

FREE

January 19th to 26th, 2006

ISSUE 138-16

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

Gazette

Breaking the silence

Engineering student blows whistle on campus cheating, pg 5

Jack Layton's moustache
explored at length pgs 6,9,10

Dal hockey player
pg 17 stacks his chips

In-Flight Safety
crash lands in Halifax pg 13

King's College blokes
pg 4 hit up *The Daily Show*

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

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Contributor meetings take place every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in Room 312 of the Dalhousie SUB starting the first week of the new year. Our offices are officially closed from Thursday December 1st 2005 until the first week of 2006. Whether you want to write, give us ideas, or take pictures, we can find a place for you.

CORRECTION

In "DSU to engage students in developing future plan" (*Gazette* 138:15), we mistakenly spelled Tim Merry's name incorrectly. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.



Gareth MacDonald (L) and Paul McLeod (R) came up with the idea for the film while drinking at Pogue Fado. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

King's college students make it to *The Daily Show*

JESS MCDIARMID
Assistant News Editor

Two University of King's College students have produced commercials on the upcoming federal election to air during Jon Stewart's *The Daily Show* on Jan. 19.

"The whole thing's been pretty fun," says Paul McLeod, who, along with Gareth MacDonald, created and starred in each of the three clips.

McLeod and MacDonald entered the clips into a competition sponsored by the King's Film Collective and the King's Student Union, which purchased air time during the popular show to broadcast commercials encouraging students to vote. For just under \$100, the KSU grabbed three 30-second slots on CTV during the show.

Winners of the competition were chosen by a show of hands at a Jan. 10 screening of the seven entries.

Two of McLeod and MacDonald's films were chosen, along with "First Time," a film by Jess Wishart, Jodey Shupac and Emily Platt.

But the Television Bureau of Canada didn't approve "First Time" for broadcast. According to Lerna Ardasis, a TV commercial analyst at TVB, there was "implied alcohol con-

sumption" in the first scene, which is against regulations.

Wishart says she's disappointed the commercial was cut.

"It's supposed to be their first time drinking, and they have a couple bottles in hand, then they throw up, so [it was rejected]," says Wishart. "It's really annoying."

The trio could have re-shot something to replace the video, Wishart says, but they only found out their film had not been approved on Friday morning, and would have had to have a new version done by the afternoon.

As a result, McLeod and MacDonald's third film, the runner-up in the contest, will air instead.

"It would have been nice to maybe get some more diversity, but those were the most popular from the students," says Dave Jerome, Vice President (External) of the KSU. The union encourages students to watch the film that was cut on the KSU website.

"We're still acknowledging that they were one of the most popular ones, and we're going to promote that as much as possible," he says.

McLeod and MacDonald, who were interviewed by the CBC about their commercials last Saturday, came up with the ideas for their film

while lounging in Pogue Fado, says McLeod.

The films show the pair talking outside King's and at the Halifax harbour about the election and significant issues such as health care and the Iraq War.

"It's supposed to sort of mock the stereotype of the typical teenager who has no idea what's going on in the world around them," says McLeod.

TVB's Ardasis enjoyed the students' work so much she recommended they enter the clips for consideration for a Bessie Award, a group of annual awards given to the best commercials in Canada.

"I thought they were well-made, and they were humorous and refreshing from the types of commercials we're seeing lately," says Ardasis.

McLeod says they'll look into it, because it would be "really funny" if they won, since no one knows what the Bessie Awards are. And, if there was a ceremony, he'd love to make a speech.

"And just say, 'Oh, growing up and watching the Bessie Awards, it's a dream and no one actually thinks they'd make it to this point,'" he says, laughing. "Bessie Awards? You just picture a golden cow when you think of it."

Project to bring cleaner energy, less emissions to Dal

DAWN MCPHEE
News Contributor

Dalhousie may be switching its fuel source to natural gas and overhauling its heating system over the next few years, as the federal and provincial governments have each agreed to put \$20 million into a Community Energy Project.

The project, which consists of a partnership between the provincial government, HRM, St. Mary's University, the Capital District Health Authority, and Dal, will see the development of a new system to heat a number of institutions with natural gas.

Dal's buildings are currently heated with Bunker C fuel, a highly polluting energy source. In most parts of North America, burning Bunker C is outlawed. But until December 2003, the fuel was the only option available in Halifax, and remains cheaper and more readily available than natural gas.

If the Community Energy Project is implemented, greenhouse gas

emissions will be reduced by as much as 128,000 tonnes each year.

"It is seen as a project to contribute significantly to Kyoto agreements," says Jeff Lamb, director of facilities management at Dal, and the university's representative on the project's steering committee.

Dal's boiler system now operates close to full capacity due to new buildings erected on the campus. The university is ready to invest in a new system, but because it already spends roughly \$10 million on utilities each year, it couldn't afford to make the conversion to natural gas without additional funding, says Lamb.

"The bottom line is Bunker C is dirty but cheap, and Dal needs to be paid to get rid of the dirty," says Lamb.

The switch from Bunker C to natural gas has to be cost-effective for Dal, he says, and government funding makes the system viable for the university. But negotiations between partners are still underway.

The conversion to natural gas will not involve a great deal of structural

change, he says.

"We already have the infrastructure in place. It is more tweaking than anything else."

The project aims to build a 15-megawatt energy plant that would use natural gas to heat Dal, SMU, the Victoria General Hospital and the Halifax Infirmary.

Cathie O'Toole, Manager of Environmental Performance for HRM, estimates the project's total cost will be between \$45 and \$50 million.

"The energy system is environmentally appealing to all three levels of government," says O'Toole. "The project is really unique in the fact that there are so many different organizations involved working cooperatively. There are enough common objectives to make it work."

O'Toole says the heating system would be the second-largest gas turbine-driven system in Canada, second only to one in Toronto.

If the project is approved, engineering plans would begin in the spring, and the system would be up and running in two or three years.



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Cheating on campus

Student blows whistle on case to give problem higher profile

REID SOUTHWICK | News Editor

A Dalhousie student liaison has reported to an associate dean of engineering that an alleged incident of cheating occurred in the faculty during an exam in December.

But Jeff Green, Vice President (Academic) of the Dal undergraduate engineering society, says he's been asked by an engineering faculty member to keep quiet about the details of the alleged incident, which is the second reported offence of academic dishonesty in the faculty in five months.

Under Senate policy, the identities of witnesses, the accused and those who assist the accused in responding to complaints are protected. Any parties who hold additional information about an alleged incident that may lead other students to identify the accused are discouraged from going public, says Senate office manager Andrea Power.

Green, however, says he's blowing the whistle to draw attention to offences of academic dishonesty, which he sees as an increasing concern on campus.

"Students should know about the cheating that goes on because it is a very big problem in our school," he says. "And if it's not kept in check, then it could end up running rampant."

Taking a stand

Green says he hopes his actions will encourage other students who have witnessed alleged cases of academic dishonesty to follow his example and come forward.

The sixth-year student, who serves as a link between students and faculty on sensitive academic concerns, says two witnesses confronted him with an account of a student using an unauthorized "cheat sheet" to complete an exam on Sexton campus.

Green then reported the allegation to Mo El-Hawary, Associate Dean (Undergraduate Studies) of engineering, who says he's now working with the professor of the class to secure written complaints from the witnesses as a first step in following Senate procedures. It

Senate policy states that informants of alleged incidents of academic dishonesty must formally document — and sign — their accounts before the university's discipline committee can review the case.

But one of the witnesses to the alleged incident in December has declined from writing an official statement and the other is undecided, says El-Hawary.

"I am very troubled that there is a prospect that students would make a verbal accusation and would then not commit it to paper so we can take action," he says.

But he says the accused student "is in good academic standing" and has no prior violations of academic dishonesty on his/her record.



Dal's academic integrity survey, conducted in February 2004, found that roughly one-third of undergraduate students at the university reported cases of cheating during tests and exams. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Chris Watts, Associate Dean (Student Affairs) of engineering, says that during a recent meeting, members of the faculty called for a procedure that would enable students and professors to report alleged cases of academic dishonesty without the potential threat of repercussions from their colleagues.

"Students who willingly know that others are cheating and don't do anything about it are just as guilty," he says. "That would mean that we would be encouraging other students to squeal on others."

"But when they're on the job and they know someone is doing something wrong, then they are ethically required to report it. My question is, why not start it right away?"

Dal Vice President (Academic and Provost) Sam Scully says the entire university community has a responsibility to take every necessary step to ensure its academic honesty policies are upheld.

"Any institution that allows issues of honesty and integrity to slip by, and doesn't deal with them, is failing to do its job," he says. "This is true for students, faculty and staff. It is a community-wide issue."

But research shows universities have been failing to do their jobs.

Dal's academic integrity survey, conducted in February 2004, found that roughly one-third of undergraduate students at the university reported cases of cheating during tests and exams. The survey also indicated that just over half of faculty members reported they had ignored cases of cheating in their classes.

Nearly two years later, the problems persist.

Watts says that during an engineering faculty meeting in November, one professor stated he would make every effort to avoid bringing cases of academic dishonesty to the Senate discipline committee, citing paperwork, potential harassment and the amount of time involved as deterrents to filing formal complaints.

The problem is compounded by the fact that some professors trust

their students and don't constantly walk around classrooms, keeping a close eye during exams, which gives students a greater opportunity to cheat, says Watts.

The professor, who has taught at Dal for more than 29 years, says he always closely monitors exams and recalls identifying only three cases of cheating. But he admits it's possible that other students cheated on his watch.

Reputations and lives at stake

Lynn Taylor, director of the centre for learning and teaching at Dal, says there is a clear gap in universities across the country — not just at Dal — between academic policies and procedures and their practices.

The researcher, who recently completed a three-year-long study of plagiarism involving more than 200 informants at a major Canadian university, says any failure to uphold Senate's academic honesty regulations would call into question the integrity and value of the university's credentials.

The consequences of academic dishonesty run even deeper at the faculty of engineering, says Lydia Dunn, former president of the Dal undergraduate engineering society.

"We have the ring to remind us that we have people's lives in our hands when we sign off on a project," she says, referring to the iron ring given to engineering graduates to symbolize the Québec City bridge that collapsed twice in the early 20th century, killing 86 people.

"If someone is not capable coming out of school, has not been properly educated because they have not taken the time, and has cheated throughout everything, then they are putting a bad name on engineering, as well as putting people's lives in jeopardy," she says.

Green, whose position was created in September to provide an accessible peer to students with academic concerns, says he has continually heard of cases of cheating on exams throughout his six years at Dal.

"I have come to the bit of my rope

where I'm like, 'please, if we could make an example out of one of them, then we might be able to slow down the cheating,'" he says. "The last thing I want is 10 or 15 years down the road, this whole big scandal will come out, saying that Dalhousie engineering is a bunch of cheaters."

Penalties for violations of academic regulations range from a repeat of the assignment to expulsion from the university.

Stamping out academic dishonesty

Many Dal officials agree the best preventative measure against violations of academic dishonesty, in addition to assuring all safeguards are in place, is educating students about what constitutes an offense and how each case is punished.

The subcommittee on academic integrity, formed in response to the university's May 2004 plagiarism report, is now working on posting the Senate's academic honesty policy, as well as additional information, on the Dal website.

It is also trying to identify other ways the university can effectively communicate its policies to the roughly 20,000 students, faculty and staff members who occupy Dal's three campuses.

El-Hawary has prepared a presentation on academic dishonesty that he plans to deliver to classes in all eight engineering programs. For his part, Watts is working on updating the faculty's website to reflect its position on maintaining professionalism in academic life.

Green hopes to hold an open forum in the coming weeks that aims to gather student input on how cheating in the faculty of engineering can be reined in.

"Just like anything else, cheating snowballs and it just gets bigger and bigger," says Green. "And if we don't nip it in the ass right now, we'll be in trouble."

For editorial comment on cheating on campus, see pages 3 and 9.

