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140-17 January 31 · February 7, 2008

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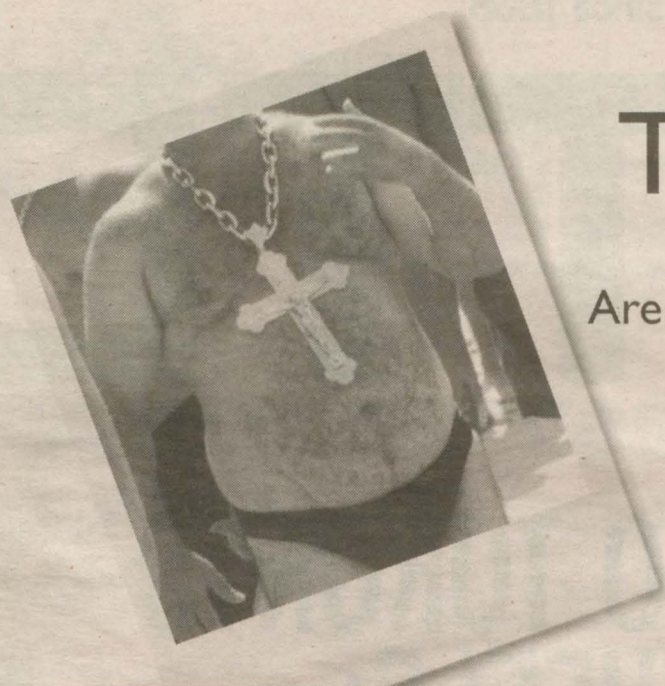
DAL STUDENT PEDALS TO PUMP FUNDS FOR DRINKING WATER PG 4

MAKING THE POST-SECONDARY LEAP
PUBLIC VS. PRIVATE SCHOOL PG. 9

BRINGING LYRICS TO LIFE
EXPEDYTE BREAKS OUT OF HALIFAX PG. 12

TABERNAC ÇA FAIT MAL!
SHOTS OF CRASHED ICE IN QUEBEC CITY PG. 18

Cover: Susan Maroun, John Packman



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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
John Packman / editor@dalgazette.ca

COPY EDITOR
J. Mary Burnet / copy@dalgazette.ca

NEWS EDITOR
Katie May / news@dalgazette.ca

OPINIONS EDITOR
James Munson / opinions@dalgazette.ca

ARTS & CULTURE EDITORS
Aly Coy & Christie Conway
arts@dalgazette.ca

SPORTS EDITOR
Julie Sobowale / sports@dalgazette.ca

PHOTO EDITOR
Josh Boyter / photo@dalgazette.ca

PRODUCTION & DESIGN
Susan Maroun / design@dalgazette.ca

CONTRIBUTORS

NEWS

Natalia Roque-Cuadra

Phoebe Powell

OPINIONS

Doug Roop

Jenn Conter

Katie Ingram

Catherine Holloway

ARTS & CULTURE

Arleen Hammond

Daniel Reed

Laura Dawe

Andrew Bernardo

Katie Nation

Dan Bray

Jason Cohanin

Nick Khatler

Hugh Wallace

Martina Jakubchik-Paloheimo

CONTACT US

Room 312
6136 University Avenue
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 4J2
www.dalgazette.ca

GENERAL INQUIRIES

(902) 494-2507
editor@dalgazette.ca

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES

(902) 494-6532
advertising@dalgazette.ca

THE FINE PRINT

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

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

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

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Widening the scope on Afghanistan

JOHN PACKMAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

'Make a decision about Afghanistan.'

This is what my conscience screams after getting through another news story, opinions piece, call-in show or after seeing another picture of a dead soldier.

And I think I'm in the same position as a lot of people who only get to see the war through the filter of headlines and TV reports.

I'm struggling to make sense of everything I know about Afghanistan and figure out everything I don't. Now that we're there, we should be there - but I haven't made up my mind about when the conditions would be right to leave.

The reason I bother to pick up a story about Afghanistan is to give me some insight into what I'm missing and what it means.

And when I picked up The Globe and Mail to find out that our army stopped handing over prisoners to the Afghan authorities almost three months ago because of a credible report of torture, I realized my picture of Afghanistan was idealistic and inaccurate.

The fact that Afghan authorities

have tortured at least one detainee shattered the picture I had of Afghanistan, in which I thought Canada would be able to hand over the reigns to the country in a few years' time.

What made matters worse was the three-month disparity between what was happening on the ground and the time it was reported, despite our 24-news cycle.

The reason?

The federal government wasn't bothering to tell its citizens what it knew.

At first, the government blamed the military for keeping the information concealed, but eventually admitted that wasn't the case and they had known since the transfers stopped. James Munson looks at the Conservative government's 'mis-speak' about what's actually going on overseas in an op-ed on page 9.

While some will argue the Canadian government didn't want to give away classified information about our army, German broadcaster Deutsche Welle reported NATO troops stopped handing over detainees nine days after they stopped.

But because our government managed to hide this for so long, my conception of Afghanistan was dis-

torted for months.

If something like this is happening, I want to know immediately and I need to be able to rely on my government to be straight with me.

The situation overseas is confusing enough as it is. In order to have any firm opinions on the war, Canadians need all the accurate information they can get. We shouldn't have to play games with elected officials to get this information.

If our government is satisfied with people only knowing a half-truth, public opinion will be essentially useless because it's based on vague assumptions.

While national newspapers will no doubt provide the meat of the info on Afghanistan, every little piece of opinion and news helps to fill a larger and more detailed picture.

This week, Dal student turned Tim Hortons employee in Kandahar, Doug Roop, reports what life is like for him as he works with Canadian soldiers.

Hopefully in the coming months, the military will start speaking directly to Canadian citizens. But even if we do get the information straight from the generals, our journalists overseas and at home can't assume nothing is missing.

CLARIFICATIONS:

Last week's headline "Levy mix-up caused office debt" was misleading. The DSU's sustainability office could have been in debt if the DSU hadn't covered the extra \$7,000 mentioned in the story, but the office was not in debt.

We were missing a photo credit from the U-Brew story last week. Hilary Beaumont took the picture. Also, the photographer for the Markit story was Hartley Butler George, not Harley. Sorry photogs.

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Dal student to bike for water

ALY COY
ARTS EDITOR

Colin Campbell is taking the scenic route home for the summer. He's biking 2,200 kilometres.

On Apr. 26, the fourth-year Dalhousie commerce student plans to bike from Halifax to Toronto to help make drinking water more accessible all over the world.

He's wanted to break out some cycling gear for two years now, and his friends have offered to pay him hundreds of dollars to make the trip.

"I didn't want to just take their money, so over the past couple of years I've come up with what I want to do with the money I raise."

So Campbell, who is part of Dal's Model United Nations and Commerce societies, started his own organization called Water 4 All Canada, which supports groups that bring drinkable water to places in need. His goal is to raise \$20,000 for his organization.

"I wanted to do something about this. To help people who don't have access," he says. "It's a human basic need."

Over his past couple of years at Dal, Campbell realized the necessity of fresh water and decided to run - or bike - with the idea, driven by a passion to encourage the conservation of drinking water.

"Not to say that I've had [to] experience what it means to not have drinking water, but I understand more about how much we take for granted," Campbell says. "I thought it was about time I take an interest outside of school."

Campbell says many Canadians don't realize how important fresh water is.

"There are a lot of people, just



JOHN PACKMAN / THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

like you and I, in different countries around the world that don't have clean water, and because of that they suffer," he says. "Not to say that water isn't an abundant resource - it's just not thought about as an important resource."

Campbell's main goal is to make people more conscious of how much water they use. He will stop at elementary and high schools in several cities along his route home and

hopes to give short presentations for students about his organization

"Eighty per cent of [the cities] have water involved in their names. Something 'Falls' or 'Creek.' It's ironic."

Campbell is also trying to promote his organization internationally. He ran into an old schoolmate who is going to Nigeria this summer with The Oaklands Foundation, to help dig a well and build a school.

Francis Tibollo, a St. Francis Xavier University student, went to De La Salle High School with Campbell in Toronto. Over the break, the two De La Salle alumni got together and realized their projects were very similar. Campbell decided to donate at least half of his funds to support Tibollo's project in Nigeria.

"I know who I'm giving it to. I know the intentions of their work. They want to help," Campbell says.

"[Tibollo's] planning on having it documented so we can use footage to show people exactly who they helped and how they helped."

Campbell has also organized an event on Feb. 6 at Embassy Nightclub on Argyle Street called Mixin' It Up! There will be performances by DJ Andy Ares, among others, and the proceeds from the \$5 cover will go to The Oaklands Foundation.

As for training, Campbell has been hitting the gym more often since he got back to school this term.

"It's physical and mental. Cardio has to be top notch or else I won't be able to last. I go for a run for 15 minutes, jump on the bike for a while, finish with a swim, then sauna."

He's been concentrating on balancing his workout so it exercises most of his muscles, and is taking some "mentally challenging" yoga classes. But he still makes sure to spend lots of time on the bike.

Campbell expects his trip home to take roughly two weeks, if he bikes six to eight hours each day. During the weeks before his departure, he plans to bike to Peggy's Cove and Cape Breton on day trips for practice.

"When I bike (at the gym), I close my eyes and I think of some place I would really like to be. Somewhere like South America. Some place really interesting like in Nigeria helping somebody," he says.

"I would feel so good to see a child who now can drink clean water and is happy and enjoying themselves."

Check out Water 4 All Canada's Facebook group for updates on Campbell's foundation and how to donate or help, or e-mail colincampbell@dal.ca

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Prof takes on extra Spanish class for students

NATALIA ROQUE-CUADRA
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

María José Giménez Micó hasn't written a book, but the Dal professor of Spanish literature shares her name with the author of a Spanish book, *Te quise como sólo se quiere a los cabrones*, or "I loved you like one would love cuckolds."

"It is not mine," she says, laughing. "That book has a funny title, doesn't it?"

Giménez Micó was born in Valencia, Spain, and lived in Montreal for 13 years. She studied at L'Université de Montréal, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master's degrees, and wrote her PhD in contemporary Spanish literature.

This term has been busier for her than others. Due to the cancellation of one literature class in the Spanish department this term, she agreed to add an extra class to her workload. The class she has taken on, called Direct Study: El Quijote, is a detailed study of Miguel de Cervantes' *Don Quixote*.

After one of her colleagues, Professor Jim Holloway, died last year, Giménez Micó became the only Spanish literature professor at Dal available to teach the class. So when one of her students asked if she would teach the course, she agreed.

"If the students are interested, I am ready to go the extra mile," she says.

She says the challenges of teaching this text don't have to do with the vocabulary, but with the way the words are placed together.

"You have to understand that the challenge in a literary text is that we are working with art," she says. "Literature is words made (into) art."

Despite the complexities, most of her students are eager to meet the challenge. Adam MacGregor, a fourth-year Spanish major, says the class is at the Master's level due to the text's difficulty.

"If she's teaching it, I know everything is going to be O.K.," says MacGregor. "She sees learning as a



JOSH BOYTER / THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

process, rather than seeking an outcome."

Giménez Micó is known among her students for her different teaching methods, her easygoing personality and her openness to listening to students' ideas. She also encourages her students to always think critically about their work.

"What is happening is that most of our students are English speakers, so their major difficulty is the language," she says. "You can learn to write a language by practicing, by being aware of your mistakes. So what I do is give them the opportunity to review their own mistakes so that they can learn from them. I always say that they can't know everything; if they did, they wouldn't be here."

Maria Koutovenko, a student majoring in Spanish and doing her Honours thesis with Giménez Micó, says she reminds her of her teachers back in Russia.

"She cares about the students; she is different," Koutovenko says. "She has strong points of view but is ready to accept yours. She is very open to other people's ideas. I find it very interesting to have a discussion with her."

As for writing fiction, Giménez Micó admits it's not for her. But she's working on a literary critique of Spanish American writers that she hopes to finish someday. She says it's not likely to have a title like, "I loved you like one would love cuckolds," though.

"No, no, no," she says, laughing. "That's not me."

Students participate in peacemaking panel

PHOEBE POWELL
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

A Dalhousie social work professor is trying to gather student support for violence prevention efforts in the province.

Wanda Bernard, director of the Dalhousie School of Social Work, brought her students to a panel discussion on Jan. 17 for an open debate among members of East and North Preston, N.S., two predominantly black communities greatly affected by violent crime in the past two years. The discussion included expert panellists and Dal students from Bernard's Africentric Perspectives class.

"I wanted to expose students to real-life issues in the community where they were taking place," she said. "I also wanted to inform the community that they have a lot to teach the academy whereas the opposite is usually expected."

The panel focused on a review of the Peace March that took place Jan. 13, 2007 in response to a double murder in East Preston last December.

Panellists recounted their experiences organizing the march and shared their visions for a greater response to violence in Nova Scotia communities. They suggested creating extra-curricular programs for youth and organizing more peace marches to attract media attention to the violent crime happening in the province.

The Peace March, during which 300 people gathered in East Preston, has not created a widespread long-term response to violence, according to the panellists. They did not mention that any programs had been developed since the march to raise awareness or to prevent violence from occurring.

But they were still optimistic as they shared their hopes and plans for the future. Panellist Stewart Sparks said he wanted to organize another rally soon for people across the province.

Sparks, a member of the East

Preston Ratepayers Association, said the community must first address the underlying issues of poverty and stress.

"As black people, we struggle constantly," said Sparks. "My community is stressed. Our young people are stressed. They don't know how to deal with the stress, and that's when the violence happens."

Panellist and march organizer Spencer Colley, who is also a retired police officer and the chair of the East Preston Ratepayers Association, agreed with Sparks, saying any productive discussions must include young people who are at risk of committing these crimes.

"We must get the youth to sit down and tell us what is happening," said Colley. "When it is costing \$84,000 per year to keep a criminal in jail, it is in everyone's best interest to listen to these kids before the crimes are committed."

All of the panellists emphasized the need for N.S. communities to unite for peace and to not treat violence as an issue restricted to predominantly black communities. Violent crime extends beyond a single community, said Corporal Andy Hack.

