four tournaments a year. The level of commitment is up to you.

Why play? The novelty factor alone is worth a visit.

Website: dalhousiewaterpolo.association.dsu.dal.ca
Contact: waterpolo@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

Wushu

The Dalhousie Wushu Club is a recreational club that teaches, trains and promotes the Chinese martial art of Wushu. It's a pretty flashy way of kicking ass, look up a video sometime.

Why kick ass? Just watch a video and you'll know why.

Contact: Rachel Doucet, rachel.doucet@dal.ca or Kimberley Ekstrand, km608327@dal.ca
Facebook? Yes

A full list of sport clubs can be found on the Athletics Department website at athletics.dal.ca. ☎

arts.

arts

arts covers cultural happenings in Halifax. E-mail Rebecca or Erica at arts@dalgazette.com to contribute.

Rebecca Spence Arts Editor



Fools they're not

Adam White and The Reason are growing up

Mick Coté
Arts Contributor

Adam White, vocalist and front man for Hamilton-based band, The Reason, once compared his last album, *Things Couldn't Be Better*, to a university degree. White and his band have graduated with honours.

Reflecting on the band's new album, out Aug. 24, White says that "Fools is the job we've always wanted, I guess. We've waited a long time and we finally get to do our job and it's the career that we always wanted."

The Reason have received a fair bit of criticism from fans over the years. Their sound has drastically changed since their first album in 2005, moving from a hardcore alternative to a rock vibe that "should be more timeless."

While Fools is significantly more organic and raw, White admits that things did not always come easy. "I can't even listen to (*Things Couldn't Be Easier*) sometimes," he says. "It seems like a computer is playing our songs for us.

This one, it sounds like a rock band." Evidently, the musical transition did not happen freely. They have had to alter much of their surroundings in order to accomplish something different. From a change in management, to signing with Warner Brothers Canada, the band reconstructed itself from the bottom up. After teaming up with producer Steve Haigler, whose work includes albums such as Muse's *Arcana* and Brand New's *Deja Entendu*, The Reason migrated to North Carolina for a month and got down to business.

The band left the confined studios of Toronto's industrial parks and shook the walls of Echo Mountain, a 1920s church-turned-state-of-the-art-studio in Asheville.

"(Haigler) seemed to get it right away what we were doing. He was so confident in his suggestions. He never thought twice and we really needed someone with that confidence. We were confident in the songs but having someone there, it was nice," says White. "He was as passionate, if not more than we were."

Within a month the band recorded 11 new songs and were ready for takeoff.

"Little did we know it wouldn't come out till August 2010," says White, tired of sitting on a pile of hard work. "It's been a really slow build. We finished the album about a year and a half ago so we've just been waiting and waiting and waiting. So it kinda just feels anti-climatic for us." The five guys plan on touring with their new material, but they will also do the tour differently this time around.

In 2007 The Reason toured Canada three times within the span of two months. This subsequently affected the popularity of their shows.

"We did all this touring and we never got to go to the U.S. The album didn't come out anywhere other than Australia a year and a half later. By that time we had no money and couldn't afford to get there," says White. "We've learned a lot and we're not going to make the same mistakes again."

"I know it sounds bad, I talk about it all the time, but it just feels like things are starting to happen." ☺

Frosh guide to cheap food and drinks



The Maxwell's Plum on Grafton Street ••• Stock photo

Erica Eades
Assistant Arts Editor

You're in your first year of university. You (or your parents) are about to dish out some serious cash for tuition, residence, textbooks and everything else you might need for life on your own. But keeping a steady social life during your freshman year is just as important as keeping up with your school work. The solution? Knowing where to get cheap food and drinks, of course.

If it's beer you're after, Split Crow's Molson Power Hour is not to be missed. The pub on Granville St. offers \$2.50 draughts from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays and from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Be sure to show up early, because tables always go quickly!

Another option is The Propeller Brewery on Gottingen Street, which offers tours every day for groups of 10 or more. The cost is \$15 per person and that gets you a tour of the brewery and two hours of all-you-can-drink Propeller beer. Just remember to call ahead, because booking is required.

