

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

# GAZETTE

## MAKE ROOM FOR SEXTON:

Engineering students unite for new building



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Federal drug policy goes in wrong direction

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FREE

140-07 October 18 · October 24, 2007



# WEEKLY DISPATCH

## DSU FALL FEST! October 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>

### Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

9PM - *Shinerama Benefit Concert at the Grawood*  
Come out for a great Brazilian themed night and raise money for a great cause!

### Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>

11AM - *Litter Campaign*  
NEW garbage cans being revealed at the Killiam Library.

8PM - *Trivia at the Grawood*  
Think you're smart? Prove it! Come out and bring your friends too!

9PM - *Open Mic at the TRoom*  
Come show Dalhousie your talent!

### Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>

7PM - *Sex with Sue Johanson in the McInnes Room*  
Sue Johanson will be addressing social issues facing students with humor and frankness.

Admission: \$2 - All proceeds go to CANFAR Dalhousie Aids Research.

9PM - *Think Pink*  
Newcombe House is hosting their annual breast cancer fundraiser in the Grawood.

Admission: Wearing pink = \$3 No pink = \$5

### Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

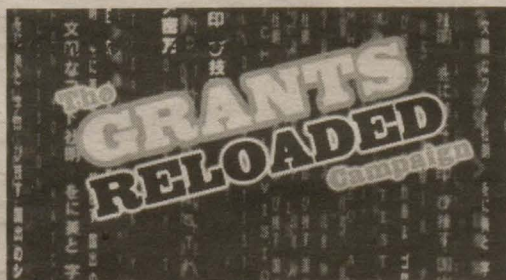
1PM - *Women's Soccer*  
DAL VS. SMU at Wickwire Field

3PM - *Men's Soccer*  
DAL VS. SMU at Wickwire Field

9PM - *UFC 77: Hostile Territory in the Grawood*  
Hosted by the Chemistry Society

### CASA Campaign - Access 2009: Grants Reloaded

The DSU's federal lobby organization, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, is campaigning for the renewal of the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation. Support the Campaign and sign up at [www.grantsreloaded.ca](http://www.grantsreloaded.ca) or contact VP Education Tara Gault at [dsuved@dal.ca](mailto:dsuved@dal.ca).



The Grawood is hosting a No Grants, No Pants! Party on Thursday, October 25th from 6pm until close. Come out for a showing of the Matrix, trivia, and to shoot a video clip for the Grants Reloaded Campaign!



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### THE FINE PRINT

The Gazette is the official written record of Dalhousie University since 1868 and is open to participation from all students. It is published weekly during the academic year by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society.

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

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

Views expressed in the Prof. Talk feature, Overheard at Dal, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in the Streeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff. All quotes attributed to James Munson in the Streeter feature are written, in good humour, by staff and do not necessarily represent the views of James Munson. This publication is intended for readers 18 years of age or older. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

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



Do you  
Need  
a place  
to  
Write?

...write  
for the  
GAZETTE

Story meetings  
are held every  
Monday at  
5:30 p.m. in  
room 312  
of the SUB.

# Keeping Dal from striking out

**JOHN PACKMAN**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As I write this editorial, the professors, instructors and librarians at Acadia University are striking. The 3,000 students at Acadia have no classes for the time being and as I stare at my mid-term-infested calendar, I can't help but envy them.

At the same time, I'm glad I don't have to calculate how much school I'm missing and think of how I'm paying thousands of dollars to not go to class.

Acadia's faculty association and its board of governors are going back to the bargaining table on Oct. 17, but if strikes of the past are any indication of what's going to happen, by the time you read this, Acadia's profs will still be on the picket lines.

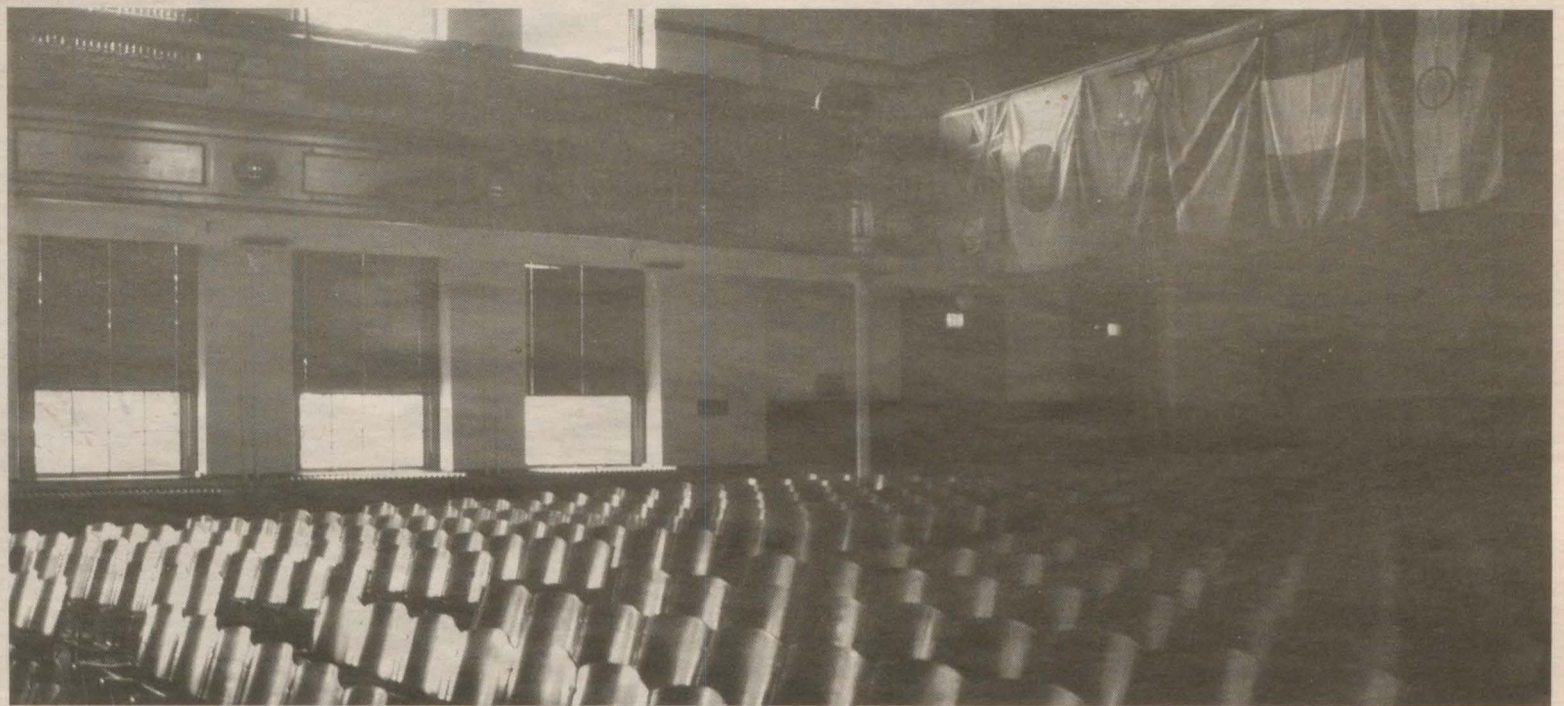
Acadia students are paying about \$7,000 to be in the undergraduate programs, the highest tuition in the country. If they miss two weeks of class (as they did in 2004), they are arguably losing slightly over \$450.

These strikes put students in a very awkward position. Despite all the money they're paying to go to school, students can't really do anything about the strike. This is particularly frustrating when these strikes drag on and students end up getting way behind in their readings and study habits.

I commend Acadia's student union for offering first-year tutoring and the faculty association for allowing them to do that. But this is by no means a replacement for classes.

Whether first-years are tutored are not, students will simply have to sit on the sidelines and watch as the school and the teachers battle over their money and their education, among other things.

And though the government



Acadia's University Hall will remain empty should faculty and administration fail to reach a resolution.

JOHN PACKMAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

should not interfere to make the professors go back to work, faculty associations and universities shouldn't let these kind of strikes happen.

Up until recently, Dalhousie had the same kind of problems with labour disputes. Profs went on strike four times between 1987 and 2002.

In March 2002, Dal had a month-long strike. There were calls for the government to step in and students tried stunts like camping on the lawn in front of the A&A Building and having a sit-in at the university president's office to show how much they wanted the strike to stop.

This kind of drastic action shows just how powerless students are during these labour struggles.

One entry on Acadia's student union's 'Strike Blog' pretty much sums up students' situation in these conflicts: "...[W]e can only hope for the best."

Student representatives on organizations like the boards of governors offer some voice, but during labour disputes, their say usually doesn't have much weight.

Unfortunately, it is the students who suffer the most during such disputes. The relief of a few days off is far outweighed by the fear we won't be getting the same quality of education overall, plus the overwhelming amount of work that comes after a strike.

Mid-terms have to be made up

with less preparation time and exam periods often have to be extended, not to mention all the classes that have to be squeezed together to fit into class time during the rest of the year.

Whether it is because of the strikes or not, Acadia has 334 fewer students this year.

Had I been applying to Dal the year after its one-month strike, the fact that I want to be able to go to class every week may have changed my decision to come here.

While I'm glad I can watch the goings-on at Acadia from a distance, it's important to learn about what's happening there, especially for Dal's administration and faculty associa-

tion.

By doing this, Dal will be able to avoid the same problems Acadia is having. The fact that there have been no major strikes since those of the teaching assistants and the part-time instructors in 2004 shows that Dal may be getting better at managing labour relations.

At the same time, it's only been six years since a one-month strike right came at the end of the year. Dal may be as vulnerable as Acadia and it's up to the university and the faculty association to make sure a strike doesn't happen here.

It is, after all, students' future at stake.

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# Building plans 'going forward': campus director

## Still no discussion with Dal

MELISSA DICOSTANZO  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Students on Sexton campus temporarily shut down their plans to get alumni donations for a new building they hope to construct, after the administration warned against privately soliciting former students.

Dalhousie's faculty of engineering celebrated its 100th year with an alumni gala on Oct. 5. But Scott Blake wasn't celebrating.

The Sexton campus director, along with roughly 20 engineering and architecture society heads, saw the party as an ideal opportunity to unveil students' designs for a new high-tech workspace on Dal's downtown campus.

They hoped to "drum up" alumni support for the proposal before officially presenting it to the university for approval.

"All of the students are excited about (the new building)," Blake says. "If you talk to any student who is working on a project on this campus, they'll say this space is inadequate. We don't have tools; we don't have a machine shop."

But the night before the anniversary gala, Blake got an e-mail from Dal President Tom Traves, which stated members of the Dalhousie Student Union, as well as department heads, aren't allowed to ask alumni for money without permission.

The university organizes all school fundraising campaigns through its administrative external relations committee, which sets fundraiser guidelines.

As a result, engineering and architecture students who attended the gala decided not to mention the



"If you talk to any student who is working on a project on this campus, they'll say this space is inadequate," says Sexton campus director Scott Blake.

project — even though they'd already drawn up a building model following a series of student consultations that began in the summer.

With last year's failed student space referendum and now a futile alumni celebration behind him, Blake says he's even more determined to create proper student work areas at Sexton.

"We're going forward with it," he says. "If this fits into (the university's) plans, that's great. If it doesn't, we're going to make it fit into their plans."

The group has support from the faculty of engineering and the DSU, as well as at least one corporate sponsor, but it needs Dal's co-operation to get enough funding for the multi-million-dollar project.

Blake says he hopes the students will develop a more concise proposal by the end of December, when he leaves on an eight-month co-op program.

"Hopefully, we can come up to (Traves) with a tight package and say this is who we talked to; this is the

building the students have looked at, designed and want."

But the students still haven't discussed the project with university officials.

Traves says there's no way Dal can consider constructing the new building unless students formally consult the administration. Apart from an unofficial meeting with a Sexton student during the summer, Traves says he hasn't had any contact with students about the building.

If they approach him, he says

he'd be happy to meet with them.

"The ball's in their court."

Although the students haven't given the university a formal chance to respond to their plans, engineering society president Scott Wetton says Dal has kept Sexton campus and its students on the backburner for too long.

"I hope (this project) raises a little attention from the university standpoint," he says. "(Sexton) is about 10 per cent of the Dal population...and yet 10 per cent of the people are not getting communication from the university."

Proper workshops would enable students to make the most of what they learn in the classroom, says the DSU's vice-president (internal).

"It's also a great opportunity for students within the university to work together," Rosalie Hanlon says. "If you're going to build student space, you ask first what they need — and that's key."

Recent civil engineering graduate Chris Davis says while he supports the new building, currently there are several unused or blocked-off areas of the campus that could house small classrooms or lab areas.

Four years ago, Dal expanded the campus' 'N' Building to make room for more teaching and research space in the biological engineering department. Davis says that expansion resulted in space students aren't using to their full advantage.

"Engineering enrolment is increasing steadily," says Davis. "The new building is a positive idea, but at the same time, we need to use the space (we already have) effectively."

With files from Katie May

## Student Activism & Political Engagement

A seminar for university students in Atlantic Canada to develop skills for campus activism and plans for political participation.

The Manning Centre for Building Democracy prepares Canadians for principled political participation by investing in the development of human, social and intellectual capital. This seminar will be the fourth in a series supported by the Manning Centre for students interested in engaging in effective campus activism as a means of developing the skills requisite for continued political participation.

The intention is to facilitate unique, valuable and practical learning opportunities to ensure that students' democratic participation is both an asset to our political processes and a credit to their motivations.

