

FREE

139-23 / March 8th - March 14th, 2007

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

# Gazette



JAPAN LEADER DOUBTS HISTORY PG. 8

CKDU BROADCASTS BEST AND WORST PG.9

SWIMMERS HEAT UP POOL PG. 16

Cover Co-designed: Susan Maroun and Matthew Ernst



# WEEKLY DISPATCH

Dear Students,

It's **\*Election\*** time again!

This is an important time to be involved and educate yourself on the various platforms of candidates, as you will decide who will represent you in the upcoming year.

The DSU is the official voice of the students- what do you want them to say? Who you choose to lead the student union will directly affect your life here at Dalhousie socially, financially and academically. With all the proposed upcoming change, don't you want to elect someone who best represents your views?

The Elections Committee has been working hard trying to think of ways to make this election more accessible to students. This year, we are introducing roving polling stations around campus. Look for our Poll Clerks and Treos (PDA devices) to vote easily away from home. As with last year, you can also vote by going to : [www.dsu.ca](http://www.dsu.ca)

Only 20% of the student body voted last year. That means, roughly 3,000 students decided who would represent a school of over 15,000. We want to dramatically increase that number in 2007 and in turn, vote-in a new council that is more representative of what the majority of students really want- not just 20%.

Help us make this a reality. Help yourself get the representation you deserve! The DSU will be speaking on your behalf- don't you want to have a say?

Next week we'll be hosting numerous forums - come see candidates debate on:

\*Monday, March 12th from 11am-2pm Executive to Candidates Forum- SUB LOBBY-- Come see the current executive ask questions of their potential replacements!

\*Tuesday, March 13th Noon- All Candidates Forum Sexton Campus, Alumni Lounge

\*Thursday, March 15th 8pm- Elections Night at Grawood Trivia Meet & Greet candidates and get to know them one on one.

\*Monday, March 19th 6-8pm- The Presidential Debate Grawood Bar will be open.

Come out to the forums, check out our blog, <http://dsuelections2007.blogspot.com> and PLEASE remember to vote! March 20, 21, 22!

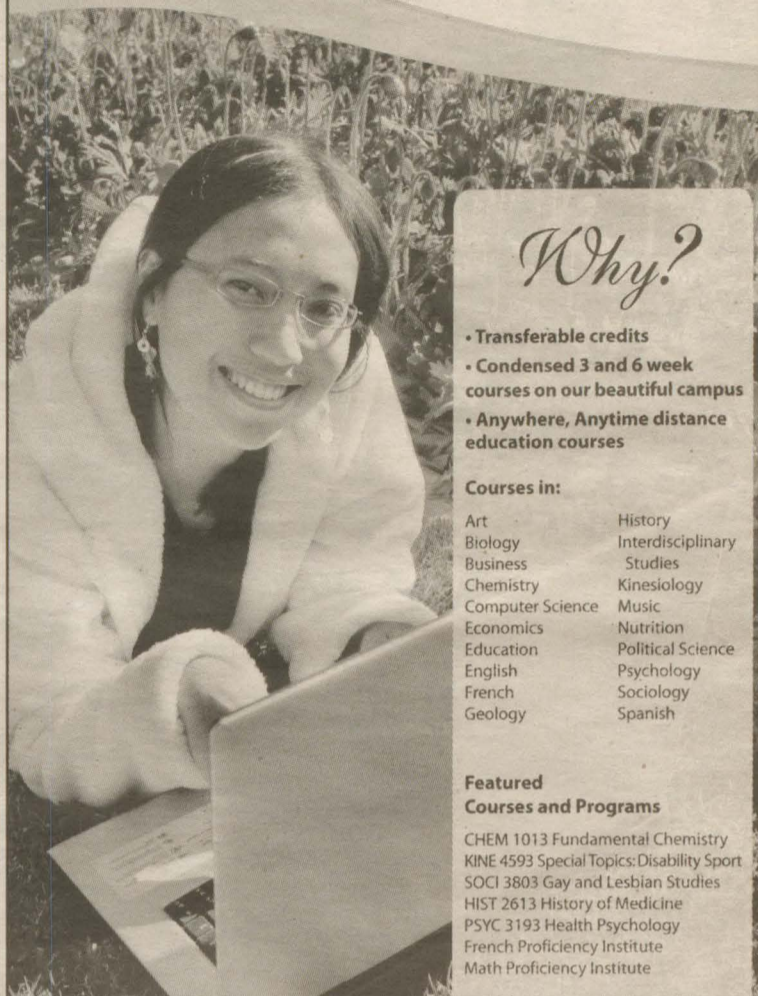
On behalf of the Elections Committee, I urge you to take the time to educate yourself and better our school community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us: [election@dal.ca](mailto:election@dal.ca), 494.1282

Thank you,  
Anneke Foster  
Chief Returning Officer  
Dalhousie Student Union  
Election 2007  
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## Gazette

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"300" is the most unique movie-going experience of a generation."  
Ben Lyons, E!

**"A FANTASTIC, action-adventure epic!"**  
Mose Persico, CTV MONTREAL

**"300 IS A-THUNDERING EPIC OF A MOVIE."**  
A feast for the senses that thrills to the bone."  
Melora Koepke, HOUR/VDIR

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Richard Crouse, REEL TO REAL

**"A visual masterpiece!"**  
Darrin Maharaj, MZTV

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Roz Weston, ET CANADA

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# Gazette

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

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

Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, 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. All quotes attributed to Joey Ryba in the Streeter feature of this paper are written, in good humour, by staff, and do not necessarily represent the views of Joey Ryba. This publication is intended for readers 18 years of age or older. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

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

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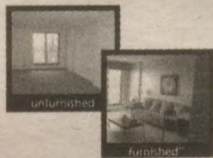
All contributions in this issue of The Gazette were made by the staff listed above and the following contributors: Jack Carr, Catherine Holloway, Hugh Wallace, Kieran Hanley, Assalamu Alaikum Noor, Anu Jindal, Clare Esler, Karyn Haag, Rory Clark, Andrew Bernardo, Eddie Slaunwhite, Corey Forbes and Magen Powell.

The next contributor meeting will take place March 5th at 5:30 p.m. in Room 312 of the Dalhousie SUB. We need writers, photographers, illustrators, readers and ideas. If you can contribute any of these, please drop us a line or come by the office.

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# Goodbye and good riddance

## Students should take helm of new, better plan

RAFAL ANDRONOWSKI  
Editor-in-Chief

Cries of surprise filled the Grawood Wednesday night as results of the student spaces referendum were unveiled. With 57 per cent of votes opposing the proposal, Dalhousie's plan for new student spaces is no more.

I say good riddance. I have written in this space about the dismal condition of our existing buildings and how current spaces are under-used and not maintained properly.

But judging from the conversation buzz in the Grawood that night, these conditions are not what convinced many students to vote no.

Many support the idea of new spaces in principle. They would have voted for the university's proposal were it not for one glaring slap in the face — the yes.dal.ca website.

Simply put, Dalhousie was too arrogant with its Yes campaign.

The administration gave off the impression that students — Dal-educated students, no less — cannot be trusted to make a decision that will benefit them most.

Instead of presenting the facts in a manner that would allow voters to make up their own minds on the issue, Dal tried to spoon-feed us the answer. And much like a toddler that doesn't like the taste of what's on the spoon, we spat it out.

Perhaps next time there is a chance to create a legacy for future generations of students, Dal will take into consideration the needs, desires and opinions of current students before launching a propaganda campaign so full of bravado.

On a side note, I wonder how much this whole hullabaloo cost — and if that money would not have been better spent on improving existing student spaces.

Perhaps, had the administration gone about the whole campaign differently, not only would the vote have been yes, it would have been a strong and resounding yes.

At a university as large as Dal, with many thousands of students crammed into a few square blocks in the middle of a residential neighbourhood, there is always going to be a lack of student space.

Let's face it, going downtown to hang out in one of the countless cafés, restaurants or bars is not an option for those of us stuck up here on University Avenue. We need spaces to study, surf the web or have a coffee that doesn't involve taking the bus or walking for 20 minutes.



Illustration: Aaron MacLean

These are spaces that should be provided by the university. And they are.

Take a walk around Dal campus, poke your head into any random building and chances are you will find countless nooks and crannies as well as large open spaces that, and this is key, are not being utilized fully at the moment.

With the failure of Dal's yes.dal.ca campaign, I'd like to suggest a new plan for the university. My plan is inspired, in part, by Dal's very own slogan — 'Inspiring Minds.'

I propose Dal enlist the help of all these inspired minds — who happen to be students at this university — to be the champions of a student-driven process to design, plan and help with the building and renovation of student spaces.

Those students could even help come up with innovative ways to pay for it, which wouldn't involve a 20- to 30-year legacy of higher fees for those who follow us.

And maybe we don't need a \$25-million price tag on a better university. Together, Dal campuses house a remarkably large body of creative, driven and helpful individuals who would like nothing better than to leave a 'legacy' for future generations of students.

And I can almost guarantee they would put in the time and effort free of charge.

**CORRECTIONS**

• In Issue 139-22, page 14, we incorrectly attributed the photos to John Packman, when in fact the photos were press photos. We're sorry.

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# Students shut down proposal

REID SOUTHWICK  
News Editor  
JESS MCDIARMID  
Copy Editor

Dalhousie students slammed the door on a campus construction proposal in a referendum that saw the highest turnout for a campus-wide vote in at least five years.

Roughly 2,400 voters, or 57.3 per cent, struck down plans to construct three buildings, renovate eight student lounges and re-design the section of University Avenue between LeMarchant and Seymour streets.

More than 28 per cent of the student body cast ballots in the referendum, which, if passed, would have boosted student fees by up to \$100 per year for 20 to 30 years after construction was complete.

The vote was decided by about 600 students, out of more than 4,200 ballots cast.

Dave Stanbrook said he was pleased with the result. The sciences student voted against the proposal after he became dissatisfied with what he called a "propaganda" campaign waged by the university.

"The posters everywhere telling you to vote 'yes' was just propaganda," said Stanbrook. "If the university wants to put those renovations through, students won't pay for it."

Graham Boditch, however, said he was impressed with the university's efforts to promote the campaign. But the second-year student voted against the proposal, fearing his friends at 1242 LeMarchant St. would be evicted if the referendum passed.

That would have been the site of a new Grad House after the university constructed a four-storey, 5,800 square metre building at the current site.

Dal spokesperson Charles Crosby said the university has no short-term plans for the current house, which requires an estimated \$750,000 in repairs.

Crosby said the administration heard from many students leading up to the vote that they want more money spent on existing buildings.

"Quite frankly, that's the legacy of 20 years of public funding starving universities," he said. "There's obviously a message in this for the federal and provincial government."

"Twenty years of neglect has left university infrastructure crumbling and students want that fixed first."

Crosby said the university isn't surprised with the referendum result.

"Students have said loud and clear they don't want to proceed with the plan put in place before them," he said. The university still plans to spend \$55 million on existing buildings, and hopes to increase that figure with more government funding, Crosby said.

DSU presidential candidate Jason Pelley said he's personally disappointed, but students have indicated the university must find another way to pay for much-needed space.

"Obviously the way the university went about it wasn't in line with the sentiments of some students," said Pelley, a health promotions policy and research student. "There's ways the administration could have gone about it where students wouldn't have felt coerced."

The negative result sends a strong signal to the administration, and both levels of government, that students feel they already pay enough, said Pelley.

Dan Clark, DSU representative to the Board of Governors, said the result shows a move from an "us mentality" to a "me mentality."

"People had the option of doing something that would have been better for everyone," said Clark. "Dalhousie students will get as much or as little as they want to pay for, and today students said they wanted less..."

"I think it's a shame, a crying shame."

King's Students' Union President Dave Jerome, whose organization launched a 'No Campaign' in response to King's students being excluded from the referendum, said it was "no secret" that the result was due to the process.

Anyone who asked critical questions was labelled controversial by Dal administration and the DSU, and not respected, Jerome said.

"It also sends a very clear message that students [in Nova Scotia] are tired of paying the most," he said. "We cannot afford anymore. They have to find some other way to do this."



Israeli student leaders Noa Shimshoni and Tal Mandelbaum are touring Canada to learn about the political and social culture. / Photo: John Packman

## Israeli students see similarities, not differences

KATIE MAY  
Assistant News Editor

They live in the midst of constant international conflict, cope with tight national security and must complete mandatory military service. But Israeli students have much in common with their Canadian counterparts, student leaders say.

Noa Shimshoni and Tal Mandelbaum are Israeli student union representatives who arrived at Dalhousie on March 2 as part of a two-week cultural exchange program.

The pair wants to learn about Canadian university life, politics and social issues by travelling to schools in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa. Earlier this year, a group of Canadians went to Israel for the first part of the exchange.

Mandelbaum, who is in her third and final year at Tel Aviv University in central Israel, says sometimes people imagine vast differences between the two countries. But students are generally interested in the same things no matter where they're from, she says.

"I can't say there's much difference," the psychology and political science student says. "It is the Middle East, but it's not very different from Canada in many, many aspects."

Mandelbaum, 24, is a member of a campus political party and was the psychology representative on her student council for two years. Shimshoni is the student union history representative and founder of a social justice group at Ben Gurion University in southern Israel.

Both agree the most common concerns facing universities across Israel, as in Canada, are tuition hikes, student apathy and decreasing campus involvement.

While Shimshoni's school has no political affiliations, Mandelbaum

describes her student union as "very partisan," but she says it's open to all views.

"If you want to picture what the political scene is like, even if you've got extreme left or extreme right, you'd find Israelis together with Arab-Isrealis in the same groups. It wouldn't be separate," she says.

"The shared values, rather than the different backgrounds, would be what would make one group different from another."

Israel's required army service for 18-year-old citizens allows them to develop common moral values and strengthen self-identities by the time they enter university in their 20s, says Shimshoni.

"You grow up knowing you will go to the army. It's something that is a part of your childhood and a part of your education," the 25-year-old says. "It makes you mature very quickly, but in the Israeli day-to-day life, you have to mature quickly."

Over the course of their trip, the students will meet with politicians, civil rights groups and student representatives. Both say the chance to talk to individual Canadians makes the trip worthwhile.