The Maxwell's Plum on Grafton Street is a prime English pub. With 60 beers on tap and over 100 brands in bottles and cans, there is truly something for everyone. Their infamous Brewtenders are great for splitting between a few friends. This massive beer monolith holds 80 oz and costs a mere

\$19.95. Brewtenders offer a different brand of beer for each day of the week, including Heineken on Mondays and Stella on Saturdays.

Maxwell's is another cornerstone when it comes to food. Up for a Saturday morning football game? You can catch the Premier League games at Maxwell's along with their amazing \$2.00 breakfast deal. Hang out with the boys of Chelsea and Arsenal while enjoying a cheap and delicious English breakfast.

If you're spending the evening at Maxwell's, be sure to stay until 11 p.m. when everything on their "fun food" menu is half off for an hour. Choose from a variety of pub food such as nachos, mozza sticks and combination plates, all for under \$5.

Looking for a step up from a \$2 meal but still don't want to spend a fortune? The Greek Village on Quinpool Road offers an incredible breakfast menu. For \$5.29, you can enjoy a full spread of eggs, toast, home fries and your choice of either breakfast meat or fresh tomatoes. The full breakfast menu is available everyday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., but if you arrive during their scheduled breakfast hours, you also receive complimentary coffee or tea.

Learning to live on a budget isn't easy, but it is possible. With our help, you'll be happily eating and drinking your way through your first year – without going broke! ☺

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There's a lot to like at
The Greek Village

arts.

This year we have decided to bring the culture back to the Arts section of the Gazette. What does this mean exactly? By revamping our title, our goal is to establish much more diversity and variety in our section's content. While we will continue to write about the music, art, film and theatre-related events that take place both on and off-campus, we hope to be able to expand our coverage even further. By delving into the exciting realm of food, drink, shopping, and style, perhaps we can help provide a guide for readers looking to get the most out of their experience living as a student in Halifax. Our ambition is to help boost students' overall familiarity with what the university and the city have to offer. Further, we will strive to not lose sight of our readership: students living on a budget. We will do our best to always keep value and thrift in the forefront of our minds while highlighting the best of Halifax entertainment. Most of all, though, our objective is to widen readers' horizons, introduce them to something new every week, and push them to take advantage of what this great city has to offer.

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Something for everyone at campus bars

Erica Eades
Rebecca Spence
Arts Editors

The Grawood: Great campus nightlife

If you're coming to university straight out of high school, chances are you haven't quite reached the legal drinking age in Nova Scotia (which is 19). But that doesn't mean you don't love a night out. The Grawood Campus Pub, at the back of the Student Union Building, has a wet/dry policy gives underage students a taste of the Halifax nightlife, without the need of a fake ID. By giving wristbands to guests 18 and under, bar staff can easily identify the non-drinkers. This means students of all ages can have a safe and fun night out.

For those 19 and up, the infamous yards of beer are always a hit. These wooden trays hold about the same amount of beer as a pitcher, but they are conveniently pre-divided into seven or eight small glasses. They're perfect for sharing amongst a few friends! The pub also offers numerous power hours and drink deals throughout the week.

Because the Grawood is owned and operated by the Dalhousie Student Union, it regularly hosts university-run events, such as the Think Pink fundraiser for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, Dalhousie's Got Talent, and an annual Halloween party.

The pub has also hosted numerous Canadian bands such as Sloan, The Joel Plaskett Emergency, and Ill Scarlett.

Trivia on Thursday nights is another Grawood staple. Come out with a group of friends and test your knowledge on a wide range of subject matter.

On Friday nights, the Grawood offers free bookings for Dal student societies. This provides an opportunity for societies to host banquets, fundraisers and various other social events.

If you're just looking for a place to hang out with some friends, the pub offers a comfortable and casual environment that is sure to meet your needs. With pool tables, various seating areas and a decent-sized dance floor, the Grawood Campus Pub has something

for everyone.
**The Wardroom:
Creepy only on Mondays**

Located just below the Arts and Administration Building lobby on the King's campus, the HMCS Wardroom functions as a student lounge by day and a local watering hole by night. Its wet/dry liquor license allows students of all ages to enjoy the low-key social scene that the Wardroom has to offer. The bar gives you the option to just relax and play some pool and foosball, or take advantage of the cheap bar prices and get a bit rowdy.