### Presenters

#### ROB BATHERSON

VP Policy, Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia

#### STEPHEN GREENE

Former Chief of Staff to Preston Manning (Reform Party of Canada) & present Chief of Staff to Rodney MacDonald (Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia)

#### BERNARD LORD

Former Premier of New Brunswick

#### CHRIS LYDON

Longtime political activist, and former provincial riding nomination candidate

#### JOHN MACDONNELL

Chief of Staff, Ministry of National Defence

#### PRESTON MANNING

President & CEO, Manning Centre for Building Democracy (video)

#### CHRIS McCLUSKEY

Program Coordinator, Manning Centre for Building Democracy

#### MARK PARENT

Minister of Environment & Labour, Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia

#### STEPHEN TAYLOR

Political Analyst

WHEN **October 26-28, 2007**

WHERE **Dalhousie Student Union Building,  
6136 University Avenue**

For Program and registration information, please visit [www.ManningCentre.ca](http://www.ManningCentre.ca) or contact Chris McCluskey, Program Coordinator, at [cmcccluskey@mcbd.ca](mailto:cmcccluskey@mcbd.ca)

## Uni-Briefs

CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

### Acadia profs strike for the second time in four years

After last-ditch negotiations with the school, Acadia's 300 professors, instructors and librarians began striking Oct. 15. The strike suspended classes for Acadia's 3,000 students.

The issues at stake are wages, staffing levels, benefits and equity issues. Acadia's faculty association's last strike was in 2004 and lasted two weeks.

Acadia's student union president Kyle Steele told the *Canadian Press* students are angry about missing class time and wasting their tuition. Acadia students pay the highest tuition fees in the country.

The university board of governors and the faculty association are set to resume negotiations at 7:00 p.m. on Oct. 17.

### Mass arrests at Queen's homecoming

Police arrested 54 people, mostly for public intoxication, at this year's Queen's University homecoming party on Aberdeen Street. The annual street party gained national infamy two years ago when the crowd threw beer bottles at police, flipped a car and set fire to it.

Former Queen's administrator George Hood helped organize volunteers, who worked 12 hours from Saturday to early Sunday morning, handing out water and plastic cups.

Despite this year's arrests, he called the event a success.

"This is not a simple problem. This is a complex issue that is being experienced across North America," Hood told *The Globe and Mail*. "In light of that, what transpired last night was a success."

Local and provincial police who came in from Toronto patrolled and watched the street on surveillance cameras.

### Quebec students to strike after tuition freeze lifted

Students attending Quebec universities may begin a general student strike the week of Oct. 15 after months of protests and rallies, *The Charlatan* reported.

On Sept. 27, the Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante (ASSÉ), representing over 40,000 students across the province, voted to strike in response to the Liberal government lifting the 13-year-old tuition freeze.

After the freeze is lifted, tuition fees are set to rise \$50 per semester.

If a student strike begins, students will stop attending classes and form picket lines, particularly in front of university buildings to block students and teachers from entering.

Sources: *Canadian Press*; *The Globe and Mail*; *The Charlatan*.

### U of Texas students lost in cave found alive

Fourteen rescuers, including five private citizens, helped to find three University of Texas students lost in a nearby cave Oct. 14.

Emergency worker Frank Urias told the *Associated Press* the students were found alive after being in the cave for 30 hours.

"The victims are uninjured, our crews are safe. It doesn't get any better than this," said Urias.

On Saturday morning the students went into Airman's Cave and told friends to call for help if they had not returned by midnight.

During the search, rescuers found water bottles and cell phones they believe the students left behind.

### ACROSS THE POND

#### Library throwing away books to save space

Students at the University of Exeter in England are outraged after hearing reports of the university disposing of library books, according to *The Exposé*.

The university's academic services is employing a 'traffic light system' to decide which books to keep and which to toss. 'Red' items will be kept in circulation, but 'green' items will be removed since they are either available online or have been replaced with newer editions.

Books deemed 'amber' will be discussed by Academic Support Consultants and may be moved to areas where they are more difficult to access.

Victoria Crockett, president of the Postgraduate Association, told *The Exposé* these books need to be kept since some trends in research can't be predicted.

"Books and other material that we already have may be needed in the future even if they haven't been used in 20 years," Crockett told *The Exposé*.

#### St. Andrews students reject graduate tax

Students at Scotland's University of St. Andrews rejected a proposal by their principal to introduce a tax to help fund higher education.

Principal Brian Lang said this money could help encourage students to seek more graduate degrees, but the schools' students' association fears such a tax would only discourage students from studying in Scotland.

Scottish students already have to pay a £2000 graduate endowment fee (roughly \$3,975) after graduating, making a further tax very unwelcome.

Director of representation at St. Andrews' students' association Steve Savage called the endowment fee "a stealth tax on students."

"There isn't a week that goes by without mention of student debt or the rising cost of being a student," Savage told *The Courier*.

Sources: *Associated Press*; *The Exposé*; *The Courier*.

# New research could help aboriginal students

IAN SHELTON  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

A new research program aimed at aboriginal people could open more jobs to aboriginal students across the Atlantic region.

The program will fund research linked to the needs of aboriginal communities, including studies on the sustainability of native fisheries and post-secondary education for aboriginal youth. Dalhousie is one of a team of 11 Maritime universities to study economic development within aboriginal communities.

On Sept. 28, the federal and provincial governments announced a total contribution of \$100,000 to the Atlantic Aboriginal Economic Integrated Development Research Program, which began seven years ago and currently includes representatives from Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy communities. Inuit members will soon join as well.

The schools are partnering with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs (APC), a policy research and advocacy organization

for the 33 aboriginal chiefs, nations and communities in eastern Canada.

Dal has been part of the program since it began in 2000, but now the group wants more student input about its research.

Gillian Austin, assistant research coordinator for the APC, says the organization is trying to track down all aboriginal university students in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P.E.I. to find out how they relate to money struggles within First Nations communities.

"(We will be) seeing if there are students who could be doing some of the research that's coming out in the next few years," she says. "But right now is just more finding out where they are (and) who they are."

Fred Wien, a social work professor involved in the program, says Dal joined the research efforts to get more involved in off-campus economic concerns.

"Dalhousie has made it more of a priority to develop a closer relationship with aboriginal communities," he says. "This is kind of unprecedented. It's kind of unusual

to have 11 universities involved. There's nothing like this anywhere in Canada."

As for how the group will decide which topics to study, Wien says ideas will come from several sources, including the program's steering committee, existing strategy documents and particular individuals or organizations.

The program will also include an information repository of relevant research and data, likely to be located at Cape Breton University, but broadly available to students and faculty carrying out research relating to First Nations in Atlantic Canada.

Despite Canada's tense colonial history of Europeans studying aboriginals, Wien says aboriginal communities will benefit from the research because it will target their needs.

"Things are very different now," he says. "Sensitivities around research still exist, but (aboriginal) communities and their organizations are in a much stronger position to enter into discussions about research and to protect their interests."

## Health research centre a reality

KATIE MAY  
NEWS EDITOR

Student researchers at Dalhousie will soon team up with medical professionals to study brain repair techniques, cell transplants and robotic technology when the university opens a \$36 million research centre.

In the next few weeks, Dal plans to start construction on its first new medical building in 40 years, with the help of provincial and federal government funding and private donations.

On Oct. 15, the federal government announced it will contribute roughly \$15 million to the five-storey Life Sciences Research Institute (LSRI). The school plans to build the centre on the corner of Summer and College Streets and run it in partnership with Capital Health and the IWK Health Centre.

The building will house the city's Brain Repair Centre, the only cell restoration laboratory in the country, as well as various scientists, surgeons, psychiatrists and research groups.

Its research will focus on medicine, biology and life sciences studies.

Dr. Ivar Mendez, chair of the centre, will lead brain research in the new building. The Dal professor and chief of neurosurgery at the IWK has been working on the building plans for five years.

He says the building will directly benefit students in all levels of medical study because it will be equipped with facilities for "world-class" studies.

"The medical research that will be done in this facility will evolve all the way from the laboratory bench to the clinical reality," he says, adding students will have the tools they need to apply their research and help people. "The discoveries that are made in the research will be applied to real patients in Nova Scotia, so that's why it's important."

He expects the LSRI will take at least a year and a half to build once construction starts.

Mendez says the university held meetings with residents who live in the neighbourhood surrounding the building to get their input on the construction plans, just as residents discussed Dal's last off-campus medical research venture, the Tupper Building, in 1967.



HHW ARCHITECTS

The federal government announced it will contribute roughly \$15 million to the five-storey Life Sciences Research Institute.

He can't recall any resident complaints with this building and says it will fit in well with the community. He hopes the research centre will boost Dal's enrolment.

"The best students need to work in the best facilities, so we will be able to attract the best students to Dalhousie."

University President Tom Traves says funding for the new building is "promising" for students because

the medical school receives many research grants, but is currently squeezed for space to conduct the studies.

Without the new building, he says, Dal would eventually run out of room for all its students involved in medical research.

"We've been very starved for research space in the last few years, so this is a tremendous opportunity to address that need."

Come to the next Gazette contributor

meeting: on Monday, October 22

@ 5:30 p.m.

in room 312 of the SUB

## CKDU confident in DSU relationship

KATIE MAY  
NEWS EDITOR

When Michael Catano started volunteering at Dalhousie's on-campus radio station, it wasn't even his campus. He was 15 years old and still in high school.

By that time, CKDU FM had already been broadcasting for nearly 20 years, first on a closed-circuit service to Dal residences in 1975 and starting last year, to all of Halifax Regional Municipality with a high-power signal transmitter.

Now, more than 15 years later, Catano works full time for CKDU as station coordinator. He's seen minor policy changes several times through the years, but the station's mandate has always remained the same – to serve the community as an alternative to public and commercial radio.

That's why he's been sorting records, broadcasting live and recruiting new volunteers for half of his life.

"Everybody has a different voice that they want to have heard," says Catano, sitting on the worn couch in the station's front room. "Everybody represents a different way of living and we're here to facilitate people's abilities to share that with the world."

CKDU broadcasts from the fourth floor of the Dalhousie Student Union Building and it is a student society under the DSU. Dal and University of King's College students each pay a \$9 levy to the station to help keep it running, but CKDU is more than just a campus radio station.

Its constitution calls for community involvement in the station – anyone can be a volunteer and there are five non-student, paid staff members.

"Community involvement is of paramount importance to making something like CKDU, and all the other stations in the country that are just like it, function properly," Catano says.

This part of CKDU's legally binding rules directly conflicts with the DSU's existing society policy, which states that all executive society members must be Dal students.

The union is currently in the process of rewriting the policy for next year because several societies violate the old rules.

While many other student society executives are concerned their groups won't receive funding next year after the student union's society policy shake-up comes into effect,



Catano isn't too worried about DSU politics.

The station is a registered broadcasting organization with the provincial government and must follow strict rules from the Canadian Radio Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) that dictate what the station can broadcast.

Those rules are the station's top priority, says the former Dal student. If they don't follow them, they'll be in legal trouble. And when students voted to pay the CKDU levy, they were supporting the station's own constitution.

"We're very confident in the sturdiness of the relationship we have with the DSU, so whatever policy changes happen at the DSU level are obviously something that we're keenly aware of," the 31-year-old says. "But they don't fundamentally alter what we do or how we do it."

The DSU's vice-president (internal) agrees.

Rosalie Hanlon is also a CKDU board member and she says in the radio station's case, as well as in the case of the Dal Women's Centre, the union policy and society constitutions shouldn't cancel each other out.

"We haven't recognized the uniqueness of that relationship in the past," she says. "My hope is the new society policy will recognize that difference."

More than 200 volunteers, including CKDU veteran Charles Hsuen, run the radio station and its funding drive, which happens the week of Oct. 22.

Hsuen's been volunteering with CKDU since he moved to Halifax six years ago. He says it's one of the best outlets for self-expression he can find.

"The right to be able to broadcast what they love for a station – that is the only thing that we, out of 200 people, have in common."

## Society policy changes begin

EDANA ROBITAILLE  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

The Dalhousie Student Union is giving non-Dal students and community members more chances to have their say about a new draft of the union's student society policy.

A committee that will help change how the DSU governs its student organizations is now open to the public. While the union only represents Dal students, many students from the University of King's College and other schools are currently running roughly 30 DSU societies.

As a result, the union is rewriting its policy, which currently allows only Dal students, who are union members, to hold executive jobs within student groups.

The ad-hoc committee's first meeting is Oct. 22, and it will hold meetings until January, when members will sub-

mit a motion to the DSU council and vote on the new policy.

So far the committee has roughly 10 members, most of whom signed up last month at the DSU's "Imagine" event, a public consultation where students discussed potential society policy changes.

Rosalie Hanlon, DSU vice-president (internal), is leading the committee as part of her mandate to oversee the functions of more than 225 student groups at Dal. She says the committee is focused on working through the technical aspects of the policy to debate the best society rules.

"At the 'Imagine' conference, there was a lot of good debate," she says. "People saw different sides and saw that one thing they thought was a solution might not be a solution."

Hanlon says the DSU is inviting anyone interested to join the committee at any time during the semester so

a variety of groups have the option of contributing their opinions.

The president of the Sodales debating society says she hopes the committee considers all society members, not just Dal students.

Allison O'Beirne, a King's student, has been following the society policy closely since the union realized last spring that several groups violated the existing rules. She hopes the debating society, which involves students from schools throughout the city and competes across the country, will be ratified again and receive DSU funding in the fall.

"I really hope that the DSU and people on the committee keep in mind that King's students really do want to be able to participate in Dalhousie societies," she says. "If we can't get ratified as a society, there's a lot of limitations about what we can do as a club and how we can represent Dalhousie."

## Liberal post-secondary education critic stays put

NICK TAYLOR-VAISEY  
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

When Liberal leader Stéphane Dion shuffled his shadow cabinet on Oct. 9, MP Mike Savage (Dartmouth-Cole Harbour, N.S.) remained in his role as human resources critic. Following the shuffle, some student lobby groups were relieved his portfolio didn't change hands.

Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) is a broad portfolio under which federal post-secondary education programs, such as the Canada Student Loans Program, are administered. As critic for HRSDC, Savage has approached and consulted a number of different student advocacy organizations, including the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

CASA National Director Zach Churchill said his organization has enjoyed a solid working relationship with Savage.

"Mike has done an excellent job bringing forward student issues. He's always taken the time to meet with CASA and our student representatives, and we've been able to build a professional relationship with him," he said. "In HRSDC, there are a lot of things going with that department right now, and it's really important – and I assume the Liberals know



this – to have a good performer in that role."

Ian Boyko, the government-relations coordinator of the CFS, said Savage has performed well as human-resources critic and is climbing through the Liberal Party's ranks.

"It's easier to be in opposition as a critic or chairing a committee of the Liberal Party than to be a minister and actually put your money where your mouth is. But that's not to detract from the accessibility and what I think are the genuinely good politics of Mike Savage," he said. "I think he's made good ties to the post-secondary education sector."

Savage's counterpart in the NDP, MP Denise Savoie (Victoria, B.C.), also praised Savage for his propensity for collaboration on the House

human-resources committee. She said they were able to work together on Liberal MP Geoff Regan's private member's bill – C-284, an Act to amend the Canada Student Financial Assistance Act (Canada Access Grants).

While the bill was defeated at second reading, Savoie was optimistic about her ability to cooperate with Savage.

"[Savage] supported all our amendments on [Regan's] bill around grants for students," she said. "I had proposed increasing grants to low-income students, having new grants for mid-income, and to remove the exclusion that exists now under the Access Grant to older students, mature students. He agreed with all those changes I made."

Savoie added she was glad for the stability in the human-resources portfolio.

"To have Mike stay on allows that continuity that doesn't exist on their side of the house," she said. "I'm pleased to see that."

Nick Taylor-Vaisey is the Ottawa Bureau Chief for the Canadian University Press, a news wire service for student publications across the country. He is also the news editor of the University of Ottawa's student newspaper, *The Fulcrum*, and frequently reports on the efforts of national student lobby groups.

P

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## The Scientific Skeptic

### Tying quantum strings

CATHERINE HOLLOWAY  
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

At this year's annual Guptill Memorial Lecture, Dr. Lisa Randall asked, "Does a fourth spatial dimension exist just out of our dimension?"

Dr. Randall contends it does, and that we are sitting on a three-dimensional 'brane' in four-dimensional space.

A brane is a theoretical term used to designate membrane-like objects that do not extend to higher dimensions. In an article she wrote for *Physics Today* in July of this year, Randall compares a brane to a 2-D shower curtain in a 3-D bathroom. Just as water droplets will only have a two-dimensional affect on the curtain, particles and forces might appear on one brane but not in the higher three-dimensional realm.

Understanding our universe in four spatial dimensions could answer many fundamental questions about physics and offer the long sought after 'theory of everything' that unites gravity and electromagnetism.

To understand the importance of Dr. Randall's lecture, we should begin by looking at the question of why gravity is so weak.

There are four fundamental forces in our universe. The strong force pulls neutrons and protons (the particles at the centre of atoms) together. The weak force affects leptons and quarks (the things inside protons and neutrons). From electromagnetism, we get all sorts of good things like light, electricity and magnetism.

The final force is gravity, with which we are all familiar. Though it may seem strong, the force of interaction of gravity is really quite small compared to the other forces – if you jump off a roof, gravity will pull you down through the air but it can't pull you through the ground.

String theory, which emerged in the 70s, was developed to explain some weird stuff happening at a really small scale. According to string

theory, all fundamental particles are different oscillation modes of small, enclosed strings.

In 1999, Randall and Raman Sundrum published a paper proposing what is now known as the Randall-Sundrum model. It imagines all enclosed strings are attached to the brane of our universe. Gravity is a non-enclosed string and because of this, it is not attached to our universe.

Randall suggests gravity originates on another brane and is weak due to the distance between that brane and ours.

Where do these far-out ideas come from? At the moment, they're all theories based on a lot of complex math. Most physicists think that if the math is possible, it's probably possible in the real world.

However, this is also the main criticism of string theory. In 2006, University of Waterloo physicist Lee Smolin published a book entitled *The Trouble with Physics*, which criticized string theory as being unethical for making outlandish predictions based on what he considered untestable hypotheses.

Randall disagrees, pointing to the new CERN Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland and France. It's a 27-km long, circular underground tunnel with a powerful magnet that accelerates particles up to a very high energy and then smashes them into each other to see what particles are produced.

The hope is that one of these collisions will produce the theoretical Higgs boson, nicknamed the 'God particle.' The Higgs boson is extremely heavy compared to other fundamental particles. Proving its existence would confirm several previously purely theoretical models of our universe and provide new insights into the origin of mass.

Randall expects the first useful results to emerge in the next two to five years. If the Higgs boson appears, it will put some experimental proof behind string theory. It will also mean our universe is a lot stranger than we can imagine.



STOCK PHOTO

Transportation costs to take up bulk of famine aid.

## Learning the lessons of famines past

JOSH BOYTER  
GAZETTE STAFF

"One million dead, eight million affected."

This was how BBC journalist Michael Buerk described the situation during his reporting on the Ethiopian famine from 1984 to 1985. Twenty-three years have passed and famines are still affecting millions around the world.

I have sat in countless Model United Nations conferences around the world listening to different delegates speak about how to solve the problem of famine, how to empower the weak and nurture the malnourished. Delegates often spoke about how to effectively employ various organizations to eradicate famine around the world.

We talk about these organizations as if they are a sure-fire answer to famine. The United States Agency for International Development, the United Nations World Food Programme and Oxfam are all global leaders in food aid organization, helping countless famine victims every year. Mainly funded by donations, these organizations provide relief in the form of grain, water and tools in order to help people survive through famine.

Recently, political leaders in countries afflicted by famine have criticized these organizations claiming they overstate the impact of the famine in order to receive more donations.

In times of famine, aid organizations generally portray the bleakest picture possible. Children's bellies budding from malnutrition, moth-

ers crying, farmers sitting in parched fields – these are the pictures they want us to see, become absorbed in and shell out our cash for. But is this an accurate portrayal of famine?

Former Oxfam official Tony Vaux recently told the BBC there is either an "aid bonanza or you have nothing," meaning it's more profitable for aid agencies to make the situation look bleak, causing an influx of donations. Vaux also says this strategy often fails to solve the problem because the aid arrives too late.

But even in cases in which food does arrive in time, there is room to argue that it fails to eradicate famine in a stricken area. Grain coming from other large, grain producing countries oversaturates local markets to the point of destroying local farmers' livelihood, making them more susceptible to famine.

In his book *Famine, Conflict, and Response*, Fred Cuny writes that, by the time aid arrived during the 1985 Ethiopian famine, the death rate had peaked and was beginning to decline. He also states that half of the total aid costs incurred during the famine were from ships sitting in port and from ground transportation.

This means that, of the \$283 million raised during Live Aid in response to the famine, an estimated \$141.5 million would have gone to transportation alone. Purchasing grain locally would alleviate the enormous costs associated with transportation.

In 2006, the Horn of Africa, including North-Eastern Kenya, was experiencing a food crisis. At the time, Western Kenya had bumper crops of grain. In this case, there was

sufficient food and resources available within the region to help offset the famine. Some organizations are making it a practice to buy grain as close to the famine as possible, but may still use expensive airdrops when other, cheaper modes of transportation are unavailable.

Before you donate money to end famine during an "aid bonanza," make sure to consider the alternatives. Help create a program in your school with the help of international students who understand the local culture and economy and work to create viable, sustainable solutions to their local issues.

Get more information by contacting the Canadian consulate in the country to see what Canada is doing to help. And if Canada is not providing aid, work to create a solution that will help the local people and make Canada an integral part of aid efforts.

It's important to donate, but donate to transparent organizations that use aid money accordingly and work with local people to help remedy the chronic problems causing famine. A quick-fix is never enough, and often comes too late.

The lives of starving people around the world are not the only thing to consider. We need to create sustainable solutions that will help remedy the underlying conditions of poverty. You should, as Mahatma Gandhi said, "Be the change that you want to see in the world." But we should not refrain from altering the methods of inciting change when past attempts have failed.

Come to the next  
**GAZETTE**  
contributor meeting:  
on Monday, Oct. 22  
@ 5:30 p.m.  
in room 312 of the  
**SUB**

# Drugs aren't just about crime

JAMES MUNSON  
OPINIONS EDITOR

The federal Conservatives' new drug plan has been touted as a "get-tough" approach to drugs, despite the fact that \$42 million of the \$63.8 million is going toward drug treatment and prevention. For the funds directed toward enforcement, it's difficult to say how this money could be well-spent.

According to a 2004 Statscan study, entitled Trends in Drug Offences and the Role of Alcohol and Drugs in Crime, the rate of trafficking offenses declined by 13 per cent between 1992 and 2002, after increasing during the 25 years prior. Trafficking rates of cocaine have declined by 28 per cent and so have those of heroin, by 62 per cent. Trafficking of other drugs, including LSD, ecstasy and amphetamines have declined by 42 per cent.

However, drug offences have gone up 42 per cent over the same period, fuelled mostly by marijuana possession charges, which have increased by 96 per cent. It's safe to say that if Canada does have a drug problem, marijuana is the culprit.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's threat to impose mandatory minimum sentencing on "serious" drug-related charges may be directed toward those trafficking pot and those guilty of possession. This runs against the current tide of thinking on the subject, which is that the hard-handed "war on drugs" approach has failed and is in need of tinkering.

In a recent issue of Foreign Policy, executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance Ethan Nadelmann wrote that the criminalization of drugs has failed to stop drug usage, has increased the profits of drug traffickers and has spread illegal drug use globally.

Nadelmann criticizes the attempt to reduce demand instead of reducing harm. Like many experts, Nadelmann contends demand is impossible to eradicate.

He also thinks the decriminaliza-



JOSH BOYTER / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

There are many initiatives in Canada which emphasize drug use as a medical issue only.

tion of drugs like marijuana would reduce drug use to what it really is – a health issue. His argument is simple: the state does not need to get involved with people who enjoy drugs without affecting others, but people who become addicted should have their drug usage addressed by health officials who can get them back on track.

It's not so different from the way cigarette smoking is curbed today.

Drug use is different from other

criminal acts. Addiction blurs the line between personal responsibility and victimization. When this vicious circle is spinning within a cycle of criminal living, it's hard for addicts to break away from their routines. Drug crimes simply demand an approach other than a zero-tolerance clampdown.

There are many initiatives in Canada that have been exploring alternatives. The Drug Treatment

Court of Vancouver opened in 2001 as a four-year pilot project, in an effort to emphasize treatment and reduce drug dependence. Last year, the court was given a three-year extension. It works to reduce crime by "reducing drug addiction through treatment services," according to a press release.

The Conservatives' plan doesn't make mention of Vancouver's other innovative approach – the Insite su-

pervised injection site – which offers services to addicts while minimizing the health risks of doing drugs on the street.

While this approach offends people who carry the ideological "war on drugs" banner, Insite has been shown to increase the direct uptake of addicts into detoxification programs, according to the B.C. Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS.

A 2001 study from The Fraser Institute, a policy think tank, argued drug prohibition has failed and that harm reduction, medical treatment and the decriminalization of some drugs would be more effective tools to solve drug problems.

Another point to consider is that the people behind the rise in marijuana crimes might not be the best candidates for stiff prison sentences. The two age groups with the highest rate of marijuana trafficking charges were 18- to 24-year-olds and 12- to 17-year-olds. It's the same story with possession, with 18- to 24-year-olds leading the pack and teens following close behind.

Tossing teenagers and young adults into prison is a narrow-sighted, counter-productive approach. People at that age are on the brink of opportunity and plans for the future. Giving them a taste of the criminal underworld by making them feel disenfranchised is irresponsible, especially if they are using crime to finance an addiction.

A heroine addict recently interviewed by B.C.'s daily, *The Province*, said people who have done time in prison are 10 times smarter, 10 times more vicious and 10 times bigger. Many agree that prison time fails to teach kids a lesson, instead providing them with lessons in criminal living.

The new Tory drug plan doesn't seem to take these dimensions of Canada's drug problems into account. Not only is it strange to frame a policy as "get-tough" when most of the money is going to treatment and prevention, but it also wrongly encourages the public to understand drugs as strictly a crime issue.



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# Gazette

The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and to stimulate meaningful debate on

issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general. The views of the Editorial Board are not necessarily the views of Dalhousie University.

## Dal needs to recognize Sexton students' efforts

Engineering students on Sexton campus have complained for years the university is neglecting them.

Compared to Studley – the main campus – with its shiny new computer science and management buildings, the lower campus is like a little brother.

A little brother who's always whining he doesn't get enough attention from mom and dad.

Engineers even disposed of the term "lower campus" and have started calling it the "downtown campus" in an effort to seem more "hip" and "edgy," trying to catch up to big brother Studley, who's too privileged to realize how good he's got it.

For Dalhousie's administration, the time to reconcile this rivalry came last spring when its \$25 million tri-campus makeover dream for extra student areas crashed in a virtual pile of 'no' student referendum ballots.

So the kids didn't behave the way their parents wanted. Should they be punished when one of them wants to give it a shot on his own?

Of course not.

Dal claimed to care about student needs when the university was plugging its major construction campaign – now's the chance for the

administration to prove it.

Sexton students aren't whining. They know what they need and they're working to get it on their own.

They need versatile workspace for engineering and architecture projects. The most recent building Dal constructed on Sexton was the Agricultural Engineering 'N' Building in 1977.

And they don't just need more space. They need proper space equipped with the necessary tools. The students have already mapped out a detailed building floor plan and they're willing to work for it.