"Once you get to know someone, a specific name or someone's story, you can really try to understand their lives," says Shimshoni. "For me it's very interesting to get to meet someone from Canada, as it was for the Canadians to know my story."

Mandelbaum says it's important for students to be conscious of international issues and to help others become aware.

"I find it comforting to know that whenever you meet a person, you never know where they'll end up and how many people they'll end up influencing," she says. "Surely, it will have an influence on our futures as leaders on our campuses."

## Uni-Briefs

### CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS

#### Donations, government to fund UofO expansion

The University of Ottawa recently announced a \$150-million construction plan that would add more than 32,500 square metres to the school's campuses and renovate existing buildings. The five-year plan would be funded by government grants, loans and private donations.

The proposal, which aims to satisfy needs of an increased undergraduate student body and expected boost in graduate enrolment, hasn't been approved by the university's board of governors. But it's expected to pass during a meeting next month.

UofO President Gilles Patry told *The Fulcrum* student newspaper an expanded campus is necessary to give the university a competitive edge.

"When compared to all other universities in Ontario, there is a serious deficit of space at the UofO," he said. "If we want to be recognized as a modern and competitive campus, then we have to offer [students, and particularly graduate students,] the space and facilities they require."

#### Gas giant shells out funds at UofC

Shell Canada has announced a \$1.15-million investment in energy and environment-based education and research programs at the University of Calgary.

A portion of the new money will fund student visits to the oil sands in a private jet, which will carry an annual price tag of \$50,000.

Another \$750,000 will fund new research equipment for a petroleum and chemical engineering associate professor and his students. Shell Canada CEO Clive Mathers told *The Gauntlet* student newspaper professor Harvey Yarrington's work in new energy technologies is "vital."

Mathers said the announcement wasn't part of an effort to commercialize the university.

"Calgary is our hometown," he said. "The university will rely on us in terms of fieldwork and we will rely on them for pure research, which will ultimately lead to better technology."

#### Math Girl makes calculus 'fun'

Simon Fraser University professors have developed a three-dimensional cartoon character to help high school and first-year university students learn calculus.

Math Girl uses her snowboard to solve mathematical problems. In the first of two episodes in circulation, Math Girl rescues Pat Thagorus, who is stuck on Square Root X Mountain, by solving an equation that allows her to determine when her arm will be long enough to reach him.

Co-creator Veselin Jungic told *The Peak* student newspaper the cartoon shows students math "can be fun and can make people laugh."

"The main idea behind the project is to tell a story that is somehow calculus-related or math-related and to use a medium that relates to the young people that come into university," said Jungic.

Sources: *The Fulcrum*, *The Gauntlet* and *The Peak*

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# Gazette Archives

VOL. 139-23

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

NO.69

## 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

### UofO student sues prof

University of Ottawa business graduate Paul Boudreau sued his former professor Jimming Lin for a plagiarism offence.

Lin presented Boudreau's paper on electric circuits under his own name at a conference in New Orleans and included the paper in a casebook for a class — both times without giving Boudreau credit.

Boudreau initially appealed to the dean of the faculty of administration. When the university said it was satisfied with Lin's explanation, Boudreau filed suit.

According to Lin's court statement, Boudreau's name was omitted from the paper due to an oversight. The professor was waiting to include Boudreau's name until he could also include Boudreau's employer.

Boudreau's lawyer said Boudreau didn't know Lin was presenting the paper at the conference or that a second professor was named co-author of the paper.

John Topping, president of the university's student association, said the university's rules



to prevent this kind of plagiarism "have been set up to protect faculty, not students."

## 20 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

### Peace protestors evicted

Police threw out three people who barricaded themselves in the office of McGill University's vice president of research to protest renewed research of Fuel Air Explosives (FAE) on campus.

The group vowed to stay until the university's board of governors withdrew its approval of a research contract with

the Department of National Defence.

The Stockholm Peace and Research institute described FAEs as "inhumane and indiscriminate weapons." But the researchers said studying the explosives may be useful in preventing industrial accidents caused by gas explosions.

Amy Kaler, a member of a McGill ad hoc committee opposing FAEs, said the explosives are offensive, not defensive weapons.

The McGill student council recently endorsed the goals of the ad hoc committee, but didn't endorse the protest.

Kaler said although she sympathizes with some of the protestors' goals, the occupation of the vice president's office was "premature."

## 30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

### UdeM wants to ban English

The Universite de Moncton student union recommended the university ban English textbooks, courses and exams.

The union wrote in the university's weekly newspaper on Feb. 28 that it was mandatory for UdeM students to have some knowledge of English. But the union called for a ban to "safeguard the unilingual character" of UdeM.

The article also stated 31.5 per cent of certain classes in 1976 were taught in English, despite a university regulation that limited them to 20 per cent.

UdeM allowed non-francophone students to write exams in English and to use English textbooks. The union said many students did so without special permission.

More than half of textbooks used at UdeM were in English. The student union wanted professors who chose to use English texts to get permission from their dean.

## Uni-Briefs

### ACROSS THE POND

#### University investigates radioactive chemical loss

A U.K. university sent police on a five-day search after it lost a cancer-causing radioactive chemical.

University of York officials reported a supply of radium missing on Feb. 16 after employees at the disposal centre didn't receive it.

Police found the lost chemical at a local steel reprocessing plant on Feb. 21 following a highly publicized search. The university is investigating how the chemical ended up at the plant instead of the disposal centre.

The school's biology department used the radium, which causes serious medical conditions such as bone cancer and anaemia, to test biological materials for radioactivity.

The university's student newspaper *Vision* reported school administration issued a statement to the media during the search in to help prevent community panic.

"The level of radiation from the capsule is extremely low and represents little or no danger to human health," the statement read. "If crushed or broken, the capsule contents would be dangerous only if inhaled or ingested in significant quantities."

### SOUTH OF THE BORDER

#### Journalist sues student blogger

A University of California Berkley student was taken to small claims court last week for writing a blog about a pro-Israel journalist.

Yaman Salahi started his blog, in which he criticized a freelance journalist's writings about Israeli-Palestinian relations, last June.

Lee Kaplan, who says his work has uncovered Palestinian terrorists, sued Salahi in September for libel. He says the blog, titled "Lee Kaplan Watch," has damaged his reputation and cost him jobs.

During the hearing, judge Jacqueline Taber told Salahi and Kaplan their legal battle was the result of immature behaviour on both sides, according to a report by *The Daily Californian* student newspaper.

Taber said she expects to reach a decision on the case within the next three months.

#### Harvard incorporates Wikipedia

A Vermont college banned the use of Wikipedia earlier this month due to questions about its accuracy, but some Harvard University professors are still assigning articles from the collaborative online encyclopedia as required class readings.

Harvard professor Shaye J.D. Cohen said he's unsure whether the university should adopt Middlebury College's Wikipedia ban. He told *The Harvard Crimson* student newspaper that students should be able to analyze the validity of an article for themselves.

"Wikipedia represents all that is great and all that is dangerous about the Internet," Cohen said.

Cohen included nine Wikipedia entries on the syllabus for his Hebrew literature course because students are familiar with the readily available source, he said, and they'll be more likely to read the assigned articles.

Sources: *Vision*, *The Daily Californian* and *The Harvard Crimson*

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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.

Articles

Submissions to The Gazette opinions section must be no longer than 650 words. Please submit a list of sources along with articles. 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.

Letters@dalgazette.ca

TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION

(Re: Unfounded Criticism 139-22)

In last week's Gazette, Dalhousie Student Union President Ezra Edelstein invited me to read over the documents on dsu.ca, so that I could see how the DSU follows its own by-laws and policies.

After some light browsing, I came across the following policy on page four of the DSU's external policies:

"The DSU opposes the use of ancillary or auxiliary fees by Dalhousie University as a means of increasing general revenues, whereas this decreases public awareness of the real cost of education and the financial transparency of the university."

With a standing policy such as this, why is the DSU facilitating a referendum for the university on a \$100-per-year ancillary fee?

Edelstein wrote last week's letter because the King's Students' Union is running a No Campaign encouraging DSU members to vote against the proposed levy. The KSU was pushed into taking this action because King's students are not being allowed to express their opinions about this fee in the normal democratic way.

If King's students could vote, the KSU probably would have remained neutral.

According to Jim Vibert, associate vice president of communications and marketing, Dal suggested early in the process that King's students should be included in the vote.

When it was discovered the DSU could only poll its own members, King's students were dropped, rather than allowed to run their own referendum. Dal thought it would be better to keep control over the process, rather than obtain a democratic consensus.

If DSU members want to vote on

this fee for themselves, that is their right. But if any student who studies at Dal is prevented from participating in this referendum, then nobody has the right to charge them this fee.

It is taxation without representation, and it is discrimination. It is no different than proposing a new fee for all students, but only allowing men to vote on it.

So Edelstein, thanks for your invitation to join the DSU, but I think I'll stay where I am. Here, I know the student representatives are always working in the best interests of the whole student body — both internally and externally.

Yours,  
Dave Jerome  
President,  
King's Students' Union

A QUESTION OF POLICY

There has been a significant amount of criticism from the KSU over the past week about the DSU's external policy on auxiliary and ancillary fees. The KSU has claimed we are violating our own policies by holding the student space referendum. This claim is absolutely ludicrous for two reasons.

First, the policy very explicitly states we are against increasing general revenues through additional fees; and secondly, increasing general revenues through a dedicated fee is illegal within the province of Nova Scotia.

The policy states: "The DSU opposes the use of ancillary or auxiliary fees by Dalhousie University as a means of increasing general revenues, whereas this decreases public awareness of the real cost of education and the financial transparency of the university."

The key words in this policy are

"general revenues." The proposed referendum fee would not be going into general revenues for the university. This is a dedicated fee, with an explicit purpose, that is going to fund a very specific project.

This policy was adopted so that the DSU could advocate against universities in Nova Scotia covertly increasing their general revenues through additional fees.

The DSU is absolutely committed to this and all of our other current policies, and it is because of our lobbying that this policy has been enshrined in the current Memorandum of Understanding between the universities and the government.

The document prohibits any university in Nova Scotia from implementing a fee that would increase general revenues above the allowable 3.9 per cent.

A democratic referendum on implementing a fee for a specific project is hardly covert, let alone an increase to the university's general revenues.

Sincerely,  
Ezra Edelstein  
President,  
Dalhousie Student Union

UNFOUNDED ATTACK

(Re: Unfounded criticism 139-22)

I was interested to see that in his letter to the editor, DSU president Ezra Edelstein had some harsh words for us students over at King's. What interested me more was how Edelstein chose to attack us, through the services that he felt King's students used, but didn't pay for.

Well Edelstein, I don't know when you last took a look at your external affairs but if you actually did look at King's relationship with The Gazette, CKDU-FM, the Women's Centre,

NSPIRG, Legal Assistance and Tiger Patrol, you would see that King's student involvement is extremely high in all of these groups.

However, since you appear to be too busy to really look at the facts, I thought I would help clarify just how involved we are. In the past, The Gazette has been staffed and run by King's students and alumni, while both CKDU-FM and the Women's Centre are funded partially through new levies that our students voted for last month.

Also, almost all the associations that were listed in your letter are staffed or have been staffed in the recent past by King's students committed to those causes.

As for Tiger Patrol, perhaps you should have listened to me when I came to your office in 2005 as the KSU internal vice president and asked you for your help in incorporating Tiger Patrol into the King's community.

We were willing to pay for that, too. I guess it's unfortunate that you were too busy watching the news on your computer to look up and listen to what we at King's had to say.

Finally, in response to your invitation to come on over to the DSU, thanks, but I think I'll stick where I am. At least here I know that my union is informed about their external issues and is in touch enough with the composition of their campus's various associations that they won't need to retract their statements in next week's Gazette.

Alexis Paton

ROLLING UP THE RIM TO HARM THE ENVIRONMENT

The time of year has come when the weather gets warmer and coffee at Tim Hortons gets that much more exciting. But the "Roll up the

Rim to Win" campaign encourages consumption of disposable cups and discourages use of refillable mugs.

Recently, while buying a coffee, I was shocked when I was offered an empty cup, completely defeating the purpose my reusable mug.

To make things more ironic, Tim Hortons advertises the fact that by purchasing a coffee from a disposable mug, you may win an environmentally friendly car.

If Tim Hortons was truly committed to the environment, it would re-examine the idea of Roll up the Rim to Win. Why not reward those trying to save the environment and hand out scratch coupons as opposed to entire cups?

One disposable mug may not seem like much, but with over 30 million prizes and a one-in-nine-chance of winning, the environmental consequences seem that much worse. Suddenly, there are a lot of wasted cups in Canada.

Just something to think about the next time you consider a Tim Hortons coffee.