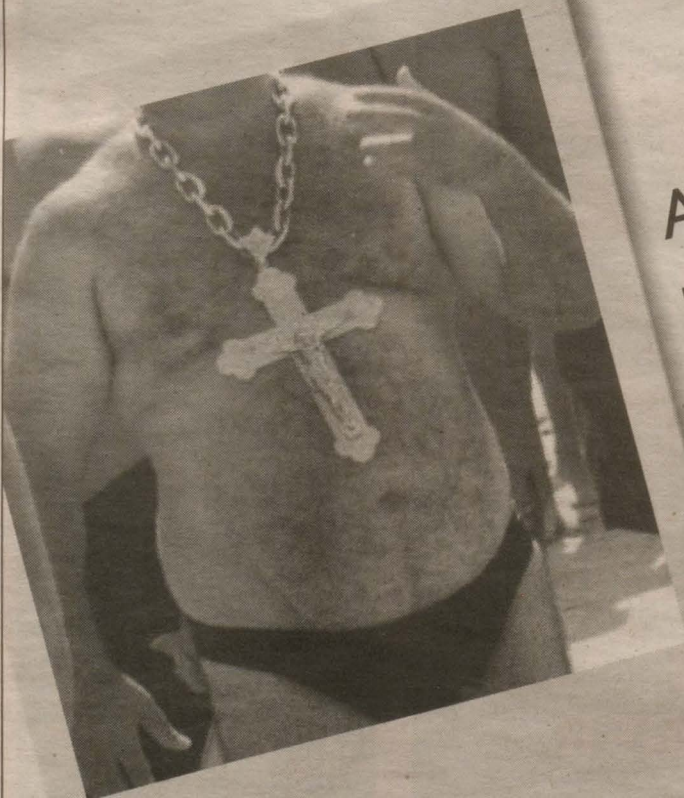
Hack, a police officer working in the Preston region, said violent crime has actually decreased in the area.

According to Hack, violent crime rates dropped in Preston by 8.4 per cent from December 2006 to December 2007. He said generally, youth leave their own communities and commit violent crimes in more heavily populated areas, such as Halifax.

That's why all university students need to participate in local peacemaking discussions and learn the history of black people living in the province, said Bernard.

"The wider university community can learn how to respectfully engage with communities, to become partners in the fight to stop violence, including the root causes of violence, and facilitate peace."

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CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS

McGuinty government to donate \$45 million to Ryerson

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced last week the provincial government would finance \$45 million for Ryerson University's campus expansion.

The sum is intended to go toward developing a new Student Learning Centre.

"It's right to work to build this dream together," said McGuinty to students and faculty in Ryerson's Architecture Building.

With this financial aid, McGuinty said Ryerson can further engage citizens to improve the community around them.

Just a few days before the announcement, the school's president, Sheldon Levy, had revealed Ryerson's investment of \$40 million in properties along Yonge Street.

"When you come, great things happen," said Levy, addressing McGuinty.

McGill students start mental health outreach program

Students at McGill University have started their own group as an

alternative to mental health services.

The group, Mental Health Advocacy at McGill, was started last week in response to growing frustration with the university's Mental Health Services.

Students were often turned away upon arrival at the office and their appointments were re-scheduled for up to eight weeks later.

Rachel Abs, a co-organizer of the group, said it will join other outreach programs in order to offer an open space for internal discussion.

The group hopes to achieve interim status from the Students' Union by the end of the semester.

Palestinian students at Waterloo outraged by exchange with Haifa

A group of Palestinian students at the University of Waterloo protested last week outside an information session about a new student exchange program with the University of Haifa in Israel.

The leader of Students for Palestinian Rights, Rami Alhamad, organized the distribution of literature about the treatment of Palestinians at Haifa.

"Palestinian students make up

a quarter of the students at Haifa, but they make up 80 per cent of the students facing disciplinary action," said Alhamad. "If we were seeing this at (Waterloo), it would be looked at quite differently."

Alhamad said he wants to highlight discrimination and raise awareness with his group. He said he believes anyone who supports Haifa also supports state terrorism.

Sources: *The Ryersonian*; *The McGill Tribune*; *Imprint*

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

Stanford set for emergencies

Stanford University announced it will collect personal information from students to implement an emergency communication system.

Following in Virginia Tech's lead, Stanford started a new system of mass e-mails, text messages and automated phone calls to warn students about potential campus-wide threats such as fires, earthquakes, bomb threats or hostage situations.

The Stanford Daily reported the school is also working on an outdoor loudspeaker system that

would announce instructions during emergencies. Students will be able to decide if they want to receive the emergency messages.

Larry Gibbs, the school's associate vice provost for environmental health and safety, told the paper that Stanford understands students' privacy concerns, but the new system will keep them safe more effectively.

"The need to activate the mass notification system will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis," Gibbs said.

School cuts deal for frat houses

Three fraternities at the University of Georgia are turning their properties over to the university after years of negotiations.

The frats will leave their houses and lease them from the school. University officials plan to spend roughly \$8 million to design and construct new buildings on the properties, reported *The Red and Black* student newspaper.

A fourth fraternity hadn't yet accepted an offer from the university to sell its frat house as of Jan. 29, citing a university official's letter from 1956. The letter stated the property

would always belong to the fraternity "as long as they pay their rent."

ACROSS THE POND

Supporters rally after students protest Pope's visit

More than 200,000 people showed up at the Vatican in Rome on Jan. 20 to support the Pope, after a mass student protest forced the Catholic leader to cancel his planned visit to a Rome university.

Pope Benedict XVI was scheduled to speak at La Sapienza university on Jan. 17, but cancelled early after nearly 70 professors signed a petition urging the school to uninvite the Pope, and a large group of students admitted to organizing a gay rights march and planning to play loud rock music for his arrival.

On Jan. 20, *The Cambridge Student* reported papal supporters held signs reading "Long Live Freedom of Thought!" The Pope gave a speech calling on all university students to "always be respectful of the opinions of others."

Sources: *The Stanford Daily*; *The Red and Black*; *The Cambridge Student*



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Letters

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Articles

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


Re: Levy mix-up caused office debt, 140-17

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to you to set the record straight about two errors in last week's article about the DSU Sustainability Office (DSUSO). First, your article stated that the DSUSO was \$7,000 in debt. This is not the case.

Based on the initial calculations, it appeared as if the office would have been in debt, but the DSU had actually budgeted to avoid just such a scenario; any extra costs would have been covered by the DSU. There was never any chance of the office being "in the red," and as of right now, there is no debt - none whatsoever.

Second, you either misunderstood or misrepresented the nature of two out of the three DSUSO student positions. So let me clarify how the DSUSO is operating right now for your readers.

There is a Sustainability Liaison, Mark Johnston, who is responsible for communicating between students and societies and for the Administrative Sustainability Office, as well as lobbying the administrative office on behalf of those individuals and groups. His position exists to

prevent either office from working on the same project redundantly and to prevent the two offices from working in opposition to one another.

There is also a Sustainability Networker/Coordinator (myself, Emily Rideout). The purpose of my position is to facilitate the growth of the sustainability movement at Dalhousie by coordinating the efforts of various individuals and groups, and providing information and resources to anyone looking to become more active within the movement.

The third position is that of Sustainability Planner/Promoter held by Sarah Applebaum. Her role is to coordinate and support individuals, groups and societies who wish to hold sustainability-related events on campus, as well as to plan and promote Green Week (Mar. 10 to 14). Hopefully this clears up any misconceptions about the new positions hired by the DSU. If anyone has any further questions, please feel free to contact us at dsu.sustain@dal.ca.

Instead of promoting and supporting the Dalhousie sustainability movement (which includes students, societies, the DSU, faculty and the administration), *The Gazette* chose to frame the movement negatively.

While I believe that it is important to be critical of the DSU's operations and fiscal policies, and that *The Gazette* plays a role in carrying out this task, it seems that last week's inflammatory article has only hindered the sustainability movement here at Dal instead of nurturing it.

Based on personal experience working with the DSUSO, SustainDal and others on campus, there is clamour from students of all disciplines asking, "What is Dal doing to become a more sustainable institution?" Clearly, campus sustainability is something that students are concerned about.

While it is true that *The Gazette* must remain objective, it seems to me that informing students of the victories achieved by the sustainability movement (such as the adoption of ethical paper purchasing policies by the Biology Department and the Faculty of Engineering, or the use of bamboo take-out containers in the SUB Grill) would be far more constructive than belittling the efforts of people who are concerned with the health and future of this school.

Emily Rideout
Networker/Coordinator,
DSU Sustainability Office

Re: Levy mix-up caused office debt, 140-17

Great job to *The Gazette* on making sustainability look awful at Dalhousie last week. While Al Gore is busy scaring his peons into believing cataclysmic disaster is immanent, *The Gazette* is busy fear-mongering the Dal student body into fretting over the possibility that their two-dollar contributions aren't being spent as well as they could be.

Let's take a moment to look at what the student sustainability movement has accomplished at Dalhousie. Some of the most recent achievements include the following: bamboo is now used in place of Styrofoam in the SUB, all cleaning products used on campus are now eco-friendly, and a team of faculty, staff and students appointed by the deans are working to implement sustainability into the broader curriculum at Dalhousie. This is by no means an exhaustive list, but merely highlights some of the larger achievements.

Re: Give smokers a chance to catch their breath, 140-17

While I agree with the arguments John Packman makes in his article, I believe he is missing a whole other side to the argument. I can agree that pretty much everyone knows smoking is bad for anyone, and that those who smoke are making a conscious and informed decision. I do not, however, feel it is unreasonable to ban smoking on public property.

I am not a smoker and if I had my choice, I would choose to never be exposed to smokers. I have chosen not to poison my body and I find

I think the biggest accomplishment of all is what happened immediately after DSU members voted to fund a Sustainability Office in the SUB. Feeling the pressure from students, the Dalhousie administration decided to hire a professional Sustainability Coordinator to run a separate Sustainability Office, which has thus far been overwhelmingly cooperative in working with students through the DSU Sustainability Office and SustainDal.

As *The Gazette* aptly reported last week, to nauseating extremity the DSU Sustainability Office hasn't been operating as well as it could have this year. The management committee, while being open to the society's concerns, has yet refused to present an arrangement that will properly acknowledge SustainDal's role within the office. Since last week's publication was released, it now appears this problem is much closer to being solved.

So am I glad the DSU is taking

two of my dollars to fund a Sustainability Office? You bet your socks I am. A student sustainability office is important to represent those students most concerned with sustainability at Dalhousie, and I would encourage any of those students to visit the office or join SustainDal to advance those concerns. Right now, the office is enduring growing pains. It's not fixed in its "weak, wasteful beginnings" as *The Gazette* would have its readers believe.

This year marks the official beginning of a new era at Dal: the era of sustainability, in which there is infinite potential for improvement. Through the cooperation that is now happening between student societies and the DSU and administrative Sustainability Offices, we can achieve the sustainable campus vision the majority of students indicated they shared by voting to fund the office last year.

Mark Coffin
Policy Director, SustainDal

it quite disquieting when I have to walk through the various smoking 'hotspots' around the university and in the city.

Outside the library is one of the worst, where there are often people blatantly violating the university's policy against smoking: a policy that, in my estimation, carries no real force because there is no punishment in place to enforce it.

The real issue is that we are subsidizing smoking; cigarettes don't reflect the full cost of smoking. As a result of their smoking, the poisons smokers ingest will require thousands of dollars of medical care pro-

vided by their provincial health care plan. So we need to ensure that a sufficient amount of taxes is added onto the price of cigarettes to offset this added cost to all of us.

I don't want to pay for their lung cancer, throat cancer, emphysema or tracheal tubes. I don't want to pay for the diseases they have chosen to get, because it is the smokers who have chosen to smoke. Instead of restricting smoking, maybe we should just bounce smokers out of the medical plan. It would save money and it would also free up space in the ER.

Charles Wright



Gazette

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

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

War on words

At a time when heavy combat and a high number of casualties in Afghanistan seem at odds with Canada's traditional role as an international peacemaker, some Canadians are likely doubting that the mission is right for them.

The call to fight the 'war on terror' may not boil the blood of every Canadian citizen, but the plight of an imprisoned 23-year-old journalist in the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif should bring out the fighter in every Canadian.

Sayed Parwez Kaambakhsh is a journalism student at Balkh University in Mazar-e-Sharif. He was imprisoned last October by Afghan authorities and accused of downloading and distributing a 12-page article entitled "The Koranic [sic] Verses that Discriminate Against Women," written by an Iranian exile.

Kaambakhsh was sentenced to death on Jan. 22 by the lower court of the Balkh region, according to the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR). Khalilurrahman Adli, who heads the public security branch of the court, told IWPR that Kaambakhsh confessed to the crime and that he had anti-Islamic messages on his mobile phone.

Kaambakhsh told IWPR that he was told a confession would free him from prison. Instead, he found himself pushed deeper into a legal system that has shown little respect for freedom of the press or his human right to life.

At first glance, Kaambakhsh's imprisonment appeared to be due to the offence he caused to Afghans by criticizing Islamic beliefs, and the Shariah law-abiding court came down heavily on him.

However, it has been widely reported that Kaambakhsh's detention may have nothing to do with his supposed affront to the Qur'an. Instead, his sentence may be an indirect punishment to his brother and fellow journalist, Sayed Yaqub Ibrahim.

According to the Canadian Press, Ibrahim wrote stories for IWPR that

criticized local legislator Piram Qul for orchestrating murders and kidnappings in the region. IWPR reported that many people believe the accusations against Kaambakhsh are complete lies.

Corrupt local authorities are using Islam as a reason to punish two journalists who have struggled to shed light on systematic injustice and crooked political tactics in Afghanistan.

Last week, professors from the Journalism School at the University of King's College began a petition urging Afghan President Hamid Karzai to release Kaambakhsh. They got students to sign the letter before sending it. The petition joins an international effort by governments and journalist organizations to save Kaambakhsh.

Defending Kaambakhsh is a fight that could challenge the view that Western values have no place in the Islamic world. It is an example of why human rights are not inherently at odds with Islam.

It's important for students to realize how important this event is in shaping the history of post-NATO Afghanistan. It will either prove that we cannot stop illegitimate governments from ruling war-torn regions, or it will shed light on what Afghanistan's future could look like.

Canada has sacrificed 79 soldiers to the cause of building a more just society in Afghanistan. We have the incentive and the responsibility to make sure we follow through on our aims.

Here's a chance for Western allies to make clear why they are in Afghanistan. Here's a chance to give hope to every Afghan that the protection of human rights is a necessity in a just society, not some lofty dream.

If NATO had never entered Afghanistan six years ago, Kaambakhsh's plight might have gone unnoticed. Or worse, he and his brother might never have spoken up at all. Protecting Kaambakhsh could give Afghans and Westerners a better idea of why we went to Afghanistan in the first place.



SUMMER CAMP JOB IN THE US

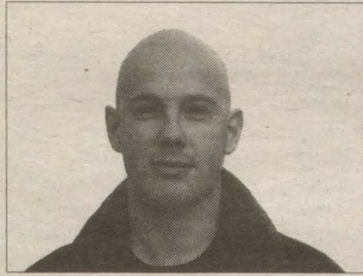
CAMP TOWANDA, a coed residential summer camp in Pennsylvania has openings for counselors, coaches and instructors 8/21-8/16. Applicants 19+ earn excellent salary, room, board, travel allowance and J-1 visa reimbursement. Information meeting at SMU Thursday, February 7th at 7:00 PM in LOYOLA Room 176.

