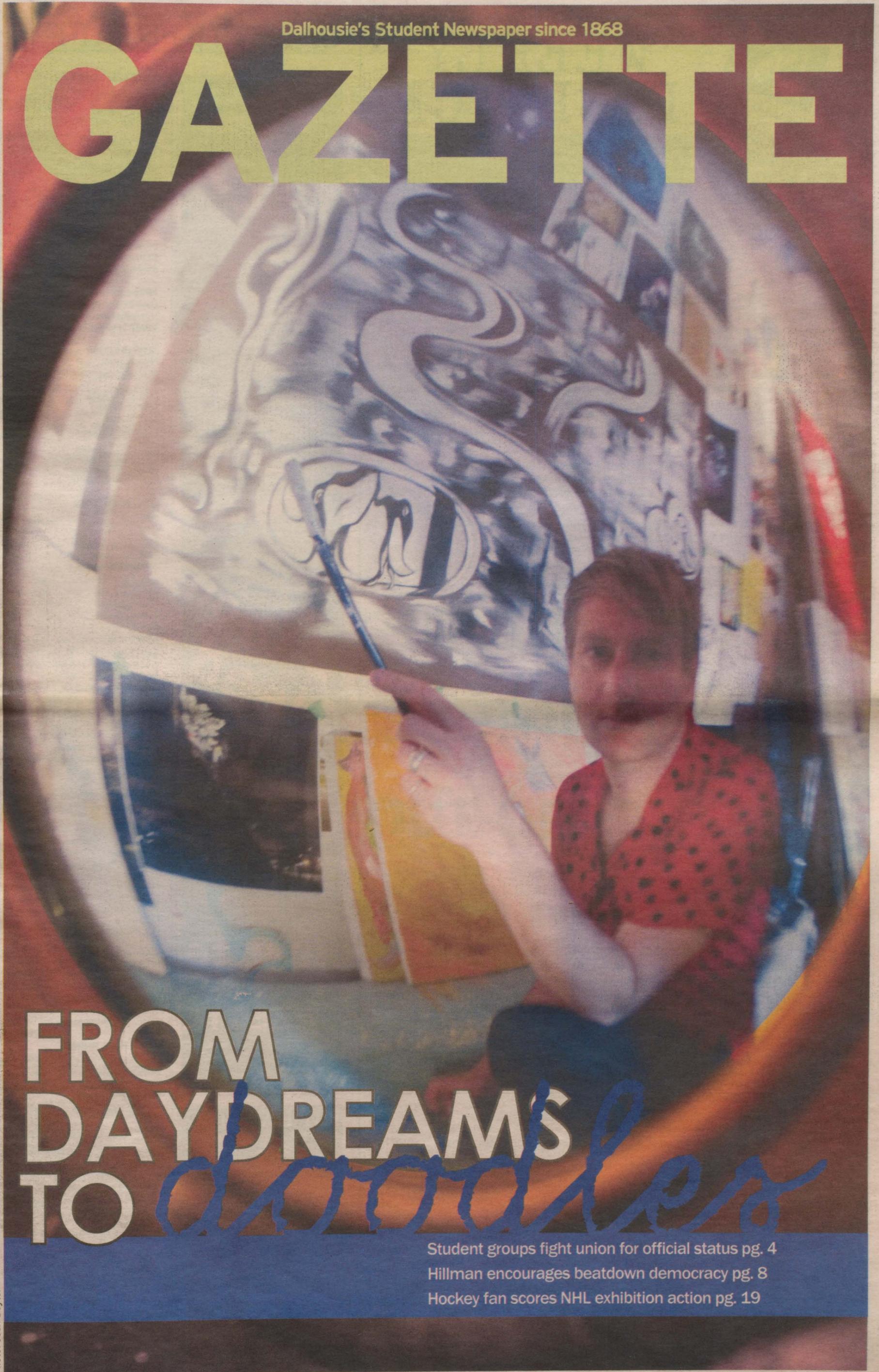


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GAZETTE



FROM DAYDREAMS TO doodles

Student groups fight union for official status pg. 4
Hillman encourages beatdown democracy pg. 8
Hockey fan scores NHL exhibition action pg. 19



WEEKLY DISPATCH

Hello, Dalhousie students!

There are some important dates coming up in the near future for societies and students at large; read on to find out more and contact your DSU Executive if you have any questions!

If you are intending to ratify your society this year, or wish to continue activity on your Dal-hosted Net ID or web space, please submit all required documentation by the deadline of **October 15**. Ratification can be done through Tiger Society, accessible at www.dsu.ca. Applications for Net ID and website renewal are available at <http://www.dsu.ca/aboutus/forms>. The required form is the second document under "Society Forms." Grant funding also continues to be available, with the forms for personal or society grants available at this site. All questions should be directed to Daniel Boyle at dsvupi@dal.ca.

Are you interested in becoming involved in student life on campus? Do you want to know what is going on around Dal in terms of events, movements, and services? Do you possess a desire to share this with your peers? If so, Tiger Troupe is the way to go! This enthusiastic and interactive group of volunteers will be charged with delivering basic information on DSU events and services personally to students. Commitment can be as simple as announcements in your own classroom, or as engaging as stunts and performances. This program is recruiting now! For more info, contact Daniel Boyle at dsvupi@dal.ca.

Treasurer training will be taking place on **Thursday October 2 at 6 p.m.** in the **McInnes Room**. This will be an opportunity for anyone interested in keeping a society's books in good order to learn from and ask questions of our VP (Finance and Operations), Matt Golding. For more information, contact Matt at dsvupfo@dal.ca.

There is a federal election happening on October 14th, and the DSU invites you to attend the all candidates' debate on **Monday October 6th at 7 PM** in the **McInnes Room**. Come and ask questions of the candidates in the Halifax riding. For information on how to vote, visit the DSU website and click on federal election.

If you really love democracy, email Mark Coffin at dsvuped@dal.ca to join the Vote Squad and encourage your fellow Dal students to vote on Election Day, **Tuesday October 14**.

In online news, Dal has been selected to participate in MySpace Canada's Secret Shows contest. Go to www.myspace.com/telus and vote for Dal to win us a free concert! We are really leading the way right now; let's keep up the momentum and bring the concert home to Dalhousie!

As always, the Grawood is a great place to stop for lunch throughout the week, and both the Grawood and T-Room provide fantastic programming for your evenings. Check out this week's details online at www.dsu.ca.

Check back next week for more news, and as always, contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Your DSU Executive



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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 the Streeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff. This publication is intended for readers 18 years of age or older. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University. All students of Dalhousie University, as well as any interested parties on or off-campus, are invited to contribute to any section of the newspaper. Please contact the appropriate editor for submission guidelines, or drop by for our weekly volunteer meetings every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in room 312 of the Dal SUB. The Gazette reserves the right to edit and reprint all submissions, and will not publish material deemed by its editorial board to be discriminatory, racist, sexist, homophobic or libellous. Opinions expressed in submitted letters are solely those of the authors. Editorials in The Gazette are signed and represent the opinions of the writer(s), not necessarily those of The Gazette staff, Editorial Board, publisher, or Dalhousie University.

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Let the debates begin

JULIE SOBOWALE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

If you follow the cues from politicians, the youth vote will be in full swing for the upcoming federal election. Both Liberal leader Stéphane Dion and NDP leader Jack Layton have made brief appearances to Dalhousie University to make major policy announcements.

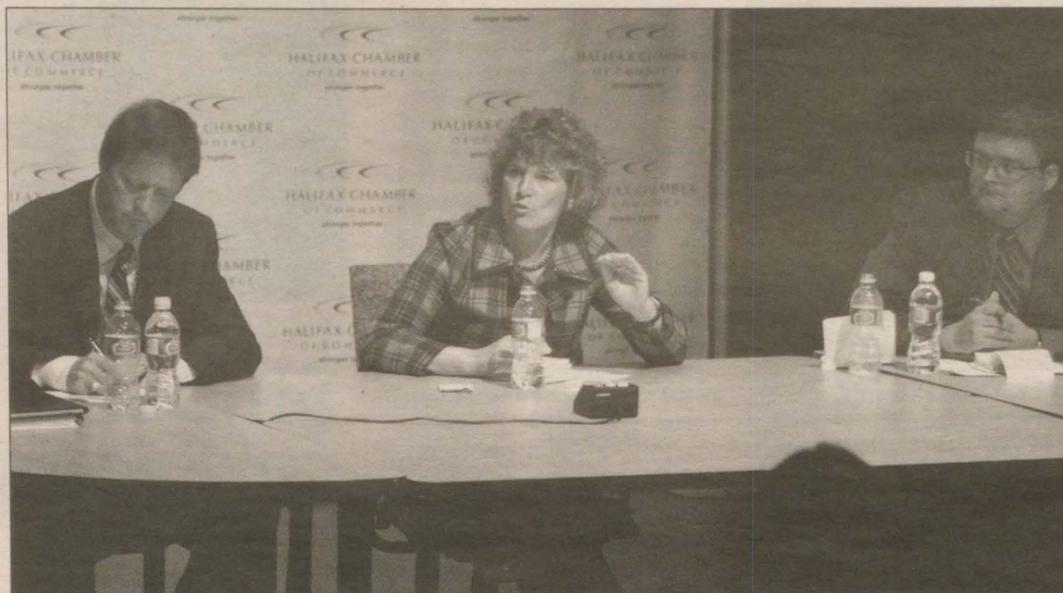
With major focus on the online push, politicians appear to be concerned with the needs of students. The old cliché is that students don't vote. But that may be changing. According to Elections Canada, 44 per cent of adults in 18-24 age group voted in the 2006 federal election compared to 37 per cent in 2004. With government agencies and non-partisan organizations pushing for youth involvement, maybe this will be the year of the student.

The federal and municipal candidates seem to think so. On Monday Oct. 6 at 7 p.m., federal candidates in Halifax ridings will debate at the Student Union Building. Two days later, on Oct. 8, the municipal mayoral candidates will debate environmental issues at the Tupper Building, where I expect they'll talk up transportation and infrastructure plans.

The lineup for Monday's debate is NDP candidate Megan Leslie, Conservatives candidate Ted Larsen, Liberal candidate Catherine Meade and Green Party candidate Darryl Whetter. All of the candidates are new to the riding. For the last 11 years, Alexa McDonough, the former NDP leader, has represented Halifax in Parliament. Following her recent retirement, the Halifax riding is the only riding in Nova Scotia without an incumbent. That makes for an interesting election.

The hot topic for students is, of course, tuition. With the recent tuition freeze and student loan reform, the N.S. government is handling post-secondary education fairly well, but the federal government needs to be involved for real reform to happen. Each political party has its own way of dealing with post-secondary education.

The Liberals are proposing new funding for bursaries, ensuring every student is eligible for a \$5,000 student loan and extending the grace period for student loan repayment from six months to two years. This plan is more about tweaking the way things are instead of thinking of something new. How do we handle rising education costs? What about simplifying the student loan system in general? So far the major post-secondary announcement from the NDP is restricted to the healthcare sector. Layton's announcement of doubling the number of medical students in five years sounds preposterous because



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

The old cliché is students don't vote, but that may be changing.

of the logical and practical problems that come with that kind of policy. One policy that does make sense is

the NDP's plan to create a national student loans ombudsperson in the proposed Canada Post-Secondary

Education Act, which also includes general debt reduction and interest rate reform.

As for the Conservatives, well - I haven't heard much from them about anything related to students or post-secondary education. If Harper did make some sort of student-focused announcement in this campaign, I guess I missed it.

The environment is another hot topic in this election but with less than two weeks left before polls open, I haven't heard much that excites me. I hope that will change with the mayoral debate. Discussion topics scheduled include public transit, bike infrastructure, renewable energy, community gardens and affordable student housing. Hopefully we'll hear something good from candidates David Boyd, Sheila Fougere and Peter Kelly.

In all of the political jockeying and bold policy statement chaos, I guess the one thing I absolutely love is that we students are being courted to be involved in the process. This isn't the first time students will have access to political candidates but it feels nice to know they're at least interested in what we have to say.

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Ratification riles student societies

ANDREW ROBINSON
DSU REPORTER

The ratification process for student societies has one group questioning the Dalhousie Student Union's (DSU) commitment to accountability, and another group facing the possibility of de-ratification.

Dal student societies are ratified annually by the DSU to make sure they meet the standards of the union's Society Policy document.

The DSU's previous vice-president (internal) Rosalie Hanlon started a review and overhaul of that policy last year. The document was finished at the end of the old council's term, with final revisions approved by the current DSU council in July.

Jane Kirby, a board member for the Dalhousie Women's Centre (DWC), says her group was informed during the last week of August it would be de-ratified at the beginning of September if members didn't make changes to their constitution.

At issue was the lack of an opt-out clause for students looking to receive a refund on their \$2 levy paid to the women's centre.

Learning about the problem a week before school started was inconvenient to say the least, says Kirby.

"Frosh week is a very important time to be operating. We have students moving into residence, and we want to help provide a safe space away from that if they need it," she says. "Not being able to be as out there while having to deal with these internal issues was really detrimental."

Preparations were also under way for Take Back the Night, an inter-

national rally held each year to raise awareness about violence against women. Those activities were put on hold to deal with ratification.

"We're a limited resource organization, and when you have all those resources tied up in trying to figure out what's going on and why we're not getting ratified... it makes it really difficult for us to do the work we're supposed to be doing on campus and in the community," she says. "It's kind of gotten us off to a really bad start."

Kirby says the issue will be settled at the centre's annual general meeting, to be held next month. For the time being, they are provisionally ratified, which allows staff to continue getting paid.

DSU vice president (internal) Daniel Boyle says the ratification application from the DWC was received on July 31. It took a few weeks before the Society Policy Committee was able to review it. When he informally approached DWC co-ordinator Elizabeth McCormack about the matter, Boyle thought he was doing the centre a favour.

He admits this approach did not go down so well. He says a formal notice did follow, though Kirby says formal notice was never received.

The Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG), is in a dispute with the DSU over two issues in its constitution.

Boyle says NSPIRG's practice of having at least 50 per cent and no more than 75 per cent of its board include women is a case of gender discrimination that goes against the Human Rights Act. The previous DSU council consulted with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, which found that this was a

case of gender discrimination.

The DSU is also concerned about the existence of community members on NSPIRG's board, which is the primary issue in this dispute - Boyle says NSPIRG seems willing to change the gender makeup clause.

Boyle says having community members on the Board is in violation of the DSU's policy and that it is supposed to be a student-run, student-funded organization.

"The original constitution of NSPIRG, back when it was called DalPIRG, was to have a Dalhousie chapter open that would be funded and managed solely by students. This changed over the years. The Dalhousie chapter was intended to help springboard a full Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group, of which Dal would be a chapter of," he says. "Instead, it would seem DalPIRG became NSPIRG."

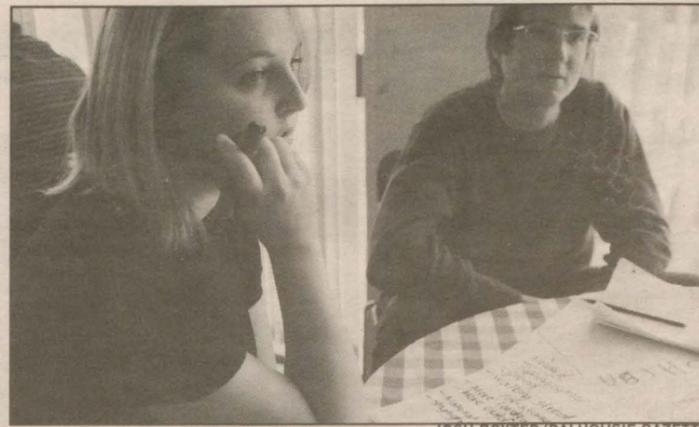
Asaf Rashid, NSPIRG's campaigns co-ordinator, does not agree with Boyle's interpretation of the community members issue.

NSPIRG preferred to give no further comment regarding the ongoing dispute.

Boyle hopes the NSPIRG matter can be resolved by the next meeting of DSU council, scheduled for Oct. 8. For now, the DSU will continue to withhold the levy money, which Boyle says is the responsible way to handle the situation.

"You can't provide funds to a cause that is not specifically following the rules as outlined (in the Society Policy)," he says.

Boyle says there are 35 societies left to be ratified. The deadline for societies to be ratified is Oct. 15.



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Students asked for 24-hour study space at the DSU's public forum.

Students Imagine new campus

JANET MCGILL
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

With the new Dalhousie master plan now six months underway, the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) recently hosted an "Imagine" public forum to offer students the chance to help shape long-term goals for Dal's development.

The DSU hoped to attract about 100 students by advertising for two weeks before the Sept. 23 event using posters, buzz boards, volt screens and the CKDU radio station, to name a few. Imagining got underway with a group of students a third of that size.

Dal's last master plan is nearly two decades old. The plans of the 1991 Collective Vision were set in motion when many current undergraduate students were taking their first steps.

High among the list of needs is a quiet, well-lit, study space open past midnight, or 24 hours a day.

Students expressed varied and sometimes contradictory needs for the future. They identified the need for improved transit routes servicing the campus and the closure of University Avenue to traffic. They also asked for both more parking lots and more green space.

Students also want to find ways to create a better sense of community between the three campuses, as well as the construction of a "central" point on the Studley campus. They asked for more 911 security telephones, more apple trees, affordable housing and more places to microwave lunches, boil hot water and snooze for an hour or two on campus.

The need for improved graduate student offices and for an overhaul of the Grad House was also widely acknowledged, as well as increased access to computers at peak hours and to wireless Internet.

Students listed the Law Library,

the atrium of the Killam Library, the Rowe building, the Carleton campus quad, the colourful deck chairs scattered across common areas and the "forest" behind the Henry Hicks building maintained by the Sustain Dal society as a few examples of what they liked.

As the sole student representative on the university's steering committee, DSU president Courtney Larkin will have to make sense out of the stack of proposals scribbled in marker and piled in front of her at the Imagine event.

When asked how she felt about her role on the committee, she said she is not a "token" student voice and that the consultants from IBI Group - hired to help guide the master planning process - the members of the senate and the board of directors were taking student concerns seriously.

In reference to the turnout for the Imagine event, Larkin said "the people that were here were getting a lot done... with this type of event we really believe that the people who come are the right people."

Fourth-year psychology student Katie Fischer said she decided to attend the event because she wanted to have some say in how her campus is changing.