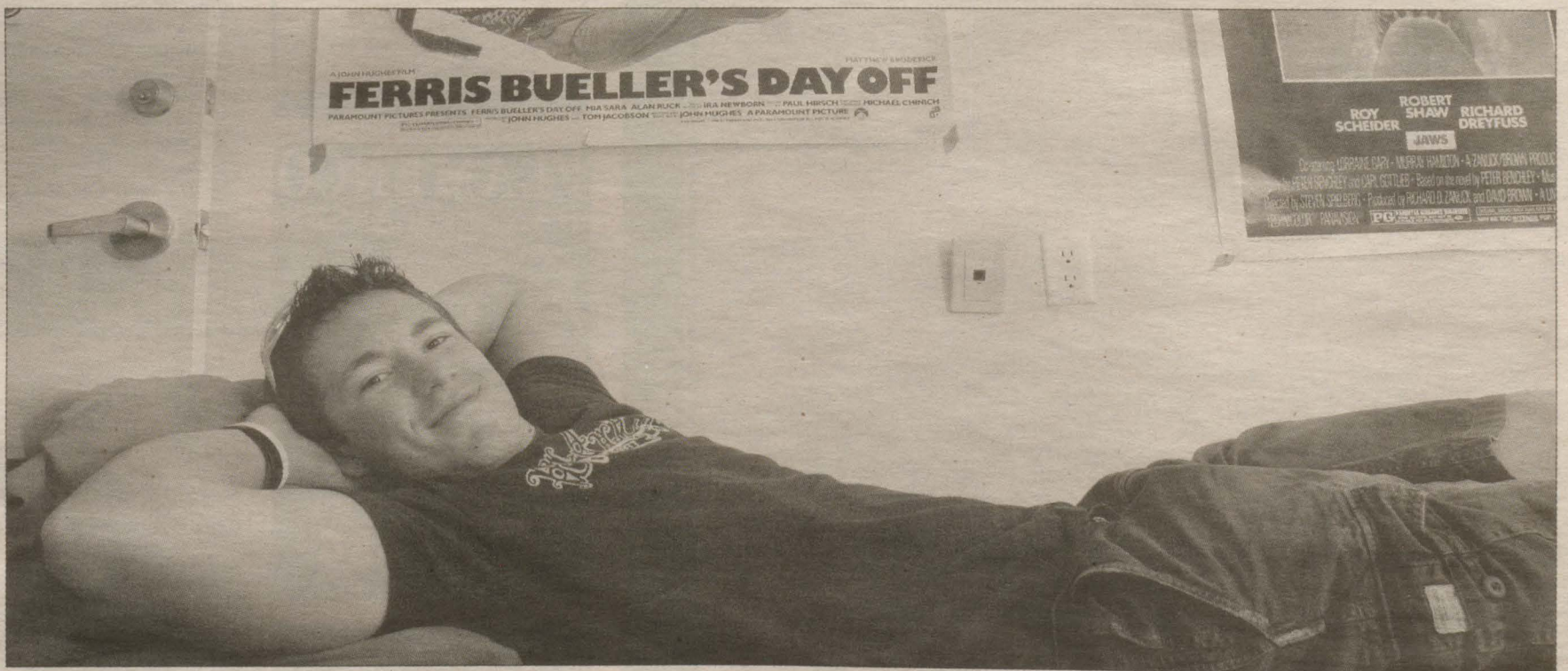
Kyle Ereaux

SIGN UP FOR RIGHTS

On Dec. 13, 2006, the UN approved the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It is an international effort to gain recognition and respect for the rights of people with disabilities. The focus is to gain full inclusion of persons with disabilities and their families.

On March 30, 2007 this treaty will officially be signed by countries and we ask our federal government to sign for the sake of our beloved children. A petition regarding this matter will begin circulation on March 8. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Robab Haghpanh



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# The Scientific Skeptic From rocks to life

CATHERINE HOLLOWAY  
Opinions Columnist

When learning about evolution, it sometimes isn't obvious how the diverse forms of life we see in our world today came out of a world of rocks. As a response to a question brought up by a reader to my "In Defence of Darwin" column published two weeks ago, I hope to clarify this transition.

All modern technologies are conglomerates of simpler, previous technologies. A computer is an elaborate electrical circuit; a car is only a combustion engine with some pistons.

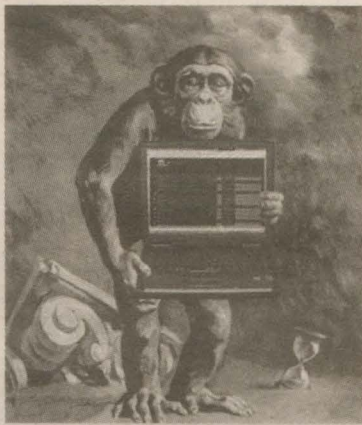
Living organisms, while they may not have been invented with some purpose in mind, are much the same way. Organisms are made of organs, which are made of tissues, which are made of cells. Like human technologies, the older the composite technology, the simpler it will be.

The invention of the car started with the mastery of fire or the wheel; life as we know dates back roughly 3,500 million years with equally modest beginnings.

The basic ingredients in the recipe for life are amino acids. Back in 1953, scientists Miller and Urey simulated the atmosphere they thought existed at the time of the earliest life and demonstrated that the amino acids involved could be spontaneously generated.

While ideas about the conditions of our young earth have changed since 1953, it's still possible the atmosphere allowing the production of amino acids was present around hydrothermal vents and active volcanoes. It's also possible the amino acids were formed in space and rained down on the earth from meteorites.

But the leap from amino acids to



Modern technology is based on the evolution

life was huge. One outlandish theory, proposed by British astronomer Sir Fred Hoyle, suggested life came from another planet and travelled here by meteorite, like the amino acids formed in space. This theory, called Panspermia, isn't widely accepted because of the improbability of any type of life surviving the harsh environment of space.

The more common model is taught in first-year biology class: life was synthesized on earth out of amino acids and liposomes. A liposome is a tiny, permeable bubble made out of molecules of fat.

These bubbles, which can be formed when fats are mixed with water, have been observed growing and separating into smaller versions of themselves. Liposomes could then be used to carry other macromolecules and transfer them into their daughter liposomes in a simple form of reproduction.

Amino acids can be cooked in rocks or clay to merge into larger molecules like RNA, which is the precursor to DNA, the information stor-

age device for most life. RNA also has another interesting feature in that it can catalyze, or encourage, the formation of other macro-molecules.

By random chance, a large collection of amino acids once came together to form a special molecule of RNA that catalyzes the reaction that forms that same molecule of RNA, or a ribozyme. Essentially, a bunch of atoms were arranged in a larger structure that says: 'copy me and here's how to do it.'

If that ribozyme found its way into the protection of a liposome, it could replicate itself several times, until it filled its capacity. Since RNA is a much less stable molecule than DNA, it can be compromised, creating mutations.

In addition to the old 'copy me and here's how to do it' formula, the ribozyme said, 'this is how you can metabolize a chemical that will give you a leg up on the competition.'

From then on, natural selection took over and drove the ribozyme and liposome up to more efficient or adaptive forms of life.

It was the first step in evolution, the arrangement of amino acids into a ribozyme, which was the least likely event to occur. The chances of this happening could have been one in a billion — likely even greater.

But the time gap between the formation of our planet and the oldest cells is about 1,000 million years. In addition, the entire planet offered appropriate conditions that could have led to the formation of a microscopic molecule.

If the right amino acids came together once — just once, in all of that time and space — it would be enough to kickstart the evolution of life on our planet.

Send questions or comments to [skeptic@dalgazette.ca](mailto:skeptic@dalgazette.ca)

of older technologies. / Photo: oshte.info



Arnt Peltner hosts Radio Goethe at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays. / Photo: Josh Boyter

## West must win in Afghanistan

KIERAN HANLEY  
Opinions Contributor

One of the central issues in the upcoming federal election will likely be Canada's role in Afghanistan. After five years of war, it's unclear to Canadians what progress has been made in the country.

The Taliban no longer rule the country, but since that milestone, it appears the war is deadlocked. Many people are losing hope that we can actually win in Afghanistan.

But what does winning actually mean? What difference does it make if we just leave the job unfinished? Sometimes it seems our soldiers are fighting a war that has little relevance to our great northern country.

How short our memories are. Five-and-a-half years ago, terrorists operating out of Taliban-ruled Afghanistan orchestrated a horrific attack on Western society by destroying the World Trade Center.

The West was united as never before. The attack on innocent Americans was an attack on everything Western nations stood for, and we were going to make sure it did not happen again.

For the first time in many years, the world sympathized with the United States. But then, the Americans lost focus. It's shocking how fast they were able to turn sympathy to disdain, support to opposition, unity to division.

Americans arrogantly used the world's sympathy as a vehicle for support in a new war — a war in Iraq. Now Iraq is in shambles and the Americans don't know what to do.

It's difficult not to draw conclusions about our role in Afghanistan; is Canada fighting a war that can't be won?

We must remember the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan aren't the same. Iraq was officially fought over the false pretense that it held weapons of mass destruction.

Unofficially, we all have our favourite conspiracy theory.

Afghanistan is being fought over the fact that our way of life was, and still is, being attacked.

A major terrorist plot was uncovered in Toronto last summer. Granted, the plot likely wasn't hatched in Afghanistan, but if we fail to secure Afghanistan, what message do we send to the terrorists — that they can continue to attack without consequence?

The Iraq and Afghanistan examples show that "removing" undesirable leadership of a country, such as the Taliban and Saddam Hussein, is only a matter of military superiority. We need to prove we can effectively rehabilitate a country.

The wars of the future will not be fought between countries or continents. They will be fought between ideals. We need to work through our troubles in Afghanistan, and learn from our mistakes and our successes, because the odds are we will be in similar situations again.

Make no mistake — we have to find a way to win in Afghanistan.

Attacks on our way of life can't go unnoticed. But we're no better off retaliating and leaving countries in a bloody mess.

Winning a war is no longer beating enemies into submission. It is knocking them to the ground and offering them a hand to get themselves back on their feet.

You would think we learned that lesson after neglect of Germany led to the Second World War. How short our memories are.

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# No one can learn from forgotten mistakes

## History must not be changed

JOHN PACKMAN  
Opinions Editor

It's a frightening thing when history is glossed over or distorted. On March 1, when Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe questioned whether Japanese troops forced women into sexual slavery during the Second World War, it was no wonder people reacted as they did.

A group of legislators in South Korea denounced his comments. Toronto MP Olivia Chow called on Ottawa to issue a condemnation. And 81-year-old Hilaria Bustamante of Manila told her story to Associated Press TV News.

When she was 16, Japanese soldiers stopped Bustamante on the road, threw her into the back of a truck, beat her and kept her as a sex slave for a year in one of the so-called "comfort stations," she said.

Bustamante isn't the only one who contradicts Abe's remarks. Japanese documents found in 1992 showed that the military had a direct role in forcibly collecting women for brothels.

Between 80,000 and 200,000 women from countries occupied by Japan were forced to work as sex slaves. About half these women were from China; the military also took women from Korea, Vietnam and the Philippines.

Abe's comments may appear foolish, but they have to be taken seriously. As the First and Second World Wars move further into his-

tory, people must do their utmost to remember them accurately.

Right now, many people have parents and grandparents who fought in the Second World War. Those who don't may have heard veterans speak about their experiences at Remembrance Day ceremonies. These stories give the war personal angles and give listeners a human connection.

But when veterans die, future generations will lose that connection. They'll have to rely on history textbooks and the wars will seem less and less concrete.

This is why comments such as Abe's are so dangerous.

It's far too easy to revise history long after the fact, since there are fewer people with firsthand knowledge to challenge omissions or distortions. These people are needed when pride and nationalism make countries want to leave atrocities out of history. Textbooks worldwide give examples of under-emphasizing brutal battles or skewing truth.

This was the case in 2001, when Japan introduced a new history textbook that not only hides the 1937 Nanking Massacre in a footnote, but also questions the number of people killed there.

It's frighteningly reminiscent of Orwell's 1984 and Holocaust denying.

Reactions such as Bustamante's are needed for people to get a better sense of what actually happened. Individuals and countries must speak up when history is being distorted. It's the responsibility of both



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe questioned whether Japanese troops forced women into sexual slavery. / Photo: Katsumi Kasahara

academics and the general public to keep world history comprehensible and accurate.

Tragic events of the past are far more likely to repeat themselves if people lose sight of what has happened. No one can learn from forgotten mistakes.

When governments certify textbooks or make claims that are inconsistent with history, they are distorting the people's views. If these warped views become the norm, history itself will change, and the truth may end up as a footnote.

# A chance to ask tough questions

ASSALAMU ALAIKUM NOOR  
Opinions Contributor

All students compare their professors, brave midterms, complain about assignments and struggle between having a life and studying. They can, however, be quite diverse and these differences are often easy to see at a glance. But how much do we really know about each other and about these differences?

We sometimes take it for granted that people have at least a basic understanding of our lifestyles and beliefs. It can be shocking, and sometimes entertaining, when we find that this is far from reality.

As a female Muslim student at Dalhousie, I've come to realize that imagination, coupled with snippets of information and off-hand comments, can create the wildest impressions in our minds and often make us forget our similarities.

This is why I have the deepest respect for people who actually talk and ask about these things.

Some of the questions we expect and some make us smile, but some can just make us speechless. One can only imagine what the un-asked questions are like. The one I got the most when I was a first-year student was: "Are you... from here?"

It was, of course, the polite way of asking me why I don't have an accent. Nope, I'm a Palestinian who's lived in Halifax for a number of years. But believe it or not, not all Muslims are foreign and only a small percentage — less than 20 per cent — are Arab. Islam is a religion, belief and, above all, a way of life — not a culture or nationality.

Another common question I'm

asked is in reference to my headscarf: "Do you wear that in the shower?" No, we can take it off when there are no men who aren't relatives around.

My personal favourite: "So you wear that whenever you go out, but can you wear a swimsuit to the beach?" I wasn't actually speechless when I heard this question, but I was stuttering like an idiot.

The short answer is no. The long answer is that we have ladies' days at the pool when we can swim, and in some Muslim countries they have ladies-only beaches.

I know not all questions are funny and some concerns people have are rather serious. Most of these graver concerns go un-asked, because people are afraid to offend or don't want to talk about these topics.

But from what I've gathered, mainly from YouTube comments, a lot of people, including Muslims, lack actual knowledge about the teachings of Islam and have every excuse to be irritated, worried and even afraid.

So I hope we can take the opportunity of the upcoming Islamic Awareness Week, which runs from March 12 to 15, to satisfy our curiosity, ask those difficult questions and get to know a little more about each other. After all, these differences are what make life interesting.