Methods of cheating confirmed to be used in the faculty of engineering:

1. Storing answers to a test/exam on a calculator or Personal Digital Assistant (PDA)
2. Passing calculators with answers to a test/exam on them
3. Text messaging answers via cell phones (cell phones have been banned from exams)
4. Passing exam papers and/or unauthorized cheat sheets back and forth
5. Having an accomplice drop off notes in a bathroom for a specified period of time during a test/exam so that the exam-taker can reference them
6. Paying someone to do the test/exam for you
7. Writing formulas on your arms while wearing a long-sleeved shirt

Source: Chris Watts, Associate Dean (Student Affairs)

Other methods that have allegedly been used in the faculty:

8. Using Hewlett Packard calculators and PDAs to transmit answers via a line-of-sight infrared signal (these technologies have largely been banned from exams but some classes still require that the calculators be used)
9. Displaying Smarties that are colour coordinated to answers on multiple-choice exams
10. Taking advantage of a friendship with a TA who overlooks cases of cheating during an exam

If a professor or student suspects someone of academic dishonesty:

1. The professor or student writes a letter to the secretary of Senate, outlining the allegation, the name of the student and the class number. The letter would also include original copies of the exam or assignment and any supporting documents, such as a turnitin.com report or confiscated cheat sheet.
2. The Senate forms a panel of the Senate discipline committee. The panel includes two faculty members, two students from the discipline committee and one of two co-chairs of the committee.
3. The student receives a letter via his/her Dal banner email account and registered mail. The letter outlines the allegation, the time and date of the hearing, the identities of panel members and who to go to for help in providing a defense, such as the student advocacy service and counselling services.
4. The student is invited to prepare a written defense submitted to the Senate office within seven working days of the hearing.
5. Both the student and the prof are invited to attend the hearing, although their presence is not mandatory.

Source: Senate office manager Andrea Power

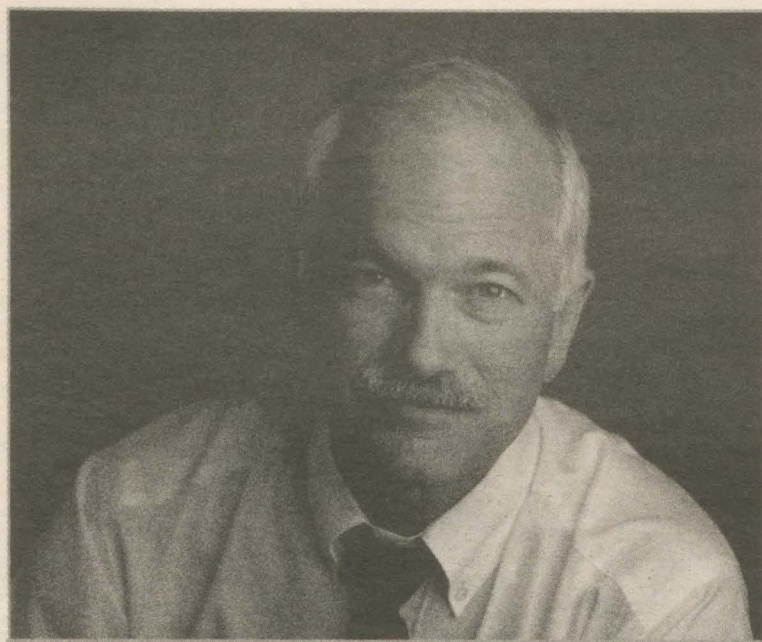
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Jack Layton says Canadians have a responsibility to send enough New Democrats to Parliament to ensure the party can deliver its platform

New Democrats running on record of doing 'right thing'

NDP leader Jack Layton talks tough on Liberal policy

REID SOUTHWICK
News Editor

The Martin Liberals can't be trusted to deliver their post-secondary education policies, said NDP leader Jack Layton.

Liberal pledges to ease the burden of higher education — such as a plan to provide students with up to \$3,000 to cover tuition fees for their first and fourth years of study — are empty, Layton said during a conference call on Jan. 16.

"The Liberals have made these types of promises before and they turned right around and broke those promises," Layton told eight members of Canadian student newspapers, including *The Gazette*.

Prime Minister Paul Martin committed to restore funding for universities and colleges with a dedicated transfer during the last election campaign. But in its first chance to commit the necessary funds — the 2005 federal budget — the Liberal Party didn't follow through, said Layton.

"It was the NDP that provided results for people," he said, referring to the \$1.5 billion in PSE funding New Democrats wrote into the budget. "The NDP is running on its record to do the right thing."

Canadians will have better access to higher education, said Layton, as a result of his party's commitment to reverse Liberal cuts made to higher education in the 90s, and its promise

to draft a national PSE act in concert with the provinces to prevent private, for-profit universities.

The one-time Member of Parliament said the NDP's platform goes beyond reducing the cost of education to improving infrastructure on university campuses. As a professor who has taught for 30 years in three universities, most recently at the University of Toronto, Layton said he has seen campus buildings deteriorate.

New Democrat MPs would dedicate funding for university infrastructure, retrofitting old buildings to meet environmental standards and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, said Layton.

The former Toronto city councillor said Canadians now have the responsibility to send enough New Democrats to Parliament to ensure the party can deliver its platform.

"The Liberals haven't earned the right to stay in power," he said. "They need to go to the repair shop."

The Grits have steadily lost ground in national polls during the last few weeks of the campaign — but previous election results suggest the government's seat is still up for grabs.

Regardless of how Canadians vote on Jan. 23, Layton said the NDP will advance its agenda through legislation and budget amendments, and will shore up support throughout the House of Commons to ensure the party's priorities are implemented.

Candidates launch attacks during debate

AARON GILLIS
Staff Contributor

Now is the time for change in the political representation of the Halifax riding, said Conservative candidate Andrew House during a debate in the Dalhousie SUB on Jan. 12.

"Halifax is booming, not because of the federal Liberals, or the opposition member representing Halifax, but in spite of them," House told a crowd of roughly 1,500 people seated in the McInnes room. "The Liberals offer the status quo, and the NDP offer perpetual opposition."

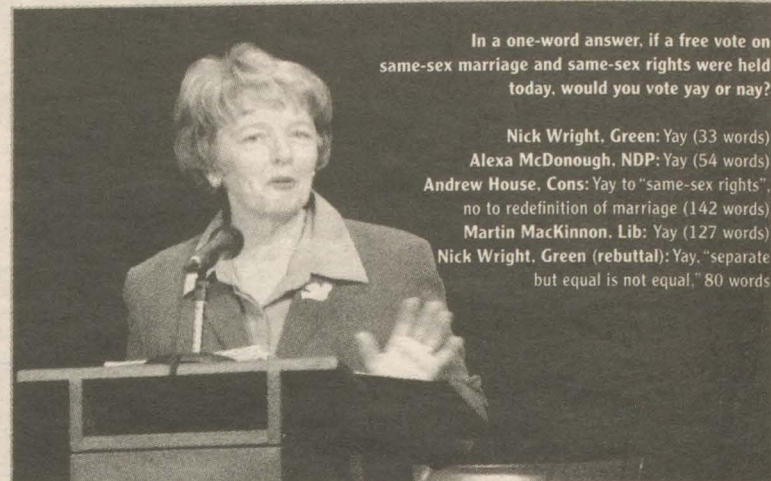
NDP candidate Alexa McDonough has held the riding since 1997. But the close race in 2004, when McDonough defeated then-Liberal candidate Sheila Fougere by just over 1,000 votes — less than three per cent of ballots cast — suggests the seat could easily change hands.

During the debate, organized by the Dalhousie and Saint Mary's student unions, Liberal candidate Martin MacKinnon contrasted the views of his party with those of the Conservatives, focusing his attention on the national party leaders.

"This is an election about choice," he said. "But there are only two choices. There's Paul Martin's vision of Canada, and there's Stephen Harper's vision of Canada."

MacKinnon's comments came under fire from McDonough, who repeated the rhetoric her leader, Jack Layton, has used throughout the campaign.

"It's just colossal Liberal arrogance, and it shows profound igno-



Halifax voters should be wary of political promises made by the Liberals and Conservatives, says NDP candidate Alexa McDonough / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

In a one-word answer, if a free vote on same-sex marriage and same-sex rights were held today, would you vote yay or nay?

Nick Wright, Green: Yay (33 words)
Alexa McDonough, NDP: Yay (54 words)
Andrew House, Cons: Yay to "same-sex rights", no to redefinition of marriage (142 words)
Martin MacKinnon, Lib: Yay (127 words)
Nick Wright, Green (rebuttal): Yay, "separate but equal is not equal," 80 words

rance of how we built the Canada that we love," McDonough said in an interview with *The Gazette* after the debate.

She said MacKinnon ignored the contributions of the NDP and its predecessor, the CCF, made in previous minority governments. Medicare, accessible post-secondary education and affordable housing were among the programs supported by the NDP, she said.

McDonough said Halifax voters should be wary of political promises made by the Liberals and Conservatives.

"Don't be fooled by yet another round of education promises by Paul Martin," she said during the debate.

"I know you won't be fooled by shiny new promises from the Harper Conservatives."

"I've witnessed first-hand these no-longer Progressive Conservatives screaming, 'Cut faster, cut deeper, go further,' for close to a decade in Parliament."

Angus Ross, a biochemistry student from Antigonish, said that although he disagreed with the views of Conservative Andrew House, he was impressed by his performance in the debate.

"I thought the conservative candidate was really bang-on, really sharp," he said. "He was wrong, but really good."

Ella Henderson, an anthropology student at King's, said all of the candidates performed impressively, with the exception of MacKinnon.

"I found the Liberal candidate disappointing," she said. "He seemed really unprepared."

CASA calls on students to vote

AARON GILLIS
Staff Contributor

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations is encouraging university students to cast a ballot in Monday's federal election.

"Our goal has been to increase youth voter turnout, and ensure students consider education-related issues when casting their vote on Jan. 23," Philippe Ouellette, the national director of CASA, wrote in an email from his office in Ottawa.

According to Elections Canada, roughly 25 per cent of voters aged 18 to 24 cast ballots in the previous two federal elections, compared to the overall turnout of about 60 per cent.

CASA has developed an education-based voter website, www.thinkeducation.ca, where students can read party platforms on educa-

tion and find out how they can vote in their home ridings or their ridings of residence.

CASA members have also been hosting all-candidates debates on campuses across Canada, including a Halifax riding debate the DSU and Saint Mary's University Students' Association held in the SUB on Jan. 12.

The importance of the student vote was noted by debate moderator Lisa Taylor, a 2001 graduate of Dalhousie Law School and freelance journalist.

The Halifax riding is home to 89,000 people, and 24,000 are students, said Taylor. "So, in this riding, you should never let anyone tell you that the student vote represents any kind of fringe interest, because you are a significant constituency."

Ouellette wrote that while CASA is not endorsing a specific party, it's

reviewing the post-secondary education policies of Canada's political parties on its election website.

"Some subjective criticism is provided for comparative and policy-related reasons, but CASA does not go as far as endorsing a particular party in say, a 'report card' format, as we have done in the past," he said.

Though several promises made during the campaign will help reduce financial difficulties for future students, Ouellette said, more needs to be done to reduce the burden on current students and recent graduates, who have faced years of government cutbacks.

"We must continually remind government that investment in post-secondary is crucial, and by putting off spending promises, we are effectively limiting the reach and scope of our potential."

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Marxist-Leninist candidate left out of Dal debates

JESS MCDIARMID
Assistant News Editor

The Halifax candidate for the Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada wasn't invited to Dalhousie's all-candidates debate on Jan. 12, a state of affairs that he called "unacceptable," "unconscionable" and "humiliating."

When debate organizers became aware of their oversight, they offered the candidate three minutes to speak at the forum.