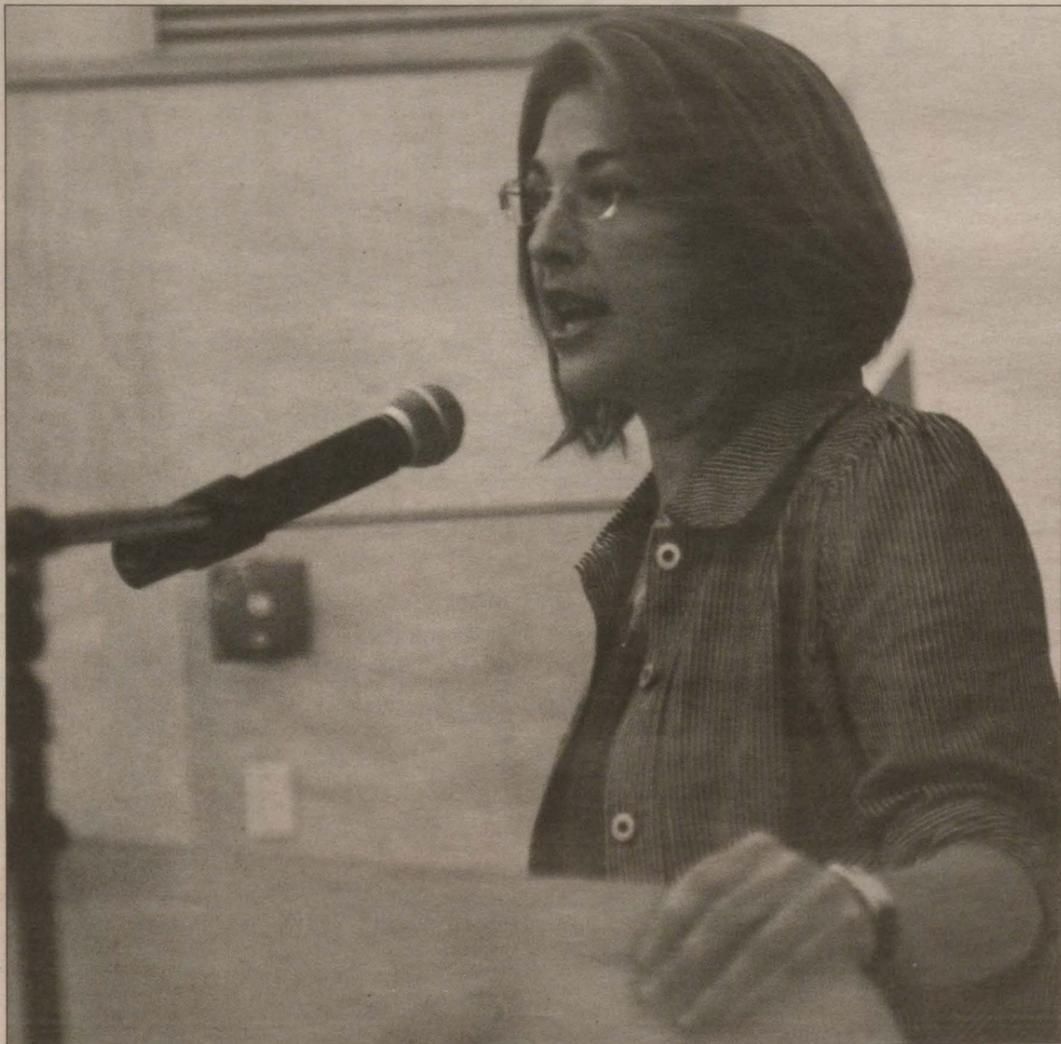
"Buildings go down and others come up and I'm not involved in the changes," she said.

It is crucial for students to have "reasons to stay on campus," she continued, because "finding your niche" can make a world of difference.

Fischer said she was glad she attended the event but was hesitant to assume her involvement would lead to any dramatic change.

"This is what I expected, but I'm skeptical," she said, acknowledging that some of the proposals made by students would be "huge undertakings."

Klein speaks at Dal



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

On Sept. 26, more than 100 Dalhousie students and Haligonians collected in the McCain Arts and Social Science building to hear the economic theorist/journalist, Naomi Klein, speak about capitalism and its exploitation of disaster crises. Klein said the past 35 years "will be known for the liberalization for accumulating profit" instead of the liberalization of women or the working class.



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Candidates challenge current council

RUTH MESTECKIN
NEWS EDITOR

Promises and proposals zipped to and fro in the Neptune Theatre on Sept. 25 as Halifax mayoral candidates David Boyd, Sheila Fougere and incumbent Peter Kelly drew up their visions for the city.

A crowd of about 150 people listened to the mayoral hopefuls answer questions in a moderated forum that addressed standout issues including crime, transportation and their views on the biggest challenge plaguing Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM).

Kelly's stance pointed to the city's large space. He says it's vital to understand the different needs of rural and urban communities.

"They want latitudes," said mayor Kelly. "(We need) to give them more autonomy through community council."

Councillor Fougere also targeted community divide as a crucial obstacle.

"We need to improve on what we have now," she said, smiling broadly to the crowd. "I would like to see the size of council reduced."

She added that HRM has tried to make the current council "one size fits all" and this brought disadvantages to communities with varying needs.

Tagging himself as a "blue-collar worker," Boyd was brief in his proposition.

"We have to work together to find solutions (in) rural areas as much as urban," he said, eyes glued to the paper and sprinting through his words. "It's a great model that works."

Candidates clashed on the pitch for a HRM transportation authority. Kelly and Boyd were gung-ho on the bid.

Kelly opted for more buses and creating partnerships with other municipalities. Boyd echoed Kelly's plan for more buses and suggested looking at other city models.

"We need to bring it back to the people," Boyd said repeatedly throughout the debate.

But Fougere resisted the building of an integrated authority, explaining municipalities should primarily provide services to properties. She wants to use federal government funding to enhance the transit system.

Boyd and Fougere also highlighted the greatest mistakes of Kelly's current mayoral term.

Boyd cited wasteful spending. "The cat bylaw is an embarrassment," said Boyd. He added that council should address the major issue of youth crime, which garnered a few cheers from the audience.

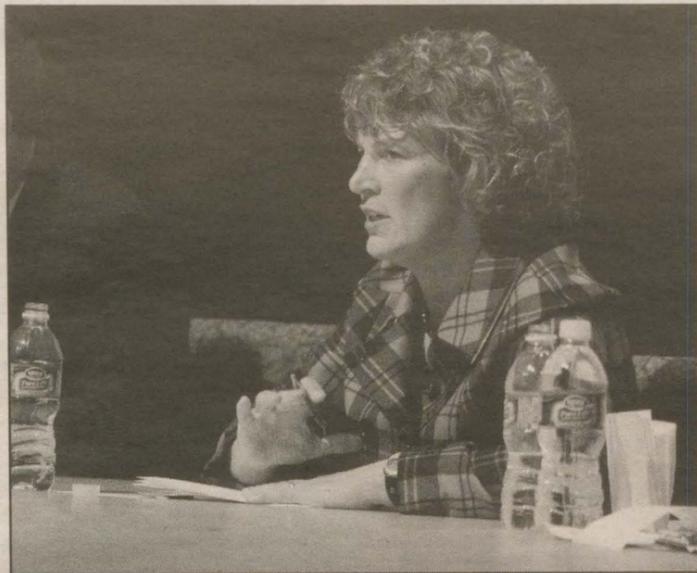
Fougere found fault with Halifax's reaction to losing the bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games. She said the city should have been more public about its response to the loss and added the major slip-up was "not making Canada fight for the games."

Kelly defended himself against the arguments.

"We do get bogged down with details," he explained, fumbling with his words. He added that councillors usually dealt with issues collectively rather than individually. Kelly said there should be an effort to remind council to avoid spending too much time on the smaller particulars.

Media has also pegged Halifax as the Canadian city with the most crimes per capita. The candidates threw in their two cents on how to rebrand the city.

Kelly suggested trying to understand the causes of crime and providing more resources and funding for increased policing.



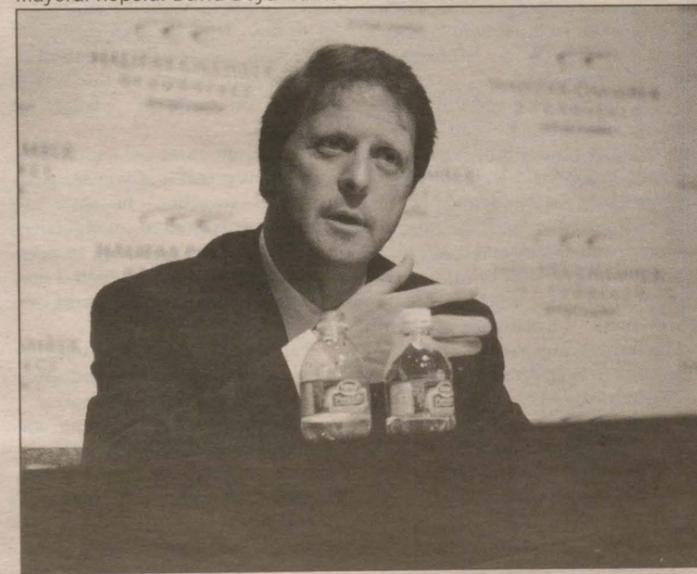
JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Sheila Fougere says Halifax media must stop sensationalizing violence.



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Mayoral hopeful David Boyd wants more buses in Halifax.



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Incumbent Peter Kelly says we need to understand the urban/rural divide.

Boyd proposed to install more phone booths in HRM. But he said he didn't follow the hype.

"I haven't seen our city branded as an unsafe city," said Boyd. "(We need) to remind people that it is a safe place."

Fougere pointed out there are still huge social issues and the city has no excuse with the resources it has to not be able to solve these problems.

She proposed increasing police visibility. But, she said, we're still unique as a city because people still talk to one another, a pleasantry that is often a rarity in other cities.

Fougere also wants to make it clear the media need to stop sensationalizing violence in communities, because it only "expands the brand." "Feeling safe is a perception," she said. "Being safe is a reality."

The three contenders also shared their hypothetical visions for the year 2020.

For Boyd, it came down to polling: The HRM website should regularly poll citizens on city issues.

Fougere said she foresees a thriving business community, a city that is the most accessible and easy to get around, the best transit system and "the healthiest people in all of North America."

"We (will) continue and grow to be the most beautiful city," said Fougere.

Kelly said Halifax is a welcoming and open community and he wants to foster that growth. He hopes Halifax can become a city where citizens and their children feel safe and wants to reduce greenhouse gases.

Municipal elections are set for Oct. 18.

Mayoral hopefuls pledge student partnership

STEPH ROBERTSON
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Halifax mayoral candidates aren't putting student issues on the backburner in their election bids. But some are more vocal than others in how they plan to work with students and the Halifax Student Alliance (HSA).

Current mayor Peter Kelly is striving to reclaim his role in office. He says he plans on aiding students with housing issues, but his policy plans lack specifics.

"We will do what we can to help them," says Kelly. "A portion of our budget is for affordable housing and if we can improve the opportunities, we will be there to help."

Kelly says he's had input from the "student body" on its concerns with crime. He's also trying to work with the universities' infrastructure: he's helping fix up Dalhousie's fields and Saint Mary's University ice rinks.

"If we can co-operate it will maximize opportunities for the students," says Kelly.

Mayoral hopeful David Boyd, a taxi driver and tow truck operator when he's not campaigning, says not only does he know Halifax is ready for a change, but he can "feel the momentum" building in his favour.

He wants to solve the housing crunch in the HRM, saying that "we should be pushing other levels of government to take action." His aim is to rezone areas and expand into others to keep housing affordable for students.

He's also concerned about public transportation. Boyd wants to extend bus hours so that they run until around 2 a.m. The current bus hours "really don't suffice," says Boyd, considering how often students go out. He says there should be a "university bus" that runs in a constant loop from campus to downtown.

"It'll help students out overall because it leaves a lot of burden off of their friends who have to worry about getting their friends home," says Boyd.

Not content to lay the burden of safety solely on the shoulders of the buses, Boyd also wants to push for more funding to student safety programs to keep students educated about risks.

"We are doing a great job, but can definitely go further," he says.

Perhaps his most ambitious plan is to create a program to help students pay off loans. He says Halifax "can't realistically have free education... paid for by the government," like some European countries do. Though university is a federal and

not a municipal issue, Boyd says he wants to push for a way to help students shed their debt, adding he will lobby on behalf of students for loan elimination.

Councillor Sheila Fougere has worked at Dal as both the manager of conference services and as manager of the Off-Campus Housing Office. With 25 per cent of HRM's population under the age of 25, Fougere says she must "recognize that in the things (she does)."

Transportation is high on Fougere's list of priorities. She proposes to expand the Metro Link route and extend its hours and to implement a night shuttle. Although a shuttle would cost a sizeable half million dollars to start, she believes it's a worthwhile investment because of the "very active nightlife in downtown Halifax."

"Our Metro Transit folks have already done up an order of magnitude cost for a late night shuttle and I think that's something we can work towards," she says.

Fougere adds it probably won't happen within the next year due to cost.

She's also looking into improving housing for students through the creation of a "gold star system." Fougere wants to create a partnership between the city and student housing, an idea that began at Dal. The gold star system boils down to quality control: Landlords can apply to the program and be approved if they meet certain standards. Students looking for housing will know if a place has been starred, it's not going to be a hole in the ground about to rip them off.

Her other focus is the city's economy. She's "very aware (that) students graduate with large debt loads," and says she wants to ensure Halifax can keep up with the rest of Canada. Higher paying jobs will both make it possible to live in Halifax, and let students stay after they graduate. If this plan succeeds, students won't need to migrate west for wages that let them pay off their loans.

Fougere says she recognizes the importance in working closely with student groups such as the HSA.

"There is student turnover over time and we need to grow those relationships and have those discussions," she says. "Students are such a huge portion of the population, even if it's only for 10 months of the year at a time."

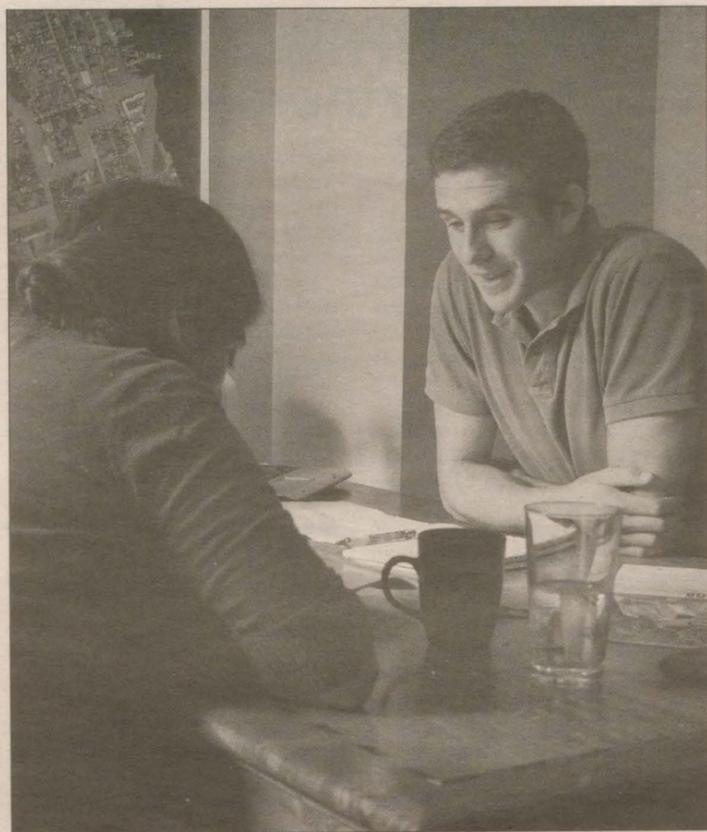
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JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

James Stuewe, District 12 candidate, says it's possible to build downtown and maintain Halifax's heritage.

Dal student vies for city council

SUZANNA DE RIDDER
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

James Stuewe doesn't like it when people say he's too young to be a councillor.

The 26-year-old Dalhousie student is running against 23-year old Mount Allison grad Jerome Downey, incumbent Dawn Sloane and civil engineer Cameron Ells for the position of councillor of District 12, Downtown Halifax.

"There's a big difference between experience and leadership. We've got eight years of experience. What we need is leadership," he says, citing as his inspiration Napoleon Bonaparte, who was about 30 years old when he conquered Europe.

"Age is something for people to kind of box you in," he says.

Stuewe studied for a bachelor of management degree at Dal, but took a year off before finishing his studies to travel. He put his schooling on hold for a master of public administration to run in the upcoming municipal elections.

"In the back of my mind, I've always known for a long time that politics was how I was going to give back," says the Dartmouth native.

So when a family friend suggested he run for municipal council, he decided to give it a go.

"He said, 'James, this city is ready for this, and so are you,'" he recalls. "And I thought, you know what? I am ready for this."

After living and working in New Zealand and travelling to 24 other countries, Stuewe realized Halifax is still small enough to avoid a lot of the urban issues other cities were having, such as overpopulated city centres.

But he still thinks downtown Halifax requires change. Stuewe says Halifax is in a struggle for its future and the present municipal council is not being proactive.

Stuewe says one of the main issues facing the downtown district is transit. He says transit doesn't work downtown because the city is too broadly built. He says getting more people to move downtown would improve both transit and the downtown community.

"We can encourage the right kind of density downtown," he says. "It's bringing community back downtown."

Stuewe also supports late night

transit because he says it would help alleviate crime by getting people off the streets.

"Crime spikes at night," Stuewe says. "Random crimes, like guy gets drunk, guy punches another drunk guy, both get arrested, and the next morning they're like, you want to press charges? And they look at each other and go 'I don't even remember.'"

Another issue Stuewe wants to tackle as a councillor is to get more people to move downtown by increasing the supply of mixed, affordable housing developments.

"There's no one living in the gravel parking lots," says Stuewe. He adds that despite all the protests against more downtown development, it is possible to build without harming Halifax's heritage and streetscapes.

"We could have a building that we require to have an affordability component to it, and that interacts with the streetscape...it's back to that old discussion, height or heritage. But it's about making buildings work downtown," he says.

He says more buildings downtown will also provide more opportunities for businesses to settle in Halifax.

"The province spends all this money and all this time attracting these businesses and there's nowhere for them to open," he says.

Big businesses do not want to haggle for a building — if they can't get the building they want, they will simply go somewhere else, says Stuewe.

"What's Halifax to them? We need to be progressive," he adds.

More businesses would also mean more jobs for university graduates. Some students come to Halifax for university, only to leave to pursue a career elsewhere.

"When students come here, they recognize it's very unlikely that they'll get work, very unlikely that they'll be able to afford to live here. So they stay in a transient mindset," says Stuewe.

He thinks if students could stay in Halifax after graduation and make it their community, a place to settle down and start a family, they would change their minds.

"No wonder mail boxes get pushed over, stuff gets broken. It's not their town," he says. "But it is your town, even if only for four years."

Wheeling for clean water

DAVID REID
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

When Dalhousie student Colin Campbell set out on a 2,000-kilometre bike trip to raise awareness for water conservation, he knew he would face some challenges. But finding creative ways to cook pork tenderloin was something he never expected.

"Maple Leaf Foods gave us food for the whole trip," he says. "We had pork tenderloin for dinner every night, and after two weeks, we were really trying to keep it interesting. On our last night we made pork tenderloin tacos."

Campbell is a founding member of the non-profit group Hydro Heroes, whose goal is to raise awareness of water issues, such as access to clean water in developing countries, and to promote the efficient use of water.

"Water is the source of life," says Campbell. "The average Canadian uses 4,400 litres per day, but 1.1 billion people around the world have no access to clean water at all."

