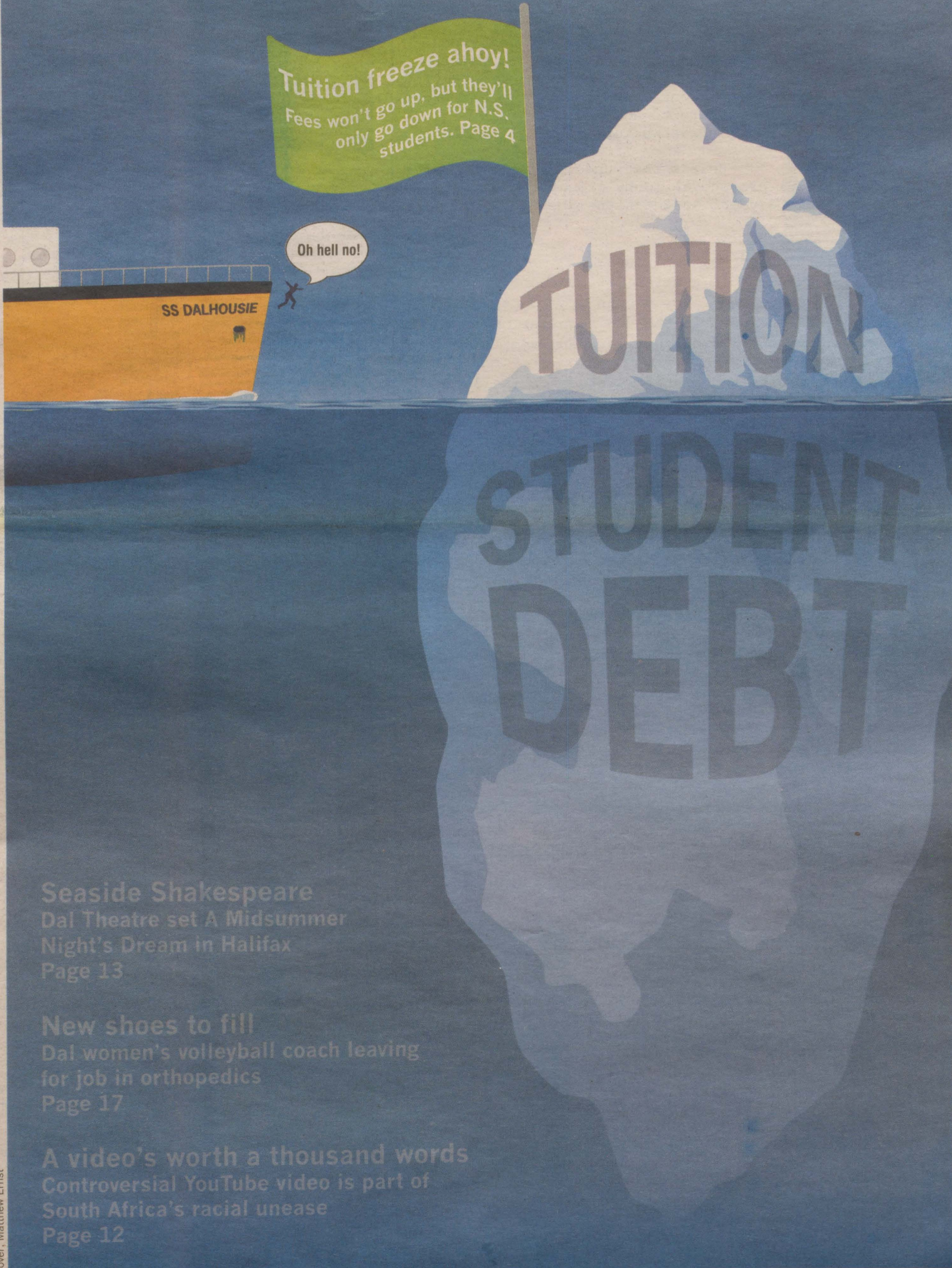


GAZETTE



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 Dal Theatre set A Midsummer
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THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

A shout out to Tom Petty

MELANIE HOLMES

It seems that over the past five years of my painstaking engineering degree, I can't seem to shake Tom Petty. From the second year diploma banquet to my graduating roast-filled fifth year finale Tom and his best song have followed closely behind.

Trying to wrap up this year is much more difficult than I had imagined. And I am trying harder than anything to stray far away from the sappy pre-grad convulsion that tends to make people want to throw up. That being said, for those of you that are approaching graduation, you must be as sick as I am from hearing: "so, what are your plans when you're done?" As for me, I've sold my soul to the corporate devil and am anxiously awaiting the beginning of the next chapter. Good or bad, whatever happens, it will be an experience and it will be welcomed. At the very least, it beats exam week.

As for my time here it has been well spent and will be remembered with a smile, and a smirk. Although being somewhat known for my overzealous soapbox preaching, I know better than anyone how much I have left to learn. And to refer to an article a couple of weeks ago, they give us a ring for that very reason. Read everything you can, listen to everyone around you and pay attention to what you do not know.

I have a solid five years of hard work under my belt, friends that have helped me at every point along the way, and a ring to remember it all. I hope the Sextant continues as a phenomenal outlet for Engineers to promote what they are doing and to show how great a time they have doing it. We're proud, and that's alright. Just remember that no matter how much you learn, or how hard it is to learn it, there's way more out there than this. Tom said it best, we're learning to fly.

Goodbye and Good Luck

SCOTT WETTON

This is it for me. Last contribution to the Sextant, last class bash this Friday, last time in the corner at the T-Room on Friday, and I have officially passed on the DSEUS president's torch.

This year has been an unbelievable experience for me, and DAL ENG as a whole. We have all contributed to filling Sexton campus with excitement, enthusiasm, and most of all: spirit. The packed T-Room nights, Engineering vs. Commerce trivia, Mooseheads games, and free BBQ's all show that engineers have the spirit. Not sure if I can talk for everyone, but I'm going to anyways: I'm proud to be a Dalhousie Engineering student. Sure the classes

suck, labs blow, and exams are terrible, but we are all in it together. If you want that ring bad enough, you will get it.

I want to leave everyone with a quote from Mark Twain, "I never let my schooling get in the way of my education". Get out of the typical rut of school work, classes and labs. Get involved with something outside of class on campus. Get involved with a design team, play on an intramural team, get involved with your D level, and interact with other D levels. Talk and listen to your fellow engineers from other disciplines, you might meet someone new or even learn something other than the formula of the day from class. When classes end, the rest of your education begins.

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WRITE

for the
Sextant
next year!

Revamping the Co-op Work Term Requirements

MELANIE HOLMES

There have been some developments brewing in the co-op office as of late. Specifically the co-op work term academic requirements are due for a facelift. Anne Marie Coolen and Stephen Kuzak are working together to revamp the protocol for student reporting throughout co-op work terms. In an effort to better integrate academia with the workplace, they are hoping to give work term reports a more "professional practice portfolio" edge.

The developments are the result of a faculty retreat where a facilitated discussion looked at ways to improve co-op. What was ultimately

decided was that there needed to be more emphasis on integrating the skills and knowledge required for professional practice between the classroom and the workplace. In comparison to Engineering, Architecture's co-op program is a fully integrated one. If a student cannot find a job, or does not pass a co-op term they are not allowed to continue with their courses. It is a totally integrated environment, linking the workplace and education so well that they ultimately become one and the same.

This is what is missing in the Engineering faculty. Students tell the common tale of the burden of co-op reporting, the lack of content and the disassociation with anything

they have been taught. The Co-op Office is hoping to bridge this gap and make the reporting system not only more effective, but also much more helpful for the development of an employable student.

One of the ways to achieve this is to link the reporting system to the facets of the Professional Engineering Associations, specifically: Application of theory, Engineering Management, Practical Experience, Engineering in Society and Communication. This would allow a student to be more aware of the diverse variety of situations they encounter on their work terms. It is difficult to dispute the advantage a student would realize when reflecting on not only

the technical aspects of their job, but the teamwork, communication, ethics, social implications and management that went into it all.

Changes would not only be seen on paper. There is discussion that the change in reporting may ultimately lead to a change in curriculum. The mission here is to capture a student's learning, analyze it and have it reflect in their goals. The student would be responsible for clearly outlining their goals for the term, and would work together with their company to achieve them. The report would then focus on analyzing all of the dynamics involved in this process. It would help develop technical writing skills, teach the habit of

self-directing professional learning, to balance academic workloads with placement workloads and reflect documentation currently used in the EIT program.

Although many people prefer the technical aspects of the current system, there is clearly a need for a more integrated approach and a focus on writing and reflecting. This facelift is still in its preliminary stages, however the Co-op office is planning to pilot the new concept this summer and is looking forward to receiving student feedback on this potential change. If you have any thoughts on this subject please write to sextant@dal.ca, or visit the Co-op Office to share your ideas.

NEWS

Thursday
End of Year Rock Show Extravaganza

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Look out for Concrete Canoe updates: Coming to Dal in May '08!



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Questions, Comments and to Contribute sextant@dal.ca



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It's not the end of an era

KATIE MAY
NEWS EDITOR

Ah, the glory of page three. I was so eager to take over this space, as the esteemed Editor-in-Chief John Packman can tell you, and yet I've put off actually filling it with words for as long as possible, as John will also tell you. If everything runs smoothly, as it usually (never) does, the paper will go to print in just a couple of hours and my rushed ramblings will be stuck here, in this vulnerable position, for the entire student body - er, those of you who may not have a coaster handy - to read.

Why did I wait so long?

Not because I thrive on the adrenaline rush of racing to meet a deadline. Adrenaline is just an exciting word for stress, and stress is just a blanket term for exhaustion, headaches, nocturnal tendencies, that annoying computer-screen-induced right-eye twitch, and occasional bouts of insane behaviour, sometimes resulting in irrepressible urges to scrawl obnoxious remarks on the walls of a certain newspaper office using surprisingly difficult-to-remove chalk, build pop bottle pyramids, set up invisible Scotch tape barriers in every doorway and hang voodoo dolls from the ceiling. (Note to John: You still haven't discovered all of the pranks. Never let your guard down.)

It's exam season; that's a good reason why I haven't devoted my full attention to writing this letter. But that excuse probably doesn't retain a lot of credibility coming from someone who misses class to interview profs and who is on a first-name basis with the Student Union Building night managers after so many wee hours spent there fretting over passive sentences, incorrect abbreviations and the difference between round and square brackets.



Never let your guard down - otherwise you'll hang in this office for eternity.

No, the real reason why I procrastinated so much is because actually writing this letter means it's our last serious issue of the year.

Next week's paper is technically the last issue, but it's the annual spoof, so that doesn't count - even if fake news is more popular than real news. In any case, this feels like the last one. And I don't want it to end. (The year, I mean, not this let-

ter. Damn, writing in first-person is awkward!)

Don't worry, I won't drag you with me on some kind of pathetically nostalgic mental journey about how I went from tentatively writing one news story a year ago to pulling all-nighters in the office and waking up to the puzzled expressions of facilities management staff at 7:30 a.m. Frankly, I'm still trying to figure out

exactly how that happened.

I won't tell you how *The Gazette* has changed my life this year, how I didn't feel as if I was part of the "university community" until I was part of this paper, how I'll never for the rest of my life meet another group of individuals so varied, so inspiring, so passionate and so fanatical as the nine brave, heroic souls who toiled relentlessly by my side for 26 weeks,

churning out a labour of love we like to call our own little *Gazette*.

Let's not kid ourselves - that last part isn't really true. Sure, I could go through the whole spiel about all the great people I've met here. But at *The Gazette*, the people don't make the paper as much as the paper makes the people. Next year, Room 312 of the SUB will be the hot-spot for a new bunch of inspiring, passionate fanatics.

Sure, we'll still have our free pizza and our privileged beer nights. We'll still lounge around on our cushy couches, eating said pizza and wishing we had some of said beer, telling all of our inside jokes and pulling all of our juvenile pranks.

But no matter how much we may want to carve our names into the desks - which we'd never do, because a prank's a prank, but that's just vandalism - *The Gazette* will never belong to its staff.

The Gazette belongs to all students. Like those of you who glance at it while you wait in line at Tim Hortons, our experience with this student newspaper is also too brief, regardless of how long we're here and how much we complain.

Just as *The Gazette* belongs to all students, so do its bountiful office amenities. Just think! You too can be an insider and gain full access to the free pizza, the beer and the couch - just dust the pizza crumbs off first. As for the jokes, there's no guarantee. That just depends on how clever you are.

And once you're in, you're in. If you come in and stay awhile, you'll have to come back.

I don't know what it is; there's just something about this place. You can even get published on this page. It's not that hard.

Trust me. I'll be back next year. Hope to see you then.

No more meetings BUT we still need to fill useless space.

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Students in for three-year freeze

KATIE MAY
NEWS EDITOR

For the first time in Nova Scotia, tuition fees for all university students are frozen at this year's rates.

The provincial Department of Education announced Mar. 31 it will increase post-secondary education funding by \$30 million each year over the next three years so tuition fees will not rise during that time. The freeze includes all full-time, part-time, undergraduate, graduate, Canadian and international students enrolled in all university programs.

The commitment is detailed in a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement signed by the provincial government and Nova Scotia universities, which will last until 2011. The government also promised, in a separate agreement, to reduce tuition fees for N.S. students to the national average within three years.

The government set up a \$66 million trust fund – the Nova Scotia University Student Bursary Trust – to give students from N.S. tuition rebates for at least the next three years.

Next year, each N.S. university student is set to receive a \$761 bursary; in 2009/10, the bursary will increase to \$1,022; and in 2010/11, students will get \$1,283 each. Out-of-province students are excluded from the extra funding until two years from now, when the government has promised to give them each \$261 against the cost of tuition.

The contract also imposes restrictions on universities' collection of auxiliary and ancillary fees so that the administration cannot raise the prices of required class supplies or residence, food and health services fees while tuition revenue is frozen.

Tom Traves, Dalhousie University president and chair of the Council of Nova Scotia University Presidents (CONSUP), signed the agreement along with Education Minister Karen Casey.

Traves says the three-year MOU is "a very positive development" because it sets out exactly how much government funding each university in the province can expect to receive annually, allowing schools to plan their budgets accordingly.

"It's the first time we can say that in decades, maybe ever," says Traves.

It's also the first time in at least



KAREN KWAN

Paris Meilleur, executive director of ANSSA, speaks at a Province House press conference after the tuition freeze was announced Mar. 31.

three years that international students and students studying in professional programs, such as medicine, law and dentistry, have been included in fee regulations. The last MOU agreement, signed in 2005, set a maximum 3.9 per cent tuition fee increase for Canadian students. But the fee cap excluded international and professional students, allowing their tuition to skyrocket.

Students weren't involved in the negotiations for that agreement, but this time representatives raised student concerns at the bargaining table and ensured that all students were included in the freeze.

Dal student Jen Bond was one of the negotiators on behalf of the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA), along with former Dal Student Union President Ezra Edelstein. She says student involvement was key for the entire negotiation period, which lasted more than four months.

"It was really good to get a buy in on that," the second-year law student says. "I think the MOU covered the ground that it needed to cover."

"At the end, it's better for everyone."

Not everyone, argues Kaley Kennedy. The N.S. representative for the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) lobby group, who also helped negotiate the new contract, says tuition reductions should have been included in the MOU agreement. A separate, temporary fund solely for N.S. students isn't good enough, she says.

"If they had put [the reduction] in the MOU it would just be a more transparent and more simple way of doing it," says the third-year University of King's College student and incoming president of the King's Students' Union.

While CFS sees the provincial tuition freeze "as a victory," Kennedy says students were "pushing for a

lot of things that didn't get through," including a tuition rebate for all students, not just for Nova Scotians.