This year the Wardroom is under new administration and is also going through some minor renovations. Asher Goldstein, the newly-hired sales manager, says the new management structure has vastly improved their ability to create real and tangible change; both in the renovation committee process and in improving the Wardroom's day-to-day operations.

"Not to deprecate the past organization, but there just weren't the systems in place to organize proactive work and improvement," says Goldstein, a third-year King's student.

He says this year customers will likely see extended hours, a revamped product line increasing to six draft lines, and a more active inclusion of non-King's students on slower nights.

Although he can't say which beers will be on tap, Goldstein says students they will have "a lovely selection to suit the palate and season."

In terms of the physical space, he says they are removing the hollow spots in the floor, as well as the busted piping beneath.

The new management team is committed to keeping the bar more financially accountable and stable, he says. They have found sponsorship agreements that will earn the bar enough money to mediate the cost of the minimum wage increases in Nova Scotia.

"That way we can keep the prices lower for our customers than they would have had to have been otherwise," says Goldstein. "We want to make sure that



Future site of the Gradhouse? ••• Mick Coté

the Wardroom will be here for another 31 years."

The Wardroom, while it may not be the classiest joint in town, certainly has a lot to offer: proximity, prices and a friendly atmosphere. Do we need any other reason to check it out this September?

"It's not a place to go and get creeped on," says Goldstein. "Except maybe on a Monday."

Grad House: Re-opens in the fall?

If you asked a second-year Dalhousie student about the Grad House, they might reply with "huh?," "who?" or perhaps "say whaaaaa?"

The Grad House is an enigma, wrapped in a riddle, nestled in a sesame seed bun of mystery. Okay, that might be an overstatement. To put it simply, it seems that nobody knows what the Grad House's deal has been for the past

year.

After closing its doors in April 2009, the new and improved Grad House was set to reopen in Sept. 2009. Month after month, students patiently waited for their beloved pub to come back. By spring thaw, it seemed that many of those students had given up and lost hope. Now, in August 2010 [at the time of publication], the President of the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS), Eric Snow, is confident that the Grad House is "on track to be open and fully ready to go for Orientation Week in September."

"We're ready to go!" says Snow in a letter he distributed to the student community.

Although Snow is vague about the reasons behind the frustrating delays, he alludes to problems with the building's capacity. The initial building code set the capacity for the new Grad House at a mere 50 people. According to Snow, DAGS has successfully been lobbying

the university to boost the capacity to 110 people – although that improvement will require further renovations.

The controversy over its frustrating delays aside, the new Grad House will have a ton of great features that will hopefully make the long wait worthwhile. From a fresh, modern space to chilled beer mugs to outdoor speakers on the deck, there are many perks to get pumped about. Students will also be able to enjoy snacks from the locally sourced food retailer, Café Europe, which specializes in French crepes, as well as soups, sandwiches, baked goods, and Samosas. In addition, students can purchase Laughing Whale fair trade, organic coffee.

There are even plans to mount a flat-screen television above the fireplace, with talk of hooking up an old-school Nintendo to the flat-screen. Just don't be surprised if it doesn't happen until 2016. ☹



Halifax International Busker Festival on the waterfront ••• Erica Eades

Buskers a bust

Corporate-sponsored Busker Festival disappoints

Erica Eades
Assistant Arts Editor

The 2010 Halifax International Busker Festival boasted an impressive lineup of acts from across North America, Australia and the UK. For 11 days, the streets of Halifax were to be filled with performers that ranged from contortionists to magicians to fire-eaters. But while following the boardwalk along the Halifax Waterfront, a random passerby asked a question that accurately summed up this event: "So, where are all the buskers?"

