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Gazette

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October 23, 2003 - 136:08



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**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH AT
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www.dsu.ca

OKTOBERFEST is being held this week!!

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Contact Kevin Wasko at

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Editorial

REPO KEMPT Editor-In-Chief

This past Sunday, Mother Theresa moved into the final leg of her journey toward sainthood. What does this mean to the rest of the world? To be honest, I'm still not really sure. I was always under the impression that sainthood was a rare title bestowed by the Catholic church, through an ancient and complicated process, upon people deemed worthy by the hierarchy of the church and of course, God. Although I have never been a religious person and I am generally skeptical of organized religion, I remember my grandmother often praying in the name of St. Anthony (the patron saint of lost things and missing persons) in order to find missing items. Beyond that memory (and a brief episode while reading a Robertson Davies novel) I've never really had any understanding of what it means to call someone a "saint". With the entire media blitz surrounding the Pope's 25th anniversary and the critical debates over the validity of Mother Theresa's recent beatification, I decided to take a trip to the library to satisfy my curiosity about this business of sainthood.

I was amazed at how many saints exist. There are patron saints for everything from anti-abortion (Catherine of Sweden) to television (Clare of Assisi) to bartenders (Amand of France). In an age where St. Anthony has his own Google-style search engine on the internet, I suppose it is kind of fitting that new technology and social trends be assigned to patron saints as per tradition.

However, I was absolutely astonished to find out how many people have been canonized as saints since

Pope John Paul II came into his position in 1978. Take a guess at the number. One? Six? Eleven? Oh, not quite. Try 477. That is an average of 19 saints a year. More saints were named during the term of Pope John Paul II than all of the previous popes combined. Canonization; the process the Church uses to name a saint, has only been in use since the 10th century when it replaced the previous method of popular acclaim. In 1983, the current Pope made radical changes to the canonization procedure to allow for a faster turnover in the process. Canonization requires evidence of one miracle resulting from a specific request to the potential saint from a living person. This would mean that the Catholic Church has recognized and confirmed almost 500 miracles since the late 1970's.

This editorial isn't just self-indulgent rambling about my latest temporary obsession. It is a reminder that we all need to keep learning, not only about our own cultures, but the cultures around us. I was surprised at how many Catholics I spoke to who had no answers for my questions about their faith, and at how ignorant I was of the practices and procedures of the Catholic Church. How much do you know about Islam? Judaism? Mormons? This week, pick a religion or culture that you know nothing about and spend 20 minutes in the library or on the Internet learning about it instead of watching television. Even if it is something you don't believe or wholly disagree with, it is still a small step forward in a world of people who are standing still.



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Annual General Meeting

CKDU 97.5 FM

Tuesday, October 28th
6pm
SUB Room 303

Food and beverages will be provided.

The Board of Directors will be elected and there are proposals to make alterations to the following By-Laws of the CKDU-FM Society: 9, 11, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23-25, 27, 28, 31, 34, 58.

Copies of the existing By-Laws and the proposed changes can be found on the station's website, <http://ckdu.dal.ca>, and in the CKDU offices on the fourth floor of the SUB.

CKDU 97.5 FM

For those interested in volunteering at CKDU, there will be an orientation session at the station on Tuesday, October 28th at 4:30. (For those unable to attend there are sessions every week. Phone 494-6479 for more details.)

CKDU-FM is Dalhousie's campus/community station, located on the fourth floor of the SUB. Mandated to provide an alternative to commercial and public radio we are Halifax's only live 24-hour broadcast. Tune in. Get involved.

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Presidential Candidates Make Their Case

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Cover
Mike Gorman and Chris LaRoche got the snowman in the third floor bathroom. Saint or sex offender? You decide.

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The Gazette is a student-run publication. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University. This magazine is intended for readers 18 years of age or older.

Kevin Wasko

Qualifications: Kevin Wasko is a third-year political science student who has been involved in student politics for the last three years. Wasko has dedicated this year to serving in the student executive and currently holds the position of vice-president of community affairs. Wasko played a large role in helping this year's Shinerama fundraiser collect \$58,000 (versus last year's \$40,000 or 2001's \$33,000). Wasko's mandate thus far has also included the revamped DSU website, Oktoberfest activities in the SUB and developing the DSU handbook.

Experience: In addition to his current position of vice-president of community affairs in the Dalhousie Student Union executive, Wasko was last year's Arts society vice-president, has completed a review of the executive and sat on the DSU recruitment committee, awards committee, and community affairs committee.

Focus: Wasko's campaign focuses on balancing external and internal duties and reviewing the DSU's budget. "Last year, Johanne was a very external president and the year before Shawn [Tracey] was a very internal president—so I plan on trying to have an equal balance. Externally, the issues are dealing with government and lobbying to work out education and tuition. I know there will probably be cuts in education, which will likely result in a 14 per cent increase in tuition by next year. So I'm working to lobby internally on the board of governors to make sure this doesn't happen."

Wasko also plans to continue pushing the municipal government to close the SUB-FASS building area to traffic. "Between 11 a.m. and noon, people are constantly going back and forth with cars zooming by and big trucks parked around," says Wasko. "When people walk out, they can't see if a vehicle is coming, and vehicles can't see people walking. It's just a matter of time until someone gets hit by a car, especially with the new management building being built."

Wasko says he plans to review the DSU's financing with the vice-president of finances. "We basically want to look at our fees and where they are right now to make sure we're not overcharging our students ... I want to make sure all the societies we give levies to deserve what they're getting, whether that means giving them too much or too little."

Why You Should Vote for this Candidate: Lots of experience with the current DSU means Wasko knows the daily functions of the executive as well as anyone possibly can. He's very familiar with how student politics are run here at Dalhousie—"That's what I'm running on—I've proven my leadership and that what I've done has produced results."

Caveat: Being from the DSU executive means Wasko won't nail any "fresh face" votes amidst general apathy for all things DSU. "People generally have questions if you go and talk to them, but they don't come and ask questions while we're in office."

Bottom Line: Reviewing the DSU finances and coming up with a good balance between the external and internal issues of the executive. "It's hard for people to see posters of a candidate, have no idea who they are, and still have an interest in voting. I think it's a challenge to try to go out and meet all those people. Trying to be out there more and be recognizable is the biggest thing. I also think it's the hardest thing to do."

Catherine Chow

Qualifications: Catherine Chow has attended five different post-secondary education institutions since graduating from high school, including Harvard and the Institut Formation International in Rouen, France. She has won a number of awards including three Duke of Edinburgh prizes, St. John Ambulance Grand Priors Award and an Atlantic Wrestling Championship. Chow is currently enrolled in the Masters of Business Administration and Masters of Health Administration program here at Dal.

Experience: Chow is currently one of two representatives from the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students in the DSU council. Her past experience with student government includes: member of the Dalhousie University Health Sciences Ethics Board, the Social Sciences and Humanities Ethics Board, and the Society of Management Accountants, student associate with the Canadian Marketing Association and panelist on the Student Allocation and Advisory Panel.

Focus: Chow's campaign focuses heavily on getting students involved and interested in the DSU. "At the end of the day it's the students' organization," she said. "The Student Union wouldn't be there if the students weren't there. Students should be involved, but the question then is how to get students involved. They have to have some sort of say in matters—something they can do. I think the DSU can provide that bridge so that students can make changes. The DSU should in the end serve the students."

Of what she'd like to see happen in the future, Chow said: "I sit on council and don't hear about a lot of issues until they're brought up at council meetings, when decisions should be made in terms of voting. By this time we should have heard about the issue, discussed it, looked at it, asked people what they think of it—and then hold a vote at the council meeting rather than be first exposed to the issue."

"Not only do I have a sense of what students should expect, I also have a sense of what faculty expects. I've been sitting on the ethics board for the last two years involved with DAGS since the summer of this year."

Why You Should Vote for this Candidate: Chow is very qualified, intelligent and has extensive experience with post-secondary education, whether as an attending student or on student government. "As a graduate student, I bring a little more experience to the table."

Caveat: Though Chow has worked with executives and knows each member of the current executive; she hasn't worked with them directly, which means there will be some learning curve if she is elected. "I think that here would be a definite learning curve. I'm not going to lie about that, I think there will be."

Bottom Line: Getting student interest back into the DSU. "I think the most important thing is that students get out there and vote. I remember years ago someone said to me if you don't get out there and vote, you can't complain. The executive is there for the students, so the students should question—question why discussions are being made. Because we're there for you."

The is a forum at noon, in the Dal SUB Lobby. On Friday the 24th, Where students can ass the candidates questions.

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On the Roche: Dalhousies Ranking



NEWS COMMENT, CHRIS LAROCHE News Editor

Last Thursday, *The Globe and Mail* published a small magazine-style insert called the University Report Card. The insert ranked most of Canada's universities—with an obvious penchant for Ontario universities, which made up the bulk of universities present—in various categories ranging from food to technology services to professor-student attention.

Dalhousie, generally a mid-runner in *Maclean's*' well-known annual university ranking, came in at a disappointing 22 out of 38 in the Report Card. What was surprising about the study, however, was that it claimed to be an undergraduate survey, yet it ranked programs such as law, medicine, dentistry and research. Furthermore, Dalhousie was generally ranked low in these categories—which it is generally known for—and in some cases Dal ranked below universities that don't even offer the programs listed. York, for example, doesn't offer a medical degree, but it gained top billing in that category.

So what gives?

David Plaxton, an associate with the Strategic Counsel research group and a chief researcher with the University Report Card, said that the study was based entirely on undergraduate student opinion, and nothing else.

According to him, the University Report Card study polls undergraduate students attending post-secondary institutions through Studentawards.com, a website where students file for scholarship opportunities. The students are asked to rate their satisfaction regarding various aspects of their post-secondary institutions on a scale of one to five.

"We give them a scale, and we say 'tell me your level of satisfaction,'" said Plaxton. The study requires that at least 235 surveys be completed from a university for it to be entered into the study's ranking system—explaining why many Maritime universities didn't make the cut. Some universities had as many as 1,500 surveys completed. Dalhousie had just over 500. Overall, Dal and ranked about midway in most categories, scoring well in a few categories such as career opportunities, but surprisingly low in areas such as medical education.

Seemingly strange or out-of-the-ordinary ranks can be explained because the survey was based entirely on student opinion, said Plaxton, and not any other studies or reputations. If more students picked York as somewhere they'd like to prepare for or take medicine than any other university, then York gets top billing, despite the fact it doesn't offer any actual medical education.

This was an issue raised by Tom Traves in a recent email sent out to Dalhousie staff and faculty, announcing science publication *The Scientist's* recent choice of Dalhousie as the top place to do research in the country.

Plaxton doesn't think the University Report Card should

be considered the be-all and end-all of university rankings, however. When asked about how this study differs from *Maclean's*, Plaxton said, "I don't think either one of them is a more accurate view—they work best in tandem. The *Maclean's* study is very institutional, whereas we take a very bottom-up analysis."

This year's University Report Card is the second to be published, and despite some criticism, Plaxton doesn't see its methods changing next year. "This year's study doesn't differ a

and St. F.X. won't make the list.

Despite his study's limitation to medium-sized universities and higher, however, Plaxton does remain adamant that the University Report Card is represents a side of post-secondary ranking which needs to be expressed.

"The strength of the study is that it takes seriously what students are telling us. This is something no one else is doing. Do we think it's the only kind of study? No—but we think its an important study."

One question remains, however: How can students compare their university to one they've never attended? Plaxton argues that the 1-5 ratings are supposed to be measurements of university satisfaction rather than comparison. Still, this sort of absolute satisfaction rating doesn't seem like something that can be the least bit objective. Plaxton does say that this study goes best with others that assess universities through faculty, staff and administration—and student opinion does matter. But is student opinion accurate enough to form the sole basis for a major post-secondary education study? And if this sort of thing does go best with other studies, why not say so right in the publication? Given these doubts, the University Report Card is a commendable—but not exemplary—attempt at presenting another side of this nation's oft-maligned university rankings.

You can check out how Dalhousie fared in the Report Card at www.universityreportcard.com

“is student opinion accurate enough to form the sole basis for a major post-secondary education study?”

great deal from last year's," he said. "What we saw this year to last was the smaller schools tend to be able to provide a more satisfactory education. They produced a pretty satisfied bunch of students. Big schools in big cities didn't fare so well."

Considering that Dalhousie is a medium-sized university in a medium-sized city, it isn't surprising to see that it's in the middle of the pack. Plaxton said that the response from Dalhousie was more positive on the whole this year given that a faculty strike threat is gone. So long as other Nova Scotian universities don't meet the minimum requirement of 235 surveys, however, *Maclean's* ranking staples such as Acadia

NSPIRG Opt-Out Period

Full-time Dalhousie students are all members of the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group-Dalhousie (NSPIRG-Dal). Students voted through referendum to create the organization, in an effort to provide resources and opportunities for students to get involved in human and environmental rights work, and also in recognition of the fact that balance in academia requires the understanding of alternative perspectives. All full-time Dalhousie Students who paid full DSU fees are entitled to receive \$2 per term if they wish to "opt-out" of funding the NSPIRG-Dal.