Campbell says we take water for granted and often don't realize how essential it is to everything we do — and not just for survival. Constructing one car, for example, consumes 30,000 litres of water.

Motivated to make a difference locally that could have impact globally, Campbell harnessed his entrepreneurial drive and commerce education to start Hydro Heroes. He hit upon the idea of the bike ride as a way to grab people's attention and inspire them.

With two friends providing support in an RV, Campbell set out from Toronto to Halifax, cycling about 120 kilometres every day for two weeks after school ended for summer. Along the way he visited schools to share his water conservation message with students.

"I believe Canada should be a role model for efficient water use. We can set an example for the world to follow, and help other countries build infrastructure to give access to clean water to those who need it," says Campbell. "Water is our most important resource."

The journey was certainly challenging, and not just because of repetitive pork tenderloin. "The worst day was in Quebec. I couldn't find my tire lever, so changing my tire took an hour and a half," he says. "It was cold, it was rainy and it was really, really windy. All day long I was going uphill through the Laurentians. It was awful — I just kept thinking, 'when is this going to end?' It was really tough to keep going that day."

Keeping the wheels turning every day took mental focus and a Michael Phelps-calibre meal plan.

"I had four meals a day," says Campbell. "I just kept eating."



SUZANNA DE RIDDER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Student Colin Campbell cycled 120 kilometres daily for two weeks.

His breakfasts usually consisted of a grapefruit, an apple, a banana, Harvest Crunch cereal, a few peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and bacon and eggs. Dinner, of course, was pork tenderloin.

In spite of the challenges, there were some highlights to the trip.

"The scenery was amazing and we met some really great people," says Campbell. "One couple from New Brunswick brought us into their home and invited their friends over for dinner. They treated us like old friends — it was a really good time."

The enthusiasm of the school groups was another reward for Campbell.

"I wanted to show people that anything is possible if you set goals and work together," he says. "To make this trip I had to set objectives and stay focused on them, to overcome the bumps in the road. I also relied on the help and support of a lot of people."

Family and friends came together to help Campbell's cause, and sponsors provided generous support.

Campbell says the same approach of positive thinking, goal-setting and especially working together as a team could be used to change

our water consumption habits and make a real difference in the world.

"Nothing happens overnight, but if we work together and keep pushing, we will succeed," he says. "Water doesn't just nourish life, it connects people. The ocean here in Halifax is the same ocean that touches India, Argentina, Mozambique."

So what's next for Hydro Heroes?

"We want to keep building relationships and spreading our message," says Campbell.

The group is working to obtain video conferencing to bring its presentation to even more schools across Canada. He plans to bike from Toronto to Niagara Falls next summer and hopes to involve 50 to 100 riders. And on Oct. 3, the Marquee is hosting an event with a portion of the proceeds to benefit Hydro Heroes. Next year Campbell plans to travel to The Hague for the model United Nations conference, where he sees an opportunity to spread his message internationally. Running with the momentum from his recent trip, he hopes to enlist the aid of foreign students to raise awareness in their countries and to make contacts with other non-profit groups that share his goals.

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NEWS BITES

CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS:

U of C lands millions in funding

The University of Calgary is set to receive \$5 million annually in funding for the next 20 years, which will go toward building a future downtown campus. The announcement was made at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology.

Vice-president (external relations) Roman Cooney told *The Gauntlet* the campus will add an

extra 100,000 square feet, which would translate into more space for 400 to 500 new students.

"The question is, what can we do that is another dimension to a student's educational experience," he said.

Cooney added the project could be ready as early as 2011 or 2012.

Source: *The Gauntlet*

Ryerson administrator threatened

An unidentified Ryerson administrator was threatened Sept. 17 with a letter laced with pink powder, reported *The Eyeopener*.

After the letter was reported, campus security called 911 around 12:32 p.m. Fire, police, ambulance and the Hazardous Materials Unit arrived. The administrator was quarantined and the surrounding area was evacuated.

No one was injured.

The powder was found to be a non-toxic wheat product, but emergency response officials and Ryerson don't think the letter was all that harmless.

Police think a male Ryerson student is responsible.

"It's a form of terrorism," said Brian Bertram, the Hazardous Materials Captain who responded to the call. "It's domestic terrorism on a smaller scale."

Source: *The Eyeopener*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS BY THE NUMBERS:

\$760,000: The value of a painting by Pierre-Auguste Renoir, which was stolen more than 30 years ago and recovered Sept. 26.

Source: *CBC*

\$3 billion: Pledged to fight malaria by world leaders and the heads of philanthropic organizations who gathered at the United Nations last Thursday.

(USD)

Source: *CBC*

1: Number of times China has completed a spacewalk mission as of Sept. 28.

Source: *CTV*

10 minutes: Amount of time it took Yves Rossy of Switzerland to fly across the English Channel using a jet-propelled wing on Sept. 26.

Source: *CBC*

\$20 USD: The fine next year in California for drivers using electronic devices to read or send text messages. Repeat offenders will pay \$50.

Source: *CBC*

3 men: were arrested on Sept. 27 in London on suspicion for planning acts of terrorism.

Source: *The Toronto Star*

NATIONAL HEADLINES:

Ignatieff pushes for Liberal support

Deputy Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff says the only route to stopping a Conservative win is to vote Liberal, adding that the NDP and Green Party don't have a possibility of forming government.

"If you don't vote Liberal, Canada will go into a major economic crisis," said Ignatieff.

He said current Prime Minister Stephen Harper wants to weaken government at a time when the world is in financial crisis.

The Toronto Star reported that a new poll shows the Liberals are currently tied with the NDP at 21 per cent of public support and the Green Party has 7 per cent.

Source: *The Toronto Star*

Harper attends his high school reunion

Prime Minister Stephen Harper spoke to more than 1,000 graduates at his high school reunion. Also in attendance were RCMP officers, campaign buses, security guards and the national media, reported *CTV*.

Harper spoke at the reception hall gala for the 50th anniversary of his alma mater, Toronto's Richview Collegiate Institute.

In his speech, Harper said his

favourite part about his job was travelling.

"I've been to many beautiful and wealthy places ... and to countries and neighbourhoods that are poor and dangerous beyond imagination," he said.

Harper noted apathy as one of his peeves. But he also said he joked in his 1978 yearbook that he spent five years "active in the apathy movement."

Source: *CTV*

NDP reveals family-based platform

Federal NDP leader Jack Layton disclosed a new platform to aid Canadian families, adding he would fund the plan by increasing corporate tax rates, reported *CTV*.

The new plan, which focussed on child care, pledges to give families a "new baby bonus," a monthly cheque of \$400, which would replace the benefits already in place.

Layton's proposal would also give \$1 billion to improve the lives of First Nations people.

The plan would cost approximately \$500 million in the first year it is implemented, \$1,000 for the next two years and \$4.4 billion by 2012.

The NDP says the country will save \$1.1 billion per year by removing troops from Afghanistan.

Source: *CTV*

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WRITE FOR
THE DAL GAZETTE



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Miniscule student turnout to the DSU's feedback event showed the union isn't governed through student input.

Meet the press gang

JOHN HILLMAN
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

As publicly promised, I attended the Dalhousie Student Union's semi-annual "Imagine" event on Sept. 23. Some of you may remember me imploring the masses to rise up and swamp the event with a tidal wave of student opinion. We were going to storm the barricades like modern day Jacobins and tell vice-president (internal) Dan Boyle that we were sick and tired of listening to our girlfriends talk about what a nice guy he seemed to be when we just knew there's a flesh-starved Hannibal Lecter lurking somewhere beneath his impossibly calm exterior.

Things didn't turn out quite as I'd hoped.

Of the 30 or so people who showed up, I had the pleasure of speaking with a grand total of one attendee who was not a member of council, a reporter for *The Gazette*, or a DSU employee. The responsibility of representing the 15,000 or so non-DSU insiders apparently fell upon this single mathematics graduate student, who actually only managed to show up in time for the pizza, as things wound down earlier than planned.

Now, I could easily write an article about the disgraceful apathy on the part of DSU councillors, the vast majority of whom couldn't be bothered to promote or even attend this crucial student feedback session. But I think their chastisement is best left to Courtney Larkin and her unholy machete vengeance.

The more serious problem arising from this miniscule turnout is that it makes an utter joke out of the idea that the DSU executive and council are governing based on student input. The only attendees of this immensely important public event were members of the innermost circle of DSU politics and a sprinkling of Gazette staffers, two groups of self-important windbags whose opinions are not exactly underrepresented on campus.

Between the 17th and 19th centuries, the British had their own problem with apathy. Just as most students today are reluctant to sit through hours of DSU councillors droning on and on about the need to remove councillor speaking limitations, so too were most average Brits hesitant to sign up for years of thankless, backbreaking labour aboard the ships of the Royal Navy. Given that the fleet could not sail without adequate participation from the general population, the Royal Navy resorted to a sure-fire strategy: The use of press gangs.

Press gangs were teams of burly men who would prowl around port cities looking for suitable candidates to recruit for lengthy terms of service in Royal Navy. Given most citizens' reluctance to enter the navy, it was common for these gangs to apply liberal beatings and a healthy quantity of rope to help their recruits recognize the many charms of life at sea. It might not have been pretty, but then again, the Brits had one hell of a navy. Clearly, the DSU could stand to learn a few things from this example.

The infrastructure needed to form our own press gang is already in place. Instead of travelling round campus and spreading the word about upcoming events, members of the currently existing "Tiger Troupe" would instead beat a diverse selection of students senseless, dragging their semi-conscious bodies to the various conferences, committees, and consultations that depend on student participation. Things might get a little bit messy but for the first time in living memory a representative collection of Dal students would attend all DSU events.

While the gangs would not necessarily solve the additional problem of keeping students at the meetings once they recover enough strength to crawl away, council can easily address this by either making desertion punishable by public lashings, or by upping the post-meeting pizza budgets. Sure, there will be inevitable ethical questions that arise from the notion of beating students into participating in the democratic process, but rest assured that the press gang will "settle" any concerns in a timely and efficient manner.

I can see the new promotional slogan already: "The DSU Tiger Troupe - If they won't join you, beat them."

John Hillman is a graduate history student. He has been an elitist windbag and Gazette opinions contributor for several exceedingly self-indulgent years.

High-speed for how long?

RYAN BOON
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

For most students, having high-speed Internet access is right next to food and shelter as a basic requirement. Luckily the ability to quickly update your Facebook pages or e-mail your professor can be accessed at any number of locations both on and off campus.

But a new report suggests Canada's broadband networks are dangerously behind expected global standards. That means your favourite wi-fi hotspot could soon end up as desperately slow as the dial-up Internet services some of us still regrettably remember.

Released last week by the Oxford Saïd Business School in London and the Universidad de Oviedo in Spain, the report highlights the growing divide between broadband accessibility, speed and reliability across numerous developed countries. The report also looks at future Internet demands including which countries are on track to handle the high-video and media burdens of a world three years from now.

Out of a total of 42 nations studied, only Japan was deemed suitable for future broadband needs (an estimated 11.25 mbps download speed, and five mbps upload). Canada scored a below-average rank of 27th, putting us behind tech giants such as Bulgaria, Romania and Latvia.

Part of the problem lies in the xenophobic world of Canadian telecommunications. Rogers, Bell, and a few smaller providers all have a stronghold in a market that remains forbidden to any international companies due to the mandates of the

federal Telecommunications Act. The stability of those companies' consumer bases has inevitably led to fewer improvements and little in the way of innovation from our patriotic broadband providers. The lack of foreign competitors in the Canadian market has kept our telecommunications industry from expanding globally and put a stranglehold on better services at home - services that a healthy and competitive marketplace could potentially bring about.

Luckily, we live in a time of easily toppled minority governments and bloated campaign promises. The competition between politicians to deliver the shiniest promises might make up for the competition that is lacking in the corporate scene. Already the Conservatives here in Nova Scotia have vowed to provide wireless broadband to every part of the province by the end of 2009, and with recent high-impact pledges by Liberal leader Stéphane Dion and NDP leader Jack Layton, now would be the time to pressure politicians for a more substantial telecommunications investment.

If this country wishes to set new global standards in technology, research and education, it is imperative we set up the infrastructure now to allow us to meet future demands. The alternative is to lag even farther behind, becoming a relic of a simpler, slower time. It's going to be hard to keep up in the global classroom if everyone else is using laptops and we're stuck on typewriters.

Ryan Boon is a third-year contemporary studies student at King's. His typewriter sits neglected in his closet.

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Russia plays for power

OMAR SELIM
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

For many the conflict between Russia and Georgia seems a shocking development. Not long ago Russia was saddled with debt, struggling to find its feet after the fall of the Soviet Union. As such, it may seem a strange transition from an apparent position of weakness to waging a war.

But this is merely the next logical step since Russia began flexing various muscles in recent years: Economic, political and now military.

This trend began when Vladimir Putin was elected president. A veteran in political games, he refused to

join NATO and began Russia's quest to strengthen its control over the Eastern Bloc.

The rising price of oil served Russia well economically, and gave the country increased political and economic clout on the world stage.

The war in Georgia has a deep impact on how the country functions. On a local level, the Georgian government can no longer act autonomously and the political influence that Russia exerts over Georgia has increased exponentially. This influence could give Russia control of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline and the South Caucasus gas pipeline.

On the regional level, the war

has allowed Russia to assert its position of strength in the Caucasus in a highly forceful manner. It seems extremely unlikely that the rest of the Caucasus would now oppose the Russian government.

The most significant repercussion of the conflict in Georgia was the power Russia was able to acquire on a global scale. Georgia has a border with Turkey, a full NATO member state. Georgia itself is a U.S. ally and was pushing for NATO membership at the time of the conflict. Russia's attack presented a direct challenge to NATO, which was already facing an existential crisis. Although NATO held a position of strength through-

out the 1990s and much of the 2000s so far, its involvement in Afghanistan has not been successful and the appetite for war in most NATO member states has swiftly diminished. As well, the U.S., NATO's largest military contributor, has most of its armed forces spread thinly between Iraq and Afghanistan.

It is precisely these facts that explain the overwhelming success of Russia's power game. NATO and the U.S. were both in weak positions to help their Georgian allies in the event of a conflict. Russian forces were at hand and were able to quickly overwhelm Georgian forces when a provocation came, in the form of

the Georgian attempt to enforce governmental control in South Ossetia, a separatist autonomous region allied to Russia.

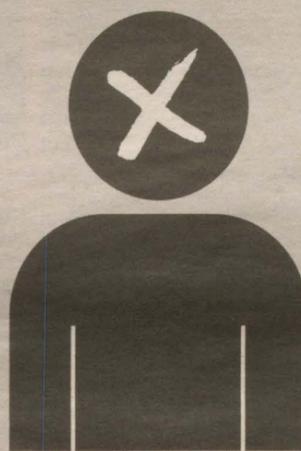
Russia knew the attack itself would corner NATO commanders into making a difficult decision: Either accept the intervention or risk a long, bloody and expensive war. Once the dust settled from what was not much longer than a week of combat, Russia had struck a huge blow to NATO's faltering credibility. NATO could not even stop an attack occurring on its own doorstep and was powerless to protect an ally.

Omar Selim is a third-year biology major.

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- Employee Card issued by employer
- Old Age Security Identification Card
- Public Transportation Card
- Student ID Card
- Library Card
- Liquor Identification Card
- Canadian Blood Services/Héma-Québec Card
- Fishing Licence
- Wildlife Identification Card
- Hunting Licence
- Firearm Acquisition Card/Firearm Possession Card
- Outdoors Card and Licences
- Local Community Service Centre Card (CLSC)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS (containing name and address)

- Credit Card Statement
- Bank Statement
- Utility Bill (residential telephone, cable TV, public utilities commission, hydro, gas or water)
- Attestation of Residence issued by the responsible authority of an Indian band or reserve
- Local Property Tax Assessment
- School, College or University Report Card or Transcript
- Residential Lease, Residential Mortgage Statement or Agreement
- Canada Child Tax Benefit Statement
- Income Tax Assessment Notice
- Insurance Policy
- Government Cheque or Government Cheque Stub with elector name
- Statement of Employment Insurance Benefits Paid (T4E)
- Canada Pension Plan Statement of Contributions/Quebec Pension Plan Statement of Participation
- Statement of Old Age Security (T4A) or Statement of Canada Pension Plan Benefits (T4AP)
- Statement of Benefits from provincial workplace safety or insurance board
- Statement of Direct Deposit for provincial works or provincial disability support program
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- Attestation of Residence issued by the responsible authorities (shelters, soup kitchens, student/senior residences, long-term care facilities)
- Letter from public curator

Note: The pieces of identification required under the *Canada Elections Act* are not the same as those for provincial or municipal elections.

The above information is also available in a number of heritage and Aboriginal languages on the Elections Canada Web site at www.elections.ca.

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Letters to the editor

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Letters

The Gazette reserves the right to edit all letters for length and clarity. This publication will only print submissions that its editorial board deems to be in good taste and void of libellous and/or defamatory material. If the editorial board determines that a letter violates this policy, The Gazette may invite the author to revise the submission. Please submit to opinions@dalgazette.ca

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Submissions to The Gazette opinions section must be no longer than 650 words. Please submit a list of sources along with articles to opinions@dalgazette.ca. This publication only prints submissions its editorial board deems to be void of libellous and/or defamatory material. Submissions are due at noon on the Saturday prior to publication.

Re: Dion sidesteps student debt, Sept. 18.

This past week's *Gazette* led with a headline that insinuated that because Liberal Leader Stephane Dion did not make a post secondary funding announcement while on campus that he and his party do not have the interests of Dal students in mind. This could not be further from the truth.

Unfortunately for Dal students *The Gazette* is published weekly, not daily, because 24 hours after Mr. Dion's visit to Dal, he demonstrated his party's commitment not only to the students of Dalhousie but to students across Canada and to the future of post-secondary education.

At the University of Western Ontario in front of a group of students, Mr. Dion announced the Liberal Party's commitment to post secondary education. The details of the plan included a guaranteed universal education grant of \$1000 for each full-time student in Canada each year, 200,000 needs-based grants, 100,000 grants to promote access for underrepresented students, a pledge to reduce interest rates on federal student loans to prime plus 0.5 per cent and more funding for graduate students.

The plan was hailed by the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), of which the Dalhousie Student Union is a member.

"CASA believes the measures proposed by the Liberal Party will help students and families cope with the accelerated costs of education," said Zach Churchill, CASA national director, in a release on the association's website. "The proposed plan, if implemented, can significantly enhance access to post-secondary education system, by providing funding to students who need it the most, while helping to lower the epidemic growth of student debt in this country."

As of Sept. 22 as I write this letter,

neither NDP leader Jack Layton nor Prime Minister Stephen Harper has released his plan to help students in this country, if either of them indeed have one. Dalhousie students should stand with political leaders who speak up for their interests.

I commend *The Gazette* for bringing federal election issues to students. I hope further coverage will be balanced.

Keith Torrie
Fourth-year political science major,
member of the Dal Liberal Club.