"I'm really disappointed the government has discriminated against students," she says. "A lot of students don't think it's enough. A lot of students are disappointed they won't be getting the reduction, and I think rightly so."

Traves says it's understandable that the government wants to support N.S. students first, since they and their families pay taxes here that fund government bursaries.

"I don't think it's discrimination," he says. "This isn't such a big deal in terms of distinction," he adds, explaining that fees have never been equal for all students since they all pay different tuition depending on their degree programs.

"In the ideal world, you would reduce tuition for everybody, but you have a limited number of resources," says Traves.

Initially, the provincial government had no plans to announce any tuition reductions. The government and the universities drafted the MOU agreement the week before they released it, with emphasis on frozen fees but not on lower costs, says Mike Tipping, DSU president and chair of ANSSA, the Dal student membership's provincial lobby group.

When ANSSA representatives found out the government was not taking steps to reduce fees to the national average as per its previous promise, they immediately arranged a meeting with the premier's office.

"We said very plainly, 'This is the biggest promise that was ever made to students and if you don't go a long way towards keeping it, it's going to be the biggest broken promise to students,'" Tipping says.

He says the advocates are happy the government committed to the \$66-million bursary fund for N.S.

students, but they don't agree with excluding out-of-province students from that money pot.

"There's a real problem with the differential fee," says Tipping. "Instead of picking and choosing who you're going to help, it's (about) investing."

Neither the MOU nor the government's recent post-secondary education funding announcements address student debt or loan repayment options. Without the assurance of government assistance with debts after graduation, Tipping adds, a tuition freeze doesn't mean much to students.

With its 11 universities and "knowledge economy," the province's future depends on how well it can attract students, says Tipping, and a bursary just for Nova Scotians won't boost enrolment.

"It's a shell game," he says. "It makes us Quebec."

Tuition fees in Quebec have been frozen at roughly \$1,900 for a decade with significantly lower fees for Quebecois students. Students there are protesting their government's upcoming plan to lift the freeze.

Currently, tuition fees are also frozen in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. N.S. tuition is still the highest in the country.



JOHN PACKMAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Scott Thomson won a car from Tim Hortons – but he just wants to get rid of it. Thomson sent the real winning rim to Tim Hortons so this win was Photoshopped in.

Local winner selling car to pay student loans

KATIE MAY
NEWS EDITOR

A few wide-eyed coffee shop customers stop on the sidewalk to get a closer look, letting big, fluffy snowflakes dust their shoulders.

"What did he win? Hey, whadd'ya win?"

Scott Thomson holds his pose: one arm proudly outstretched for the camera, a large Tim Hortons Roll Up The Rim cup in hand. Without shifting his steady gaze from the photographer's lens and barely waverling in his wide grin, he nonchalantly replies.

"It's not the real cup."

He's used to the attention by now. Random strangers have been reacting this way for weeks, ever since he found out he'd won a car from the coffee chain's annual springtime giveaway contest.

"All my friends tell everybody. I no longer have a name. They say, 'Hey this is my buddy who won the car.' That's my name now," the 27-year-old Halifax resident says. "It's pretty funny."

Last month, on the second day of the promotion, Thomson made his daily visit to the Tim Hortons on Bedford Highway, right across from the office where he works as a graphic designer. He drank his coffee at his desk and then startled his colleagues by cursing out loud.

"It was ridiculous. It literally, like, blew my mind because, you know, you can't roll the entire rim up at once, so I rolled up the middle part first and there was a Toyota symbol."

One of 35 Toyota Matrix 2009 cars will be his in a few more weeks. But he's not going to drive it.

Thomson, who's originally from Long Creek, P.E.I., graduated in 2000 from Moncton's McKenzie College, a private school. He still has roughly \$15,000 in student loan debt to pay off and he just bought a new truck in November, so he's selling his prize.

On Mar. 29, he posted an ad on www.kijiji.com asking \$22,500 for the car, alongside a photo of his winning cup. The vehicle is worth \$26,000, but if he gets an offer above his asking price, Thomson says he'll donate the difference to the IWK Children's Hospital.

"I kind of feel guilty about selling a prize that I won, but not really.

But kind of," he says. "I figure I'll do a little good deed at the same time."

He's received a few offers so far, though many are simply congratulatory messages. He gets about four to six e-mails everyday from interested Tim's customers commenting on his good fortune.

Recently he had a talk radio guest spot on Halifax's 95.7 FM for a call-in show, during which the host tried to spur debate by suggesting Thomson is wrong to sell the car.

"I didn't even get a chance to defend myself," he says, chuckling. Most of the callers backed his decision.

A surprise trip to South Korea to visit his younger brother is in the works if Thomson has enough money left over after closing the sale and paying off his debts.

His brother's been teaching English in Seoul for a few months already. Thomson says they're "best friends."

"It's enough money that it's going to help me out financially, but it's not like a million dollars where every Tom, Dick and Harry's going to start asking me, 'Hey man, can I borrow some money?'"

While some of his friends thought he was pulling an uncharacteristic prank when they heard the news, they've been quick to spread word of his winnings.

"It really surprised me how nice people were about it, I guess. They were just like, 'You deserve this, you're an awesome guy, it's going to help you out,'" he says. "I just wasn't expecting that kind of reaction."

One of the best parts of winning, he says, is dropping by the Bedford Tim Hortons every morning. He was a regular customer before, but now he's famous among the employees.

"They all freaked. I'm like a rock star there now."

After filming his winning cup and posting the video on YouTube, all Thomson has to do now is accept an offer and wait for the car. He reluctantly sent his flattened proof via snail mail to the headquarters in Saint John, N.B.

"It's insured for \$100. I get \$100 if you lose my \$26,000 tag," he worries. "I was so paranoid I wouldn't even rip the rim off. I just mailed the whole cup."

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Students testing out emergency texting

RUTH MESTECHKIN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dalhousie's recently launched text messaging alert service is prompting some students to consider signing up – but not everyone is aware it exists.

Brittany Houweling hasn't signed up for it yet, but thinks it's a good idea because she says students need to be more aware of possible dangers.

"My parents always warn me, 'Be careful, don't walk around alone at night.' And I take it seriously, but still do it," says the first-year commerce student. "Maybe students don't understand how important it really is, and maybe if they knew more about it they'd be more aware."

Students who signed up online for the system, which kicked off last week, will receive text message alerts in case of emergencies, like fires or chemical spills, says Krista Olmstead, who's in charge of Communications and Marketing at Dal's University Computing and Information Services.

But texting is only one of eight potential modes of communication, which include e-mail and notices on the Dal website.

The decision of which method to use to get information out depends on each situation – e-mail isn't always an option.

"Say, for instance, there was a fire in the building where we have all of our servers and the website went down," says Olmstead. "It's all circumstance-related."

A text message warning would be used in conjunction with three or four other methods, depending on what's available at the time. Ultimately, says Olmstead, Dal President Tom Traves gives the go-ahead.

She says she's pleased with the turnout – by last Friday, Mar. 28, just under 4,000 students had signed up after one week of registration.

"We weren't entirely sure what kind of numbers of registration we were going to get," said Olmstead. "We were pleasantly surprised, because we didn't expect so many people to sign up within the first week."

Austin Keitner, a third-year commerce student, says he hasn't heard much about the system, but that communication is key.

"You always have your cell phone on you, but you don't always have your computer available," he says. "If you're on your way to school, for example, and it gets cancelled, you'd rather know when you're on your way than once you get there."

Olmstead says the response she's been getting from students has been generally positive, but she's gotten the sense that many students don't feel like they're in much danger on campus.

Keitner agrees.

"I've been here for three years and I haven't (seen) anything too serious," he says.

Dal has been working on the technology for the system for roughly a year now, and decided to launch it now, late in the year, simply because it's ready.

"We want to keep our students safe and we want to be able to communicate as quickly and as efficiently as possible in any circumstance," says Olmstead.

"We're planning on doing another big sign-up registration launch during Frosh Week and in September for the new students coming in."

Olmstead says Dal has signed a contract with a third-party organization in Ottawa to send out the messages to cell phone companies.

But international phones don't fit the bill and students who own them can't get in on the deal, as the phones run on a completely differ-



JOHN PACKMAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Nicholas Bottomley hopes Dal's text messaging service keeps students safe on campus.

the university to launch the system now, but she didn't specifically mention what those incidents were.

Fourth-year computer science student Nicholas Bottomley signed up on Sunday morning.

"On a large scale, if a group of people were hanging out, at least one person would get the message," says Bottomley.

But Bottomley isn't sure about the privacy of the system.

Privacy statements from Dal are public online, but students did not sign a privacy agreement with the university.

"It's questionable in terms of privacy," he says, adding he's unsure about being outsourced to an outside company.

Dal isn't the first institution to introduce the service. The University of Calgary has been using a similar system since last September, and the University of British Columbia has recently released a similar service.

ent kind of technology.

There are no plans to try to incorporate these phones into North

American technology in the future.

"It just wouldn't work," says Olmstead.

She says recent events that have been happening across other campuses and elsewhere have pushed

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Writing on the wall

SARAH KEHOE
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

In the library, in the classroom, in the quad – even in the dumpster out back. All across campus, Dalhousie students are mastering an art. Some might consider their works masterpieces, but others see it simply as vandalism.

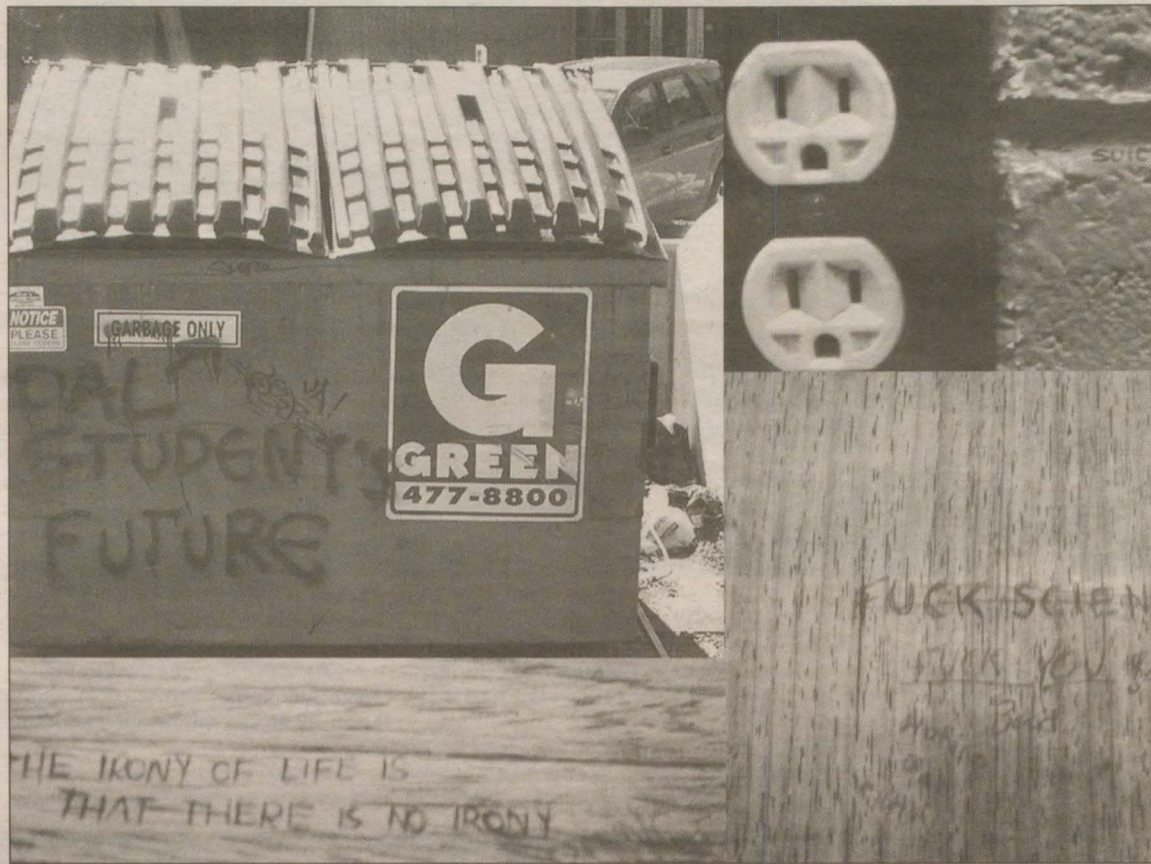
Derogatory comments about sexual orientation, gender and racial backgrounds adorn tables and desks all over campus. Etched on the walls are illegible acronyms that may signify something to someone, but mean nothing to everyone else.

Students who frequent the campus may be numb to their existence and overlook most of these slurs. Grade school-calibre messages, such as "Isaac is gay!" are common. Then there are the philosophically wise words: "To deny peaceful change invites violent revolution." Or the more disturbing, "Suicide Booth – 25 cents," written next to an electrical outlet. These are some of the thoughts people have shared by etching them on desks, walls and all kinds of other surfaces at the Killam Memorial Library.

So is it art or vandalism? It's expensive enough to be fine art; the price of cleaning off all of this graffiti is almost equal to one year's tuition.

The cost of graffiti removal on campus more than tripled last year from the year before, rising roughly 200 per cent, according to Dal's financial department records. In 2006/07, graffiti cleaning cost the university \$7,167.65, while it only cost \$2,437.17 in 2005/06. On average, graffiti costs Dal \$4496.18 each year.

Queena Crooker-Smith, a former employee with the financial department, says there were nine work orders to clean up graffiti on Dal's campus for the 2004/05 fiscal year.



SARAH KEHOE / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Graffiti adorns Dal's campus – and costs the university tons of cash.

According to Dal's financial records, there were 73 orders during the 2006/07 fiscal year.

The price of the 2006/07 work orders ranged from 58 cents to \$1,050 per scribble.

Fourth-year business student Susan Tse says graffiti is sometimes acceptable.

"My opinion on graffiti depends on what it is. Some graffiti is nice and can be viewed as art while other graffiti is offensive both culturally and socially," she says. "If the graffiti hurts an individual, then in my opin-

ion it is defamation."

Tse says graffiti will become a larger problem for students at Dal.

"I feel people should be more aware of the graffiti around them because Dal students are not only destroying university property, there are potential costs associated with it," says Tse. "If the graffiti is offensive, the desk may have to be removed and a new desk has to be replaced. These costs could add up and in the long run, these costs could increase our tuition."

Tse's older sister Brenda dis-

agrees.

"I don't think graffiti is a problem at Dal," says Brenda, a fourth-year chemistry and biochemistry major. "There are other ways at Dal for people to express their artistic views like art classes. And overall, university students are mature."

But she does share her sister's view that graffiti can constitute destruction of property.

"It violates the value of public property," Brenda says. "Obviously, you don't see people drawing graffiti on their own property. Only on

public property because it makes the property look bad, and somehow that's O.K."

According to facilities management staff at the Killam, the worst spots for graffiti are on the walls. Gary Godwin, a custodial services supervisor, says graffiti cause a lot of extra work for the staff.

"Some marks do not come off and the walls need to be painted," he says.

Godwin explains that removing graffiti is definitely part of the custodial staff's duties.

"The time spent on graffiti is around two hours per week for seven staff on cleaning tables and walls.

"We use a general purpose cleaner. At times we scrub off the paint on some graffiti and we need to paint the walls," Godwin says of the lengthy removal process.

He says the custodial staff can't keep up – as soon as they clean a graffiti (this is not a typo, you just need to put down the spraypaint and crack a dictionary), more appears.

Godwin and other supervisors say no study has ever been conducted on the levels of graffiti on Dal's campus.

Graffiti dates back to the days of the creation of catacombs in Italy, when the ancient Romans would mark inscriptions onto the walls to list the names of people buried in the tombs. Now, it's considered a form of vandalism and is a criminal offence punishable by Canadian law. If found guilty, a person could face a maximum penalty of two years in prison.

