

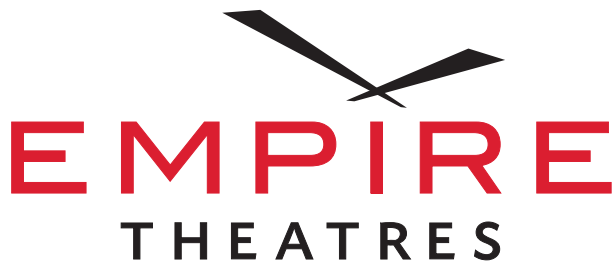
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# WEEKLY DISPATCH

## Celebrating 85 Years of Welcoming Students to Dal

Ever hear the expression: "you only get one chance to make a first impression?" You have? Great! As cliché as it may sound, it's true and exactly why we at the Dalhousie Student Union have been putting our blood, sweat and tears into planning kick-ass Orientation Weeks for incoming first-year students since 1927. You would think that a tradition dating back 85 years would've looked

a lot different back then than it does today and in some respects you'd be right. Although the faces, clothes, events and landscapes have changed, the spirit of Orientation week, or O-Week as we like to call it, has remained the same. The goal of O-Week has always been to welcome students to Dalhousie University, and in doing so, give them an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the University, the city of Halifax and make lifelong friends along the way. We even changed the name from "Frosh Week" to "Orientation Week" in 2009 (due to the derogatory nature of the term "frosh"), to make our first-year students feel nothing but welcomed into the Dalhousie community!

Throughout 85 years of welcome-weeks, events have ranged from camping trips, picnics in Point Pleasant Park, beach days, dunk tanks and casino and movie nights to (of course!) disco parties during the 70s. And as evolving as the events have been, so have the O-Week budgets. In 1977, a mere \$6696.00 was spent welcoming students to Dal. Over \$6,296.00 of that came from ticket sales alone. The remaining \$400.00 was contributed by the University. Can you imagine being able to throw a week-long event for all first-year students for only \$6,696.00? These days, the cost of hosting O-Week is significantly higher and the Dalhousie Student Union Vice President of Student Life spends four solid months planning and solidifying partner and sponsorships (largely with the University) to ensure incoming students receive the warmest welcome we can possibly give them.

And we're absolutely positive Dalhousie has the biggest, best and safest O-Weeks in the Maritimes. We've been doing so for over 85 years! In fact, our history of welcoming new students dates even farther back. One of the most interesting events that's taken place to welcome first-year students goes all the way back to 1921 – before the first ever official O-Week! Quickly incorporated into official planning of welcome weeks, an annual Beach party was a mainstay and lasted for over 70 years! Our records are a little hazy and we're not entirely sure why this tradition ended in the early 90s, but this year's executive group thought it was such a great idea, they decided a beach day is just what students needed during the summer months. Buses were rented, snacks were packed and students were whisked away to the beach for a day of fun-in-the-sun. The entire adventure worked out swimmingly, so who knows what lies ahead for future O-Weeks!

While ensuring all first-year students have fun and feel welcomed, the DSU also makes safety a top priority. As a point of fact, the DSU plans only dry events for O-week and has since the 90s, letting incoming students know they can party, socialize and celebrate their arrival to Dalhousie University without the use of alcohol!

And while we're on the topic social consciousness, the DSU is continually altering its events to promote healthy lifestyles and student wellbeing. Casino nights have been replaced with Black and Gold themed parties in the Student Union Building. Alcohol has been replaced with water and juice. Events like Dalympics have promoted the importance of physical activity. And O-week packs provide students with reusable mugs and condoms to promote safe sex and so much more.

So to all you newbies out there: if you found yourselves asking what the heck you were doing here during O-week, tell yourself you were taking part in a tradition dating back 85 years! And remember: O-Week may only last 4 days, but the DSU party and your time here at Dal has only just begun!

We want to hear about your experiences during O-Week. What was it like walking onto campus for the first time? What was it like introducing yourself to that special person or persons who will be your roomies, party, study, movie and eating buddies for the next 4 years (probably even longer)? Send us a blog about your experience and there's a good chance we'll post it on our Tumbler account for the world to see!

It's easy! Simply email DSU Vice President Internal, Aaron Wolf at [vpi@dsu.ca](mailto:vpi@dsu.ca) with your story!

—Lindsay A. Dowling



September 7 - September 14, 2012 •

# The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

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the fine print

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## BACK IN ACTION!

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**  
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5'4" - 4th YoE  
Science (4th year)  
Ottawa, ON

**KERRY WEYMANN**  
# 25, Defender  
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# editorial

from  
the editor

E-mail Katrina at  
editor@dalgazette.com

Katrina Pyne Editor-in-Chief



## Time to shift gears

### Why some phrases should simply never be uttered

**Katrina Pyne**  
Editor-in-Chief

There are some phrases I simply cannot stand. 'Shifting gears' is one of them.

As mid-August approaches and once hot sticky summer nights begin to cool, my fan goes back into the closet, and I schedule my last day at work in my blissfully simple summer job, I know I need to face that phrase once more.

Then someone, usually a parent, casually mentions it midway through a telephone call.

"So do you feel like you are getting ready to shift gears again?"

Immediately, visions of reading a long-awaited bestseller while sprawling out in the sun disappear. Trips to the beach and nights eating ice cream sandwiches on my porch are replaced with deadlines, budgeting an impossibly expensive final year, and an inevitable honours project that has been avoided all summer.

Damn, why did they have to say 'shifting gears'?