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Tim's soldier

Another day, another doughnut



DOUG ROOP
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Doug Roop is a student at Dalhousie who is spending the term working at a Tim Hortons in a NATO military base in Kandahar. This is his second article since arriving in Afghanistan.

My new 'room' is pretty cozy. It's roughly 7 x 7 square feet, a small fraction of one large tent that's been partitioned into eight separate quarters. I have a bed, some hangers and a shelf; nothing more. There's about two feet between my bed and the flap-door.

A tent's thin fabric isn't a problem when you want to camp out and hear

the sounds of the forest. But here at Kandahar Airfield (KAF), a tent lets in just about every sound that buzzes overhead at breakneck speed.

I work for Tim Hortons through the Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency (CFPSA). The CFPSA tent-line is the closest tent-line to the flight-line. This is where planes and helicopters take off 24/7. And don't think earplugs will help; they only block out the sound of your alarm clock.

Being a baker for Tims at KAF means starting work at 3 or 4 a.m. and baking until 12 or 1 p.m. Ninety-nine per cent of the baking I do is like using an Easy-Bake Oven: stick them in, pull them out, throw some sugar on them, and voila, a doughnut. The only hard part of my job is that I repeat that procedure hundreds of times a day.

The relentless routine might be the most unexpected part about working in a war zone. Before I left for KAF, I was warned by my employers that there would be days like this. CFPSA employees stationed at KAF work seven days a week, making ev-



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ery day seem like a Monday.

I've had 28 'Mondays' so far, and it reminds me of the film Groundhog Day. For those who haven't seen the film, Bill Murray wakes up to the same Groundhog Day in Punxsutawney, PA, over and over. So in a way,

Kandahar is my Punxsutawney. But don't get me wrong - I love it here.

It doesn't bother me that life here is pretty regimented. I sleep for three hours after work, do an evening activity and then head to bed for five hours of sleep, if I'm lucky.

Making marking fair

JENN CONTER
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

In universities across the country, a simple transcript is all that defines you among the thousands of applicants to grad schools and highly sought-after jobs.

Considering the importance grad schools and employers attribute to grades, it's a shame the system doesn't give students of all faculties an equal footing.

A superior intellect in a Dalhousie biology or chemistry class will be awarded more A+'s than a gifted English or history major will ever see. This is because each marking scheme is different depending on which class you sit in.

Part of this discrepancy is due to the differences between grading schemes in the sciences and the arts. If a math or science student answers a question or solves a problem correctly, they receive an A+.

If an arts student brilliantly describes and analyzes the life and times of Vladimir V. Putin and his involvement in Russian politics in an epic term paper, they would be hard pressed to receive higher than a B+ or an A-.

I don't think science and math courses are easier than arts courses. I applaud science students who achieve great marks in subjects that would soar hundreds of feet over my

head if I tried my hand at it.

But with all the judgment jammed into such a small symbol, I wonder - what's in a letter? What percentages do they correspond to, and who decides?

Sometimes the differences go right down to the professor. After receiving a B+ on a history paper last term, I was surprised to see that a mark of 78 per cent was its numerical equivalent. According to the Dal History Department's grading scale, a B+ corresponds to a mark between 80 and 84 per cent.

Confused, I e-mailed the history department and was informed that professors have the right to utilize and configure the marking scheme as they see fit, though all graduate schools will see are the letter grades. I'm not pleased that there is not a set-in-stone grading system being rigidly followed by an entire faculty.

The percentage equivalent of letter grades is different between faculties, and sometimes, differs from class to class within those faculties.

If you look at the grading scales for courses in other departments at Dal, such as Political Science 3303, a B+ is worth 76 or 77 per cent.

I ask for some control and conformity in the grading scheme employed by the markers and professors at Dal. It's the best way to make an easily misrepresentative marking system a little fairer.

Misspeaking: accident or incompetence?

JAMES MUNSON
OPINIONS EDITOR

Imagine visiting a professor during their office hours after failing an essay question on an exam. You tell them that you weren't necessarily wrong, you had only 'miswrote.'

Not only would your plea for leniency be rejected, you might be reprimanded for so sheepishly trying to up your grade. That's why Canadians should take a closer look at the Prime Minister's director of communications, who tried to correct false statements she made last week by claiming she had simply "misspoke."

The issue Sandra Buckler had such a hard time communicating was the treatment of Afghan detainees by Canadian Forces. Last year, the government came under fire in light of reports that prisoners captured by Canadian soldiers were being handed over to Afghan authorities and tortured. This would place both the Canadian and Afghan governments in violation of the Geneva Conventions.

The government argued the torture had come to an end while other sources reported otherwise. The Conservatives never mentioned a complete halt to the prisoner transfer, but calling an end to prisoner transfers would have been an acknowledgment that captives were indeed being tortured.

Department of Justice lawyers revealed two weeks ago in a B.C. court hearing that up until Nov. 5, prisoners were still being transferred. After evidence was found of one prisoner being tortured, the practice was ceased.

When asked to comment about the end to the prisoner transfers last week, Buckler played dumb. She said the government was in the dark just as much as regular Canadians regarding the change in policy.

The next next, Buckler said the government did know. However, she didn't admit she was wrong, saying she only "misspoke." Opposition MPs and media pundits jumped on the mistake, causing a headache for the Tories as Question Period was



MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

Sandra Buckler is the Prime Minister's chief spokesperson.

about to resume last Monday.

Keeping the public in the dark about relevant policy changes is a contentious issue that politicians and media will most likely hassle the Tories about. It's irritating and irresponsible that Buckler thought she could get away with it by making the Prime Minister's Office seem less informed than it was.

But it's downright nauseating that she avoided admitting she was wrong and had possibly lied. I wonder how many public relations minions were needed to devise this accountability-averting spin.

Saying you "misspoke" is like saying your ability to speak correct and factual statements is sub-par. It's a

So far I've spent a lot of time at Old Canada House, a large, two-storey tent with a canteen, large-screen TV and patio. It's a pretty popular place to hang out in the evening.

When I'm not there, I burn what little energy I have left at one of KAF's three gyms (one's even open 24 hours). But by far, my favourite thing is Krav Maga, which is taught three times a week by an Eastern European special forces unit.

Krav Maga is a martial art that focuses on inflicting the most damage to an opponent in the least amount of time. I would sum it up as a ballet for pain, where kicks to the groin are kosher.

Keeping track of time here is nearly impossible. I saw a calendar for the first time today and not one date stood out. I tried to wonder what it felt like to sleep 10 hours on a Sunday. I couldn't.

It isn't a boring routine, by any means. Time doesn't stand still like it does for Bill Murray; it has blasted past me like a Mirage bomber jet at 2 a.m.

Forget doublespeak. "Misspeak" is the new way to keep people confused about your position.



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Public schools should better prepare students for university

KATIE INGRAM
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

Every year, millions of high school students across the country enter their first year of university or college. I cannot help but recall my initial experience when I jumped from high school to a post-secondary education. I was shocked at how particular and demanding the work was.

Although I never expected university to be like high school, I was surprised at how significant the differences were. The public school system is partly to blame for not preparing students for this leap.

Ever since I've been at Dalhousie, I've noticed that private school students seem to make the transition to university a lot smoother. In light of this discrepancy, the calibre of post-secondary preparation in public schools should be re-evaluated across the country.

Teachers at my public school failed to explain to me how to write university-grade papers. They also neglected to teach me the proper note-taking techniques required after high school.

In my school, you copied notes word for word from the board or an overhead, which left very little space for a person to determine what they thought was relevant in the class.

Being adequately prepared for university means being versed in various essay styles, such as MLA and APA. The increase in workload and depth of research required are things a student leaving high school for university should be aware of.

It would also be helpful for high school students to have some idea of what a university lecture is like, and how a university textbook differs

from those studied in high school.

I spent a large amount of time during my first year learning how to adapt to these changes, rather than concentrating on the new subject matter I was studying.

Stefanie McDonald was both publicly and privately schooled and is now an alumni of Mount Saint Vincent.

"[Private schools] have more money and better resources," she says.

In her opinion, this is what allows private school students to be more adequately prepared for university.

"In Ontario, private schools prepare you more because they have a stricter environment," says Michelle Downing, a second-year Dal student.

Jessica Wentzel, also a second-year Dal student, says she did not learn how to write university essays properly during her time in public school.

"Some of my friends at Sacred Heart were more prepared for university," she says of the Halifax private school.

For many public school students, preparation for university is simply non-existent. Many students agreed that high school did not prepare them at all.

Deidre Lotecki, a former Dal student, says her public school failed to prepare her for the rigours of university. She attributes her easy landing into university life to having spent her own time developing her academic skills.

While some public school curricula prepare students for university to a degree, I have found that post-secondary preparation is not imperative in public schools, as it seems to be in private schools.

Citadel High School in Halifax

declined to comment on the issue of university or college preparation, due to school board regulations.

Pauline Scott, principal of the Sacred Heart School of Halifax, praised her private school's preparation skills.

"We teach our students to be critical thinkers by giving them university-level work so they are able to meet the challenges presented by papers and other assignments," says Scott. "We also invite former students, university professors and liaison people to come from the various universities to help our students complete application forms and answer any questions they might have."

Some recent changes to the school system might have made it harder for public school students to enter university smoothly. In Ontario, Grade 13 used to fill an important gap between high school and university. It allowed students an extra year to prepare and transition from high school- to university-level work.

Quebec's two-year CEGEP program allows students to begin to understand the high standard required after high school.

While more money and resources make private schools a much better place to prepare students for university or college, there is no doubt that preparation could be taken more seriously by public schools and added to the curriculum.

It is unfair for public school students to stumble at the starting blocks while private school students begin university with some idea of the workload in mind. High school curricula across the country should be re-evaluated in order to give students an easier and more equitable transition into university.

Is Google making us dumber?

JAMES MUNSON
OPINIONS EDITOR

If there's a better way to procrastinate than running amok through every conceivable subject on Wikipedia, then I would have already found it by searching 'procrastination wiki.'

Searching Wikipedia is the best way to avoid actual academic work because it makes you feel smart. Well, smarter. You'll have thrilling, irrelevant anecdotes to tell for about three hours after, until your memory has to erase them to make room for schoolwork.

But whether Google, Wikipedia and other search engines and information banks are enriching our minds or making useless fact geniuses of us all is becoming a relevant question for educators.

A few weeks ago, media studies professor Tara Brabazon gave a lecture at the University of Brighton in England about how Google is "white bread for the mind." She said that a generation hooked on instant information-gratification via search sites is doomed to be dumber than the last.

"Google offers easy answers to difficult questions. But students do not know how to tell if they come from serious, refereed work or are merely composed of shallow ideas, superficial surfing and fleeting commitments," Brabazon told the British newspaper *The Times*.

Brabazon has a point. We praise the internet for giving us access to more information faster, not necessarily for providing us with more accurate information. But her red flag lecture shouldn't make search engines sound like a sign of the apocalypse.

As anyone who has spent a night on Wikipedia knows, the internet can make a dull subject seem full of

life. The information might be more anecdotal than academic, but a student has a better chance of understanding an intellectual work with a little background found on the net.

The internet can also satisfy, and hopefully encourage, curiosity. If pursuing an interest requires a trip to the bookstore or library rather than a click of a link, people might not always be motivated enough to make the effort. Truly understanding a subject still requires in-depth research and engaged thinking, but a complex subject isn't as intimidating when you can dip your toe into Google before plunging into the stacks.

The internet is also criticized for having a lot of improperly sourced material. Brabazon seems to take blogs and other places online where internet users blurt out naïve opinions as a sign that the internet allows half-truths to pass for fact.

But students often develop a natural bullshit detector after using the internet for a while. Using the internet is like getting a lesson in the highs and lows of human thinking: encountering sources that seek to convey the truth, and those that are only ranting or spreading superstitions.

Wikipedia will hopefully never be considered a legitimate source to use in a university course, so the destructive effects of the internet still have their limits. But after going through elementary and high school searching for the truth on Google, new students are going to have a tough time learning the rules of proper sourcing.

While the internet is a tool that can possibly promote good and bad learning habits, it will always be the student's values that determine how they treat the information they have access to.

The Scientific Skeptic

Pope and science just can't get along



CATHERINE HOLLOWAY
SCIENCE COLUMNIST

Two weeks ago, Pope Benedict XVI cancelled a visit to La Sapienza university in Rome after 67 university professors signed a letter, in which they said the pope's allegedly hostile views toward science "offend and humiliate" them. The students of the university staged a sit-in, holding banners that warned the pope to stay away.

The cancellation of the pope's visit was not, as some have portrayed it, an issue of religious censorship. The university's administrators wanted the pope to talk, but the Vatican backed out because they felt unwelcome.

Pope Benedict had released his planned Sapienza speech to the public. In it, he calls for a closer bond between religion and science so that religion can serve as an ethical compass for science. But given the Catholic Church's track record, it's no wonder the scientists at Sapienza found his proposal offensive.

In 1539, Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus presented his theory

that the earth's movement could explain the strange motion of the planets, and that the planets moved around the sun, making the sun the centre of the universe.

His work was considered by many to be the first scientific paper published (it was published in 1543). The Catholic Church did not take offence to Copernicus' work until six decades later. The idea that the sun was the centre of the universe, called heliocentric theory, was deemed heretical because it contradicted the Bible, which said the earth was fixed and the sun moved around it.

It was deemed a crime to study heliocentric theory – even if only to reconcile it with the Bible – and Copernicus' work was put on a list of prohibited books.

Despite the actions of the Church, many astronomers and mathematicians of the day continued to believe in heliocentric theory. Among them was Galileo, one of the first scientists to study the sky with a telescope. In 1632, he published a book defending Copernicus.

The next year, Galileo was brought to trial for suspicion of heresy. The Catholic Church forced him to recant heliocentric theory, put him under house arrest and banned his book.

It could have been much worse. Back then the Catholic Church wasn't very good with freedom of speech. They boiled a law student named Pomponio Algerio alive in 1556 after he spoke out against the Church's beliefs.

The Church also had William Tyndale strangled and burnt at the stake in 1536 for translating the Bible into English. Giordano Bruno, a fellow Copernican astronomer, was burnt at the stake in 1600 for suggesting the earth rotated on its axis and that the universe was infinite and homogeneous.

But that was then. The Catholic Church doesn't execute anyone anymore, but they still haven't apologized for their treatment of Galileo or the followers of Copernicus. In 1992, Pope John Paul II said that Galileo was right, but never admitted the Catholic Church's treatment of Galileo was wrong.