Drop by the nspirg office (Rm. 320 SUB) OR email between November 7th – 21st to receive \$2 for the fall term.

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THE DOME

DSU Contributes to "Wall of Debt"

CHRIS LAROCHE News Editor

A national campaign to raise student debt awareness wrapped up Wednesday when a wall constructed from foam bricks signed by students in debt was revealed on Parliament Hill. The bricks were gathered by the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) from 19 universities nation-wide and revealed in a 30-foot by eight-foot wall—representing four thousand signatures—at 11 a.m. EDT on October 22. Dalhousie Student Union vice-president Curtis McGrath, said the campaign aims to bring the issue of student debt to the federal government.

"We're asking students to sign their names, what institution they come from, and how much debt level they will have accumulated upon graduation," said McGrath. He collected signed bricks from Dalhousie students in the lobby of the Student Union Building last week in tandem with three other universities in Nova Scotia. By the time the DSU's brick collection wrapped up last week, Dalhousie's contribution represented over four million dollars worth of debt.

"Hopefully some of the outcomes of our activities will be Paul Martin coming out with a stance on where he sees a future of post-secondary education in the country," said McGrath.

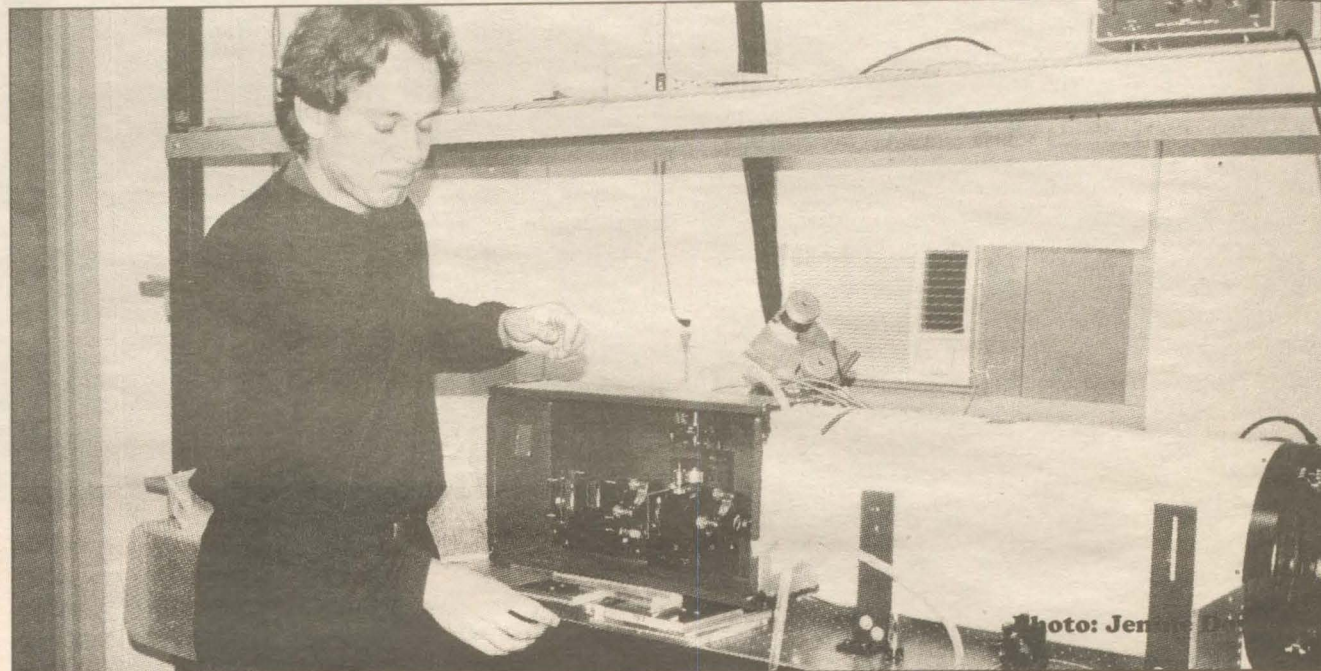
One of the objectives of CASA's Wall of Debt campaign is to establish dedicated transfers to post-secondary education from the federal government rather than support problematic tuition freezes. As finance minister for Jean Chretien's cabinet, Martin cut back transfers to post-secondary education—but the prime minister in waiting still hasn't made his post-secondary mandate clear. The aim of the wall is to alert Martin and federal bureaucracies that student debt is a growing problem. According to McGrath, the national average student debt is \$21,000—much higher than it was a decade ago.

"The DSU and its membership firmly believe in the policy that tuition shouldn't increase any more than the rate of inflation. Costs go up all across the board and education shouldn't be excluded from that, but we're paying more than inflation increases," said McGrath. "Ultimately, it isn't the provincial government or the federal government that sets tuition rates, it's the university. With more core funding through operating grants, Dalhousie should be able to regulate tuition better."

CASA's 19 member schools represent close to 300,000 students across the country. You can read more about CASA's campaign at <http://www.casa.ca>.

Physics Prof Setting Sky-High Goals

PHILIP CASEY Science Reporter



Professor Thomas Duck's research group in Dalhousie's Department of Physics and Atmospheric Sciences are probing the lower and middle atmosphere to better understand air pollution and climate change in the Halifax region.

Sitting atop the Sir James Dunn Building is a laser, or lidar as it is known, for "light directing and ranging" about a thousand times as powerful as a common laser pointer. The lidar sends pulses of green light into the sky which partially reflect back and are absorbed by accurate sensors. Each type of particle in the sky will reflect back light uniquely by changing its polarity (orientation) and/or energy. For example, the reflected light from the lidar hitting nitrogen is consistently different than carbon dioxide.

"The technique is similar to sonar, except that instead of pinging submarines with sound, we detect molecules in the air with a laser," said Duck. The researchers know how different particles reflect the light, so you can deduce what is in the sky from the reflected light. The delay in pulse from when it is sent out to when it returns indicates the altitude of the particles.

During the air traffic ban immediately following Sept. 11, 2001, researchers found there was significant climate change in areas with high airplane passage. They concluded airplane exhaust can affect local climate. The skies above Halifax are a high traffic route to Europe from all over the U.S. and Canada—so the lidar will be used to study how air traffic affects our climate.

Not only local, but global climate change can be studied with

the lidar. Anthropogenic (human-induced) emissions into the sky such as sulphur dioxide, carbon dioxide, and ozone-depleting substances can be monitored in our region. If coupled with data from other lidars around the world, a global warming picture can be well depicted.

In the future, Duck's research group is planning to put the lidar in a twenty-foot shipping container and transport it on a flatbed truck to different locations around the world. A portable lidar would allow the group to investigate the skies of very remote areas that have never been tested before. "Having such a large telescope and powerful lidar on a transportable platform is unprecedented. The whole outdoors is my laboratory, and we will be able to go to where the action is—the locations of geophysical interest. This will also be great for participation in large collaborations," said Duck.

Research intended to improve our understanding of the environment, either locally or globally, is usually worthwhile, and the Duck group is certainly no exception. The constituents of our atmosphere are an influential factor in determining how much sunlight reaches the planet and how much is trapped in earth's natural "greenhouse". These particles also effect what is brought into our water system and ecosystem via precipitation. Without improved understanding of what is in our skies, how our emissions are changing it and how those changes will alter our world in a significant way, we run the risk of making potent, irreversible mistakes.



DALHOUSIE
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THIS WEEK'S CAREER NEWS

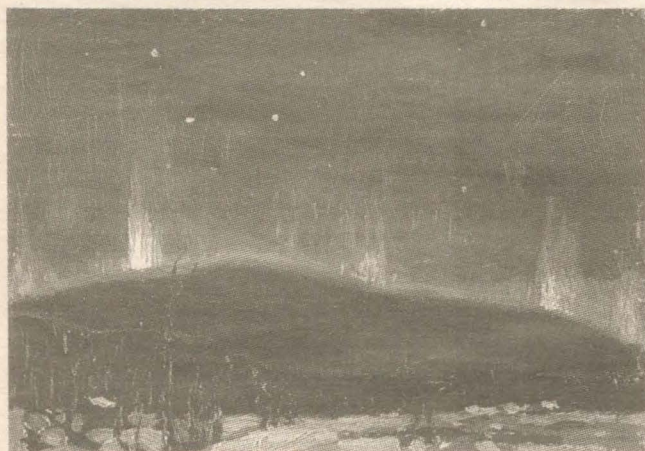
Week of October 27th, 2003

- **EMPLOYER RECRUITING:** Student recruitment is now! If you will be graduating in the Spring, now is the time to apply to the numerous employers posting career opportunities on our site.
- **SUMMER:** It's not too early to look for next summer's job! Numerous summer positions are now posted on our site. Summer camps in Canada and the U.S; Parks Canada, and more.....
- **INFORMATION SESSIONS:**
 - JET Programme (Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme), Oct. 28, Room 307, SUB, 9:00 am. www.ca.emb-japan.go.jp/ExchangeProgram/jetweb/index.html.
 - Halifax Regional Police: Wednesday, November 12th, Room 224, SUB, 12 – 1:30 pm. Come learn more about their Police Science Program.

Student Employment Centre, 4th floor, SUB
For job postings and further information go to www.dal.ca/sec
Student Volunteer Service www.dal.ca/svb

The Ineptitude of Science

QUENTIN CASEY Opinions Editor



It cannot be argued that scientific research and development provides us with an immensity of creations that improve our general way of life. From medical breakthroughs to a better tasting potato chip, science continues to push the boundaries of human knowledge and experience.

Yet I often wonder if those in the field of science do not realize that their persistent research and resulting marvels are not actually required, or for that matter appreciated, in certain areas of our lives. Basically, I feel that those in the realm of science often display a lack of understanding of the function and purpose of science within society, and also of the value of many of the topics they seek to investigate.

One such example appeared last week in the form of a

scientist proving the exact moment and location of Tom Thomson's painting *Northern Lights* through the use of constellation records and star positions. Thomson is a famous Canadian painter best known for his part in the Group of Seven and for his painting *Jack Pine*. *Northern Lights* was one of his last paintings, and captures the Aurora Borealis and the constellation Cassiopeia in the night sky at Algonquin Park in Ontario.

Thomson was a realist in that he tried to capture the true nature of the Canadian wilderness. As such, many people have wondered exactly where this painting, and others, was created.

Ivan Semeniuk, an astronomer with the Discovery Channel, required one year and three trips to the park to answer this question. He claims it was on Canoe Lake in April of 1917, around 8 or 9 p.m., and has even found the exact knoll that is depicted on the horizon of the painting.

This discovery is all well and good. But so what? Why does anyone actually need to be made aware of this fact? This is a case where those in the scientific community fail to realize that many things are better left unknown.

For me, and anyone else with an appreciation of this or any other landscape painting, the exact time and location of its creation are irrelevant. It is what this painting says to the viewer about nature, about our country, our sense of culture, about our history, and about our connection to the land that

is important. The true value of the painting, like all art I guess, is beyond the empirical and absolute notions of science. In situations like this, science should steer clear.

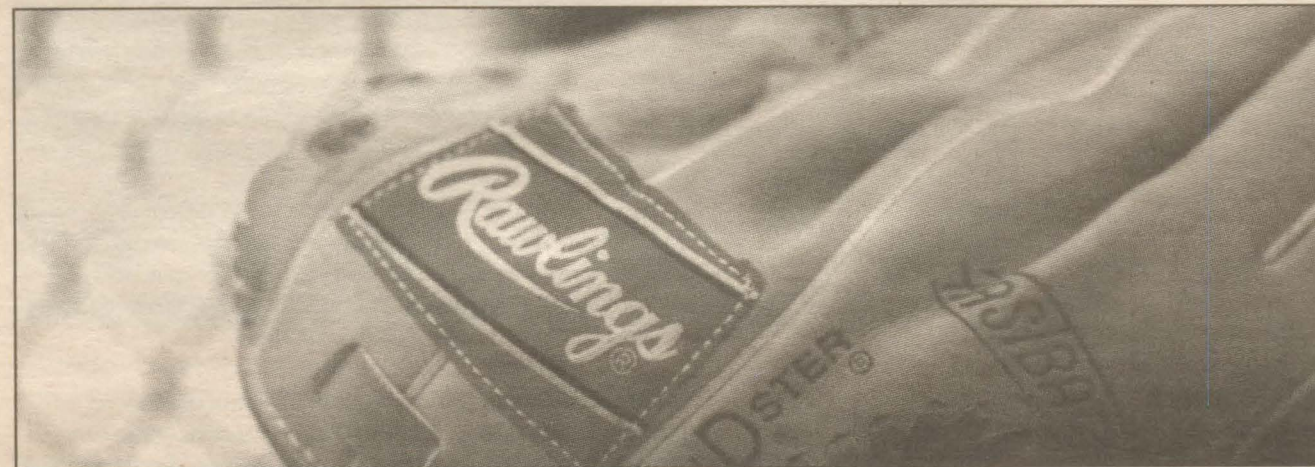
For me, this painting is significant because I am drawn into the landscape. I want to be there. I envision places I have been that are similar. Without sounding trite, it captures nature in a vulnerable and beautiful state.