"Oh mankind! We have created you from a male and a female, and then rendered you into nations and tribes so that you may get to know one another." (Quran 49:13)

For more info visit: [www.islamonline.net/jamalbadawy/main.asp](http://www.islamonline.net/jamalbadawy/main.asp) and [www.ummahfilms.com](http://www.ummahfilms.com)

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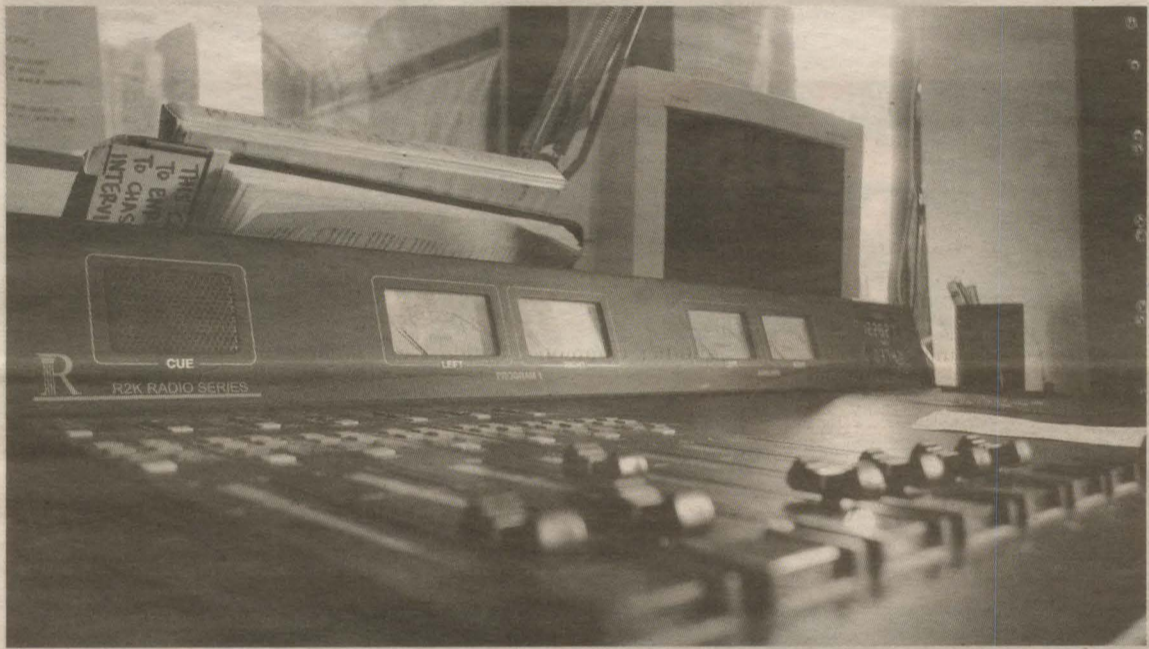


# A week in the life of a radio junky

The only qualifications required to host a show on Dalhousie's radio station are a few hours of volunteer work and three sessions of training. Consequently, CKDU-FM hosts oodles of both regular and transient radio programs. This week, *The Gazette* took a few hours to investigate the best and the worst of CKDU-FM.



Arnt Peltner hosts *Radio Goethe* at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays. / Photo: Josh Boyter



CKDU-FM is run almost entirely by volunteers from campus and the community. / Photo: Josh Boyter

## RADIO MS. CONDUCT MONDAYS @ 6 P.M.

This show is the creation of the "CKDU Womyn's Collective." While the name might imply a strident approach, *Radio Ms. Conduct's* tone is one of serious inquiry. But its method of inquiry could use a bit of work.

Host Hillary Lindsay interviewed Sarah Evans of the Halifax Zine Library and Lindsay is one soft interrogator. For an authority on zine culture, Evans was amazingly vague about her subject and the host either couldn't or wouldn't ask Evans to be more precise.

For example, zines are apparently singular enough to warrant an archive of their own. But Evans defined them, in comparison to magazines, as "smaller."

She said zines are "usually on a topic or on a person or a few people," and are produced by "one person or a few people." Lindsay apparently needed no elaboration. I did.

When we were told the zine's noble lineage may extend back as far as Gutenberg, the host didn't respond at all, let alone with the right response — incredulity.

Despite — or perhaps because of — the fact the show isn't that bad, it isn't much good either. — Eddie Slauwhite, Arts Contributor

## MOODY MORNING MUSIC TUESDAYS @ 10:30 A.M.

*Moody Morning Music* — a Tuesday morning radio program — is hosted by hipster extraordinaire Simon Thibault. On Feb. 27, Thibault

returned to the DJ seat after a two-week hiatus (pink eye and work had interfered) and hosted a straightforward music-based show.

Thibault chooses songs that keep his listeners interested, playing everything from dance band Shout Out, Out, Out, Out to mellow Apostle of Hustle. But it's not all electronic beats on *Moody Morning Music*, as Thibault kicked off his show with Halifax banjo enthusiast Old Man Ludecke.

Canadian content is emphasized with Toronto bands such as Do Make Say Think and controller.controller.

*Moody Morning Music* is a perfect antidote to mainstream, mid-morning radio blasé. Be sure to download past episodes on the CKDU-FM website ([www.ckdu.ca](http://www.ckdu.ca)) for late night studying — *Moody Morning* enthusiasm is almost as potent as a hot cup of coffee. — Karyn Haag, Staff Contributor

## THE WITCHING HOUR FRIDAYS @ 7 P.M.

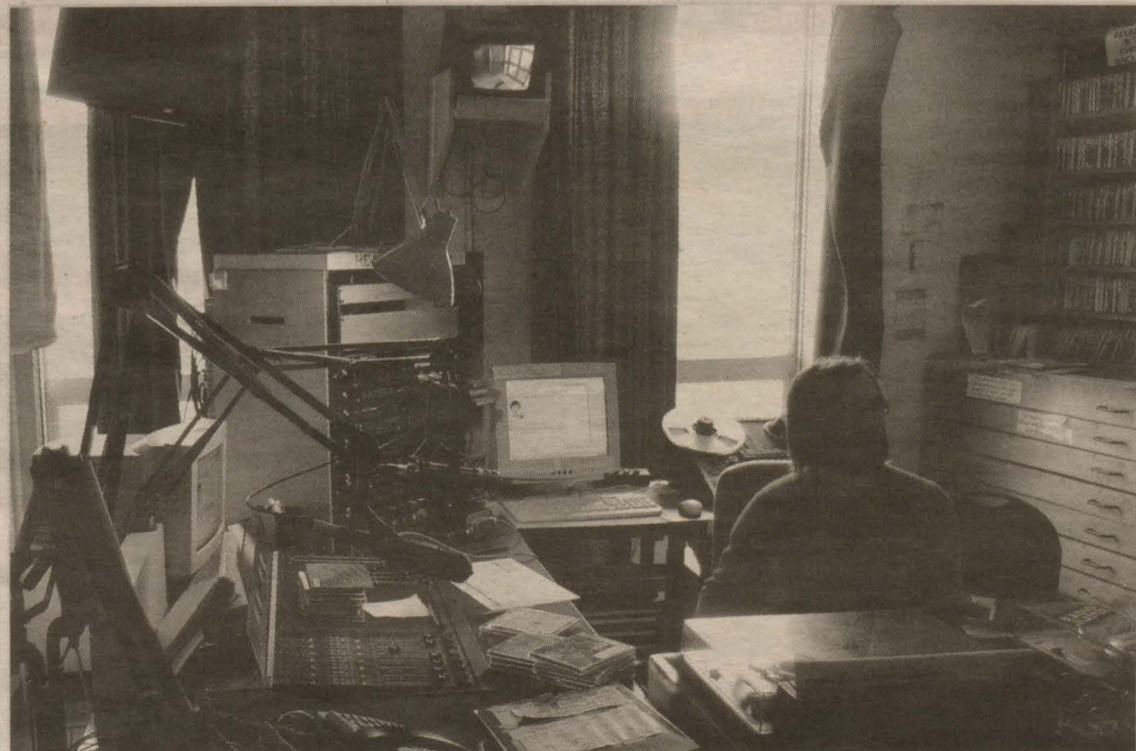
The beleaguered hosts of this pagan culture-themed show certainly earn the salaries they don't make.

Elsewhere, "Oceanna" and "ShadowFox" might make a great morning team. More like genial hippie grandparents than Crowley-ite debauchees, they captain a tight radio-ship. Their guest, unfortunately, scuttled that ship.

This interviewee, a fellow pagan named Autumn, who possesses a gift for animal empathy that "borders on telepathy," spoke at great length about her "animal communicator" job.

She holds "intelligent conversations" with animals who "speak through words, sometimes very loud words." Lucky pet owners then pay Autumn for transcripts.

Thankfully, the hosts seemed baffled by the animal communicator and her responses, such as, "One day, my friend was doing reiki on my dog's arm," "I'd never actually consciously spoken with an animal that had passed on before," and "Well, I've been adopted by a moth."



Station coordinator Michael Catano hosts *The Heat* at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays. / Photo: Josh Boyter

Pagans boring pagans: will it, can it, should it ever end? — Corey Forbes, Arts Contributor

## MAPLE MOTHERSHIP SATURDAYS @ 1:30 P.M.

DJ Beef of CKDU-FM controls the decks for the *Maple Mothership* show. The 100 per cent Canadian content show features hip-hop artists from across the country.

The Beefster pays special attention to the Halifax scene, which has flourished in the past decade.

This week's installment blasted off with ECMA nominee Ghetosocks, ECMA winner Classified and a little Michie Mee to balance the male domination. Some other favourites were the Wordburglar, Josh Martinez, John Smith and Cadence.

DJ Beef and the rest of the *Maple Mothership* team promote Canadian hip hop and Halifax's cutting-edge producers and emcees. The show offers a way for upstarts' music to get heard.

*Maple Mothership* gets its listeners stoked on hip hop and "real Canadian goodness," as Beef puts it. Nice beats, smooth flow and uplifting lyrics are the Mothership's fuel. For any club goer with a taste for Top 40 tracks, the *Maple Mothership* show is the place for the gourmet goodies. — Magen Powell, Staff Contributor

## THE LOVE/HATE MOVIE SHOW WITH CARSTEN SUNDAYS @ 11 A.M.

Okey dokey, let's begin the *Love/Hate Radio Show* review with Laura. But first, I have to start up my intro music — inspired by Carsten's own opening theme.

("love, hate, love, hate, love, hate, love, hate" chanting/singing grows in the background)

So, let me explain the premise of this review. I'm going to tell you what I love and then, if we don't run out of time, I'll tell you what I hate.

Great, let's get started. I love movies, so I agree with Carsten there. Movies are pretty awesome and a radio show that talks about movies is even better. And I love the Oscars too and so Carsten's latest show was perfect for me.

But, wait, I don't really want to say things I hate about Carsten's show. Instead, this part of my review will be entitled "things Carsten might want to think about changing."

Carsten, why didn't you tell me how Jon Stewart was the best Oscar host over the last decade? I happen to agree with you, but I really want to know your opinion. The love/hate premise of your show is catchy enough, but sometimes it lacks that critical 'je ne sais pas.'

To be more specific, recounting play-by-play action at the Oscars is plot summary that an avid listener could find anywhere. So, share your thoughts, Carsten.

Also, how about playing some music that didn't accompany a film? Music and films are a winning combination, but playing only the song without the images detracts from the music itself. Or, if you really want to play Oscar music, maybe you could explain why a song fit a particular film so well.

Well, that's about it for today, please tune in next time.

("love, dislike, improve, revise, deflate, not hate" chanting/singing grows louder and then fades out) — Laura Trethewey, Arts Editor

## THE LOST DISCS RADIO SHOW TUESDAYS @ 5 A.M.

*The Lost Discs Radio Show*, co-hosted by "Jim E. Night," "Dr. Doc Brown" and occasionally "Joe Stax," plays obscure oldies and b-sides that, according to its website, "corporate radio stations won't touch." The hosts half-jokingly allude to their altruistic purpose in broadcasting certain songs "if only to prove that they still exist."

But this is not to say they don't charge a fee for the service.

For example, a rare opportunity to hear Chuck Berry's 1972 hit, "My Ding-A-Ling," along with Miss Chuckle Cherry's answer to it, "My Pussycat," costs approximately five minutes of Night's adenoidal lecture on call-and-response songs.

The hosts set an exorbitant price on Billy Boy Arnold's "Rockin'-itis." In exchange for one listen, they'll have you surrender two and three minutes at a time for their kitschy sound collages of unknown origin. The identities of other songs are apparently not for sale.

But *The Lost Discs Radio Show* apparently incurs a cost of production. In order to amass such a store-room of obscure oldies and b-sides, "Jim E. Night," "Dr. Doc Brown" and "Joe Stax" have also paid dearly with their sense of discernment. — Ashleigh Gaul, Assistant Arts Editor

## THE WORD AT DAL

### In the Halifax Shopping Centre...

**Girl:** Wow, that chair has, like, buttons.

**Guy:** Umm, I think it's a massage chair.

**Girl:** Oh definitely. It's definitely a massage chair.

**Guy:** Want to try it?

**Girl:** No way! That's way too kinky.

### At a Japanese restaurant...

**Waiter:** We have four kinds of ice cream: red bean, mango, sesame and green tea.

**Student:** Do you have wasabi?

**Waiter:** No.

**Student:** OK, do you have mango then?

### At a broomball game...

**Guy1:** Hey, what are you doing tomorrow night?

**Guy2:** Same thing I do every night.

**Guy3:** Try to take over the world?

**Guy2:** No. Get really fucking wasted.

### In an economics class...

**Guy1:** So you want to come on Saturday?

**Guy2:** Nah man, I can't. I'm staying at my girlfriend's Friday night.

**Guy1:** Get your priorities straight man.

**Guy2:** Good point. I'm down. When do you want to leave?

## HOT / NOT

**HOT:** The Split Crow

**NOT:** Boston Pizza

**HOT:** Jared Leto the actor

**NOT:** Jared Leto the musician

**HOT:** Lunar eclipses

**NOT:** Freezing your ass off

**HOT:** Being the perfect couple

**NOT:** Being around the perfect couple

**HOT:** 75-cent drinks

**NOT:** Wardroom stink

**HOT:** Trimming

**NOT:** Rimming

**HOT:** Power hour

**NOT:** Consciousness

**HOT:** No more ABM fees

**NOT:** Realizing \$1.50 isn't that much

**HOT:** Curiously warm weather

**NOT:** Curiously warm pools

**HOT:** Keeping the Grad House

**NOT:** Having to move for pool players

Suggestions? [hotornot@dalgazette.ca](mailto:hotornot@dalgazette.ca)

### DISCLAIMER

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## STREETER

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE TO GET COFFEE IN HALIFAX?



"Tim Hortons for Roll Up The Rim To Win, but Coburg any other time."

Charlie Mancini, second-year theatre



"Starbucks. It's my guilty pleasure."

Emily Chevrier, third-year English



"Timmys... obviously."

Nima Milek, third-year chemistry



"Second Cup, because it's not as expensive as Starbucks and it's Canadian."