Pope Benedict XVI (then known as Cardinal Ratzinger) rubbed salt in these wounds with his speech at La Sapienza in 1990. In it, he implied that since heliocentric theory is no longer accepted, just as geocentric theory is no longer accepted (the sun is not the centre of the universe, and neither is the earth), the Church was right in its persecution of Galileo.

These days, if scientists have a crazy, unproven theory, you're allowed to be a little mean to them. Their research papers will be rejected and their ideas will be mocked and debated, but the scientists are never put under house arrest. They are never forced to admit they're wrong or threatened to be burnt at the stake. Such treatment is unethical and an affront to freedom of speech.

Considering the way the Catholic Church has dealt with scientists in the past, no one should be surprised if the Pope draws scientists' ire.

OVERHEARD AT DAL

Watching *Armageddon* in Risley Hall:
Drunk girl: Is this based on a true story?

Girls about to watch *Kill Bill 2*:
Girl1: Which movie has her fighting the tsunami Chinese people?
Girl2: Umm... do you mean samurai Japanese people?

HIST 1862:
Prof: And on a personal note, if anyone has *Smallville* season 4 disc 5 come see me after class. Thanks.

At Cora's:
Girl ordering breakfast: I'll have two eggs, medium rare.

Guy to Girl:
Guy: If you could eat yourself out, would you?

In the Risley cafeteria:
Girl: I was SO sick today.
Guy1: With what illness?
Guy2: Acute alcohol poisoning.
Girl: ...as opposed to like... obtuse alcohol poisoning??

On the #1 bus:
Guy: I only go to Dartmouth by accident.

Girl1: I saw you earlier today.
Girl2: Was I peeing?

Girl: That's gross. You guys are gross.
Guy: Why? Girls love getting it in the eye.

SOSA 2001:
Prof: People kill people. Soy beans don't kill people.

STREETER

What's the worst pick up line you've heard?



“What are you doing around 4 a.m.?”

Charlie Mancini, third-year acting



“I'm not gay.”

Stephanie Folkins, third-year acting



“How about you sit on my lap and we talk about then next thing that pops up?”

Michael Cadesky, second-year management



“We'd have gorgeous babies.”

Doron Cohen, fourth-year management



“My friends call me Fred Flintstone, cause I'll make your bed rock.”

Jess Puddister, first-year management



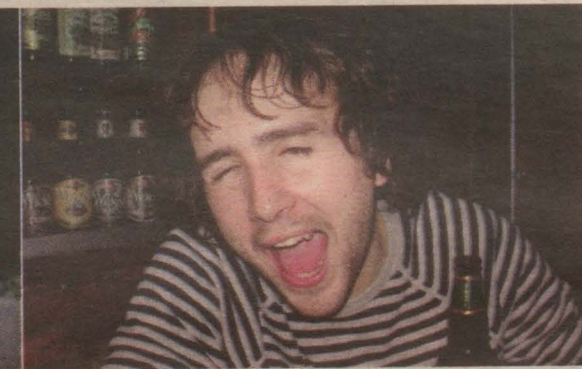
“I have a kitty cat at home. Do you wanna come pet it?”

Lacey Aucoin, fourth-year biology



“Girl, did you take a dump? Cause you are the shit.”

Sarity Jha, fourth-year biology



“You know, I could put in the streeter.”

James Munson, first-year paparazzo

TOP 10

...DEMOGRAPHICS TO WATCH FOR AT DAL

1. Management kids: identifiable by their fancy clothing and impractical shoes. Don't sign anything these students hand you.
2. Computer science geeks: greasy hair, spotted faces and non-threatening leather jackets are this group's trademarks. Shun them, but know that sooner or later your ass will be in their hands.
3. Political science kids: this group is not to be underestimated; they've figured out a way to get degrees without acquiring any useful knowledge.
4. DISP kids: young, stressed and haggard, you'll find DISP students in any building open for late studying. Be sure not to come between them and their coffee.
5. Pharmacology kids: your new best friends know just the prescription to wash those blues away. Stick to these students like glue.
6. Philosophy kids: with an alternative dress style and pupils the size of saucers, philosophy students are great for a laugh. If you want a long conversation, ask them what they're going to do with their degree.
7. King's kids: don't let the stereotype fool you: these students are just as vain as the rest of us. Sure, they may look like hobos, but hobos don't spend hours assembling their ensembles.
8. First-year kids: these specimens are most easily recognized by their horizontal mating display on the floor of The Grawood. Stay well away.
9. International development kids: find these students longboarding to their 2 p.m. classes with a cup of fair-trade coffee in hand. Don't ask how their parents are paying for their education.
10. Languages kids: Hola! Bonjour! Je cherche le travail! Non? Les Nations Unis n'ont pas besoin d'un autre traducteur? Merde.

HOT OR NOT

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| HOT: Super Bowl Sunday | NOT: Hangover Monday |
| HOT: Giants - 24 | NOT: Patriots - 17 |
| HOT: Playing the field | NOT: Turf burn |
| HOT: Long weekends | NOT: Long johns |
| HOT: Having a free Friday | NOT: Paying with your liver |
| HOT: Charity work | NOT: Playing wing man |
| HOT: Constructive criticism | NOT: Eat shit and die |
| HOT: Don't stop believing | NOT: Hold onto that feeling |
| HOT: Super Tuesday | NOT: Knowing what that is |
| HOT: Anagrams | NOT: Mysteriously separating |

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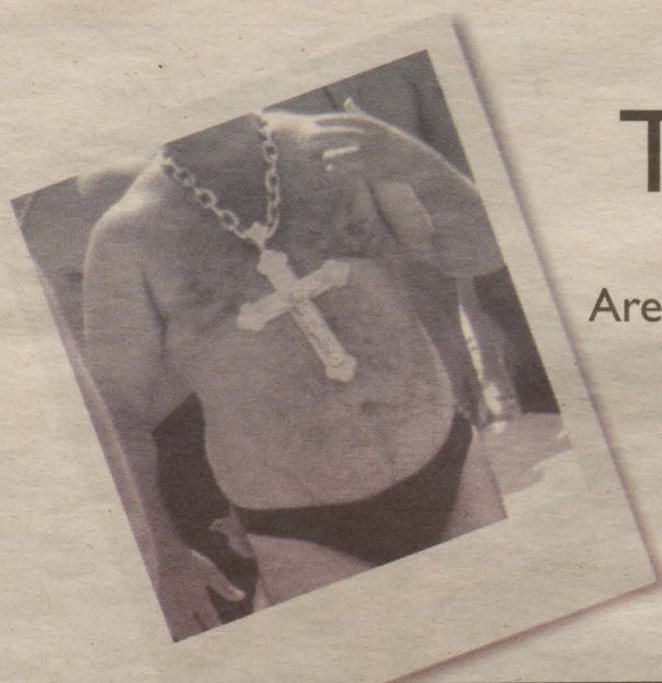
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Expect the unexpected with Expedyte

ALY COY
ARTS EDITOR

Expedyte, a local rapper and Dalhousie Earth Sciences major, speaks in a fluid, poetic way. He's passionate about hip hop and where it's going.

He says people sometimes characterized hip hop by, "Overly greedy rappers, who can rap best about grills and automobiles." But he has hope.

"Lyricism is becoming more intricate. Hip hop is dispersing into other music, like rock and jazz."

Expedyte has been Matt Kliffer's alias for seven years. He's originally from Saint John, N.B., and has been involved in Halifax's hip hop scene for five years.

Woodbridge, VA's Man Bites Dog Records found Expedyte on MySpace and offered him a record deal two years ago. His single "Hunger" is currently being played on 500 college radio stations across the States, he says.

He says MySpace brought him "outside of the Halifax (hip hop) bubble."

Expedyte says his lyrics are mostly inspired by the people in his life.

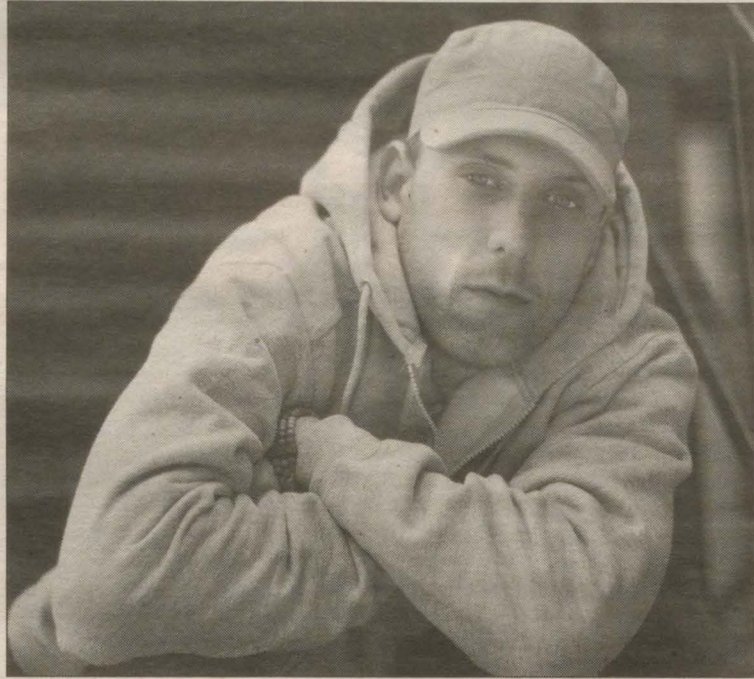
"It's always the people. It always has been the people. Sometimes it's imagination," he says. "From good to bad or bad to good - the metamorphosis. See how things change. It's all about people and change."

He incorporates social commentary into his songs. In "Push," he writes about how society operates. He says he wants us to "take ourselves out of it and look in to see how we are."

"I have some good things to say," he says. "But I also say a lot of things that aren't going to be accepted."

Expedyte isn't scared to express the negative along with the positive.

"I'll be very heartfelt about something, but I'll be very sarcastic on a track, too."



AYNSLEY MACCLEAN / THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

In "Sum Day," he satirizes rappers who only threaten to shoot and stab people when they make it big.

"A lot of rappers become these fucking crazy people when they become famous," he says. "Dude, you're famous, you don't shoot people. People know your face. Everyone knows who you are."

Expedyte is graduating from Dal in May. His label wants him to tour, and he doesn't want to pass up the opportunity.

"I've already gotten so many chances so far - why would I turn back now?" he says. "I haven't even been able to give it my 100 per cent since I've started school. I wanna see what I can get out of it when I give it 100 percent."

The East Coast rapper has a

unique gift for playing on words. His song "Cancerous Passion" won him a VideoFACT Grant from Much Music to fund his music video, which is now in rotation.

"[The title] is a play on words. In hip hop, a lot of cats say, 'Oh that's sick,' 'That song was ill,' stuff like that, so I kinda stuck with that idea. I just said, 'Well okay, I feel sick and ill about this music too. I got a cancer, you know. I tried to diagnose it, and I called it passion.'"

Watch for Expedyte's performance at the East Coast Music Awards on Feb 8. He's featured on Hotbox's nominated song for best rap/hip hop single of the year. Check out his show with 3 Sheet this Friday, Feb. 1 at Oasis Pub. His album, *Life*, comes out in stores spring 2008.



SUPPLIED

The cast of *Women Fully Clothed* had the audience at the Dalhousie Arts Centre in stitches.

Fully clothed, hilarious and menopausal

ARLEEN HAMMOND
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Middle-aged women packed the Dalhousie Arts Centre on Jan. 27 to see *Women Fully Clothed* at the Rebecca Cohn.

Written and performed by five of the funniest women in Canadian comedy, *Women Fully Clothed* is a sketch comedy show. The comedians' ages range from 30s to late 50s, providing a range of perspectives of what it means to be a middle-aged woman.

There's Robin Duke of *Saturday Night Live*, Jayne Eastwood of *Billable Hours*, Kathryn Greenwood of *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*, Debra McGrath of the CBC hit *Little Mosque On The Prairie* and Teresa Pavlinek of *The Jane Show*.

These five women spent the evening making light of such trials and tribulations as finding something to make for dinner every night, PTA meetings and trying to stay fashion-

able with an aging body.

While the show is aimed at older women, the humour was still captivating from beginning to end. The hilarity of the sketches transcends age and sex. While I don't have children, am not married and can barely think about menopause, I still found myself laughing throughout the 90-minute show.

Tim Fox, a fourth-year commerce student at Dal, said that while he did enjoy some parts of the show, he found a lot of it did not relate to him. But he said, "My mom would love it!"

The women are continuing the maritime leg of their tour until they head to western Canada at the end of February. If you're looking for a good present for a mother, aunt or grandmother, a ticket to this show is it.

More information, scheduling and tickets can be found at www.womenfullyclothed.com

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IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE FEBRUARY 1

How to: Be your worst enemy's best friend

DANIEL REED
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Your worst enemy. See how he slithers along the grass. See how he walks and see how he talks. See the deceit in the eyes that upset your soul. This scourge stands for everything you're against.

You want chestnuts. He wants pistachios. He wants a bowler cap. You want the same one. He outbids. Leaves you out to dry. Rivalry.

And he is nice about it. He winks his left eye and clicks his tongue after calling you the man for the third time in 23 seconds. This is bullshit. He could be submerged in a pot of black ink and you could still see right through him. You decide to cut him off. His presence is angering.

Every time he tells you he wants to hang out, he is looking off in the distance, thoroughly unengaged. You know he doesn't like you and he knows you don't like him. Yet, he still

comes up and asks where you've been his whole life. He'll even buy you a drink and compliment your vest. But the only theme in this relationship is hate. Pure, undiluted hate.

I can't live like this, you think to yourself. How can I end this charade? Then the answer smacks you in the chest, stealing the air out of your lungs. You must play his game better than him. You must out-phony this phony.

This is not an easy task. Acting is important. It is time to don the mask and gloves and be the person who makes you cringe until all your hairs stand on end.

Enter disguise. This is not the typical disguise - those lens-less glasses with a Mr. Potato Head nose and molester moustache. No, not that at all. You want to adopt his style.

Listen to the same music he listens to. Watch the movies he's always wanted to see. After you see these movies, buy the posters and other parapher-

nal and hang them on your walls. Talk about these movies. Talk about their cross-cultural importance. Talk about how inspiring they are.