Similarly, I feel sorry for the scientist who is seemingly untouched by this painting and asks the question: "I wonder where this is?" Is there nothing better for this astronomer to be doing with a year of his time than determining where a painter propped his easel? Shouldn't he be keeping watch on a meteor that might be headed toward us?

His discovery is impressive, I won't argue with that. But the question he posed was not important and never will be. Even less important is his answer. In my mind, it is completely irrelevant. This irrelevance is saddening, because it shows that science often over-steps its bounds in terms of what its focus should be. Scientific study should turn its stodgy view away from such problems to which it adds little insight. The forest, wrapped in the quiet solitude of a dark lake is no place for such meaningless thoughts.

Hope and Baseball

MICHAEL GORMAN Assistant Arts Editor



Last Thursday, as I watched Aaron Boone take Tim Wakefield over the left field wall in Yankee Stadium, sending the dreaded Yankees to yet another World Series and my beloved Red Sox back to Boston just a little too early, I found myself thinking: "next year will be different." For over 80 years, the Red Sox and their fans have been saying just this as year after year they continue to fall short of winning a World Championship.

There have been so many close calls, so many last minute letdowns, and so many "almosts" that it's a wonder fans continue to go out to the ballpark. And yet they do. For 85 years, Red Sox faithful have continued going to Fenway Park. This, to me, is the greatest attribute of sports—that fans can go to the ballpark or stadium year after year, hoping in the purest sense of hope, that this will be the year their team proves they are better than the rest.

I've been to Fenway Park in Boston, and the atmosphere is electric: fans of all ages and genders, all wanting the same thing. Sons with fathers, who no doubt were in Fenway with their own fathers, who in all probability were there with their fathers, wanting the same thing and hoping with the same hope that has pervaded throughout the New England area since 1918, the last time the Sox won a World Series.

It is so easy in today's sporting world of inflated salaries, rampant drug scandals, and a seemingly never-ending line of fallen heroes, to lose sight of what makes the sport so

great. Often we are forced to look at the amateur sporting community to find relief, but with the breaking discovery of the overwhelming use of a performance-enhancing drug that up until last week was undetectable, even amateur athletes seem to have let the fans down.

It's at times like this sports fans can thank teams like the Cubs and Red Sox for continuing to teach their fans that it is okay to hope and believe, and that waiting for next year isn't always a bad thing. Just ask the two 70-something nuns I saw on my trip to Fenway. There, sitting in the hot August sun on a lazy Saturday afternoon in right field, fully dressed in their religious attire, they held high above their heads a sign that read "Please, win so I can die in peace."

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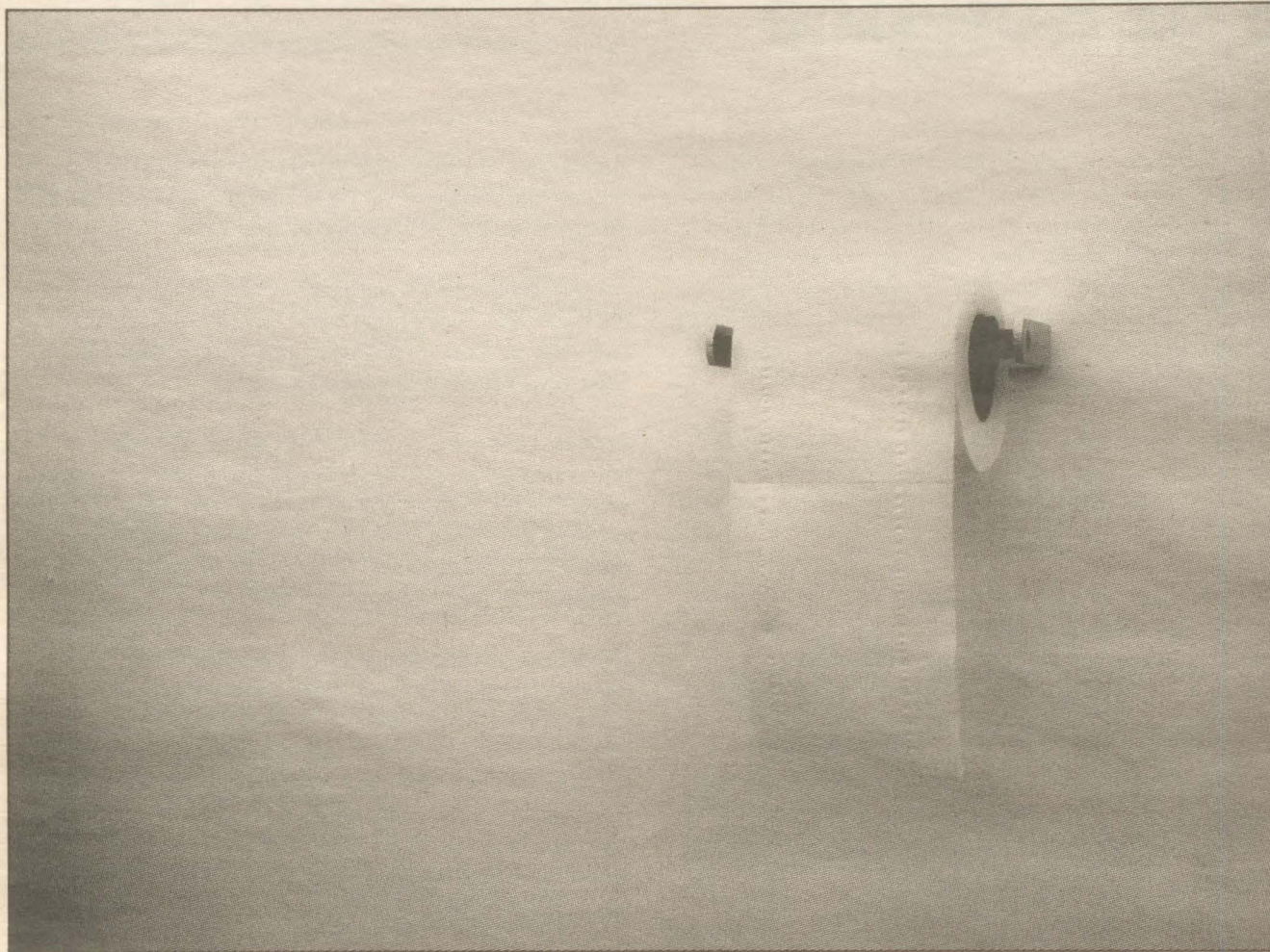
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Urination Hesitation

EMBRACING THE "IT'S COOL TO PEE" PHILOSOPHY, KATE ENGLISH Staff Contributor



As many of you are aware, the lights were recently off in Halifax for quite some time. Like many, when the lights go off, so does my brain. It wanders along, and odd thoughts invade it like a damp sponge left under the sink way too long. I, along with some 450 other girls, live in Shirreff Hall. I eat and drink there and, consequently, I also urinate there.

I have noticed that when I enter the stall of a public (or semi-public) bathroom, and there is someone else in the next stall, I suffer from a sort of performance anxiety—a "urination hesitation," if you will. I know I have to pee. I want to pee, damn it, but alas—I cannot. You sit there, or squat, and wait and wait. One of you will eventually start, and seconds after the other will too. Or, one of you may even give up, flushing the empty toilet, which is a lucky thing for the other because the noise will ease the tension and the evacuation process will commence. Or, maybe you have to wait for the person to wash their hands, so that the tap running will mask the sound. Whatever happens, the awkward silence between the two of you in the washroom is unbearable.

We—we being women—have all experienced this. Why?

We all urinate. Heck I like to urinate. Urinating is fun. If I didn't urinate, my bladder would explode. And besides, Billy Madison said that, "it's cool to pee yo pants!" (If for some reason I am mistaken in this generalization, then this could potentially be embarrassing for me, and forever ruin my chances of ever finding "twoo wuv").

Why are we hesitant to let the golden relief flow? Is it because I can see the feet of my neighbour? When I made my way to the loo in the dark and didn't see anyone else in there, I had no problem pissing. Is it because we are afraid that the lady in the next stall will hear us? I don't know about you, but to me, all liquid being poured into liquid sounds the same, whether it's one-litre of flat Pepsi (urine doesn't fizz) or a one-litre of urine. Of course, there is the exception of varying speeds and viscosity, but, if your urine is thick, you have more things to worry about than performance anxiety. I believe it comes down to good old modesty. Don't get me wrong: there are plenty of girls who don't have this problem, especially in the public washrooms. There are even some girls who can pee freely. Hell some girls let everything else rip too, much to the chagrin of your nostrils and/or mucus membranes.

In closing, ladies, we must become more comfortable in the stall. It will save us time and embarrassment.

Chrétien vs Bush

JENN MORRISON Staff Contributor

The little guy from Shawinigan has taken a big beating lately, and has become the laughingstock of the entire country. The poor thing is being lobbied from all sides to make a hasty getaway from Sussex Drive so Paul and Sheila (Martin, not Coppins) can move in. Our noble Prime Minister is obviously in need of a confidence-building exercise, so what better way to boost his self-esteem than to compare him to the leader of the free world? Thus, I offer a blow-by-blow account of the first Chrétien vs. Bush no-holds-barred brawl.

Round One: leadership infighting—As of Nov. 20 (or since June, 2002, depending on your perspective), Canada will virtually have two prime ministers—a veritable two-headed Liberal monster spouting rhetorical doublespeak. South of the border, by contrast, Mr. Bush's approval ratings are dropping steadily, but he is guaranteed employment until Howard Dean's inauguration in Jan. 2005 (sorry—wishful thinking). Despite this job security, Mr. Bush's Cabinet is engaged in a turf battle over Iraq, with power shifting from Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld to National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice.

Advantage: "Bush," he doesn't have to share. But maybe Jean and Paul can look forward to getting cute nicknames like "Rummy" and "Condi".

Round Two: state/provincial elections—California just recalled its governor to replace him with Arnold Schwarzenegger, a musclemans-turned-actor whose head is 'n't big enough for his body, let alone big enough to fix the state's problems. Plus, his wife looks like the Grim Reaper—a true sign that, as my father would say, the apocalypse is upon us. However, the worst thing about the recent Ontario election was that some Tories called Liberal leader (and now premier-designate) Dalton McGuinty a "reptilian kitten-eater from another planet."

Advantage: Bush. Arnold may not be governor material, but he is more likely to take George to a movie set than Dalton is to take Jean to outer space.

Round Three: political scandals—In the US, Ambassador Joseph Wilson is claiming that a senior Bush administration official leaked his wife's name to the press—risking her life, or at least her career as a CIA operative—to punish him for criticizing the Iraq war. In Canada, virtually every government department is plagued by overspending to the nth degree, from the gun registry to sponsorship contracts to high living on taxpayers' charge cards.

Advantage: Chrétien. He had "Shawinigate," but his bureaucrats get to eat in the finest restaurants in the country. Bush, on the other hand, could now be a key player in "Leakgate," even though he only sent Wilson to talk to some shady characters about uranium in Niger.

Round Four: drug policy—Bush, a reformed alcoholic, is an anti-marijuana crusader, and his so-called drug czar threatens Canada every time the Chrétien government moves closer to decriminalization. Up north, Chrétien recently told the *Winnipeg Free Press* that he might take up when he retires: "Perhaps I will try it when it will no longer be criminal."
Advantage: Chrétien, if only because he will be more relaxed and friendly.

Round Five: military—All Canadians know about the broken-down state of our military, but Chrétien (and a majority of his compatriots) would rather use what resources and troops we do have to make the world a safer place than to launch ill-conceived crusades in the Middle East, like Bush.
Advantage: Chrétien. Peace trumps war.

Final score: 3-Chrétien, 2-Bush. Our PM ekes out a narrow victory. But Mr. Bush should not be a sore loser. Instead, he should take comfort in the fact that his counterpart in Ottawa, much like him, can barely speak English.