They've secured corporate sponsors as well as the support of the dean of engineering and they want to help construct and pay for the building themselves.

Dal must not ignore student efforts to fix a problem their university has not adequately addressed. Sexton students are trying to get a brand new building, but they can only go so far on their own.

Engineers and university officials need to meet halfway. Students have already done much of the legwork – Dal needs to acknowledge their efforts and help them reach their goals.

It's time for the administration to prove it really cares about students.



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Just come have dinner and hear your options!

# STREETER

What's the best way to beat the cold?



“By wearing comfortable clothes.”

Melaku Assefa, second-year commerce



“Dress warm.”

Alysia Totino, first-year arts



“Hibernate in a warm bed.”

Sophie Leblanc, first-year nursing



“Eat better food.”

Shawn Shao, fourth-year management



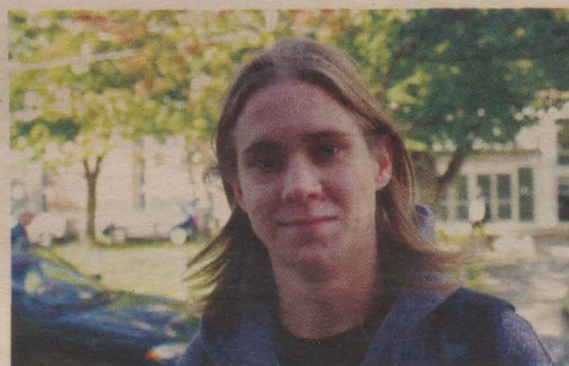
“Get yourself a giant hot meal.”

Stuart Conrad, first-year engineering



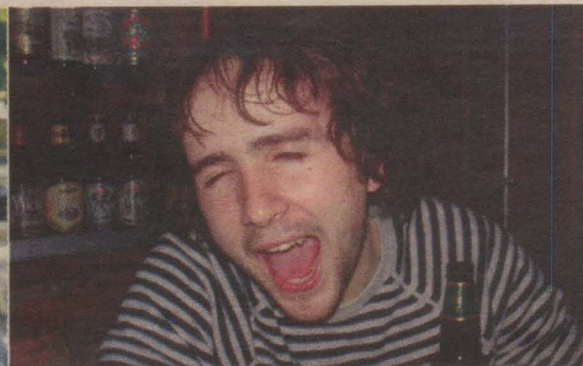
“Shot of rum.”

Rob Brewer, third-year biology



“Stay inside.”

Johnny Hinrichs, third-year sociology



“Be fruitful and multiply.”

James Munson, maternelle

Professor Alex Khasnabish has been with the sociology department at Dal for two years. His current and upcoming courses include Social Change and Development, Rethinking Culture and Class, History of Anthropological Theory, and a fourth-year course, Alternative Ecologies.



## Prof Talk

**Q:** What distinguishes university life today from that 10 years ago?  
**A:** Students coming in to university today are two years younger than they would have been 10 years ago. And university is more of a tool now, like college used to be. It's a critical education; you have to have it if you want to do anything. It's all very aggressively neo-liberal.

**Q:** Describe the ideal prof.  
**A:** They have to want to teach, to communicate, with students and with society. And they can't be hung up on classroom hierarchy.

**Q:** Describe the ideal student.  
**A:** Has an insatiable curiosity about the world they live in and a strong desire to participate in the classroom setting.

**Q:** Describe the average student.  
**A:** A little overworked and a touch apathetic. The social climate at present is such that undergrads are often encouraged to treat education instrumentally with university being more of a means than an end.

**Q:** What might your students never guess about you?  
**A:** That I listen to Rage Against the Machine and Nine Inch Nails. That I had atrocious study habits as an undergrad. That I'm a videogame addict. That I'm a horror movie addict.

**Q:** What's the funniest thing you've witnessed in a classroom?  
**A:** It wasn't in the classroom, but while I was teaching last year in Marion McCain, a very serious discussion was interrupted by loud and seriously off-key singing from somewhere outside the room. I went to find the source of it, sure it was someone being obnoxious, but it was a little kid waiting for his parent in the hallway. I didn't know what to do with that. The singing lasted the better part of an hour so we had a good laugh and we just had to enjoy it.

**Q:** What is your dream course?  
**A:** It would be an applied course on radical social transformation. It would be a seminar, but not so small as to be exclusive.

**Q:** What would you be doing had you not become a prof?  
**A:** Well, I might be involved with the union movement or I might be a writer. My other plan was to open a bar called The Golden Goat and use it as a platform to launch a social revolution. Bars are conducive to that.

**Q:** Is it better to be a vet or an astronaut, and why?  
**A:** A vet, because you're looking out and caring for living organisms who have no one else to help them. But then astronauts are pretty cool.

**Q:** What does your social revolution entail?  
**A:** An end of patriarchy, of capitalist property relations and of self-perpetuating social hierarchy.

**Q:** If you could trade all of your knowledge of your field for just as much knowledge from another discipline, which would you trade it for?  
**A:** I'd trade my knowledge of sociology for a facility in languages. I'm bad at learning languages but I'd love to speak five of them.

**Q:** Do you have Facebook?  
**A:** No. It's just too conspiratorially potent.

**I**nteresting fact: Dr. Khasnabish is a new father of a three-month-old boy, Indra, a Sanskrit name taken from the Hindu storm god.

Want to hear what your prof has to say?  
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*VP Policy, Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia*

**STEPHEN GREENE**

*Former Chief of Staff to Preston Manning (Reform Party of Canada) & present Chief of Staff to Rodney MacDonald (Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia)*

**BERNARD LORD**

*Former Premier of New Brunswick*

**CHRIS LYDON**

*Longtime political activist, and former provincial riding nomination candidate*

**JOHN MACDONNELL**

*Chief of Staff, Ministry of National Defence*

**PRESTON MANNING**

*President & CEO, Manning Centre for Building Democracy (video)*

**CHRIS McCLUSKEY**

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*Minister of Environment & Labour, Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia*

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*Political Analyst*

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Wash it down with



# Inside the big black bus

MARK BUCKLEY  
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

I was walking down a dimly lit street in the downtown area, scanning my surroundings with suspicion while trying to get home.

My defenses immediately went up when suddenly I was confronted with the image of an ominous, otherwise nondescript black bus, marked with the words STREET PUNISHMENT.

A neurotic person might have felt he was about to become the protagonist in an Orwellian nightmare – a cautionary tale about being out after curfew. After narrowly escaping the four-wheeled monolith, I decided to unravel its mystery.

As it turns out, the presence of the bus has become an item of public interest, though more out of curiosity than alarm. Street Punishment agreed to do an interview to set the record straight.

Under sufficient light, the 1952 Privo transit bus does not appear black or ominous. The exterior is covered with a synthetic green fabric called fun fur – a cost-effective alternative to paint.

Upon entering the bus, I was greeted with utmost hospitality. Any trace of my uncertain preconception was dissolving.

Street Punishment is a freestyle stunt bike team formed in 2002. Based in the HRM, the six-member troupe says they introduced this kind of riding to Canada's East Coast.

"We like to draw attention," team member Randy Sutton says about the bus. Wanting to attract stares makes sense coming from a freestyle stunt biker. "When we're not on our bikes, we like to meet new people and express who we are."

Constantly subjected to inaccurate stereotyping, Street Punishment has had a tough time trying to find places to ride.

"That's the difference between what we do and that of other sports,"



PRESS PHOTO

"People see us as animals, making a disturbance," says Hawco.

says Ryan Hawco. "People see us as criminals, making a disturbance."

Since practicing in urban areas is not an option, they are left with very few alternatives. There are teams based in the United States that have sponsorship and access to 200-bay warehouses to practice in, which are incredibly vast. According to Street Punishment, the largest we have in Atlantic Canada are eight bay warehouses.

They are compelled to seek out remote locations where the only possible threat they pose is to themselves.

Injury is not an uncommon occurrence – it comes with the territory. The team is aware of the consequences, and it pushes them to be better riders. Operating these 600 to 1000 CC engine sport bikes requires a concrete understanding of how to respond to any situation.

The maneuvers they execute require an acute sense of balance and

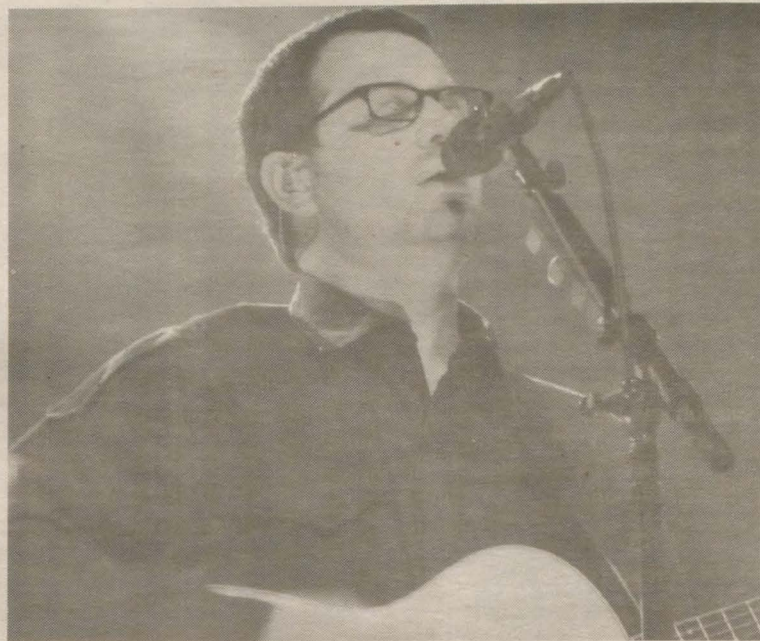
excellent reflexes. Their promotional video, *Let's Ride*, makes it evident that they are competent practitioners.

And though authority figures dismiss them as public nuisances, they are concerned about the well-being of innocent bystanders, keeping on-lookers at a safe distance.

As this is a spectator sport, Street Punishment's objective is to encourage people to see their performances. Their appearances throughout North America have allowed them to start making a name for themselves.

Now that I know what Street Punishment is, I will no longer look upon the bus with dread. When asked what I thought of the bus once I was inside, I responded that I imagined it would be more sinister.

"Chains? Shackles? Prisoners?" Sutton joked. "That's our other bus. We're still working on that one. It's not finished yet."



PRESS PHOTO

## Matthew did good

ARLEEN HAMMOND  
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

making little observations between songs.

Matthew Good sipped a single glass of red wine while he played his solo acoustic show to a sold out crowd at The Marquee Club last Thursday night.

Although he was by no means eccentric or happy onstage, he was lighter than you would expect, even after playing some of the more intense songs from *Hospital Music*.

Anyone who has listened to Good's latest album can easily tell he's not experiencing the happiest time of his life.

Good wrote the album in the midst of a breakdown and bouts with manic depression. This is evident in the songs and tone of the album.

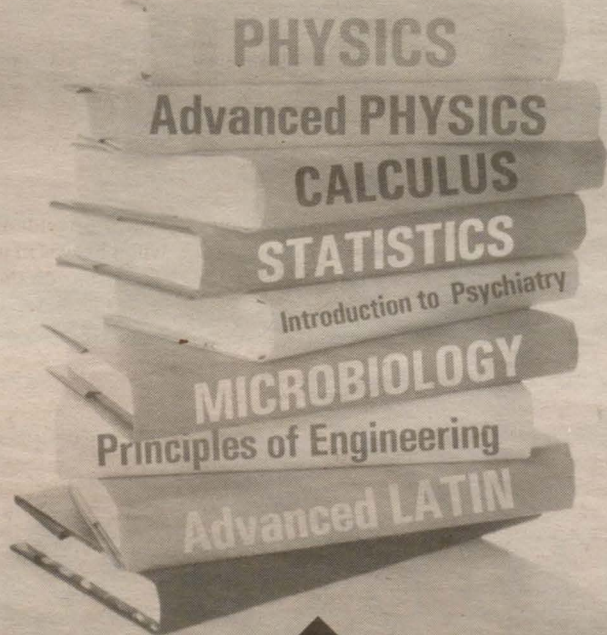
He sang songs like "Black Helicopter," with such affecting lines as, "Only killers call killing progress." He had a bit of a sense of humour though, cracking small jokes and

You can't go to a Matthew Good concert and not expect to hear some politically charged commentary. Good is an activist with strong opinions about world issues. However, the comments he made on Thursday did not seem to get the crowd riled up like they have on past tours.

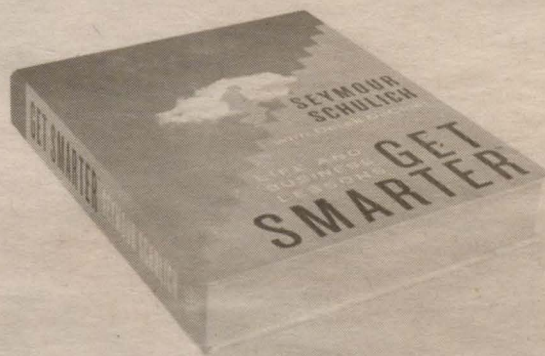
The show was intimate and passionate. Good opened with "Girl Wedged Under The Front Of A Firebird," and without a moment's pause, delved right into, "Champions Of Nothing," both of which are tracks from his new album.

Not one to forget about the longtime fans, he also sang some oldies. The acoustics gave some of the older Matthew Good Band songs a renewed, classic sound.

He was exceptionally emotive and fervent. His performance was ideal for anyone who enjoys his poignant and poetic style.