"We have talk about democratic reform," Tony Seed said to a crowd of more than 1,000 gathered in the Dal SUB's McInnes Room last Thursday. "We have talk about proportional representation in the future, but concretely, we have an undemocratic forum from our organizers."

The debate organizers — the DSU and the Saint Mary's University Student Association — weren't aware that Seed was running until a couple days before the debate, said Jen Bond, DSU Vice President (Education). A volunteer from Green candidate Nick Wright's campaign told the DSU on Tuesday, Jan. 10 that there was also Marxist-Leninist candidate running.

DSU President Ezra Edelstein said he called Seed on Wednesday, the day before the debate. Seed, however, said he spoke to Edelstein on Tuesday. Until they spoke, Seed wasn't aware the debate was taking place.

Edelstein said he told Seed the debate was happening and invited him to set up a table like the other parties.

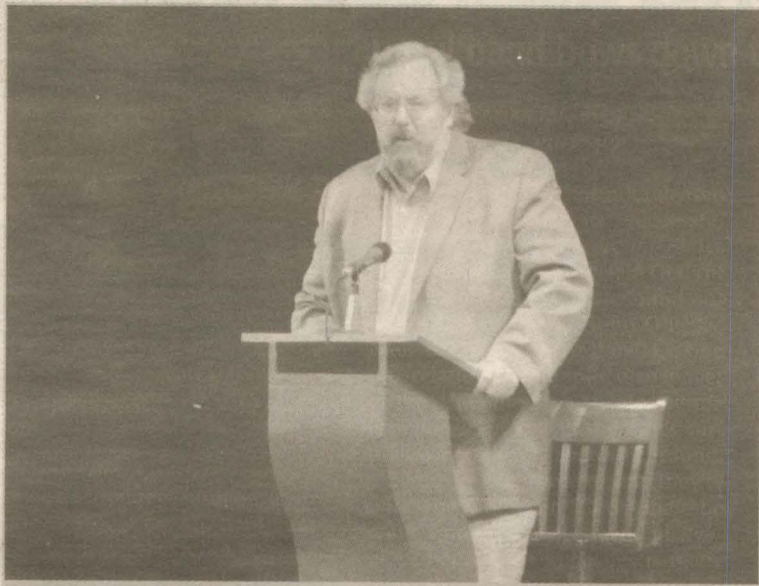
"[I told him] we could give him three minutes to speak, and he agreed to that," said Edelstein.

But Seed said he should have been included in the debate.

"The main aim was to exclude a voice of conscience, as well as information, from the whole cut and thrust of the debate," he said.

Edelstein said it wasn't possible to make last minute changes to include the MLPC candidate. The organizers would have had to alter the format of the debate, including the length of time candidates were given to answer questions, and organizing partners SMUSA and Dal, as well as the other parties, would have needed to approve all changes.

"Essentially it would have meant rewriting the whole program for the



Tony Seed says students are being denied their right to an informed vote. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

entire night, and that was not something we were prepared to do a day before the debate," said Edelstein.

But Seed said necessary changes should have been made.

While researching the candidate's identities in November 2005, Bond said she made a point of reviewing the websites of fringe parties including the Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada. At that time, she said no candidates for such parties were listed online.

Since the Liberals, Greens, Conservatives and NDP did have candidates posted, debate organizers went ahead and sent out their proposal, said Bond.

"It wasn't that we didn't check," said Bond. "I checked all the fringe parties and had all the bases covered, I thought."

They didn't, however, verify the list of candidates with Elections Canada after the Jan. 2 closing date for nominations.

Seed said his candidacy was announced and posted on his party's website Dec. 3, 2005.

Wright, who offered to share a podium with Seed to include him in the debate, said he sees both perspectives. The Green Party candidate said the organizers started very early, and he can understand their reluctance to make big changes at the last minute.

He also said, however, that every-

one's views should be heard, and that smaller parties like the Greens and the MLPC are often unjustifiably left out of debates and media coverage.

"To seemingly arbitrarily choose which parties you're going to cover and which parties you won't goes against the democratic process and is certainly unfair," Wright said. "Not just for the candidates in the party, but for the people in the riding who want to make an informed choice in their vote."

Adding to his frustration, the Dalhousie Graduate Society of Political Science didn't invite Seed to a debate on foreign policy the group held Wednesday evening. When he contacted debate organizers, they refused his request to participate.

"This is consistent marginalization of small parties and independent parties," said Seed.

DGSPS Vice Chair Riley Hennessey said the society was unaware of Seed's candidacy and also only invited candidates from parties that received enough votes in the 2004 election to qualify under the federal funding formula.

"The debate had been planned and organized well in advance of the candidate making himself known to us," said Hennessey. "The Marxist-Leninist Party has very little in its platform about foreign policy and defence."

On the People (con't...)

Halifax candidate struts his stuff

JESS MCDIARMID
Assistant News Editor



Tony Seed

Party: Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada

Age: 60

Occupation: Editor/publisher

Education: college dropout, with "a Ph.D. from the university of the streets"

Duration of residence in Halifax: 35 years

Favourite local bar: doesn't have one — doesn't patronize bars

Hottest movie of 2005: *Syriana* & *Good Night, and Good Luck*

What he did on New Year's Eve 2005: went to a family dinner

Dumbest thing he did in university: played varsity football, instead of basketball

Tony Seed, a founding member of the Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada (MLPC), has been politically active for more than 40 years — his first time running in a federal election in the Halifax riding was in 1972.

A self-proclaimed "youth of the 60s," Seed was heavily involved in the student movement of that era.

"Buildings were being occupied in universities, you had demonstrations of 10,000 people outside the U.S. consulate, a huge upsurge amongst Canada's First Nations," he says. "I came to the conclusion that we needed a new party, a party of a new type that could act as a political headquarters for all those who were trying to solve problems."

The MLPC was formed by Hardial Bains in 1970.

While running on an "anti-war MP" platform, Seed says the biggest issue facing the nation is the disempowerment of Canadians, who have no say in how government is run outside of voting.

"You have a corrupt party system that relegates the electors to the status of voting capital and facilitates the annexation of Canada's human and material resources, including military integration, as we can see in terms of the port of Halifax," he says.

Seed and the MLPC want the Halifax harbour to be used for peaceful pur-

poses only, such as tourism, trade and shipbuilding. He also calls for military installations to be moved to an isolated area away from the population.

The move is economically viable, Seed says, because "everything is possible."

The candidate also says that university education should be considered a basic human right, rather than a policy matter. And many important issues in education are not being dealt with, Seed says, like "the further privatization of universities and the subjugation of the university to a corporate agenda."

Everyone who's qualified should have access to post-secondary education, says Seed, and the companies that hire the graduates should be forced to pay for it.

The MLPC also rejects the "use of international students as a cash crop," says Seed, and their policy states all international students, particularly those from poor countries, should also be given free education.

Education policy, says Seed, should be proposed by students, faculty and staff, as well as other interested parties.

"The point is we're not some marginal left wing people who live in garrets and basements. We're very active in this society dealing with questions and problems faced by Nova Scotians."

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The Halifax West candidate wants to overhaul the student loan system so that a student's eligibility isn't linked to parental income. / Photo: Lindsey Hepburn

Beyond the Hills

Unusual strategies shape NDP candidate Alan Hill

LINDSEY HEPBURN
News Contributor

The phones are ringing off their hooks. The campaign office is a haze of orange signs and posters. People float in and out, piecing together yet another day of Alan Hill's election campaign.

But Dalhousie student Alan Hill seems unaffected by the speedy pace of life around him.

Dressed in a suit and tie, and wearing Vans sneakers, the NDP candidate for Halifax West sits down calmly and confidently to explain his goals to fight student debt.

"I got tired of seeing big promises around election time and not seeing anything happen."

Hill says one of his primary objectives is to help reinvest the \$4 billion for post-secondary education that was cut from the federal budget in the 90s.

"In the last elections, the Liberals made big promises to students and didn't come through," says Hill. "I see my friends wracking up these huge loans. It is not abstract. You shouldn't have to mortgage your future to get an education."

The NDP plans to reinvest in a long-term federal grants system by introducing an education act and

a national system of needs-based grants. Hill's personal aim is to overhaul the student loan system so that a student's loan eligibility is not linked to parental income.

"I got involved to help see that all the federal money for social programs, that all the money for education, actually goes to education," he says.

Hill says he's disappointed that the Liberal Party wanted to use the budget surplus to cut corporate taxes, which he says aren't going to do anything for the average Canadian.

Originally from Ottawa, Hill moved to Halifax to study in 2002. He traded in his PhD work in the mathematics department at Dal two months ago to run in the federal election instead.

He says his doctoral work in combinatorial games theory gives him a head start in politics, he says.

"I study games that are purely strategy," says Hill, with a smirk. "Games where there is no hidden information, no randomness."

"I am studying a game called cops and robbers right now," he says. "Surely [the cops] want to get after the Liberal's history of corruption and clean up the government."

Hill says he'll put his PhD work at Dal on the backburner for the next four years if he wins the election.

Low young voter turnout no reflection of low interest in politics – societies

JOHN PACKMAN
News Contributor

The low turnout of young voters at the ballot box on election day is no indication of a lack of interest in the political process, say DSU's partisan societies. And so they urge students to express this interest by marking a ballot on Jan. 23.

According to Elections Canada, only 38 per cent of Canadians aged 18 to 30 cast ballots in the last federal election.

But Matt Cameron, the president of the Dalhousie Liberal Association, says the turnout doesn't represent the age group's interest in politics. Instead, he attributes the minimal participation to politicians who don't show enough interest in the young electorate.

This election is an opportunity for young people to show their interest, he says.

"We're generally saying, 'come to the ballot box even if you hate the political process altogether and think none of these leaders speak to you at all,'" says Cameron, adding that he would rather students vote Liberal. "Come spoil your ballot. Show elections Canada that you care to some degree."

But Lindsey Park, co-president of the Dalhousie Young New Democrats, says students should cast an informed ballot at the polls.

"If you don't like a candidate, just vote for parties," says Park. "This is how your life is run. Get involved with it."

Ryan O'Connor, the president of the Dalhousie University and University of King's College Conservatives, says the low number of young Canadians making it out to the polls on election day is the result of the Liberals holding power for too long.

A change in government might be needed to mobilize the youth vote, he says.

Despite differences in political stripe, all three of the DSU's partisan societies are actively encouraging young people, especially students, to



Dalhousie Liberal Association
President: Matt Cameron
How many members (according to email list): 92
Contact: liberal@dal.ca



Dalhousie University and University of King's College Conservatives
President: Ryan O'Connor
How many members (according to email list): 100
Contact: ryan.oconnor@youngtorries.ca



Dalhousie Young New Democrats
President(s): Lindsey Park and Alan Hill
How many members (according to email list): 29
Contact: dalndp@gmail.com

take an active interest and become informed about the political process by working with local candidates. "Let's shake off that apathy," says Park.

Uni-Brief Special

Campus voting scrapped at UoFT

Students at the University of Toronto alleged Elections Canada was politically influenced after the agency decided on Jan. 14 to remove voting booths from the campus.

The Students' Administrative Council (SAC), the university's student government, had planned special voting stations for its 4,000 students in residence.

But Liberal candidate Tony Ianno, who is running for re-election in the Trinity-Spadina riding, questioned EC about the legality of the special polling booths. Both EC's head office and Ianno reported they were not informed about the booths. The SAC, however, says it laid plans for the booths with the riding's returning officer several weeks beforehand.

Faxes set from the local EC office to NDP candidate Olivia Chow confirm SAC's claims. The messages featured the number and locations of the booths.

UoFT's student newspaper, *The Varsity*, asked EC the previous week about the voting booths, meaning EC knew of their existence before Ianno raised his concerns.

Some critics say Chow would benefit from an increased student vote, fearing EC was politically influenced. Chow lost to Ianno by only 800 votes in 2004, when students were away on summer break.

Ianno denied these claims, saying he was only asking if the booths were legal, and that the decision to remove them was made by EC.