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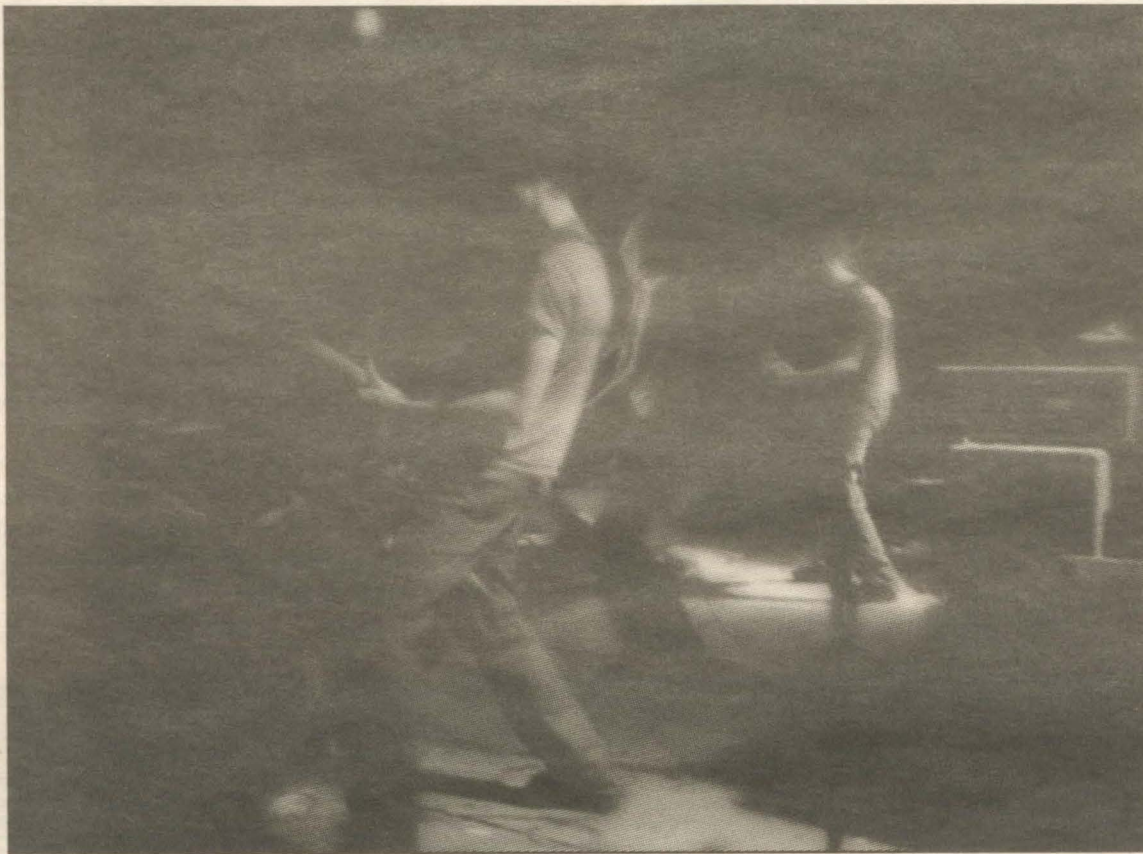
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The Carnations

HEATHER MILNE Staff Contributor



What started out as an Internet porn business for Thomas D'Arcy turned into what we now call the Carnations. In 1993, Thom and Steve met because of the business, but their interest soon shifted to rock and roll. They worked at the guitar for a bit, and before long had a band called Pseudonym. In 1995 their drummer ditched them, so they found a new drummer and renamed themselves The Carnations.

It seems as though the drummer-ditching theme would be around for a while longer, as they've had 10 different drummers. The tenth drummer, Patrick Conan, has been around for over a year. The story of how they met is quite interesting. Let's just say some clothes came off, something was waved around, and two years later they had a new drummer.

The Carnations chose their name largely because they said that they wanted it to, "Sound feminine. Girls are attracted to the gay . . . they trust it." It would appear that perhaps the original marketing was for girls, but has come to include both sexes.

So what are the Carnations all about? Well Stephen Krecklo says they like "Kickin' ass around the world." At this point, the world is Canada, but one day they will surely kick ass in other parts.

The Carnations don't just do music—they also have other things to occupy their time. Stephen recently got a promotion to manager of a Rogers cell phone store, Nathan is a telemarketer and student, Patrick plays percussion for dance classes, and Thom says that he "lives off girlfriends." Clearly there's more to these guys than music.

With the release of their fifth album, In Good Time, which is also their first full-length album, the Carnations are getting ready to take Canada by storm. This is their second tour, but their first time touring the whole country (with the exception of the Yukon and Newfoundland.) The Carnations are proud of their new album and are very excited about the tour. They said they're "Excited about Halifax."

For the most part their new album has been given great reviews. It is a reflection of their hard work, and love for music. They have such a positive energy and seem like really nice, fun guys. In Good Time is out in music stores, and if you feel like listening to some good quality Canadian music you should pick it up. You can catch them October 30 in Hell. There's no doubt that Hell will be the most fun it could ever be when the Carnations take over.

Streeters

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Sartorial Eloquence

DESTINY JEWELRY, JENN MORRISON Fashion Policia

Destiny often shows true connoisseurs of fashion the way to exquisite jewellery, and Sarah Murrant and her family, the owners and operators of Destiny Jewellery, certainly occupy a place on the map. There are three opportunities to find Destiny in Halifax: at the original location in Barrington Place Shops, having recently expanded to include décor and gift items and celebrating its three-year anniversary in November; a boutique in Park Lane; and a cart in the Halifax Shopping Centre. The Barrington store does extremely well with business and tourist clients, while the Park Lane locale is popular with students and carries a slightly trendier product line. The mall cart sells the store's immensely popular Italian Charm Bracelets.

Murrant, a second-year commerce student at Dalhousie, has been completely immersed in Destiny since its inception. "It's a full-fledged family business. We eat, sleep, drink, and work together, and we all live together," she said. And while she is taking a full course load, her spare time is packed with work. "It's definitely one of those 24-hours a day kind of jobs. The stores close and things don't end with everything else there is to do."

The hands-on involvement has already helped her with her degree. She was exempt from one commerce co-op term, because of the valuable work experience she has gained in helping to start a business. "In the beginning, there's so

“ It's a full-fledged family business. We eat, sleep, drink, and work together, and we all live together.”

much. From paint colours, to insurance, to bank loans, to suppliers, to staff, to all the little things...now it's almost a machine—as long as you oil the parts it just goes. It's so much smoother. But at the beginning, there are so many decisions," she said.

And in the world of jewellery, there are seemingly endless choices. Destiny imports jewellery not only from the rest of Canada, but from around the globe, to have as wide a selection as possible. "You name a corner of the world, and [something] probably comes from there," said Murrant. The stores carry products from the United States, Mexico, South America, Asia, and Europe. One of the newest lines is from Israel, and Murrant describes it as "very whoa and out-there."

To keep their glass cases well-stocked, the family peruses catalogues and the Internet, and attends industry trade shows a few times a year. They also make sure to keep connections with other like-minded designers.

Murrant also makes her own jewellery, mostly from silver and semi-precious stones. She plans to create more soon, both for the store and to distribute elsewhere. "If there were another two days in the week, it would be done," she said. The Murrant family is managing to garner increased exposure and a repeat clientele in the seven days a week they do have, and Destiny is positioning itself as a fixture in the endless

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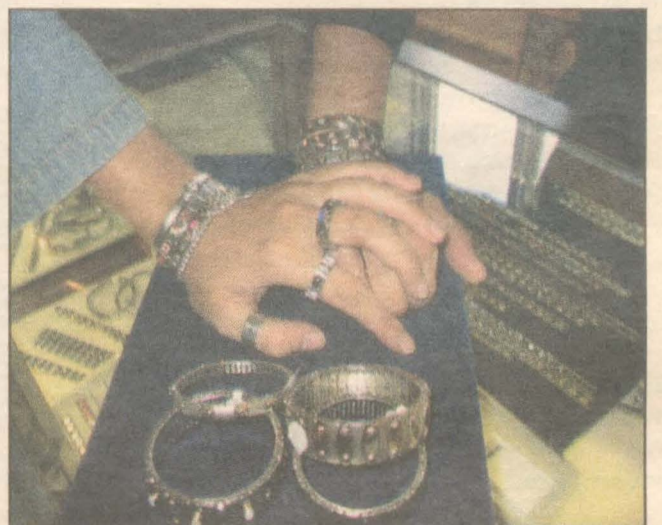
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quest for timeless jewellery. "What once was will always be. I don't think jewellery goes out of style," said Murrant. "Now I think it's just as much of a fashion piece as anything else. It can be something very basic, like if you were wearing a really wild outfit you might want to tone it down, but at the same time we have a lot of women who come in who spend their days in black suits, or students who wear jeans and T-shirts, and they are eager to spice it up."

The most popular items at all three Destiny locations are the aforementioned charm bracelets. The demand has been incredible, and Destiny now carries the biggest selection of charms east of Montreal, going beyond just initials to include everything from astrological signs to flags. Murrant stressed that these bracelets are not just a passing fad—the "trend" started in Italy about 15 years ago. And now Halifax clients are finally catching on. "It's different, it's unique, it's personalized, it's like everybody's dream," she said. While it may not be everybody's dream to live and breathe jewellery, the Murrants have accepted their Destiny with gusto. And the name? Over three years ago, one of Murrant's brothers, frustrated at his mother's advice about his love life, told her he would be "the master of his own destiny." She hung up the phone on him, elated that after weeks of family brainstorming, the name had come. Said Sarah: "It was obviously meant to be."

Visit Destiny Jewellery at any of its three locations, or call:
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What a coincidence: the best music of CKDU also happens to coincide with the worst recording attempt of 2003. Well, maybe not the worst, but even the least savvy of us know that when recording a compilation album, all the tracks should be at the same volume, and if they were originally recorded at a different volume, well, readjust them so that they are compatible. Jeepers. On the other hand, hats off to Tegan and Sara, Dusty Sorbet, and Joel Plasket for most excellent contributions on their parts. - Natalie Pendergast

Enigma Voyageur

This 11-track, run-of-the-mill Enigma record is typical of their ambient/electronic/we-like-it-when-you-get-us-mixed-up-with-

Enya sound. For originality they get an F-. For get-it-on-ability, however, they get an A+ baby. - Natalie Pendergast

Misunderstood?

Sad Songs... and Sing Alongs

Boo. There is a difference between sounding whiny and sounding angry. Whiny track three, "Trendy girlfriend" and whiny track five, "It's for the best," give insight into teen love affairs gone sour. "The game" is the only palatable track, with harder minor sounds that they should stick with. While developing at times, the "songs" predictably revert back to the common sounds of skate punk and ska amid bratty lyrics sung by squealing boys. I'll let you think of a pun about their band name/ cd title. - Kathryn Wallace

The Jessica Fletchers

What Happened to The?

If you still enjoy your Austin Powers soundtrack, you may be a candidate for The Jessica Fletchers fan club. Granted Powers did have originals, it also had new songs with raunchy dance club flavour comparable to what The Jessica Fletchers offer. Seriously, aren't you sick of 70s revival yet? After all, as Sartorial Eloquence has told us, today it's all about the 80s. - Kathryn Wallace

A Tribute to Gordon Lightfoot

Beautiful

Apart from "Black Day in July" (The Tragically Hip), which is almost worth buying the CD for, I prefer Lightfoot's originals. Not to say the celebrity-endowed list isn't impressive. I guess tributes just aren't my thing. - Kathryn Wallace

Manishevitz

City Life

More good than bad 10-man band, Manishevitz, incorporates a sax, a flute, a cello, a cornet, and a piano—plus the usual pop instruments. Track two, "City Life," is the best song I've heard this month. But inconsistency plagues the band, and their sound greatly resembles that of the Sultans of Ping, so that's one strike against them. What's more, Adam Busch's lyrics are repetitive, vague, and meaningless—strike two. And with an Indiana label and songs referencing the States, the legitimacy of Busch's British accent is threatened. Strike three? No, they walk (barely). Let's hope

their potential redeems itself, and their next album hits a home run. - Natalie Pendergast

The Rhinos

Year of the Rhinos

Picture it: you're hungry, and you decide to make soup. In it you put The White Album, a classic rock mix tape that is Simon & Garfunkel dominated, some of Arlo Guthrie's wit, and a whole lot of The Zit Remedy as a base. It tastes good. The next day it also tastes good. A week later it tastes okay. By December it is starting to taste like The Rhinos. - Natalie Pendergast

The FullBlast

Verbatim EP

The song "Hemiola, I'm Pedaling Home" wins first place on this low-budget punk-rock EP for the interestingly slow and poppy chorus which presents itself a whopping 50 seconds into the track. Honourable mention goes to "Lee Majors, Now There's a Man in His Prime" for wise lyrics like, "I'm burning up from the inside out/There's nothing left to be talked about/fights over the phone calls that never resolve/problems are caused by wills too small." Although their rhymes are a bit of a stretch and the words they are retorting don't match the guitar they are distorting, I'll give an A to these young guys who are still miles ahead of Pennywise. - Natalie Pendergast

Outkast

Speakerboxxx and The Love Below

The constant innovators of the world of music are back. Outkast has followed up their highly acclaimed album, Stankonia with a satisfying double disc entitled Speakerboxxx and The Love Below. Previous fans of Andre 3000 and Big Boi thinking of getting this set will no doubt 1) think they know what to expect this time around and 2) be wrong in many ways. Outkast continues to push the bounds of rap music to whole new levels without losing their signature funk along the way. As many of you know, the two CDs are technically solo projects (probably to prove that Dre and Big Boi are able to stand on their own two feet). However, by selling them as one set, Outkast has sent a message that they're still a part of the same psychedelic dirty south family and will always stay true to the Outkast style (Something which cannot be said of several sub-par attempts made by individual members of Wu-Tang). The set in no way dilutes Outkast's raw passion for music; instead it allows them only more room for creativity which ultimately benefits you, the listener. - Li Dong

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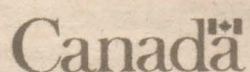


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HALIFAX DINNER THEATRE FEATURES DAL STUDENTS & GRADS, MEGAN YOUNG **Staff Contributor**



Imagine a night of world-class entertainment, side-splitting laughter, delicious meals and an amazing atmosphere. Believe it or not, it's all available at Halifax Feast, a dinner theatre located in downtown Halifax.