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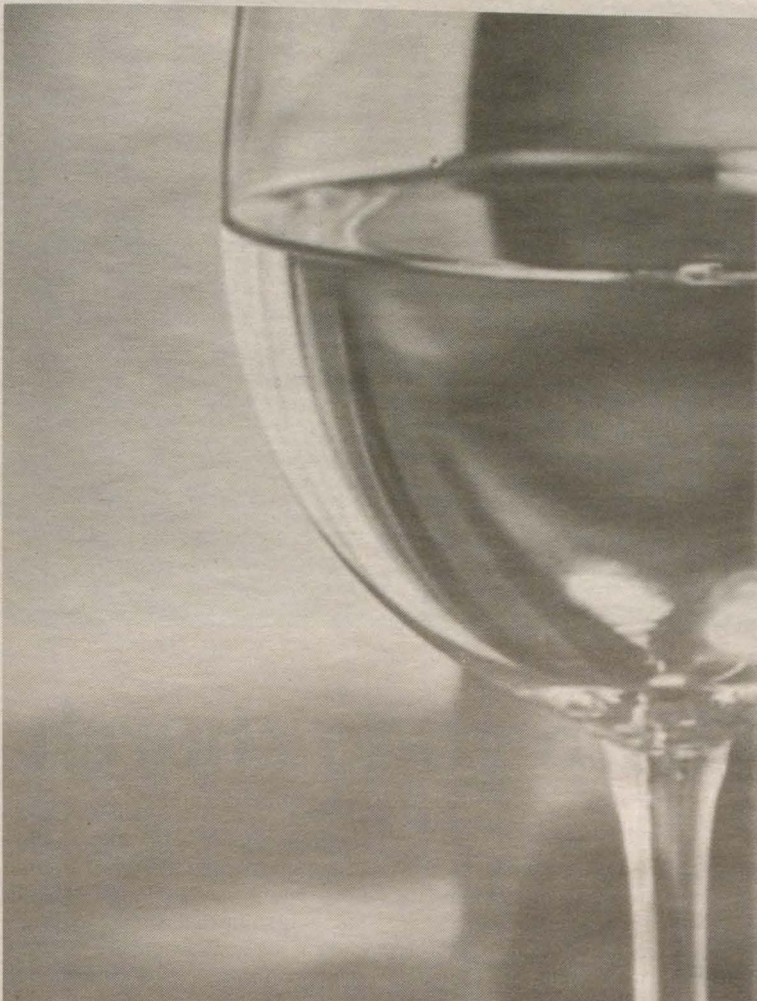
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STOCK PHOTO

## Nova Scotia Port of Wines Festival

ANDREW BERNARDO  
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Every year, thousands of wine enthusiasts descend on the Cunard Centre to sample the best wines Canada and the world have to offer.

For most, it's an opportunity to sample and buy wines not normally sold in the province.

The NSLC brings in hundreds of wines from major winemaking areas such as France, Australia, Germany and Italy, as well as smaller wine producing countries such as Lebanon, that fall into a variety of different price ranges.

For years, the Port of Wines Festival has been relatively inaccessible to the student budget. At \$55 for the afternoon tastings and \$60 for the evening, it's a hefty sum to dish out for some fermented grape juice.

However, the cost of the four three-hour tastings was more reasonable. While the evening tastings ran the regular cost of \$60, the price for the afternoon was lowered to \$35. For three hours of drinking some of the best wines in the world and eating delicious food prepared using local ingredients, the deal is tough to beat.

I rounded up a posse of school colleagues and we hit the tasting floors in search of vinous delights. The following is a list of highlights from the festival, all for under \$22. Most are available for purchase at the Port of Wines store on Queen Street or at the Bayers Lake location.

### Red Wine:

Altano Douro (Portugal, \$12.49): This wine displays great floral aromas with loads of dark berry flavors on the palate. Great structure, perfect with grilled meats, tomato based pastas and strong cheeses.

Perez Cruz Cabernet Sauvignon (Chile, \$18.99): The ultimate steak wine, this Cabernet Sauvignon features tons of explosive black fruit and chocolate on the palate. Not for the faint at heart.

Pepperwood Grove Syrah (California, \$17.24): A well structured Syrah with great dark and dried fruit characters. Firm notes of tobacco and spice on finish.

Ernest & Julio Gallo Sycamore

Canyon Zinfandel (California, \$13.99): An easy-drinking, medium-bodied Zinfandel. Lots of upfront-berry fruit with a touch of spice on the finish. A crowd pleaser.

Flagstone Dragon Tree (South Africa, \$19.39): A blend of Pinotage and Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine offers great dark fruit, mint and sandalwood on the palate.

Cathedral Cellar Triptych (South Africa, \$20.10): A blend of Cabernet, Merlot and Shiraz, this wine displays a wonderful vanilla and dark berry nose, with loads of rich red and dark fruit on the palate and a well-structured finish.

De Bortoli Vat 8 Shiraz (Australia, \$18.99): Not a jammy Shiraz by any stretch of the imagination. This is how Shiraz should be, with dark berry and spicy notes balanced by a lovely vanillin structure. A great buy.

### Red Wine of the Festival:

La Lignée Julien (France, \$19.83): Easily the best wine of the festival for under \$25. Great dried fruit characters augmented by red berry fruit and leather on the palate. A powerful wine that can be enjoyed glass after glass.

### White Wines:

Casa Lapostolle Sauvignon Blanc (Chile, \$18.24): Loads of tropical fruit on the palate with a grassy, citrus finish.

R.H. Phillips Toasted Head Chardonnay (California, \$18.99): Great California Chardonnay that offers rich vanilla flavors with hints of green apple on the finish.

Graham Beck Viognier (South Africa, \$21.77): A smooth, silky wine with a nice balance of citrus and floral on the nose and palate.

d'Arenberg "The Hermit Crab" Viognier-Marsanne (Australia, \$19.15): Great spice, stone fruit and honeysuckle on the nose and palate with a light almondy finish.

### White Wine of the Festival:

Alamos Chardonnay (Argentina, \$16.72): Great wine with loads of green apple and pear on the palate with a smooth, buttery finish.



LOUIS DECARLO

Fiddler Sierra Noble played at the Celtic Colours festival on Thanksgiving weekend.

# Celtic Colours

NICK KHATTER  
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Thanksgiving. What a wonderful holiday. A nice little break from school to see family, gorge yourself with turkey and celebrate the pilgrims' savage treatment of the natives.

This Thanksgiving, instead of making the pilgrimage home to see family, I persuaded my brother to accompany me on a road trip to Cape Breton.

For some time now, I've wanted to drive the Cabot Trail and shoot the magnificent landscape as the trees change colors.

The fact that Celtic Colours – the biggest Celtic festival in North America – was going on during that week sealed the deal. It would be the biggest party, taking place all over Cape Breton.

On Friday afternoon, we loaded armfuls of film, camera gear and hot pepperoni into the car. The escapee began.

The place we stayed in on the first night was my brother's best friend's 200-year-old mansion in a place called Pirate Harbor.

Legend has it that here, the notorious Captain Kidd first landed. The house we stayed in is locally known as the Steep Creek Mansion.

Friday night was the kick-off to the Celtic Colours Festival, which took place in the Port Hawkesbury Civic Center. On the bill, among other notables, was the famed and leg-

endary band The Chieftains, Britain's own five-decades-old Celtic band.

Also on the bill was Cape Breton native and King of Controversy Ashley MacIsaac. The show was indeed set.

To start the show off right, my brother and I had some drinks, continuing throughout the show and well into the night. The show itself, perhaps due to the pre-drinking, was wonderful.

However, the whole floor section was occupied by the retired generation. There was hardly a 20-something person to be found in the place.

The two remaining Chieftains – well into their 70s – were somewhat subdued, but ol' Ashley kicked 'er up a notch.

He managed to put on a performance so spirited that Premier Rodney MacDonald himself came out to cut the carpet.

That night ended with a Celtic jig conga line, and I woke up the next morning, Keith's in hand, facedown on the lawn.

The next day we drove the Cabot Trail, ate far too much pepperoni and pickled eggs, shot about ten rolls of film and indulged in some of the most beautiful landscape in Canada.

We decided to stay in the small town of Mabou that night for two reasons: to party at the renowned Red Shoe Pub, a 150-year-old general store converted into a bar and now owned by the Rankin family, and to

visit the residence my dad lived in when he was in junior high.

Turns out, there wasn't a vacancy to be had in Mabou. Fortunately, my brother is an excellent con artist and we managed to swindle someone's reservation at the inn, which was once our father's residence. Sorry, Guy Lajeneuse.

The entertainment that night at the Red Shoe was none other than Halifax's own Charlie A'Court. It was kind of strange having a blues musician playing an acoustic set at a Celtic bar in the heart of Celtic country (the road signs are in English and Gaelic) during the Celtic festival, but whatever.

A'Court is a great musician who writes heel-bruising tunes and has a voice that has yet to feel the wear and tear of cigarettes and whiskey familiar to other blues musicians.

The place wasn't packed, but it was wonderful for mingling and making quirky observations about the visitors from New England and Florida and their taste for Caesars and rum.

The night ended with the owner of the inn tracking us down out front of the hotel and screaming at us. We dared him to call the police. Then I puked in the dresser in our room.

Do yourself a favour: next Thanksgiving, forget the turkey. Instead, go enjoy some Celtic music, Cape Breton Scotch and amazing scenery. And stop in and say hello to Dave at the Mabou Inn. Avoid the dresser in room nine.



STOCK PHOTO

## Never Had I Ever... been to a gut farm

**PATRICK ST. AMAND**  
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

I worked at a fishery in the summer. We caught, processed and sold fresh fish.

Being a fisherman is fun, thrilling and beautiful. However, as a person who has seen the ins and the outs, fish are anything but fun, thrilling or beautiful.

Fish guts have to be locked up and put inside a freezer. This is simply to prevent decay and stench. Going into the freezer was revolting enough, but the space inside was limited. Eventually, the freezer would fill up, requiring a trip to the gut farm.

We spent a day loading the frozen guts, sealed in plastic tubs, onto the back of a large truck. Sturgeon heads looked up at me as we chiseled the tubs apart.

The next day, we were off to the farm.

Other employees of the fishery laughed and warned me that, in any event, I would vomit. This did not happen. By some luck or chance, my trip happened on a cooler day, so the stench was less intense.

My boss, a fellow employee and I left early in the morning and ventured 45 minutes into rural nowhere. Farmland was in every direction. Finally, we arrived at a field guarded by a simple fence.

Ahead I saw a big pile of what

looked to be dirt. There was nothing unusual or abnormal about it. We pulled ahead. That's when I got my first glimpse of the other side of the 'dirt' pile.

There was a black, tar-like substance in the middle. Fish skeletons were scattered everywhere. Luckily, it had been a long time since the last crew had dumped any guts, so there were, aside from the rancid contents in the back of our truck, no fresh guts.

We went outside and heard buzzing. Aside from heaps of fish compost, there were also thousands of flies. We got into our rubber overalls and opened the back of the truck.

The once-frozen boxes of guts had thawed overnight.

I got over my initial hesitation and began tossing the guts over the back of the truck. Some had scales, others had intestines and some had sturgeon heads and fins.

When the pile got too high for us to continue, our boss drove forward. Unfortunately, by doing so he managed to unearth the maggots within the piles.

We dumped the last of the guts and looked at the monstrosity we had created. Behind our truck was a huge mound of fish guts. We took the rubber overalls off, got in the truck and departed. For the 45-minute drive home, we said little.

The smell eventually faded, but the memory still lingers.



JOHN PACKMAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

## Tegan and Sara go to church

**J. MARY BURNET**  
COPY EDITOR

It was like a forest inside a church. Tegan and Sara played at St. Matthew's on Barrington Street last Tuesday night as part of the Halifax Pop Explosion.

Before the sisters hit the stage, the lights went down and plunking piano vibrated through the pews.

The audience, who sat through the fun, 90s-style pop rap of New York group Northern State, jumped to their feet, filling the aisles and mounting the benches. In the dark, the columns were like trees, the screams of fans echoed around the high-ceilinged building like owls

and onstage hung a backdrop of tree stumps.

Tegan and Sara played most of the songs from their new album *The Con*, which came out in July. Their international tour promoting the album will take them through Canada, the United States and Australia, ending in mid-December.

It's tough to dance when wedged between bibles, but the crowd managed some tentative shuffling and head-bobbing. The twins rewarded fans of their older music with several songs from 2004's *So Jealous*, "Monday Monday" and "Living Room" from 2002's *If It Was You* and even "Divided" from their 1999 album *Under Feet Like Ours*.

Sara won a rock, paper, scissors match against Tegan to play another beautiful old song - "When I Get Up."

A few lines into "Relief Next To Me," Sara stopped the music to tell the audience how she would like it if some elves, or maybe a giant, could come out and dance to the warbling synth.

Tegan suggested that maybe Sara has ADD.

The twins finished their set with an encore of a far-superior, indie version of Rihanna's "Umbrella" and a hard, banjo-less "Livingroom."

*Tegan and Sara will be playing on Wednesday night, same time, same place, to accommodate fans who missed out on the first show.*

## Don't make me blush

**CLAIRE LEE X. POSED**  
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

This summer I lived with a guy subletter. I didn't mind the messiness, or even the smell of his rugby gear. I am kind of a messy girl, so we complemented each other well over the summer months.

He worked an office job, which thankfully kept him out of the apartment every day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

I would wake up, make breakfast and have a shower, all the while not having to worry that he was lurking around the living room.

Because I didn't have to worry about my male roommate and due to the lack of air conditioning, I would walk around in the comfort of my apartment in just boxers.

Feeling liberated and comfortable sans shirt and bra, I was sitting in my living room with my laptop on my lap, thinking about what I should make for breakfast.

Out walks my subletter, dishevelled from sleeping in and only wearing a towel.

Mortified, I threw up my hands in an attempt to cover my bare chest, spurring out, "Oh dear God!" while he awkwardly turned away, holding

onto his towel as he scampered off to the shower.