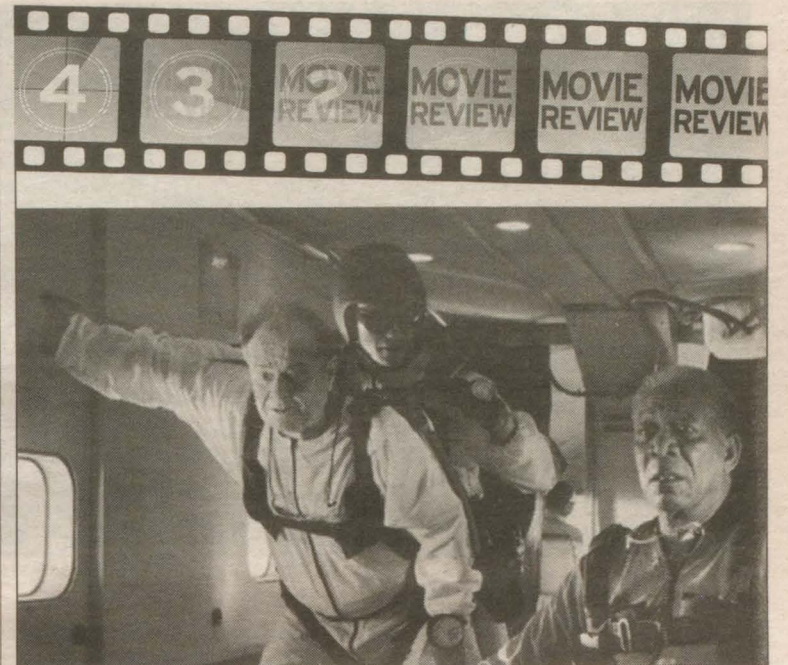
Do everything he does, but upstage him slightly. This is harmless at first. Fun and games. Like Snakes and Ladders, minus the ladders. He will be flattered.

He introduces you to his friends, calls you a man for all seasons. Slowly, you eat away at these friends. You start to assume the role of fearless leader. The promised land is just around the bend.

Jealousy. He senses infiltration. You are too good. He is upstaged. The nail in the coffin.

But you don't want his friends. They're just like him. You say sayonara. Goodbye. I'll see you when you're down and out. So long.

He resents you. He has been outshone. Now all you get is dirty looks instead of a filthy handshake. Exactly how you wanted it.



Add it to your bucket list

JENN CONTER
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The Bucket List, directed by Rob Reiner, is a heartwarming film about friendship and the frailty of life. A bucket list, as defined in the movie, is a list of things to do before you "kick the bucket."

The movie is host to an Oscar-winning cast. Carter Chambers, played by Morgan Freeman, is an aging mechanic who is diagnosed with cancer and finds himself laid up in a hospital bed. His roommate, Edward Cole, played by three-time Oscar winner Jack Nicholson, is the owner of the hospital who, by his own hospital protocol, is not given a single room.

These characters come from different backgrounds and seemingly different worlds. Cole's assistant, Thomas, played by Will and Grace's Sean Hayes, adds hilarity as Cole and Chambers build a friendship around pain, fear of death and card games.

The film is narrated by Freeman from Chambers's point of view. He talks of how he perceives his struggle for life and how he feels as he watches his new friend endure the same fate.

Cole is reminiscent of previous Nicholson characters. He is an arrogant, rich bachelor whose tough and confrontational exterior is merely armour that surrounds a loving heart within. In this performance, Nicholson reminds the viewer of what a true actor can achieve on the screen.

When Cole and Chambers are told they have six months and one year to live, respectively, Cole generously uses his fortune to cross off the many 'to dos' on their shared bucket list. Travelling around the world in an attempt to live out their days to the fullest allows both men to realize what's important in life - not money and power, but friends and family.

It's difficult for someone who has had cancer touch their life to not feel a personal connection to the characters presented in the film.

The Bucket List proved to be the most heartwrenching film I have seen since *Stepmom*. I was one of many reaching for a tissue when the credits rolled. Though some elements of the film were quite predictable, the warmth of the dialogue, with a spattering of sarcasm and humour, was a winning combination.

Cross something off your bucket list and see this movie.

Life in death

LAURA DAWE
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

David Morrish is a jack of at least two trades: finding dark humour in dead animals and photogravure. By combining the two, he produced his show, *Nature Morte*, which is currently running at the Dalhousie Art Gallery (or, for people with little patience for excess syllables, the Daltery).

Photogravure is pretty much exactly what it sounds like: a hybrid of photography and engraving. The resulting prints have a unique appearance that comes from marrying the exactitude of modern photography with the historical artistry of ink pressed into paper.

In *Nature Morte*, ex-Manitoban Morrish showcases frogs, birds, rats and a menagerie of other species, all from beyond the graaaaave. Their earthly remains have either been taxidermied or left as roadkill, and are accompanied by absurdly false, encyclopedia-style entries. The images can be mildly gross, but are more often wildly hilarious.

The models used for the taxidermy portraits look worse for wear, having been mistreated over the years or ineptly preserved in the first place by unskilled taxidermists. Eyelids are uneven; lips are curled back. The dignity and nobility deserved in death is overridden by the viewer's distinct suspicion that the animals are either drunk or suffer from sub-par intelligence.

Five bodies of work make up the show, including *Locomotive Torpor*, which is Morrish's fancy name for roadkill and animals that have died within walls. In the centre of the white background of each photogra-



SUPPLIED

Darkly funny art on display at the Dalhousie Art Gallery.

vure is a little corpse, contorted by barreling wheels of death into ballet-esque postures. This would not be funny if it weren't for the looped handwriting at the bottom of each print that acts as both the title and the punch line (i.e. "Flat Chick").

In *Bestiarum Excerptum*, Morrish uses intaglio and 23k gold leafing to create what appear to be pages from a reference book. The images are accompanied by descriptions in which the featured animals are mocked mercilessly.

One description explains that "Perdix, the Partridge" "...is a cunning, disgusting bird. Frequent intercourse tires them out." The beaver is humiliated for his genus, Castor, which sounds enough like castration to inspire a myth of medicinal testicles.

The entire show was recently gifted to the Dal permanent collection. Curator Peter Dykhuis says the Dallery and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia are the only two galleries in

the city that meet climate control and security standards for long-term collection storage. This ensures that important works will still be around for the future public to ignore or be inspired by.

In addition to rigor mortis tortoises, the show includes a series about trees thriving in inhospitable locations and one about a geologic phenomenon that only occurs in a few places in the world. *Nature Morte* combines a skilled artist, clever ideas and a provocative medium.

If you're curious about the scientific magic of photogravure, you can purchase Copper Plate Photogravure: Demystifying the Process, a book written by Morrish and his wife, Marlene MacCallum. MacCallum's collection of photogravure prints and photography, *The Architectural Uncanny*, is also being shown at the Dallery.

Nature Morte will be at the Dalhousie Art Gallery until Mar. 2. Admission is free.

Come to the next Gazette contributor meeting on Monday, January 14th @ 5:30 p.m. in room 312 of the SUB

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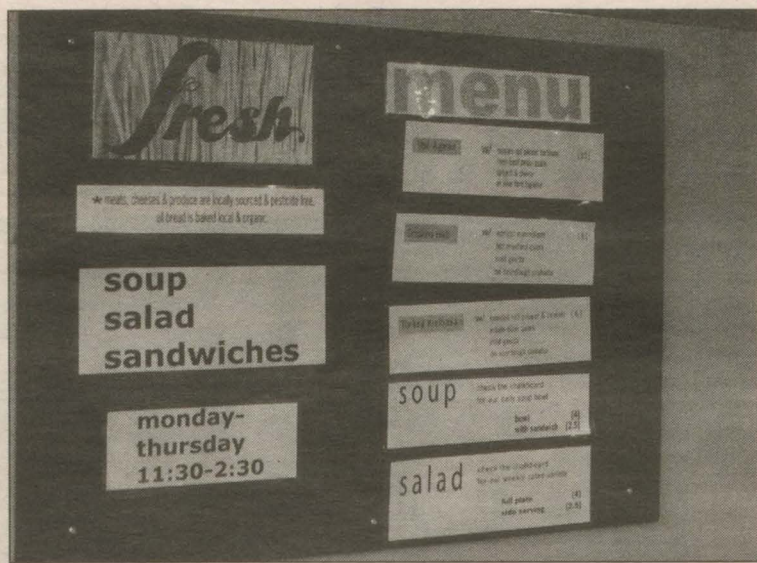
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JOSH BOYTER / THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

A fresh option for on-campus food.

Alternative dining on campus

ANDREW BERNARDO
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

On a campus overrun by greasy pizza, overpriced sandwiches and run-of-the-mill cafeteria food that most people wouldn't feed their dog, there is a bastion of hope. It's called Fresh, and it's located in the basement of The Grad House.

If you're looking for healthy eating close to campus, don't saunter over to Subway and order the ubiquitous "6 grams or less" sandwich, prepared using ingredients that probably never laid root in Canadian soil.

Fresh uses meats, cheeses and produce that are locally sourced and grown in a pesticide-free environment. Their bread is also local and organic, making Fresh a rare find on any university campus in Canada.

Fresh soups, salads and sandwiches are prepared daily for the streams of hungry students seeking something a little different in their daily routines.

"It seems like a real disconnect to have a place of higher learning and no thought or responsibility taken to ensure positive options are available with which to fuel the young minds," says proprietor Sean Gallagher. "What we are learning at university is that corporate interests rule and the industrial food chain that we see in the grocery stores and fast food outlets have infiltrated our lives, degrading our sense of culture, our environment and our health."

No doubt. The trough-like feed

systems most human beings call a 'cafeteria' have little to no consideration for dietary restrictions or lifestyle choices. From vegans to celiacs, Fresh is able to accommodate most dietary requests.

"The seasons inspire the food. In Nova Scotia, there are a lot of options all year round and a lot of great farmers, fishermen and food artisans," explains Gallagher. "From that basket of goods, we try to do things that people recognize but with some refreshing combinations. We want to support local agriculture so that we have a healthy, diverse local food system from which to be nourished in the future."

Gallagher's passion really comes through in the food at Fresh. The stick-to-your-ribs carrot curry ginger soup (vegan) was perfectly spiced and the portion was very healthy. The smoked ham ciabatta with apricot marmalade, mild Gouda and hot mustard quark far outshines the more expensive sandwiches from the coffee giant across the road.

The vegan alternative of the day was a smoked tofu sandwich that exploded with flavour from the fresh herbs and balsamic vinaigrette. The sandwiches can be grilled panini-style, for those who love a warm sandwich on a cold winter's day.

The best part is that Fresh is located in The Grad House, which means you can enjoy a local beer with your local food. It doesn't get any better than that.

Fresh is open from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday to Thursday.

YouTube review:

Powerthirst and Powerthirst 2: Re-Domination

JASON COHANIM
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Hey you! Do you want GRATUITOUS AMOUNTS OF ENERGY??? If so, then you have to watch Picnic-face's video, *Powerthirst*.

These Halifax-based sketch comedians have found a way to bottle the sheer outlandishness of the energy drink craze and present it in a way that'll make you bust a rib laughing.

If you've ever downed a can of Red Bull or Monster and wondered how you could get more energy into that can, then *Powerthirst* is the drink for you!

With flavours like Rawberry, Manana and Shockolade, you'll be hard-pressed to catch your breath, let alone finish your tasty beverage.

Unlike most of the energy drinks out there, Picnic-face's *Powerthirst* provides you with creative activities in which to release your newfound energy.

Being too energetic for normal sports is no longer a problem with the guidance from these guys in *Powerthirst 2*.

Oddly enough, watching this video will get your adrenaline going at least twice as much as drinking an actual energy drink would. *Powerthirst* will also provide you with an abundance of references to incorporate into your daily routine. Your boring conversations with friends will never be the same!

This imaginary drink would probably only be legal in a very select number of countries, but anyone can check out the absolutely hilarious video.

Stalker style

KATIE NATION
FASHION COLUMNIST

Celebrity obsession may be an embarrassing feature of our society, but fortunately for those of us who just can't live without Perez Hilton or Pink Is The New Blog, there are some stars who have enough style to validate our stalking.

Why look to stars for fashion? Well, the stalkerazzi is following them anyway, and if we can get daily documentation of how the rich and idealized look, we might as well take advantage.

So which celebs are actually worth watching? Obviously people will stalk whomever they please, but certain stars have slipped on the stylish scale while others are moving on up. Sienna Miller had her moment, but crashed and burned as soon as she realized that people were calling her an "icon." Truly stalkable celebs should make you believe they're not trying too hard.

Which is why I love to style stalk the Olsen twins. Sure, no one can forget Mary Kate's boho phase that launched a thousand flowy skirts, nor can we ever forgive them for reintroducing leggings to the world. But fearless originality is nearly impossible to find in celeb fashion, and both the Olsen sisters deserve endless props for delivering.

Kate Moss is an obvious candidate for stalking, and Zooey Deschanel and Kirsten Dunst are two actresses that reliably eschew typical sex appeal to don clothing that's pretty and fun. Katie Holmes, though obviously living under the close scrutiny of a stylist, has impeccable style. She's doing what Victoria Beckham wishes she could do without looking like a mannequin in a department store.

Irina Lazareanu is my (Canadian!) model of the moment to watch,



WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Take a break from Facebook creeping and do some celeb-style stalking.

with her 70s flare and bangs that go with everything. Agyness Deyn is another popular poser with incredibly unique and fierce style. Iekeliene Stange is a model to watch for anyone who enjoys fashion that's unconventional, to say the least.

For the boys, Adam Brody is a good one to watch, though he seems to desperately want to shake the stalkerazzi, with his shaggy face and shaggier clothes. But if he really wants to divert attention from himself, he shouldn't do the shaggy look so incredibly well. David Beckham always looks a little too good, and Kanye West deserves every bit of praise he bestows upon himself when it comes to style.

Now, finding pictures of your fa-

vourite stalkees may not be as easy as just Googling their names, so there are a few places that make it simpler for you. My personal favourite is a vintage clothing website (www.adorevintage.com) that has a number of celeb albums to browse - the most noteworthy being celebs from the past (hello Twiggy and Jane Birkin!).

A new discovery of mine is www.celebritystyleguide.com, which follows a number of celebrities and even tracks down the origins of their clothing. And for those who are sick of celebrity worship and prefer to see stars 'fugging' up, check out www.gofugyourself.com, which hilariously documents celebrity fashion flubs - and those are certainly worth the stalking.

Perfectly bleak

DAN BRAY
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The first time I saw Samuel Beckett's bleak tragicomedy *Waiting for Godot* was about four years ago. A man in white gloves used four wind-up toys in a cardboard diorama and performed all the parts himself. The audience looked on with small binoculars and the show ended with Beckett himself descending in the form of a SuperBall. The novelty wore off pretty quick.

The King's Theatrical Society's (KTS) production, which ran from Jan. 16 to 19 in The Pit, avoided this tedium - no mean feat, when all Beckett gives the director is a couple of vagrants and a dead willow tree.

Waiting for Godot, which has a running time of just over three hours, is an awfully complex play, considering how little actually happens. People come onstage. They talk, chat, banter, discourse, exit - and that's about it.