The current performance is entitled *The Olden Girls: Cape Breton or Bust!* and is loosely modelled on the sitcom *Golden Girls*. The talented cast not only uses an endless stream of one-liners and witty banter, but they also use music and dancing to make the show come alive. The audience is drawn into the world of these *Olden Girls* as the characters come alive both during the performance and during the meals. Instead of separate waiters and waitresses, each course is served by one of the performers, who remain, in character. They call the guests by name and strive to make the evening as memorable as possible.

There is also a strong contingent of both Dalhousie students and alumni in the cast, playing a variety of roles. Barb Kaill is in her final year of a music degree at Dalhousie, and shares the role of the ditzy but lovable Rose with another talented cast member, Lisa Amirault. Justin Simard, another Dalhousie music student, skilfully and bravely plays the role of Dorothy, which requires him to spend the entire evening in a dress. Colin Appleton is a Dalhousie alumnus, who also majored in the bachelor of music program. A fourth alumnus is actually one of the co-owners, and a director of Halifax Feast, Jim Petrie, who graduated with a BA.

The evening starts with cocktails, bread and salad as the performers introduce themselves to their guests. After this appetizer course, the performance begins and the audience is drawn into the comedic world of the *Olden Girls*. Stranded



during a bus trip, the talented actors sing, dance and act. The audience quickly discovers that Rose is the ditzy one, Blanche is the seductive Southern belle, and Sophia is the old mother who constantly complains and hides a secret from her daughter, Dorothy.

There are also men present on this trip, ranging from Tommy Tucker who is in search of his birth parents, to Alphonse, a true ladies man, and Captain Sedrick Highliner, a sea captain in the finest tradition. The story and the action quickly unfold while audience members are pulled onstage to participate. The main course is served at intermission. The house lights

are turned on, and the actors quickly disappear into the kitchen and emerge with plates of steaming hot, delicious food. Guests at the Halifax Feast are given the option of seven different main courses, ranging from Atlantic salmon to roast beef and vegetarian pasta. There is ample time during the intermission to enjoy your food, and the actors seem to enjoy mingling with the guests, never once breaking character either in interactions with the audience or with their fellow actors.

The show re-commences after the supper dishes are cleared, and the second act is much like the first. It is evident that the cast enjoys the show as much as the guests do, and the dialogue is littered with sexual innuendo—there is even a flying testicle that emerges from beneath Tommy Tucker's kilt and lands off the stage. The show ends to a tremendous ovation, but the end of the performance does not signal the end of the evening. The actors disappear into the back, and emerge as "real" people to serve a fantastic dessert, plus coffee and tea. Although the action is done, the guests seem reluctant to leave, preferring to soak in the atmosphere for as long as possible.

All in all, the Halifax Feast is an excellent evening out on the town. The food is absolutely delicious, and the entertainment is first-rate. It is a youthful, energetic cast who evidently love what they do and pass that enthusiasm on to their guests. Everyone in that room left with a smile on their face, a full stomach and an urge to return to the Feast as soon as possible.

For reservations, either call 420-1840 or check www.feastdinnertheatre.com

Random Profile

JENNY COOPER **Staff Contributor**



Ladies, Hans (left) is taken, but John (right) is fresh on the market.

Have you ever dreamed of having your own bio written up like in all those teeny bopper magazines we all read in our youth (or still to this day, perhaps)? Well, to the ladies and gents of Dalhousie, here is your dream come true. Every week, I will randomly interview two students I see hanging around our fine campus. So who knows, maybe your best friend, sister, nemesis, ex-lover or even you will be gracing the pages of this paper. So without further adieu, here are your first Dalhousie Idols.

Name: John Edward Morash / **Age:** 18 / **Hometown:** Tantallon, NS

Program: first-year science

If you could bring two material goods with you to a desert island, what would they be? A hockey stick and a cellphone

Words to live by: Don't worry about it.

What do you hate? Cyclists who don't cycle properly...I don't want to hit them

What do you love? Family and friends

Name: Hans Paul Rhindress / **Age:** 18 / **Hometown:** Cole Harbour, NS

Program: first-year science

If you could bring two material goods with you to a desert island, what would they be? Porn and chicken

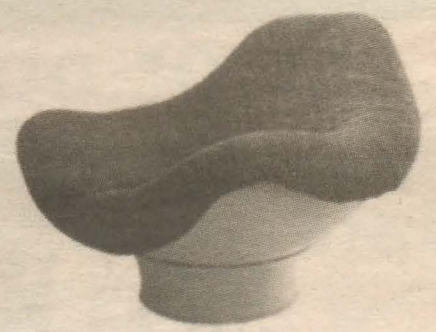
Words to live by: Live in the moment

What do you hate more than anything? Old men in Speedos

What do you love more than anything? My puppy, Gretel

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Sol Despot

Mocean Makes its Way to Halifax

NADINE LAROCHE Staff Contributor

With the aspiration to show Halifax the possibilities of contemporary dance, a fresh, modern dance company called Mocean Dance presented its season premiere at the Sir James Dunn Theatre earlier this month. Founded by Carolle Crooks, Sara Harrigan, Alicia Orr, Lisa Phinney and Sarah Rozee, the company hopes to use their premiere, *Quintecentric*, to open the world of dance to those who have never seen it before. "So many people don't even know that modern dance exists," says Orr. "We've got our Neptune, and our Symphony Nova Scotia, and then there's nothing for dance. That's what we are trying to do."

The five best friends and founders of Mocean Dance have reached this goal. The evening of dance demonstrated the young women's raw talent. It also demonstrated how different dance can be from the classical ballet Halifax is used to seeing. If there wasn't a contemporary dance scene in Halifax before, there's one now.

The members of Mocean Dance, who combined hold a handful of Dalhousie degrees in both science and law, performed a total of five pieces in *Quintecentric*. Each piece uniquely pushed dance to its limits, which, Orr says helps to promote not only the versatility of the dancers, but of contemporary modern dance as well. The use of set and costuming, which ranged from metallic walls to silky red lingerie, displayed the ingenious creativity of *Quintecentric's* dancers and choreographers. Orr also stresses the value of Halifax residents being responsible for the spread of contemporary modern dance awareness. "It is important for

everyone to see what people in Halifax can do—what we are capable of," says Orr. "We might have to train away from home, but we don't have to leave to dance professionally. We should do that here."

Quintecentric featured premieres by Andrea Leigh-Smith of Halifax, as well as Montreal's Howard Richard and Toronto's Allen and Karen Kaeja. The evening also included a collaborative piece choreographed by Mocean Dance featuring two live musicians, saxophone players, Colin Hudson and Daniel Oore. "We wanted to bring other art forms together to add more depth to the show," says Orr. Guest dance artist Piotr Biernat, a powerful addition to the stage, joined Mocean Dance for the final piece, *Laced Rain*, choreographed by the Kaejas.

Quintecentric was performed on October 3, 4, and 5. Mocean Dance also held a Gala on October 6 for their board of directors, to thank them for their support. The idea for a professional dance company began about three years ago, when the girls held their first meeting at Second Cup. From there, Mocean Dance, a Company in Residence at Halifax Dance, spent two years working on the administrative aspects of the company. Orr says it was a slow start, but essential for making the strong impact Mocean Dance wished to have. "We wanted to do the proper foundation, the proper base so that we could come out with this massive established company," says Orr. "This way we can be something different right away, and make a difference right now."

Beowulf, A Review

HEATHER MILNE Staff Contributor

Sarah Blenkhorn and the Exodus Theatre group have recently turned "Beowulf"—a heroic, epic poem set in southern Sweden and Denmark around the sixth-century—into a play. Blenkhorn said she wanted to turn the poem into a play after she fell in love with it while working at a bookstore. She says that she was "drawn by the power of the language," as well as the fantasy and adventure of the poem. After reading Seamus Heaney's translation, she decided that it would be easy to turn into a drama and action play because it's "very atmospheric." The play has been in the works for a year.

The play is closely based on the poem for the most part; however, some parts have been expanded and re-written to further expand on certain ideas. Blenkhorn says the director of the play, Nate Crawford, is a "pop-culture fanatic," which explains the fact that this play is a mix between *Star Wars* and *Lord of the Rings*. Crawford's own sense of humour also shines through in several scenes. Humour is used to break up the serious nature of the play. At first this may seem to ruin the mythical nature of the poem, but as the play progresses the audience begins to appreciate it.

The set consists only of two separate groups of logs, made to look like trees and walls. The costumes are simple, yet effective. The simplicity of both aspects doesn't get in the way of the play, rather it helped further the plot and the story as the set served several different purposes. The logs are at one time a wall, and at another time a place from which the monster, Grendel, is able to emerge. In the play there are only six actors, with most of them playing two characters each. The changes between costumes, and characters are well executed.

Beowulf is being featured at the Neptune theatre until this Saturday, October 25. Though opening night did have some kinks that need to be ironed out (actors fumbling over their lines), there is no doubt that by the time Saturday rolls around the play will be well polished and a worthwhile event to take in. This is a well known, widely read poem that has effectively been turned into a play which can be appreciated and enjoyed by people of all ages.

Report Card

The Tragedies

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Date: October 16
Venue: The Khyber
Reporter: Ryan Potter

Stage Presence: C
Audience Reaction: C
Sound: C+
Effort: B+
Get-it-on Ability: C

Being the opening act shouldn't be an excuse for a sluggish performance. It took *The Tragedies* about four songs to get warmed up, and any momentum they had was wasted during the extended pauses between songs. There is nothing more annoying than a band that wastes time on stage trying to figure out which song to play or toils about while everyone takes turns tuning their instruments. That said, it wouldn't be fair not to compliment them on some good eighties post-punk/new-wave tunes in the vein of Joy Division as well as good melodies.

Burn Baby Burn

Repo's mix CD of the week. Burn away.

- The White Stripes** • "The Hardest Button to Button"
- The Flaming Lips** • "Sunship Ballons"
- Jane's Addiction** • "True Nature"
- Dido** • "White Flag"
- Will Oldham** • "I See A Darkness"
- The Clones** • "Milkshake"
- Travis** • "Quicksand"
- The Distillers** • "Death Sex"
- The Sundays** • "You're Not the Only One I Know"
- Broken Social Scene** • "Cause=Time"
- Television** • "Marquee Moon"
- The Modern Lovers** • "Roadrunner"
- Interpol** • "Obstacle 2"
- Radiohead** • "2+2=5"
- Nelly Furtado** • "Powerless"

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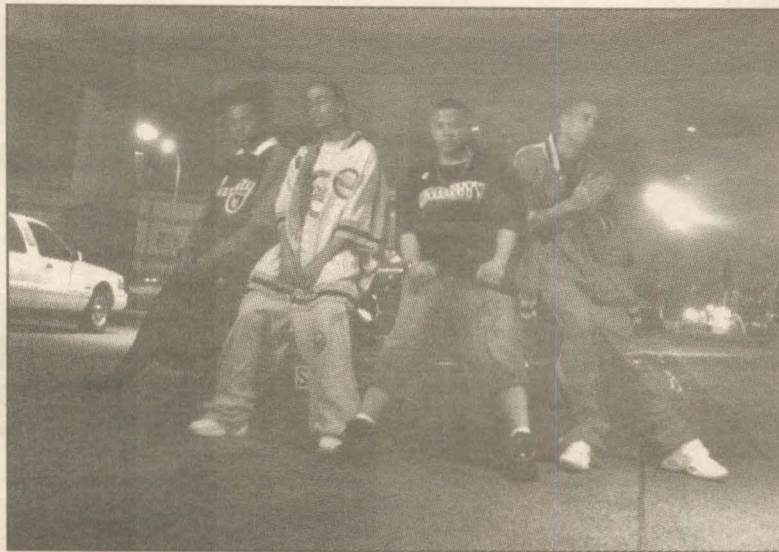
Change The Game Live up to Their Name

JASON WALSH Staff Contributor

"It's just real people doing real things," explains Scott Doucette. Doucette, also known as Douce, is the one responsible for Change The Game (CTG) Records. As president, he oversees the production, development, and management of the artists on the Halifax-based hip-hop label. Artists on the label include J-Bru, Short Shane, Whitemic, KL, Knucklehead. The label 365 also has an affiliation with Brokin Wreckords, home to Brokin Language.