Re: Vote or Die, Sept. 18

I'd like to believe that Hillman's concern about voter turnout for DSU elections is genuine. But a discussion on student politics served as a thinly veiled cover for a series of personal attacks on the DSU. There was zero credibility and zero substance.

As director of Shinerama, I had the unique opportunity to work closely with the DSU without being part of its executive. I can assure you, these young men and women are working hard on behalf of the students at Dalhousie. If you don't think so, go talk to them - their doors are always open for any student.

My knowledge of the DSU makes it easy for me to read Hillman's article and assess its credibility. It is, after all, printed in *The Gazette*, an otherwise credible news source. But how would a first-year student know, for example, that Hillman ran against Courtney Larkin in the DSU elections last year? He lost, of course. And fairly. Sounds to me like a classic case of sour grapes.

Whatever Hillman was trying to accomplish was unfortunately lost in the shuffle. If anything, it will work against voter turnout - not for it.

Everyone has an opinion on the DSU. It's clear to me that Hillman has not only an opinion, but also an

agenda.

Gordon Simms
First-year masters of medicinal
chemistry

Re: What every guy should know, Sept. 25

It's a shame Catherine Holloway's "Scientific Skeptic" column wasn't a part of last week's edition of *The Gazette*. If it was, she might have been able to expose some of the ridiculousness in Jason Savoury's fish-out-of-water opinion piece on a gynecological health seminar. Mr. Savoury preached the benefits of looking "beyond Western medicine" to allegedly more potent and safer botanical cures (such as raspberry leaf) that "science has overwhelmingly ignored". But promoting alternatives to meticulously studied and tested pharmaceuticals in favour of more "natural" remedies is both misleading and dangerous. I hope all those young women interested in learning more about their bodies keep in mind that the naturalness of a product has no connection to how effective a treatment it can be.

Owen Benoit
Fourth-year earth sciences

Re: What every guy should know, Sept. 25

If Jason Savoury had been a woman, he might not so easily have swallowed the bullshit delivered at the DIY Gynecological Health seminar two weeks ago.

The pill is possibly the best thing that has ever happened for my health, and for the health of many other women out there. Without it, I get two periods each month, with all the mood swings, painful cramps, and iron deficiencies that

come along with them. My period fluctuates so crazily due to the stress brought on by school and changes in diet. Sure, charting methods were used for ages, but there's a reason why oral contraception was revolutionary. There are other disadvantages to fertility awareness- women are often at their horniest when they are the most fertile, so relying on the fertility awareness method means you're tagging along after your partner's libido, and not your own.

Research has shown that the risk of ovarian cancer increases with each menstrual cycle. In some ways, our bodies haven't evolved past cave woman days, when we popped babies out as soon as we hit puberty and died young during childbirth. Simply put: My body naturally wants to kill me because I care more about my own education and empowerment than about being a baby-making machine.

Catherine Holloway
The scientific skeptic

Death by jokes

I hate politicians, but once in a while they do something I like. What surprises me the most is now Stephen Harper has done something I like.

He is actually sticking by his agriculture minister Gerry Ritz after all the controversy over a "tasteless" joke regarding listeriosis, although food scientists, the family of a victim and a former Tory MP all want Harper to fire Ritz.

Get over it. He made a mistake and that is something we all do. On top of that, the joke was pretty good.

If you are not going to vote for Harper, it should be because he is a control freak. Or because he does not have a decent environmental policy.

Refusing to fire a minister over

an ill-timed joke is actually a good reason to vote for Harper, not against him. It shows he will stick by his fellow workers and work as a team to get through an issue. It shows integrity and loyalty to his colleagues.

Maybe even Harper can be a decent guy sometimes.

Michelle Hampson
Second-year journalism student

Enough with the bus rage

Isn't it ridiculous how many lives must disappear before something is done? The Greyhound bus line has been having its fair share of violence lately, and it's leading people to question their safety aboard these buses.

We've all heard about the gruesome attack that took place on a Greyhound bus in July, when a man repeatedly stabbed, decapitated and sliced up the body of an unsuspecting man. On Sept. 22, another stabbing occurred on a Greyhound bus.

Have you heard that bus advertisement: "There's a reason you've never heard of bus rage"? Well, we have heard about bus rage, actually, and it has been long enough.

It's not only these attacks that have been terrifying - various weapons have been discovered aboard buses. What is wrong with the security procedures on these bus lines?

Metal detectors and an X-ray machine to check bags wouldn't be bad ideas. Perhaps security officers should do random security checks at bus stations. And, as a last resort, maybe cameras should be installed on buses, or maybe security officers should even ride on buses that are travelling great distances. Change needs to occur, now, before more lives are lost!

Jessica Gallant
First-year journalism student

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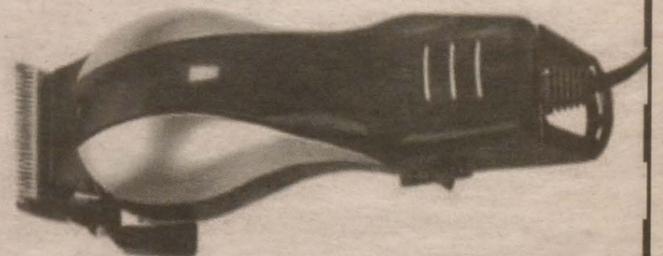
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We are Youth Club

LAURA DAWE
ARTS BEAT REPORTER

Andy March is Youth Club. He makes records. The bright-eyed, unassuming idealist has signed some of the most innovative acts of our talented regional municipality. They may have little in common musically, but together they comprise a movement. It's a movement of musical integrity, of friends, pushing and pulling each other forward.

Twenty-seven-year-old March is the drummer of the Museum Pieces, the Halifax/Montreal band with a sound like an omniscient backbone. He started the Youth Club record label in 2004 with Museum Pieces' front man Tyler Messick, who's no longer involved in the label.

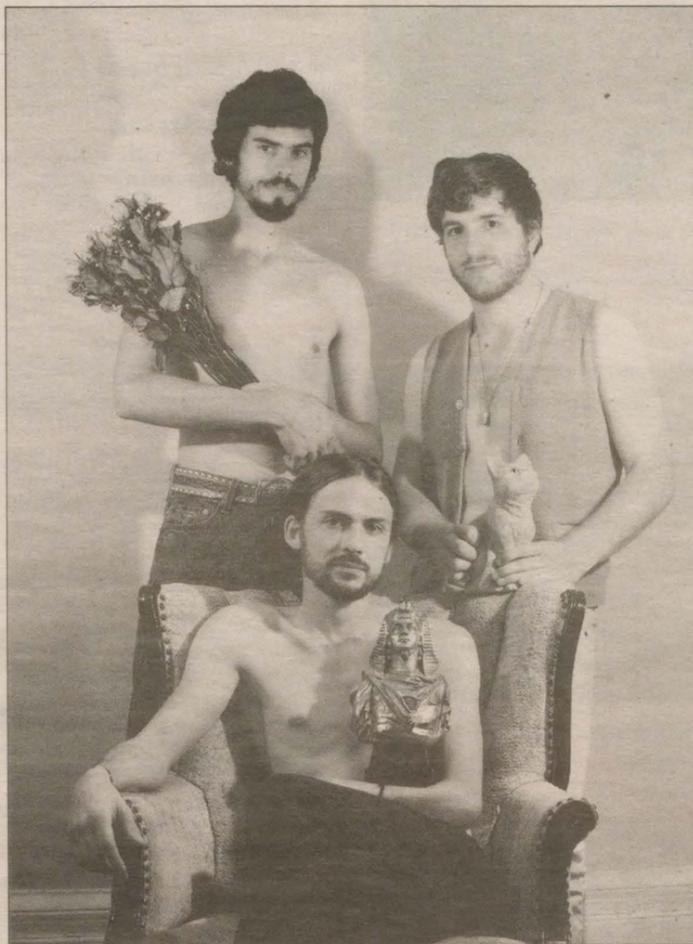
The two met in Grade 11. March went to just one of Messick's shows and then asked to be in his band.

"I told him I was good at thinking of new things to add to stuff," he says.

Over the course of four albums, the Pieces grew up like a fish grows legs: by planting their feet. Despite their notoriously strained relationship, March and Messick's respect for each other's musicianship has persevered. They have remained the band's core through a host of members such as Pamela Underwater, Brent Randall and The Joel Plaskett Emergency's Chris Pennell.

The current lineup includes Christian Simmons on bass and Greg Napier on Rhodes organ. The band's been doing mating dances with a major American and Canadian label. The results are potentially sexy.

But these shiny possibilities don't detract from March's commitment to



CHRIS FOSTER PHOTO

Andy March, Stacy Lloyd Brown and Justin Karas join the club.

Youth Club. Though, to hear him tell it, he does next to nothing. The records state another case altogether.

To start, Youth Club produced and released the only full-length al-

bum from the charismaticallysweaty, tight-jeaned Sharp Like Knives.

"I had just decided in my own head to start a label," March says. "I read an article about them in the pa-

per and just decided to sign them."

It was the worst record he ever made. The band's incredible live show wasn't as easy to capture as March had expected.

"They may have been gifted musicians, but they were very young," he says. "We were all very young."

Not as young as the inspirational duo known as Special Noise, who were not yet 20 when March signed them. The band's beat is so unique that March, like many first time listeners, wasn't into them until the second show he saw.

"I just walked home and cried after that show because I felt like I'd been wasting my life," he says.

After seeing their set he picked up the drums, and he's been playing them with the Museum Pieces ever since. He also picked up the band and added them, along with his own band, to Youth Club's particular, slow growing roster.

Add to that the Ghost Bees' two demos and their recent full-length album, *Tasseomancy*. With their latest album March says he "learned the value of trying harder." His efforts have been rewarded not only with a precious album, but one that has received much-deserved great press and recouped its production costs almost immediately.

This year, despite March's claims that he fills his days with coffee and procrastination, he's putting out three albums compared to his usual one: those of Fall Horsie, Ruby Jean and the Thoughtful Bees, and Stacy Lloyd Brown.

Fall Horsie's record, *Devil(e)durge*, is named for the thematic link that brings the songs together; the devil appearing to band member Justin Karas in several dreams he had during the year that he wrote the album. In one instance Lucifer appeared as a solo vocal performer with a voice bigger than the space could contain, mesmerizing audience members and rendering them unconscious and vulnerable. Karas' carefully constructed lyrics address the waking effect of these nighttime visits in a dense, dancing, self-taught classical style.

March describes Fall Horsie's new

album as "probably the best record I'll ever put out. It's just an amazing accomplishment. It's a record that is coincidentally in the best taste and is also produced perfectly. Which just doesn't happen."

March approached Karas about releasing *Devil(e)durge* through Youth Club. Karas said it made total sense. Many of his label mates are his longtime friends. This summer he went on a Canada/U.S. tour with March and the Ghost Bees. He's about to tour the West Coast and back with another member of the Youth Club, Stacy Lloyd Brown.

Stacy Lloyd Brown likens his sound to Daniel Johnson in the sense that the recordings are a "I don't know what the hell I'm doing but I'm going to do it anyways because I love it" kind of thing. Like Fall Horsie, he also recorded his own double EP *Automatic Mosquito Bite*, through his project Musical Chair - a record label under the imprint of Youth Club.

Brown, whose song-writing and delivery make old men turn their good ears to the stage, says his label's got more than style.

"These albums have a lot of substance and that Youth Club has a lot substance. And I think that's the one thing that maybe Halifax has. I think the one thing all these projects have in common is a mad dose of substance."

Brown's own double EP is incredibly substantive: It's two albums on one disc. The first is of his solo project. The second, *The Goodbye Generation*, finds him joined by Paul MacLean. They created the EP, from writing to mixing, in four days in an auditorium in Alberta. They had access to things like tubular bells and a gong.

Fall Horsie and Stacy Lloyd Brown's record release tour will kick off on Saturday Oct. 4 at the North Street Church. Crowd Power will join them with other magical musical guests.

You can bet March will be there, humbly watching from the enraptured audience.

"I just help people put out their own records," he says with an impish smile.

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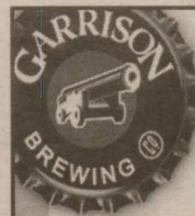
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“What’s the dumbest injury you’ve ever incurred?”



“Knife in the foot on Munro Day.”
Simon Barna, fourth-year IDS



“Passed out standing up and smoked my forehead on the oven.”
Brian MacDonald, first-year master’s public administration



“I stepped on a belt and the hooks went through my foot.”
Natalie Kassen, fourth-year IDS



“Alcohol made me walk through a screen door.”
Alex Wakeam, first-year arts



“Jumped off the stairs, hit my head on the ceiling and woke up covered in blood.”
Taylor Imrie, fourth-year political science



“I accidentally hanged myself once.”
Shaun Ford, fourth-year neuroscience



“One time I fell into a thorn bush while I was talking on a cell phone.”
Jeremy Butler, fifth-year philosophy



“Rub sore.”
Nick Khattar, eleventh-year and a half neuroendocrinology.

HOT OR NOT

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| HOT: Real Jobs | NOT: Internships |
| HOT: Investing your time | NOT: Investing your money |
| HOT: Mules | NOT: Jack asses |
| HOT: Sleep | NOT: Energy |
| HOT: Sex on the beach | NOT: Sand in your pants |
| HOT: Drinking liquor | NOT: Drinking lacquer |
| HOT: Public broadcasting | NOT: Freefloating mooches |
| HOT: Breakups | NOT: Breakdowns |
| HOT: Bangers and mash | NOT: Bangin' for cash |
| HOT: Stuffing your face | NOT: Stuffing your pants |

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OVERHEARD AT DAL

Guy on Coburg:

“But I mean I texted and facebooked her, I don’t know how else I’m supposed to talk to her...”

Outside the Killam:

Girl: “I can’t believe I heard it from my mini-feed before I heard it from him!”

Girl in Shirreff Hall Cafeteria:

“Man I’m so drunk. I just got back from teaching swimming lessons and I’m still drunk.”

Two guys in Risley:

Person 1: Dude, are you looking at porn or something?

Person 2: No, it’s just Sarah Palin.

Guys looking at something in middle of street:

Guy 1: Is that a pigeon? Or a baby?

Guy 2: It’s a laundromat.

In Shirreff Hall Cafeteria:

Guy: I’m sorry, I couldn’t really hear you, your eyeliner was too loud.

Girl: That’s OK, I just said I like your shirt, it goes really well with your stupid.

On the #1 bus:

Guy: “She uses me for my microwave... I use her for her tongue ring.”

In the LSC:

Sick Girl: “It feels like I’m bulimic but out of my ass.”

In the Henry Hicks:

“I’d rather snort cocaine than drink coffee.”

Girl 1: What are you going to wear tonight?

Girl 2: You know that blue tube top? Yeah, I am going to wear that as a skirt.

Girl to Guy: I had a dream last night about masturbation. You and I were searching for my orgasm.

THE ORIGINAL POWERHOUR THE ONLY POWERHOUR

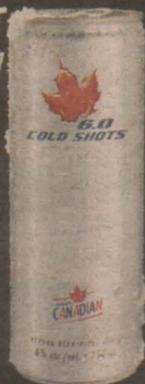
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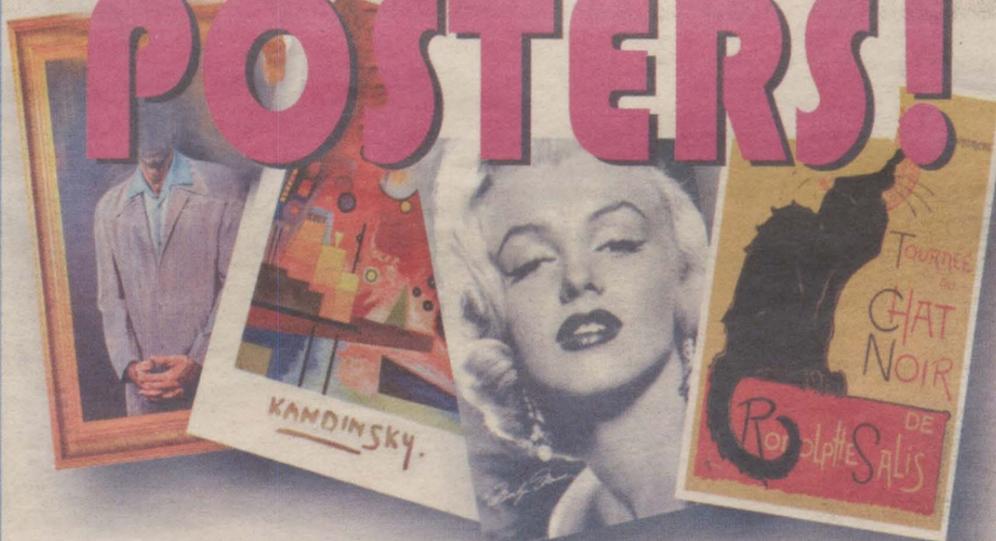
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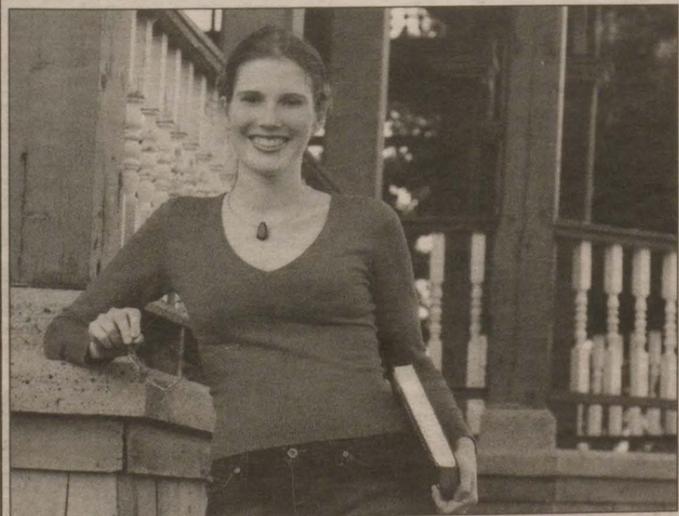
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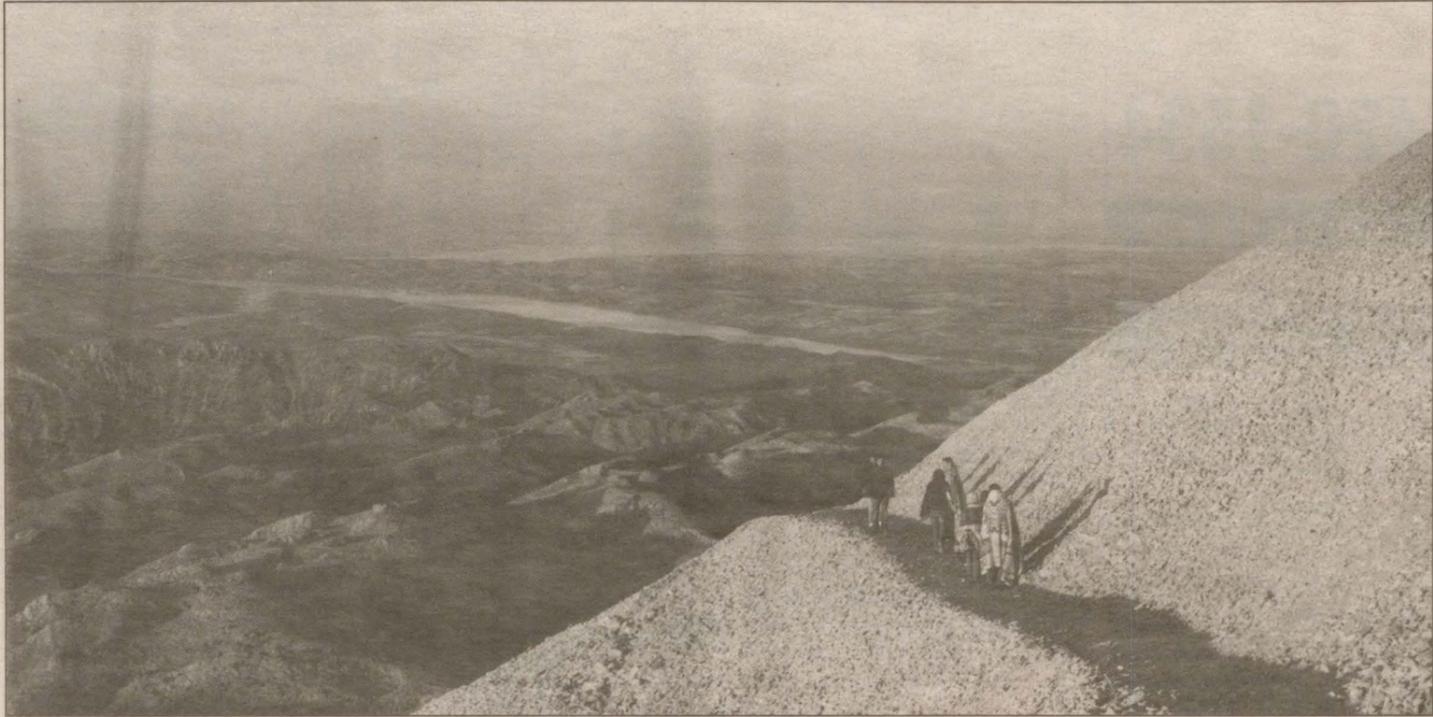
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Turkey is a dividing country, straddling Europe and the Middle East both geographically and culturally.