When asked about graffiti around campus, nearly 50 Dal students said they are a disgrace. But when asked if they have ever been involved in graffiti creation, most of those students said yes. Most of them said graffiti is not art if it's offensive, and vice versa.

"If it is not offensive, then I think it is art," says Tse.

Uni-Briefs

CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS

Carleton students dissatisfied with provincial budget

Carleton University students aren't happy with the funding outlined for post-secondary education in the recently released 2008 Ontario budget, reported student newspaper *The Charlatan*.

Although the budget aims to invest more than \$6.2 million in post-secondary education by 2009/10 to support new faculty and improve student services, it did not address growing tuition fees.

Carleton University Students' Association president Shelley Melanson said the budget, which sets out to give each full-time student a \$300 textbook and technology grant, is nothing more than a form of tax credit.

"I am completely disappointed in the McGuinty government," said Melanson. "For a government that keeps claiming to be an activist government, it's certainly not."

Chair of the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario, Jen Hassum, told *The Charlatan* she wants tuition fees to be reduced to the levels at which they were originally frozen.

U of A students protest new payment policy

Students at the University of Alberta are protesting the university's decision to reject credit cards for tu-

ition fee payment, effective July 1.

An independent student group, Dare to Deceive, has come forward and challenged the quality of communication between students and the administration.

Andrea Michaud, one of the group's Facebook administrators, thinks the university needs to know it can't make these decisions without consulting students first.

"The U of A has that slogan 'Dare to Deliver,' but they're not delivering," Michaud told student newspaper *The Gateway*. "They're just pretending that they do."

U of A VP (finance and administration) Phyllis Clark said there was consultation, and that this decision is "the right thing to do for the university."

This decision is slated to save the university \$1.3 million in annual transaction fees.

Tibetans in Montreal act against international conflict

The ongoing conflict between China and Tibet is causing Montreal's Tibetan community to act, reported *The McGill Daily*.

A vigil was held at Place des Arts with roughly 100 Tibetans and other supporters.

Tenzin Yangdon, a Tibetan born in Montreal, participated in the vigil. She said that the Chinese government and the Tibetan government-in-exile are focusing too much on the number of people dead in the riots, which distracts from the real

situation at hand.

"Revolution has to come from within, and it has started," said Yangdon.

Yangdon, along with many of the other Tibetan protesters, has had trouble reaching her family in Tibet. When she tried contacting a family member, she was redirected to a Chinese telephone operator.

International organizations are currently trying to put pressure on Chinese President Hu Jintao for retreat.

Sources: *The Charlatan*, *The Gateway*, *The McGill Daily*

ACROSS THE POND

Student union ban lifted in Pakistan

Pakistani students celebrated by passing out candy and shouting supportive political slogans after their government lifted a national ban on student unions Mar. 29.

Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani announced in a speech that day that the ban, first imposed 24 years ago, would be lifted immediately.

Students across the country applauded the decision, saying it will help young people develop leadership skills. Although unions were banned, some students had organized groups and for years pushed to lift the ban. Some of those groups are now organizing policies for student union elections.

Sheikh Shahid Iqbal, president of MAO College's Muslim Students

Federation, told the *Pakistan Daily Times* that student unions could provide future leaders in the country's democracy.

"We struggled a lot for the restoration of unions and many workers sacrificed their lives for this moment," he said.

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

School to vote on special positions for minorities

A Maine school is considering creating teaching positions specifically for visible minorities to diversify its faculty.

A faculty diversity committee at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine proposed a new rule earlier this month that would require the school to implement "special opportunity positions" in each department. New professors are usually only hired when others leave or retire, *The Bowdoin Orient* reported, but these new positions would enable the college to hire faculty members of visible minorities regardless of whether or not there are vacancies in the program.

Roughly 12 per cent of the school's current faculty members are minorities and the ad hoc committee wants to see more. The administration will vote on the policy next month.

Retired African-American Bowdoin professor Randolph Stakeman, who was involved with faculty re-

cruitment, said if the policy passes the school must consistently implement it, even when numbers of minority staff members fluctuate.

"It's not a one-shot deal – it's a thing you have to be committed to do for the next 50 years," he said. "You have to keep doing it – you can't do it for five years and then stop."

Yale faces \$50 million suit after prof lied

Yale University is facing a lawsuit for alleged forgery after wrongly confirming that a professor in South Korea earned her degree there.

The Associated Press reported that the prestigious Dongguk University in Korea wants \$50 million in damages from Yale because the false confirmation resulted in a criminal investigation and caused fewer government grants, donations and student applications to the school.

In 2005, Yale told Dongguk that Shin Jeong-ah had earned an art history degree there after she'd lied about her credentials to her employers at the Korean university.

According to *The Associated Press*, Yale said the mistake was "an administrative error" and that the lawsuit was "without merit."

But the lawsuit documents state that "Dongguk University was publicly humiliated and deeply shamed in the eyes of the Korean population."

Sources: *Daily Times*, *Bowdoin Orient*, *The Associated Press*.

Letters@dalgazette.ca Letters@dalgazette.ca

Letters

The Gazette reserves the right to edit all letters for length and clarity. This publication will only print submissions that its editorial board deems to be in good taste and void of libellous and/or defamatory material. If the editorial board determines that a letter violates this policy, The Gazette may invite the author to revise the submission.

Articles

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

Re: Issue 140-22, "To the Beret Mafia" from Chris Metler

Chris, I see where you're coming from. As a King's student, I have encountered many of the people you call "King's folk": trust-fund hippies, social elitists masquerading as liberal egalitarians and affluent private school graduates spending Daddy's cheque on the next jug of Propeller.

Needless to say, I believe that some of these people have given my school a bad name amongst you 'Dal kids.'

However, many of us "self-righteous blowhards" harbour no resentment toward our Dal companions. Over my four years at King's/Dal, I have come to respect the students I meet there. I don't think Dal students are "materialistic philistines," and I'm offended that you put these words into my overly talkative King'sy mouth.

There are two valid points in your letter: 1) that King's often breeds intellectual and social snobbishness; and 2) that King's and Dal have to work together to make both of our schools more conducive to learning.

Your first argument is somewhat of a moot point: wherever there is high-quality education, elitism slips into the picture. Yes, many students come out of FYP thinking they know everything, but we soon realize this is not the case.

Chris, your generalizations about King's students make me a little nauseous. Your accusation that I am "shamelessly biting the hand that feeds (me) every opportunity (I) get" is near-sighted and ignorant. Dalhousie is NOT the hand that feeds me. In fact, Dalhousie students are the hand that feeds Dalhousie, and I am the hand that feeds King's, to use your rather dreary, dead metaphor.

Your second point is crucial. Dal

provides services which, as King's students, we often take for granted. Your suggestion that Dal could "cut King's off" and still get along swimmingly is valid, but King's offers many positive experiences for Dal students too.

King's has some fantastic scholars and you are invited to hear them speak any time, or - God forbid - to take a class at King's. Your letter suggests that the two schools are in competition. This misses the point. Rather than debating which school is better, we should bring the two schools into closer harmony.

Cutting off King's from Dal would be a disastrous move for both schools. I love being able to walk five minutes from a lecture at King's to a seminar at Dal, and any Dal student can do this too. Many Dal students enjoy representing King's in the Atlantic Colleges Athletic Association, having a beer at The Wardroom, and using the King's library. King's and Dal students need to work together to secure greater intellectual opportunity at both schools. This starts with an open mind and, as you say, respect.

However, respect is precisely what you have denied us! You point out that, "You have to show respect to get it back. Don't they teach you anything in those smug lectures?" There is hypocrisy written into your question, as you have given no respect to the work we do at King's.

You call King's students "ludicrous popinjays," and compare us to spoiled children and political ignoramus. Dal and King's students do need to show each other more respect, so I'm going to start here: Chris, I loved your letter. It brings important topics to light and it raises some crucial issues. Now set aside your prejudice and give King's students the respect we deserve. Sincerely,

David Huebert, KING'S/DAL student

Re: Issue 140-22

To the editors and staff at The Dalhousie Gazette and to all concerned students and faculty,

If your newspaper is meant to reflect the opinions and issues concerning the student body of the university, I am ashamed to call myself a student of Dalhousie.

Universities, I once thought, were places of critical cultural and political discussion and activity. The Mar. 13 issue of The Gazette has made it painfully clear that students of this university are not only ignorant and indifferent to anything of import, but raging, moronic, adolescent hillbillies.

"Hot: Vomiting in your sleep; Not: sleeping in your vomit"?

To the other members of the community, this communicates that we are below a minimal standard level of civility and belong in a zoo. University should not be a drunken frat party for privileged brats who feel like they have carte blanche for their drunken, vulgar, plutocratic behavior.

The "Top 10 Rules for a one-night stand" encourage promiscuity and condone the despicable behaviour of sleazy bar-star date rapists and perpetuate self-despising loneliness and desperation. I wish you wouldn't make your simple-minded misogynistic hogwash so publicly accessible. Don't you pigs realize publishing this encourages women to hate themselves?

Who the fuck appointed your stupid paper the right to judge someone's intimately personal choices? "Being a virgin" is a "Not"? Go fuck yourself.

Your 'hilarious' musings and publication disgust any self-respect-

ing human being. You embarrass me. Why does university have to be so pathetic and simple? Quite a culture we're building for ourselves. Jordan Stein

Re: 140-23, Israeli photojournalist alerts Halifax of current crisis

While Ms. Darwish should be commended for exposing the recent suffering of the town of Sderot, Israel, she does not even mention the horrors afflicting the residents of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

Does she know that Amnesty International has called the fuel and aid blockade of the Gaza Strip "collective punishment" (in direct violation of the Geneva Conventions), and that it was just reported to the UN by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics that the starvation rate of Palestinians has become so severe that over 10 per cent of Gazan children are suffering from stunted growth as a result of chronic malnutrition?

Visit the website of the highly respected Israeli human rights organization, B'Tselem, and take a hard look at how many Palestinian innocents and children, compared to Israelis, are being killed by American-supplied weapons; the death toll and the scale of the violence is appalling.

Is she aware that the Gaza Disengagement Plan was not, contrary to her false claims, "a first move for peace," but rather widely understood within Israeli political circles as "an instrument for Israel's continued annexation of West Bank land and the physical integration of that land into Israel," according to Sara Roy, Harvard's top scholar on Gaza.

Palestine is undergoing a steady process of racial segregation. This is why Jimmy Carter, South African Archbishop and Nobel Laureate for

Peace Desmond Tutu, former Israeli Ambassador to South Africa Alon Liel, "father" of human rights law in South Africa John Dugard and many others are using the term "apartheid" to describe life in the occupied territories.

Even the editorial board of Ha'aretz, one of Israel's most prominent newspapers, observed in 2006 that "the apartheid regime in the territories remains intact; millions of Palestinians are living without rights, freedom of movement or a livelihood, under the yoke of ongoing Israeli occupation."

For those readers who would like to know more, I'd suggest visiting the websites of the Israeli press, human rights organizations and reading the books and articles of scholars who rely upon these sources, such as Noam Chomsky and Norman Finkelstein. Every source is footnoted assiduously and I encourage you to look up the primary sources for yourself.

Is every major human rights organization systematically lying? Is Brigadier-General Yiftah Spector, one of Israel's most decorated fighter pilots and the most senior of 27 Israeli airmen who signed a petition refusing to "obey illegal and immoral orders" or to take part in raids against populated civilians centres a 'traitor'?

Unfortunately, the injustices faced by Palestinians are discussed with more honesty in Israel than in North America, and Ms. Darwish's article is not an exception to the rule. How much longer must we watch the incredible legacy of the Jewish people to the causes of justice and humanity become increasingly tarnished with each passing day of a brutal military occupation?

Anonymous

Run, don't walk

JOHN HILLMAN
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

As 15.9 per cent of you might already be aware, I recently threw my hat into the political ring and ran as a presidential candidate in the DSU elections. Now I don't want to come off as egotistical, but you don't pull in an overwhelming 11 per cent of the vote without picking up a few tricks along the way.

In the words of one top DSU elections pundit, my platform demonstrated my "obvious inexperience" (Jen Bond), while another informed me that in my official video it "looks like (I'm) in a bordello" (Mike Smit).

A poll taken shortly before the election revealed that voters thought that I was "a Rhino party" candidate, and that voting for me would be "like voting for Nader in Florida." Clearly, with ringing endorsements like these, I've become something of an authority on the DSU elections. So, for the benefit of those considering a run of their own next year, I present the following tips.

Before you get too excited, let me make it clear that not everyone is cut out to run in the DSU elections, especially for president. Prior to running, you ought to look deep into your soul and ask yourself the following question: Can I find 25 registered Dalhousie students willing to sign my nomination papers? If



John Hillman offers his advice for next year's executive hopefuls. We've circled him because even if you've seen his campaign posters, you probably forgot what he looks like by now.

the answer is yes, you've got the right stuff, and should read on.

1) Cookies are your friends. I handed out over 200 cookies the Monday before voting began, and I ended up with some 260 votes. Coincidence? Not likely. If I'd started a week earlier, the power of cookies could very well have proven decisive. If you must choose between baking and studying relevant policy documents, you should know that free

food will always trump an innovative platform.

2) At some point after the second day of campaigning, be sure to tell the Dal student population that you think that they are a bunch of ignorant douche bags. You don't have to mean it, but it sure would be funny. Besides, The Gazette can only cover events that happen up to Tuesday due to publishing deadlines, so only about 10 people will even know you

said it before the elections are over.

3) Don't mess with Mr. Riley. Enough said.

4) Run for president. It takes 25 signatures to run for any of the positions, so why not? One of my fellow candidates ran a top-notch campaign for Undergraduate Senate representative, demonstrating a highly sophisticated knowledge of DSU internal politics along the way. He ended up losing by three votes to a guy whose

qualifications seemed to revolve around being a buff hockey ref.

I, on the other hand, ran a pretty half-assed campaign against two sitting VPs who were far more qualified for the position, and was crushed by a landslide. At the end of the day, both the senate candidate and myself are losers, but my loss wasn't as bitter. At least I'll be remembered as a former DSU presidential candidate. As Greg Debogorski told me on the first day of campaigning, if you're going to lose, you might as well lose big.

5) Prepare to become 'Dalifamous.' If I had a nickel for every time someone recognized me this past week, I would have upwards of 15 cents. When you run for the executive, you'd better get ready for encounters like the following one that I had on the bus one night after a debate:

Drunk guy #1: "Hey, it's... it's that guy from the DSU presidential poster!"

Drunk guy #2: "Yeah, it is! Hey dude, what are you running for?"

Me: "...uh...DSU president."

Drunk guy #2: "No way!"

Yes, by running for the executive, you too can achieve this level of fame. Sure my ego was dented a bit when one of the roving pollsters asked me if I'd voted, but my pride sure was restored a few minutes later when a girl sitting across from me in the library recognized me as "that John Dillman guy!"

GAZETTE EDITORIAL

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

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

Who wants to be a Nova Scotian?

The provincial government is living in a fairy tale if it thinks prioritizing Nova Scotian university students over out-of-province students is wise.

Non-Nova Scotians have their schools and we have ours. They live under different tax systems and social programs and we live under ours. Everybody gets to stay home, save cash on rent and voilà, we have affordable post-secondary education.

Not so fast.

The provincial government's announcement this week that N.S. residents who stay to study will be receiving a hefty bursary - which will increase from \$761 next year to \$1,283 by 2010/11. It's the best deal for cutting down on tuition bills - for a short-sighted future.

While the plan may not cost the provincial government votes, it severely damages N.S.'s ability to sustain its reputation as a small province with an unusually high number of strong universities. If the province wants to preserve the prestige and size of its schools, the government needs to take greater advantage of N.S.'s unique post-secondary infrastructure - not throw it out the window.