When the coast was clear, I ran to my room and stayed there until he was finished his shower and out of the apartment.

Later when he came home from work, we uncomfortably laughed it off, but I was sure to keep myself covered for the remaining months of his lease.

*Do you have an embarrassing moment? Send it to arts@dalgazette.ca. You can remain anonymous if you wish, make up a name, or if you're feeling brave, use your own.*

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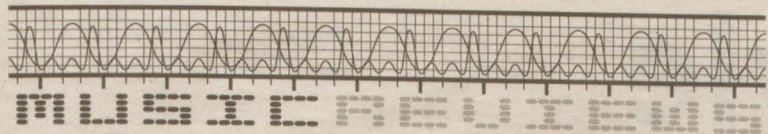
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## The Darcys - Endless Water

**NICK KHATTER**  
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

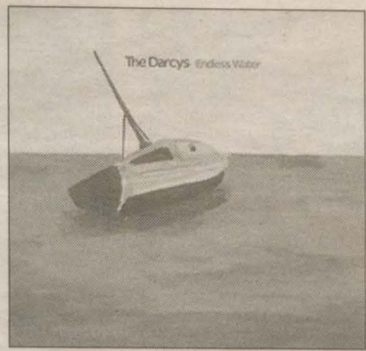
Just last year you could have called The Darcys local. With the band graduating from basement recording sessions and the members graduating from King's, you would now have to call them a Toronto band.

But don't hold it against them, because their new album, *Endless Water*, kicks ass.

The Darcys jump ship with a song called "Strange Fits," opening with public noise and what sounds like someone snapping a bunch of toothpicks in the middle of a desert-museum.

A low-fi indie rendition of a reverb guitar riff follows, along with violin that sounds like it belongs in a film score. The vocals weave a path of soothing sound.

*Endless Water* is packed with songs that make you wish you were sitting in a vast country field with a significant other, one of you in dusty old country slacks, the other in a white spring dress, picking flowers.



It's music you could nap to, or dance in the tall grass to.

The Darcys' music feels like country rock, sounds like low-fi Canadian indie, with enough funk in the middle to make a nice little Darcy cake. Delicious!

The band even throws in some French lyrics. With this bilingualism, you'd think they were another rip-apart-your-heart Montreal indie band.

I curse whoever didn't invite them to the Pop Explosion this year. But it makes sense - they've already exploded. Just wait for the shockwave.

## Sexsmith and Barber illuminate Rebecca Cohn

**BETHANY HORNE**  
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Everybody seemed happy to be in Halifax that night. On Oct. 13, the third date of their Atlantic tour together, Jill Barber and Ron Sexsmith played to a sold-out crowd at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium.

The blue lights descended on Barber as she and her three-man band kicked off the show with a cover of "La Vie en Rose."

Her set consisted of many songs from her 2006 East Coast Music Award winning album *For All Time*. One song was "Legacy," written about Rebecca Cohn herself, where Barber fancies her as a ghost who haunts the auditorium.

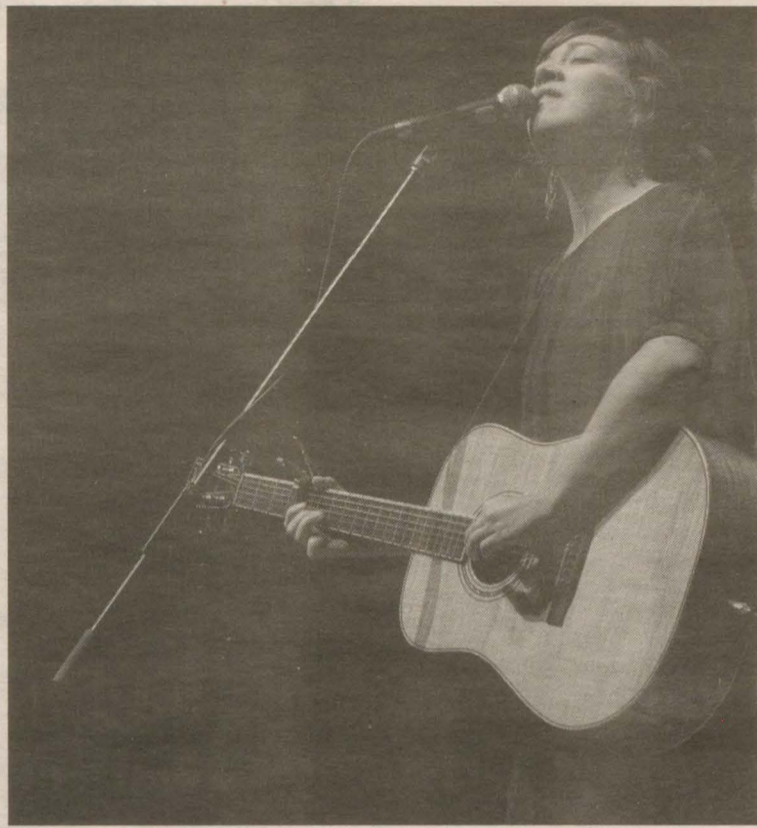
The song expresses Barber's desire to leave behind a legacy comparable to Cohn's, whether she writes "three chords or a symphony."

Barber will play a February show at the Cohn, where she will perform with Symphony Nova Scotia. In November, she will be joined by Rose Cousins and Meaghan Smith at the same venue. This benefit show will follow the release of a holiday album called *A New Kind of Light*, available at Lawtons drugstores throughout the Maritimes as of Oct. 14.

The show and CD were conceived of as an effort to give back to the community. All of the proceeds from both will go to Maritime food banks, "in time for Christmas!" said Barber onstage.

Ron Sexsmith took the stage after a brief intermission. He grabbed the attention of the crowd with a bright, all-white suit.

"I've been saving this crazy suit for the Halifax show," he said.



JOHN PACKMAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

He opened with animated renditions of "Dandelion Wine," from his 2003 album *Rarities*, as well as two songs from his new album, *Time Being*.

Sexsmith's set incorporated a wide variety of songs, including selections from all of his ten albums, an Anne Murray cover and a new song. He even honoured some obscure requests fans made before the show on his website.

Sexsmith switched from guitar

to piano to perform the crowd favourite, "Gold in Them Hills," and to introduce a soulful song from the album he's currently working on - what he called "the most expensive record [to produce] since *Thriller*."

Jill Barber returned during the encore to sing background vocals on "Riverbed." The ghost of Rebecca Cohn did not make an appearance, though. Perhaps this means the masterful songs performed that night were to her liking.



## We Own The Night

**RORY CLARK**  
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

*We Own The Night* opens with black and white stills of NYPD officers in different situations. In one, an officer shows off an open violin case with a shotgun inside. In the other, we see an officer's ankle with a revolver strapped to it.

From this opening, it seems as if the movie is going to be about the struggle of the NYPD against organized crime - specifically the Russian mafia.

And while it is about the Russian mafia to some extent, the movie mostly focuses on the turmoil and trials of the Grusinsky family, in relation to the drug war being waged in 1980s New York City.

The members of the Grusinsky family are night club manager Bobby Green (Joaquin Phoenix), NYPD Lieutenant Joseph Grusinsky (Mark Wahlberg) and NYPD Deputy Chief Burt Grusinsky (Robert Duvall).

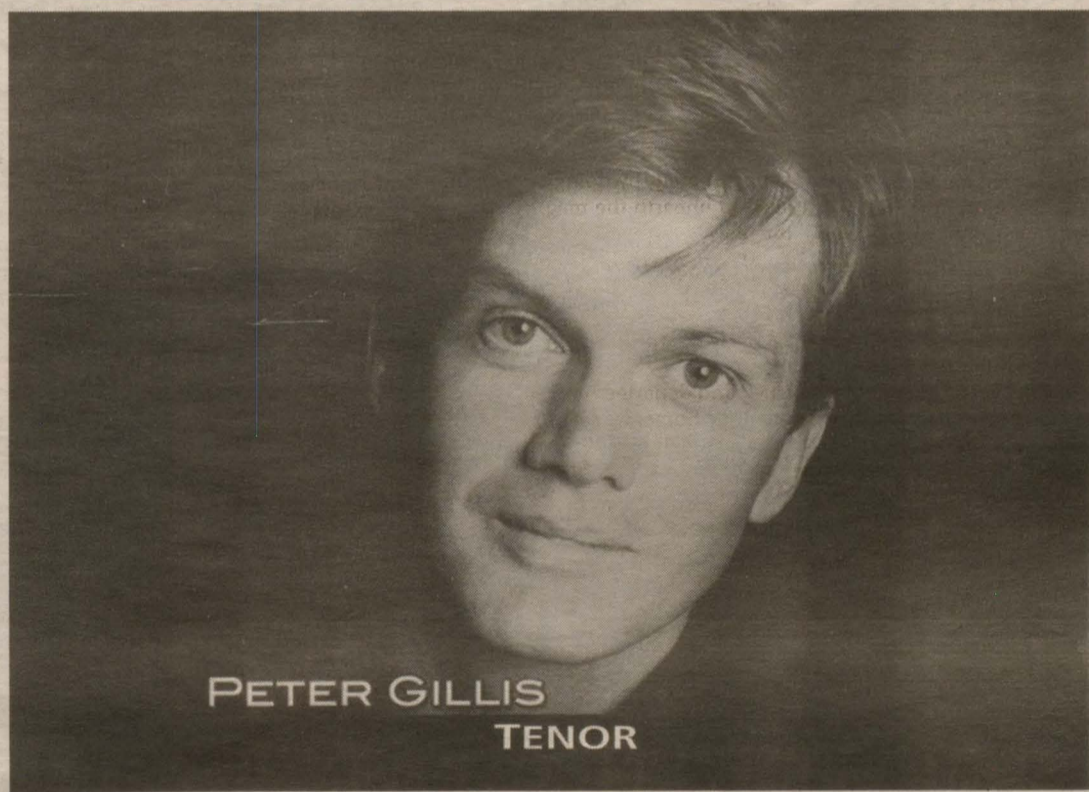
The family begins to get torn apart as Green, who is hiding his connection to the police, runs a Russian nightclub frequented by members of the mafia who the police are after.

The effects of the drug war on the family lead to some emotionally charged scenes that overpower the action scenes and give the movie a very dark vibe.

A lot of people are probably going to be drawn to this movie because of the all-star cast, and they won't be disappointed.

Duvall does what he does best by bringing out the old-school, tough bastard character. But the stand out performance of the movie belongs to Phoenix.

Phoenix plays a loving son and brother stuck in the middle of the drug war. He feels like an outsider in his family with his cop brother and father, and is terrified for their safety. He gives a performance riddled with emotion and desperation.



PETER GILLIS  
TENOR

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in room 312 of the SUB

# Streetstyle

Midterms don't affect students' sense of style



**JESSICA BRUS**

first-year arts

**Where did you get that?**

Jeans from Tsubi in Australia, and the bag is Yves Saint Laurent.

**What inspires you?**

The Olsen twins.

**What were you thinking when you got dressed this morning?**

Well, I was wearing something else, but I put this on instead because it's cold out.



**JAIMIE CUTHBERTSON**

second-year commerce

**Where did you get that?**

The jacket is my mom's. I don't know, some things are old, some new...I like to mix and match.

**What inspires you?**

I'm pretty into fashion and I love Sienna Miller, the Olsen twins...

**What were you thinking when you got dressed this morning?**

I had to be comfortable to do some work, but I still wanted to look good!



**KATRINA CHAPMAN**

fourth-year science

**Where did you get that?**

The hat is from Value Village, my jeans from Calgary.

**What inspires you?**

Different things, random things. I find things that aren't me and try to work with it. I like to look different - not too plain, but not crazy.

**What were you thinking when you got dressed this morning?**

That I didn't want to look like a bum today.



**EMMA HAVES**

second-year linguistics and philosophy

**Where did you get that?**

My boots are from Dressed In Time

**What inspires you?**

No idea. I like colors - things that don't normally match. I usually just wear what's lying around.

**What were you thinking when you got dressed this morning?**

Chinese. Ha - I have a Chinese midterm, so I really just got dressed and left.



**NICK LACHANCE**

not a student

**Where did you get that?**

The hat was a gift from my mother, a Christmas gift from Australia. The blazer is a Value Village find

**What inspires you?**

Being more of an individual, being comfortable. I like grey and brown. I like to look pretty.

**What were you thinking when you got dressed this morning?**

COFFEE!!!

**CHEN CHEN**

second-year Master of E-commerce

**Where did you get that?**

The dress was a gift from China, my boots are from Aldo and the bag is also from China. I went back and bought a lot.

**What inspires you?**

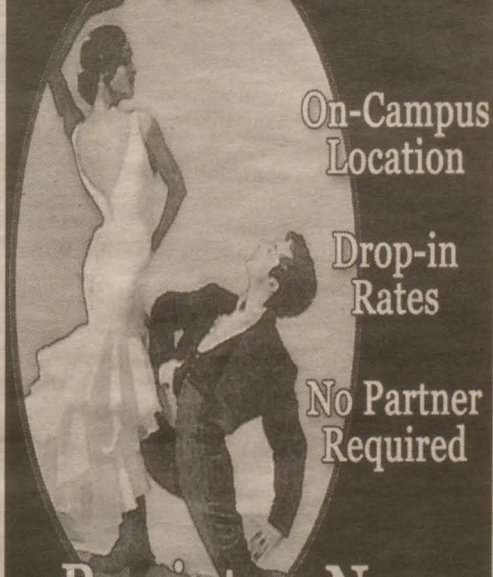
I like magazines - Vogue, Japanese magazines...

**What were you thinking when you got dressed this morning?**

I wore this to a wedding.