According to EC calculations, UoFT should have 10-16 polls for the students in residence. Instead, there are no polls in residence and first-time student voters say they are now confused about where to vote. "This is either gross incompetence on Election Canada's part, or it's political interference," SAC president Paul Bretscher told *The Varsity*.

In the meantime, EC is registering students in residence and the SAC is trying to set up a regular polling station on campus.

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Gazette

Editorial

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 the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

Academic honesty regulations must be enforced

The recent report of a student cheating during an engineering exam in December reveals yet another layer in the mounting stack of evidence that suggests this university's reputation could be in danger.

And engineering society head Jeff Green's willingness to come forward and reveal his knowledge of the alleged incident on the record with The Gazette proves honest students will not take on this potential threat lying down.

Indeed, the problem of academic dishonesty isn't isolated to Dalhousie. But there is no excuse for a university whose students feel the only way they can draw attention to the damaging implications of the problem is by putting their name on the line in the campus newspaper.

If Dal attracts a reputation of graduating students who cheat and plagiarize their way through their academic programs, the value and integrity of the university's degree will diminish. The honest and ethical majority of the student body will consequently suffer from the deceit of the minority and the inaction of administrators and faculty members.

More than a year and a half after the release of Dal's plagiarism report, Dean of engineering Joshua Leon admits his faculty is still in the "research stage" of identifying effective methods to stem the problem.

But at a faculty meeting in November, a professor announced he would take every effort to avoid bringing alleged cases of academic dishonesty to the Senate discipline committee, says Associate Dean (Student Affairs) Chris Watts.

That a professor would openly admit to violating the university's policies speaks to the level of utter neglect and disregard that standards of professionalism have fallen to.

Indeed, high-ranking university officials have formed committees that have the potential to establish and implement procedures that can adequately address such neglect. But

the discussions around those tables must translate into action, now.

Not in six months, not in a year. Now.

The most effective preventative measure against offences of academic dishonesty is education. Dal administrators must ensure that all students and faculty members understand the university's policies. And, as Senate co-chair Phil Cox rightfully points out, the university community must be made to value what those policies aim to uphold.

Integrity and honesty are essential principles of academic life. If they don't inform every assignment and exam that students write, and professors assess, the value of this institution will erode.

These principles must be protected by effective communication of the penalties for violations. Discussion of possible expulsion from the school, failure of the course and a year-long notation on the student's academic record all belong in the same dialogue that aims to make students respect the university's regulations.

Students will then no longer be able to plead ignorance if they are cut and punished.

Indeed, penalties for violations of academic policies don't currently exist for professors. But the risks of any oversight are the same as they are for students.

Roughly 51 per cent of professors who participated in Dal's academic integrity survey admitted they ignored cases of cheating in their classes. Given this figure, the university must establish a set of guidelines that ensure these professors and others are punished for any future offence.

This system of deterrence can only work if both students and professors are willing to come forward when they suspect cases of academic violations. Before they can be expected to do so, they must be assured that they will not suffer any recourse from the individuals on whom they blow the whistle.

Gazette: Opinions

Opinions Editor: Sarah Vanderwolf

Contact: opinions@dalgazette.ca

Letters: letters@dalgazette.ca

VENT: THE UNNATURALLY WARM WEATHER THIS "WINTER" Sarah Vanderwolf / Opinions Editor

Whenever anyone from home asks me how I like Halifax, my response invariably begins with a complaint about the bizarre weather patterns in this maritime climate. From record-breaking hurricanes and snowstorms, to incessant rainstorms and high winds, it seems impossible to ever be prepared for what the weather has in store.

This year is no exception: armed with new boots, new mitts and a relatively new winter coat, I find that all

of these accessories are completely unnecessary in the balmy, spring-like temperatures of late.

Although most people I know are only too happy to welcome these unnaturally high temperatures, I for one feel shortchanged. This is January, after all, not May!

Where is winter when you need it?

I happen to love the feeling of stinging cold against my face and the sensation of snowflakes slapping at my

back while trudging to school. And who doesn't remember all the times they've had to navigate through the footpaths carved in huge snowdrifts, or slipped on patches of black ice? How could we throw snowballs or create snow angels or snowmen without the blessing of winter?

I hardly feel Canadian without winter — enough of this ridiculous weather. C'mon, winter, stop goofing around. We're ready and waiting for you.

The politics of facial hair

BRENDAN MORRISON
Staff Contributor

Already, this federal election has heard the debate over scores of compelling political and philosophical questions. Who will play third-line centre on Gilles Duceppe's Olympic Hockey Team? What kind of popcorn will I buy with my health-care money? And which *Trailer Park Boy* looks most like which candidate? All very important issues.

Yet by far the most critical is the consideration of whether or not Jack Layton's moustache makes him an attractive prime minister. Raised by several Fox-News-calibre analysts, the politics of facial hair is quickly becoming the most valuable feature of public debate.

Unlike campaign platforms or past behaviour, a politician's choice of facial hair gives sharp insight into that individual's governing agenda.

A bearded politician is clearly a

leftist lunatic. As Al Gore proved, a beard says more about one's environmentalist leanings than any actual action ever would. And while bushy mutton chops signal the stature of a true unifier — in the likes of Charles Tupper — a politician with a goatee is simply an idiot.

But what of the 'stache?

A politician with a moustache is obviously untrustworthy. One is forced to ask what he's hiding back there — what else is he covering up?

The implications of a moustache on a nation's political future are grave and wide-reaching. A hairy upper lip has fuelled some of the most reactionary politics in history — think of Hitler, Stalin and Margaret Thatcher.

A truly committed citizenry must rigorously scrutinize any facial hair decisions made by its political leaders, and evaluate their significance on the fate of the nation.

In the 19th century, well-kept facial hair seemed to indicate an air of

nobility and intellectual fervor. Then in the 1980s, men like Tom Selleck and Burt Reynolds made the moustache an object of sheer masculine sexuality. No one could resist a study 'stache.

Yet now, in the 21st, moustaches in Canada are often the subject of dork jokes. They are the kind of thing that qualifies a character like Tobias on *Arrested Development* or Ned Flanders.

Personally, as with most things, I blame Geraldo.

But now, with Mr. Layton boldly reintroducing the 'stache into federal campaigning, Canadians are forced to look into the mirror, the television, and themselves, question their deepest moralities, and conclude over the place of the moustache at 24 Sussex Dr.

In my humble analysis, though graceful and dignified as it is, I feel Mr. Layton's particular little 'stache will only take him so far.

Perhaps if he threw some handles on that bar, we'd ride him a little further.

Higher education means more than just tuition fees

JONATHAN NG
Opinions Contributor

Every few years, citizens are subjected to election rhetoric in which politicians jockey for the young citizen's vote by making promises about higher education. The discussion tends to centre on the denunciation of ever increasing tuition fees. Students will say university is too expensive, and politicians will promise more funding in order to lower the tuition fees students are forced to pay.

This tedious bargaining between students and politicians distracts us from more important matters. According to many students, it seems the most important issue of a university education is paying for it. All the talk about financing obfuscates the matter of higher education itself.

Students need to think more deeply about their reasons for at-

tending university. Many students are in university today because they see it as the best way to guarantee a high-paying job. Consequently, students avidly pursue market-relevant programs or courses they think are easy. Those who wish to be more liberal in their learning are swept along and even universities have no choice but to divert funding to what their students want.

Few of us read for pleasure, even the books deemed as classics. Few of us participate in actively advancing the arts. Why bother? These activities will not help us find a job, nor will they appear on a transcript or resumé.

We are selling ourselves short with a market-oriented approach to our time at university. The reason we should attend university is to seek out training in how to think from arguably the most wise and learned members of our society. These years

in university are the only time in our adult lives during which we can afford to not think about work and instead focus on learning.

Learning the principles of many disciplines give us a chance to appreciate all that humanity has accomplished and shows us what is possible for us to achieve if we put our minds to it. Students who are well-educated will be prepared for anything they are faced with.

Sure enough, the amount of debt students find themselves in upon graduation will increase in the foreseeable future.

Thus, students and politicians will continue the election time cycle, misleading the public — and ourselves — about our priorities. As important as fighting for lower tuition fees is, we must not lose sight of the greater purposes of university.

After all, it is called higher education.

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- 1 **THE ZOO-LIKE NATURE OF THE YAS BALL**
A feeding frenzy for King's kids — public humping included.
- 2 **THE PREMIERE OF "24"**
Haven't 24 hours existed in the day for hundreds of years?
- 3 **CHILE HAS A FEMALE PRESIDENT**
And yet us Canadians still can't get over Layton's moustache.
- 4 **"THE PORCELAIN GODS" CHANGING THEIR NAME TO "THEIR MAJESTIES"**
Way to humble yourselves, guys.
- 5 **DECISION 2006** The Dome or the Palace for New Year's?!
- 6 **EMINEM'S REMARRIAGE TO KIM**
To prove once and for all that love really does conquer all.
- 7 **KARLA HOMOLKA SELLING HER LIFE STORY TO MOVIE PRODUCERS**
Now I ain't sayin' she's a gold digger...
- 8 **THE TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS DECIDING TO DROP THE WORD "DEVIL" FROM THEIR NAME** Thus becoming the Stephen Harper Rays.
- 9 **"I PROBABLY SHOULD GO. I NEED TO LEARN HOW TO DATE"**
A friend's reply in response to going to speed dating "as a joke."
- 10 **WAKING UP WITH A NUMBER PROGRAMMED INTO YOUR PHONE UNDER "HOTTIE"** God I just hope it's female.

HOT

- Brokeback Mountain*
- Voting
- Seeing "Hoodwinked"
- Moosehead beer
- Twista
- Pita Pit
- King of Vegas
- The Bauer Hour
- Federal Election Parties
- Golden Globes

NOT

- The lesser known indie film *Bareback Mounting*
- Not, and bitching later
- Getting Bamboozled
- The Halifax Mooseheads
- Twist ties
- PETA's shit
- King of Queens/the Hill
- 60 Minutes
- Fantasia Parties
- Blue Balls

Suggestions? hotornot@dalgazette.ca

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Have an opinion?
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STREETER

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF JACK LAYTON'S MOUSTACHE?



“It's unsightly and it needs to be trimmed.”
Andrew Murray, fourth-year history



“It looks like a porn star moustache.”
Matthew Wight, fifth-year commerce



“I think it's sexy.”
Alex Longmire, fourth-year economics



“Very hot. It turns heads and it hopefully wins votes.”
Fajer Abuzayed, fourth-year management



“I think it would itch if you kissed him.”
Victoria Jones, second-year history and Canadian studies



“It makes him look untrustworthy.”
Randall Visser, second-year biology



“It gives him a certain intrigue.”
Megan Alexander, third-year political science



“The girl who said it might itch is totally wrong. It's all tickle baby, all tickle.”
Joey Patawowsky Ryba III, second-year Swiffer sweeper

Got a question you want to see answered by students? streeter@dalgazette.ca

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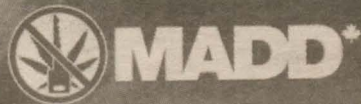
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Don't be afraid to vote your conscience

DANIEL CLARK
Opinions Contributor

The current federal election will go down as one of the dirtiest, meanest and most complicated federal elections ever. The Liberal Party, Canada's self-described "Natural Governing Party" is on the verge of losing control of the House of Commons for the first time since 1993.

Most political parties have been conducting negative advertising. Most notably, the Liberals have been spreading some very deliberate falsehoods to scare voters in what some pundits have described as a desperate bid to retain power.

Some of those falsehoods:

The majority of Canadians support and share "Liberal" values.

Not true. In the four elections and twelve years of Liberal rule of Jean Chrétien and Paul Martin, the Liberals have never gotten more and 41.2 per cent of the vote. In other words, about 60 per cent of Canadians regularly voted against the Liberals.