JAKE SCHABAS/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Malatya

JAKE SCHABAS
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Just after 5 p.m. our coach bus pulled into a dusty parking lot under what had become an oppressively hot sun. Only as I left the bus did I realize my window-side arm was crisped from the six-hour bus trip through Grand Canyon-esque scenery. We hopped down the steps, grabbed our backpacks from underneath the bus and walked into the terminal. Almost immediately, our searching faces combined with our huge backpacks attracted the attention of a man working behind a nearby desk. He walked toward us and ushered us outside with a wave of his hand.

"Auto?" he asked us.

"Evet," we replied, nodding.

He pointed across the six lane highway outside to where several other people were standing by the road with travel bags at their sides. We nervously dashed across the street to join the group, and soon found ourselves crammed into a speeding dolmus, an old van converted into a bus, along with 20 Turks, wondering who might give us directions to a bed in downtown Malatya.

Turkey is a dividing country, straddling Europe and the Middle East both geographically and culturally. Since its founding as a republic in 1923, Turkey's government has established a strong tradition of secularism. Yet in a country of 70 million where 99 per cent of the population is at least nominally Muslim, this secularism has historically caused tensions.

The revolutionary statesman and first president Mustafa Kemal Ataturk - Ataturk means "father of the Turks" - who set in motion the process of Westernization, is worshiped by many and depicted on all Turkish currency.

When we told a bus station employee in Ankara, the nation's capital, we had visited Ataturk's mausoleum, he responded by pulling out a 10 lira note and kissing the printed face.

Most of the time I was there, Turkey didn't feel very European. Consecration requires every fit heterosexual male to serve in the army for varying periods of time - homosexuals can opt out - creating a military presence that is uncomfort-

ably visible. Army checkpoints on bus rides and ever-present machine gun wielding soldiers became common sights. Calls to prayer from local mosques echoed through city streets five times a day, even at sunrise, 4:30 am in June, and most women wear headscarves. Such realities combined with decades of failed attempts to gain European Union membership have produced a changing socio-political landscape unsure of its orientation.

What is less well known about Turkey is that it is home to half of the world's Kurdish population. Mostly concentrated in the country's less developed south-eastern region, the existence of the distinct ethnic group, with a current population of 15 million, was suppressed by the Turkish government to the point where it was illegal to speak Kurdish until 1991.

The entrenched government policy of oppression gave rise to the Kurdish Workers' Party, or the PKK, an organization officially dedicated to the creation of a Kurdish state, but considered by Turkey, the United States and other countries to be a terrorist organization. The PKK has taken responsibility for numerous terrorist attacks. On July 27, a month after I left the country, two bombs rocked Istanbul, killing 17 people and injuring more than 150. The government blamed the PKK despite the organization's emphatic denial.

Our first week in Turkey in no way hinted at such internal unrest. We visited the tourist hot spots of Sultanhamet, the partially gated Istanbul district that is home to the famous Blue Mosque, Aya Sofia and Topkapi Palace, and is guarded by heavily armed special tourism police. Fantastical architecture combined with spotlessly clean streets, expensive hookah cafes and carpet dealers, with many prices in British pounds, made Istanbul's most historical district seem like a Disney-world where the park wardens carried semi-automatics. Sultanhamet's surreal aura was a far cry from the dirty bustling streets that characterized the surrounding city.

After Istanbul we travelled to Cappadocia, the popular countryside of medieval cave dwellings and natural phallic rock outcroppings in central Turkey. Although unique, the

area's overwhelming tourist infrastructure had left little room for a local culture not dependent on foreign vacationers. It was only in Kayseri, a rarely visited transit point for tourists on their way to Cappadocia, that we experienced practical bazaars with everyday necessities, rather than carpets and jewellery, with functioning Mosques unaccustomed to tourists and a complete lack of Aussie-filled hostels.

From Kayseri we caught our bus to Malatya, eventually finding ourselves shoulder to shoulder with commuting Turks in a local dolmus. Although we knew the dolmus was headed downtown, we were clueless when and where to get off because Turkey is mostly devoid of street signs. We showed a hotel name and map in our guidebook to the man next to us, who, following a flurry of discussion amongst other Turks, made it clear that he knew where it was and that he would get off at our stop.

Following this man through town, we passed through a noisy sheet metal bazaar where streams of sparks illuminated men hard at work, then through a wholesale wool bazaar which supplied the local rug makers. To our surprise, instead of taking us to a hotel, our guide led us to an English language school. Inside we were met by a middle-aged man who sat us down, brought us cay (Turkish tea) and promptly told us that our hotel no longer existed and that he would like to offer us jobs teaching English for the coming year.

Though we turned down his offer, the English teacher still showed us to a nearby budget hotel, complete with a hole in the ground for a toilet, and a bucket underneath a tap for a shower. Later that evening he gave us a tour of old Malatya that ended with hazelnut Nescafe in his apartment and an introduction to his wife and two kids.

The next day we explored the Apricot Bazaar - Malatya is the source of up to 80 per cent of the world's dried apricots - before heading off for a one night excursion to Mount Nemrut, a mountain capped by a 2,000-year-old tomb surrounded by giant statues. At the summit we shared a Kurdish family's delicious Turkish Delight as the sun set behind the waters of Euphrates tributaries.

We returned to Malatya the fol-

lowing afternoon and wandered through the streets with a few hours to kill before our bus departed for Diyarbakir. Our large backpacks soon attracted the attention of a man in his late 20s who approached us in order to try out his English. It turned out he was a university student living in a nearby apartment. He offered to show us his place and introduce us to his roommate - an invitation we gladly accepted.

We soon found ourselves sitting on a colourful mat laid out on the living room floor, which was covered with cheese, jams, yogurt, olives, tomatoes, fresh Turkish naan and cay. Our friend's roommate was an engineering student who, in his spare time, painted oil-on-canvas copies of Caravaggio paintings and National Geographic photos, many of which were displayed about the apartment.

As we finished our meal, a third student arrived whose English was good. He spoke to us for the next 20 minutes about the plight of the Kurds, as our new friends were Kurdish. He said they had been forced off their lands due to dam projects in the southeast. He said he felt they were ignored and oppressed by the Ankara government. At times there were tears in his eyes and he stuttered while trying to express himself.

The friendliness of both the Turks and the Kurds we met in and around Malatya overwhelmed us. For the remainder of our trip we constantly found ourselves meeting locals who were more than ready to go out of their way to help us, speak to us, or simply spend time with us while drinking the cay that was always their treat.

We quickly lost the anxiety of searching for hotels in new cities, because the people on our dolmus rides into town continuously proved to be all the help we needed. In the end, our fondest memories of Turkey weren't of the spectacular mosques, the picturesque beaches or swarming bazaars. Instead they were those moments of unexpected kindness when complete strangers, Kurds or Turks, would go out of their way to overcome both cultural and language barriers in order to connect with us and share our experience of Turkey.

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Rock Island Café: Quinpool Road's newest topical getaway

CHRISTIE CONWAY
ARTS EDITOR

It was a busy first Saturday night for the wait staff of Quinpool Road's latest addition. The Rock Island Café opened its doors Tuesday Sept. 23 after a long summer of "coming soon."

Situated across from Coco Beach Tanning and Aqua Creations Tropical Fish, patrons sitting at the bar looking out onto the street may get the feeling that they are at the centre of a very small, very concentrated emerging Caribbean district.

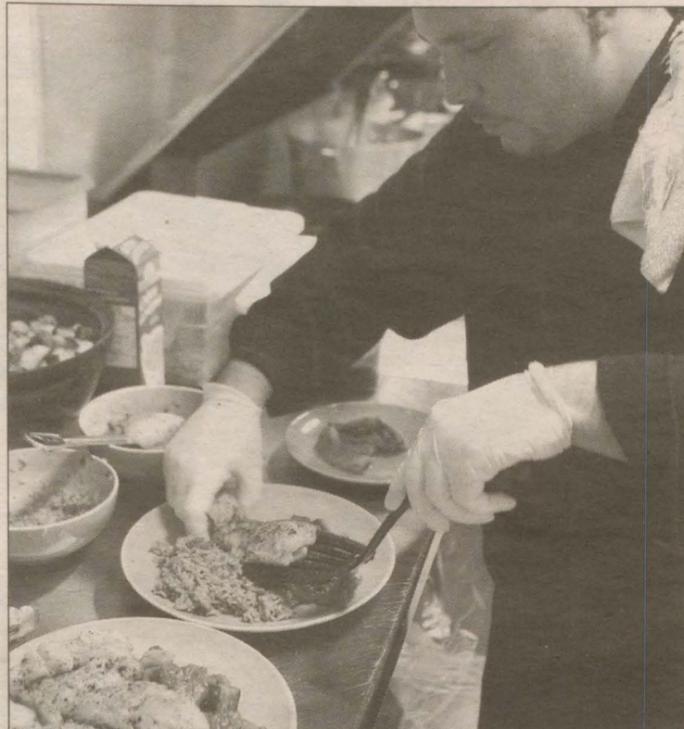
The wait staff seemed a little frazzled in the pleasant way that good business brings to a small eatery starting up. The service was friendly and reasonably prompt.

A cocktail is always an excellent way to start a Bermudan excursion, even while waiting for a table. The Rum Twizzle is both sweet and sinister; a result of pineapple and other fruit juices mixed with dark rum. While the presentation of the cocktail served in a plain glass with a plastic straw left something to be desired, it is easily forgiven.

Rock Island Café also offers interesting or at least nostalgic non-alcoholic drink options. All of the Café's sodas are served in glass bottles in yet another nod to the Caribbean.

The Rock Island Salad (\$8 large) is a colourful melange of jumbo shrimp atop avocado, lettuce, onions, strawberries for garnish and a rich thousand island dressing. This house salad is a good appetizer when ordered small.

Naira's Famous Moroccan "Harira" Soup (\$5 large) has an oddly familiar comfort food quality and is not so spicy or flavourful as to of-



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Wait staff prepare for a busy night at the Caribbean-flavoured cafe.

fend a more traditional Western palate. The hints of ginger and saffron of the Harira allude to the spiciness to come.

The Pan Fried Haddock topped with Bermuda bananas (\$16) is a surprising yet mouth-watering combination. The entrée is served with a generous portion of spicy rice and vegetables cooked in a savoury curry.

The Café's warm coral walls are decorated with large pictures of

tropical flowers and signs reading "Somerset" and "St. George." Music is played at the perfect volume, creating an atmosphere of Caribbean hospitality, but not so loud as to impede conversation. The smell of cinnamon creates an inviting ambiance from which to dream of that tropical destination just outside the chilly grasp of the present reality - the approaching Maritime winter.

As one fellow diner remarked glibly, "It's all the fun of a tropical destination without the risk of Hepatitis."

Wiebe's world

The deeper meaning of Exalted Beings

LIZZY HILL
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

As I enter Halifax artist Mitchell Wiebe's studio above the Propeller Brewery, I walk into scraps of fabric, inflatable animals and strings of beads that dangle haphazardly from the ceiling. Slightly eerie stuffed animals with beady eyes sit propped in a chair and a collection of animal masks from around the world is displayed on the wall. There is hardly a square inch of white wall to speak of, indicative of how prolific Wiebe is as an artist. Several brightly coloured paint-splattered canvasses hang on the walls or lean against the wall in stacks of 10 or so.

Stepping into his studio feels a bit like stepping into a strange dream, which is appropriate because the way Wiebe's mind works when he paints is a lot like the way our minds work when we're asleep.

He sits cross-legged on the floor of his studio as he explains his painting philosophy. He says he's inspired by dreams because "there is no hierarchy of ideas... anything can become significant."

Drawn to this free association of images, he feels value judgments and binary thinking can be a trap.

"Things aren't always so black and white," he explains. "The metamorphoses that occur in a dream is what I really like."

Like images in dreams, Wiebe's paintings can be interpreted in many different ways. He says looking at the layered, blurred and interlaced forms and shapes in the paintings on display in the Exalted Beings exhibit at the Dalhousie Art Gallery should be like "looking at clouds" and seeing symbols in them.

"I just wanted (there) to be stuff coming out of the paint. I wanted it to be moving around like this really primordial matter," he says about



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

"Everyone can relate to daydreaming and doodles," says Mitchell Wiebe.

his piece Butterflies at the Flaming Banjo.

Forms of animals often come into focus while staring at Wiebe's paintings. Some camouflage themselves in the surrounding paint and others leap out. They often embody aspects of humanity.

"A lot of times they represent social scenarios," Wiebe says. "If you go out on any day you experience a dynamic, an array of emotions, and sometimes you feel dark forces at work."

In the future Wiebe plans to further embrace ambiguity through painting, moving away from drawing animals, objects and humans, and instead focusing on black and white shapes.

"I'm kind of entering this abstract area," he says.

Wiebe says he changed his focus because he doesn't want his work to become too linked to any metaphor, since his viewpoint is constantly evolving.

He calls himself a "student for life," engaged in a non-verbal dialogue with anyone who views his art. Wiebe hopes his paintings at the Dal gallery will engage students in a "conversation" where images can transmit ideas faster than any words in the classroom.

Painting is "a subtle form of articulating ideas, hopefully, a universal one," he says. "Everyone can relate to daydreaming or doodles, especially students who are supposed to be concentrating on the lecture or essay at hand."



PAUL BALITE/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

CKDU runs on more than 200 volunteers apart from paid staff.

Dial 49-HAPPY

Supporting local radio with bongoes and blues

CANDICE CASCANETTE
DANIEL BLENICH
ARTS CONTRIBUTORS

What do you get when you mix good old fashioned curling with some not so old-fashioned live music? CKDU's Rock'n' Curl of course. On Sept. 20 the station put on a cross between a concert and a curling match at the Mayflower Curling Club to kick off its funding drive.

During the week of Sept. 22, the campus-based community radio station put on its annual weeklong funding drive. The station's many volunteers, along with a handful of staff, did everything in their power to raise as much money as possible for a worthy cause: Community radio.

Overlooking the curling arena, a great lineup of local bands played on the second floor of the Mayflower Club. The tacky wedding reception décor and comfortable roller chairs added to the genuine atmosphere.

A curling match between all of the bands determined the lineup for the evening. The band that finished in last place was first to play their set and so on. The final order was Rad Rat in last place, Windom Earle, The Superfantastics, Doug Mason, True Love Rules, Mark Mullane from the Got To Get Got, and the evening's winners The Just Barelys.

This year, like every year, CKDU raised money for free local radio that promotes independent thinking and creativity. Believe it or not, non-profit community radio stations don't tend to rake in the big bucks like those that play all hits, all day long.

Throughout the funding drive, listeners had the opportunity to "dial 49-HAPPY" and support community radio by pledging money toward their favorite shows. On top of raising money over the airwaves, CKDU put on a variety of events at local venues throughout the city.

On Sept. 24, Noisy/Weird Night at Gus' Pub lived up to its name. The event was in support of CKDU shows The Funhouse, which airs on Tuesdays at midnight, and Smart Patrol (Saturdays at 10 p.m.).

Broken Ohms accounted for the noisy element of the show, while Scribbler brought the weird ele-

ment, and Omon Ra sat on the fence between them.

The members of Scribbler looked quite cozy, seating themselves on the stage floor to play their set. The band consisted of bongo drums, a bass, an acoustic guitar, and two electric keyboard devices.

In the spirit of experimental music, Scribbler is also known to incorporate any type of noisemaking devices they see fit. The singer's high pitched and distorted voice gives the band a very distinctive sound and adds an unpredictable element.

The somber atmosphere of Ginger's Tavern made it an ideal spot to host the Folk n' Blues Benefit on Sept. 25. The event was in support of the CKDU show Touchstone (Saturdays at 10 a.m.). Bev Lamb has been hosting the folk music show since 1985.

The lineup of folk lovers and cool cats from around Halifax was very impressive. The evening featured Ron Plaskett (Joel's father), Kevin Korbett, Ruth Minnikin, Dusty Keeler, Erin Costello, Clary Croft, David Rimmington, Phil Potvin, and Roger Howse. From the older Plaskett's rendition of "See you in C-U-B-A" to Minnikin's honest and elegant pitch, plus Potvin's incredible harmonica styles and Costello's sultry deep tone, this was local folk and blues at its finest.

Apart from handful of paid staff, CKDU is almost entirely run by more than 200 volunteers. About a quarter of the station's budget is determined by the money raised during the annual funding drive.

If you've never experienced the listening pleasure of any of the countless shows CKDU has to offer, don't wait another minute. Go to your radio, program in 88.1FM, and tune in as often as possible. If you haven't got a radio, you can even listen online by checking out the station's website: www.ckdu.ca.