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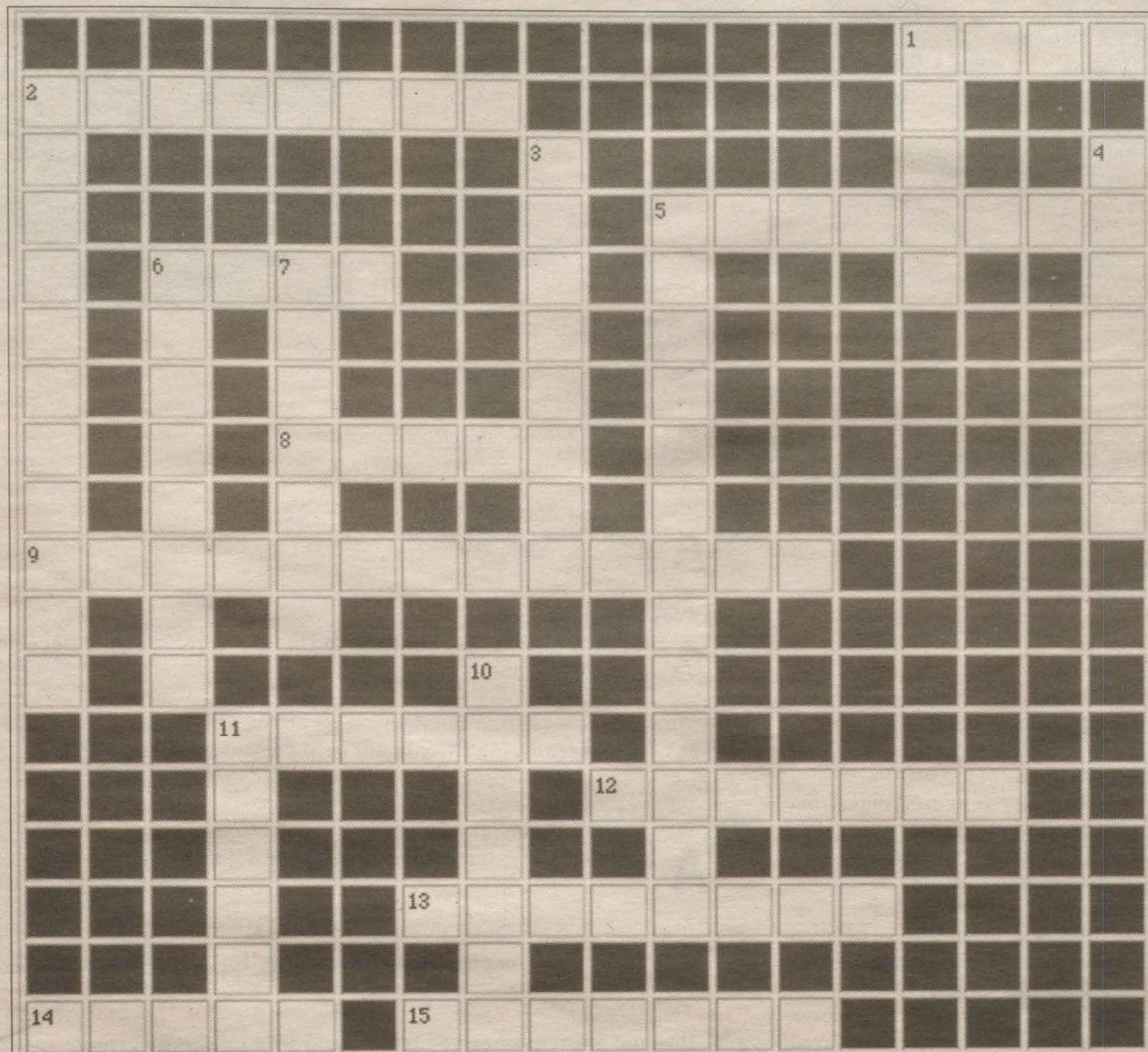
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# CROSSWORD

To B or not to B



- Across**
- The second letter of the Greek Alphabet
  - An unmarried man
  - The final nine holes in an 18-hole course in Golf (2wds)
  - \_\_\_ boom
  - British informal term for a man or fellow
  - A clumsy person prone to drop things
  - A chest of drawers
  - Hard but easily broken
  - The buttocks
  - A chewy, ring-shaped bread roll that is simmered before baking
- Down**
- A villain (2 wds)
  - Hair colour
  - A person who betrays a friend or associate
  - A club with a heavy end
  - A tight embrace (2 wds)
  - Tight-fitting, thigh-length elastic shorts with a padded crotch (2wds)
  - A long narrow loaf of bread
  - An insulating layer of fat in whales
  - A rich sweet desert of flaky pastry, honey and nuts
  - Forgive and forget

# HOROSCOPES



**LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)**  
You have been struck with luck this week. That lightning bolt you've been hiding from under the trees is going to get you no matter how short you pretend to be. Be excited, because this streak of luck will uncover an untouched pepperoni stick on the counter.



**SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)**  
You need to extinguish an old flame. Someone is holding onto you for dear life and it's up to you whether you want to let them go or not. Just do the nicest thing possible and you will get a lollipop. Your computer screen is the one who has been watching you, so give it a good show.



**SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21)**  
The chair you've been sitting on only has three legs. The question is, who kicked the fourth one out from under you? If you have been feeling blue, don't worry - you will be happy after the sun goes into your moon later on this week. The fish will be yours.



**CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)**  
Someone has been spraying you with a water gun when you're not looking. The only trouble is, it doesn't look like water; it looks more like apple juice. Don't worry, you'll get the sucker back when luck comes back into your life with an extra dash of fun. Let that twinkle in your eye get you what you desire.



**AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)**  
This week you are the chosen one. The Sasquatch you keep spotting in the bushes is finally ready to be invited inside. Make sure to have the table set and broccoli steaming. The beast is hungry and you are the only one who can tame it. Your cell phone is ringing silence your embarrassing ring tone.



**PISCES (February 20 - March 20)**  
You don't make friends with salad. But, in your case, you don't make friends with a sour face. Sprinkle everything you do with sugar and everyone will forget about the negatives. The pie is your limit.



**ARIES (March 21 - April 20)**  
Who said pigs can't fly? Because, in your case, pigs are going to be crowding the skies this week. The impossible is achievable. You have thrown off the emperor's groove and made it your own. So go out and tap your foot to the beat.



**TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)**  
Stop eating dirt. Well, the metaphorical dirt your friends have been feeding you. According to the 10 second rule, it's OK to eat that piece of apple that fell on the ground. But no, it's not OK to pick up that Swedish berry you just found lying on the sidewalk. What would Mr. Clean do if he saw that go down? Be strong, be clean.



**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**  
The confusion will end this week and a rainbow will appear. You will be the happiest you have been in a while. This could be due to the extra loving coming from all directions. Look left, look right. Look wherever you want, it's all good.



**CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**  
You are looking for a left-handed can opener but you are right-handed. It must mean that you are in love. Rather than trying to win over your lover with another glitzy gift, how about just telling them how you feel. A smile is worth more than a limited edition Tickle-Me-Elmo.



**LEO (July 24 - August 23)**  
Your bananas are ripening and so are your manners. So put them to good use. Love is in the air and waiting to be courted. Show them you know how to say please and thank you, and the desert will pay for itself. Watch out - someone has grinded too much pepper in your spaghetti. A sneeze is inevitable.



**VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)**  
You are the grand stallion this week. The horse you have been riding will lead you to great victory. Just make sure you are prepared fully to remove the sword from the stone. Hercules will be your partner in crime. You have not been laughing nearly enough. This week laugh louder than you normally ever would. It will feel so good and attract the people and things you have been hoping for

Martina Jakubchik-Paloheimo

Come to the next Gazette contributor meeting:  
on Monday, October 22 @ 5:30 p.m.  
in room 312 of the SUB

## Teach English in Japan

Interac is accepting applications for teaching positions commencing in April 2008.

Qualified candidates must:

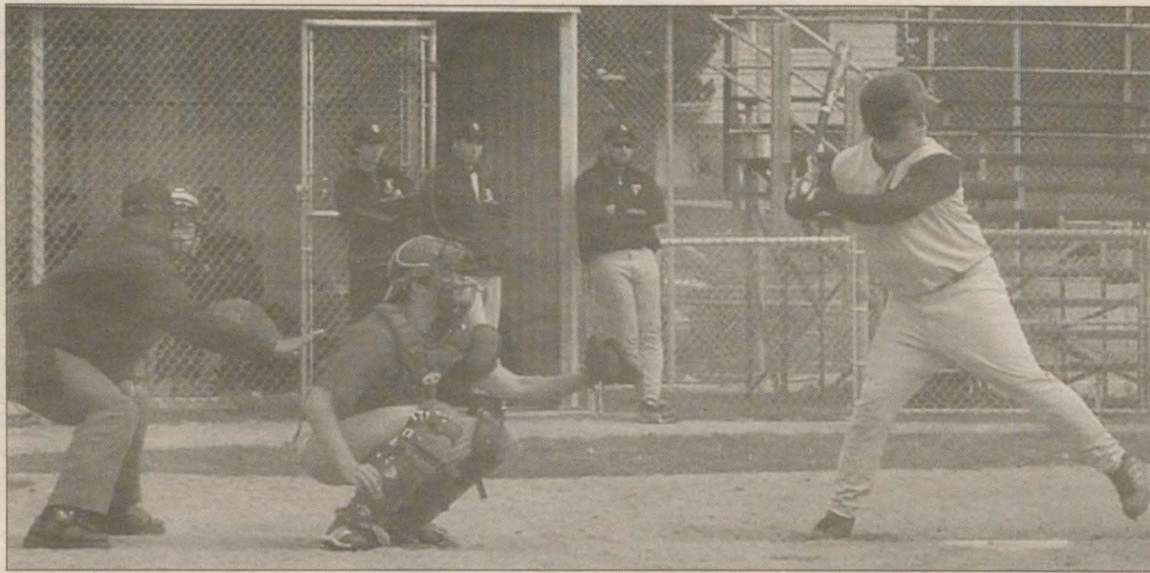
- Possess a university degree
- Be native/fluent English speakers
- Have teaching experience and Japanese language ability (preferred, but not required)

Visit [www.interac.ca.jp/recruit](http://www.interac.ca.jp/recruit) for more information or to apply online.



- Across
- Bea
  - Bachelor
  - Back Nine
  - Baby
  - Blake
  - Butterfingers
  - Bureau
  - Brittle
  - Backside
  - Backstage
  - Bygone
- Down
- Blond
  - Backstabber
  - Bludgeon
  - Bear Hug
  - Bicycle Shorts
  - Baguette
  - Blubber
  - Baklava
  - Bygone
  - Blond
  - Blond

Crossword Answers:



DUNCAN MACLELLAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

"I always look forward to university baseball," MacLellan says.

## Ball club is best kept secret

JULIE SOBOWALE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Dalhousie has a great baseball team. The Tigers have a 10-6 regular season record and defeated the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds in a three-game series to advance to the Atlantic Conference finals. Right outfielder Adam Hayter describes the Tigers as "the best kept secret—" a team with little notoriety but great success.

"Most people think it's a joke when I tell them Dal has a baseball team," Hayter says. "We're in a highly competitive league. People are surprised how good we are when they see us."

Part of the problem is where they play their home games. The Tigers play off-campus on the Mainland Commons in Clayton Park, well out of downtown Halifax.

"No one from school comes to watch us because we're so far from campus," says starting pitcher Duncan MacLellan. "I think it's kind of weird to have so many football fields in the city but not any baseball fields. We don't get a lot of press either, so it's hard to get a good turnout."

Founded in 1995, the Tigers baseball club is part of the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association (CIBA). Each year the Tigers play against five other teams in the Atlantic Conference in hopes of advancing

to the national championships.

Half of this year's lineup is comprised of rookies, along with fourth-year veteran MacLellan. Because there is no age limit, many CIBA teams have players in their mid to late 20s. More experienced players like Hayter mentor rookies to help them adjust to playing against older opponents.

"All that travelling means lots of time for bonding," Hayter says. "When you're new, you look up to the older guys and try to learn as much as you can. Now I'm one of the older guys. It doesn't feel that long ago when I was still the younger ones. I want to keep the tradition alive of being a respectful ball club."

The season lasts only a few weeks, with 16 regular season games in the fall due to poor weather conditions. MacLellan believes players must quickly adjust from high school midget baseball to the league, just as he did three years ago.

"Tryouts are always during frosh week, which means we start our season right when school starts," MacLellan says. "I tried out my first year when I was only 18 years old. Being from Toronto, I was still adjusting to everything. In my first weekend away from home, I had to travel with a bunch of guys I didn't know too well to Cape Breton for our season opener. It's a big adjustment. I came from being one of the oldest on my high school team to playing with guys who were 21 or 22

years old, but I loved it."

Each year the playoffs begin on Thanksgiving weekend. Teams play a three-game series in each round. The championship series is usually played during the last weekend in October. Bad weather is common in the final weeks of the season.

"We've played in everything from rain to hail to snow," MacLellan says. "Every year some of our regular season games are rained out. Last year in the finals it was snowing the entire time and play was eventually suspended after five innings in the last game."

The Tigers have playoff experience. They won the CIBA national title in 1996. In 2005, they played against the York University Lions in the CIBA semi-finals. Last year, the Tigers lost in the three-game championship series against the McGill University Redbirds. This year the championships will be played in Moncton, hosted by the Atlantic Baptist University from Oct. 19 to 21.

Because baseball is a club sport, players don't receive the benefits varsity players do, like exemptions from class and adequate funding. However, his love of the game continues to draw MacLellan to the club.

"I play about 60 to 80 games in the summer leagues, but I always look forward to university baseball," MacLellan says. "It's a tough road, but there's no way I would give this up. It's just too fun."

## Chatting with the keeper

Ben Ur is the 18-year old rookie goalkeeper for the Dalhousie Tigers men's soccer team.