The verb "to busk" means "to entertain by dancing, singing, or reciting in the street or in a public place." No matter how you choose to interpret this definition, it is clear that busking does not include the selling of tacky novelty items, such as crystal-encrusted belt buckles and knock-off designer clothes.

It also does not include jumping castles or miniature rock-climbing walls. And it certainly does not include commercially-sponsored booths whose sole purpose is to endorse companies such as Westjet or Goodlife Fitness.

As a first-time attendee of the Halifax Busker Festival, I had high hopes for the event. It is the oldest and largest busker festival in Canada, and with that title comes a certain level of expectation. My imagination led me to believe there would be musicians and dancers lining the boardwalk, guitar case or hat at their feet, welcoming donations in return for their talent.

Instead, guests were faced with a series of carnival shows that were unimpressive to say the least. The one talented musical act I saw was struggling to be heard over the crowd awaiting the "Freak Show" (a long trailer with signs warning visitors of the graphic

images inside). The two young boys had an audience of no more than three or four, even though the quality of their performance was significantly higher than their louder, more aggressive counterparts.

The official website for the Busker Festival provided information on each of the major acts that were scheduled to perform. However, they left out specific times and locations of each performance. Detailed programs were available around the city for a cost of \$2. But at a free festival, who wants to spend money on a program?

The Busker Festival was ultimately a let-down. If you came out looking for loud music, cheap souvenirs and greasy food, you probably left satisfied. But if you were expecting a bit more out of this festival, you likely went home disappointed. ☹

*Gazette Picks

Rebecca Spence
Nick Laugher
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Matthew Ritchie
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Arts Contributors

*Brunch

jane's on the common (2394 Robie St.) is a local, neighbourhood restaurant that makes fresh and innovative fare from scratch, sourcing many ingredients from local suppliers. Their prices are a bit more than you would pay at a greasy spoon on Quinpool Road, but certainly competitive. Furthermore, their menu is way more creative and original than most other breakfast menus in the city. For instance, the \$12 Maritime Breakfast includes two eggs any style, fresh line-caught haddock fillet, breaded and topped with an apple and cranberry chutney, sour dough toast, roasted potatoes and organic greens. Their eggs Benedict are served on a sweet potato biscuit with house-made hollandaise. The menu includes vegan options such as the Caribbean French Toast, made with coconut milk and banana. They also serve some gluten-free options

This is definitely a special restaurant. A trip to jane's on the common should be saved for those who can appreciate a good meal. Hung-over hooligans craving a heap of bacon and eggs should set their sights on Quinpool Road. RS

or disheveled you may look, Athens will never judge you. She will treat you warmly and kindly, offering breakfast specials and frequent caffeine refills. She appreciates that you probably spent all of your money at the bar the night before, which is why she only charges \$5.99 for an early bird breakfast (served until 11 a.m.) which includes two eggs, with a choice of bacon, ham, or sausage, served with toast, home fries and a drink. Even if you're in bed until 1 p.m., Athens continues to serve an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet until 2:30 p.m. on weekends.

Like many mothers, Athens understands that the way to our weary hearts is through our stomachs. Now, if only we could get them to do our laundry. RS

*Sushi

Doraku, located on 1579 Dresden Row, is the epitome of delicious simplicity. This tiny hole in the wall serves up some of the freshest fish that Halifax has to offer. It is especially reassuring to know that Doraku is closed on Mondays since fish deliveries are made on Tuesday mornings. So you can be sure that when you order a meal at this restaurant, you're not being served the dregs. What's more is the amazing value that Doraku has to offer. Even if you're low on cash, you can still enjoy Doraku's weekday lunch specials. Their combos range from \$7.00 to \$9.95, which beats

*On-campus snack

It should be considered a rite of passage for all frosh to enjoy at least one mouth-watering item off of the **Dawgfather's** cart this September. Jerry "The Dawgfather" Reddick has been selling hotdogs, burgers, sausages and veggie dogs outside of the Student Union Building since the 90s. He has stayed with the students through thick and thin, dealing with everything from inclement weather to city by-laws that have threatened to kick him off Dalhousie's campus. His prices are reasonable, his selection of complimentary condiments is extensive, and he frequently gives students credit on their purchases when they're broke or without their wallets. In short, he's one righteous dude.