CTG Records is something completely fresh—new faces, and new ideas—with the goal of operating on a worldwide level. It's this business strategy that has a lot of people talking, from fans of hip-hop to the business savvy. "Anyone that has any doubts [about local artists] I have two words for you: CTG Records," answers DJ IV.

Only a few months old, CTG has managed to do more than most attempts at labels do in a year. *Underground MC*, J-Bru's newest album, has been released, gaining Bru a new recognition. CTG artists recently flew to Montreal as a part of the DKNYC and Varsity fashion show, sporting custom CTG clothing and performing. The artists also went to New York to perform as a part of a show for Analogue Clothing and Burton Snowboards. 365, consisting of Whitemic, Short Shane, KL, and Knucklehead, are releasing their anticipated debut in December. CTG artists are also lined up to perform at the upcoming Ludacris concert, and later open for Snoop Dogg.



In the works for the future, Douce has more shows all around the continent planned, and soon to be released is a CTG compilation CD of local Halifax talent. "When I first heard about 44N63W [an EMI compilation released in 2000], I was thinking 'yeah, this is what we need,' but it didn't really work out the way it should have, so I basically put the offer out to any serious artists in the area to see who was interested and dedicated enough." The compilation will include tracks from 365, Classified, Nathan C., Bonshah, J-Bru, The Goods, Trobiz, and other local artists.

Douce has an interesting approach to business, making him very suitable for what he does. He sees the key to success with hip-hop as "global...not focusing on where you're at. Guys in N.Y. don't focus on N.Y., they're putting their shit out to the whole world, same with any other big city, so I figure why should Halifax be any different?"

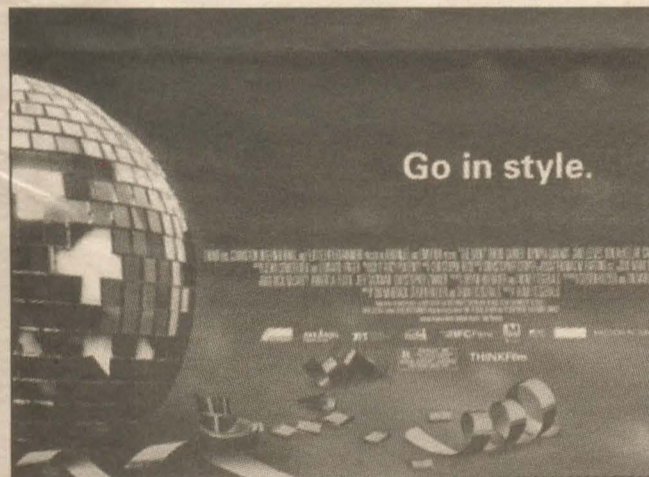
CTG was spawned from another company, CTGC, headed by Douce and Trevor Andrew, a professional snowboarder. CTGC stands for Change The Game Completely, and was formed in 2001. CTGC focuses on snowboarding, skating, surfing, and hip-hop as a culture. It will soon be coming out with a line of fashion and fashion accessories, from jewellery to hats.

Already each of the artists on CTG is prepared to put in the time and effort required to reach the next level, and it seems that it's only a matter of time before CTG blows up. Weekly assemblies happen where beats are created, freestyles are thrown around, jokes are told, and, most importantly, business is performed—everything from tweaking the last little details for a show, to kicking around concepts for promotion.

So what does it all boil down to? Says Whitemic: "You know, CTG is actually gonna change the game completely, which is why I'm a part of it." And it's also what a lot of people will soon find out.

The Event, A Review

RYAN POTTER Staff Contributor



The Event is a tragic story about death and love and decisions that connect the two. The film begins with Nick (Parker Posey), an assistant district attorney in New York, investigating the latest of several suspicious suicides involving men dying from AIDS. What follows is an intricate and touching retelling of most recent suicide Matt Shapiro (Don McKellar)'s final years.

Each new piece of Matt's story is revealed through Thom Fitzgerald's gentle storytelling, revealing the decisions that led to Matt take his life before his illness could. *The Event* addresses things that people rarely talk about, let alone go to the theatre to watch, and addresses them with such compassion that it deserves praise for its strong social

commentary as well as its fervent filmmaking.

The beauty of *The Event* (the title of Shapiro's going-away party) is its examination of the human condition. As Nick interrogates Matt's friends and family, she begins to see many similarities between the suicide and the painful, drawn-out death of her father. Nick's moral conflict combined with the delicate examination of the celebration of a dying man's life, provide a balance between joy and sadness that stays in the heart of the filmgoer long after the final credits roll.

HOT SPOTS

Thursday, Oct 23: Doctor Strangeliver, Sol Despot & Tony Haze will be dropping abstract hip hop with jazz, funk, downtempo electronic at Tribeca from 10 PM - 2AM with no cover charge.

Canadian rocker Hawksley Workman will be bringing his traveling madness to The Marquee Club (\$13adv/\$15door/8pm)

Friday, Oct 24: King Benny, The McFaddens & Chamberlane will be destroying The Seahorse Tavern and their new house brew is quite delicious...and by delicious I mean it will get you really drunk.

Saturday, Oct 25:
The Joel Plaskett Emergency - CD Release @ The Marquee Club. \$10/10pm

Halifax Flop Implosion featuring Gabe Minnikin, Ram, The Tragedies, The Middle Class Pushovers @ BELLA MUSE

Monday, Oct 27:
The Satisfaction with Nicholas MacMillan is free at The Khyber Club...dance 'til you puke you little freaks.

Tuesday, Oct 28:
Dean Malenko's Punk Metal Rock Open Mic Insane Madness @ Hell. Bring your band and get ripped...

Wednesday, Oct 29: Come get stupid with our staff at Tribeca...9PM...

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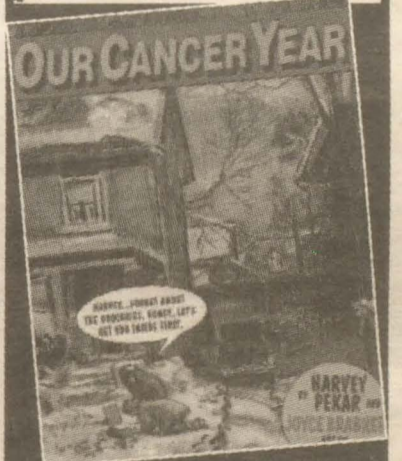


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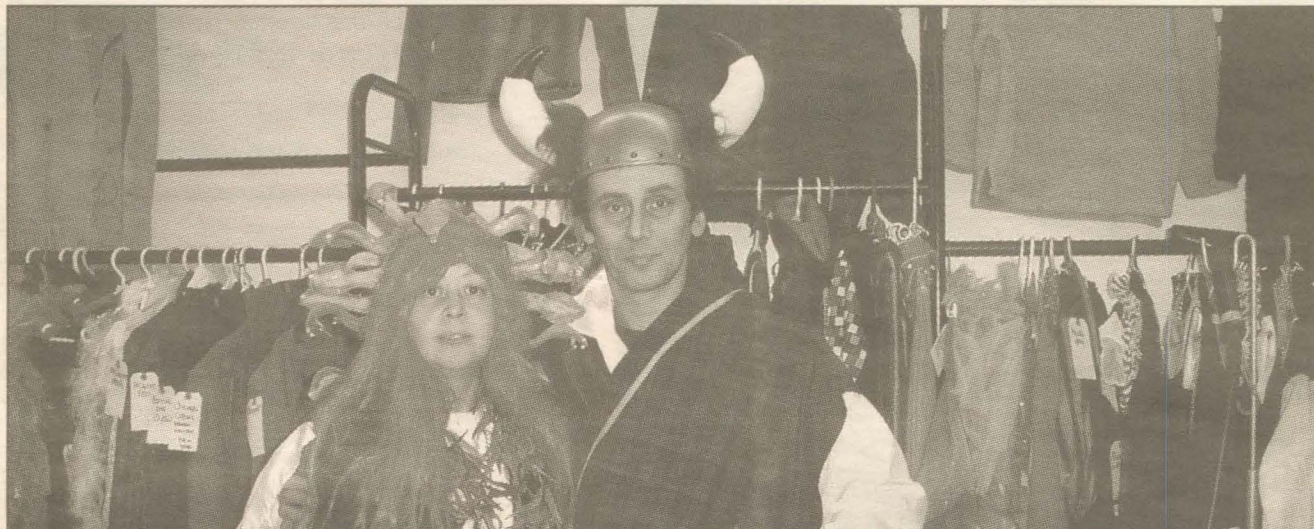
Happy Hunting

AMANDA RISSER Staff Contributor



Orpheus

CAITLIN TIGHE Staff Contributor



With Halloween right around the corner, many Dalhousie students have been spending restless nights trying to come up with an idea for this year's costume. OK, so maybe that's a slight exaggeration, but if you are new to Halifax and unsure where to get a costume, read on.

There are three great costume rental stores in Halifax, but if you're on a budget or don't have time to put something together, Walmart has great costumes for men and women with prices ranging from \$19.93-\$34.96. They have everything from Cleopatra, French Maids, Flappers and Witches to medieval knights, egyptian kings, Superman and Batman. And actually, a lot of the costumes that I found at Walmart were also at the rental stores for a higher price. The only downfall is that most costumes are one size only, which makes it difficult to find one that fits. Nothing a few stitches can't fix.

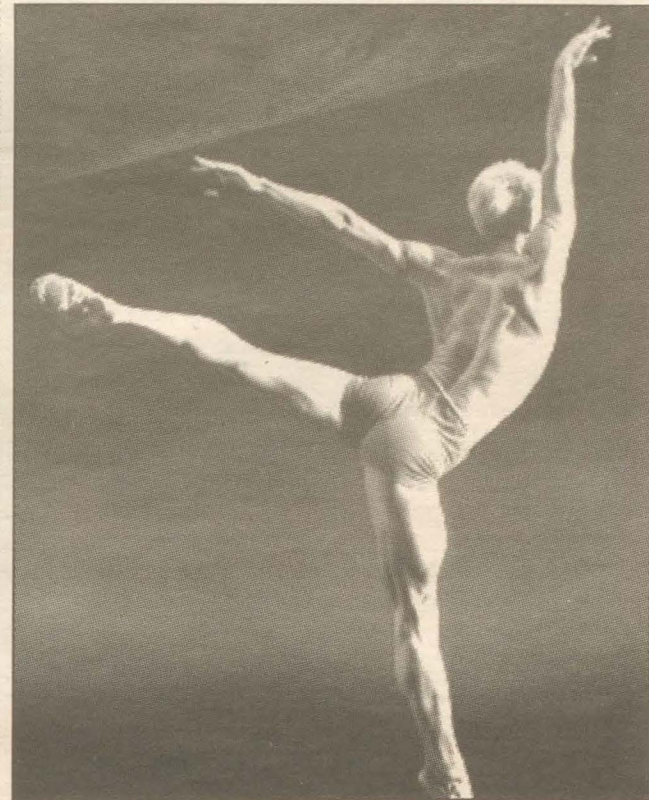
If you only get to visit one costume rental store this holiday, Allie's is the one to see. Located at 1272 Barrington Street, Allie has thousands of costumes lining her store. You can't help feeling like a child again when you walk in the door. There are aisles and aisles stuffed with amazing costumes. I literally think a person could spend an entire day there trying on costumes. Of course the hard part is narrowing it down to one. Last year Austin Powers, medieval characters, police girls, pimps and hoes and wizards were the first costumes to go, but this year Cat Woman, wenches, hookers and fairies have taken over. Should make for an interesting Halloween night; just steer clear of Hollis St. to avoid any unnecessary arrests. Allie's prices start from \$25.50, and you must have a credit card to use as a deposit. If you don't have a credit card, you could end up paying at least \$100 upfront,

which will of course be returned when you bring back your costume. Allie runs the store with her husband and both of them whom will make your costume shopping enjoyable with their charming personalities.