JULIE SOBOWALE  
SPORTS EDITOR

**Q**. Interesting name.  
**A**. Yeah. It's one I have to repeat a lot.

**Q**. When did you start playing soccer?  
**A**. When I was nine or 10 years old.

**Q**. Play any other sports?  
**A**. I used to play hockey but I had to stop three years ago. It became too tough to commit to both.

**Q**. Wow, two sports. Your family must be athletic.  
**A**. No, not really. My parents are both doctors.

**Q**. Why become a goalie?  
**A**. It's interesting. It's a lot of pressure but it's still fun.

**Q**. Pressure doesn't sound like fun.  
**A**. It's a lot of responsibility and a little bit crazy. That's the fun apart.

**Q**. How did you feel when you played your first university game?  
**A**. I was nervous, definitely. It was exciting. Everything in that game worked out pretty well.

**Q**. How have you been adjusting from playing in high school to university?  
**A**. It's been okay. It's a lot more physically demanding than in high school but it's working out the way I planned.

**Q**. Traditionally, goalies have the most pressure on them, particularly when teams are losing. How are you dealing with the Tigers' poor performance?  
**A**. We've been doing all right (as a team). We know we could've done better this season. I've tried to sort stuff out with the defenders to correct our mistakes and we're hoping to end the season well.

**Q**. What do you do when you're not studying or practicing?  
**A**. Playing NHL 08 with my friends.

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## Athletes of this week

### FEMALE ATHLETE



STEPHANIE COLLINS  
SOCCER

Stephanie Collins led Dal to a strong 2-0 win over Acadia. She anchored the defence, which saw three new players playing in different positions. Collins just came from a national tournament where she played five games in six days. She is a fourth-year kinesiology student from Calgary.

Other nominees: Jess Gray (Volleyball), Alex Legge (Basketball), Caroline McInnes (Cross Country)



### MALE ATHLETE



RUSSELL CHRISTIE  
CROSS COUNTRY

Russell Christie led the Tigers to a team victory on Saturday at UNB. Christie put on a late surge over the final two kilometres to finish second and cement Dal's victory. The Tigers defeated five teams at the meet with an extremely tight battle for first. The

Tigers finished in front of StFX by a single point. This is the second straight meet in which Christie has led the Tigers' effort. Christie, the 2006 AUS Champion, hails from

Petrolia, Ont. and is a third-year pharmacy student.

Other nominees: Simon Farine (Basketball), Jordan Morrison (Hockey), Erik Montgomery (Volleyball), Ross Hagen (Soccer)



## DAL TIGERS

### FRIDAY'S BASKETBALL GAME HIGHLIGHTS A WORTHY CAUSE!

The CIS Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) proudly announced a joint fundraising effort to take place throughout the 2007-08 season to raise money for the Canadian Breast Cancer Society.

Dalhousie has selected Friday's match up against Fraser Valley as the game they will use to highlight this important initiative. Look for educational information, special promotions and ways to give. Please join the Tigers in supporting this worthy cause.

### SUBWAY CENTENNIAL WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

**OCT. 19-21** FRIDAY 3:00PM CALGARY vs. SIFX  
5:00PM LAURIER vs. SMU  
7:00PM FRASER VALLEY vs. DAL

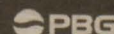
SATURDAY GAMES AT 3PM, 5PM AND 7PM  
SUNDAY GAMES AT 9AM, 11AM AND 1PM

**OCT. 20** SOCCER vs. SMU, W 1PM, M 3PM  
WOMEN'S HOCKEY HOME OPENER vs. STU, 2:30PM

**OCT. 21** SOCCER vs. UNB, W 1PM, M 3PM  
WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. UPEI, 2PM

ADMISSION IS FREE FOR DAL STUDENTS WITH ID

WWW.ATHLETICS.DAL.CA





The

E O L A S A G U S O B A I R

# SEXTANT

This story was written by Angela Alambets, an Engineers Without Borders volunteer who was living in the small town of Donkorkrom, in the Eastern Region of Ghana for four months this past summer.

She was volunteering with a Ghanaian based non-governmental organization called the Rural Enterprises Project (REP), which worked towards reducing poverty in rural areas and improving the living conditions of vulnerable groups and women by helping them to start micro- and small businesses.

Volunteering at the District level of the organization, at the Business Advisory Centre (BAC), and living with her Ghanaian family, she was inspired by many clients of the project including one of her neighbours, Mrs. Dina Moyo.

## Mrs. Dina Moyo – Powder, Pomade and Petty Trader

There are many things that Dina prays for, maybe more than most in her community. When she heard about REP from an announcement at the church, she knew she should take the opportunity to improve her life.

With newly born twins, in addition to 3 other school-aged children, a nephew attending secondary school, and a husband requiring a surgical operation, she did not have to look far for a reason to gain a second income. The family farm was providing food for her family and a small income, but it was continually insufficient for their current needs.

In the mornings, Dina tends to the children, feeding, bathing, preparing and sending them school – an opportunity she did not have as a child. She then prepares herself for the farm. But the new children have made farming more difficult.

Her farm is about an hour walk from her home, and she cannot always find assistance to carry the children to the farm. Often she would, and still does, walk with one child on her back and the other on the front, only to arrive at the farm and turn around for home because of fatigue.

The hardships of her life were apparent to many people in the community, so when she told them she was going to try with everything she had to start a business with making pomade (a hair product) and powder, many doubts were cast upon her.

She would not concede that being a woman made it any more difficult to start a business. But her required attention for the children, at home, on the farm, and during the programme are something that a mother might not recognize as an additional barrier to success. Instead, it was regenerating strength. Her children are after all, her biggest motivation.

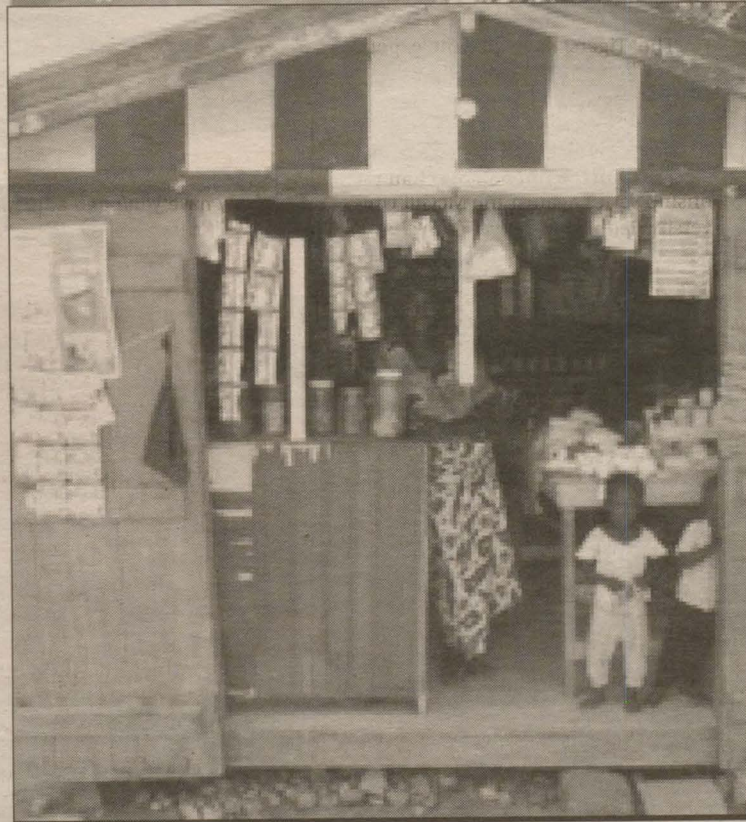
For the year since Dina started selling pomade and powder and petty trading, there have been many positive changes in her family's life. She was very unhappy with her life before she started her business, and although she does not admit to complete happiness still, she does give credit to the business for making her and her children happier and healthier.

She was able to pay for her husband's operation. She has seen an increased amount of food that her family takes in each day. She has seen improved health in her children, who, although it is difficult to credit any one reason, have fallen ill less often since the business has opened; she has also found it much easier to pay for medication when the children do fall ill.

She and her husband are still farming, but they have been able to put more money into the farming since the business started. She would like to see both her farm and her business expand in the future.

### Alliance with REP

It was in 2005 that Dina heard about REP. She was very blessed to have had a friend to relay the mes-



sage from church because many farmers do not hear announcements like this one. A farmer's busy schedule only lets them hear about things that happen on the farm. But she did hear, and walked to the BAC where she inquired about the program.

During the Pomade and Powder programme, the twins were requiring much of Dina's attention.

The BAC recognized that she was unable to learn all of the necessary skills and requested that the facilitator give her special attention upon closing of the programme to ensure she understood everything that was covered.

It was this meeting in the BAC office that made such a difference to her. In fact, when asked about her motivation to start her business, apart from her family, her biggest motivation was the facilitator. Making a personal connection can go a long way.

Saving up the money for the necessary materials was not easy for Dina, nor was purchasing the small kiosk that currently houses her second income. But as soon as she reached her monetary goal, she notified the BAC, who upon return from

a trip to Kumasi (a city in central Ghana), presented her with her first batch of raw materials. Her business has been in operation ever since.

The doubts people had of her turned into surprise and admiration. They find it hard to believe that she managed to start the business. She tells people it was through the BAC staff that she was able to do it, and because she cannot read or write, she cannot teach about how she did it. She can only direct them to the BAC.

### The Future

With the money she saved from the powder and pomade, the foundation of her business, she continues to build outward and upward. But, the existence of the business has not taken any part of her motherly intuition away from her.

When asked what she would do, what her dream as, if she was able to save money from an expansion of her business, she simply laughed and replied that she only wants to be able to support her family; to take care of her children and to give them the opportunity of the highest level of education she possibly can.

## An open letter commerce students

Dear commerce students,

Congratulations on winning second place this Friday night. Throughout the long list of "Commerce Student Accomplishments" no doubt that winning second in tomorrow's "Trivia Challenge @ the T-Room" will certainly be a highlight for both your academic and professional careers.

Even though only two teams are competing, you won't need to tell any of your peers from upper campus about your defeat, simply tell them that you placed second and they'll buy it.

Now you must be thinking, "It's not over until the fat lady sings." You would be wrong to think that. You see, it has been put forth that this coming Friday night's "Trivia Challenge @ the T-Room – Engineering vs. Commerce" is going to be an equal and fair test of brains between the respective faculties.

Being the clever engineer that I am, I went behind the hype to discover the truth about this highly anticipated showdown. I decided that the best way to determine wit and intellectual intelligence was to observe both engineering and economic achievements during the past century.

Engineers over the past century have discovered/invented such useful things as: automobiles, the internet, radio, and television. These are clear examples of engineering brilliance.

However, according to the Oxford Review of Economic Policy's summary (1999, vol. 15, issue 4, pages 1-17), the past century's economics, both globally and at home, were at best average to below-average.

Here's an excerpt: "Yet, the century's economic history was marred by policy and market failures resulting in a massive world-wide depression, frequent financial crises (particularly in the developing world), and several inflation spurts."

The article continues to note that many planning policies have set back development for billions of

people. Against those kinds of blunders, I think little thought is required to who tomorrow's obvious winner will be.

Now, commerce students, you must be thinking: "That was then, this is now." But just as I have shown, you are wrong again. Let us look to the present.

Engineering firms and/or engineering students are starting their own Web 2.0 developments, green designs, and are completely revolutionizing how processes and industries operate on a day-to-day basis. Economic policy is slow, almost stagnant, and requires very little creative thinking. Everything is placed in a simplistic box, a routine of theories and practices that have kept world economics inactive.

Therefore the question remains: what has a commerce student recently done to grab news attention? He made a sexy calendar...and he was a SMU student.

With that kind of creativity seemingly unmatched at Dalhousie, I am predicting an easy victory for the engineering faculty.

My dearest commerce students don't be frightened by our intellectual superiority. There will be drinks and laughs to be had, so please join us and simply have fun.

Don't concern yourselves with who wins or who loses, just do like you do in class...not a whole lot, and let the engineers teach you a few things tomorrow night.

Best of Luck,

A concerned engineering student.

*\*Editors note: The Engineering vs. Commerce Trivia Challenge will go down on Friday night (Oct 19) starting at 9PM at the T-Room. Cover will be \$3 and regular power hour drink specials will be available. Mini challenges including a limbo competition and a dance competition will also be held. The event is open to everyone. Engineering students are reminded to wear their Dal-Eng t-shirts.*

## Upcoming T-Room Events

Thurs. Oct. 18th - Fall Fest Open Mic

Fri. Oct. 19th - Commerce vs. Engineering Trivia Challenge

Wed. Oct 24 - Dal Science Society Trivia night

Thurs. Oct. 25 - Stairs Street & possibly Graduate Planning Society Night

## Fall Fest Open Mic

**JOEL ROBAILLE**  
SEXTON CAMPUS ENTERTAINMENT  
DIRECTOR

Open Mic Night is the ultimate tool to uncover hidden talent in the unsuspected masses. The question remains: is there talent hidden in the Sexton Campus student body? If the two Sextant Campus bands, Anew Airship and Stairs Street, playing at the T-room in the next few weeks are any indication, the answer is yes. I strongly believe there are oodles of talent in the many disciplines of Sexton Campus.

It is your job to come out and

prove me right. Sexton Campus has a tradition of student talent being supported by student audiences, from the turntable dj's that rocked the t-room a couple years ago to campus bands still playing today. Alexander Leung will be hosting the event as well as performing, and Engineers Without Borders will be running a society night during the evening.

The open mic will run from 9:30pm - 11:00pm with each person doing 3 songs (approx 15 minutes each). Interested parties can contact Alexander Leung at AL391031@dal.ca or sign up at the event Fall Fest Open Mic on Facebook.

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