Director Mitchell Cushman balanced truth with humour, resulting in a show that mixed the basest slapstick with moments of clear and painful insight. Beckett, a postmodernist and integral part of the Theatre of the Absurd, is a surprisingly deft fit for Cushman - himself a sharp and insightful English/theatre major.

The blocking - the subtlest part of the production - was precise, and the emphasis placed on dialogue made the show smooth and polished.

For a play consisting exclusively of ambiguous and potentially allegorical figures, Cushman could not have hoped for a better cast. In



CLARE WAQU / THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Cushman delivers with King's Theatrical Society's production of *Waiting for Godot*.

the principle roles of Vladimir (Sebastien Heins) and Estragon (Ishai Buchbinder), both actors were most successful in balancing each other. Buchbinder was, perhaps, the stronger of the two, reciting his lines with just the right amount of crankiness, humour and pathos. Heins had a tendency to talk with just a little too much dreaminess in his voice, but remained an effective foil to Estragon, at once fussy and philosophical.

Their relationship had the intimacy of two married 80-year-olds, and yet the entire show felt like a first date gone horribly wrong. The supporting cast (DJ Rossi, Grant Ste-

vens, and the wonderful 11-year old, Meghan Lea) perpetually ran the risk of overpowering the leads. The result was a powerful dynamic, as funny as it was poignant.

One feels as though Beckett could easily have written a third act - another hour filled with hobo philosophy and chicken bones. With Cushman's directorship, I doubt the audience would have cared. The show was a thoroughly intimate experience, and despite its bleakness, *Waiting for Godot* remains an exemplary piece of modern theatre. The KTS should be honoured to have done the show justice.

SEX WITH HUGH

So you like to talk?



HUGH WALLACE
SEX COLUMNIST

Have you ever been mid-coitus when your partner suddenly strikes up a conversation? Well I haven't! In my opinion, talking about daily routines, your plans and what you're going to buy at the grocery store today has no place in the bedroom.

And yet, some people still find it pertinent to talk about these things while they're enjoying a good session. Why, might you ask? To which I can only respond – I have no fucking idea.

Now for some people, this problem might not be a problem at all. But I assure you, my loyal readers, it is one of the silliest problems out there.

So you're going to get an oil change? Alright, but why don't you pay more attention to what you're doing or to what you're getting than bringing up mundane daily details? The simple fact remains that, although a nice conversation about the weather is great for tea time, it isn't very polite in bed. There are more pressing matters at hand.

Instead of blah blah blah-ing about nonsexual things, perhaps you should be talking dirty. Dirty talk is not a bad thing; in fact, it is quite marvellous.

Why don't you try saying something like, "You like that?" or, "Your pussy is so wet!" or, "Man, that is one rock-hard cock!" These are just a few examples, of course, and not very creative ones at that.

If you have difficulty thinking of

something original, why not try a subtle play-by-play? I know it sounds corny, but with a little bit of imagination and colourful adjectives, I'm sure you can make it fun.

It's really just a matter of opinion, but I think that in most cases your partner is going to be more interested in what you have to say about the sex than about your day-to-day life. Sex should be fun, exciting and energetic – not bogged down with the intricacies of daily life.

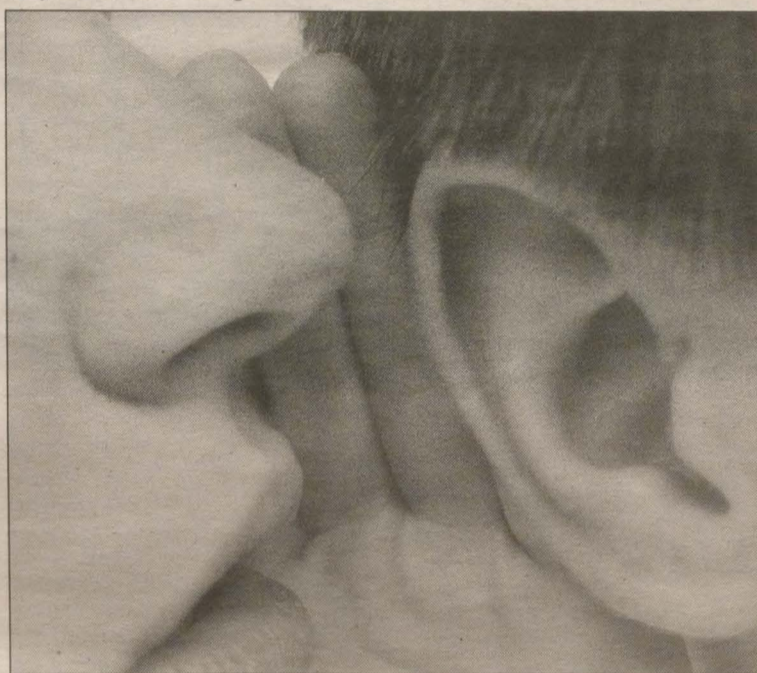
Not to say that conversations about life aren't important – they truly are. But there might be a bet-

Or even:

"You've been ignoring my clitoris and I want this heinous crime to stop!"

Try vocalizing your wants and needs as well as telling your partner how much fun you're having – or not having, as the case may be. This way, you're sure to get more of what you want out of the sex – at least carnally speaking.

Your grocery list and your big exam are important, but during sex, just stick to the subject at hand.



SUPPLIED

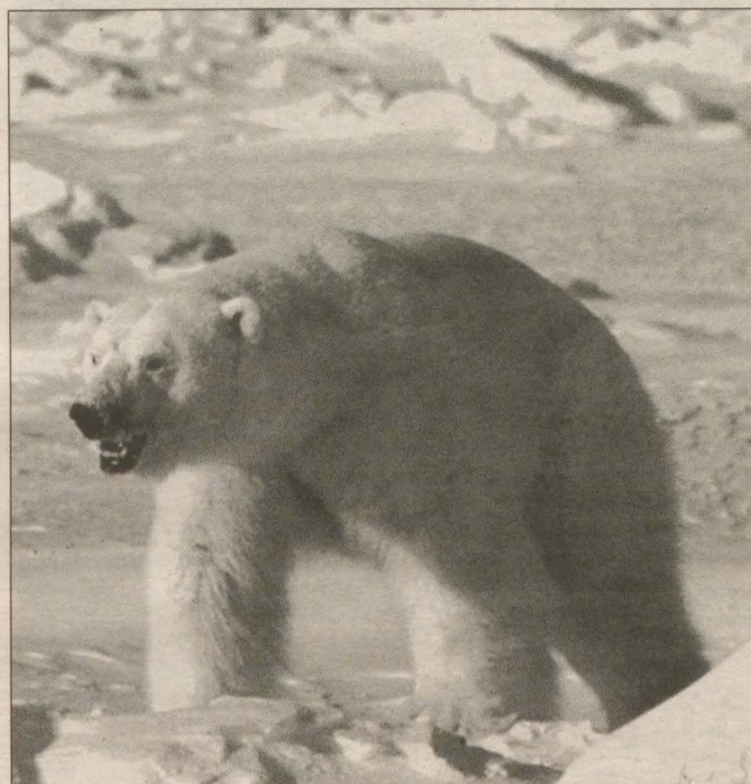
Leave your to-do lists out of the bedroom.

ter time and place for such a discussion. Perhaps later on when the sex is done?

Communication about sex is also important in getting what you want, so why not take a little more control? Tell your partner what's up.

"Could you move your hips a little more like this?"

I'm just not getting through to all of you. Please send your questions, comments and concerns to sex@dalgazette.ca. I am especially interested in fetishes for an upcoming column, so send them in! (You can remain anonymous.)



WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Experience the wonders of the Arctic at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History before it melts away.

Go on an arctic adventure at the museum

NICK KHATTAR
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Although the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History's *Arctic Adventure* exhibit is slightly lacking in the hardcore adventure department, it's certainly informative regarding all things Arctic.

The museum, which has five permanent galleries and one changing exhibit, uses interactive devices to feed you small bits of information about wildlife, human life and environmental changes taking place in the far north.

All the information is also translated into Inuktitut, a northern native language, and French.

Accompanying the *Arctic Adventure* exhibit is *Sila: Clue Into Climate Change*, a connected showcase. *Sila* is an Inuktitut word meaning 'environment' and all things connected

to it. The showcase is about the communities of the Arctic working with science to adapt to climate change.

You can visit the Polar Bear Lab and ogle over videos of gigantic bears that always look like they're having a good time. There is a wealth of information about polar bears and the challenges they face due to climate change.

With the Arctic melting, those badass polar bears are going to have to come south. Do you really want to have to deal with a 1,300 lb bear going through your trash?

Luckily, the exhibit provides convenient tips on how you can be a better person by reducing your ecological carnage, and thus, keep the polar bears in the Arctic.

Arctic Adventure runs from Jan. 11 to May 25. Admission is \$3 with student ID. The museum is open free to the public every Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m.

Are you interested in modelling for our upcoming sex issue?

If so, please contact our photo editor:

photo@dalgazette.ca

SUMMER JOB FAIR

Friday 8 FEB - 10-3 McInnes Room in the SUB

Wonder who's hiring at the fair? See www.halifaxcareerairs.com

Top 5 reasons to think about a summer job now...

Activities Feb 4-7 to get you ready...

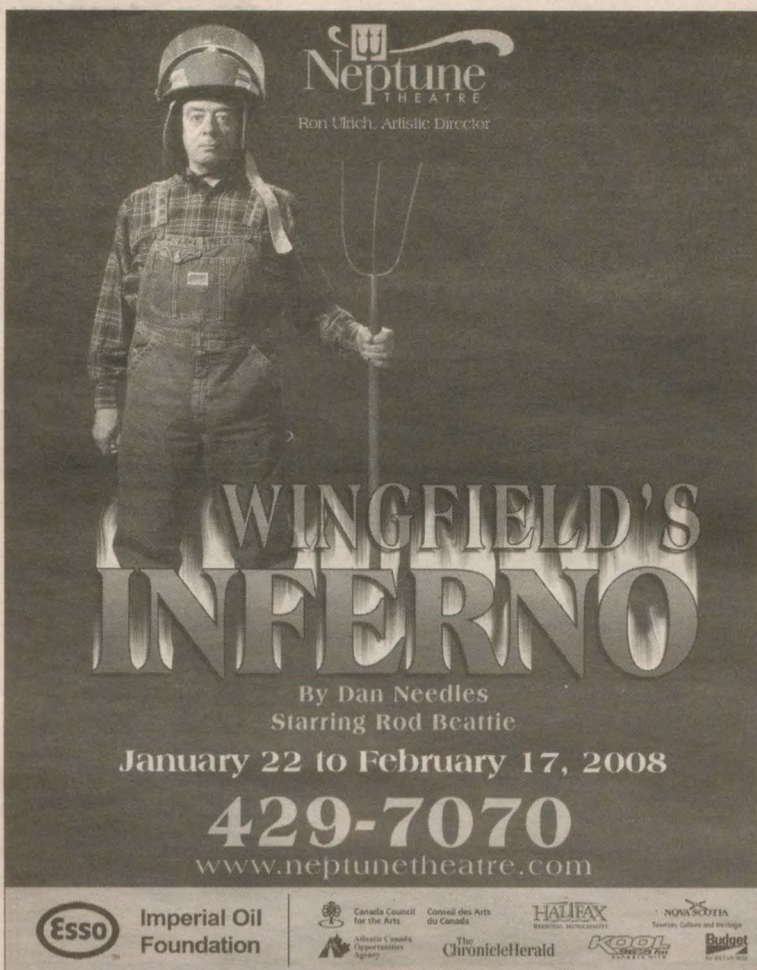
...see Latest News and the Career Calendar: www.dal.ca/csc

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International Development Week
February 3-9, 2008
www.cida.gc.ca/idw



DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
Inspiring Minds

INTERNATIONAL DAYS @ DALHOUSIE
2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

As part of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)'s International Development Week, please join us during International Days @ Dalhousie to learn more about life in developing countries, the role many Canadians play in international development, and ways to become a global citizen and be more actively involved in development issues.

Monday 4 February
Canada...Making a Difference in Afghanistan
by Diana Youdell, Special Advisor to the Director General, Afghanistan Task Force, DFAIT, and Former Head of CIDA Development Programs in Afghanistan
2.00-3.30 pm, University Hall, MacDonald Building
Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday 5 February
**The Power of Myth, the Power of War:
A Century-Long Story of British Occupation and
Pending Argentine Sovereignty Upon the Malvinas Islands**
by Dr. Rosana Guber, Chair of Centro de Antropología Social (Centre of Social Anthropology), Instituto de Desarrollo Económico y Social, IDES, Buenos Aires, Argentina
11.30 am - 1.00 pm, University Hall, MacDonald Building
Refreshments will be served.

**Students and Development in Africa:
Intern Experiences in Kenya and Uganda**
Video Screening and Presentations by Lahoma Thomas and Ahmed Ibrahim
Dalhousie interns with the 2007 Students for Development programme
2.30-4.30 pm, Room 1198, Marion McCain (FASS) Bldg.
Undertaken with financial support of the Government of Canada provided through CIDA.

Wednesday 6 February
International Opportunities Fair
Learn about opportunities to study, work and volunteer abroad.
Displays and information from Canada World Youth, Oxfam, the Student Work Abroad Program, World University Service of Canada, Doctors Without Borders, Atlantic Council for International Cooperation, and more.
9 am - 3 pm, Main Lobby, Student Union Building

Thursday 7 February
**Development Made Sexy:
How It Got that Way and What It Means**
by Dr. John Cameron and Anna Haanstra, Dept. of International Development Studies
12.00-1.00 pm, Room C244, Life Sciences Centre

Film Screening:
¡Salud! - a documentary on the Cuban health system
5.00-7.00 pm, Theatre A, Tupper Bldg, Carleton Campus

IDEAS T-Room Night
8.00 pm, T-Room, Sexton Campus—\$2 cover
With live music by "The Straight Talk Express" & interactive African Drum & Dance Show!

For more information and full details, visit <http://www.dal.ca/lpi>

International Days @ Dalhousie coordinated by DAL-Outreach at Lester Pearson International

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Dal student comment, 2007 library survey

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
Inspiring Minds

No comeback on the court

JULIE SOBOWALE
SPORTS EDITOR

The losing streak continues for the Dalhousie Tigers women's volleyball team in their matches on Jan. 24 and 25. The team was swept by the St. Mary's University Huskies on Jan. 24, scoring 25-27, 18-25 and 18-25. On Jan. 25, they came close against the Acadia University Axewomen in a disappointing four-set loss, at 22-25, 13-25, 25-21 and 21-25.

The Tigers are experiencing a seven-game losing streak.