You'll be doing yourself a favour, and by tuning in you'll be supporting local musicians, plus free thought and expression. And you may just learn a thing or two in the process. After all, CKDU may just be all that's left on the radio these days.

The politics of style

LAURA WALTON
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Clothing is worn to express personal style and identity. Recently, a trend in scarves has created fashion accessories from cultural symbols, and has some people expressing a lot more than they realize.

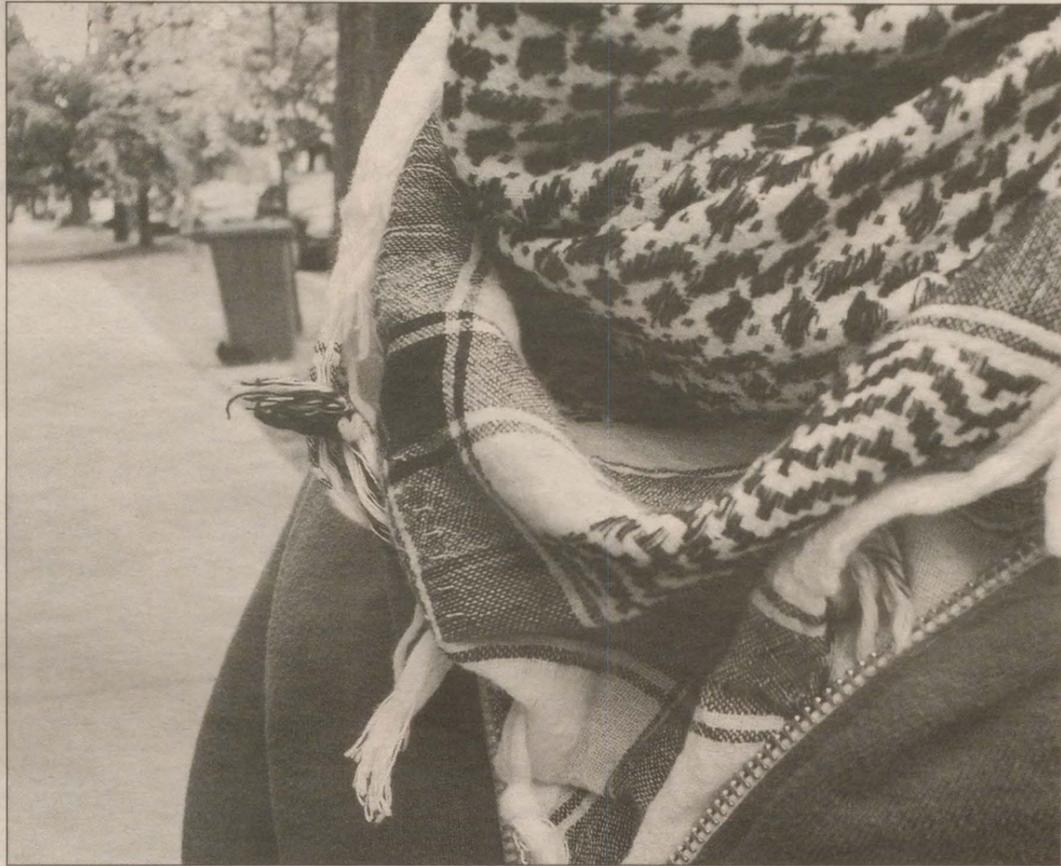
The keffiyeh scarf is a traditional Palestinian headdress usually worn in various styles around the head. Recently these checkered scarves have been spotted around the necks of Western trendsetters, wearing the scarves more for style than for the religious and cultural connotations they hold. In North America, keffiyehs were once difficult to find and mostly only purchased online or in stores carrying imported clothing. Now they are a popular accessory sold throughout shopping malls across the country.

The scarves symbolize much more than the latest trend in accessories. During the British occupation of Palestine in the 1930s, the scarves became a symbol of Palestinian nationalism. More recently, they have become a symbol of support for Palestinian people against Israeli occupation. The scarves signify solidarity for these supporters, and even the colours of the scarves represent different views on Palestinian politics. The more commonly seen black and white pattern signifies support for Fatah, an organization also known as the 'The Movement for the National Liberation of Palestine.' The red and white pattern supports Hamas, 'The Islamic Resistance Movement,' the organization currently holding the majority of seats in the elected legislative council of Palestinian National Authority. Hamas is a paramilitary organization that is a rival Islamist faction to the Fatah organization.

The meaning behind the scarf is lost on the majority of people wearing it today.

"Everyone wears it now and thinks it's just fashion," says Afshin Hamed, a fourth-year management student. "They don't know the meaning of it at all. For me, people wearing it in Halifax are showing their support for Palestine."

The symbol of Palestinian solidarity adopted as a part of mainstream Western apparel brings into a question a number of issues surrounding expression and fashion in general. Is this trend degrading to those who wear the scarf to represent their political values, compared to those wearing it as a mere accessory? Is it encouraging for a part of foreign culture to be adopted by



LAURA WALTON/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

The scarves symbolize much more than the latest trend in accessories.

others outside that culture or disrespectful because those wearing it are unaware of the meaning it holds? It also calls into question why this item would become a trend in fashion in the first place. Being ex-

pressive has followed a similar path of becoming a trend in fashion, with the infamous 'Livestrong' bracelets of years past that started a fad in wearing bold coloured bracelets to show support for numerous issues.

While in that case, people were choosing an accessory based on what it represented, with keffiyehs it is the other way around. Is there a line between wearing something for style instead of what it symbolizes?

Looking at other religious symbols that have become part of mainstream fashion, the Christian cross has become something worn for aesthetic reasons free of the religious values behind it. Indian bindis hold a similar role, and today are often worn as an accessory without religious attachments.

Anything like the keffiyeh scarf that holds powerful connotations must be taken seriously. Expressing political opinions is already a path that needs to be tread carefully, but to do this while being unaware of the views being represented, or the fact that they are being expressed at all, is risky. It is important for one to become aware of the meaning behind their clothing choices before deciding to don items for those meanings or not.

People have their own reasons for wearing what they do. While these scarves are being worn in a somewhat ignorant manner, at least they are bringing attention to issues and events worth discussing. This kind of conversation certainly never came from pastel pashminas.



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You can vote before election day. Advance voting will be held Friday, October 3, Saturday, October 4 and Monday, October 6, from noon to 8:00 p.m. Locations of advance polling stations appear on the back of the voter information card.

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Local bands rock the coast

TONY SMITH
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Nothing reaffirms your faith in local live music like a good crowd at a Wednesday night rock show. Based on the Molson Rocks the Coast concert at the Marquee Club, you can consider me wholly reaffirmed. The crowd showed early, far before the headliners took the stage, and stayed until the final notes of a two-song Slowcoaster encore slowly faded out.

With their mid-week fan base in place, it became the responsibility of the bands to deliver a worthy show. This lineup was more than up to the challenge. It was an eclectic mix of artists and they in turn brought out a diverse and eager crowd.

That's not to say the sight of a mini-orchestra set up onstage didn't cause some raised eyebrows. That's what it is to be un-initiated to the I See Rowboats experience. The first time I saw I See Rowboats play I had a look of confused awe. On this night, they took the stage all in black and proceeded to win over anyone who was unfamiliar.

The band's mix of layered string arrangements with dreamy indie guitar pop may seem a little pretentious and not much fun on paper but this show told a different story. The band played through material that was warm, infectious and totally accessible. Members shrugged off technical difficulties with playfulness - this band vamps better than most bands play. Most of all they believed in the music and enjoyed playing it, often catching each other's eyes and egging on each other.

After this show, I'm fully prepared to crown I See Rowboats as not only

the most interesting, but the best emerging local band.

The task of following up fell to the ingenious and idiosyncratic Rich Aucoin, known for his love of Dr Seuss, his musical bike tour across Canada and his ongoing project of recording an album with more than 400 people.

I had heard lots about him but had never seen him perform. Taking the stage alone behind a wall of keyboards and a microphone stand adorned with Christmas lights, Aucoin showed the crowd the same energy that must be required for the type of ambitious projects he undertakes. The music was full, Aucoin playing along with programmed beats and loops that may have seemed cold if not for his enthusiasm and wide-eyed hopefulness.

It was clear Aucoin felt this music and he wanted everybody everywhere to feel it too. He climbed off-stage and onto a table, commanded the audience to sing along, flooded the Marquee with balloons, then played a slinky and threw confetti. Add to this the projector displaying synced clips from black and white movies, old cartoons and the Grinch, and you pretty much have a dream that I've been dreaming since I was five. All this and his set was only four songs long.

After that kind of sensory overload it would be a challenge for any band to seem energetic. Grand Theft Bus did its best but ultimately fell a little short. That's not to say the band members failed. The band plays with tightness and precision that comes from touring together for years. Their songs are well constructed and its clear the band revels in the ever-shifting dynamics built into each

one.

The set highlight was the second of two new songs Grand Theft Bus introduced. It moved the band away from synth beats and brought out a more melodic side, casting them as a beefed up version of Twice Removed-era Sloan. I wait anxiously for a recording.

Slowcoaster tore through its set in typical style. With the imposing presence of a double neck Gibson SG and a booming rhythm section, this band was ready to rock everybody's faces off. The crowd showed itself as willing by boisterously singing and dancing to every beat.

Avoiding usual jam band trappings like excessive guitar noodling and predictable loud/quiet/loud dynamics, Slowcoaster instead played games like "how many genres can we fit into this song?" and "did we mention we're a reggae band?" Part of the appeal is the musicians' likable, everyman stage presence that showcases a sly sense of humour. Guitarist and singer Steven MacDougall brought everyone together this way asking, after a particularly blistering solo, "can everybody hear my guitar out there?"

The response was the loudest round of applause of the night. In the end, the guitars were barely resting on their stands before the crowd was chanting "one more song!"

The night felt more like the end of a tour than the beginning. The bands showed much respect and admiration for each other and there was cohesiveness to the show that made it great. It's good to know Halifax is becoming the kind of place where you can find quality original local music any night of the week and, better yet, watch it in a crowd.

To have and have not

Idlers smuggle reggae roots into Halifax's Seahorse

SEAMUS BUTLER
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

As quick as beer bottles and highballs hit the worn table tops of Halifax's Seahorse Tavern they were scooped up by smile-free bus boys making space for the next round of empty glasses. A fair effort from the opening act, The Discounts, initially brought some bodies onto the stone dance floor. As empty hands began to fill with vessels of drink, the dance floor also acquired its agents of intoxication.

Nine-piece reggae ensemble from St. John's, Nfld., the Idlers, steamed and served an eclectic mix of Caribbean and Celtic influences to the party hungry crowd.

Following a couple of birthday shout-outs, the Idlers slugged back some local ale in the last music-free moments before their set.

Smoky harmonica opened the first song of the night, "Massive Change". With a multitude of horns, the Idlers guided the crowd into the inferno. A small pause ended the soulful Caribbean vibe before the set transformed into an upbeat dance-a-thon. The tune from the band's latest release, Corner, was a hit with the masses.

Halifax was the last stop on the reggae/ska band's sixth tour. This time they travelled by van through Ontario, Quebec and New Bruns-

wick, a major departure from their early days touring different music scenes in guitar player Craig Millett's Volkswagen Golf.

"At one stage the windshield wipers broke down," frontman Mark Wilson recalls. "We took off Craig's shoelaces, taking turns from inside the car manually moving the wipers."

These humble beginnings echo the Idlers' ethos.

"(We are) trying to really embrace how Newfoundland culture lives off the land and also the way that people associate together," says Wilson.

This attitude coming from lesser musicians could seem like underdog rhetoric, but Wilson is sincere.

"For nine people to tour together and have fun, spend every single day, all the time basically, together and still be laughing, we are doing something right."

Descending into the madness, the band lifted downtrodden souls with a righteous Clash cover from 1979. They shot lyrics about heavy-handed British constables while the crowd rumbled the chorus to "The Guns of Brixton" as if through the mouths of cannons.

To the delight of every patron in the Seahorse, the band had only begun its set.

The base of reggae music is an adherence to socially driven thought espoused through lyrics and move-

ments in the music. The Idlers are no exception.

Wilson felt compelled to weigh in on the economic situation of the band's home province.

"The whole have/have not thing has been on my mind all summer because people are talking about it in Newfoundland," he says. "It's bullshit. It's not a have province because of all the cultural aspects of what we have, not because of our struggle for independence."

Wilson says the wide class dynamic of people in Newfoundland, especially those in poorer communities, will lose out on the merging of wealth into the urban areas of the province.

"People are just going to want to go to the mall more. It means having more things, materialistic possessions," he says. "I hope what it doesn't do is destroy what already is beautiful about Newfoundland, which is that transfer of knowledge from generation to generation and that closeness of family."

Scaling the steel roof beam along the ceiling with his trumpet secure in his pants, Wilson took everyone by surprise as he played in the depths of the crowd.

"Every single time we make people dance like crazy," he says.

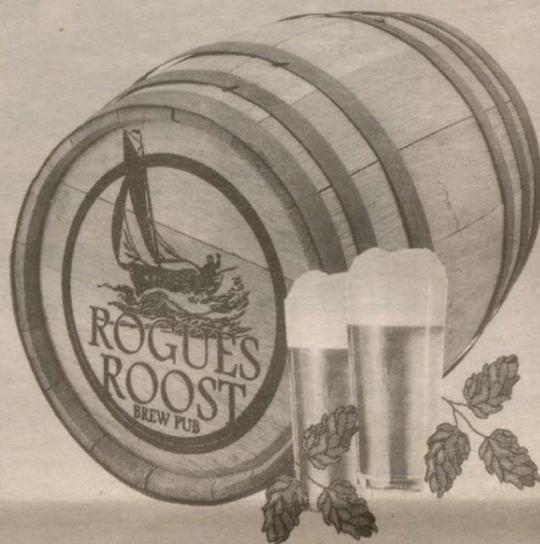
The Idlers and their socially conscious, sonically unique music, are set to return to Halifax Oct. 30 at Gus' Pub.

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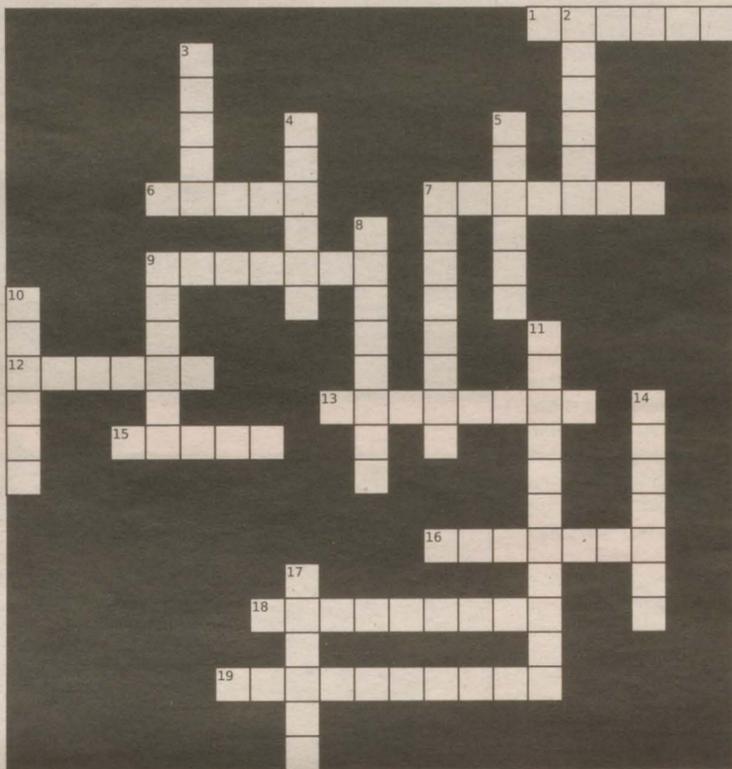
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| Across | Down |
| 1 Sping break classic | 2 Last US state to join Union |
| 6 French town/Mustard | 3 Dominican Republic's neighbour |
| 7 "Greenland is ice, _____ is very nice" | 4 Home of Gondolas |
| 9 Orwell's Marrakesh | 5 Carl XVI Gustaf's domain |
| 12 Vodka | 7 Constantinople |
| 13 Cocaine capital | 8 Formerly Commonwealth, now communist |
| 15 1980 Michael Crichton novel | 9 US border buddy |
| 16 US State/International Hotspot | 10 Thanksgiving standard |
| 18 Ecotourism | 11 Watches, Chocolate, Banks |
| 19 Home of the Kiwis | 14 Oktoberfest originators |
| | 17 1994 Olympics host country |

MUSIC REVIEWS

Omon Ra: *The Halls of Medicine*

MATT RITCHIE
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Halifax duo Omon Ra's new album *The Halls of Medicine* rocks like a psychedelic hurricane. The band mixes pawn shop guitars with found objects as percussion to create a disc that could only be compared to the pop sensibilities of Animal Collective and the hypnotics of My Bloody Valentine.

The album flows along with acoustic guitar reminiscent of a stoned after hours jam and emotional cathartic singing. On tracks like "Brownie Tam Tam" and "Fingers In" the band plays like Beck in half time with simplistic chord changes and powerful percussion that draws the listener forward.

Omon Ra's biggest accomplishment in the band's soundscape is the use of background noises, separate from the guitars and drums, to catch the listener's ear. The songs are



interspersed with different electric guitar and keyboard drones, giving even the sparsest track a more psychedelic atmosphere.

The only downside of the album is that the tempos generally stay at a slower beat, drawing listeners down rather than lifting them up. But that's probably the idea.

Omon Ra has created your new favourite psychedelic album to read On the Road along to. Buy this album.

MUSIC REVIEWS

Bison B.C.: Simple stoner metal

MATT RITCHIE
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The debut Bison B.C. album *Quiet Earth* seemed an exciting endeavour at first glance. It isn't everyday you see a bison in a cloak holding a luminous skull breaking away from earth on a magical boat while sailing to Jupiter. Sadly, the album art is much more radical than the music.

Bison B.C. is simple stoner-metal of the high school battle of the bands variety. The first track "Primal Emp-tiness of Outer Space" starts with a standard metal guitar and bass chug and drearily bursts into a bland head-banger. The first half of the album sounds exactly the same but once "These Are My Dress Clothes" kicks in, the listener is finally treated to some mediocre guitar pyrotechnics. This debut is redundant and



lacks soul. Any first-year guitar student could pull off these riffs and the drum fills are less complex than the medium level of Rock Band.

If you're a metal band and you want to name yourself after a large woolly animal, at least choose something more menacing like a mastodon. Oh wait, that name is already taken.

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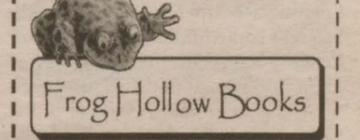
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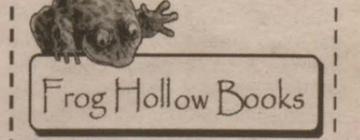


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Across
1. Cancun
6. Dijon
7. Iceland
9. Morocco
12. Russia
13. Columbia
15. Congo

Crossword Answers:

WRITE FOR THE DAL GAZETTE

WRITE FOR THE DAL GAZETTE

WRITE FOR THE DAL GAZETTE



The Detroit Red Wings beat the Boston Bruins 4-3 at last Thursday's pre-season exhibition game at the Metro Centre.