So while it may not be the most nutritious choice, grabbing a quick bite from the Dawgfather every once in a while is definitely a worthwhile indulgence. Just be sure to order a "Phat Boy", not a hot dog, unless you want the Dawgfather to tease you about being a newbie. RS

*Café

Whether the praise belongs to the colourful assortment of characters, the lonesome, salty fog blurring blue past the garage door windows or the hearthstone orange glow that emanates from the walls, ultimately, it all reads the same. **The Paper Chase Café**, residing above the seemingly run-of-the-mill



The Dawgfather is a good man. ••• Photo by Paul Balite

meandering to the meticulous, Paper Chase is the epitome of sincere, loveable coffee shops. Replete with brooding, brunette baristas, a surprising selection of independent art that ranges from inspiring to insipid, and a selection of music that includes Neutral Milk Hotel, Paper Chase is bursting at the seemingly solidified seams with character, charm and chewy granola. To be frank, even Jeff Mangum would feel at home here. NL

*Gallery

Planted firmly in the downtown campus of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, the university-run **Seeds Gallery** is a place built by budding artists for other like-minded artists seeking to sprout a career. But unlike other galleries that line the streets of Halifax, setting foot in Seeds doesn't make you feel uneasy or out of place.

Jennifer Simaitis, who runs the lovely lair of lithographs and linocuts, is a smile from ear to ear. Easily approachable and a wealth of knowledge, Simaitis birthed Seeds in an attempt to combat the pretention and intimidation that's so notoriously associated with art galleries. Simaitis says the gallery isn't just a launching pad for art students, but also for first-time art-goers. "Even I still get intimidated going into art galleries," remarks Simaitis. "I wanted Seeds to be an accessible, comforting experience for

the public."

The welcoming white walls and modern motifs give Seeds a blend of style and sophistication without making you feel absurd for not knowing what a Diebenkorn is (Richard, to be exact: an abstract expressionist from Portland).

If you're looking to whet your teeth on some lovely pictures, Seeds is the place to start chewing. NL

*Venue

Rising from the ashes of the now defunct Marquee, **The Paragon Theatre** at 2037 Gottingen Street serves as Halifax's finest destination for determined musicians – local and imported – to play to a crowd that's eager and all ears.

The Paragon, unlike many venues around the city, has a relaxed and intimate setting while still being a large enough venue to draw indie acts such as Plants and Animals and The Most Serene Republic. It has even hosted hilarious reunion shows of the band that baptized Joel Plaskett into the music scene: Thrush Hermit.

A down to earth, hearty venue, The Paragon draws a crowd based solely on the music. Whereas many venues in Halifax cater to niche genres, pretention, or people who are just looking to get absolutely trashed, The Paragon unites all of these subgroups and more into a chaotic frenzy of friendly, interesting people investing time to see



jane's, beyond worth it. ••• Photo by Paul Balite

*Hung-over breakfast

When university students are hung-over we revert back to infancy. We whine, we moan, we yearn to be taken care of. Is there any better treatment for a hangover than a greasy breakfast made for us while we drown our sorrows in five cups of coffee?

Athens Restaurant (6273 Quinpool Road) plays the role of the loving Greek mother to her haggard, emaciated customers. No matter how dilapidated

much of its competition.

In terms of its ambiance, Doraku is a cozy, warm, and inviting place to eat. You can even get some peace and quiet by requesting a private booth. So when exams are wearing you down and you just can't put up with another meal at residence, think about trying out Doraku. The friendly servers will make you feel right at home while nursing your academic woes with tasty spicy tuna rolls and piping hot miso soup. RS

Paper Chase newstand, magazine shop and convenience store on Blowers Street, cannot help but beam a comforting glow of familiarity and casual conversation. Legitimately down-to-earth, the atmosphere and aura speak for themselves but the audacious, earthy eats such as the life-changing avocado melt certainly assist in reinforcing the reverie. Held in high regard and helping, with absurd amounts of caffeine, to foster creativity in minds from the



The Heartwood is good. ••• Stock photo

great music. Of course, it doesn't hurt that The Paragon is a beautifully designed building with two (sometimes three) bars, all of which have local delicacies such as Propeller IPA on tap. Except for that one time where they ran out of everything but Heineken – but that probably won't happen again. NL

***Martini**

If you're ever looking to celebrate in an elegant fashion, you might want to consider a round of drinks at the Bitter End (1572 Argyle St.). They also offer a great variety of faux-martinis. From the Chai Martini to the Pomtini to the Pink Pussy, there is sure to be something that appeals to everyone.