A vote for the NDP is a vote for the Conservatives.

That depends on where you are. In Halifax, a vote for the NDP is a vote for the NDP. In the 2004 election, for every seat in the Halifax area the NDP either won it or came second. The Conservatives finished third in every riding in Halifax.

A vote for the Green Party is a wasted vote.

Not true. In 2000, the Green Party

won 0.8 per cent of the vote. In 2004, that number increased five times to 4.3 per cent. If the Green Party can double or triple its vote in this election it will have an excellent chance of winning seats.

A Conservative Government will use the notwithstanding clause to repeal abortion.

Not true. At the 2005 policy conference in Montréal, the Conservative Party made it party policy to support a woman's right to choose. A Conservative Party government would be bound to honour this policy. That is not to say all members of the Conservative Party are pro-choice, but party policy is pro-choice.

You should vote Liberal to stop the Conservatives.

No party in Canada has received more than 50 per cent of the vote since Brian Mulroney's PCs in 1984 (50.03 per cent). The most likely outcome of this election based on the current polls is a Conservative minority parliament.

What does that mean? A lot of that depends on our new Governor General Michaëlle Jean. She would be obliged to ask Stephen Harper if he can form a government. That would make him prime minister and give him executive control of the government; however, he would not control the House of Commons.

To pass any new initiative or law, Harper would need the support of the majority of MPs, which would mean getting support from the Liberals, NDP, the Bloc and independents. In

many ways, a minority government is the most democratic.

To pass legislation, a Harper government would need support from at least one other party.

Which party he needs to woo depends on you. If you want an environment or labour-focused point of view to have influence in the house, then you should vote Green or NDP. If you want big business (like Power Corp) and the rich (like Belinda Stronach) to have influence in the house, you should vote Liberal.

Because of the way votes are distributed in Canada, the Conservatives win 80 to 90 per cent of the votes in some Western ridings and 5 to 10 per cent in some Québec ridings.

Even with 42 to 43 per cent of the popular vote, it's virtually impossible for the Conservative party to win a majority government in 2006.

So, if you are not voting Conservative, then the vote you cast is to decide who will have the balance of power in the next parliament.

Finally, every vote cast for a political party increases its federal funding.

Each party receives \$1.75 per year for each vote it receives. This is particularly important for parties like the Green Party — parties that do not have a large donor base.

Vote your conscience.

Don't cast a vote for any party out of the politics of fear, intimidation or misinformation. Be an informed voter, and vote to make sure the issues important to you aren't ignored.

Letters@dalgazette.ca

Freedom vs Morality

Dear Editor,

I am writing concerning an article that was published in last week's *Gazette* entitled "Strip Club Morally Reprehensible." The author of this piece, Josip Vaci, harangues the reader with his opinion that strip clubs are morally wrong and promote the usage of people, thereby violating their "inner self."

At least I think this is what he's saying.

Far be it from me to insult, degrade or even reject another person's opinion in any sort of public forum — I have too much respect for my fellow human beings to do that. But this article barely masquerades as an opinions piece. There's not a single first person pronoun in it. It just happens to be on the opinions page.

Vaci's piece also seems to lack an argument. Instead, it revolves around questionable moral axioms, particularly that sexual actions are "meant" to happen between two people — but he doesn't shy away from comparing a strip club's patronization to sexual harassment.

The author spews out a series of moral assertions: "[patrons] use strippers as a means to an end... in a very morally reprehensible way"; "[a strip club is] an establishment that permits the degradation of the human person"; and my favourite, "Just because someone is free and willing to do an act... does not make it right."

This is not an argument for morality; I can only describe it as a creed.

I, for one, don't pick up *The Gazette* because I want to be preached

at. Anyone sermonizing in such a manner as Vaci would have to have quite a jaded view of Dalhousie to think that a university would be full of idiots ready to slurp up his dogmatic drivel.

Although Vaci's agenda seems to include respect for other people, he himself fails miserably in this area. People do and should have the freedom to attend a strip club. Nor should they be defamed, harassed, or in any way degraded for doing so.

Neither Vaci nor *The Gazette* is responsible for assuming a position of moral authority to the students at this University.

Respectfully,
Sandy Fortune

Re: Democracy: a mixing blessing?

Dear Chris LaRoche,

Thank you for an excellent perspective. My son has become eligible to vote this year, and, as the rest of his friends, he simply feels that the issues are too complicated for him to ponder, and what difference does it make anyway?

I have printed several copies [of your editorial] for distribution at my son's high school, and have highlighted your comments on how simultaneously people on this planet are fighting and dying for the freedoms that we take for granted.

I hope it hits home.
Wanda Eurich
Sudbury, Ont.



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Have no fear, the coast is clear

In-Flight Safety gears up to launch latest release

MAGEN POWELL
Staff Contributor

In-Flight Safety was formed in Sackville, N.B., when four dreamy, well-spoken young men met during university — vocalist/guitarist John Mullane, drummer Glen Nicholson, bassist Brad Goodsell and pianist Daniel Ledwell. The boys say they forgot their Lego's at home, and became bored. They decided to find something productive to do with their time.

And so the band was born.

"The similarity [between us] is that we all started as kids screwing around with music, never really expecting to go anywhere," says front-man John Mullane.

The band has now slipped under its belt a second album, *The Coast Is Clear*, a new music video for "Somebody's Watching You," and a recent signing to Emm Gryner's record label, Dead Daisy Records.

In the mission statement for her label, Gryner says that "the voices of real people are not being catered to or represented. That doesn't make for a lot of interesting music."

In-Flight Safety presents listeners with an unprecedented soundscape. The new album embodies atmospherics — an entire horizon painted before your eyes (and ears, of course.)

The Gazette met with In-Flight Safety to discuss the new album and where the band members' next flights will take them.

Gazette: Describe the time you spent in the studio.

Ledwell: We did a lot of different takes on a lot [of songs]. With Glen and Brad, you need the sound quality on the drums and the bass. So we had to those in a "studio" studio. And so they were under more time constraints. [John and I] sat with our guitars for a long time and really worked them out because there is so much going on in some sections.

Mullane: If you break it down into months, it probably took a month per song. We took a long time to do it, more than your average band. The end product is different because of it. I think, also, we aren't experts in the studio so we just experiment



The coast is clear. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

along the way. Next time we will be more organized.

Nicholson: Say a guitar tune was off, then we'd basically redo them. Then you repeat that process until you're happy. It's a very time-consuming process.

Ledwell: When the recording was happening, we weren't really thinking about how long we were spending. We were just focused on getting it done.

Gazette: Where does Emm Gryner fit in to the picture?

Mullane: She really got what we were doing, and to this day still really gets what we are doing. It really spoke to her.

Goodsell: She's helped us at various stages, and opened up opportunities for us. She basically officially adopted us.

Gazette: Is there cohesiveness between the title of the album and the artwork?

“The theme with *The Coast Is Clear* is a perfect catch phrase to categorize a time of rebirth and moving on and letting go of baggage.
- John Mullane

Ledwell: [The artwork relates to] more the process of making the album than individual songs and also to the whole title of the album, kind of like a moving on.

Mullane: We looked for the right title for months to sum up where the band was at mentally, where we've been and where we're going. That was the title and the art direction spoke to that. And the lyrics also relate to those themes of moving on.

The theme with *The Coast Is Clear* is a perfect catch phrase to categorize a time of rebirth and moving on and

letting go of baggage. Being ourselves again, I think that's what's happened to us. That certainly is something I wrote about a lot, moving on and escaping bad vibes. I think we are finally there. It's packaged and sent to stores and it speaks to that, us being able to carry on as a band.

Gazette: How has the quality of your live performance evolved?

Goodsell: It's still evolving.

Nicholson: It's a process; it has come a long way. In the Maritimes, it's hard to play venues and to get certain

crowds to show. As far as getting a crowd involved in a show and getting them to pay attention, I think we've gotten fairly good at that. Our stage presence has come a long way. I think it comes from not caring as much, and just trying to have a good time.

As we started playing a few high-profile shows, we've learned the importance of a live show and how it's a different entity than an album. It's an element of your music just as an album cover is, and the packaging. You have to put a face on your music, almost a swagger to the tunes.

Gazette: Who are your biggest influences?

Mullane: There's a whole range, but I think we aspire to be The Cardigans sometimes, because we love them. I think there's a lot of experimentals in the recording that relate to the 60s, like The Beatles, try everything you can try to get the right sound in the studio.

Nicholson: Individually, we all have our different bands that we take different elements from. There are elements to different albums that stand out. An element from a Dwight Yokam album can be just as influential as a part from a Sigur Ros album.

Gazette: Describe the differences between *Vacation Land* and *The Coast Is Clear*.

Mullane: The difference is [with *Vacation Land*] we made it and we didn't know we made an album. But with *The Coast Is Clear*, we set out to make an album. We thought about every little detail. There's not a note that we didn't think about or an idea that we didn't try. I really like *Vacation Land*, and it took so much less time. Maybe we will go back to that next time [laughs].

*In-Flight Safety will be celebrating the release of *The Coast Is Clear* at Stage Nine on Saturday, Jan. 21 (\$8, 10 p.m.) with special guests Emm Gryner (Dead Daisy Records) and Mardeen. They will also be playing earlier in the night at the Pavillion (\$8, 7 p.m.) with special guests Jill Barber, The Audiens, Their Majesties (formerly Porcelain Gods), and Digging For Bones. Check out www.inflightsafety.ca for more information.*

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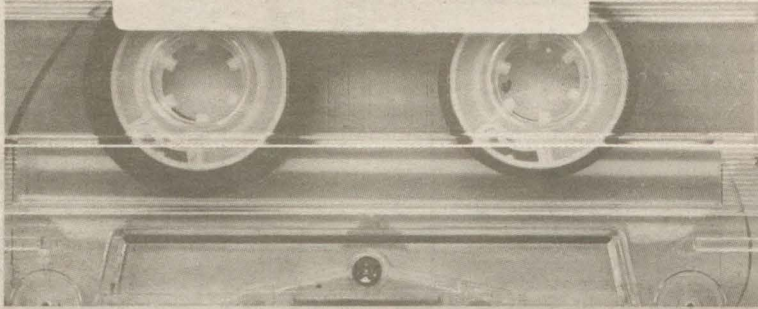
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Celebrity Quote of the Week

"I am obsessed with *The Golden Girls*. I should be the president of the fan club. My girlfriends have decided that I have the feistiness of Sophia but the random stories and weird anecdotes of Rose. I'm definitely not like Blanche!" — **Jennifer Love Hewitt** is crazy!

Burn Baby Burn



EMO

SIDE A: Sarah Feldman / Staff Contributor

"Emo" seems to have come — by a more or less indirect route — from "emo-core," a mocking label used in the mid-90s D.C. scene for hard-core that starts to get a little mushy in the middle. Introspective lyrics, quieter interludes, and elements of melody get mixed into the inarticulate, distortion-heavy thrash, resulting in a more generic, radio-friendly sound.

Some of the stuff on this list stands out — "If Winter Ends" seems to get both the funniness and the pitch of extremity just right — but most is pretty formulaic.

Emo-core bands, especially their 21st century versions, tend to alternate the demon-screach of hardcore with the glossy emotion of pop, never quite achieving either the cathartic panic of Xiu Xiu or the bleak clarity of Elliot Smith.

- "Something I Learned Today" - Husker Du
- "All There Is" - Rites of Spring
- "Seven" - Sunny Day Real Estate
- "Still" - Heatmiser
- "If Winter Ends" - Bright Eyes
- "Homage" - And You Will Know Us By the Trail of Dead
- "The Shooting Star That Destroyed Us All" - A Static Lullaby
- "Reflections" - From Autumn to Ashes
- "The Page" - Applesseed Cast
- "Paris in Flames" - Thursday

SIDE B: Saman Jafarian / Staff Contributor

While emo bands such as Dashboard Confessional and My Chemical Romance are becoming increasingly popular, we must not forget their forebears.