Gillian Forbes, second-year biology



"Uncommon Grounds, because I like the feeling of concrete against my skin."

Matthew Rodriguez, fourth-year sociology



"The Tim Hortons in the SUB, 'cause it's close to campus. I always get coffee on the way to class."

Ashley Tyler, fourth-year IDS and history



"Paper Chase. I've only been there once but the price is good, the coffee's good and the atmosphere's good."

Justin LoRusso, fourth-year English



"Coburg coffee. I like trying to fog up the windows in winter."

Joey Ryba, third-year barista-in-training

Got a question you want to see answered by students? [streeter@dalgazette.ca](mailto:streeter@dalgazette.ca)




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Elliott Brood haven't been to the East Coast since the 2006 Juno Awards. Photo: Victor Tavares

## Elliott Brood brings country-noir to the Grawood

CLARE ESLER  
Staff Contributor  
ASHLEIGH GAUL  
Assistant Arts Editor

Elliott Brood does not exist, at least not as a real-life person.

Elliott Brood is a band, playing the Grawood on March 14 with Montreal singer/songwriter Angela Desveaux.

Mark Sasso, lead vocalist and guitarist for the Ontario "death-folk" outfit, explains the origin of the band's fictional muse.

"Originally, it was just a name to play under, but it's taken on a life of its own," says Sasso.

"[Elliott Brood] jumps around in time... and we're following him, or tracking him, trying to figure out where he is, and what he's doing. We figure that the tales we get are actually stories that he keeps passing along to us."

Not all of Sasso's fictional songs come on recommendation from Elliott Brood. The inspiration for "Johnny Rook," a character created for last year's album, was taken from a PBS documentary on birds — a "Johnny Rook" is a type of bird.

Alternately, Sasso says his inspiration comes from immediate surroundings, instruments and a passing interest in Western movies.

Along with guitarist/vocalist/bassist Casey Laforet and vocalist/percussionist Stephen Pitkin, Sasso often finds himself in odd surroundings.

The 2006 album *Ambassador* was recorded in an abattoir, or slaughterhouse.

"We chose [to record there] for a number of reasons," says Sasso. "None being that it was an abattoir. We came to find that out once we got in the studio. We had to walk up a couple flights of stairs in the dark, and then the lights shot on, and we could see the floor where the grates used to be."

He says recording in a converted slaughterhouse undoubtedly influenced the dark folk sound that has been dubbed "country-noir," "death-folk" and "blackgrass."

"It kind of puts you in a mood as soon as you walk into the building."

According to Sasso, Elliott Brood's bluegrass resonance is partly a product of the band's instrumentation.

"It was mainly the banjo and the acoustic guitar that started to lend themselves to that sound, as opposed to classic rock or anything like that," he says. "Once you add a banjo to something, people instantly think country or western."

Despite its small lineup, Elliott Brood fills out its melodies with a disparate collection of satellite instrumentation, including a set of bass pedals, a ukulele and a suitcase re-invented as a kick drum.

Sasso says a song springs directly from the instruments used to create it.

"Sometimes you pick up an instrument, and you start playing it, and you write a song for it. You can't let it go," he says. "It's worth it. If you buy a ukulele for \$100 and you get one song out of it, that's pretty good, but I've gotten quite a few now."

Matt Biljetina, assistant manager of HMV on Spring Garden Road, defines Elliott Brood's sound as "a unique hybrid between bluegrass and alt-country Americana."

"They definitely have an Old West appeal," he says.

Elliott Brood has songs inspired by Western films, says Sasso. "[But] not everything is," he says. "The lyrics also draw on Canadian history."

The album's title refers to the *Ambassador Bridge*, which runs between Windsor, Ont., and Detroit, Michigan. According to Sasso, the image "works both ways, as, literally, the *Ambassador Bridge*, and as an ambassador between two things."

Despite the diversity of Elliott Brood's artistic inspirations, Sasso says reaction to the music has been positive so far.

"We're getting the same reaction just about everywhere we play," he says. "It might be darker music, but ultimately, people just love to jump around and dance."

*Catch Elliott Brood at the Grawood with Angela Desveaux on Wednesday, March 14 @ 8 p.m.*

## Hard lines

Miller's characters hold fictional discussion of themselves

LAURA TRETHERWEY  
Arts Editor  
ANU JINDAL  
Staff Contributor

Neptune Theatre's current production of Arthur Miller's *The Price* is masterfully directed and acted. The play circles around characters Victor Franz (Larry Yachimec), his wife Esther (Terri Cherniack), his brother Walter (Nigel Bennett) and a shifty furniture appraiser (Paul Soles).

The four convene in the attic of Walter and Victor's recently deceased father where the characters rehash a sordid family history, ultimately revealing a classic Miller play that recounts the demise of virtue in the face of destructive capitalism.

*The Gazette* constructed a fictional conversation between Victor and Esther, discussing how Miller failed to flesh out their characters.

**Esther:** (walks into green room, shaking her head angrily) Well, another bust! Can you believe that audience didn't give a standing ovation? Polite applause... humph!

**Victor:** (follows her, kneading his back) Relax kid, you know we're not in this for the admiration. (scratches his head, sighing) Though I'll be darned

if I know what we are here for anymore. We've been acting in this play, what, almost 40 years now? Still Arthur can't get us right.

Anyway, what do you expect from those people? I'm as baffled by this script as they are.

**Esther:** (sits down, puts head in hands) But, don't you see, Vic? Don't you see! He's using us, taking advantage like everyone else!

**Victor:** Aw, c'mon, it's not as bad as all that. Not for you, at least. I'm the guy who gets pinned, night after night, to some half made up cock and bull allegory about the Great Depression.

I mean, sure, times were tough for Dad and I — for everyone. But eating garbage? I'm sure Arthur could've found me some middle ground between bloody, cutthroat capitalism and garbage-eating humanism.

**Esther:** Don't give me that sob story, mister. Look at me — I'm just a vamped-up version of Linda Loman. Sometimes I think that Marilyn must have really screwed with ole Arthur's head!

I'm just a drunk housewife who lives vicariously through her husband's pay cheque. Sure, I've got attitude, but I'm still wearing the shackles of a 1950s housewife.

**Victor:** Let's calm it down, honey, OK? Wait — Linda Loman? Marilyn who?

**Esther:** The Lomans, dear, from Arthur's *Death of a Salesman*. And his second wife, the infamous Marilyn Monroe.

**Victor:** Anyway, I thought you did pretty alright for yourself. Maybe you were wearing the shackles of a '50s housewife, but Arty didn't put them there, and you did your damndest to shake them off.

You might've been a bit of a stereotype, but at least you made sense. How is it I'm an anti-capitalist idealist, but I still end up unhappy because I didn't give up the public service to follow my single-minded version of the American dream?

You're a smart lady Esther, what is it Arthur's even trying to say?

**Esther:** Especially with that ending! After spending the last two hours delving into our disappointed dreams, you and I don't change at all. Instead we go see a flick and forget the entire play happened? (flops down on a divan and stares off into oblivion)

What do we do now, Vic?

**Victor:** A flick's not a bad idea. Well, at least the set looked good.

## Wrapping a city in tapes

ASHLEIGH GAUL  
Assistant Arts Editor

"Privates, privateers, a Polish folk ensemble.

"The daughter of the man who designed the Canadian flag... birds, Robbie Burns Day, a local diner.

"There's a 95-year-old woman who grew up on Sambro Island. Her father was the lighthouse keeper there."

Frances Willick plans to cover all of these topics in less than eight minutes. Since January, Willick and a team of volunteer field documenters have been compiling hours of audiotape, recording the sounds of the Halifax Regional Municipality. Willick, the project's editor, intends to glean 50 concise audio snapshots of life in the region.

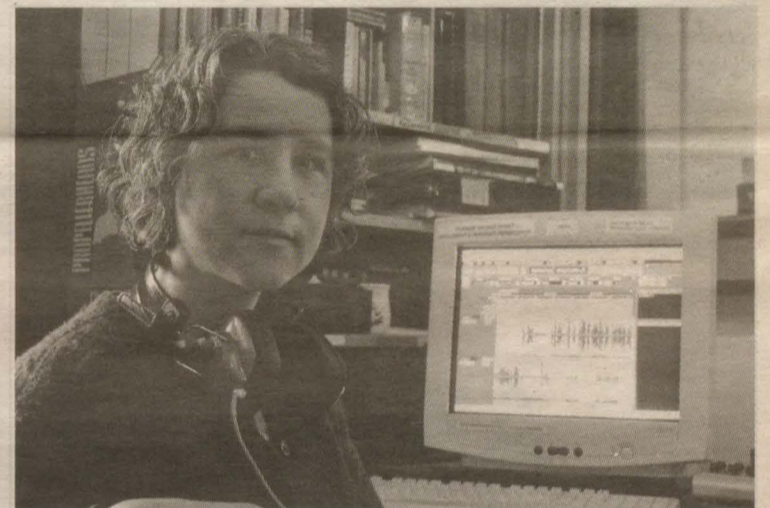
Working on a grant from the Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage, Willick and her team have four months to delineate the borders of HRM — an area Willick defines as "between Hubbards and Ecum Secum" — with sound. And each audio piece must be less than a minute long. Culturally, Willick's definition is much different.

"Culture is each person's perspective on the world, and so whatever form that perspective comes out in is culture," she says. Nova Scotia culture is an amalgam of diverse ethnic, intellectual and artistic perspectives.

"On the heritage side," she says, "any little snippet of history in the HRM is important, from the statue of Robbie Burns in Victoria Park to Seaview Park [which was formerly] Africville. "We're interpreting it really broadly," she says.

Her loose creative constraints have led to a daunting hoard of possibilities. Many are narrative and some are tied into organizations such as the Theatre Arts Guild. Others are idea-based, Willick says, such as bird sounds, bells and ocean sounds. A single snapshot can take days to edit.

"The interview with the [95-year old] woman was a couple hours long," she says. "Then I listened to the transcript a few times. And then I picked out a few themes and a couple stories that I liked, and then I began to work."



Frances Willick returns to CKDU after a three-year hiatus. / Photo: John Packman

Each story can take years to form, and 95 years of anecdotes don't often storm an interviewer's microphone in 60-second bursts, no matter how strategic the questions, but Willick is patient. A walking interview pace reflects the slow formation of memory.

"People don't tell their stories in a concise fashion," she says. "I don't think it's human nature to tell stories in a concise fashion. But that's my job, to get the richness of a story, however long that takes."

And then to do it 50 times over. "It's only 50 minutes of radio, but so much goes into the organizing, the recording and the editing."

But the project, which is advertised on Dalhousie and NSCAD University campuses, continues to grow. The accumulation of willing subjects and volunteers drags behind it a skein of documentary audiotape.

Volunteer sound collector Lucas Damberg has a few ideas of his own about the sound of HRM.

"I just finished a snapshot about skating on Williams Lake," he says. "I'd like to record the [MacDonald] Bridge, maybe a toll collector... or the urban farm in Spryfield for Seedy Saturday, or the children's farm there."

He adds, "There's more." Following completion in the late spring, Willick's 50 sound pieces will broadcast randomly throughout CKDU-FM's programs from May to September.

Michael Catano, station coordinator at the Dal-based radio station, says he leaves the artistic license with Willick.

"I trust [Willick's] judgment," he says. "And I think I'll be pleasantly surprised."

Catano feels 50 one-minute shots will be "more than enough space" to explore HRM in auditory depth. Willick agrees, saying she doesn't find the time constraint inhibiting.

"You can get a lot of narrative and richness into a piece in a short amount of time."

This richness is a property of the medium itself, she says. "With sound, you're forced to use your imagination more... I enjoy it more, just dealing with one sense."

Willick has been working exclusively with the auditory world since January. But she doesn't think her perception of Halifax will be different when she finishes editing at the end of April.

"I love interacting with people with a microphone present," she says. "I really like recording voices and sounds, thinking about sound."

Each show had a different theme — bicycles, education, menstruation, contraception, the idea of neighbourhood.

"I went hunting with the president of the Nova Scotia Federation of Hunters and Anglers," she says. "I stayed as quiet and still and odourless as possible. I stuck my nose where it didn't belong."

# A time to savour

Savour Food and Wine Festival returns to Halifax

ANDREW BERNARDO  
Culinary Connoisseur

The Savour Food and Wine Festival Show held its fourth annual show on March 1 at the Westin Hotel. Organized by the Restaurants Association of Nova Scotia (RANS), this show is the biggest of its kind east of Montreal, boasting more than 60 booths showcasing local chefs, wines and spirits from Nova Scotia and around world.

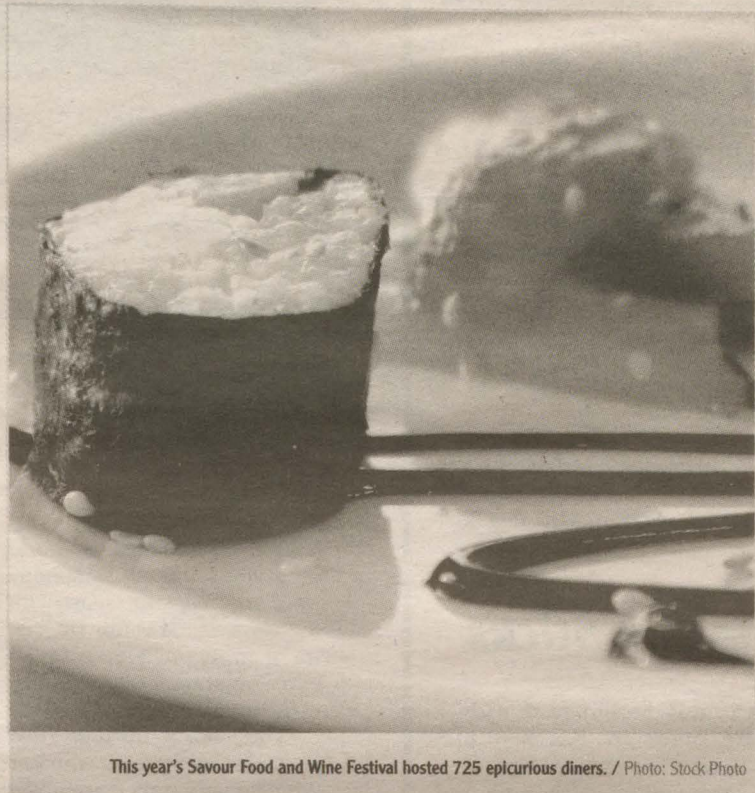
With a variety of dishes and nearly 100 wines and cocktails, the delicacies appealed to a multitude of tastes.