Nova Scotia is the country's fourth smallest province in terms of population, but has 11 universities. Quebec has six universities and the second highest provincial population. Nova Scotia is a post-secondary oddity, and it's thanks to its rich historical tradition of higher education.

The Nova Scotia University Student Bursary Trust will also benefit out-of-province students, but only with a \$261 bursary in 2010/11. The

government failed to make its universities the flagship attraction for people to come to this province, during a time when the population is sagging and new immigrants are flocking to larger cities. This near-sightedness is folly.

More than ever, N.S. needs to sell the quality of its education to the rest of Canada. Without a job boom, university education is a way to drive population growth and innovation in industry, and attract people who would have otherwise never considered the Atlantic coast for anything other than a vacation.

N.S. students do need a boost. University should be more affordable and accessible to lower-income prospective students. But for out-of-province students, the price of living in N.S. can skyrocket after factoring in rent and groceries.

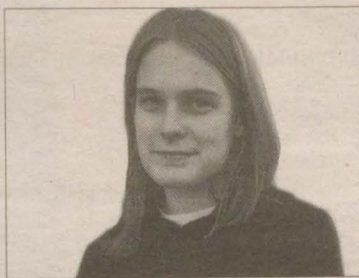
Decisions should not be based on who deserves more money and why. Nor should it be about how to get money to students as quickly as possible.

It should be about establishing a long-term marriage between university education and the prosperity of this province. It requires a plan that benefits both universities and the provincial economy, and not just a quick fix based on what it can afford at the moment.

The N.S. government committed itself to a post-secondary plan that doesn't even outlive an election cycle. It should refrain from making decisions in haste, and should begin planning for a much more enlightened and global post-secondary framework to institute when the Nova Scotia University Student Bursary Trust has run its mile in three short years.

The Scientific Skeptic

The \$10 billion experiment



CATHERINE HOLLOWAY
SCIENCE COLUMNIST

Over the course of the coming summer, while most of us are at home or working at our summer jobs, the world's most expensive physics experiment will begin.

Buried beneath France and Switzerland is a 27-km long circular tunnel that houses two proton beams within a superconducting magnet. It's known as the Large Hadron Collider (LHC).

Built by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), the LHC has been under construction since 1995. The cost of this new experimental equipment has already gone over its expected budget, skyrocketing from an initial cost of \$2.5 billion (CND) to an estimated total cost of \$5-10 billion.

The LHC is designed to give protons a lot of energy by accelerating them through very powerful magnets and then smashing them together. A photon is a kind of hadron - a subatomic particle. Physicists hope that one of the particles found in the wreckage of this collision will be the Higgs Boson, an elusive particle predicted by the Standard Model of physics, but not yet empirically observed.

The Standard Model of physics is a list of all the possible subatomic particles in our universe, such as quarks and leptons, and the things that make up hadrons, atoms, molecules, etc. It also says that the fundamental forces of our universe, such as electromagnetic forces, and the forces that hold atoms together are controlled by force-mediating particles. Just as photons control electromagnetism, the Higgs Boson is a theoretical particle that mediates gravity.

The Higgs Boson might be the origin of mass, and the reason why we all exist today. Without mass, the particles that make up our universe would not have clumped together after the big bang. Without mass, the debris from our sun would not have formed

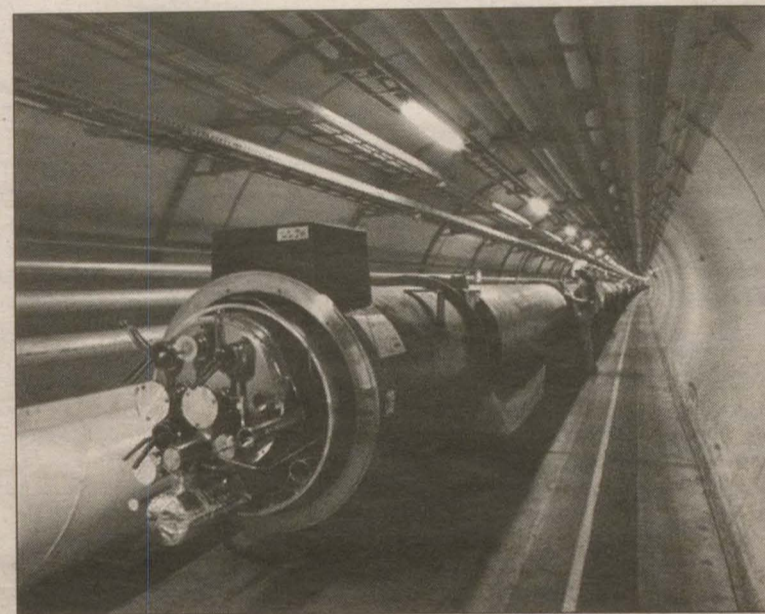
our planet.

If physicists find the Higgs Boson, it will confirm the Standard Model and at last provide a Grand Unified Theory, or a model that explains everything in our universe.

Leon Lederman, a Nobel-prize winning scientist, named the Higgs Boson the 'God Particle.' This often leads to the confusion that the LHC experiments will confirm or disprove the existence of God. Many media agencies, when covering the LHC experiments, often bring up theology

enormous price tag. Even though the LHC is already complete, the amount of power required to keep it running is massive. CERN's money comes from the taxpayers of its signatory countries. Canada, though not a member of CERN, has contributed \$30 million to the LHC toward equipment and scientists' salaries. This money comes from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, which is funded by taxpayers.

Is it really a practical breakdown of science funding to spend so much



LARGE HADRON COLLIDER HOMEPAGE

The LHC could determine the start of the next great scientific era.

and ask the scientists at CERN to talk about their religious beliefs. The Higgs Boson is called the God Particle for its importance to physics, not because it is believed to be God.

Another misconception is that the LHC experiments will cause the end of the world. Many media agencies also like to say that the LHC experiments could create a black hole. The truth is that the creation of a black hole is extremely unlikely, and even if it did happen, the black holes would be so small that they would immediately evaporate due to Hawking radiation. This explanation hasn't assuaged everyone's fears, though, and a lawsuit has been filed in Hawaii, attempting to delay any activity at the LHC.

The LHC experiments will be revolutionary, but they come with an

money on an experiment, though revolutionary, that will not have much of an impact on taxpayers' lives? Perhaps we should be spending more money on medical research and research on renewable energy technology and leave the high-energy physics experiments for an era in which they are more cost-effective. Only the experiment's results can help determine that.

The LHC is in its testing stages right now. By June it will be cooling down and ready for its first experiments. If it fails to uncover the Higgs Boson, CERN will likely lose credibility and physicists will have to go back to the drawing board. If it does succeed, the next few years will likely witness a revolution in physics comparable to the ones Einstein and Newton began in their day.

Don't spend the rest of your life doing something that's not right for you.

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STREETER

What would be your ideal summer job?



“ Working in the library.”
Khaled Khaldi, second-year engineering



“ Panhandling by day, prostituting by night.”
Daniel Stern, fifth-year history



“ Hooters.”
Teddy Wohl, second-year sociology



“ Drug runner with important clientele.”
Paula Henderson, third-year political science



“ Sitting on the beach, drinking and smoking.”
Kate LeBlanc, second-year English



“ Mafia king pin.”
Wallis Snowdon, second-year IDS and journalism



“ Working for McDonald's.”
Makis Miri, first-year commerce



“ Well, I love horses and sniffing solvents, so the glue factory.”
James Munson, fourth-year psych lab participant

TOP 10

...Tips for the last week of classes:

1. Extend your withering free time by abandoning sleep. Plenty of time for that in the grave, am I right?
2. Remember that school is just a social construct, and that your marks can't do anything worse than cripple your future.
3. Keep your eyes on the prize: summer sunshine and the mass exodus from Halifax.
4. Counterbalance your lack of sleep with meal-replacement coffees. You'll know it's working when you can see new colours.
5. Comfort yourself with the knowledge that you probably aren't the worst in your class. Or drink cough syrup until Fs look like As.
6. Resist the urge, so late in the year, to experiment with anarchistic nihilism.
7. Get to know your prof – intimately, if possible. Lovers don't give bad grades. Especially when faced with 'early retirement.'
8. Clean your room, write letters to old friends and cook a gourmet meal. This won't help with anything academic, but damn will you feel productive.
9. Rent *Animal House* and comfort yourself with the implausible happy-ending captions they have in the last scene.
10. Befriend the smart kid with tales of mystery and adventure, then arrange for some pre-final sleepover study sessions.

HOT OR NOT

- | | |
|--|--|
| HOT: Much Dance Mix '94 | NOT: Living in the past |
| HOT: Entrepreneurship | NOT: Selling cigarettes to children |
| HOT: Verbally defending your thesis | NOT: Physically defending your thesis |
| HOT: Liam Neeson | NOT: Inexplicable sex appeal |
| HOT: Bottling your own wine | NOT: Bottling your own urine |
| HOT: Useless trivia | NOT: Rats can't vomit |
| HOT: Travelling the world | NOT: Rendition |
| HOT: Time management | NOT: Writing Hot or Nots in class |
| HOT: The Not | NOT: Paradoxes |
| HOT: Being engaged by professors | NOT: Being engaged to professors |

DISCLAIMER

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OVERHEARD AT DAL

In BIO 2004:

Prof: During a storm, the sheep would just blow into the water and drown.

Silence

Prof: The sheep were stoned.

Girl talking to The Dawg Father: Do you take DalCard?

In the Sub:

Girl: Consider it an investment, like getting a wax!

In Shirreff Hall cafeteria:

Girl1: I don't think I really regret what happened last night.

Girl2: Really? 'Cause all I remember you saying last night was, 'I'm so drunk and I'm going to cheat on my boyfriend...RIGHT NOW!'"

Girl1: Yeah... maybe a little.

At the Second Cup in the Killam:

Girl: On the other side of the world, who cares if you're a pornstar?

In a bathroom at a banquet:

Guy1: It smells like vomit in here.

Guy2: Yeah. Did you vomit in here?

Guy1: No. Did you?

Guy2: Yeah.

On the bus:

Girl1: Halifax Harbour is, like, a big body of water, right? Like, it's not connected to the ocean, is it?

Girl2: No, I don't think it is.

In Shirreff Hall:

Girl1: So I sprayed Febreeze near where I think the mouse hole is.

Girl2: To... give the mouse cancer?

In a residence:

Girl: Is that an optical illusion, or is that an apartment building with lights on?

Resolutes Club

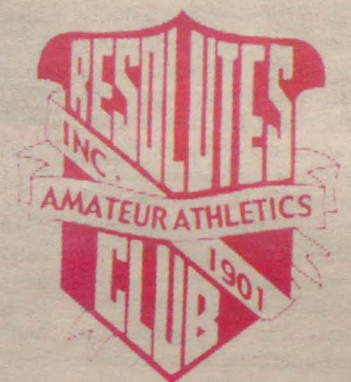


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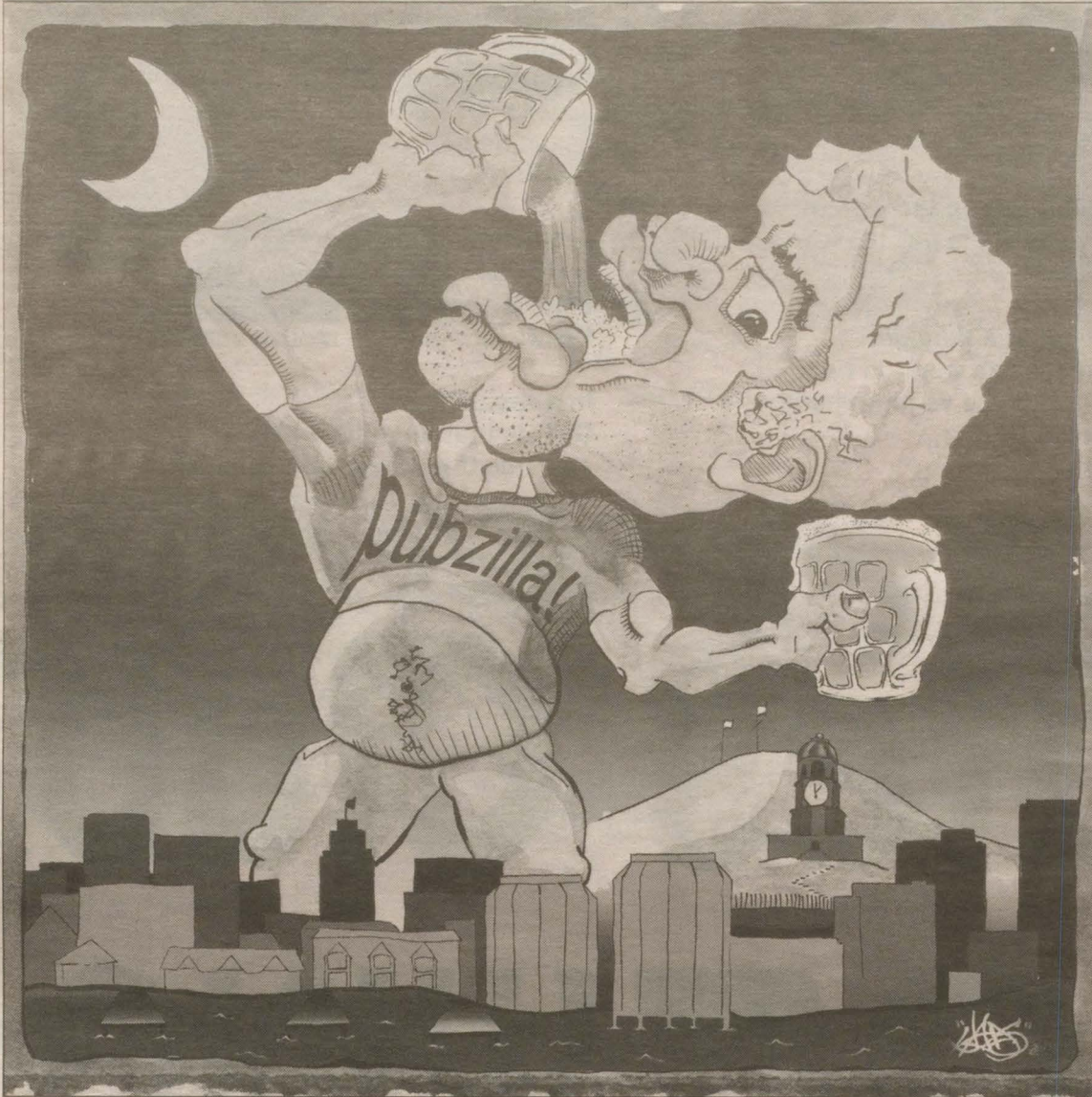
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JAMIE NADEL / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Possibly the world's largest pub crawl rolled through Halifax last week, wreaking havoc on everything in its path.

Racist video causes outrage in South Africa

S.A. STEELE
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

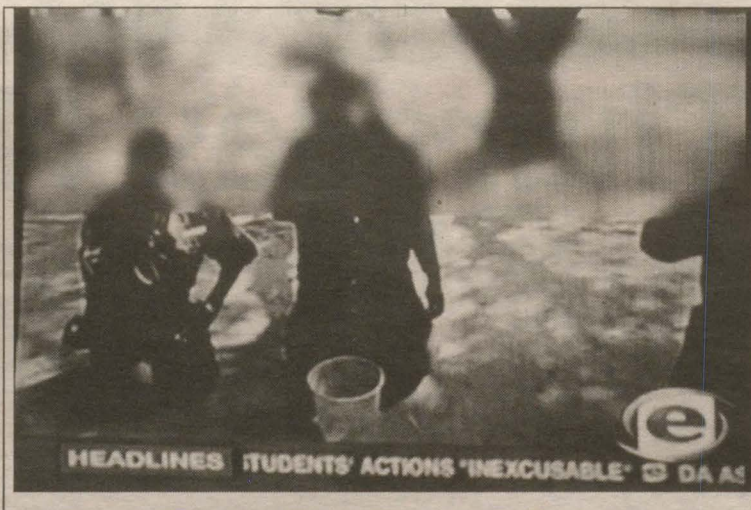
A video released by four white students at the University of the Free State in Bloemfontein, South Africa has caused outrage among the black community in South Africa. The video was created as a protest against plans to integrate white and black students into the same residences at the university.