Boutilier's Costume Rentals in Dartmouth is another costume store that is stuffed full with thousands of Halloween delights. Mr. Boutilier has everything from pirates and wenches to Wolfman and action figures. His prices range from \$20-\$65. Again, a credit card and proper ID or a hefty cash deposit are required for rental. Last year's favorites were Moulin Rouge characters and flappers. This year, Pirates and Wenches seem to be the pick of the crop—hmmmm....I wonder if the release of Pirates of the Carribean had anything to do with that. With thousands of costumes to choose from, you should be able to find a costume at the last minute without having to settle for Bubbles the Clown. Unless, of course, clowns are your thing, in which case...ahh, never mind.

And last but definitely not least is Einstein's Used Clothing and Costume Rentals, located at 1678 Barrington St. What sets Einstein's apart from the other two rental stores is that you have the choice of buying or renting your costume. Specializing in used clothing, the more creative folks have the freedom of piecing together items to create their own costume. They also have walls lined with wigs, glasses, and headpieces to complete the look you're going for. Prices range from \$25-\$35 to rent, and again a credit card is required for deposit. Costumes to buy start at \$35 (for costumes already put together). Of course, if you buy your costume, you have the option of wearing it next year, switching with a friend, or adding to it each year. Last year's popular choice at Einstein's was 70's clothing, and this year...70's again. Did I mention that Einstein's has a large

retro selection? Unlike Allie's and Boutilier's there aren't thousands to choose from, but if you are creative you may walk away with an incredible costume to add to your fall wardrobe for half the price.






The British Columbia Ballet pirouetted its way into the Rebecca Cohn Theatre on Friday, October 10, with its production of *Orpheus*. But while it was skillfully performed and choreographed, the performance was lacking in some areas.

Despite my familiarity with the story of Orpheus, I found the ballet to be not only a physical challenge to watch, but an intellectual one as well. It was difficult to keep pace with the complex storyline and remain focused on the performance, especially when the stage was barren of setting and props for the majority of the show. This particular production was definitely for the more elite ballet buff type of audience rather than the general public. An appreciation for the intricate movement and technicalities of the art form would be necessary to fully understand and enjoy this piece. Aside from the lack of frills, the dancing was beautifully carried out. Anyone could no doubt appreciate the grace and athleticism of these dancers. The awe-inspiring strength and skill in their movements proved that Ballet British Columbia is clearly a company of well-trained professionals.


The general consensus on the part of the audience seemed to be one of enjoyment, although I did get the impression that many of the attendees were there not necessarily out of love for the ballet, but more for the culture of the event and its timeless nature.

Nonetheless, whatever your feeling on events such as these, it's a chance to dabble in high culture, and offers a change from Friday night keg parties and drinking games. Ballet British Columbia will continue its tour of the East Coast before returning to Vancouver.








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Rugby is a Violent Sport

LUKE THOMAS Staff Contributor



As I am sure you saw last week, there is a women's rugby club here at Dal. Well, there is also a men's rugby club, and I have the bruises to prove it. The men's rugby club at Dalhousie fields A side, and this year, for the first time, also fielded a B side. The team has been plagued by bad luck all season, first with team captain Adam Henderson going down for the bulk of the season due to a shoulder injury. Also, team president Mike Saba was forced to take a co-op position outside of the city and had to miss three-quarters of this season. Add this to the injuries suffered by the one they call Shaggy and the odd injury to others causing them to miss a game or two, and it has been a rough year.

"Injuries have certainly played a huge part in the disappointing season we have had," said Coach Matt Gibbon, "But the guys who were left showed real heart in trying to pick up the slack that was left."

Despite all these injuries, I figured I would give this game a try. I have never played before, but I had played soccer, and I figured it was the same idea only with tackling—boy was I wrong. We started off with some sprints, and that was OK, although the freshman 15, which is really closer to 20, slowed me down a lot and caused me to nearly lose my lunch. But I held on, I was determined not to lose face or anything else in front of these guys.

Then we got down to the rugby aspect. We started with

tackling. First I had to try and tackle someone named Meatball or something like that. Well he ran me over. Then Meatball's partner Ceretti ran me over too. Then some little guys called wingers ran past me and all around me. Sensing that maybe tackling wasn't my forte (I am about five foot seven and 156 pounds soaking, ringing wet. These guys are all over 200 pounds), Coach Patrick O'Malley gave me the ball and told me to run down the field and try and get past this guy named Patrick Carroll. He didn't look too big, so off I went until suddenly there at my ankles was Patrick, and down I went. Coach Dave Humprey chuckled and told me to try again, this time against Ian Sinclair. Ian is the kind of guy you just frankly don't want to run into, let alone try and get past. About six foot two, 210 pounds, all muscle, this guy has muscles in places I don't even have places. I wanted to run away, but I bucked up and ran down the field. And then I was down. It felt like I was hit with a sledgehammer. I couldn't breath, and when I finally did get my breath back, I lost it—lunch, breakfast, and last week's meals. I think I even lost some lunches I had in high school. Ian helped me up, patted me on the back and said, "I don't think I have ever seen anyone puke quite like that."

Did you know that rugby doesn't stop when you are tackled? I do now. I got tackled while scrimmaging, and all of a sudden three guys are on top of me and two of them are raking their cleats down my back, telling me to let go of the ball. Needless to say, I did what they said. Then we did a line out, where I got given an atomic wedgie and was expected to catch a ball. I stayed away from the scrum after hearing stories of pinching and other nasty things, and ended my rugby practice sitting on the sidelines, wondering what would possess anyone to play this sport.

These boys are tough, no doubt about it. The A side plays Acadia this weekend in the semi-finals, but win or lose, these guys are a team, you can see it in their eyes, and I have the bruises to prove it.

This article is dedicated to Gavin Gray, who experienced a season-ending injury this past weekend. Gavin is a great guy, and we all wish him the best with his recovery.

Basketball Preview

ADAM SOMERS Sports Editor



The women's basketball team will start off this season with a bang as Dr. Carolyn Savoy returns from her year long sabbatical to reclaim the head coaching position. This is her 26th year with the Tigers, and her experience will no doubt aid the team in returning to the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) championships, where they suffered a heartbreaking loss in the semi finals to host team MUN.

AUS Rookie of the year, Ryan Mckay, returns for the Tigers, along with fifth-year player Sonya Young, who is sure to be a person for the incoming freshmen to look to for guidance. The team has a tremendous amount of depth, which means that often the substitutes and starters are of equal ability, and the starting line-up will depend on the opponent.

"We are a very versatile team, with lots of players who can come on the floor and give us minutes," said Coach Savoy. "The players have a good work ethic and strong fitness, which should help us to compete this season."

Defense is always a Dalhousie staple, and this year promises to be no different, as Dr. Savoy already has opposing coaches wondering what defensive strategy she is going to employ next. "Defense wins ball games, and this year I feel we will have a very strong defense," Dr. Savoy said.

However, offence must not be forgotten. Leslie Duncan and Katherine Fortier will give Dal a solid scoring base, with the previously mentioned Ryan Mckay and Laura Irvine providing the driving force and sharp shooter Carolyn Peppin knocking shots down from the outside. The season looks to be a good one for the women, as they started off right placing third this past weekend in the Subway Centennial women's basketball tournament. Ryan Mckay and Elspeth Cheng each had 12 points for the Tigers, as they downed the X-Women 64-45.

"Our goal is to get to the playoffs and have our best performance there," said Dr. Savoy. "The outcome will take care of itself from there."

Players

1. Justine Panavas Guard Hamilton, ON arts
4. Brittany Macdonald Post Moncton, NB science
5. Lauren Plummer Forward New Maryland, NB science
6. Carolyn Peppin Guard Fredericton, NB kinesiology
7. Sonya Young Forward Samia, ON psychology/ sociology
9. Kelly Donald Guard Ammon, NB science
10. Leslie Duncan Post Blockhouse, NS recreation management
11. Elspeth Cheng Guard Toronto, ON kinesiology
13. Vanessa Cartwright Guard Harvey, NB kinesiology
14. Ryan Mckay Forward Fredericton, NB science
15. Katherine Fortier Post Calgary, AB recreation/management
21. Becky Melvin Guard Rothesay, NB science
22. Laura Irvine Guard Richmond Hill, ON int. development studies

Pucks and Balls

ADAM SOMERS Sports Editor

Elsewhere in rinks and on courts, the Tigers played on...

The men's hockey team had a tough start to their season, first suffering a heart breaking overtime 4-3 loss to the Universite de Moncton Blue Eagles. Mark Lynk scored one goal, and Freddie Belanger got two of his own. The next night, the Tigers were able to pull off a tie with the Varsity Reds of UNB. The game ended deadlocked at 1-1, largely thanks to goalie J-F Perras, who stopped 40 shots and looks to be shaping up to have a stellar year, sharing time with the equally talented Pat Berrigan. Martin Gascon scored for the Tigers. The men's next home games are Friday, Oct. 24 and Saturday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. at Memorial arena vs. U de M and UNB.

The women's hockey team played an exhibition game against Concordia and unfortunately lost 6-2. The Tigers played well, but couldn't really get their offence moving. Goals were scored by Rachel Devries and Bronwyn Whyte. The team is preparing for the upcoming start of the regular season in November.

The volleyball teams were also in full swing as they prepared for the start of their regular season this week. The women were at McGill University for a tournament, making it to the semi-finals before losing to Laval University, although, lets face it, they didn't lose as bad to Laval as another team this weekend, right SMU? Middle blocker Gillian Goulet was selected to the tournament all-star team after a stellar weekend.

The men, meanwhile, were visited by the Universite de Montreal Carabins for the adidas Collegiate Volleyball Challenge who got a rude awakening at the 20th edition of this pre-season warm-up. The Tigers beat the Carabins three games to none on Thursday, three games to two on Friday and, oh yes, again three games to two on Saturday. Things are looking good once again for our volleyball teams.

Stay tuned to see season previews for these teams in the next few weeks. Same bat time, same bat channel.



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Soccer Teams Smoke the Competition



ADAM SOMERS Sports Editor



Photo: Duncan Enman

Both the men's and the women's soccer teams had another great weekend. Both teams shut out the Mounties on Saturday, winning by scores of 5-0 and 3-0 (men and women, respectively). The next day, facing off against the Varsity Reds, the Tigers were not to be beaten, as the women pulled out a victory 2-1 and the men had another win, downing UNB 4-1. This weekend's events have clinched the women the East Division title, and the all-important bye in the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) championships to

be held at UCCB. The men have vaulted into first place in their division, two points ahead of rivals Saint Mary's, as the teams fight to host the AUS championships.


The women played extremely tight on Saturday against Mount Allison. Rookie Leanne Huck scored two goals, and Andrea Sadowski got the other, as keeper Robyn Homans got the shutout for the Tigers. The Tigers started off strong, scoring 10 minutes in, and never let the over-matched Mounties back into the game. Sunday would prove to be much more of a battle, as the game was a scoreless tie through the first half. In the second half, both teams came out defensively minded, but the Tigers would come out the victors in a 2-1 score, with goals by Angela Donato and Chrissie Henderson.

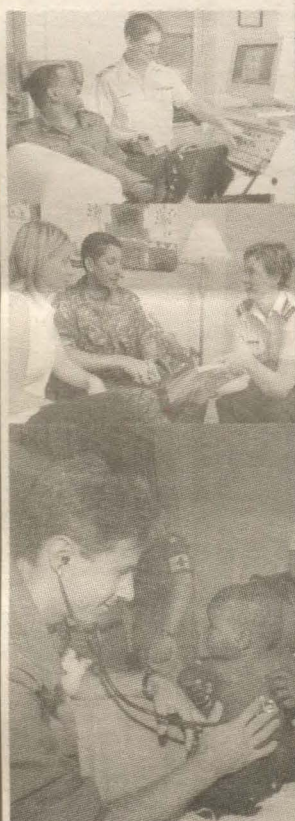
The men had an easier go this weekend, as they destroyed the Mounties 5-0, which in soccer is the equivalent of winning 10-nothing in hockey or 86-0 in football. Leading scorer Simon Richardson had three goals for the Tigers. Jarreau Hayward and David Gallagher rounded off the scoring as the towering six-foot-five Chris O'Connor posted the shutout. The next day, facing off against a usually

tough UNB, the Tigers were able to score early and not allow the Reds to get set in their game plan. Winning by a score of 4-1, Jarreau Hayward had his second goal of the weekend, and Jon Merrette also tallied for the Tigers. Simon Richardson had another two-goal game as the striker from England is again demonstrating his scoring prowess.