"The thing that I love about Savour is that a variety of people of different ages, with different backgrounds in food and wine-tasting experience attend," says Christine White, who operates RANS communications. "We get connoisseurs as well as people that just enjoy eating and drinking."

An hour into the sold-out show, the second floor of the Westin was filled with 725 people scurrying from table to table, tasting, talking and laughing.

Offering a chance for attendees to speak to chefs and industry representatives, the festival provides the consumer with a unique experience.

"We're here to get the word out," says Shaun Zwarun of the DesBarres Manor in Guysborough. "It is important to for us to have a venue to showcase not only ourselves, but also the province of Nova Scotia and all that it has to offer."



This year's Savour Food and Wine Festival hosted 725 epicurious diners. / Photo: Stock Photo

Nova Scotia chefs are passionate about locally produced ingredients. The growing use of regional products marks the development of sustainable food services in the province. Much of the food prepared at the Festival Show featured these ingredients.

Emphasis on the appearance of food is also growing.

"Presentation is so important

in what we do," says chef Michael Howell of the Tempest restaurant in Wolfville. "I think it was something that was overlooked for so long in this province, but that's not the case anymore."

"Consumers are becoming more demanding in terms of quality and ascetics. This festival is a way for the consumer to gauge our progress."

# Horror unfolds downtown

Night of the Killer Reel at Ginger's Tavern

JACK CARR  
Staff Contributor

Ginger's Tavern hosted a rare look at the efforts of some of Halifax's most ambitious indie film makers on Feb 28, as the Night of the Killer Reel showed a group of locally made horror films.

The showcase was impressive. Some films were the standard independent flick, but others were riveting with both humour and professionalism.

The first film that stood out was *Tetas de la Muerte*, which, loosely translated, means "Tits of Death." The mock trailer was funny and employed cheap but effective computer generated robots that destroy humanity.

The film foretells a dark future in which robots thirst for new fuel — human blood. The only saviour is a woman of a very rare calibre who has breasts that double as guns.

Michael Aronson and Dawn Boyd's *Daddy Why?* shows a father explaining to his adorable child why a bunny has to die. The grossly fun-

ny film clearly made people nervous — the bunny in the child's arms was not yet dead. As the father buried the bunny alive, the audience laughed at the thought of the adorable bunny in its shallow grave.

The clear highlight of the night was Rob Cotterill and Jason Eisner's *Hobo with a Shotgun*. The title is an apt description of the film's premise, which made the audience explode with laughter and applause as a homeless man exacts "justice" on various enemies.

Eisner, who made last year's *The Teeth Beneath* and a series of other crass but great horror capers, made a very funny and clever mock trailer that anticipates the upcoming Rodriguez and Tarantino double feature, *The Grind House*.

The large attendance at the event was indicative of the need for a strong Halifax independent film scene. The Atlantic Film Festival offers events sometimes, but the city needs indie film showcases more often.

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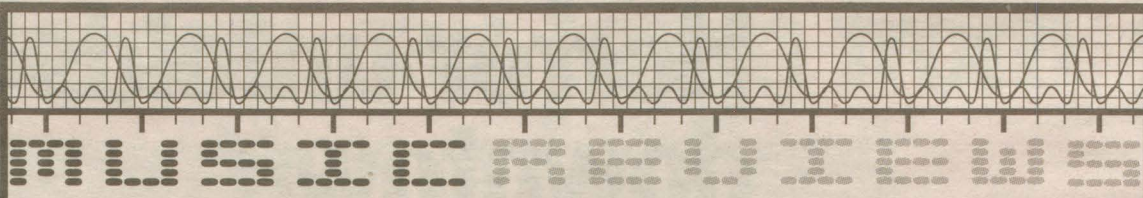
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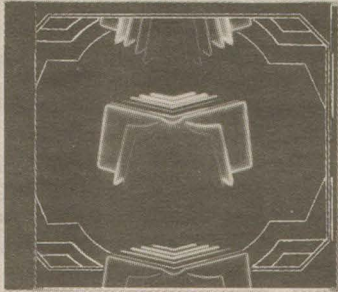
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## National Produce : Arcade Fire / *Neon Bible*



Arcade Fire's sophomore album *Neon Bible* has a lot to live up to. What could top "Rebellion (Lies)?" from *Funeral*? That song could warm

up frozen indie kids on any dance floor. The salvation the *Funeral* album delivered introduced listeners to French Canadian orchestra music, avant-garde lyrics and the depths of picturesque storytelling.

I know you're shaking your fist now, crying "Tell me about the new record!" Could *Neon Bible* really be better than *Funeral*?

*Neon Bible* has fantastic lyrics, but lacks the groundbreaking quality of *Funeral*'s "In the Back Seat" or "Wake Up." If anything, Arcade Fire has regressed with its latest album; vague vocals and meek instrumen-

tation have replaced shouting battle cries and throbbing beats.

I don't want to provoke bags of hate mail—I do admire this album. Compared to other long-awaited releases of this year, such as the Shins' *Wincing The Night Away* and Clap Your Hands and Say Yeah's *Some Loud Thunder*, I've listened to *Neon Bible* at least 10 times in the past four days.

This CD will still cause the expected dance breakdowns and maintain the respect of older Arcade Fire fans. — *Karyn Haag, Staff Contributor*

## Local Crop: Joyless Streets / *Carrots and Sticks*



Joyless Streets releases its first full length album, *Carrots and Sticks*, on March 9. Anyone who's never heard

this group and is looking for a fresh sound needs to check it out.

The band has a unique and refreshingly sound, which is best described as fitting into the shoe-gazer genre (named so because of the guitarist's tendency to look down at the effects pedals frequently).

Nigel Tinker, Joyless Streets guitarist and singer, does this description justice, mixing thrashy distortion with indie melodies to create lingering guitar riffs.

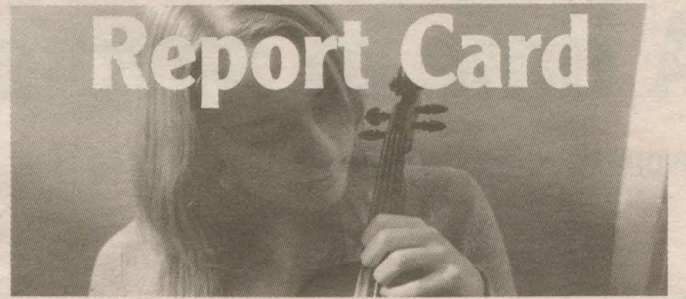
His vocals fuse seamlessly with his guitar from an occasional laid back grunge mumble to his trade-

mark tortured punk scream in which single words are somehow pronounced in four different keys.

Brian Carson's catchy bass lines and Myles Decks' explosive, energetic drumming round out the band's sound.

The band has been on the local circuit for two years, but this debut album sound as if the Joyless Streets has been together for decades. Each aspect of *Carrots and Sticks* compliments the other noises to create a wall of raw energetic sound. — *Rory Clark, Arts Contributor*

## Report Card



### Symphony Nova Scotia with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra

ASHLEIGH GAUL  
Assistant Arts Editor

**Stage presence:** A  
**Audience reaction:** A+  
**Sound:** B+  
**Use of percussion section:** A  
**Conductor's hair:** A+

but they were not an optimistic introduction to Mahler.

The next three pieces by Camille Saint Saens sounded more ambitious and directed than the postludes, but countless violin buildups repeatedly collapsed before their climaxes.

If the first composer conceived of an ominous beginning, the second seemed to propose its development was absurd. These movements were playful, but they didn't bode well for Mahler.

Mahler once told Freud "a symphony is the world."

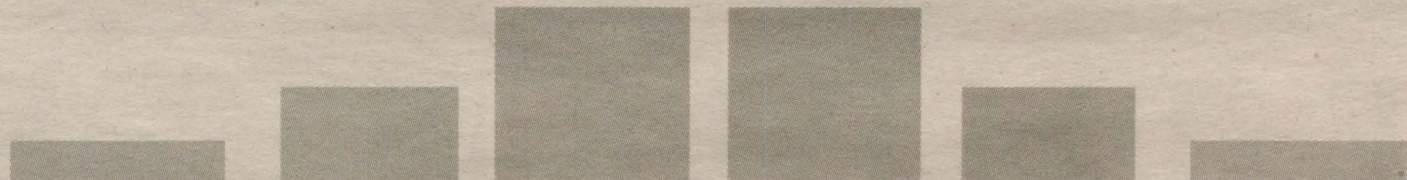
If Mahler's "Titanic Symphony" represented a world unto itself during Symphony Nova Scotia's performance with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra, than its preludes, by analogy, should represent the birth of the world.

The show's openers, two postludes by Polish composer Witold Lutoslavski, resembled primordial ooze or endless chaos. The blank, pre-performance silence was stirred in intermittent waves of clarinet honks and percussion solos as Lutoslavski's tiny discordant monsters seem to awaken.

But the creepiness of the first two pieces, combined with the fact that the postlude generally ends a show, foreshadowed the end of the world within its inception. The pieces were intriguing,

The conglomeration of Symphony Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra packed the stage for "Titanic Symphony." It was the largest performance of the year for Symphony Nova Scotia. The program told the audience to expect "a world" in Mahler's piece. It was disappointing.

Perhaps the acoustics of the auditorium are to blame for the weak attack on the string section. Maybe Mahler's triumphant major keys sounded naïve, after the first two intentionally, beautifully anti-climactic performances. Or perhaps Mahler was wrong. Maybe a symphony isn't a world after all.



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Burn Baby Burn

STEAK VERSUS POTATOES

**SIDE A: Steak**  
Laura Trethewey / Arts Editor

The discontent between the two sides has grown to a feverish pitch, so perhaps we should just say there are genetic differences between meat eaters and veggie lovers — a you-say-tomayto, I-say-tomahto kind of agreement, or something more meat-friendly perhaps.

No matter how many friendly-faced vegans turn up noses at my steak, I'll continue to chew. Perhaps harder than before.

1. "Shankill Butchers" — The Decemberists
2. "Expensive Tastes" — The Like Young
3. "Whatever Burns the Best, Baby" — Herman Dune
4. "Gimme Some Salt" — Clap Your Hands Say Yeah
5. "Knife" — Grizzly Bear
6. "Spelled in Bones" — The Fruit Bats
7. "Lion's Jaws" — Neko Case
8. "Babay (Eat a Critter, Feel Its Wrath)" — The Blow
9. "Meat On Your Bones" — Built Like Alaska
10. "Chicken Bone Circuit" — RJD2

**SIDE B: Potatoes**  
Ashleigh Gaul / Assistant Arts Editor

Perhaps friendly-faced vegans are so good at hiding their sneers because of what they eat. Vegans are born espionage artists because vegetables are the greatest living dissemblers. What are sweet meats if not vegetables disguised as fruits disguised as meat? What is a steak but poison disguised as fruit disguised as a vegetable disguised as a steak?

Chew it up, Laura.

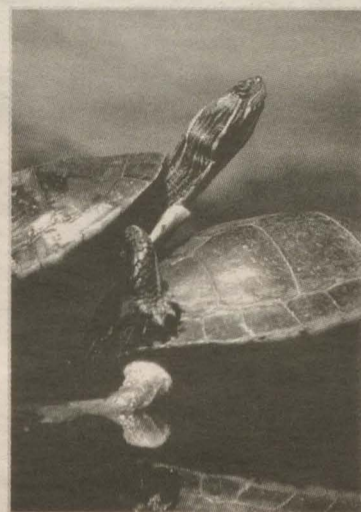
1. "Vegetables" — The Beach Boys
2. "Can-O-Corn" — Coolio
3. "Girlfriend In A Coma" — The Smiths
4. "Mashed Potato Popcorn" — James Brown
5. "Do Not Eat That Chicken" — The Vandals
6. "Gin and Juice" — Snoop D-Dogg
7. "Gal You A Pepper" — Shaggy
8. "Emperor Tomato Ketchup" — Stereolab
9. "Pumpkin Seeds" — Defoogra Craphart
10. "Chocolate Jesus" — Tom Waits



HUGH WALLACE  
Sex Columnist

Sex with Hugh

Coming from behind: the lowdown on doggy



Doggy-style is often more enjoyable for females. Go wild. / Stock photo

It can get boring doing the same thing over and over again in the bedroom. That is why I always try to stress the importance of switching it up. I'm talking about intercourse — of course. This week, I want to continue my dog theme and chat a little bit about doggy-style and other sexual positions.

Doggy-style, or the rear entry position, is a great change from the ordinary. For those of you who are unaware of how to practice this position, it is simple.

Step one: you and your partner need to get on your knees.

Step two: the male (or person wearing the tool to be used for insertion) goes behind the female (or person receiving the tool) and positions his pelvis behind his/hers.

Step three: the rear person slowly drapes their body over the person in front so that the stomach and back lines up. The alternative to draping is to remain upright but on your knees, placing your hands on the front person's hips.

Step four: insert.

According to 10 websites I skimmed, this position is often very beneficial for female sensation because of the difference in angle. The rear entry angle is often more conducive to stimulating the Gräfenberg spot, a sensitive acorn-sized area located somewhere — researchers don't even know — inside the inner third of the vagina.

So ladies, you shouldn't feel bad if you can't find it on your own, because it is almost wrist-snappingly impossible.

The existence of the G-spot, its

time with your partner.

Like all positions, there are few drawbacks. This position may be hard on your knees. If you have bad knees, use pillows.

Another drawback is that it does not allow for face-to-face intimacy during sex. This could be a good thing sometimes. If you are role-playing and want to have quick and dirty sex, why look at faces? Would you not be too busy with ecstasy?

And sometimes sex is for pleasure. What if pleasure means sacrificing face-to-face communication with your partner? I should hope some of you, at least, would be willing to do so for the sake of pleasure on some occasion, how ever rare it may be.