The video involves five black cleaning staff, competing in a series of *Fear Factor*-style activities. These activities included drinking, dancing to Afrikaans music, sprinting and playing rugby. The final activity involved an eating competition for which one of the students had allegedly urinated in the food. At the end of the video, the students state, "this is what we think of integration."

This video makes you wonder who raised these kids. After all, these are students who have grown up in the post-apartheid era. I believe this video is a reaction to political events which are currently occurring in South Africa that the rest of the world is largely ignoring. Certainly, the context of the video does not excuse such racist behaviour, but the world should know that South Africa has not escaped its troubled history unscathed.

White Afrikaner farmers are being murdered on a daily basis. The Free State has a reputation for being a conservative Afrikaner farming region, and from the end of apartheid in the early 1990s until 2005, there have been over 1,700 farmers murdered, with that number still rising. Many were tortured horribly before being killed. This is roughly 4 per cent of the white farmer population, which as of 2005 only numbered around 38,000.

Furthermore, talks of expropriation of white farms by the African National Congress (ANC) have no doubt further fueled anger amongst whites. This strategy was tried in Zimbabwe, and it led to mass food shortages and the economic collapse of the country.



The post-apartheid era has not escaped the racial strife of South Africa's past.

Recently elected ANC leader Jacob Zuma has also caused frustration among many white South Africans. He has left HIV/AIDS activists terrified after his testimony at his rape trial, in which he stated he believed showering after having sex with an HIV-positive woman would protect him from contracting the virus. The Scottish newspaper *The Sunday Herald* reported that a local columnist suggested Zuma represents South Africa to the world in the same way Borat represents Kazakhstan.

Zuma is widely considered to be a socialist and has caused fear among many foreign investors. Many South Africans feel he will destroy economic growth in South Africa. A Facebook group called "Help us stop Jacob Zuma from becoming South Africa's [sic] next President" has over 50,000 members.

Recently, Zuma barred white journalists from attending a news conference. This was no doubt a racist move, which should have received international condemnation.

The ANC policy of black empowerment is another issue that is affecting white South Africans. This policy is an extreme form of affirmative action which has made it difficult for many whites to find employment or gain acceptance to university. Almost all government positions are

given to Africans, even though many of them do not have the proper qualifications.

Crime levels in South Africa have soared since the fall of apartheid. The proposed disbanding of the Scorpions, an elite crime-fighting unit that opposes organized crime and corruption, which much of the public views as too successful in securing corruption charges against ANC members, has caused unease amongst whites. Many view this as a move to protect corrupt ANC officials.

With soaring crime, murder, extreme corruption and racial discrimination, it is clear that the situation is complicated for white South Africans. The world has no doubt invoked a double standard for the white community in South Africa, whose future remains very uncertain.

Media coverage of what is going on in South Africa at ground level has not covered the whole picture. People around the world need a better understanding of the situation in South Africa so that one day the country can be the home of many races in peace.

A simple video should not become an international affair while something akin to genocide is almost being ignored.



Cruise ships aren't a vacation for all those on board.

Below the deck: Cruise ships harm the environment, hurt workers

ANDREA TYNAN
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

The cruise ship industry is booming. But who's responsible for this success and at what expense?

Taking a cruise is typically thought of as a pleasant experience. However, there are many behind-the-scenes details about the cruise ship industry that the general population is not aware of.

Cruise lines are responsible for harsh working conditions and harming the environment, which they accomplish by avoiding several labour and environmental laws.

Cruise lines can escape several laws because U.S.-based companies are able to have their ships registered in foreign countries. This loophole has allowed for worker exploitation and environmental degradation.

Cruise ship labourers quickly find themselves surrounded by unfair working conditions, according to the Canadian environmental research journal, *Alternatives*. Most of these men and women come from Third World countries and are instructed not to speak to anyone unless spoken to first.

These workers labour for as long as 18 hours a day, seven days a week, and do not get a day off for months. They're paid as low as \$400 to \$450 a month.

Cruise ships also produce an enormous amount of waste. Accord-

ing to an article published in the *OECD Observer* magazine in 2005, a one-week cruise voyage spews out 210,000 gallons of sewage, 50 tons of garbage and 35,000 gallons of water contaminated by oil. The amount of waste water, known as "grey water," from sinks, showers, galleys and laundry machines that is pumped into the ocean during a one-week cruise amounts to one million gallons.

To make matters worse, the cruise ship industry is at fault for routinely dumping toxic waste in unauthorized ocean areas. Companies continue to face severe fines for their wrongful acts.

From 1998 to 2000, the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines was charged \$52.7 million in fines for its illegal dumping of toxic waste between 1994 and 1998, according to *Alternatives*. *Alternatives* also reported that in 2002, Carnival Cruise Lines was charged \$28.3 million for similar violations.

Cruise ship vacations are well-painted illusions created by the industry, but clearly, the cruise ship industry is at fault for worker exploitation and harming the environment. Each year a great number of people, including students, go on cruises, but most are not aware of what sort of business they're supporting. You have to consider factors aside from your own personal enjoyment before choosing to go on a cruise.

What's a right-wing Jew to do?

Political correctness on campus

PAIGE T. MACPHERSON
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

Social and political activism is all the rage on Canadian university campuses. Students are at that ripe, impressionable stage when money generally isn't an object and saving the world is just a picket line away. This would suggest that campuses must be bustling with freedom of thought and a myriad of diverse opinions.

But opinions must remain politically correct, of course. That's somewhat understandable. Unfortunately, Canadian universities have gone a little too far with political correctness, and 'diverse' opinions are encouraged only if they fit the mould.

"Dalhousie University, Inspiring Minds." Cute slogan. But what's it worth when I'm paying the highest tuition in Canada to learn to shut my right-wing trap? I'll be inspired to think like a leftist. But that's it.

From the girl in my political science class who snorts along with the professor at every mention of religion or the States, to the 20 minutes it took Dal security to hush the arrogant protestors at the hosting of Premier Rodney MacDonald, to the cramming of CBC content down my throat in my journalism class, it's more than a little discouraging.

Before my second-year Judaism class one morning, I listened to four

girls chat casually about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Their conversation in short was: "With the horrible living conditions that the Israeli people are forcing upon the Palestinian people, one can only expect them to become suicide bombers!" Seriously.

But this kind of talk is not uncommon around Canadian university campuses. In an article published in 2006 in the *Western Standard*, a Canadian political magazine recently out of print but still available online, a McGill University student had one of her professors tell her, "No educated person can support Israel... If you don't change your political views on terrorism, Israel, and just in general, you'll get nowhere in academia."

So people can make statements like this without getting a slap on the wrist, but I can't say I'm not a fan of Al Gore in my political science tutorial without being reprimanded by my fellow students and the TA?

I sincerely hope this isn't the future of Canadian academia, but judging by my experience at Dal, I regretfully believe that it is. So what's a right-wing Jew to do? When the professors are preaching it and students are nodding en masse, raising my right hand to comment seems pointless. To put it briefly: I'm downright offended that somehow, everything I say is downright offensive.

A Midsemester Night's Dream

DAN BRAY
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

A Midsummer Night's Dream tells the story of a young woman, Hermia, who plans to escape through the woods of Athens to marry her true love, Lysander, after her father decrees that she is to either marry the selfish Demetrius, become a nun or die.

Demetrius learns of their flight from Helena, who reveals her friends' plan because she is just so in love with him. Unfortunately, Demetrius, like Lysander, stubbornly loves Hermia, despite the fact that she's cold to him. When some fairies decide to help the spurned Helena by adding a very powerful love potion into the mix, they only make things much more confusing (and hilarious).

William Shakespeare's play was undertaken by Dalhousie theatre professor Rob McClure, who set the comedy in modern Halifax. McClure exchanged the Athenian forest for the Dal Chemistry Building, which the scenographer humorously considers "a strange wonderland" for theatre students. Minor alterations were made to the text as well, usually regarding the genders and occupations of certain characters (for example, Francis Flute the Bellows Mender becomes Francis Flute the Coffee Vendor, and Egeus, Hermia's father, became Egeus, Hermia's mother. Occasionally, these alterations became problematic: why should Flute have had to play a woman against his will when there are two real women in the cast of the play within the play?

McClure's show was an exuberant, if slightly clumsy, explosion of comedy. The set was composed of a beautifully rendered, three-storey version of the ivy-covered science building. However, the copious greenery had a tendency to act more like a curtain than a window, distracting from most of the play's action. The levels also presented difficulties when the characters sought to communicate, and greatly restricted opportunities for physical blocking, especially between the fairies.

While the set allowed the god-like Oberon to oversee the play's events while remaining invisible to the mortals down below, both he and the fairy queen, Titania, felt



MELINDA ROBB / DAL THEATRE

Director Rob McClure's show was an exuberant, if slightly clumsy, explosion of comedy.

detached from the play's action and were constantly blocked by the troublesome strings of ivy.

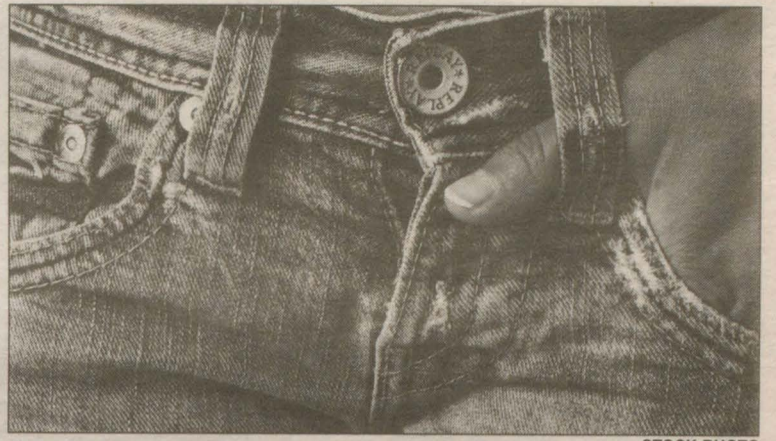
The costumes were exciting and colourful, but rather out of place for a show supposedly set in Halifax (unless, of course, the characters all go to NSCAD).

The acting, like the set, had both its strengths and weaknesses. The audience favourite was rightfully Nick Bottom (Craig Gillis), the happy-go-lucky weaver with dreams of making it big as an actor. Gillis played the hapless prima donna with a good-natured Newfie accent, creating big laughs with every single line. His fellow mechanicals, Thomas Harvey and William Cowan, were excellent in their supporting roles of Quince and Flute, if only because they managed to keep a straight face

while playing opposite Gillis.

The highlight of the night was the mechanicals' performance of *Pyramus and Thisbe* at the show's finale. It emphasized the cast's high spirits and love for comedy, and had the audience laughing the entire time. The play within the play showcased the actors' best performances, from Gillis and Cowan's hilarious love scene to the obnoxious interjections of the lovers.

"I will hear that play; for never anything can be amiss when simplicity and duty tender it," says the character of Theseus of the amateur rendition of *Pyramus and Thisbe*. While I don't mean to suggest that Dal's version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is simple, this statement nevertheless captures the essence of this performance.



STOCK PHOTO

Katie Nation examines our tried and true blue.

Blue Jean Baby

KATIE NATION
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Oh, denim! That eclectic fabric of universal adoration! It's hard to imagine what our wardrobes would look like without our favourite denim staples to fall back on day after day. Our jeans probably see more airtime than any other items in our closets, due to their seasonless and trend-defying ability to match anything and look appropriate nearly everywhere.

This universality is actually the number-one reason why we should spend more time on our denim selection than on anything else we buy. Yes, there are trends that we can follow, but more importantly, our denim should be the perfect fit physically and aesthetically. Far too often people buy a pair of eye-catching jeans because they're 'cool,' and quickly forget they're going to wear these eyesores nearly every day and that focal-piece jeans don't actually work with a focal-piece top.

Now, naturally, we all like to follow trends to some degree, so in order to avoid a regrettable denim purchase, it's best to pick and choose which trends to follow based on how they fit, how well they work with the rest of your wardrobe and how quickly this trend is likely to disappear.

Right now, jean trends are actually pretty bipolar. Skinny jeans are still hot and should be for at least a couple more seasons, so if you're hesitant to buy a pair so late in the game, you should be fine. If you want to avoid looking like everyone else, swap the dark drainpipe for a

more current light wash, or even let your jeans distress a little. Distressed jeans are not necessarily trendy right now (we're still getting over the disastrously fake and tacky aftermath of last time) but as a way of working up to the Daisy Dukes and denim skirts that reign as summer's everlasting favourites, a little tearing always seems to work in spring.

On the opposite side of the spectrum, the whole high-waisted, wide-leg look has jumped on board for another season. This trend is one that might not last very long, but it's so elegant and retro that it'll always work if that's your look. Remember, an outfit trumps a trend any day.

If you're not a fan of trends, there are still a few general rules you can follow to avoid a denim disaster. First and foremost is to never, ever wear double denim. You know what I'm talking about: denim on the bottom plus denim on top, resulting in one enormous denim nightmare. If you must do it, just make sure that both pieces look nothing alike. In fact, make sure that one piece looks nothing like denim altogether and you should be fine.

Over-distressed jeans are probably the biggest faux pas and also the most frequent. The whole white-paint-splattered thing was very five years ago. It was unattractive when it first came out and is even worse now, so if you're still rocking the big bleached patches on your thighs and ass, it's probably time to give it a rest.

Go out and buy something that's still 'you,' but that's not too exciting. Trends come and go, but you'll always be wearing your jeans.

Off the cuff

NICK KHATTAR
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

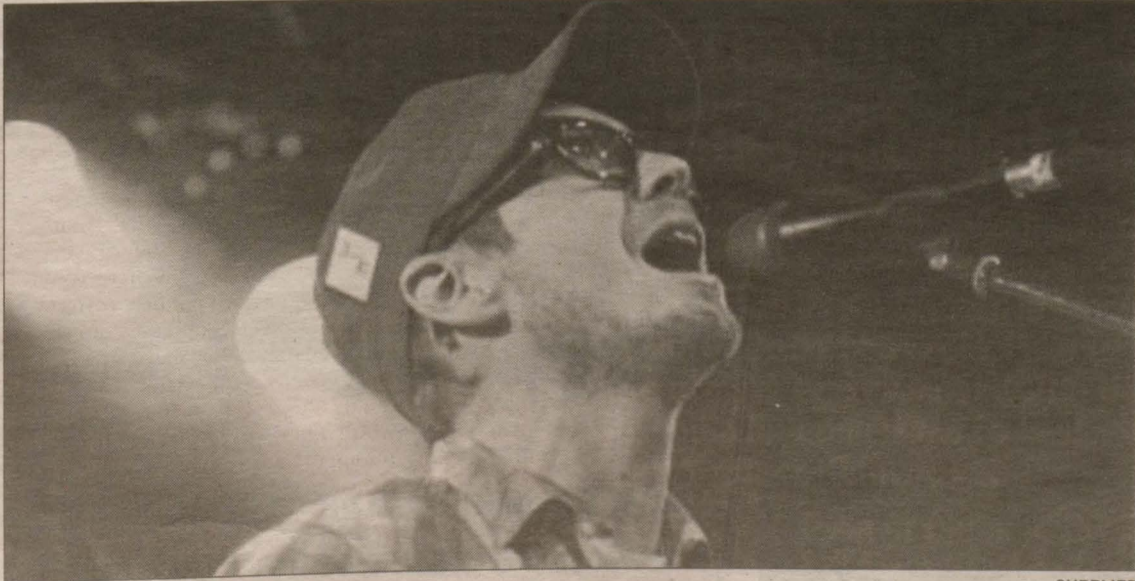
"I swear to fucking god I will buy every one of you a fucking shot," promised Cuff the Duke frontman Wayne Petti, as he urged the crowd to pack the dance floor.