"There's no excuse for the way we played," says third-year Tiger Maggie Morrison. "No matter what opponent is on the other side of the net, you have to get your shit together. I don't like using the excuse that it's a young team. It's not old, it's not young - it's the Tigers and we need to work harder."

The Tigers beat the Axewomen in their previous meeting in November in a close five-set battle.

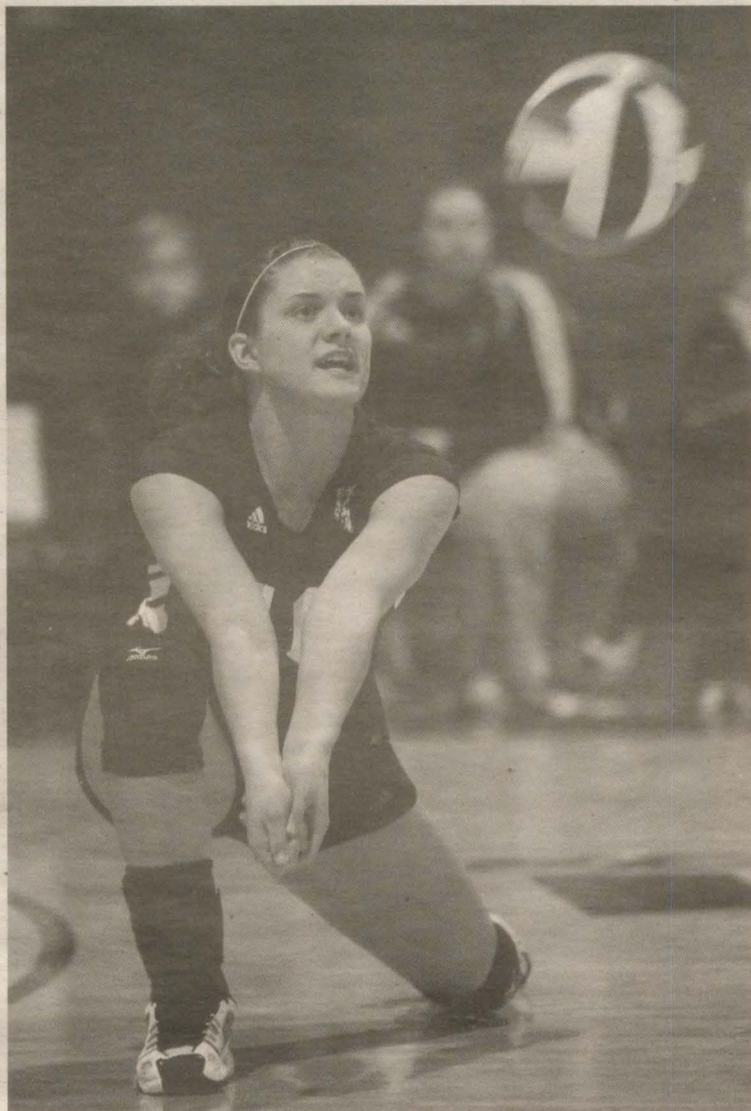
The (Jan. 24?) match had a similar intensity, with the Axewomen coming out strong in an early 10-5 lead in the first set. The Tigers soon caught up and tied the score at 21-21, but the Axewomen held on to take the set.

"It's upsetting that we're having difficulty focusing and keeping up our level of play during the sets and matches," Morrison says. "When we put our minds to it, it's unbelievable what we can do. It's disappointing because I know how good we are and how well we play together. Sometimes it doesn't come together. For example, tonight (against the Axewomen), I think it's definitely a game we could've taken."

The Axewomen put the Tigers in a corner in the second set, with an 8-0 run to give them a commanding 19-5 lead. The only highlight for the Tigers came late in the set when Vanessa Smit hit two straight serve aces. The second-year student had four aces in the match.

A new line-up gave the Tigers some enthusiasm and energy in the third set. The Tigers started off with a 3-0 lead and fought to keep the Axewomen at bay. The Axewomen came close at 20-19 toward the end of the set, but a fierce kill from Maria Zacharuk kept the Tigers in control.

"In the line-up we had in the third and fourth sets, we had people with personalities that give out a little more energy than in the first two sets," says Kirk Yanofsky, the Tigers' head coach. "It's also about playing with your back



NICK PEARCE / NICK PEARCE PHOTO

against the wall. Sometimes that brings out the best in some people, and I think we did a good job in the third responding to that. Unfortunately, in the fourth set we went back to some old habits and that's what got us."

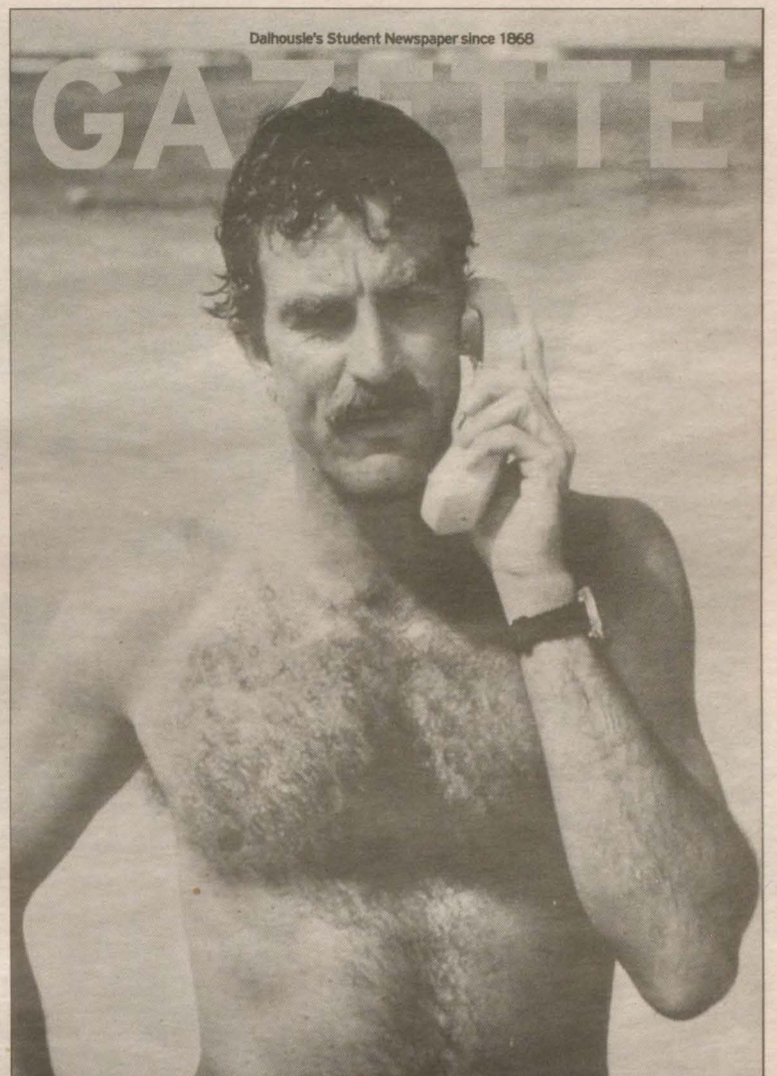
The Tigers had problems once again with weak starts as the Axewomen established an early 8-3 lead. Despite their efforts, the Tigers were unable to keep up. Costly errors by the Tigers, such as net violations, gave the Axewomen an added boost for the win.

"[Last weekend] highlighted what we can do and what we have to battle through," says Yanofsky. "I think it's pretty clear and it should be clear to us as a team now that if we take care of things on our side of the court, we can be very good. But we gave away a lot of points last weekend and if you give your opponent

that many points, it puts you in a difficult position. Chances are you're not gonna like the result and that's what happened to us."

With only five games left in the season, the Tigers must snap their losing streak fast in order to qualify for the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) playoffs. Currently, the Tigers sit in sixth place in the AUS rankings with a 4-11 season record. The Tigers need to stay in the top six in order to make it to the playoffs. However, their spot is not secure, with the St. Francis Xavier X-Women only one loss behind the Tigers.

"We've got good volleyball players that know what they should be doing, but knowing and doing are two different things," says Yanofsky. "If we control how we play, then I don't think there is a team in this conference that we can't beat."



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"Speaking."

Tom 'Super Sexy' Selleck

(Former Gazette Sex Issue Model 1978)

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the essence of sexuality.

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Athletes of the week

FEMALE ATHLETE

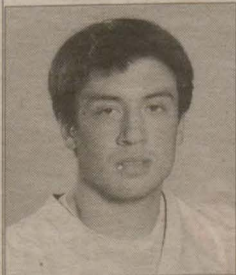


KATE MCNEIL
BASKETBALL

Kate McNeil had two exceptional double-double performances in P.E.I. this weekend as the Tigers clutched two wins over the Panthers. McNeil nabbed 24 points and 13 rebounds in Friday night's 67-66 win, and then chipped in 20 points and 11 rebounds in Saturday's 76-61 victory. McNeil is a fourth-year biology student from Halifax.

Other nominees: Chantelle Percival (swimming)

MALE ATHLETE



SIMON FARINE
BASKETBALL

Simon Farine led the Tigers' offence in two weekend wins over the UPEI Panthers. Farine dropped in a game-high 27 points along with 9 rebounds on Friday night, as the Tigers defeated UPEI by a score of 76-71. In Saturday's 80-68 win, Farine added another 18 points for the Tigers. Farine is a transfer student from Toronto. He is currently competing in his second year of eligibility while enrolled in Dalhousie's commerce program.

Other nominees: Doug Young (swimming)



DAL TIGERS

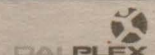
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FRI., FEB. 1
BASKETBALL
vs. ACA, W 6PM, M 8PM

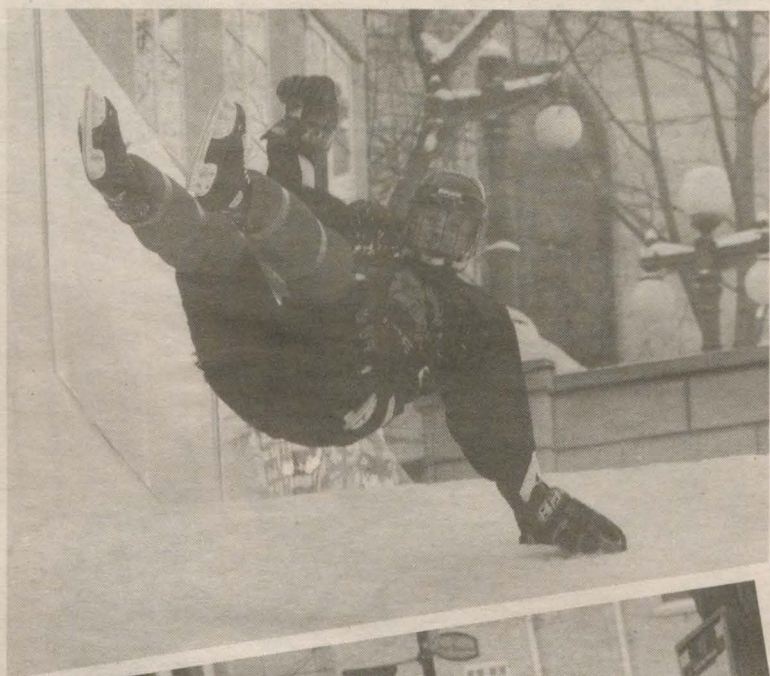
SAT., FEB. 2
WOMEN'S HOCKEY
vs. MTA, 7PM

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Crashed Ice 2008



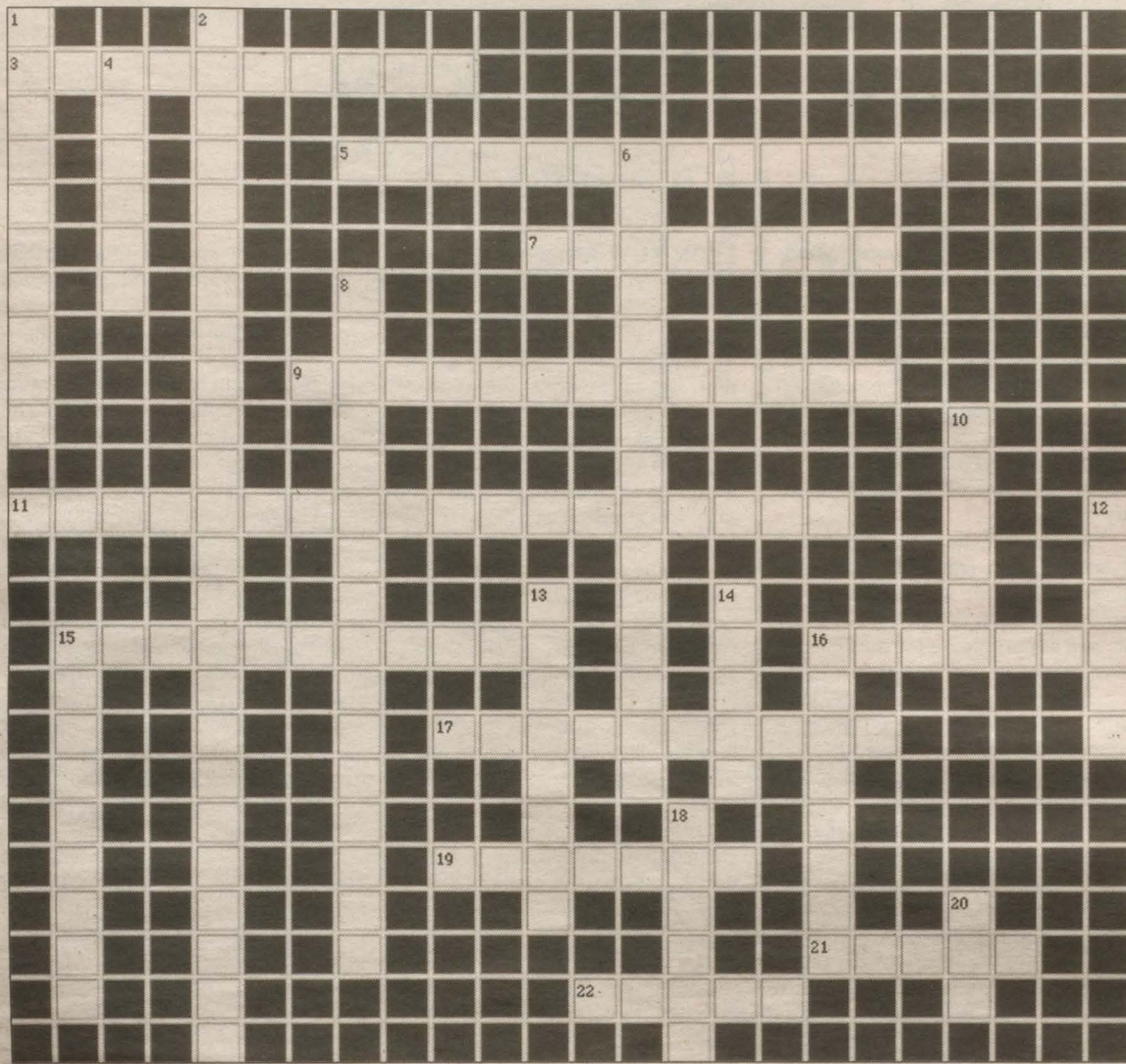
On Jan. 26 Quebec City hosted Red Bull's Crashed Ice competition. Our Photo Editor, Josh Boyter went out and shot contestants as they skated down the icy course at speeds reaching 40 km/h.