Variations on the traditional rear entry position involve exciting props: a wall and a table/bed/surface of some kind.

In the wall variation, the person being entered from behind is standing but bends at the hips and holds their upper half up on a wall using their hands or head for main support. The other variation is to use a surface and have the 'penetratee' lay their upper half on the surface with their lower half sticking off the edge of the surface, allowing access to the goods.

The next variation, which may be another position entirely, is somewhat dangerous for people with bad backs or low blood pressure. The 'penetratee' stands up, bending at the hips to touch the floor, while the 'penetrator' comes from behind to penetrate him/her.

Keep your stuffy Victorian sex practices if you will. Or do as my friends the Bloodhound Gang would do and "do it like they do on the Discovery Channel." After all, we're all just mammals.

more common name, was hypothesized by a German gynaecologist named Gräfenberg. The existence of such a spot is still contested in the scientific world, but popular media seems to have willed the idea prematurely into existence.

The rear entry position differs from the missionary position, or man on top. It is different and more exciting. The penetration is often deeper and sensations longer sustained.

The nature of the position is good because it allows the man much more free access to the clitoris of the female to enhance pleasure. It also allows access to the anus to further add pleasure to the situation.

The placement of the hands is crucial in this position as the hands and the momentum they control can make or break the experience. It is important to anchor oneself in order to direct the depth and speed at which you are, \*cough,\* enjoying

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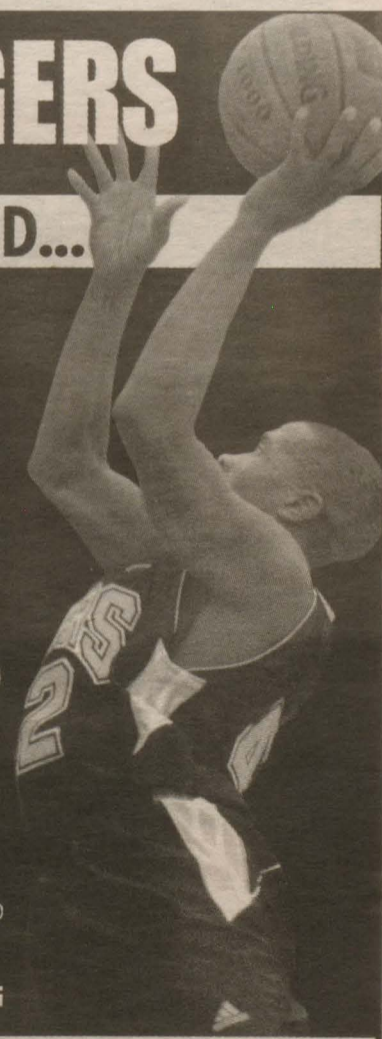
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# Dal men make mark in pool

COLLEEN COSGROVE  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Dalhousie men's swimming team earned a third-place finish out of 23 teams at the national championship, marking the first time an Atlantic university team placed in the top five.

Dalplex hosted 25 teams and hundreds of athletes at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport championship Feb. 21 to 24.

The Dal men's relay team was the talk of Dalplex on the last day of the meet. The team of Doug Young, Brannyn Hale, Matthew Terauds and Bryce Tung snagged bronze medals in the 4x100-metre freestyle, 4x200-metre freestyle and the 4x100-metre individual medley. The team also set two AUS records and a Dal record.

David Fry, head coach of Dal's swim teams, said the men performed "exceptionally well."

"It was so intense and exiting when the standings all depended on the final relay," said Fry.

Meanwhile, the women's team placed 13th out of 21 teams, after aiming for the top 10.

Third-year swimmer Lauren Dorrington competed in four events, placing 11th in the 200-metre individual medley and 16th in the 50-metre breaststroke.

"I would have liked to have done better, but the men's team did extraordinary," said Dorrington. "It was so exciting being in our home pool and watching this all go down."



Matthew Terauds helped Dal win a bronze medal at the nationals. / Photo: Nick Pearce

Ashley Aitken, a fourth-year veteran at national competition, was the only female Tiger who qualified for a final heat. Aitken set a new record in the 50-metre butterfly. The men's team success made up for her results, she said.

She said the event was one of the best in which she's competed.

"The atmosphere and crowd were amazing, and I think the other teams would agree," said Aitken. "The Dalplex is a small venue, but it ended up working out OK."

Dorrington said Dalplex was questionable at first. "But the home crowd definitely helped to motivate

and excited everyone."

Coach Fry said he received a great response from athletes and officials.

"This was one of the most exciting meets I've been at in the last 30 years," he said. "Not just because of our great results, but because of the great hometown atmosphere... It was rockin' on the last night."

The CIs move to the University of British Columbia for the next two years. Dal swimmers are already looking ahead.

"It's good that I'm not content [with my results]," said Dorrington. "It just means I'll push myself that much harder next year. This isn't the end."



Dal aims to avenge a loss to the Memorial Seahawks at the CIs this weekend. / Photo: John Packman

# Tigers go down in third, still secure CIS spot

JOHN PACKMAN  
Sports Contributor

Memorial University dominated Dalhousie in the second half of the Atlantic University Sport women's basketball championship, proving Memorial deserves its spot as host for the national championship.

Strong defence on both sides kept the teams from scoring for the first three minutes of play on March 4 at Saint Mary's Tower. But the Seahawks finally broke through for a 68-43 win.

The third quarter was the Seahawks' best, when the squad stretched its lead from 31-25 to 54-30.

"I told our girls after that third quarter, they might play another 20 years of basketball and never play a quarter that well again," said Memorial coach Doug Partridge. "I just thought that that was one of the most dominant 10-minute performances that I've ever seen at this level."

The Tigers performed better in the final quarter but were unable to come back.

"Forty-three points just doesn't get it done," said Dal coach Carolyn Savoy.

Both coaches said preparation was a deciding factor in the game.

"We did a really good job at disrupting what they do well on offence," said Partridge. "That's really the strength of their team."

Memorial guard Katherine Quackenbush pulled off six of Memorial's 14 steals and led her team in scoring, netting 18 points. Dubbed the most valuable player by the AUS, she credits the team's wins to great defence.

"Our offence stems from our defence," said Quackenbush. "We were able to get some steals and that which just spurred us on offensively."

Despite the loss, the Tigers' season isn't over. The team will head to St. John's, Nfld. for the Canadian Interuniversity Sport championship March 9 to 11. Dal clinched the spot in the nationals with a 71-69 semifinal win against the University of New Brunswick.

As hosts, the Seahawks were guaranteed a spot, but Quackenbush said she's happy her team won it.

"We didn't want to go to the nationals just because we were the hosts," said the Seahawks co-captain. "We wanted to go because we earned a spot and that's what we did. I think we set ourselves up nicely for next weekend."

## Athletes of this week

### FEMALE ATHLETE



ALEX LEGGE  
BASKETBALL

Alex Legge had two great games at the 2007 AUS championship at Saint Mary's and was named to the tournament all-star team. On March 3, in the Tigers 71-69 semifinal win against UNB, Legge scored 13 points, grabbed six rebounds and dished out three assists.

In the championship game on March 4, she led the Tigers with 18 points and eight rebounds. Last week, Legge was named the AUS Rookie of the Year. She is a first-year science student from Mahone Bay, N.S.



### MALE ATHLETE



NIK RADEMACHER  
VOLLEYBALL

Nik Rademacher helped bring the Tigers to the consolation championship and a fifth-place finish at the 2007 CIS volleyball championship at McMaster University. He led the entire tournament in points scored, averaging 17 points per game over the three games, and was a dominate force all weekend. Rademacher is a third-year management student from Bocholt, Germany.



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# Gazette



# Track and field teams aim for top five at nationals

JOEY RYBA  
 Sports Editor

After an overwhelming victory at the Atlantic University Sport championship, Dal's track and field teams will face tougher competition at the national championship March 8 to 10 at McGill University.

Third-year runner Caroline McInnes says the women's team had a really good season.

"We've had a lot of people make big breakthroughs in training and in the races," says McInnes. "We've had a lot of people qualify for the CIS championship."

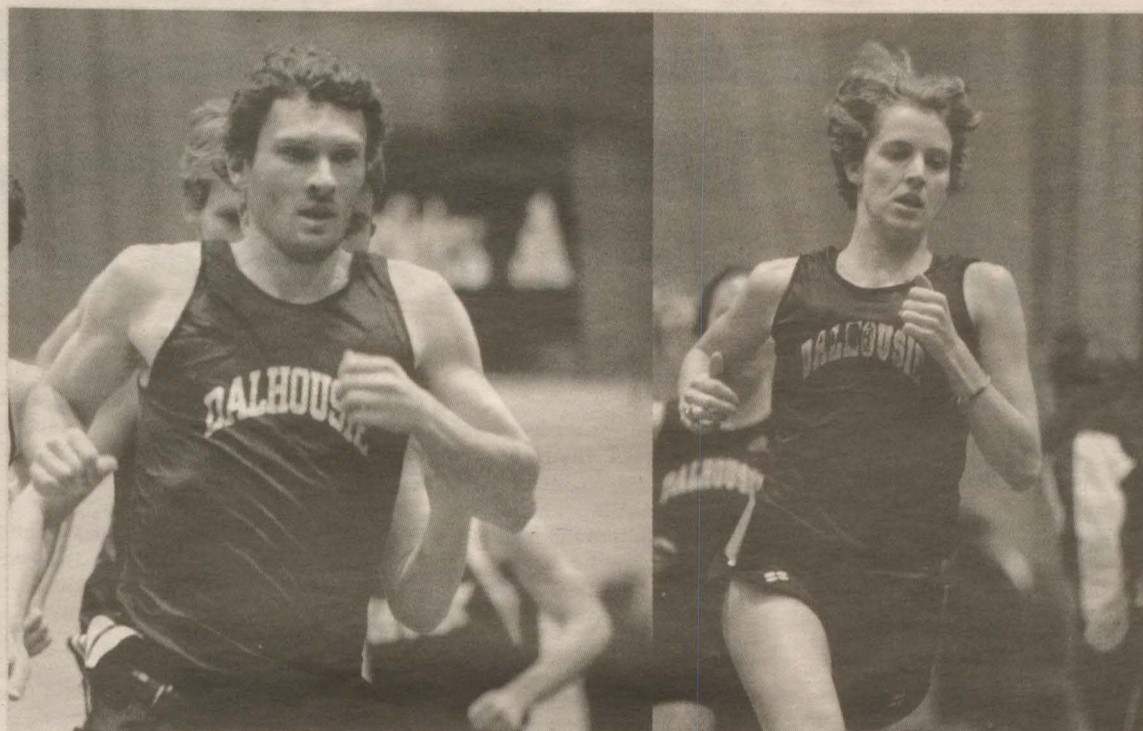
At the AUS championship on Feb. 24 and 25, Dal won most of the events.

"It was a great weekend," says McInnes. "Our team produced a lot of energy and we were really supportive of each other."

The women's team is strong across all events groups. Sprinters Leanne Huck and Susan Sobey and pentathlete Alicia Dobranowski are three of Dal's medal hopefuls. Middle-distance runners Caroline Schlosser and Monique Penny have really stepped up and given the team more depth.

The team trained rigorously over the course of the season, but with the nationals on the horizon, the team started to taper its training near the end of February.

"[The workouts are] very intense,



Rob Jewer, left, and Caroline McInnes, right, aim for a gold medal in the 1500-metre run at the Canadian championship. / Photo: Nick Pearce

but you don't do as much volume," says McInnes. "It's more to get you ready for the race."

The Tigers were ranked eighth on Feb. 20, and the team is trying to get closer to the top five. McInnes says the team will have to come up big in all events, but the Tigers are focused

on performing well.

"Everybody's trying to do everything they can to get themselves ready physically and mentally, trying to get their energy up," says McInnes. "Everybody has their game face on."

Fifth-year runner Rob Jewer says the men's team had a strong season.

"We have a lot of guys in the national rankings," says Jewer. "There are other guys starting to move up, especially with CIs coming up."

Like the women's team, the men's team dominated the regional championships. Jewer says it was a good opportunity for the team to compete

in national-style races.

"It's not the same level competition we're going to face at CIs, but it was just a good opportunity for people to compete against some of the better athletes in the conference to get ready for CIs," says Jewer.

The men's team has medal hopefuls in sprinters Geoff Harris and Ueli Albert, who both medaled at last year's CIs. Along with the defending medalists, runner John Corbit is having an outstanding season.

"He's ranked in a couple of events," says Jewer. "He's just running really well and he's going to have some solid performances at CIs."

Jewer says the men's team has also tapered its training near the end of February.

"Up to last week, it's probably been some of the most intense workouts... just a lot of training at race pace," says Jewer.

The Dal men were ranked fifth in Canada on Feb. 27 and team wants to stay there at the nationals.

"It just comes down to consistent performances from everybody running what they're capable of running," says Jewer. "Every meet there's been one or two people who run faster than they expect."

Regardless of the rankings, the Tigers are striving for solid performances.

"Everyone knows what the group is capable of and is focused on delivering when the time comes," says Jewer.

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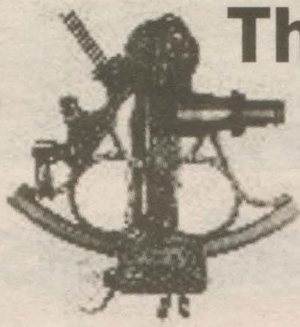
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The

# SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

## Tourism for development?

ADAM LINNARD

Travel is the new marriage: it's what students seem to want to do as soon as they graduate.

And there's no need to feel bad about it. Tourism is often touted as a great development tool. In a world of fiscally enforced "comparative advantage," countries with little to offer global markets in terms of natural resources, textiles, manufacturing or food can find economic explosion through tourism.

As long as you've got a soft beach, palm trees, maybe a 3,000-metre peak and a ruin or two, not to mention cheap labour, you too can run a tourism industry.

Mass tourism is defined by large resort-style hotels, tourist-targeted infrastructure and high numbers of foreign visitors. They bring their Northern money to Southern locations and pay for work done and services rendered.