Cuff the Duke is no stranger to the dark cavernous atmosphere of The Grawood, and on Mar. 26, the band returned to heat the place up again.

Recently coming off of an East Coast tour with Blue Rodeo, the Oshawa, Ont. band was back in Halifax for a double set, with a show at The Grawood and a Friday night show at The Seahorse.

Cuff the Duke ripped their set wide open with "Rossland Square," which Petti dedicated to their opening band, The Stables, who he said are "even more Oshawa than I am."

People were lounging casually and soaking up the sweet potato sound of "Belgium or Peru," but things didn't stay casual for long. After a 10-minute rendition of "The Future Hangs," Petti bribed the crowd with booze and dedicated "Failure To



SUPPLIED

Not only do they know how to swear and get a crowd drunk, Cuff the Duke consistently plays shows that make you want to throw off your shoes, break out the jug of swish and stomp dance.

Some" to us, the students who pay too much to go to university.

While the drunkest girl of the evening danced on stage, the crowd swayed and sang along to "If I Live Or If I Die," a song off of Cuff the Duke's

new album, *Sidelines of the City*.

Not only do they know how to swear and get a crowd drunk, Cuff the Duke consistently plays shows that make you want to throw off your shoes, break out the jug of swish and

stomp dance.

While the crowd danced, spilling their complimentary beer all over people, mainly me, the boys from The Stables were dancing, arms in the air, over at the merchandise ta-

ble.

"It was a really easy show to play, and touring with Cuff is fantastic," said Poor Pelly.

With a washtub bass with a hockey stick for a neck and a conga/djembe blend with a suitcase kick drum for percussion, The Stables know how to mix up one hell of a roots music cocktail.

The Stables consist of Poor Pelly, Blind Billy Blasko and Clarky. I suggest you go see them on May 14 at Gus' Pub, and make sure to bring your stomp'n' boots and a flannel shirt, 'cause it's sure to be a sloppy good time.

Linton Porter-Taylor, the bar's marketing and promotions assistant, said Cuff the Duke always seems to know how to take the place apart whenever they show up.

This night was no different. By the last song, "Take My Money And Run," most of The Stables were on-stage either dancing or adding to the musical cornucopia.

After their shows in Halifax, Cuff the Duke will be heading off on a North American tour as the back-up band for Hayden.



An expedition to the mecca of St. Patrick's Day debauchery, care of Brittany Smith.

Norwegian Diary:

A sea of green: St. Patrick's Day in Dublin

BRITTANY SMITH
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Even after I was pick-pocketed and had to make an emergency call to Canada, St. Patrick's Day couldn't be ruined. Sure I was pissed, but more so I was pissed drunk, and on this holiest of holy days, that's all that mattered. Aye, nothing could bring me down. You see my friends, credit cards come and go, but St. Patrick's Day in shamrock capital, now that is priceless.

At 3 p.m. we reached our hostel after a breezy bus ride down from Belfast, during which the driver insisted on cooling our beers in his mini-fridge. We hit the hostel, cracked the Guinness, the cider, and the Jameson and then hit the streets. A tidal wave of green came over us once the parade had let out. There was green EVERYWHERE. Drunkards EVERYWHERE. To be honest, I've never seen so many people so happy, so polluted and so tightly packed into the cobblestone streets of Temple Bar.

In the centre of Dublin is the cultural quarter of Temple Bar - an area famous for safekeeping the city's cultural institutions by day and as a bumping party scene by night.

On St. Paddy's Day, this is where you want to be. The streets are congested with fun-seeking, beer guzzling tourists.

I don't even think I met any Irish people that night, save the ones I came down with. It seemed like every traveller who was in Europe at the time made their way to Dub-

lin for Mar. 17. And no complaints here.

After purchasing as much tacky green paraphernalia as we could, we made it into the first pub by 4 p.m. Think of Split Crow on Thursday during power hour and multiply everything (the number of people, the number of beers and the amount of fun) by 100 and you'll get a glimpse of the insanity that ensued.

The Guinness flowed like a torrential river flooding its banks: pints upon pints were surfing across hundreds of pairs of hands, and you could just reach up and grab one.

Never mind the green Guinness-staches - even Guinness beards were the fashion du jour. And forget about dinner. It was Guinness, Guinness and more Guinness.

Five pints, three broken glasses and one much needed trip to the loo later, we set off in search of fun bar number two. Right next door we found it. Live Celtic music and three-fours of fun, we danced the night away.

Unsure of how we even got home, I woke up uncertain of what went on during a good five-hour period that's still one big haze. But all my friends were accounted for, which is always a good sign.

With 4 euros to my name, we found a cheap breakfast and recounted the hilarity that was the night before. To my left was an old Irish man already on his third Guinness before noon, looking at me with a 'you ain't so hardcore' smile on his face.

As I shoveled baked beans and toast into my mouth, I thought to myself, "Daaamn, I love this country."

See more green

BRAD CONGRAM
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Growing concerns about climate change and environmental woe make it important to think about what to do to make the space around you a better place. I hope this isn't the first time you've been told that growing plants without the use of herbicides and pesticides or chemical fertilizer is a highly rewarding way to reduce the dissonance of being a species of fossil-fuel addicted, hydrocarbon producing, earth paving dingleberries.

The Seymour Green Community Organic Garden is a place where you can train your trowel, hone your hoeing and exchange your ideas about social and environmental justice.

Jayne Melrose, the director of Seymour Green, knows that a healthy bed of soil is crucial to the success of any garden. The garden usually grows behind the house at 1411 Seymour Street on the Dalhousie campus, but while the earth around Dal continues to alternately freeze and thaw at a maddening rate, the community garden is getting busy indoors. High in the greenhouse on top of the Life Sciences Centre, the Seymour Green gardeners have already begun sowing seeds.

If you were planning on growing this year, don't panic; it's not too late to get involved. If you want to start some seeds in your kitchen or in the greenhouse, or seek advice on how to best prepare a patch of land that's begging for beautification, Melrose can help you give life to your own green thumb.

"I like to call myself the community garden doula, helping give birth to gardens" Melrose says about her role in the garden. "The garden is totally for everyone, students and community members can come to the garden at any time."

By getting involved with the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG), the organization behind Seymour Green, you'll be able to access a wealth of information that ranges from microscopic details about beneficial bacteria in the soil to learning how to grow, care for and harvest your own plants season after season.

The community garden also provides a forum for people interested in things like food security, urban agriculture, and environmental and social justice.



JAYME MELROSE

Seymour Green brings sustainable urban agriculture to Dal campus.

"Community gardens are so multifaceted, in that people make relations, they learn from each other," says Melrose. "There's peer to peer learning, there's skill sharing, there's hands-on learning, not just from the academic approach... different ways of learning are fostered there."

Another interesting facet of Seymour Green is the seed bank that Melrose cares for.

"We have a fantastic seed collection that I have been collecting for quite a few years," she says. "Some of that is coming from B.C. and a bit of that I grew out last year and I harvested a good amount of seed last year."

Have a plant you just don't know what to do with? The garden may be able to care for your donation. It's a fantastic place to donate clippings from your plant, especially if they carry a personal or historical story.

Seymour Green aims for diver-

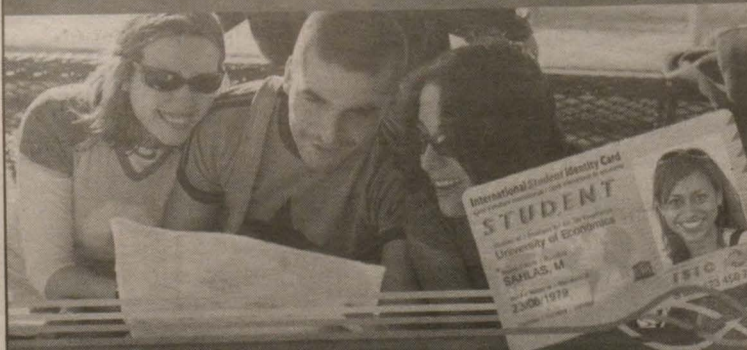
sity, promoting the growth of native woodland species such as the mayflower and wild blueberry, as well as some non-native medicinal plants, like hyssop and lemongrass.

Whether you're planning on filling a bed with manure this spring or are content conversing in the company of cacti, you'll probably agree that keeping plants enhances the world around you.

Seymour Green Community Organic Garden can be a source of nourishment, whether you want to collaborate to creatively solve a garden-related problem or simply need some fresh mint to make your grandma's julep recipe.

The Seymour Green Community Organic Garden is laying root and sending up terminal buds now. If you want to lend a hand, e-mail Jayme at garden@nspirg.org and get your name on the mailing list for upcoming events.

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The hater's miscellaneous must-list

CHRIS METLER
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Here's a brief list from one so-called 'hater' of some of the things I am most unequivocally, unabashedly, positively EXCITED and HAPPY about. No hate.

Cinema's summer of 1989 relived

The last time Batman and Indiana Jones squared off it was the summer of 1989. The Caped Crusader was making his unforgettable big-screen debut while Dr. Jones memorably appeared to be riding off into the sunset with his third movie. *Batman* won by about \$50 million.

A rematch looked unlikely, and even if they did make another Indy adventure, what were the chances it'd go against another hugely anticipated take on *Batman*? Impossible, right? Well, nearly 20 years later, here we are, two all-time screen icons at it again: *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* versus *The Dark Knight!* And if the recent trailers and industry buzz is any indication, it will be well worth the wait.

Barack Obama in the White House

We are lucky to be living and breathing in an age where a leader as authentic, optimistic and inspiring to our generation as Barack Obama has come along. All credit to Senator Clinton, with her demeaning, roughhouse, gutter-fight tactics, but Obama's stood up under the pressure just fine.

As his campaign continues to battle through her heavy fire, and Obama proceeds to look more credible and electable by the minute, we in the Western world inch ever closer to having our international image hugely rehabilitated by the potential presidency of this worldly, electrifying man.

Conan O'Brien taking over *The Tonight Show* in 2009

With every wry punch line and spontaneous outburst, it becomes more and more apparent that, unlike his contemporaries David Letterman and Jay Leno, Conan O'Brien is indeed the true successor to Johnny Carson's mantle as the "king of late-night TV." A multi-talent like O'Brien establishes himself once in a lifetime, so do yourself a favour and enjoy it.

The last days of 'gangsta rap'

The days of your generic, over-commercialized, oversaturated, flavour-of-the-month 'gangsta rap' artists are nearly numbered. With the majority of those careers built on a clear business model (violent past, big collaboration, hit single, hot first album), the model has recently proved to be bad business, as sales are plummeting faster than you can say "crunk."

The answer for the rich white guys running the show? Create a new model! And considering the recent mainstream success of conscious artists like Kanye West, Common and The Roots, there is a good chance that, for once, it might be something relevant.

Pineapple Express and future Judd Apatow projects

YES! More two-and-a-half-hour stoner comedies that will be imitated and quoted by college kids the world over and prematurely labeled the "sickest movie ever!!!" until the next one comes along and replaces it. Weren't we saying the same thing about *American Pie* and *Road Trip* a few years back? Or *Superbad* and *Juno* just months ago? Sorry, I just had to slip that one in...

The little gallery with big art

LAURA DAWE
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

161 Gallon Gallery is tucked away in an apartment behind Tony's Variety at the corner of Robie and Cunard. From the outside, the unit is easy to miss. The door is around back and opens out onto a little gravel driveway. Even once you're inside, surrounded by paintings and art supplies, the gallery is not immediately obvious. But halfway up the stairs to the second floor, there is a little rectangular cubby hole in the wall. That's where the gallery lives. The volume of the space, as you may have guessed, is one hundred and sixty-one gallons.

The house gallery concept is not new to Halifax. 161 follows the trend set by the now defunct Gallery Deluxe Gallery at Willow Street and Robbie Sheddon's window gallery on Falkland, to name a couple.

When NSCAD graduates Dan Joy, Ryan Park and Miriam Moren moved in together, they were hoping to create an environment that was conducive to post-school art creation.

"I want that to be a gallery," Moren said, as soon as she discovered the little closet

The inaugural show took place shortly after her discovery, in July 2007. Audrey Epp was the premier artist shown. Her show, "Lake Hurst," recreated the Hindenberg crash.

"She forced us to really do something because she was making these dioramas at the time. That's the first thing that artists think when they see a little space like that. A diorama. Because of that, that's also a good reason to get it out of the way right away too," says Joy.

Six artists have followed Epp so far, each with a totally unique take

on how to manipulate the little closet in a stairway. Julia Kennedy built shelves to fit the gallery and stocked them with preserves she had prepared as an offering for the coming winter. She lit the display from behind, creating an effect that Park likens to a stained-glass window. She referred to it as a performance piece, the performative aspect being that viewers were welcomed to take a jar home with them to help them through the cold months.

Joar Nango's show was simply an American \$20 bill standing straight up. He sold it for \$10 Canadian.

"No one really clued in that it was for sale," Joy laughs, "I think he was really inspired by how giving or how welcoming the art world (here in Halifax) was to him. I think it was supposed to be like him giving back or something."

The show was a last artistic hurrah for Nango before he returned to Norway. Because of its priority of flexibility, Gallon Gallery has accommodated a number of goodbye shows.

"That's part of the social support aspect of the gallery," explains Park.

All three curators encourage impromptu exhibitions. Having worked at the Eyelevel Gallery, where, like most galleries, artists are booked at least a year in advance, Park can really appreciate what he calls "the spontaneous aspect" of their endeavour.

The spontaneous aspect helped make the last show one to remember. At the opening, artist Amber Phelps Bondaroff built a bonfire outside and cremated her recently deceased hamster, Pepper. How does one cremate a hamster at a home gallery? Joy recommends "a lot of kerosene." And though neither Park

nor Moren were sure it would work, Moren assures, "Let me tell you, it's burnt to a crisp."

Phelps Bondaroff and crew raked the ashes and found remains of Pepper's skull and some teeth. They now reside in an urn in the gallery, alongside a brain Phelps Bondaroff sculpted out of sugar, which she explained in an artist's statement too complicatedly witty to reproduce here.

161's openings are always a bit of an event, often including a death ritual, a meal or a lecture about the Krebs Cycle.

"We usually get the same crowd of people, give or take a few," Joy says. "And then there's always like a few new people and sometimes there's people you wouldn't really expect..."

"...like people you don't know at all who just kind of show up. Which is cool," Moren finishes.

Word of mouth, Facebook, and *The Coast* have been bringing strangers out.

"I think the people that come are the kind of people who aren't afraid to knock on someone's door," says Joy.

If you're not afraid to knock on someone's door, you might like to check out the next show: Joel Hooper's "Hummus Ex-Machina" on Apr. 11 at 7 p.m. You can also drop by the gallery on Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., or if you're passing by while one of the curators happens to be home.

If you think you have art that would suit the space, you're encouraged to drop a postcard proposal in the green and red mailbox at 161 Gallon Gallery, Apartment One, 6014 Cunard, or e-mail the curators at 161gallongallery@gmail.com.



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Stay tuned for the spoof issue!

Fashion in the 'Fax

ANGELINA CHAPIN
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

NSCAD's 18th Wearable Art Show brought out the high fashion in Halifax as hundreds of people waited in line to get into The Marquee Friday night.

The sold-out show was organized by NSCAD students Charles Wilson and Emily Lewis and showcased the work of artists from NSCAD and around the Halifax community. Most proceeds went to the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, with a small portion going toward a NSCAD scholarship.