CROSSWORD

HOROSCOPES

The many faces of Mike Myers | Martina Jakubchik-Paloheimo



- Across**
- In *Austin Powers*, the description Fat Bastard gives of himself.
 - In *So I Married an Axe Murderer*, the phrase his father yells after the wedding ceremony.
 - In *Wayne's World 2*, what band is the guy who Wayne hangs out with in the desert a member of?
 - The name of Myers' movie to be released this year.
 - How Gold Member lost his member.
 - Where did Mike Myers grow up?
 - What gift does Wayne receive from his ex-girlfriend in the first movie?
 - What does Dr. Evil want attached to his sharks' freakin' heads?
 - In *So I Married an Axe Murderer* what is his wife-to-be's job?
 - Wayne's signature phrase as he puts his hair behind his ears.
 - The name of Shrek's princess wife.

- Down**
- The actress who played Wayne's love interest in the *Wayne's World* movies.
 - The ending phrase to every *Wayne's World* TV Show.
 - Who does Number Two work for?
 - Dr. Evil's father claimed to have invented it.
 - What song do the boys rock out to in the car in *Wayne's World*?
 - In his famous *SNL* skit "Coffee Talk," what is Barbra Streisand like?
 - The animal that is his best friend in the *Shrek* movies.
 - Dr. Evil's father claimed they were lazy.
 - The name of the movie in which Myers plays an ogre.
 - One of the alternate endings to the first *Wayne's World* movie.
 - In *Shrek*, what are the Gingerbread Man's buttons made of?
 - Austin Powers's wife was found to be this in *A Spy Who Shagged Me*.
 - "Woman...woe-man...whooha-man. She was a thief, you gotta believe, she stole my heart and my ___"

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)



You're not an exotic dancer, but you sure look like one when you kick your leg into the air like you just don't care. That's a good thing, because it means you've got more groove than any emperor has in his pinky finger. The teddy bear in your room is in need of some loving, so give him some milk to dip his cookies into. You're good at sewing, so rip it up.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21)



Be proud of your identity; be strong with your heritage. A lucky clover is stuck to your shoe and a wee leprechaun has been following you around. Everything beyond your undomesticated dreams can come true if you make sure to stay out of the fairy circles. Stay smart and make sure not to step on any toes and everything will be ever so lovely. You are from the land down under: now it's time to see your thunder.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)



Don't hate and don't subordinate. The fresh prince of Dalhousie just picked you to be number one in the land. Can you step up to the plate? Show them you can move. Gyrate your pelvis like you are Elvis Presley performing on his first show and your hips won't lie. If they need it, put it on you. People like you and it's for a darn good reason.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)



This is the dawning of a new age for you. Your parents conceived you nine months prior to your birth, so make sure to thank them. Once the beer goggles are on, you're more than a hot commodity; don't let people be grabby. A furry friend in the bushes is about to eat a poisonous berry that will lead to a tummy upset. Tastes like yearning.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20)



The Hamburglar is after your favourite meal. But too much meat is never a good thing, nor is cat fried up to look like chicken, so maybe you can let him have it this time. You have been eating more noodles than you can stomach. Why not opt for vegetables instead? Just because you're in Korea in your imagination does not mean that the world's largest toilet is close by. Remember proper public washroom etiquette.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)



There are no more monsters underneath your bed, so you'll finally be able to sleep with the nightlight off. Someone made a comic book of your life, but it's not funny to you. Demand respect but don't embarrass yourself. It's necessary to laugh most of the time. Students are your friends. Exfoliate and you will remove what you don't want. Shine your shoes, guv'na.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)



Your friends like you for you, not for the scent you spray in your hair every morning before you leave. You have been giving it your all. Chewing your gum is a good way to get noticed, but it is also a good way to get some serious stink-eye. It's mid-afternoon; do you know if your toilet seat lid is closed?

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)



The leaning tower of cheese is on an incline for a reason. It's trying to get closer to you, and so is a loved one. You have hit the jackpot this week, so keep the big bills on the outside. Do something nice for an amigo. Morality has morale for a reason. Show them you have the chutzpah to spice up anything you endeavour to accomplish.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)



Your keys have been running away from you. Where are they trying to keep you from going? Figure that out and you will soon remember that you dropped them in your soup. Wake up someone before you go; don't leave them hanging in there solo. Inclusion is not an illusion - it's just more fun. Respect difference and you'll get the bananas.

LEO (July 24 - August 23)



A breeze of fresh air is headed your way, so make sure you're smelling right. A cool breeze can easily be heated by some not-so-clean hot air. A friendly game of air guitar will lead to the creation of a delightful rock band that will get the fans gathering. Leos aren't just ordinary people, they're extraordinary people.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)



Feel like there's too much broth and not enough noodles? Eating more soup of a different brand is the answer. Your dutiful efforts will not go unrewarded. This week, a giant gold star is headed your way. Snack time has been allotted for a reason: you need a break every once in a while, so eat that Kit Kat with a smile. The pressure cooker you're putting yourself under is on high. Why not let a little steam leak out?

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)



Sweet chili nachos have become your favourite thing, but that shouldn't be the only thing that makes you swing. Shuffleboard is a thrilling game, especially if you use your shoe. You are a thing of beauty and a blooming rose; try not to let people see your thorns. Do a rain dance, but ask for snow.

Martina Jakubchik-Paloheimo

Teach English in Japan

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

Qualified candidates must:

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- Have teaching experience and Japanese language ability (preferred, but not required)

Visit www.interac.ca.jp/recruit for more information or to apply online.



- Down**
- Tia Carrere
 - "Party on Wayne party on Earth"
 4. Dr. Evil
 6. The question mark
 8. "Bohemian Rhapsody"
 10. Butter
 12. Donkey
 13. Chestnuts
 14. Shrek
 15. ScoobyDoo
 16. Gumbop
 18. Fambot
 20. Cat
- Across**
- I'm dead sexy
 - Let get pissed
 7. The Doors
 9. The love gun
 11. Scrambling accident
 15. Scamorous
 16. Gumbak
 17. Laserbeams
 21. Butcher
 22. Fionn



THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

Another Success Story: It's Okay...

Ms. Agnes Achaempong in Soap Making

ANGELA ALAMBETS
JUNIOR FELLOW FOR EWB DAL

A recent phone call to my Ghanaian mother over the holidays, Auntie Agie, gave us the chance to catch up and made me anxious for the 2008 National EWB conference that was held in Montreal January 17-19.

It wasn't just that Ralph Nader (social activist and entrepreneur, and U.S. politician), or Mary Coyle (Director of Coady International Institute), or John Watson (Past President and CEO of CARE Canada), or Bob Ray to name a few speakers, were going to be there.

It was going to give me the chance to reconnect with the other Engineers Without Borders volunteers - particularly Gwen, a long term overseas volunteer who is in her second year of working in Ghana with the Rural Enterprises Project (REP) and had some specially made soap to deliver to me from my Ghanaian mother, Auntie Agie.

I wrote the following story while working at a Business Advisory Center (BAC) with REP and living with Auntie Agie in the Eastern Region of Ghana.

Her Story

Ms. Agnes Achaempong has been a REP client since its inception in the Kwahu North (Afram Plains) district. Her energy and insatiable hunger for learning new ways to improve her business enterprise has made her a successful multi-business woman and local service provider for her district.

She has a serious work ethic which has enabled her to rely on her tailoring business to sustain her living for numerous years. She believes that any work a person is engaged in should be completed to the best of their ability and with all seriousness - which shows in the quality of her work and the success of her business.

Her soap business came off the ground in 2005 when the help of a loan from NBSSI (National Board for small scale industries) enabled her to purchase all of the necessary raw materials and equipment.

Beginning small, her first box of soap has transformed into over 50

boxes and one soap cutting table has multiplied to 5 different tables, each with their own purpose; whenever she sees a certain style of soap, her entrepreneurship drives her to challenge herself to match it - often requiring a new table.

It did not take long for Ms. Achaempong to build a well established client base for her soap business. Her high quality soap product was not overlooked by any client she served - as her business began to expand so did her reputation.

She branded each new style of soap as a new product line of her "Scissors Soap" - the only appropriate business logo for a tailor at heart. With a stamp in the shape of scissors as a signature on each bar of soap, it also appears on the boxes that she has developed for marketing her products.

In her tailoring business, she has trained over 20 apprentices, some of which are now learning the preparation of soap as a bonus to their apprenticeship. She is the leader of the Sunday school and the Women's Movement at her church - where she has taught the women through practical programs how to prepare pomade with local products, in addition to many other useful household skills.

She has also successfully facilitated a soap workshop for 30 members of the Presbyterian Church in a nearby community upon request by the group leader. The BAC became familiar with her teaching skills at this workshop, and supported her in empowering the people of her own community.

Her experience as a school teacher surely supports her enthusiasm as a master crafts woman. But it is her desire to distribute knowledge to improve other people's lives that makes her a compelling teacher as an addition to a successful business woman.

Alliance with REP

Ms. Achaempong has an energetic, independent and empowering spirit that has made her alliance with REP unlike any other client. Starting with her attendance at the soap making workshop in 2004, her entrepreneurial spirit has been captured at

several other REP programs including Business Management, Tailoring and Dressmaking, Beekeeping, and Pomade, Parazone and Powder.

The BAC in Kwahu North (Afram Plains) district quickly recognized Ms. Achaempong's initiative and business sense as her business began to expand. Perhaps most importantly, they noticed the vibrant quality of her soap.

As a result, her "Scissors Soap" has now been featured at two different REP trade shows, where she sold an average of 160 bars of soap, as well as participated in the 2006 International Trade Show in Accra.

In addition to her soap business, she has added pomade, parazone and powder to her repertoire and her income. But with her multi-business enterprising, it has been vital to strike a balance that can make her skills the most profitable.

The apprentices at her tailoring shop require great attention, and with a thriving business she must remain committed to her customers. While she still finds time to prepare her soap, the balance she is searching for has required her to look elsewhere; but not passed the borders of the Rural Enterprising Project.

She has recently achieved a significant milestone in her REP and soap making career - she is now utilizing her expertise and energy toward the position of the newest REP service provider. At her first ten day program she trained 21 participants in the preparation of soap.

She was happy to provide them the gracious offer of supporting them with any future assistance at her home, where she first started her soap business just a community away. (In keeping it touch with Auntie Agie and the BAC, 3 clients from this program have already started up a soap business!)

The Future

The progress that Ms. Achaempong has made since her relationship with REP first began continues to benefit her own life and the people in her midst. As a role model to many women in her community, her energy will continue to resonate as she embarks on this new journey as REP service provider.

I'm Scared Too

LEON SUTHERLAND
PRESIDENT OF THE CHEMICAL
ENGINEERING SOCIETY

This message is for all engineers that are currently or are someday going to be looking for a job.

There's something that I wanted to say to you for a while and I just want to get it off my chest. I just want to let you know... that it's going to be all right. You're going to be okay.

You have all these confusing feelings about university, boys and girls, how to cook your own meals, wash your own clothes... then on top of all that you have to find yourself a job. Everyone's pushing you, saying you have to go out West for a job and find your fortune, or else we are all doomed and sentenced to a penniless fate.

But don't be scared. I can't help you with the confusing boys and girls part but I can tell you that there's hope out there for jobs outside of Alberta. There are plenty of good jobs all around Canada.

But don't get me wrong - nothing's wrong with Alberta. I've been

there and it seemed nice enough. Lots of my good friends have great jobs there.

I realize the paychecks are tempting and the mountains are appealing, but if you want to find jobs elsewhere there are people who can help. Get out there and check out the Dal Career Services, your Co-op office, and most importantly: Talk To People!

Hassle all the companies that you're interested in. Don't let them forget your name! Let EVERYONE know that you're a wonderful engineer on the prowl for a great job. My twin brother got a job interview with a major oil company because he was bored one day and started to talk to a random guy in a random restaurant in a random town in Newfoundland.

I have been fortunate and scored a sweet job in Ottawa. I just wanted to let you know that if I could do it, you can too. Sometimes it seems like the West is your only option, especially when you're in chemical engineering. But its not... I just wanted to let you know.

Good luck with those boys and girls.



- Feb 1: Monroe Day Ski Trip
- Feb 7: Straight Talk Express
- Feb 8: Tech Ball
- Feb 14: Dating Society Event & Picnic Face Comedy
- Tech Ball Tickets On Sale Now!
- Atlantic Engineering Competition (AEC) Feb 8-10
- DSEUS Mystery Event Feb 15

Jimmy Swift a Great Success

DAVID ANDERSON
T-ROOM CO-MANAGER

On Thursday, January 24th, 350 people witnessed Jimmy Swift and Anew Airship rock the T-Room with their smooth musical styles. This was the biggest event with the largest attendance that the T-Room has ever hosted and, based on its success, I can almost guarantee that it will not be a unique event.

To pull off an event like this requires dedication, professionalism, hard work, and a little bit of luck. I would like to thank all those involved in making this event a reality.

Thank you to Greg Wright for being crazy enough to think that an event of this magnitude would work at the T-Room.

Thank you to the liquor inspector for expanding the T-Room's capacity by allowing the "patio" to be opened. Thank you to the Sextant Entertainment Committee for their promotional and ticket selling efforts.

Thank you to the coat check crew for sacrificing part of their night to lend a helping hand. Incidentally, all of the proceeds from the coat check are going towards Tech Ball, featuring Big Fish, on Friday February 8th. Tickets are only \$10, and you should

all go.

I would also like to thank those that helped move all of the furniture out of the T-Room, and then back in at the end of the night. Indeed, many hands do make light work, unless you're moving pool tables. I would like to thank the DSU Sound Tech Crew for getting the sound just right in the acoustically challenged T-Room. Finally, I would like to thank my fellow bar staff for working tirelessly throughout the night to satisfy the thirst of the audience. I was proud to be able to stand back and watch my crew function as a cohesive unit. You are all a delight to work with.

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