The atmosphere is vibrant and swank, and makes you forget that you're a university student living in Halifax. Always dimly lit, the Bitter End has a mix of comfy booths, tables, and a great bar in the centre of the room to sit at.

The service can be unpredictable, especially on Friday and Saturday nights, but the bartenders definitely know their way around the cocktail shaker. If you do decide to check this martini bar out, be prepared to shell out a decent amount of cash. Chances are that you won't be disappointed. Even if it turns out that martinis aren't your cup of tea, you'll at least get to enjoy the gummy worm at the bottom of your glass. RS

***Vegetarian restaurant**

As a vegetarian, going out to eat is often a challenge. While some restaurants offer decent veggie alternatives, you sometimes wind up eating bland side dishes, plain pasta and salad – lots and lots of salad.

So what are you to do? Turning down dinner invitations hardly seems rational. Enter the Heartwood, Quinpool Road's exceptional vegetarian/vegan café. Their website says it all: "Local. Organic. Food With a Conscience."

If Heartwood's extensive list of organic fair trade loose leaf teas isn't enough to win you over, seeing their full menu will certainly do the trick. You can choose from dishes such as broccoli and red cabbage salad, marinated Portobello sandwiches or their classic vegan pizza (all made using locally-sourced organic ingredients whenever possible).

If you're looking for something sweet, you can enjoy one of Heartwood's many

dessert options. Choose from treats such as ginger carrot cookies, coconut macaroons and hazelnut brownies. The majority of their treats are vegan and wheat-free. And on top of all that, they even offer some gluten-free snacks. No dietary restriction goes unnoticed!

So whether you're looking for great vegetarian food in Halifax, or you just want to enjoy a fabulous meal, be sure to stop by Heartwood. You will not leave hungry, but you may leave healthy! EE

North End breakfast

For those living off campus in the North End, or who just want to get away from the mediocre variety of restaurants close to campus, Coastal Café will surely delight.

Located at 2731 Robie St., the café has branched out from carrying only a few creative dishes to more than 10 different breakfasts that will blow your mind. If you like your morning meals packed with flavour, the Eggs McCoastal will have meat lovers savouring their

maple sausage and perfectly poached eggs with Hollandaise sauce. For those with more of a sweet tooth, The Elvis (buttermilk waffles, bananas, peanut butter, bacon and maple syrup) will make you feel like the King – you'll want to hang out on a couch all afternoon. Coastal also offers fantastic coffees and other caffeinated beverages. Just remember to show up early because the place is packed after 10 a.m. MR

***Record store**

Located at 1539 Market St. in downtown Halifax, Taz Records offers one of the biggest selections of rare and new music in the city. The store veers away from carrying many new CDs and sticks mostly to new and used vinyl instead. Taz Records offers a wide array of music from ABBA to Lady Gaga at a reasonable price. The workers at the store are informative and give fantastic deals on trade-ins for those looking to thin out their music collection as well. Don't forget to check out their loonie section,

where for \$1 you can walk away with some mostly forgotten vinyl gems. MR

***Thai**

Just look for the bright green sign hanging overhead on Queen Street, off of Spring Garden Road. Cha Baa Thai is a relatively new restaurant but is well known around Halifax for its outstanding Thai cuisine.