Weezer's *Pinkerton* is arguably the first truly emo album out there. And no one got it.

Weezer said the sound on *Pinkerton* was the direction the band was heading in until it was panned. Then, Weezer did an about-face and produced songs that left something to be desired, and then more songs that left even more to be desired.

This is too depressing. Give me a guitar. I have angst.

- "Tired of Sex" - Weezer
- "Getchoo" - Weezer
- "No Other One" - Weezer
- "Why Bother?" - Weezer
- "Across the Sea" - Weezer
- "The Good Life" - Weezer
- "El Scorcho" - Weezer
- "Pink Triangle" - Weezer
- "Falling For You" - Weezer
- "Butterfly" - Weezer

The strife faced by their majesties

Local band bows down to challenges and comes out with new album

SAMAN JAFARIAN
Staff Contributor

Though the band has not released anything since its successful 2004 *Emergency Band Meeting EP*, it's hard to accuse The Porcelain Gods of being lazy. As *The Gazette* found out from band members Brian O'Reilly, Niall Skinner and Andrew Erskine (no relation to our office manager of the same name), considering the challenges 2005 dealt them, it's surprising that they're even still around.

And to a certain extent they're not: The Porcelain Gods may be gone, but the newly renamed five-piece band Their Majesties is ready to take over the world — or Halifax, at least.

New challenges

For Their Majesties, when it rains, it pours.

The series of calamities started not too long before the band's planned 2005 summer tour when bassist Panos Giannoulis discovered he had a hernia. The band still continued the tour as planned — until their "super-cool" van exploded.

Giannoulis was not the only band member to suffer physical harm: Daniel Girard almost completely severed his finger on a bandsaw when he was working as a Sobeys' meat packer.

"Now his finger goes down, but it won't go back up, which really sucks, since he's probably had about 11 years of piano playing experience," says Erskine of Girard's injury. "But he can still play quite well."

Recording the new album has not been quick or easy for the band either. Aside from money shortage slowing down the process (Skinner's eyes nearly popped out when O'Reilly admitted they would be about \$10,000 in debt by the time the album comes out), the band's lineup changed.

Shortly after laying down drum tracks, former drummer Jeremy Stewart and The Porcelain Gods parted ways.

"We're still friends with him," says O'Reilly. "It's not like it's some crazy thing where everyone is punching each other and sleeping with each other's girlfriends."

"Though there was that one time," says Erskine, jokingly. "Those



The Majesties sitting high upon their, uh, stairs. / Photo: Holly Gordon

were the good old days."

On top of everything, another band in the United States called The Porcelain Gods had trademarked their name.

"They sent me an e-mail," says O'Reilly, "It sounded like they had tried to make it look like a lawyer had written it, but they basically told us that we couldn't go down there with our name."

Erskine says the e-mail served as an impetus to change the band's name. "As well as all of the toilet jokes," he adds.

New beginnings

Niall Skinner, Girard's longtime friend, replaced Stewart as the band's drummer.

"I was good friends with Daniel for a long time, and I met these guys through him. I jammed with them for fun a couple of times, and it sort of just clicked," says Skinner.

With a new drummer and copyright problems regarding the band's name, The Porcelain Gods decided it was time for a name change. Other names they played with included Robot Jesus, The Royal Express, and Their Royal Highnesses.

"We thought of tons of names, but one thing that we liked about The Porcelain Gods as a name is that it didn't lend itself to any preconceptions about our band," says Erskine. "Their Majesties is sort of the same, except it's not about throwing up — and it sort of catches your attention."

The band isn't worried about people recognizing their name either.

"I think that the three people who knew us before know about our name

change," says O'Reilly. "I already told my mom, so it's all good."

Let's hope Their Majesties will have better luck than The Porcelain Gods did last year.

New album?

Their Majesties' album is almost done, and O'Reilly points that fact out several times.

"The reason why it has dragged out so long is really money, or all of our accidents," he says. "As soon as you get money, you have to spend it."

All that is left to complete the album is horns and harpsichords, once the band gets the money to record it.

"We heard there's a magical room at Dal where harpsichords hang from the ceiling, and we were going to sneak into Dal at night and record then," says O'Reilly.

The sound of the new album is a definite improvement from the EP, the band claims. "If you had a knob that had 'balls' underneath it, it would be hovering at around one," O'Reilly says about their EP.

Erskine says the band focused on crafting their new songs, and keeping them concise — something they didn't worry about on the EP.

"We also took advantage of the studio setting where you can do things that you can't do live," he says. "Because it's still stuff we're doing. The live shows are a different example of what we sound like."

You can see Their Majesties live Friday, Jan. 20 at Stage 9, Saturday, Jan. 21 at The Pavilion, and Wednesday, Jan. 25 at The Grawood.

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Double Take

The Gazette makes its way through the Dal Art Gallery's current exhibitions

LAURA STONE
CHRISTINA STEFANSKI
Art Junkies

Nicolas Baier's *Genre Paintings* opened last Thursday evening at the Dalhousie Art Gallery to a large crowd of art aficionados. And I, perfectly positioned between the canapés and the free wine, listened intently to the opening speakers, waiting for their art-world jargon to inspire and finally make a sophisticate out of me.

When the artist himself approached the microphone, I got out my pen and notebook, ready to take down his words of artistic wisdom.

"I like this place and I like this town", said Baier, before stepping back into the crowd of spectators.

And that was all we would hear from Baier, the creator of the nine *Genre Paintings*, or photographs, or digitally constructed photographs — whatever those may be exactly.

The only genre that I could find in Baier's work — which includes an arrestingly beautiful red and white painted tree (or was it a photograph?) and an enormous collage of everyday items free-floating 10 feet off the ground — is idiosyncrasy.

In art-speak, I suppose genre

means just about anything, and the range of Baier's pieces is the most intriguing element of his exhibit.

Unfortunately, the *Genre Paintings* don't, although most of them are self-explanatory; one could have been called "Dirty Kitchen Table," and another, "Solitary Foot with Sock."

But like all great artists, Baier's work is sufficiently abstract without being totally incomprehensible. In fact, in two paintings I spied the image of a Heineken beer bottle — an inclusion that made *Genre Paintings* (or were they photographs?) my kind of genre indeed.

- LS

The Idea of North is a three-part exhibition of modern sound art from Canada, Iceland, Sweden and Norway founded by the Canada Council for the Arts.

The layering of sights and sounds leaking and mixing into one another in this exhibition parallels the excitement between artists and spectators that was seen at the Dalhousie Art Gallery on Jan. 12.

Participating galleries of this multi-venue exhibition are located across Halifax — the Dalhousie Art Gallery, St. Mary's University Art Gallery and Eyelevel Gallery — ensuring

spectators venture around the city to see the art.

The most interactive aspect of the exhibition is the ability of spectators to touch displayed objects. Kristjansdottir's "Romantic Undead 2005," for example, involves metal cocktail shakers, mini-globes, and salt and pepper shakers with lights placed inside them. As spectators shake these objects, blue lights spectrums and bright sounds seep through apparent holes.

Of particular interest to exhibit-goers seems to be a space that contains speakers and motion detectors that play sounds resembling the ocean. The motion detectors react to the stance of the person in the space, and the volume of sound from surrounding speakers increases and decreases as the spectator moved around.

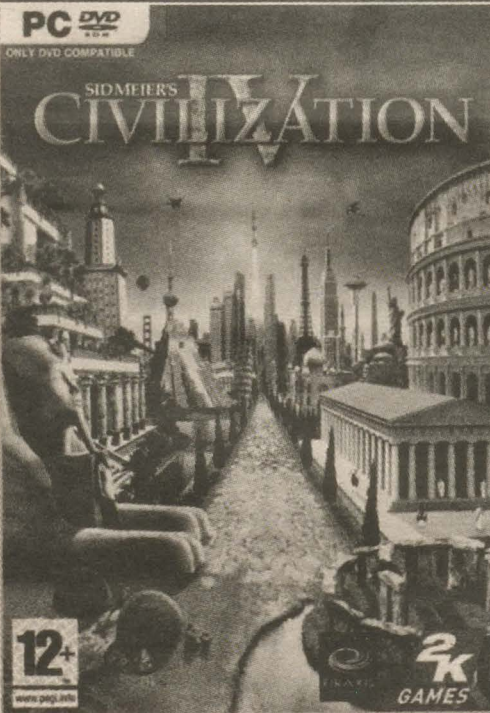
In keeping with the idea of moving through different venues to feel the sight and sounds of the city, this effect seems to have hypnotized any of the spectators who have tried it.

- CS

Both *Genre Paintings* and *The Idea of North* are on display until Feb. 26. Check out artgallery.dal.ca for more information.

GAMERS AWARE

DANA MASSEY / Staff Contributor



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Developer: Firaxis
Publisher: 2K Games
Players: One, online modes available

The king of all strategy franchises returned in 2005 with the release of the fourth game in the famed *Civilization* series: *Civilization IV*. The game has won a wealth of awards and critical praise, but while it's an extraordinarily fun title, I am here to say that it's not all that much different from those that have come before.

Civilization IV feels more like a remake of a classic than a true sequel. The game has some new features and twists, but for the most part, it's merely *Civilization III* with a fresh coat of paint.

But is this a bad thing? It isn't. There's not all that much room for improvement and, when making a sequel to a classic title, developers often do too much, totally ruining the spirit of the original. Firaxis avoided these land mines, although probably erred too far on the side of caution.

If you haven't yet played *Civilization*, or at least not recently, this game is definitely worth the retail sticker price. It will also be a barrel of fun if you didn't burn yourself out on previous versions. But if you tried *Civilization* and didn't like it, I doubt that *IV* will change your mind.

This version adds some new features, such as religion and the illusion of a less turn-based style of gameplay, but largely the upgrades are in graphics.

Civilization is what it is, and for millions of fans, that is great. I was just a touch disappointed that Firaxis didn't make any attempt to take this franchise to the next level.

Discover Neuroscience in Calgary

The Department of Neuroscience at the University of Calgary is holding a National Competition to identify students to visit with group members and prospective graduate supervisors. Hurry - the competition closes **January 30, 2006**.

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SuperSex in the SuperCity

Cheaters never prosper

DAVE WENTWORTH
Sexpert

Q: I think that I am being cheating on. My girlfriend and I have been together for almost a year, but I think she has been unfaithful for about five months. I went away for two weeks and came back and she was acting sexual with my friend. I think he took advantage while I was gone and now they continue to do it when I'm not there. How do I know what the hell is going on and what do I do about it?

A: Infidelity is one of the most damaging things that can occur during a relationship. This is especially true in your case where you are speculating without any concrete proof. Without asking either one of them directly you cannot do much else except try to catch them in the act.

It sounds like this has you stressed out enough as it is, so I wouldn't try to add to your nervousness by becoming some amateur private investigator. You really need to ask them, and

be prepared for the consequences.

A lot of the time we fear asking our partner something because of a worry of rejection.

In your case, you are probably worried if you ask her, or him, there will be a fight. And if your suspicion is unwarranted, you risk losing two valuable relationships.

There is no way to control the outcome of bringing up an issue like this.

Your friend and girlfriend will probably both be shocked, either that you found out about them or that you falsely thought something was going on. It's very important, however, that you relieve yourself of the doubt and preoccupation. What is more valuable, your friendship, or a clear mind on the issue?

You are either going to confirm what you've already assumed was going on, or you will test your relationship for better or worse.

Q: Who cheats more, men or women?

A: Although men have always been the stereotypical cheater, more and more women are engaging in adultery for a whole range of reasons. Women are more independent now than they ever have been, allowing them to manage their own lives and take delight in an affair if and when they choose to do so.

Still, even though women are catching up to men with regards to infidelity, men still outrank women when it comes to frequency of playing mattress tag with another.

As with most things, while no researched statistics are available, professional opinion has estimated cheating to be as common as seven out of every 10 North American men.