"A lot of it comes down to confidence, and [this weekend] we had lots of confidence," said Richardson, whose five goals this weekend place him second in the country in scoring and earned him player of the week honours in the AUS and CIS. "Everything is clicking right now, we feel good heading towards the playoffs because everyone knows their role, it is not just the starters either, the players coming off the bench really know what to do when they get onto the field."

Well, both teams are in first place heading towards the homestretch. Not bad for a "rebuilding year," eh? The men face an important game against SMU this Saturday at 3 p.m. at SMU, and both the women and the men are home against UPEI at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Sunday. Come on out and support your teams. Free admission with Dal ID.

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Surf's Up in Nova Scotia

MICHAEL GORMAN Assistant Arts Editor



When people think about reasons to visit Nova Scotia, surfing is probably one of the last things that comes to mind. But according to Todd McLean, manager of Dacane Sports surf shop, that is just the reason a lot of people do come. "There's been numerous guys come up from Virginia Beach, North Carolina, [and] South Carolina," says McLean, who says that just last week professional surfers were in town to debut a new surf video at The Khyber Club.

A quick trip to Lawrencetown beach proves his point. On any given day, no matter what the weather conditions, even in the snow, wetsuit clad surfers can be found running up and down the beach and sitting in the water waiting to catch a wave like a flock of seagulls waiting to catch supper. McLean attributes part of the reason surfing is popular in Nova Scotia to what can only be described as ideal conditions "It's clean water, not polluted, and there's not many crowds. If you go out surfing in Hawaii, there's a lot of localism, it's really crowded. Here it's a friendly vibe, everybody knows everybody. A crowd here is 10 people, a crowd in California is 100 people." As a result of this sense of community, McLean says that people of all ages and demographics can be found at the beach. From professionals to students and people of all ages in between (McLean says he's seen people as old as 60 out surfing). It is clear surfing is a sport that does not discriminate.

Part of the irony about surfing in Nova Scotia is that

while most people would describe it as a summertime activity, McLean says summer is actually the worst time of the year to surf in the area. He attributes this to a lack of hurricanes and tropical storms in the south to create the ground swell necessary for good waves. Summer surfing in Nova Scotia is also typically affected by high-pressure systems and winds on shore that make for a flat ocean surface.

The best surf, according to McLean, takes place between the months of September and November, when the ocean is at its warmest and hurricane season provides excellent ground swell. During this time, waves can range from head high all the way up to twice that size. Winter, though harsh and cold, is also great for surfing, with waves reaching as high as ceiling height. The frigid conditions can be overcome with proper surfing boots, gloves, and a drysuit.

While hotspots like Lawrencetown and Martinique are always good places to surf, McLean says that there are good places to surf all along the coast of Nova Scotia, from Yarmouth all the way up to Cape Breton. The difficulty level of surfing really depends on the individual. McLean admits people with a background in swimming tend to catch on sooner than those who don't. At first it's difficult, but, like anything else, through practice and trips to the beach, it doesn't take too long to catch on. Anyone interested in trying their luck with surfing can contact Dacane's on Blowers St. for information on rentals, sales and lessons.

10 Questions

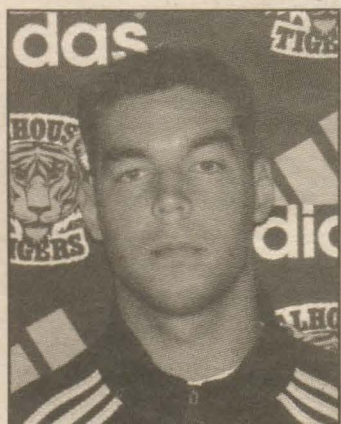
THERESA ANNE SALAH Staff Contributor



Susie Peck of the women's soccer team

- 1) Where's your hometown?**
Ottawa, Ontario
- 2) What are you taking at Dal?**
Kinesiology
- 3) What's the last thing you do before a game?**
Listen to pump up music
- 4) What are your main goals in life?**
Have a successful career and marry an NHL hockey player
- 5) Who's your favorite athlete and or sports team?**
Martin Havlat/ Ottawa Senators
- 6) Who's the hottest person in the world (boyfriends don't count)?**
David Beckham
- 7) What's your pet peeve?**
Dirty socks
- 8) What CD do you have in your CD player right now (mixed cds don't count)?**
I actually only have mixed CDs of dance and techno music in my CD player right now.
- 9) At what age did you start playing soccer? Why did you choose to play the position you are playing?**
Nine-years-old. I chose to play this position because it was the only position I hadn't played and I like to help stop the goals.
- 10) How much wood could a wood chuck chuck if a wood chuck could chuck wood?**
Six pieces

Athletes Of The Week



#9 Simon Richardson, Men's Soccer
Striker

Simon Richardson of the men's soccer team has been named Dalhousie's Male Athlete of the Week for the week ending October 19, 2003. Simon scored five goals in the two games this past weekend, including three against Mount Allison University on Saturday and two against first-place western division team UNB on Sunday. This brings Simon's total this year to 11 goals in 10 games (second in the country). Simon is a third-year management student from Leeds, England.



#19 Sophia Hopkins, Women's Soccer
Defense

Sophia Hopkins of the women's soccer team has been named Dalhousie's Female Athlete of the Week for the week ending October 19, 2003. Sophia was named Player of the Game in Saturday's 3-0 home win over Mount Allison. Sophia dominated the backline with outstanding defence, tackling and support to her teammates. In Sunday's 2-1 victory over visiting UNB, Sophia once again led the way as her composed play and determined defensive work limited the Varsity Reds to a mere three shots on goal. Her vocal communication as well as physical play gave her teammates great confidence. Sophia is a third-year arts student from Bedford, NS.

First-Year Students Needed!

Are you a first-year student at Dalhousie? Would you like to tell us about your experiences inside and outside the university this term? We will be holding focus groups on October 28th and 30th and would like to hear what your experiences have been so far. The focus group will take approx. 1½ hours and we will give you \$15.00 to cover your expenses.

If you would like to participate, please send an e-mail to Maureen Keough at: mkeough@dal.ca to say that you are interested. She will then provide you with more detailed information.

Primary Researcher: Victor Thiessen, Ph.D.



The

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Dalhousie's Official Engineering Student Newspaper

Dal's got "Spirit"

By: Shawn Kehoe

Two weeks ago, Sextant editor Chris Fedora wrote an article blasting the Dalhousie community for a lack of "school spirit." At the end of his rant, Fedora asked for feedback on the subject. I might have passed on the offer, except that I've heard the same complaint too many times to count—quite frankly, I'm getting sick of it.

Does Dalhousie have school spirit? Damn straight it does. But are you looking in the right place?

My first stop was the DSU website. I found 65 active societies listed on the site. More societies will be added once the 2003-04 ratification forms are processed next month. It's true that some of those societies are faculty based, like the Engineering Undergraduate Society or the Undergraduate Neuroscience Society, but most of them are societies created by students just like you and me.

Think about it for a moment. Each person who founded one of those societies made a conscious decision to base it out of Dalhousie. The Dalhousie Windsurfing Club could have been the South End Windsurfing Club, but they chose to associate themselves with Dal. This common association links 65 different groups, each pursuing their own interests. That sounds like school pride to me.

It all depends on how you define "spirit." People who complain about spirit often seem to think that the student body needs to act collectively. Everyone needs to go to the Big Game, or attend the same party on Friday nights. After all, isn't that how it worked in high school?

The first problem with that line of thinking is that Dalhousie is much bigger than a high school. My high school had a population of 1,200, with students ranging in age from 15 to 20 years old. Dalhousie has a student population of 12,000, encompassing dozens of cultures and age groups. Can you think of any one activity that will interest 12,000 people (Graduation doesn't count)? If only 1,000 people want to attend an event, should the other 11,000 feel compelled to go anyways and "take one for the team"? The concept is ludicrous.

The other problem with the high school brand of school spirit is the inevitable trend towards exclusion. If everyone is encouraged to march to the same beat, those who refuse are looked upon unfavourably. In Fedora's article, he suggests that our student body is "really apathetic" or contains an "overwhelming number of really boring people." Why? Because their interests differ from his? All of a sudden, we're back to the in-crowd/out-crowd mentality. Look at our school spirit—everyone attends the events, except the people who don't matter.

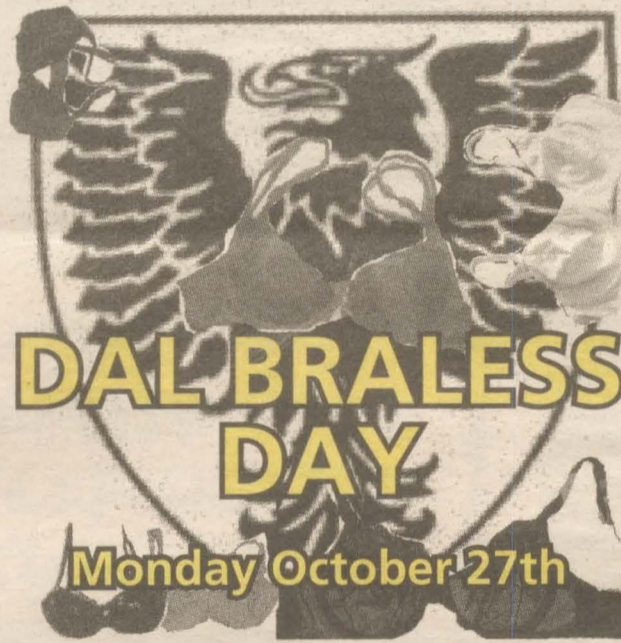
I think the real issue we're facing isn't a lack of school spirit, but needless pessimism. Despite Fedora's assertion that "the school doesn't care about the students and continually tries to screw us over," the honest truth is that we have it pretty good. Our programs are strong, we live in a beautiful city, and even though our tuition is a king's ransom, it still doesn't compare to what they charge south of the border. Living here day in and day out, it is far too easy to lose sight of how lucky we really are.

So here's my challenge to you, Mr. Fedora. Anyone can make complaints—I should know, I got plenty of them when I edited the Sextant two years ago—but only a few people are willing to act on them. Use the next six months to show people what's happening at Dalhousie, and to encourage them to get involved. Get people excited about their campus and their school. Make Dalhousie a better place for next year's class. As for me, I'm proud to attend a school that promotes individualism over conformity, where each student contributes in the manner they choose. That's the

Dalhousie spirit.

-Shawn Kehoe
swkehoe@dal.ca

That was heart-warming, Shawn, I almost felt like turning on a Kenny G album and giving Dal a great big hug...then I realised that would be impossible (I don't own any Kenny G albums). I am going to take you up on your challenge and try and promote all the great things this school is doing. To begin, I'd like to announce this year's "Braless Day," where all females on campus are encouraged to go support free in order to benefit a worthy cause. See the advertisement below.



Show your school spirit.
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Thermodynamics and Couch Potatoes

As we all know, it takes 1 calorie to heat 1 gram of water 1 degree Centigrade. Translated into meaningful terms, this means that if you eat a very cold dessert (generally consisting of water in large part), the natural processes which raise the consumed dessert to body temperature during the digestive cycle literally suck the calories out of the only available source, your body fat.

For example, a dessert served and eaten at near 0 degrees C (32.2 deg. F) will in a short time be raised to the normal body temperature of 37 degrees C (98.6 deg. F). For each gram of dessert eaten, that process takes approximately 37 calories as stated above. The average dessert portion is 6 oz, or 168 grams. Therefore, by operation of thermodynamic law, 6,216 calories (1 calorie/gram/degree x 37 degree x 168 grams) are extracted from body fat as the dessert's temperature is normalized.

Allowing for the 1,200 latent calories in the dessert, the net calorie loss is approximately 5,000 calories.

Obviously, the more cold dessert you eat, the better off you are, and the faster you will lose weight, if that is your goal.

This process works equally well when drinking very cold beer in

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frosted glasses. Each ounce of beer contains 16 latent calories, but extracts 1,036 calories (6,216 cal. per 6 oz. portion) in the temperature normalizing process. Thus, the net calorie loss per ounce of beer is 1,020 calories. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to calculate that 12,240 calories (12 oz. x 1,020 calories/oz.) are extracted from the body in the process of drinking a can of beer.

Frozen desserts, e.g., ice cream, are even more beneficial, since it takes 83 calories/gm to melt them (i.e., raise them to 0 degrees C) and an additional 37 calories/gm to further raise them to body temperature. The results here are really remarkable, and it beats running hands down.

Unfortunately for those who eat pizza as an excuse to drink beer, pizza (loaded with latent calories and served above body temperature) induces an opposite effect. But, thankfully, as the astute reader should have already reasoned, the obvious solution is to drink a lot of beer with pizza and follow up immediately with large bowls of ice cream.

We could all be thin if we were to adhere religiously to a pizza, beer, and ice cream diet.