The night consisted of a three-act fashion show - deejayed by Mark Willet, a silent auction, and a showcase of artists' work in the back room of the club.

The show was hosted by NSCAD student Katie Hanczaryk, fashion technician and instructor Anne Pickard, and local celebrity Corey Bowles.

They kicked off the night with a shout-out to the AIDS Coalition. Wilson came onstage wearing a blood-smeared shirt with the words H.I.V. written on it, while Hanczaryk, wearing a red bra and white coat, beat him down with a pair of condoms.

This satirical yet political tone was sustained from beginning to end by the hosts, who decided to do sketches in addition to the regular MC routine.

"It brought a fun vibe," says Bowles. "We got people hyped, made them laugh and broke the ice for the models who were nervous."

In between performances they mocked Crocs sandals, conceptual art and censorship.

Though some models did the conventional strut down the catwalk to showcase the designers' work, most of the 30 performances were high on the shock factor.

Some were sexy, like "Nobel Robes" by Philip Randall & Anthony Rocheleau. Models unzipped boxer-style jackets, exposing black lingerie and scantily clad midriffs.

Others were bizarre, like Becky Walker's "Machine To Human Eyes Better Than Mediocre," featuring two robots being manipulated by models to the tune of "Mr. Roboto."

Leslie Menagh's "The Duet" combined both humour and sex appeal. The performance began with a couple dressed as shopkeepers, seducing one another with a baguette to opera music. The beat changed, and six female models dressed in differ-

ent custom-made corsets strutted onstage, turning the intimate moment into a baguette orgy. Finally, the audience was invited to join in as the couple threw bits of baguette into the crowd.

Laura Langford, Dalhousie graduate and clothing designer, thought the corsets were the highlight of the show.

"They were unbelievably constructed," she said. "I like how [the show] had a combination of things you could buy as well as pieces that were just artistic."

The audience of 850 was excitable and made up of all different kinds of people. Some had been coming for years and others had never heard of the event before.

"I got dragged here," admits Shane Yates, a Dal mechanical engineering student. "But I think it's great. There's a lot of creativity. I didn't realize Halifax had this culture."

Some lucky audience members got a seat alongside the catwalk, while the rest craned their necks to get a good view.

During intermissions, the crowd could bid on art or peruse the work of 35 artists including sculpture, jewelry and visual art.

The final and longest segment of the night featured clothing by NSCAD students Joe Fougere and Keith McLeod and jewelry by Cartoon Gangster. The performance, titled "Estate Family Guilds Spring/Summer 08" began with model Ephraim Divine setting a boombox onstage and pressing play. Once the beat dropped, a series of 12 models came out clad in silk-screened, bright-coloured clothes and oversized jewelry (read: American Apparel on crack). The performance descended into a dance party, with host Hanczaryk biking on stage in booty shorts.

The afterparty followed with music by Windom Earle, Dallin Urzenbach and DJ Nigel Lutes.

Organizers Wilson and Lewis embraced each other after the show.

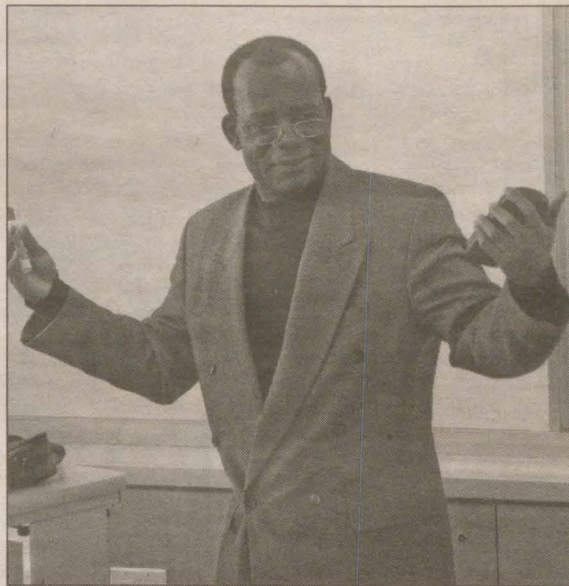
"We were complete strangers in January," beamed Wilson, with his arm around Lewis. "But we got into it and clicked."

Wilson started working on the show in September and was joined by Lewis in January.

"It's a fun show," says Lewis. "I'm glad so many people came out."

In addition to being fun, the show raised over \$7,000 for the AIDS Coalition and left attendees with a priceless amount of fashion sense.

PROF TALK



Dr. Kasende is a professor in the Department of French at Dal. He hails originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Kasende currently teaches Intro to French Literature, Tales and Legends of the Francophone World and Francophone Poetry.

Kasende has written two books. The first, entitled *Le roman Africain face aux discours hégémoniques*, was published in 2001. The second, *Entrepreneuriat et intégration des canadiens issus de l'immigration: Cas des Québécois d'origine africaine*, was published in 2003.

Q: When did you realize you were going to become a professor?
A: I first realized this in my first year of university in my home country of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Q: What's your favourite Halifax bar?
A: Aside from going out with some friends, I don't really have a preference yet. I've only been here now for two years.

Q: What do you do when you're not teaching?
A: I do a lot of research. I like to watch films - mostly psychological ones that have to do with literature in some way. I like movies about writers and I also like those with themes of love or social problems.

Q: Who is your favourite musician?
A: I like all kinds of music and I try not to limit myself, but I especially like African music.

Q: What's the class you dream of teaching?
A: I'm going to be teaching it next year here at Dal. It's called African and Caribbean Literature.

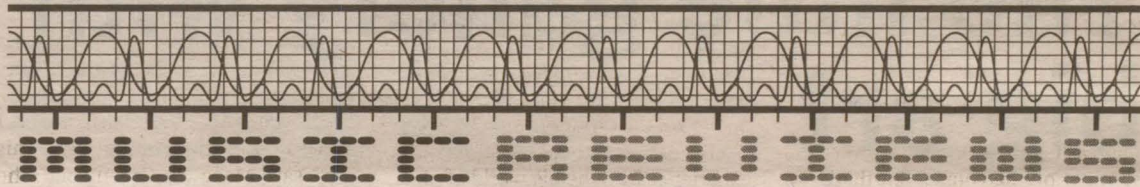
Q: What is your favourite part about living in Halifax?
A: I like life in Halifax. I like that it's a medium-sized, intimate city. I don't like big cities. I like the way the people are here, and I like the ambience of this university. I like how curious the students are and how interested they are in my courses.

Q: If you could change one thing about Dal, what would it be?
A: The length of my courses. I find that they're not long enough. One-and-a-half or two hours would be better. I have a lot to say and often don't have enough time to explain myself.

Q: What's the most ridiculous question you've ever heard in class?
A: My students always ask interesting questions.

Q: Do you feel a connection with Canada?
A: Yes, I love Canada. I am proud to be here and I have no regrets. I have four adopted children, three of which have already graduated from university, and Canada has taught me to be more of a friend to my children.

Q: Can you give a short summary of your latest book?
A: When we help immigrants to integrate themselves into our society and our country, the country gains a lot in terms of cultural diversity. Cultural diversity is a great benefit.



The hauntingly beautiful Ghost Bees

ALY COY
ARTS EDITOR

Twins Romy and Sari Lightman and Amber Phelps Bondaroff are the Ghost Bees. The twins have eerie, beautiful voices that complement each other tremendously. Piano, violin, percussion and mandolin, as well as Phelps Bondaroff on viola, accentuate their voices in high, perfectly harmonized notes.

I was lying in bed listening to the first track, "Vampires of the West Coast," on their new album, *Tasseomancy*, released on Youth Club Records.

It was around 3 a.m. and I felt something like a cat jump lightly on my bed. I looked down to see nothing but an indentation on my comforter. A screeching violin from the song made me gasp and my eyes widened. I was very aware of my beating mandolin heart.

Another indentation appeared and I felt the weight on my feet. I shook it off and the weight was gone.

"Vampires of the West Coast" had summoned a spirit into my room...

The spirit took me into its world. It turned to me and said, "Last evening I fell for a vampire," as it took my hand. Everything went blurry.

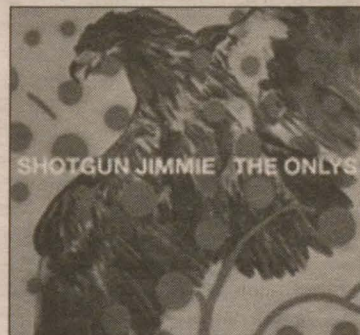
An old white castle appeared and everything was going in slow motion in black and white. In one room of the castle a row of nightgowns slept in their single beds.

In the back garden I couldn't tell if the wooden box was for sewing seeds or if it was a vampire's coffin. The spirit looked at me and smiled while it nodded its head. It led me to the coffin and I lay down.

"The patience is daunting," I said. As my eyelids got heavier I fell back into a deep sleep.

"Tasseomancy," the fourth track on the album, is a ballerina slowly dancing to music of the viola and mandolin players in a stone-walled pub. The ballerina is attached by the ankles to shackles that go down into grates in the floor.

Below the pub an old woman in dark rags is reading tea leaves to an anxious man wearing an officer's uniform, holding the hand of a



young girl with rosewood eyes and a bulging stomach.

The light guitar steadily guides me along while the Ghost Bees unwind a family's past, changing tempos and keys.

The Ghost Bees bring listeners into their lives of mystery, spiritual contact and ghostly discovery. Their folksy, shoegaze sound leaves you feeling closer to paranormal contact, and dreaming of an unknown world.

Ghost Bees are performing an all-ages show at the North Street Church on Apr. 11 for their CD release party.

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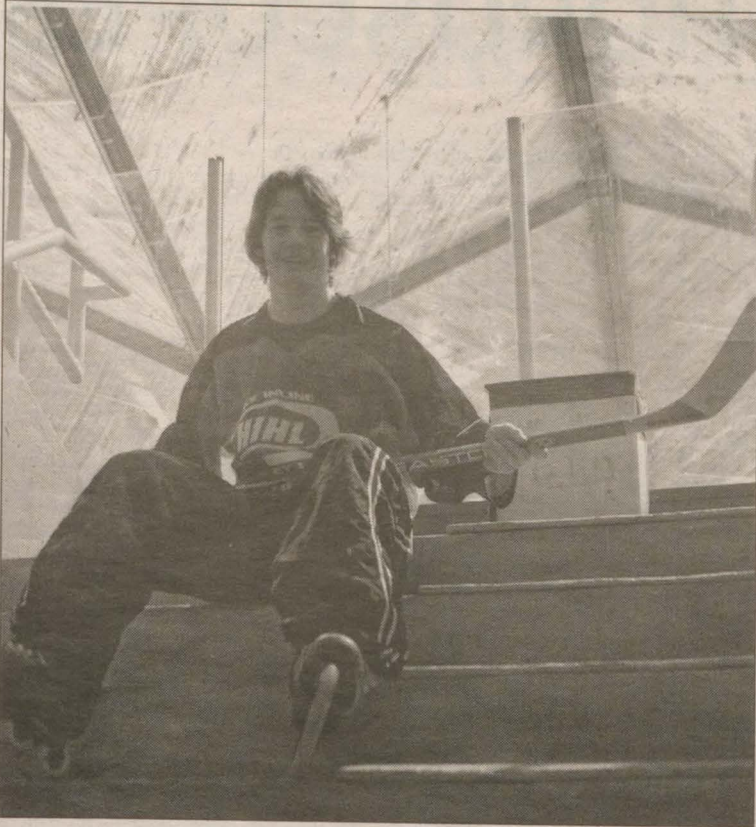
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JOSH BOYTER / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Students hanging around for the summer may want to play in the Halifax Inline Hockey League.

Dal students shoot and score

ARLEEN HAMMOND
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

When the snow is melting and the NHL playoffs are beginning to wind down, most hockey players are getting their golf clubs ready for another full summer on the course. But that's not the case for Dalhousie student Michael Bowden and recent Dalhousie graduate Robert Fortnum.

Last summer they saw an opportunity and took a shot, so to speak. Two other Dalhousie graduates, Josh Nevsky and Jared Goldlust, had started the Halifax Inline Hockey League (HIHL) five years ago as an entrepreneurial work term project. When they left Halifax, Bowden and Fortnum purchased it from them and are now proud owners and managers of a successful league.

"We saw potential. There is a lot of potential for growth and community involvement," says Bowden.

He and Fortnum have both played in the league and enjoyed it so much that they have made no plans to give it up any time soon.

Currently, the league is open to men aged 18 to just about as old as they want. The HIHL is run just like an ice hockey league: Bowden and Fortnum employ referees and timekeepers, and the games are played at the Dal Memorial Arena in May and June.

The league is a member of Canada Inline and follows their association rules, including no offside calls.

"It gives the game more focus on stick handling and play-making abilities, versus ice hockey, which is more positional," Bowden says.

Bowden and Fortnum are both

products of the Dalhousie Commerce program and have been putting it to use in owning and managing the league, although Bowden says he can't put a value on the things he's learned outside of the classroom.

He explains that the insight and experience into the big world of business that he's gained from running the league has been substantial. Bowden says taking part in the process made him realize how much is involved.

The league includes players of all skill levels. Players can register as a team or as individuals, and there are divisions ranging in experience, so players can enjoy the sport recreationally or competitively.

For Bowden, the game keeps the business exciting.

"It's a faster pace, less whistles, more playmaking, more goals. The average game is 9-7. It's not uncommon to see games with points in the double digits for both teams."

Bowden and Fortnum are hoping they can expand the league to include younger players.

"It's primarily just Dal students right now. A few high school students, some alumni and pros as well. Next year we're hoping to expand to the high school students and work our way down to seven- and eight-year-olds in five years time."

Inline hockey's a great way to keep in shape and get ready for the winter ice during the summer. Being on a golf course isn't half as exciting as being in an arena, anyway.

For more information on the league go to www.halifaxinline.com



NICK PEARCE / NICK PEARCE PHOTO

Kirk Yanofsky is leaving the Tigers after coaching the team for the past eight years.

Tigers volleyball coach steps down

JULIE SOBOWALE
SPORTS EDITOR

On Mar. 31, Kirk Yanofsky announced his resignation as head coach of the Dalhousie Tigers women's volleyball team to pursue a career in orthopedic sales. The players were notified two days prior to the announcement.

"I was kind of shocked since I know he's so passionate about his job," says Meaghan Greenwood, the co-captain of the team. "I'm going into my fifth year, so I'm hoping for a good experience. I'll miss the intensity he brought to the team. He drove us to be better and better. He cared so much."

Yanofsky leaves the Tigers after coaching the team for the past eight years. He led the Tigers to two Atlantic University Sport (AUS) titles in 2003 and 2005.

"It was a recent decision that I made last Friday," says Yanofsky. "I wasn't looking for any opportunities, but this opportunity was presented to me. I have a one-year-old daughter,

my first child, and having a 9-to-5 job would allow me to spend more time with my daughter. This is the right choice for me and my family."

This is the second abrupt departure from the coaching department in the 2007/08 season. In September, Fabian Joseph left his post as head coach of the men's hockey team only one month before the start of the preseason.

His replacement, Brad Crossley was recently replaced by new head coach Pete Belliveau.

"I guess people would speculate that something is going on, but you have to look at each situation individually," says Al Scott, Director of Athletics and Recreational Services. "We have a situation where our coaches were offered attractive new positions. People make career changes at different times for their best interest. Is there a deeper meaning here? I'm not sure. I think we have attractive, lucrative positions here for coaches. We have tremendous retention. We haven't done this much hiring in the past five or six years."

While the Athletics and Recreational Services search for a new head coach, the Tigers are scrambling to keep their recruits who have committed to the Tigers.

So far, there are no prospects for the coaching position.

"It's a little bit out of the blue, so we're making sure that new recruits know the program is still intact," says Yanofsky.