The Internet has, like many things sex-related, facilitated communication between would-be cheaters and their admirers. For many, men and women alike, it's very easy to find somebody to cheat with.

Just remember, it's a roll of the dice and you may get caught, thereby making a few moments of fun not worth it in the end.

This Week's Picks

An Entertainment Pick by John Packman

thelonelyisland.com

Akiva Schaffer, Jorma Taccone and, particularly, Andy Samberg have made it into the media spotlight through *Saturday Night Live* and their short, "Lazy Sunday." But some fans want more. Luckily for them, the three didn't start on SNL.

Since September 2001, Schaffer, Taccone and Samberg have had a website to display their homemade films. Through thelonelyisland.com, "the dudes" have posted their shorts, songs and pilots for Fox and MTV, free for anyone to download.

Despite poor budgets, the films and songs are decently made with strong writing and production.

From music videos about two strangers having a party to wordless sketches to tooth whitening addictions, thelonelyisland.com is best described as simply funny. The fact that much of the work is so low budget only shows people can make humorous movies with just funny ideas and some filming know-how.

Their best works on the site include the two episodes of *The Lonely Island*, a sitcom spoof, and *Awesometown*, a sketch comedy show. Celebrity appearances on the site include Jack Black, *Scrubs'* Sarah Chalke and Brooke Shields.

Much of Schaffer, Taccone and Samberg's lonelyisland.com, as well as their SNL work, can also be seen at the free movie-hosting site, youtube.com.

Spin Spin Sugar by Christina Stefanski



Lady Sovereign
Vertically Challenged

Lady Sovereign is the pint-sized Brit that has caught the attention of some big cats in the music industry — including Jay-Z, Missy Elliot and Pharrell Williams.

The single, "Random," features brag raps, such as, "Biggest midget in the game, can't get rid of me/Give me just a minute and I'll be your facility/My words hurt you just like loosin' ya virginity."

And her self-confidence highlights this little dame's potential.

"I'm the best thing since sliced bread, no Eminem/Feminine? Naw, Ms. Sovereign," Sov raps in her single.

Lady Sov has worked with several producers in the process of developing her distinct style, including the Ordinary Boys ("9 to 5"), Basement Jaxx ("Hoodie") and Adrock from the Beastie Boys ("A Little Bit of SHHH Remix").

These collaborations have given her some street cred as well as the opportunity to familiarize herself with the mic.

The Vertically Challenged EP is the catchy preview for the upcoming LP of the new girl on the block.

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Women's hockey
Dal 3 UNB 1
Dal 11 UdeM 1

Women's basketball
Dal 66 MUN 49
Dal 67 St. EX. 55

Women's volleyball
Dal 3 SMU 0
Dal 3 CBU 1

Women's hockey interlock
Saturday, Jan. 21 @ 3 p.m. Dal Arena Dal vs Concordia
Sunday, Jan. 22 @ 1 p.m. Dal Arena Dal vs McGill

Men's volleyball interlock
Friday, Jan. 20 @ 8 p.m. Dalplex Dal vs Laval
Saturday, Jan. 21 @ 12 p.m. Dalplex Dal vs McGill
Saturday, Jan. 21 @ 7 p.m. Dalplex Dal vs Montreal
Sunday, Jan. 22 @ 12 p.m. Dalplex Dal vs Sherbrooke

Men's hockey
Dal 1 UPEI 3
Dal 4 UNB 6

Men's basketball
Dal 83 MUN 86
Dal 68 St. EX. 65

Men's volleyball
Dal 3 UdeM 0
Dal 3 UNB 0

Track and Field
Sunday, Jan. 22 @ 6 p.m. Dalplex

VARSIITY RESULTS

VARSIITY SCHEDULE



Bronwyn Whyte has the right moves to help the Tigers win the AUS. / Photo: Nick Pearce

Hockey centreman wants AUS championship

COLLEEN COSGROVE
Staff Contributor

Bronwyn Whyte, a third-year international development and environmental studies student, has the right moves and the confidence in her team's abilities for a strong finish to the 2005/2006 AUS women's hockey season.

Originally from Port Perry, Ont., Whyte says she became interested in Dalhousie as a way to avoid the troubles of the double cohort.

"Little did I know everyone else had the same idea," Whyte says. "The East Coast has been great and I've had nothing but positive experiences."

In her three years at Dalhousie, Whyte has developed into a highly competitive and dynamic centre. With two goals and seven assists, Whyte is ranked fourth in the AUS scoring.

Whyte doesn't plan to continue playing competitive hockey following graduation, but she does remain open-minded. As for her future after school, Whyte echoes many fellow students.

"That is top-secret information that hasn't even been revealed to me yet," she says.

To help endure the pressure of school and a demanding hockey schedule, Whyte says she uses her mother's organizational skills, colour-coding, and vanilla bean lattes for inspiration and organization.

"My mother is my biggest source of inspiration," she says. "I've never seen someone manage a million and one things better than her. But that

balance you talk about, I still haven't been able to achieve that... any advice?"

On the ice, there is plenty to keep her energized. She says the drive and determination of fellow teammates helps her push herself and maintain her intensity level.

"I constantly use my teammates for motivation," she says. "I don't expect them to slack off so I would assume they would expect the same of me."

This season's fresh-faced roster also has Whyte excited and confident in the team's capabilities and potential.

"The new rookies will provide the depth Dal has been lacking in the past," she says. "These girls have all the necessary skills. This year we have the all-around package."

The Dalhousie Tigers women's hockey team is third in AUS standings and has few matches to make an impact; however, Whyte isn't concerned. A recent win over UNB and a tie against top-ranked St. EX., show that Dalhousie will remain a force to be reckoned with until the bitter end — and Whyte maintains her high expectations.

"I expect an AUS championship this year and nothing less," she says. "This is the best team Dal has seen since I've been playing, and we have the tangibles and camaraderie it takes to win."

This past weekend, Whyte helped her team defeat UNB and UdeM. The Tigers have two interlock games this weekend against nationally-ranked McGill and Concordia.

Dal hockey player turns entrepreneur

JOEY RYBA
Sports Editor

Bob Crummer, a right-winger on the Dalhousie Tigers men's hockey team, is best known for his work in the corners and in front of the net. But recently, he's been using his good hockey hands in the workroom — starting a custom-built poker table business.

Earlier this school year, Crummer made a table for a friend and says he received a lot of positive feedback. He says he enjoyed constructing the table and thought there would be a profitable opportunity in the poker-table industry.

And so the Dal hockey player opened Crummer Poker Tables, which has been up and running for two months. He says he's able to give his customers what they want and only uses high-quality materials and high-quality wood.

"They're definitely not tables you'd buy at Walmart," he says. "They're high-end poker tables."

Before launching his business, Crummer had a long history on the ice as a power forward.

The Mt. Forest, Ont., native joined the Tigers in 2000 after he visited Halifax that summer. He says he enjoyed the city, and had a lot of respect for Tigers' head coach Fabian Joseph — and so he decided to come to Dal.

Prior to Dal, Crummer played three years in the OHL where he suited up for the Guelph Storm and the Peterborough Petes.

Crummer, a third-year management student, played for the Tigers from 2000 to 2002. He says that the 2002 AUHC final against the St. Mary's Huskies was most memorable.

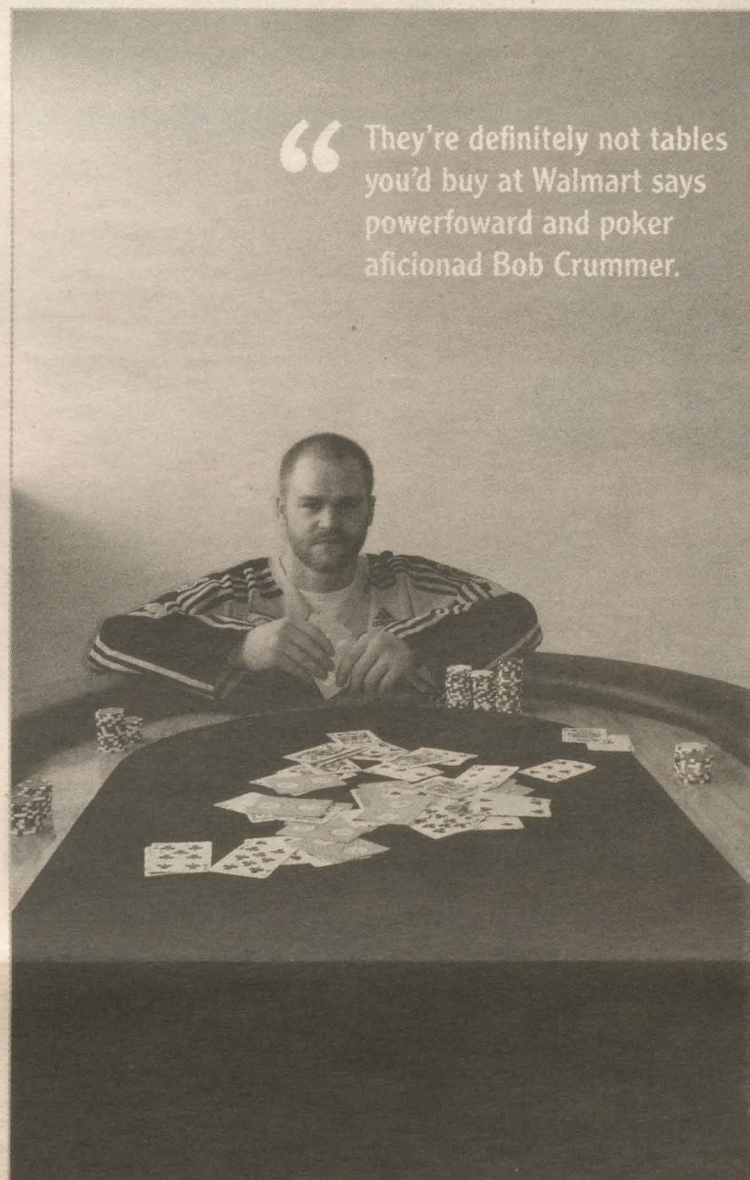
"It was probably the toughest series that has ever been witnessed in AUHC hockey," says Crummer. "We had a few key injuries and a few guys stepped up. It was the toughest series I've ever been in."

During his first two years at Dal, Crummer says that teammates Chris Stanley, Dan Tudin and Marty Johnston inspired him to be a better player.

"The character of those guys made you want to play hard every shift," he says. "It was exciting to watch them and to be a part of that much skill."

After the 2001/2002 season, Crummer decided that school wasn't for him and left Dal to pursue professional hockey.

"In my first two years, I was here for the hockey so I thought I may as well try my hand at pro," he says. "I knew if I wanted to return to school it would always be there. I'm glad I played a couple of years of pro."



The poker table above will be auctioned to support Dal Athletics / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Crummer then moved from the AUHC to the ECHL where he played for the San Diego Gulls and the Cincinnati Cyclones. He says he enjoyed his time at the ECHL and that it's a great league.

"It's very professional and very well run," he says. "My times in San Diego and Cincinnati were really good times for me. They were good experiences — a few goals, a few fights and a lot of laughs."

During his time as a pro hockey player, Crummer says that he worked hard everyday and didn't take anything for granted because playing hockey was his job.

"If you're not working hard you're hurting someone else's chances at a paycheck for next year," he says. "There's a lot of pressure on you to succeed, which was a great, great thing for me because I love being out in pressure situations."

After two seasons in the ECHL,

“They're definitely not tables you'd buy at Walmart says powerforward and poker aficionado Bob Crummer.

Crummer realized that he wasn't headed for the NHL and decided to return to Dalhousie to finish his degree. He says it was fortunate that he still had one year of university hockey eligibility remaining so he could help the Tigers.

Crummer isn't sure whether he'll return to professional hockey. Presently, he's focused on his degree and his new poker tables business.