The interior is clean and spacious, with tasteful decor. There are a variety of delicious dishes to choose from on the menu. Just to name a few: curries, Pad Thai and tons of vegetarian meals. Each meal has its own flare, and everything is always made with fresh ingredients. The service is very good, and the servers are friendly and diligent to their customers. Cha Baa Thai is wheelchair accessible, and does not require reservations. MH

***Hair cut**

While living away from home half of the year, it can be agreed that finding a place for decent haircuts is not easy. Not only are there many places to choose from, it is a matter of who will do a good job, and at a good price. Thumpers Salon, located at 1813 Granville Street, will not disappoint. It is an exceptional haircutting business committed to creating the best haircuts for their clients at a professional level. The interior of the salon is chic yet comfortable, and the atmosphere is always pleasant and welcoming.

The staff is friendly and engaging to their customers, and refreshments and food are offered. Thumpers is suited for both women and men; its stylists are professionally trained, and many of them have had years of experience in the field. They enjoy what they do, and work to make their clients happy by giving them the results they want.

The prices are surprisingly reasonable as well. A cut and blow-dry service ranges from \$40 to \$48. Brand name hair products such as Bumble and Bumble are sold, as well as an array of accessories. G



Take Taz Records for a spin. ••• Photo by Paul Balite

***Where to Wi-Fi**
High-speed multi-task alongside some good coffee and eats

Caroline Elias
Arts Contributor

With a new school year starting up, everyone is full of good intentions. I will do all my readings before class. I will leave enough time to edit my papers. Late nights before deadlines will be a thing of the past. With all of the research that needs to get done, reliable high-speed Internet is something that every university student craves. Here is a list of the top three places in Halifax, close to campus, to get some fast, free Wi-Fi.

***Coburg Café**

Conveniently situated right on Coburg and Henry Street, this small café not only has fantastic hot chocolate, it also has free Wi-Fi. In the fall and spring, Muskoka chairs are available to sit on outside. In the winter, the cozy interior of Coburg Café provides a great place to browse the web, while having a hot drink. Its proximity to campus also makes this café an ideal place to sit and surf.

***Just Us**

Just Us café has only recently begun to provide free internet to their customers. Now with two locations in Halifax (one on Spring Garden Road and the other on Barrington Street) you don't need to be close to Dalhousie in order to score some free net. With a large selection of drinks to choose from there is something for everyone. Now with the added bonus of free Wi-Fi, finding sources for papers just became a whole lot more enjoyable.

***Student Union Building**

The Student Union Building (SUB) is one of the best places to get free Wi-Fi on campus. All you need is your student Net ID and your password, and you can connect to the Dal network. Located in the heart of Dalhousie's Studley campus, there are two coffee shops (including a Tim Hortons), and grill, which makes the SUB a great place to grab a bite to eat and do some research. An extra perk: You can pay for food and drinks right off your DalCard. With comfy couches, booths and tables all around, the SUB is one of the easiest and best places to surf the web for free. G

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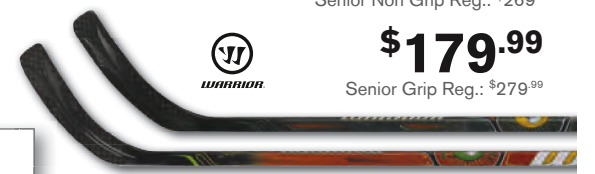
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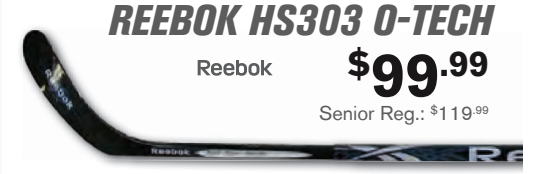
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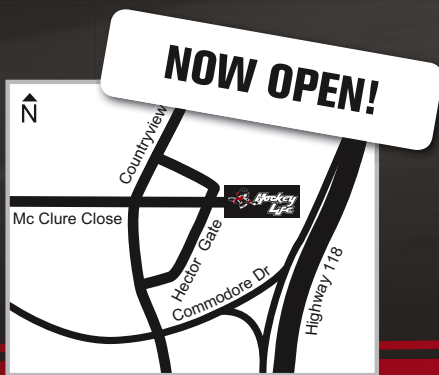


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