"The players are taking the news in stride. They take ownership in the program and I think they'll keep up the good environment that we built up in the last few years."

Yanofsky was approached by a friend regarding the orthopedic sales position a few weeks ago, even though Yanofsky has no prior experience in the industry.

"I'll be working primarily with doctors in selling braces to customers," says Yanofsky.

"I never did this kind of work before, so it's very flattering to be a part of this new business. It's a new thing for me and I think I'm the right person to do the job."

Wentworth rail jam marks the end of season

NICK KHATTAR
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The first day of spring may have already come and gone, but that wasn't stopping local shred heads from enjoying some final fun on the snow. Last weekend marked the end of the ski season in Nova Scotia, with Wentworth and Martock ski hills both closing. Wentworth decided to end things by hosting its first annual Heavy Half Dozen rail jam.

The event, which was put on by Truro's Walk On Face Productions, was said on their Facebook page to be "A mythical jam that could happen."

Well, the jam did happen. The set up, which catered to snowboarders and skiers alike, provided the option to hit either a 25-foot jump or saddle rail. It then led into a variety of hits in two different skateboard flow-style setups.

Wentworth's park crew laboured for three straight days to pull the event together in time.

"We had the boys out here most of the week, workin' to get 'er done,

'cause that's what ya gotta do, ya know, just get 'er done," said Shawn Messom, 31, head of Wentworth's park monkeys.

About 20 snowboarders and 10 skiers showed up to compete for prizes donated by A1, Zero Gravity and Wentworth.

By 1:30 p.m., the cameras had come out and things were heating up. Kids were dropping in like they were the 101st Air Born Division. Mad aerials and slick rail maneuvers were being thrown down like Andre the Giant in Wrestle Mania III.

Gabe Thomas from Citadel High came out of nowhere like Zorro, stomping 720s and switch frontside boardslides on the rails. Sammy Rodgers, a second-year poli sci bum from Dal, was keeping things real with consistent tricks that only decades of experience can teach.

Near the end of the day when the riders were on their last run, shit was going off like a firecracker. Laughs and cheers could be heard from the judges and riders whenever something sweet was stomped, and equally as much when someone got

stomped.

In the end, however, after breaking a rib or two, it was the young gun from Halifax, Thomas, who took home first place with his whirly birds off the jump and sweet apple-cider cocktails on the rails. Hot on his heels in second place was Moncton's Pat Arsenault, who threw down a crazy wildcat backflip off a rail. In third place was New Glasgow's Bruce Trebey, with his watch-the-fuck-out skate style and balls-to-the-wall maneuvers.

The only thing sweeter than all the crazy tricks getting thrown down were the smiles plastered to everyone's faces from start to finish.

"It was so much fun, such a nice day, such a sick setup. Everyone was having so much - and yeah it was just a great way to end things off," said Thomas.

Crabbe Mountain in Millville, N.B. has a million feet of snow and will remain open until May 4, so do something with your life and go get a shred on.

Check out footage of the event at www.walkonfaceproductions.com.

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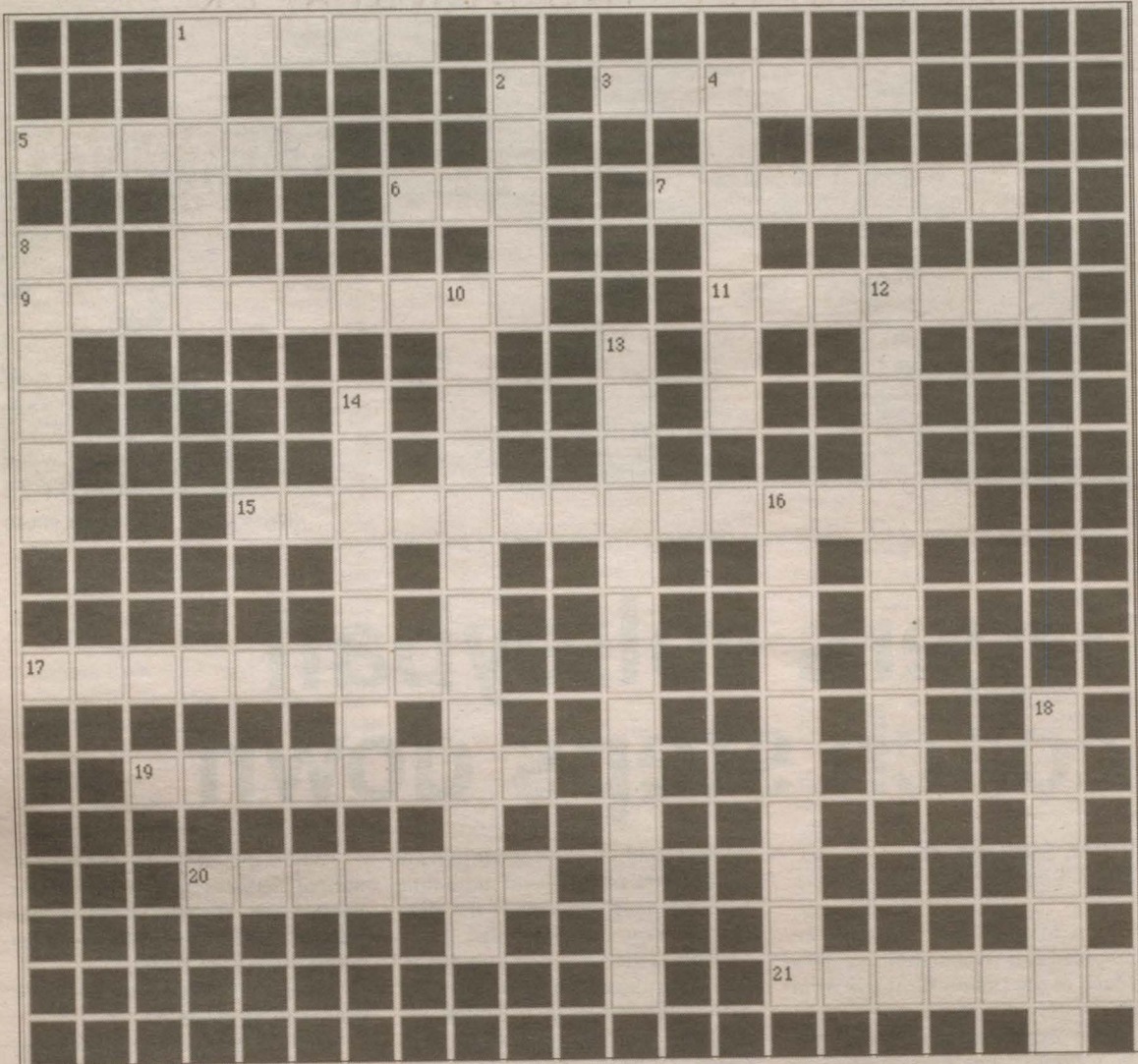
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CROSSWORD

Love is in the air | Aly Coy



Across

1. "That girl has a lot of _____, that's for sure."
3. "Ew, that guy was totally _____ me as I walked by."
5. When you hit on, or entice someone who isn't always into it
6. 17th century term to court
7. Slang for kissing and fondling passionately for a while (2 wds)
9. There was a movie about it, but it was fatal
11. One interpretation is slang for extreme persuasion to have sex
15. Someone who is unavailable but a love interest (2 wds)
17. When people are in search of a sexual partner
19. Flirtatious girl who is sometimes coy or teasing
20. Pet name
21. Slang - a person or couple wanting to exchange partners

Down

1. You'll find them posted at the pub, usually in leopard-print leggings.
2. "Did you at least _____?"
4. One definition is sexual meeting
8. Fondle gently
10. "I'm just looking for a _____." (3 wds)
12. British slang for going steady
13. He whispered sweet _____ into her ear
14. "He actually _____ me last night at karaoke."
16. "We'll _____ around."
18. "I think you have a secret _____."

HOROSCOPES

PISCES (February 20 - March 20)

Your star on the Walk of Fame has just been carved in stone and sealed in laminate. This ain't no cock-and-bull story, it's the tooth. They want you, they want you so bad. Pee-wee Herman even built a playhouse just for you. The question is, who do you want to play house with? If you go out on a limb, you will find yourself barking up the right tree.



ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

Lately you've been like a bull in a china shop that's been running with the best of 'em. Fine things were made to be looked at but fun things were made to be played with to the max. Eat, drink and be merry. A car salesman will try to sell you more than you bargain for when you weren't even shopping. Tell him you already bought Cracker Jack and you know how to get the nuts.



TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

You are achin' to dive into the McRib, but your insurance is not going to cover it. You have a robust butt that is bound to break hearts. The horse is worth riding if it's of proper breeding. Just remember, the full monty is always a good idea. Take the ants out of your pants and release them into the farm. Your positive thinking will be the biggest magnet for the greatest things.



GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

The beauty of your eloquence is music to Dumbo's ears. You promised to run your campaign on public funding, but you have been accepting bribes under the table. Well the jig is up - the table was made of glass. So it's time to show them you can kick ass all on your own, just like your idol taught you. That's right: Chuck Norris was finally in the right. Keep your chin up and instead of roundhouse kicking the next old lady you see, how about you help her across the street instead.



CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Superhuman their asses. You did what they are accusing you of, but you blog to differ. Shout it out and your main home skillet will get you out of the jam and into the jelly. Your bologna has a first name its j-u-s-t-i-c-e. Once you have won, be sure to leave on a high note, otherwise your will look like f-o-o-l. Move your booty back and forth, and when it's done you can check it with a fork. You're Coolio Iglesias, but all the crowd wants is Enrique's rhythm divine.



LEO (July 24 - August 23)

A leopard can't change its spots, but a zebra can paint its stripes however it wants. But why would it? You can't transform who you are, and you'd better not try. The people do not want flaunt - they want you. Revolutionizing is the key to that door you have been trying to open. Keep your mind alive by counting the rainbow you find inside your pack of Skittles. You can't believe it's not butter, and they can't believe you're that smart.



VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)

You seem to have a chip on your shoulder that's making you angry. Perhaps it's time to spice up that cup of Joe you've been drinking. A dash of pepper never hurt anyone, and at the worst, all a shot of tequila ever did was make someone throw up. You went across the universe to find strawberry fields forever and finally found them. Making dinner in the buff will turn you into The Naked Chef, and will turn dinner into a show people will actually want to watch.



LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)

A double whammy of whoop dee doo is going to hit you this week like a moose caught in the headlights. So you better make sure you're wearing your buckshot-proof armour and best shoes. An umbrella might keep you dry, but the liquor is going to get the best of you. With the sun heating up the earth, playtime is in full effect. It's recess and the bell is not going to ring, so run free, free as the air blows.



SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)

It won't hurt to take a few seconds to say grace in order to bring peace to the dinner table. You have been being a square lately and so has the shape of your head. They call you box-head, except you're not serving pizza. Instead, you have been dishing out sauerkraut. Junior high called - they want their drama back. So before you run out of hot steam, remove the coal from your ass and hand out some love. Your heart will thank you for it later.



SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21)

The blue moon on the horizon is starting to remind you of a bare ass that mocked you last Thursday from a passing car window. Was it in your mind, or simply in your imagination? Only the night manager at Sobeys can tell. Know the ropes so you can swing your way across the jungle. They say people drop like flies in your industry but not you - you know how to flip them eggs.



CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

Your optimism is like a tall glass of water that's never going out of style. You've got two tickets to the fruit convention and what you find there will provide you with energy that will make you last, and last, and last. Rolling down a hill will make you feel like a kid again, but give your hair that after-sex look that is the extra confidence-booster you've been looking for. Your field day has just begun turning into a lifetime. The heavens are on your side.



AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)

Someone has been dragging you around like a ball and chain, and things are going to start feeling like balls on chin if you let this continue. Go on, Buckaroo, show them you aren't going to make no bones about it. There is no need to believe that the jack-in-the-box wants you; at most he wants to surprise you, not frighten your beans out of the can. Your alter ego has made a friend, and his name is MC Hammer. He is offering you a pair of parachute pants. Are you ready to jump?



Martina Jakubchik-Paloheimo

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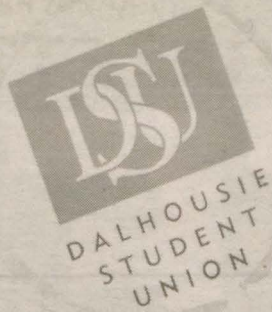
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- Be native/fluent English speakers
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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

- Across
 1. Rendezvous
 8. Carous
 10. One night stand
 12. Walking out
 13. Sweet nothings
 14. Serenade
- Down
 1. Cougar
 2. Spoon
 4. Attraction
 5. Seduce
 6. Woo
 7. Make out
 9. Attraction
 11. Snow job
 15. Forbidden fruit
 17. Gallivant
 19. Coquette
 20. Darling



WEEKLY DISPATCH

Tuition Freeze and Reductions



Monday was a big day for students in Nova Scotia, with the announcement of a new memorandum of understanding setting tuition rates, a fee reduction program for students, and money from the Crown Share to address university infrastructure.

Here's the rundown of the day from the view of our provincial lobby group, the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations:

Wins

- A fully funded tuition freeze
- Big reductions in tuition for students from NS
- Small reductions for students from outside NS
- Students included in the MOU negotiations
- Stronger controls on auxiliary and ancillary fee increases
- Law, medicine and dentistry students included in the freeze
- International students included in the freeze
- Guaranteed student consultations
- A more representative funding formula
- Increased funding for university infrastructure

Losses

- A differential fee for out-of-province students
- A tuition reduction mechanism outside of the MOU

Next Steps

- Advocating for provincially-funded needs-based grants
- Ensuring that the reforms demanded by students during the financial aid review occur
- Working to decrease the burden for students from outside NS
- Pushing the government to create a vision for the period after the MOU
- Making sure our universities aren't recklessly closed or amalgamated
- Lobbying the federal government to fund education on a per-student basis
- For more priorities, see www.anssa.ca and check out the ANSSA blog

Student Study Space in the SUB

The DSU will be providing quiet study space in Room 302 of the SUB from April 10th to the 25th, it will be open at 9am and close a half hour prior to the closing time for the building. On Sundays, the room will be open starting at 11:30am.

Mike Tipping, DSU President
dsupres@dal.ca - 494-1277



GAZETTE...STAFF



COVER

Congratulations to Katie May who actually came up with a cover idea, and dressed herself this morning. Katie would like to thank Matthew Ernst for designing the cover and has made it really clear that she likes Matt better as a designer than Sue. Listen Katie, next time you give Matt monster props could you make sure I'm out of ear shot? I don't have to prove myself to you, I have a diploma and a degree with honours - that's two forms of post-secondary education and you haven't even graduated from one school. And don't get me started on the news section... I should punch you in the back of the head. Anyway I'm sick and weak. Fuck you Katie and Matt!

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THE FINE PRINT

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

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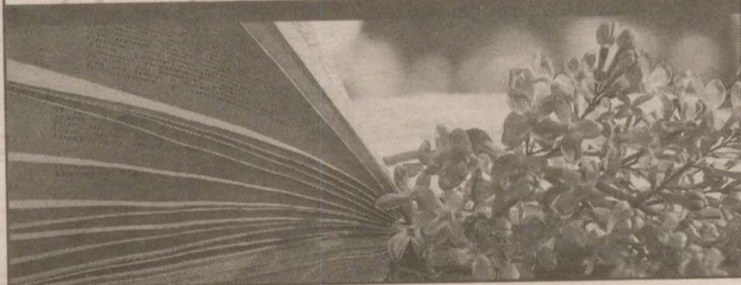
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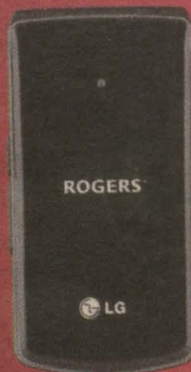
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