His most recent work is a table with a Dalhousie Tigers logo, which he's donating to the Dalhousie varsity sports auction.

He says that the Black and Gold Club, an organization that helps Dal athletes, has helped him a great deal throughout his time at Dal and he wants to return the favour.

"It's just my chance to give something back to the program," he says. "I'm probably most proud of this table than any others because it's a Dal table."

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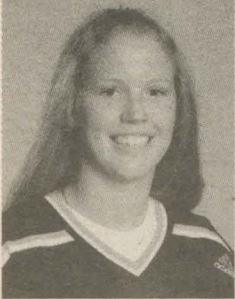
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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

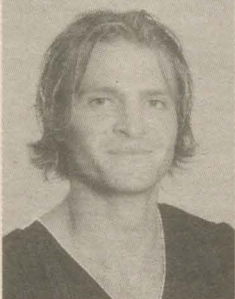
FEMALE ATHLETE



KIM CARCARY
HOCKEY

Kim Carcary, a forward with the women's hockey Tigers, had an outstanding eight-point weekend as Dalhousie hosted UNB and UdeM. In Saturday's game, she counted a goal and an assist in a hard-fought 3-1 win over the UNB Varsity Reds. On Sunday, Carcary burned the UdeM Aigles Bleues with three goals and three assists for a six-point outing and her first hat trick in a Tigers uniform. Carcary is a second-year therapeutic recreation student from Newmarket, Ont.

MALE ATHLETE



TIM O'CONNOR
BASKETBALL

Tim O'Connor had a great weekend on the basketball court as the Tigers split a pair of weekend games. On Saturday, he tallied 10 points and five rebounds in the Tigers' 86-83 overtime loss to the Memorial Sea-Hawks. Sunday's game was a different story as the Tigers battled CIS number-one-ranked St. FX and came out on top with a tight 68-65 win over the X-Men. Again, O'Connor had 10 points for the cause. O'Connor is a fourth-year kinesiology student from Vancouver, B.C.



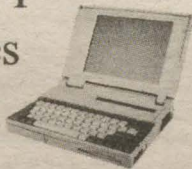
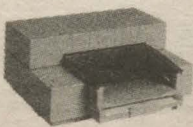
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Sophomore guard plays key role in Tigers' success

MIKE TWEEDALE
Staff Contributor

The Dalhousie Tigers women's basketball team is rich in talent and experience.

The team's veterans supply plenty of leadership and skill, and are supported by an eager and energetic group of sophomore and rookie players.

One Tiger who has impressed both teammates and fans with her strong play in recent games is second-year guard April Scott.

Although a third-year science student, Scott is only playing in her second year of eligibility. Two knee operations — one on each leg — forced the 20-year-old Halifax resident to the sidelines for the duration of her rookie season. After an intense rehabilitation and strong desire to get back on the floor, Scott has secured a spot in the Tigers' starting line-up.

Scott is focused on helping the Tigers earn one of the first-round playoff byes, which are awarded to the teams that finish first and second overall in the AUS regular season.

"We definitely want the bye," says Scott.

Eager to make a balanced offensive and defensive contribution, Scott admits that she enjoys all aspects of playing the game.

"There isn't one thing that I like above another," she says. "My role is to run the offence, but I like defence and the tough parts about defending."

Scott says that not losing any players from last year's line-up is contributing to the team's current success.

"We've had a year of growing together as a team," she says. "We know how each other's plays, so that helps a lot getting to know each other's strengths."

As much as Scott is an inspiration for the Tigers, her teammates are an inspiration for her.

"I look to the girls on the team," she says. "Kelly Donald is someone I look up to. She played point guard the first year that I didn't play and



April Scott is focusing on a first-round bye. / Photo: Nick Pearce

I learned a lot from watching her play."

Scott shares playing time with Carolyn Peppin. The chemistry between the duo has been obvious in the team's recent string of victories.

"April and I work well together," says Peppin. "We understand each other's strengths. April might be a little bit better ball handler, but I might be a little more vocal than she is. She is also really great at seeing the entire floor and finding the open man."

Leslie Duncan, whose strong play at post opens up rebounds for Scott,

agrees with Peppin that Scott has a certain knack for anticipation and says that playing with the guard has been amazing.

"She sees the court so well," says Duncan. "For a girl who has gone through two knee surgeries, you really have to commend her. She works so hard and we really need her. She brings a lot to our team."

This past weekend, Scott helped the Tigers post victories against St. FX and Memorial. Dalhousie now sports a 7-3 record and the team is tied with Cape Breton for first place.

AUS/QSSF MEN'S VOLLEYBALL INTERLOCK TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20	
6:00pm Montreal vs. UNB McGill vs. MUN	8:00pm Sherbrooke vs. UdeM Laval vs. DAL
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21	
10:00am Laval vs. MUN Sherbrooke vs. UNB	5:00pm Laval vs. UNB Sherbrooke vs. MUN
12:00pm Montreal vs. UdeM McGill vs. DAL	7:00pm McGill vs. UdeM Montreal vs. DAL
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22	
10:00am Montreal vs. MUN McGill vs. UNB	12:00pm Laval vs. UdeM Sherbrooke vs. DAL

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The SEXTANT

Stories From Above – A Sexton Student's View of Upper Campus

JACQUELINE POUSSHAY
Sextant contributor

After four years in industrial engineering, I decided in November that I wasn't cut out for IE. I just wasn't interested — blah blah blah — and to make a long story short, I switched to environmental engineering. Now, for those of you not in the know, there are different prerequisites for the industrial program than for the environmental program. Pre-requisites that I don't have. So, during this winter term, I'm up on Studley Campus, taking first year biology, geology, organic chemistry and oceanography (yeah, I know...)

Studley Campus is like a whole other world than Sexton Campus (the only Dalhousie campus that I knew before, two weeks ago). Let me highlight some of the differences for you:

1. The LSC – This building is a maze. I'm sure there's a Minotaur in it somewhere. There are four different levels, but the basements of some levels line up with the first floors of others. There are underground tunnels, even one that goes to the Killam. I ended up there one morning by mistake while trying to get to my OCEA class and it has a freakin' Tim Hortons! Anyway, it's almost as compli-

cated as going from the third floor of the B-building to the "fourth" floor of the civil building. And it's big, meaning lots of walking. And at 8:30 in the morning, I'm not exactly chipper.

2. Desks with armrests – Okay, this has to be the most stupid, un-ergonomic idea ever (hey, looks like I learned something in my industrial classes). There are no real desks on Studley Campus. Instead it has these little chairs in these huge theatre-like rooms, and you're forced to write on an 8" by 8" piece of plastic. It's especially hard for left-handers like me, as we're forced to twist in this weird position while trying to take notes from a PowerPoint presentation amongst 500 other students. Fun. Really, really, fun.

3. The Dunn building elevator – Any Studley engineering student knows what I'm talking about. Randall Kennedy shouldn't deem this space safe. While at CFES Congress this January in Windsor, we broke the elevator in the Riverfront Radisson Hotel by cramming 25 people into an elevator that was only suited for 19 (I can only imagine this experiment was devised by some mech...). From then on, the elevators at the Radisson ran very, very, slowly, and wouldn't stop at floor 15. (Emmy Schnepf can verify

this. We almost got trapped). I'm sure that at some point in history, someone tried this same experiment in the Dunn Building.

4. Where Can I Go in Five Minutes? – This is my biggest beef with Studley Campus. When I was on Sexton Campus, in five minutes (or less), I could walk to Tim Hortons, I could walk to Sobeys, and best of all, I could walk to Darrell's. Where can I walk in five minutes on Studley Campus? Seriously, nowhere. Coburg Coffee and the SUB, that's about it. Downtown is about a 20-minute walk, which makes it really not fun going from my CPST class (on Sexton) to my organic chemistry class (in the LSC, where it still takes me about 15 minutes to find my class on a good day). Horrible, horrible location.

5. More Girls – Ok, guys, I guess this is great for you. The only thing I'm going to comment on is... they're all wearing dead animals on their feet. While wearing sweatpants. Yeeeeee-ah.

Those are all my complaints for now — but mostly, I'm cranky because I'm now a 30-minute walk away from the T-Room. (Hey, it's a big deal when you consider that last year I lived in O'Brien Hall).

WHO OR WHAT THE HELL IS DSEUS? QQLF??

The DSEUS has office hours!! What the hell is the DSEUS?? It's your Dalhousie Sexton Engineering Undergrad Society...

They have an office??!! Yes we do!! It's located between the security desk and the Sexton workout room, so make sure you stop by to find out what events are going on, or complain, or we even take compliments. Really, we do... dig deep people...

DSEUS is looking for an IT Director. If you have website experience and want to work with your VP communications...really it'll be fun, I promise.

DSEUS is also looking for a merchandise director. If you want to be in charge of ordering clothes, or hated the shirts we had first semester, or want hats and belts like the cool Studley kids, then this it. If you ordered a shirt first semester and didn't

get it yet, then come get it at the DSEUS office.

DSEUS also needs a National Engineering Week Director. So, if you like engineering, or weeks, or national things... do it.

An IMPORTANT reminder to all disciplines: if you don't send representatives to the DSEUS meetings, you get no money. Get it?? NO people = NO money.

Engineering competition

Dalhousie University Sexton Campus will host this year's Atlantic Engineering Competition (AEC) from Feb 3rd to Feb 5th. AEC brings together more than 150 engineering students from across the Atlantic region. (For more information or registration go to myweb.dal.ca/greenjns) These competitors will be the first and second place winners from their

respective school engineering competitions. They will demonstrate their proficiencies in the following categories, all of which will be fully bilingual:

- Consulting Engineering
- Extemporaneous Debate
- Engineering Communications
- Innovative Design

- Team Design
- Senior Team Design

AU tours are happening on Friday, January 20th. Be sure to stop by the T-room that evening for trivia.

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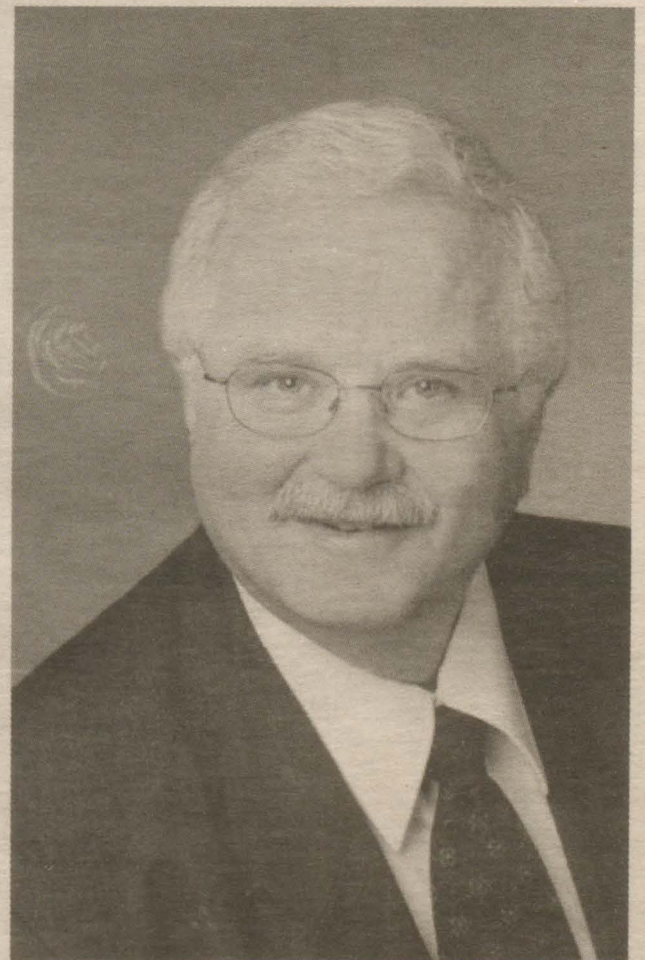
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