JOEL TICHINOFF/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Journey to the centre of the rink

JOEL TICHINOFF
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

My dad and I would go to one hockey game a year. Every March we would pack our bags and drive to Montreal to see the Canadiens play in that cathedral of hockey, the Montreal Forum.

Growing up those yearly pilgrimages from Ontario to Quebec became a second Christmas I looked forward to all year with passionate anticipation.

One of the defining moments of my childhood was hearing the traditionally earsplitting roar of a Habs game reduced to a dead silence by a breathtaking goal scored on Patrick Roy by a mulleted young Czech player named Jaromir Jagr. The Forum is now a mall owned by Pepsi and the only time I watch the Canadiens is when they play my beleaguered Toronto Maple Leafs; but last Thursday I re-lived my childhood memories of NHL hockey as I watched the Detroit Red Wings play the Boston Bruins at the Halifax Metro Centre.

The two Original Six teams met in Boston's second and final match-up of the 2008 NHL pre-season to be played in Halifax.

As the defending Stanley Cup champions, the Red Wings enter the 2008-09 season with a nearly identical roster to last year's President's Trophy winning team, enhanced only by the acquisition of star right winger Marian Hossa.

Adding the 29-year-old Slovak to a Detroit team that has led the NHL in wins for three of the last four seasons guarantees the Red Wings will be strong contenders for a consecutive Cup victory.

They took to the ice against the Bruins led by a resurgent Patrice Bergeron who managed a goal and four assists in an 8-3 victory against Montreal the previous Monday, also in Halifax.

It was the 23-year-old star's first

game in nearly a year after suffering a season-ending concussion last October. Even with Bergeron back in the lineup supported by talented players such as forward Phil Kessel and goaltender Tim Thomas, the overwhelming star-power and experience of the Detroit team ensured that the Bruins would have to struggle to compete in this exhibition game.

We arrive at the game as the national anthems are being sung. Our seats are a scandalous three rows up from the ice; we only bought our tickets a few hours before game time.

A stern-faced usher grimly restrains me from rushing to my seat between anthems in an attempt to get a closer look at the starting lines.

From the top of the stands I can see that in red and white, Henrik Zetterberg is without his usual line-mate Pavel Datsyuk, who, like Hossa, has not laced up for the exhibition game.

Standing on the opposing blue line in black and gold is Bergeron flanked by line-mates Phil Kessel and former San Jose Shark Marco Sturm. The players look like giants even from where we stand but I can't help noticing the absence of Bruins defenseman Zdeno Chara, who at six-foot-nine and 260 pounds is the largest player in NHL history.

But the most significant absence on the ice is Red Wings captain Niklas Lidstrom, who suffered a broken nose a few days earlier in Montreal.

In his 15-year career, Lidstrom has won four Stanley Cups, has been awarded the Norris Trophy for best NHL defenseman six times in the last seven years and is widely viewed as the best defenseman of his era.

My disappointment over the non-attendance of many key Red Wings is swept away as we find our seats and the game begins - with so many major players missing it is suddenly anyone's game.

Bergeron wins the opening face-off but Detroit opens the scoring

with rookie Cory Emmerton, beating Thomas unassisted.

The Detroit rookies who replace the missing regulars are surprisingly skilled and all the other Leafs fans I meet at the game agree that most of them would be starters if they played for Toronto.

Boston enters the second period down 2-1 and will have to find a way to disrupt Detroit's puck control if they want to keep the game close.

Zetterberg has put in ominously brief shifts and the crowd senses that Boston will have to make it a game before the Swedish star takes interest.

Halfway through the game Detroit goaltender Chris Osgood is replaced by backup Daniel Larsson who has committed the hockey faux pas of choosing a purple goalie mask. For unclear reasons he is immediately nicknamed "Wiener Kid" by some hecklers.

It is Larsson's first NHL appearance and as the second period winds down Boston plays aggressively, eager to test the rookie. With 53 seconds left in the period, "Wiener Kid" cracks and the game is tied 2-2.

The Red Wings are relentless as the third period begins but Boston keeps up. Both teams register nearly 10 shots on goal each in the first seven minutes of the period. Both goalies make highlight reel quality saves as the play shifts rapidly from end to end.

Finally Halifax fans start making some noise.

A heartwarming, if not misguided, chant of "Go Leafs Go!" erupts from the nosebleed section.

Goalie Thomas is peppered with shots under intense pressure from the Red Wings until, with less than 10 minutes left in the game, Emmerton is sent to the box giving Boston a crucial powerplay.

This is Boston's best chance of pulling out a win and coach Claude Julien knows it as he sends the best of his roster onto the ice.

As Detroit's Henrik Zetterberg breaks out of the neutral zone and surges toward the net on a short-handed breakaway, a Metro Centre crowd that is evenly divided between Bruins and Red Wings fans unleashes the loudest cheer of the night.

Thomas makes a stop on Zetterberg's backhand but sprawls helplessly as last season's fifth highest goal scorer picks up his own rebound and slides the puck into the corner of the net.

Amid wild cheers from the crowd, Zetterberg skates to the Detroit bench to celebrate with his teammates.

Unfazed, Boston storms back. Within 30 seconds of the Zetterberg goal, P.J. Axelsson lifts a shot over Larsson's shoulder and with eight minutes remaining brings the score to 3-3.

As the Bruins see an upset in sight and Detroit fights to keep them at bay, the players seem to forget they're playing in an exhibition game. The pace quickens and the last minutes of the game see some great plays and big hits from both teams.

Thomas is sensational but the Red Wings' offense is overwhelming. A goal gets by him and the Bruins receive a crushing penalty with 2 minutes and 30 seconds left in the game. Bergeron's shot in the last second of play is turned aside by Larsson and the Red Wings win 4-3.

After the game I was able to talk my way through three security checkpoints in my quest for an interview with an NHL player.

Somehow I find myself in a room with some of the players' families and mysterious men in suits with the NHL logo on their luggage.

Nearly an hour passes as the room slowly fills while I prepare and order the questions I will ask Niklas Lidstrom and Henrik Zetterberg when I finally meet them. I even jot down some questions for Detroit coach Mike Babcock in case he has time to

speak to me.

People pass in out of the curtained entrance to the locker rooms when suddenly I realize I'm standing three feet away from Micheal Ryder, a promising right-winger from Newfoundland who left Montreal to sign with archrival Boston during the off-season.

Glancing at my notes I realize that all my questions are for Detroit players. I'm tongue-tied and as Ryder walks away the only thought that crosses my mind is that I'm slightly taller than he is.

Soon after the kind old security guard approaches me and, as if in a scene from a movie, tells me it's time for me to go.

"Sorry kid, everyone's gone."

I walk home along Argyle Street in a state of dejection, having failed miserably on my first attempt as a sports journalist. A herd of squealing teenaged girls push past me, nearly hysterical after seeing Phil Kessel on Barrington Street. I wonder to myself whether I should follow their lead but decide against it, realizing I could probably tell them I was Alexander Ovechkin and they would've believed me.

Along the other side of Argyle some drunkards in Red Wings jerseys shout insults at me for wearing a Chicago Blackhawks jersey.

There's a man in a suit walking away from the arena ahead of me.

"Excuse me, Mr. Julien?"

The coach of the Boston Bruins turns around.

"My name's Joel, I'm a sports contributor for the Dalhousie Gazette, do you mind if I ask you some questions?"

He looks over to the woman and two children down the sidewalk and a wave of horror washes over me as I realize I've stopped him with his family. He turns back to me.

"Well, what sort of questions do you have?" He's friendly and doesn't seem to mind as I stammer out my interview. It's not a bad start.

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Shinerama golf tournament

NICK KHATTAR
SPORTS EDITOR

The 2008 Shinerama Golf Tournament wrapped up last Thursday, raking in \$800 for the cause.

The greens and fairways at Stewiacke's prestigious Fox Hollow Golf Course were clean and pristine. Some of the city's finest players had assembled in eight teams to ruthlessly slug it out one club, one hole at a time in the name of charity.

Shinerama, the brainchild of the CCF (Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation) is an annual fundraiser that takes place at about 60 post-secondary schools across Canada. The goal is to raise \$1 million, with all the proceeds going toward research and financial aid for families dealing with CF.

Gord Simms, this year's Dalhousie Shinerama organizer and captain of Team Baby Steps, says Dal is looking to raise \$52,000 and is usually the biggest fundraiser in Atlantic Canada.

"I have a feeling we are going to reach it (\$1 million) because everyone has been blowing past their totals this year," said Simms.

Teeing off last, Team Baby Steps was off to a rusty start. No one seemed worried though, as team ringer Paul Forrest said "in the back nine, that's when I'm going to blossom."

Word on the course was that Team Athletic Department, fronted

by coach Pierre Belliveau and Krista Hynes, master of the long ball, was seeing more eagles than Stephen Colbert.

While Team Baby Steps struggled to get a handle on its drives to stay out of the rough, Team Aramark was cooking up some delicious "par"fection.

After a few bogies and double bogies Team Baby Steps came into its own, with their ringers coming in clutch. Soft hands with the pitching wedge and solid use of the seven iron around the 15th hole opened up a solid run of par scores.

On the 17th hole, the measuring tape was out for the closest to the pin competition. The previous contender was marked at a forearm length of 18 inches, when a Baby Steps team member teed up a real beauty.

A windmill-smooth back swing with a consistent follow-through pitched the ball long and straight. From 300 yards back you would have sworn it had kissed the pin. Upon closer inspection the flawless drive had landed the ball a few feet from the hole, coming up just short of the record.

The last hole had apparently been swallowing balls all day. It's a par three that elbows right, with a large pond in the middle. If you go over the pond it's a straight shot of about 300 yards to the green.

The first three of Team Baby Steps failed to clear the water when captain Simms drew his hooked sa-

ber. With a diamond glitter in his eye, either from the setting sun or from his own fiery pride, he lined up the flag. As the wind settled and the crickets ceased their chirp, Simms stepped up.

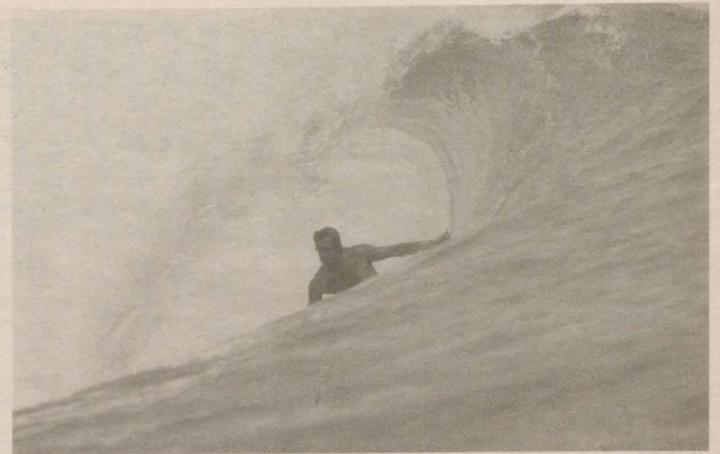
Without a practice swing, he swung. From the sound of metal on plastic it was evident he had struck it with mighty force. The ball soared up and into the face of the sun, disappearing from all those watching from land. Then, like the first snowflake of the winter, it landed, not 10 yards from the hole.

High fives were everywhere as the teams sat around the clubhouse eating complimentary steak and potatoes. Bulbous cheeks replaced smiles while the crew enjoyed their delicious barbecue feed.

In the end, after some well played "baby steps", Team Baby Steps finished with a four over par, earning the team fourth place in the 2008 Shinerama Golf Tournament.

Team Labatt and Team Aramark shared second place. With a whopping eight under, Team Athletic Department took home first place; with team manager Krista Hynes taking longest drive.

Both Team Athletic and Team Aramark said they played hard and were happy to see their months of practice and hard work pay off. Both teams credited their success with good team gelling and dedicated focus.



RIP CURL

Tom Curren, surf guru, rips a curler.

Shred's up

NICK KHATTAR
SPORTS EDITOR

What's cooler: Being a three time World Surf Champion regarded as one of history's greatest surfers, or being an accomplished self-made and maintained grassroots musician? How about both?

Tom Curren, definition of above-mentioned attributes, is going to be in Halifax Oct. 7 to 13.

The American surfer from Santa Barbara, Calif., made his mark on the surf scene early on. Growing up surfing the notorious Rincon Point, Curren progressed quicker than staphylococcus, and in 1985, at age 19, won his first world title.

A quiet, low-key character, Curren retired from the competitive scene in the mid 1990s, but not after winning two more titles in 1986 and 1990.

Curren is said to have the appeal of a phantom: humble, unassuming and dedicated to privacy. However after some brief time off, Curren showed up at a surfing competition in France in 1993 with a retro 5'5 Twin Fin fish board. He dropped in and apparently started kicking ass and taking names.

It's displays like this that have gained him the unquestionable status of legendary surfing genius and retro soul ripper.

Curren started out riding for Channel Islands Surfboards and developed a surfing career with them while co-producing and riding pro models like the Black and Red Beautys. Curren has also



CHRIS ORWIG

Tom Curren and The Noahs play at the Marquee Oct. 10.

team Switchfoot.

As a musician Curren has been playing instruments since he was a child and in 1993 went on an American tour with his former band the Skipping Urchins playing mainly at core surf spots.

Now, with his new band The Noahs, Curren will be coming to Nova Scotia to test the waters figuratively and literally. He will be coming to test out a new "heated wet suit" and play a benefit concert.

The concert will benefit the Surfing Association of Nova Scotia's Coastal Access Committee (SANS) as well as WWF Canada and the Ecology Action Centre.

Curren will also be hosting a silent auction that is supposed to include one of his Surfboards and free surf lessons by One Life Surf School. Profits from the auction will go to the above-mentioned organizations.

The concert will take place Oct. 10 at the Marquee, and tickets will be on sale in Dal's Student Union Building.

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Women break even

DYLAN MATTHIAS
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The Tigers women's soccer team has yet to concede more than a goal this year in five games, adding to that tally last Friday's 1-0 win over the Mount Allison Mounties.

Fans were still trying to figure out who was who when the Tigers' Kate MacDonald picked up a loose ball on the left-hand side of the box and thumped a shot across the keeper and into the top corner.

After such a bright opening the game had much promise and Dal kept attacking through the first half, looking for insurance.

Dal's Reika Santilli slipped into the box alone with a quick move, but Mount Allison's Elissa McCarron threw herself to the right, holding onto Santilli's shot.

MacDonald tried again 23 minutes in, sending a low shot skittering from left to right. It eluded McCarron but slipped just past the post. A minute later she chipped one over McCarron but it bounced off the top of the bar.

As the half wore on, Dal seemed to settle into a rhythm, perhaps a comfortable one. The Mounties wasted a free kick, sending it wide right at 34:40, but the ball flew straight through a disorganized wall. Several minutes later Mounties player Hilary Hamilton nodded a header just past the top corner. Dal goalkeeper Heather Armstrong would have had no chance.

MacDonald missed a wonderful chance late in the half when the Tigers' Katie Richard sent a low shot across goal, but MacDonald couldn't get her boot on it.

Unfortunately, the game lacked a similar urgency in the second half. Several players who were strong in the first half disappeared completely. Santilli didn't get forward as much and Alannah MacLean stopped making piercing runs up the left side, which had made her a threat in the first half.

It was a precarious situation where a single mistake from Dal could have lost the Tigers two points in a crucial four-point game. Atlantic University Sport (AUS) games are

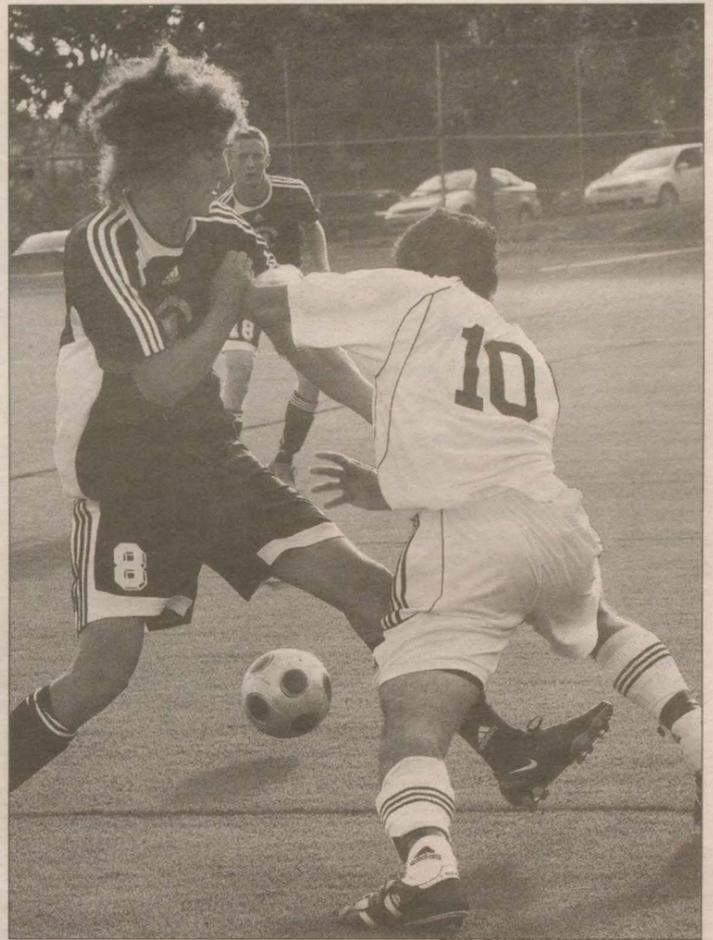
divided into four- and two-point games based on how many times a team plays the other team.

Mount Allison seemed unable to take advantage, though, and had virtually no attacking possession for the first 25 minutes of the second half.

Dal perhaps had the better of the half-chances; but neither team created anything until 79:31 when Dal came alive. McCarron fumbled a dangerous cross from the right. The Mounties partially cleared before MacLean lobbed a ball into the box headed away behind for a corner, which came to nothing.

Dal began to create a few more chances, but continued balancing on the slimmest of leads. The Tigers managed to pull it off, running the ball into the corner for the last few minutes. It didn't help that Mount Allison was reduced to 10 players in stoppage time when Tatum Buckley went down and needed treatment.

The women ended the weekend with a 0-1 loss to Cape Breton Capers. The Tigers now sit at second place in the AUS.



Dal Tigers battled Mount Allison Friday night.

PAUL BALIYE/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Sport retort

Professional money-grubbing



NICK KHATTAR
SPORTS EDITOR

As National Hockey League (NHL) pre-season winds down, and with Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) action just around the corner, the changing of the leaves mark the beginning of another hockey season here in Canada.

This is where you probably expect me to go on some patriotic spiel about this great country of ours, and one of its majestic national sports. Not the case.