Still, I don't think it's difficult for most of us to understand how mass tourism can have a destructive impact on tourist-receiving areas. Those large hotels are almost always foreign-owned or owned by local super-elites whose countries are generally tax lenient in a debt-induced attempt to provide incentive for foreign direct investment.

The result is profits are siphoned off to other counties, including Canada, or piled atop the local economic chain with little benefit for those who need it most, or previously used the land appropriated for tourism for sustenance. Employment, always cited as a benefit of tourism, is a boon for those who receive it, but is insufficient to compensate for lost agricultural, fishing or cultural grounds.

As researchers have demonstrated all over the world, tourism development begets further tourism development, creating greater attraction for foreign investors who come to control an increasing percentage of the market locally and globally.

Ethical tourism has arisen in the past decade largely as a response to this, as well as the desire of tourists to escape what sociologist Dean MacCannell calls "the shallowness and inauthenticity of modern life and the alienation of modern man."

Ethical tourists seek reality and sincerity in the "ancient" or "timeless" worlds of the unindustrialized, but do so with the intention of helping, not hurting, the ability of these worlds to persist. They visit national parks and "untouched" villages, stay at bed and breakfasts and buy hand-carved wooden statues.

Simply stated, the problem is this: tourism is centrifugal. There is a

constant draw of tourists away from the growing tourism cores into tourism peripheries. The immediate impact of a few wandering foreigners is small, but as with mass tourism, peripheral tourism development begets further tourism development. A few wandering foreigners inevitably leads to a slow stream, enough to warrant a migration of rural people seeking foreign dollars, the development of a professional tourism sector and further increases in foreign visitors.

Soon, foreign investors such as adventure tour companies take control of the industry, planning routes and guiding tours. The tourism industry further formalizes and those "alienated modern men" who sought out the periphery in the first place feel the draw of further peripheral locations. They push further and further away from the tourism cores, followed behind by less adventurous friends.

In this manner, ethical tourism can only mitigate so much. Ecotourism, for instance, will reduce the environmental impact your presence has during the time you are in a country, but it does not account for the reverberating impact your presence will have on the social makeup of that society.

Ethical tourism does not account for the influx of foreign money, foreign control, migration, industrial development and all the environmental and social impacts. Whether or not ethical tourism is beneficial to peripheral tourism locations remains highly debatable.

Where ethical tourism's real developmental value lies seems not to be in its expansive tendencies, but rather in transforming existing tourism industries into ethical ones. Costa Rica is well known as an ecotourism destination since adjusting to de-forestation fears, gradually converting a dangerously massive tourism destination into one of the world's most renowned countries for nature exploration.

Tibetans have used tourism on the Tibetan Plateau as a defence against their cultural annihilation as Chinese officials have recognized Western attraction to their mythical culture and its countless historic sites.

In short, travelling ethically is not as simple as it may seem. The draw to "unexplored" areas is constant and understandable (believe me, I know). But we have to take personal responsibility for our role in larger trends and recognize it may not be in the best interest of the people or land we wish to see. Instead, we should be working on fitting the tourism that does exist into a more mutually beneficial and (yeah, I'll say it) sustainable model.

## Who is Frederick Henry Sexton and why is he a model of excellence?

LEIGH BEAUCHAMP DAY

What do we really know about Frederick Henry Sexton? Ask most people in engineering and they will say he is the person the campus and the gym are named after. Others, especially the Sexton scholars, know that from 1907 to 1947 he was the founding principal, then President of the Nova Scotia Technical College (Tech), the forerunner of TUNS, DalTech and the present Dalhousie Faculty of Engineering.

For most people these achievements alone are sufficient to grant Sexton a hearty and enduring respect. In doing some background research for the upcoming 100-year anniversary of the Faculty of Engineering (1907-2007), a wealth of information has emerged from our F.H. Sexton Design & Technology Library. Several articles cite Sexton as "a formidable intellectual," "a great engineer," "a superlative educator and writer," as well as "a dedicated researcher and scientist."

The best of all is when Sexton speaks to us directly through bound copies of his 40 annual reports. The man we meet within these volumes is clearly among the most formidable, dynamic and, yes, excellent, men of any era.

Sexton was born in New Boston, New Hampshire. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1902 with a Bachelor of Science in mining engineering. After lecturing there for a year, he moved to Schenectady, New York, where he took a research position with the General Electric Company.

There he met his first wife, Edna

May Best Sexton. A brilliant woman, born in Shediac, N.B. Edna was also an M.I.T. chemistry graduate and a renowned champion of technical education for women.

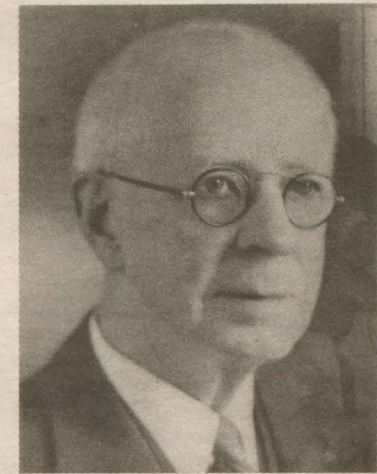
The Sextons moved to Halifax in 1904, where Frederick took a teaching post at Dalhousie University in metallurgical engineering. This dynamic couple was destined to make a lasting impact on technical education in Nova Scotia.

A Provincial Act of April 25, 1907, cited three levels of technical education to be developed. The first was a system of vocational schools throughout the province. The second was the creation of educational units associated with the various provincial mining concerns. The third was a technical college, which would provide the final two years of professional engineering education, enabling students to complete their engineering studies in Nova Scotia, rather than travel to McGill or elsewhere.

At the age of 28, Sexton was named director of Technical Education for Nova Scotia, and principal of the Nova Scotia Technical College. He provided the leadership for all three levels until his retirement in 1947.

Although Sexton's titles were impressive, in 1907 neither technical education nor the technical college existed. They had to be forged through sheer intellectual power, an iron clad determination and a strong leadership style.

Sexton, with his board of directors consisting of one representative from each of the associated universities, brought this dream of a highly educated, globally competitive, Nova Scotia workforce into reality.



Sexton was a strenuous promoter of survival through global competition.

The vocational schools succeeded in spite of initial opposition by some union and industrial leaders. The training facilities for the provinces mines were highly successful, and, although the first year of his work consisted primarily of research, negotiating and planning, the sod was broken for the technical college building in May of 1908.

In Sexton's words it "was completed Sept. 24, 1909, and it was occupied on that date."

During the construction phase, Dalhousie University provided all four years of engineering courses. In 1909, nine fourth-year students attended tech, and were the first graduates in May of 1910. Today's graduate classes number 240 or more. Approximately 10 per cent achieve the highest academic standing known as the Sexton Distinction. This is a fitting legacy for a man of excellence.

## An invitation from the Dean of Engineering

JOSHUA LEON, Ph.D., P.Eng.,  
Dean, Faculty of Engineering

The end is finally in sight for the academic year 2006/2007, which is also our landmark 100-year celebration. I am sure this will be another record year in milestones and achievements on many levels.

As our students and future graduates, you are playing a major role in maintaining and promoting our tradition of excellence in engineering. Indeed, many of you now have your Iron Ring and will soon take your place among our long list of successful graduates.

We have reached this incredible 100-year milestone together. Now it is time to celebrate our joint achievements. It is my pleasure to invite you to attend '100 Years of Tech, TUNS and Dal Engineering' with our faculty and

alumni. The date is Oct. 4 to 6, 2007.

The activities planned for this gala event include an opening reception and book launch. Dr. Allan Marble, professor emeritus in Electrical Engineering and a well-known historian, is writing, *The House that Sexton Built: A Century of Outstanding Graduates*.

There will be an open house, giving our alumni an opportunity to tour our labs and facilities. An Alumni Awards Luncheon will be held at the World Trade Centre, and the Barrington Street entrance will be named as a street in its own right.

There will also be a Beergarten, with the DixieTech Seven, a band comprised primarily of former faculty members and alumni. In the early 70s through to the mid-80s, the band's favourite gigs were student events.

The celebration will conclude

with a gala Tech Ball. Since the early 20s it has been a major social event for engineering. Throughout the events there will be displays of historic photographs covering the last 100 years.

Visit [www.100th.Engineering.dal.ca](http://www.100th.Engineering.dal.ca), where we will be continually updating the schedule of events, and adding other items of historic interest. You will soon be able to register and make payment online for the full event or select activities.

Of course, an event like this needs people behind it. We are looking for volunteers at all levels, as well as sponsors for some of the events. If you are interested in getting involved, or have ideas for sponsors or the event, please call Linda Seamone at 494-8431. If you have ideas for sponsors, please contact me at 494-6217.

I look forward to seeing you from Oct. 4 to 6.

## TECH BALL 07

What: Tech Ball 2007  
Where: The Sexton Gym, 1360 Barrington St., Sexton Campus  
When: Friday, March 16, 2007, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.  
Price: \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door (limited number of tickets available)

Dating back to the early 1920s, the

Tech Ball was a place for students and professors to gather and celebrate another year of hard work and outstanding accomplishments. The Tech Ball, which remains an annual event, also gave students the opportunity to display class and senior projects. A lavish evening of dancing and socializing, the gala has remained one of Sexton Campus's greatest events.

This semi-formal event promises to be an excellent evening of entertainment with music by the Junction, a jazz-pop, funk rock-infused band signed to Universal Records that is currently on a cross Canada tour. DJ Brian Chaput, a popular local MC who hosted Dalhousie University's Charity Ball this year will also be performing. Tech Ball '07 organizers aim to

make this year's ball not just a Sexton Campus event, but a Dal event. "We want all Dal students to enjoy all DAL events. We're hoping that Tech Ball will help bring students from all campuses to Sexton for an evening of entertainment," says Rachel Derrah, a member of the Tech Ball organizing committee.

Tickets will be on sale at the T-

Room, the info desk at the SUB, the DSEUS office and tables in the architecture and planning building. For those who have joined the Facebook community, there is a Facebook group for this event where you will find pictures and comments of past years.

Tech Ball '07 promises to be one of the best parties Dal has to offer, so don't delay, get your tickets right away.

# Dalendar & Classifieds

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### Friday, March 9

#### Chemistry Seminar: "Spectroscopic Probes of Atmospheric Chemistry at the Air-aqueous (and some other important) interfaces"

1:30 p.m. @ Chemistry Room 226, Chemistry Building  
Presented by Professor D. James Donaldson, Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto.  
Free

#### One Night Stand

9:00 p.m. @ Grawood  
Dal's First Annual Stand-Up Comedy Night for amateurs and local pros. Hosted by the Dalhousie Stage Society featuring comedians from Dal and King's as well as live music.  
\$3

### Saturday, March 10

#### THE WILD/ SETH ANDERSON + special guest

10 p.m. @ Gus' Pub  
THE WILD is a political/ environmentally friendly high energy

acoustic punk rock band. With a new revolution in music that will inspire all who sees them. Music is their life, without it they would be part of the "working class whore" society that they have set out to convert. Every show is like an explosion!!!  
\$5

### Sundays

**Vegan potluck**  
6pm @ the Dal SUB, Room 224

### Friday, March 16

**Brewery Tour**  
9 - 11 p.m. @ Garrison Brewery  
The Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS) will be hosting a brewery tour of Garrison Brewery. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the DAGS office. 3\$ from every ticket will go to Ronald MacDonald House Atlantic.  
\$15

#### Radical Vulvas: a "write your own" version of the Vagina Monologues

@ Bus Stop Theatre  
Everyone is invited. All forms of expression will be accepted; monologues, dialogues, poems, songs, dances, paintings, photos... whatever! The event is hosted by V-Day Dalhousie. If you're interested, please send a proposal to [vdaydalhousie@yahoo.ca](mailto:vdaydalhousie@yahoo.ca) that includes a copy of the text or a short 100-250 word paragraph that outlines what you'll be doing. Any questions please contact Jean Steinberg at [vdaydalhousie@yahoo.ca](mailto:vdaydalhousie@yahoo.ca)

### Friday, March 23

**Dalhousie Law Students Association of Technology Tech/IP Conference**  
12 - 6 p.m. @ Weldon Law Building  
There will be three panels on: Day to Day IT Law in a Business Setting, Protecting Creators' Rights and Security, Privacy & Liability. For more information, visit [www.dalsalt.com](http://www.dalsalt.com) or e-mail [dal.salt@gmail.com](mailto:dal.salt@gmail.com).  
Free

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#### SUMMER CAMP NORTH OF MONTREAL HIRING

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#### INDEPENDENT LAKE CAMP

Camp counselors needed to for a private coed residential summer camp in the beautiful Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania USA. We are looking for people with a dedication to children, enthusiasm for diversity, and a desire to share their passion in any of the following areas:  
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Music, Computers, Volleyball, Creative Crafts, Fine Arts, Tennis, Life-guards (lake and pool), Swimming, Sailing, Fishing, Water-skiing, Kayaking, Canoeing, Theater, Dance, Video, Radio Broadcasting, Nature, Creative Writing, Soccer, Go-Carts, Newspaper, Softball, SAT Prep, ESL, Cooking, Lacrosse, BMX, Role Playing Games, Golf, Skateboarding, Rollerblading, Mountain Boarding, Rocketry, Mountain Biking, Horseback Riding, Climbing Wall, Ropes Course, Kitchen, Maintenance, Administration, Driving, and more.

June 18th - August 20th \$1500-\$2100 plus tips Visit us at the Summer Job Fair Feb 9th 10am - 3pm SMU Loyola Conference Centre Apply online at [www.independentlake.com](http://www.independentlake.com) email [ilnigel@aol.com](mailto:ilnigel@aol.com)

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Tim: 405-6928 Matt: 223-2982

#### SUMMER SUBLET AVAILABLE

4BDR apartment with three available. Sublet runs from May 1 to Aug. 31. Located on Chestnut St., two blocks north of Dal. \$475/mo. per bedroom. Can be rented as a group of three or individually. Includes heat, lights, hot water, free washer/dryer, 3 appliances. Call 431-4542 and ask for John for more information.

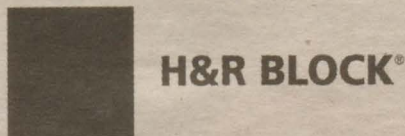


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