Professional sport, specifically hockey, in Canada should be, and is, appreciated. It plays a vital role in our lives in many ways. It is the two hours after a bad day at work watching your team in the playoffs. It is paying \$5 on a Saturday afternoon 10 years ago to sit in the Olympic Stadium watching the 'Xpos. It is taking your little brother to B.C. Place to watch the Lions for the first time. It is — well you know what I mean. Canadian professional sport holds that great golden place in our lives that is filled with leisure, excitement and passionate dedication.

Professional sport in this country is something vastly different to us, the loyal spectators, than it is to those with their hands in the meta-

phorical franchise "register", such as owners and investors. To these people, many of whom aren't even Canadian, our delicate professional sports are nothing more than a cash crop, a blood soaked sponge waiting to be squeezed. Hence the \$78 million from communications billionaire, Ted Rogers, to have the Buffalo Bills play eight games in Toronto over the next five years. This move is rumoured to end with the Bills moving to Toronto, ousting the Argos and thus fatally wounding the Canadian Football League.

But alas, I digress. This is about hockey.

Roughly \$325 million in total is how much Canadian NHL teams spend on player payroll each year. Have you ever been to a Maple Leafs game? If you haven't I don't blame you. It isn't worth the outrageous price you'll pay to watch them lose.

When I checked on Monday to see what the going price was for a lower level ticket to the Toronto-St. Louis game at the Air Canada Centre, Ticketmaster told me \$210! There is nothing majestic or patriotic about spending half my rent money to see an NHL game.

Certainly, this is not an average ticket price countrywide. According to a team market research report for October 2007, the six Canadian NHL teams ranked in the top 10 for ticket prices, with the Leafs and Canadiens leading the entire league with average ticket prices of \$88.32 and \$67.55. I'll spare you the bore of number crunching and tell you that the Canadian average ticket price is nearly \$20 more than our American counterparts.

We are paying people more

than \$5 million a year to play a game! Is our society stupid? We bitch, piss and shit about the state of our city streets, our national healthcare and the economy of our exponentially more daft neighbors to the south, but we are more than willing to fork out \$140 for a lower bowl ticket to a hockey game?

It isn't exactly our tax dollars paying Florida Panther Brian McCabe's \$5.7 million salary, but essentially we, the fans, are responsible for the popularity of the sport and its inflated salaries.

Our tax dollars fund — not very well — doctors, teachers, and politicians; people who genuinely try to make our country a tangibly better place, usually. Now I don't know many NHL players very intimately, but I think it's safe to say most of them aren't putting much of that "hard earned" money back into their communities. But the minute a pediatrician starts making a decent living for him or herself, a chunk of it goes to the government.

Just imagine if the world was a slightly better, more efficient place, and those billions of dollars that are tied up in the NHL were floating around elsewhere. Maybe my education wouldn't cost as much as much season tickets and I wouldn't have to live in my office? I guess when it all comes down to it, life, like hockey, is just a game, and the better players profit more than the rest. If that's the case, we should just take a real Canadian's advice — Steve Smith, Mr. Red Green himself — and "Remember to keep our sticks on the ice."

Men's soccer 2-0 over the weekend

DYLAN MATTHIAS
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The Tigers men's soccer team rallied from a goal behind to win 3-1 over the struggling Mount Allison Mounties last Friday.

It wasn't Dal's best start. The game started at breakneck pace and didn't produce a proper scoring chance until seven minutes in, when Mount A's Kotei Yamashita found the ball in a massive scramble and poked it past Dal keeper Ben Ur.

It wasn't Ur's strongest moment — the ball only just trickled in — and the goal seemed to come from nothing. Dal's back line had exchanged the ball in its defensive third, but had elected not to clear it. The players conceded possession, then they conceded the goal.

Although Dal continued to control the run of play and held possession well, the Mounties' attack looked poised to score again. At 15:30 Ur was caught partially out of position and while the ball was chipped past him, a defender was able to get in behind and clear it.

Five minutes later Ur rushed outside his box to try and head off an attacker only to slide in and foul him on the edge of the area. Ur, who was booked for his tackle, fumbled the rolling free kick to his right. Mount Allison might have scored then but the shot trickled into the side netting.

Tigers coach Patrick Nearing then changed things up, bringing in Jason Burr for Wes Hawley. Forty seconds later, Burr buried one behind the Mounties' keeper Corey Yantha. That, too, was a broken play, with the Tigers breaking into the box

and Burr collecting a loose ball and slotting home.

Dal managed to stay with Mount Allison in the first half, but the Tigers didn't seem to capitalize on better possession and chances.

"There were times when we didn't push forward enough...in the first half," said Nearing after the game. Whatever he told the team at half-time seemed to work, though. Dal wasted no time in the second frame. Eric Negulic, pulling several mesmerizing stepovers along the top of the 18-yard box before wrong-way Yantha, and bounced the ball off the right-hand post and into the net.

A minute and a half later, Negulic was at it again. Streaking down the left, he cut inside at the byline, battling through several challenges from the defender before chipping a cross into the box for Wes Hawley, who had come back on, to volley into the net past Yantha's outstretched arm.

"He's relentless, he's got tonnes of energy coming forward, and he's very skillful," said Nearing of Negulic, who was named player of the game.

Ur also seemed to recover from his somewhat shaky start, blanking Justin Bagole when he was in alone, and also diving to his right and holding a similar shot shortly after from Yamashita.

The Dal Tigers are set to play UPEI, Acadia University, and Memorial University in upcoming games.

With a 4-1 win over the Cape Breton Capers later last weekend, Dal is now 4 and 1 at home and second place in the AUS.

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JOCK TALK:

ZACK WILSON
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Athlete:
Greg Bathe

Team:
King's Varsity Soccer

1. Do you take group showers with the rest of the team?

"No."

2. Do you wish you took group showers with the rest of the team?

"I do."

3. Be honest, do players get action as a direct result of playing on the soccer team?

"We score on and off the field. Being a varsity athlete definitely helps."

4. Jessica Alba or Jessica Biel?

"Jessica Biel."

5. Would you ever consider pulling a Jonathan Brandis, dressing up as a girl and playing for the woman's team?

"I definitely would. I hear they take team showers."

6. Who would win in an all out, no holds barred, full contact soccer game between Dal and King's?

"King's, we have the heart and the itty gritty passion for soccer... and we can drink more beer."

7. Are you aware that Miley Cyrus and Hannah Montana are in fact the same person?

"What?"

8. Who on the team has the best man boobs?

"Josh Viner, double As."

9. Word on the street is that you guys gave all of the rookies some sweet haircuts for their initiation. Whose, in your mind, stands out as being the best?

"Jordan and Neil. I'm not going to name last names but they aren't getting laid for a while."

10. Who on the team is packing the most heat?

"Kyle Murphy."

USED SPORTING GOODS

Sports-in-brief

In NHL pre-season action, the Boston Bruins beat the Montreal Canadiens 8-3 at the Metro Centre Sept. 22. Brad Marchand of Hammonds Plains was in the lineup and had a few good scoring chances. He's competing for a rookie spot on the team against fellow Hammonds Plains native Andrew Bodnarcuck, who was left off the roster on Monday. Bodnarcuck dressed for Tuesday's 2-1 loss against the Islanders in Moncton, while neither he nor Marchand were in the lineup in Thursday's 4-3 loss to the Red Wings in front of 7,000 people at the Metro Centre.

The UNB Varsity Men's Reds beat the Saint Mary's Huskies 4-1 on Sept. 20 to win their fourth annual UNB Pre-season Hockey Tournament in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Completing a four game sweep, the Halifax Pelham Canadians beat the Kentville Wildcats 1-0 on Sept. 24 to win their first Nova Scotia Senior League Baseball Championship in 16 years.

The win gives Halifax a birth into the 2009 National Championships next August, hosted by the Dartmouth Moosehead Dry.

The Saint Mary's Huskies Men's hockey coach Trevor Stienberg is currently on the sidelines with a perforated bowel. The 42-year-old former NHLer spent almost a month in hospital this summer and was awaiting results from a test completed last Monday.

The hosting Acadia Axemen axed St. FX 6-4 on Sunday in Wolfville to win the Don Wells Hockey Tournament. Goals for Acadia came from Zack McMillan, Tyler Whitehead, Scott Tregunna, Christopher Bruton, Nathan Welton and Blair Jarrett.

Brett Robertson scored a pair of goals for the X-Men with Sean Flinn and Kevin Undershute scoring one each.

Women's varsity rugby action on Sunday saw the X-Women x-out the Acadia Axewomen 43-0. Assuring the X-Women's unbeaten re-

cord remained untainted was CIS player of the Year Ghislaine Landry who had two tries while Courtney Malcolm collected four tries and four conversions.

The Moncton Wildcats improved their record to 6-0 on Sunday, beating the Halifax Mooseheads 4-2 in regular season QJMHL action. Matt Brown, a Bible Hill, N.S. native and first start of the game, led the charge for the Cats with two scores and an assist on Matt Eagles' goal. Mark Barberio scored the other goal for Moncton while Nicola Riopel stopped 14 shots. Scoring for Halifax was Graham Bona and Justin Pender, with Mark Yetman making 24 saves. The Mooseheads are just one point out of last place in the Atlantic Division with a record of 2-5. The Mooseheads play this Friday at home against the PEI Rockets at 7 p.m.

Source: The Chronicle Herald



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October 2nd - The Gypsies
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Notes from DSEUS

So, it has come to the attention of the executive that it is October already! Where does the time go?!

The Council recently appointed a new VP Communications, a third year Electrical Student eager to jump in and get his hands dirty! The council also appointed Zhindra Gillis to VP Finance for the Winter term. Zhindra has held this position before and is ready to get rolling again after the Christmas break.

You have no doubt all seen the fancy belt buckles around campus, these, along with "I Put the Sex in Sexton" t-shirts and toques can be purchased from the DSEUS Office (in the Engineering Design Com-

mons - under the gym) for a mere \$10 each. Key chain bottle openers are currently in production and will be available soon!

The executive are trying something new this year to instill a little bit of healthy competition between each of the disciplines and the first of these events is planned for October 9, 7:30pm at the T-Room. This is the first in a series of D-Level Challenges to keep you all on your toes outside the academic circle. So, gather a representative team from your discipline and have a little bit of Thanksgiving fun!

The engineers were also feeling the need to equalize the guy to girl ratio at the T-Room for at least once... A challenge has been issued to the Nursing Faculty to try

their skills against our Friday night T-Room Trivia experts. So let's put all our fancy iPods and Blackberries away and prove the engineers rule the trivia scene! Gloves come off, and calculators away October 17th, 9pm with Stan and Thomas.

It just so happens that Hallowe'en also falls in October... and the executive is feeling especially festive... Watch for a few days of Hallowe'en events that will no doubt involve some pancakes and some pumpkins.

November will bring the engineers back to the Metro Centre to support our favorite Moose! Ticket information will be available soon!

In the name of hockey, and some healthy school spirit, the Engineers just might take

Human Development Milestone Success: Tied Aid Dropped

Danny Howard
Director of Outreach and Advocacy,
EWB National Office
and Justin Wheeler

The Canadian government has just announced that it will completely untie aid. This is a tremendous milestone. By eliminating the inefficiencies of Tied Aid the Canadian Government has effectively increased aid spending by \$90-180 million dollars.

While traveling through Africa a year ago in a brand new Toyota truck a Malawian aid worker and a good friend of mine, turned to me and asked "Where do you think this truck came from?"

My friend is a highly educated Malawian who has devoted much of his life to positive change in his country. He grew up in a village and believed strongly that if his projects were going to have an impact, he needed visit and listen to rural farmers to understand their most current challenges and opportunities.

"Northern Europe!" he exclaimed.

I was disappointed. Instead of purchasing the truck from a South African vehicle manufacture and driving back to Malawi (1000km) the truck was purchased in Northern Europe and delivered to Malawi (15,000km).

I consoled myself with the thought that maybe they needed a high-quality, reliable Toyota which probably wasn't available in Southern Africa.

I asked, "Where was the truck manufactured?" A sad smile came to my friend's face. "South Africa" he responded.

I was in disbelief. This truck was sent 15,000 km from South Africa to Northern Europe, purchased by a European government and sent right back another 15,000km.

This was nothing short of a complete waste. Here my friend was, surrounded by



opportunities to help farmers ensure that they bring in a great harvest every year, and valuable money was instead being spent on shipping.

This Is Tied Aid

Some donor governments including Canada require project funds to be spent on goods and services from their own country. In 2006, Commitment to Development Index estimated that 43% of Canadian aid is tied, while Action Aid estimated that about \$1 billion of the \$3.74 billion Ottawa spent in aid from 2004-2005 did not reach those in need in developing countries.

With the recent announcement, Canadians will no longer have to be ashamed about tied aid, as long as we can make our government follow through. EWB members have been working, in cooperation with many others, to stop tied aid for over four years. Here are some highlights of EWB actions:

• We made sure our government knew about tied aid. When Eileen Carroll became the Minister of International Cooperation in 2004, we immediately invited her to speak at our conference. This was her first speech as Minister, and the first question she got from the crowd of EWB members was "Why hasn't Canada untied its aid?"

• All throughout 2005 and 2006 EWB chapters across the country promoted untying aid to thousands of Canadians and to MPs through EWB's "Play Your Part" campaign.

• Between 2005 and 2007, George Roter

and Parker Mitchell, CEOs of EWB met with Paul Martin former Prime Minister of Canada, Robert Greenhill former President of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and current Finance Minister Jim Flaherty and Minister of International Cooperation Bev Oda. Every time we confronted them with that question: "Why hasn't Canada untied its aid?"

• At EWB's 2007 conference, untying aid played a key role in a massive outreach event on the streets of Calgary. Hundreds of delegates symbolically untied aid in the cities central business district.

• In Montreal, in January 2008, hundreds of EWB volunteers talked to people on the streets of Montreal about tied aid. Over 3,000 people signed a stop sign saying "Stop Tied Aid" these were sent directly to every Member of Parliament across Canada. One month later, Canada's food aid was untied!

And now we come to September 2008. The government announced that by 2012-2013 it will untie not just food aid, but all aid. This will allow aid recipients to purchase goods and services from where they want and at the cheapest prices. Experts with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have estimated that tied aid is approximately 15-30% less efficient than untied aid.

This important move will make Canadian aid dollars go further. To find out how you can get involved in the next big steps to reduce global poverty and promote human development check out www.ewb.ca/ action or email dal@ewb.ca.

teers, so if you are interested in that as well, just mention it in your email.

Sexton Memorial Gymnasium Complex is the main sport and recreation complex on Sexton Campus. In the Sexton Gym are: the main gymnasium, the Sexton Campus Fitness Centre, The T Room Bar and two international squash courts, the Student Union Offices, the Athletic Departmental Offices and the men's and women's locker rooms.

Full time Sexton students have access to

facilities on the Sexton campus as well as the main campus that includes Dalhousie's main athletic facility, Dalplex. Valid student ID card is required for access to either facility.

For more information on Sexton Campus Athletics, please contact Athletic Director, at 494-3550.

For more athletics information, check out <http://www.athletics.dal.ca>.



C·O·M·P·A·S·S·I·O·N

Want to have a great time with a group of people that care about a cause, and help out local charities at the same time? Visit dalsexton.ca and check the upcoming charity events and see how you can help.

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DSEUS dalhousie sexton DAL ENG Dalhousie University Engineering Undergraduate Society Engineering Student Societies

"Top 3" - The Montreal Canadians

JF Nowlan

If you were to take 100 years worth of sports history, few professional teams would be able to compare with the most storied franchise in hockey history, the Montreal Canadians. In the most simplistic of terms, everything in the organization, from past players to past teams, is a hockey hall of fame on its own.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of this historic franchise, but will that translate into their 25th Stanley Cup?

Top 3 Reasons Why The Canadians Will Win The Stanley Cup:

1. Powerplay - Although the Habs powerplay was non-existent in the 2008 playoffs, they still have the best powerplay in the NHL for the past two seasons. The loss of Marc Streit will be felt, however, players like Sergel Kostitsyn and Andrei Markov will be more than capable of maintaining a deadly man advantage.

2. Carey Price - Montreal's first-round pick in the 2005 draft is preparing himself for his first full tour of duty with the team. Al-

though he's 21, he's the real deal. It has been well documented about Montreal's successes with young goaltenders, the last one being Patrick Roy who brought home the cup in 1986 as a rookie and a record-setting post-season in 1993.

3. Guy Carbonneau - The should-have-been-2008-coach-of-the-year will try and impress people yet again by taking a team of 3rd and 4th liners and transforming them into the highest offensive output team in the NHL for the second consecutive year. Last year, not one member of the Canadians had over 90 points. The in-house competition he has demanded from his players has created an environment of success on and off the ice and that will be key component to winning Lord Stanley's Cup.

Despite what those "so-called" experts think, this team for the Canadians has learned from last years dominating yet disappointing performance in the second-round against Martin Biron and the Philadelphia Flyers. This young, energetic Montreal team has gained some much needed experience and will be hungry for the Cup once more.

Don't agree, let me know: sextant@dal.ca

Co-op Corner

Scott Blake
Sextant Editor

Check out the dates below to make sure you don't miss your co-op requirements.

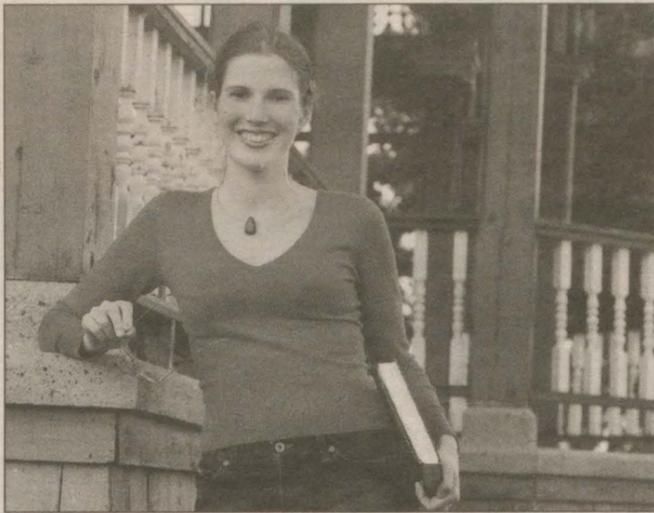
Date	Event
Sept 8 - Oct 8	Round 1 job postings for Winter work term; Check <i>PlacePro</i> daily; Interviews held anytime up to October 8th
Oct 17	Round I employer rankings released to students.
Oct 17 - Oct 20	Friday and Monday, Q & A Days for help with rankings Monday, October 20th - 4 pm, rankings by students must be entered in <i>PlacePro</i> .
Oct 21	Match Day
Oct 21 - Jan 16	Round II continues through second week of next term; interviews, offers and acceptances occur anytime in this period.
Dec 3 - Dec 13	Examinations for Fall study term

Sexton Athletics

Scott Blake
Sextant Editor

If you are interested in intramurals and want to be kept in the loop, email patrick.nearing@dal.ca to be put on the daily distribution list. This list gives updates for schedules, rules, changes, and standings. He is also always looking for volun-

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AU student Kate in Kingston, Ontario, Canada

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