Whatever time I had left to finally

get out on that weekend camping trip seems lost. Now the excitement of school mixes with the intimidation of having to finish a four-year program. I have to justify the thousands of dollars, the move to Halifax and, of course, the decision to pursue a career in what seems like the most jobless field in existence.

The phrase hits me like the glass door you never see when you open the screen door to run outside.

This year though, I have decided to take a different approach.

I am going to defy the 12-month calendar year. I am keeping summer with me. Nevermind that my day planner will now be so full of deadlines, the blue and black ink will now resemble the bruise I can feel already starting in my brain.

So what did I decide to do to make this mental decision a reality? I signed up for a SCUBA course with my boyfriend. I spent the only money I had saved up that wouldn't be going to tuition, rent and food. It was my way of showing my planner that I still control my life. I want more from my final year than a line in my resume

that says 'graduated in May of 2013.'

I want challenges that don't come on paper.

I want relaxation.

I want memories.

I want summer.

So here's to the final days of shifting gears. Whether it means packing a suitcase, saying goodbyes, making a trip to Staples or contacting profs to squeeze into that required course that somehow you forgot despite multiple appointments with a guidance counselor.

Summer is more than the four months we allot for it. June July and August embody a frame of mind and a way of living that is as important as the diligent months, that follow: September, October and worst of all, November.

So whether you are returning to friends or making your way through the ivy gates for the first time, just remember to keep a little extra space in your suitcase for summer. It may not mean signing your life away to the god-forsaken freezing cold blue depths of the Atlantic. In fact, it may be as simple as remembering to read



something other than a textbook once in a while.

Bring that bestseller even if it's not on your course list.

Sign up for something that catches your fancy—even if you feel a little guilty after.

And for gods' sake, leave a little room in your agenda to see the white of the page. ☺

**The final days of shifting gears.**  
••• Photo by Benjamin Miller via FreeStockPhotos.biz



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# TEXTBOOK TURMOIL

## NO RENTAL OPTIONS FROM DAL THIS FALL

**Laura Hubbard**  
Staff Contributor

Students at Dalhousie have limited options for buying textbooks on campus, despite the availability of textbook services elsewhere.

The university bookstore has considered textbook rental, including through [Textbookrental.ca](http://Textbookrental.ca), but continues to explore other opportunities.

“Whatever book rental service we bring in, we want to ensure it will be a fair, simple and sustainable option,” says bookstore manager Tina Shannon.

Textbook rental allows students to save up to 75 per cent on books, working on a term-by-term basis.

Jeff Wagner, marketing coordinator of [Textbookrental.ca](http://Textbookrental.ca), says the company has “a network of textbook suppliers from all over North America, which has allowed us to carry millions of titles.”

Students search for their books by author, title or ISBN number, receive a rental price and can choose the duration of their rental.

“Students are free to use the book for the rental period, including highlighting,” Wagner says.

Shannon says the bookstore has considered the rental company because students are expressing an interest in alternative options.

“We are seeing an increasing interest and awareness in used books and our book buyback program,” Shannon says, “although used books cur-

rently represent under 10 per cent of new book sales.”

Shannon notes this number is low, but this is partially because they have fewer used books available.

Wagner thinks [Textbookrental.ca](http://Textbookrental.ca) has been so successful because “schools are losing market share and realize that they should be offering different options for students.”

The company, which started in 2010, is currently working with over 200 university and college campuses and plans to launch a nationwide marketing campaign at Dal in the near future.

While Dal does offer students the option of book buyback, some students find it isn't worth their time.

Fourth-year University of King's College student Lauren Hughes says the buyback isn't worth her time or effort.

“They give you a tiny fraction of what you originally paid, even if the book is in good condition,” she says.

But not all Dal faculties make it easy to be economical when buying textbooks.

The Introduction to Biology 1010/1011 course has Dalhousie-specific textbooks.

Todd Bishop, senior instructor for the course, says custom textbooks just make sense.

“This model actually makes sense for some classes,” he says. “If you only teach half of the textbook, why get the student to buy it all when the publisher can give you only the chapters

that you want and bind it up in a custom edition for a cheaper price?”

However, students have to buy a new textbook every third year.

“The textbook that we use, Campbell Biology, is on a three year cycle. That means a new edition comes out every three years.”

Dal's faculties choose their course materials and textbooks and place an order with the bookstore, rather than the selection being an administrative decision, says Shannon.

Bishop notes courses are often formed around the textbooks and materials.

“We deal with a variety of publishers from such well-known companies as McGraw-Hill and Pearson to small, independent publishers,” Shannon says.

But [Textbookrental.ca](http://Textbookrental.ca) offers titles from these, and many others.

“We often have customers that rent novels or books for their own reading pleasure,” Wagner says. “But our main mandate was to provide students with additional options when it comes to sourcing their textbooks.”

“We want to ensure that the students of Dalhousie know all their options when sourcing their textbooks since the Dalhousie University Bookstore will not be offering a textbook rental service for fall.”

Students find novel ways to save on books. ••• Photo by Chris Parent





# King's appoints a new president

## Dr. Leavitt resigns after only 11 months on the job



**Kristie Smith**  
Staff Contributor

Students at the King's College returned this fall to a surprise change in staff, discovering the newly sworn in president, Anne Leavitt, to be long gone.

Leavitt resigned in June, having served only eleven months of a four year term.

The board chose to appoint an interim president, who will serve a two year term, while a full-time appointment is found. Two candidates were immediately identified from within the college: Neil Robertson, a professor with the Early Modern Studies programme; and George Cooper, current vice-chancellor and former chairman of the Board of Governors.

In addition to serving as interim president, Cooper is a managing trustee of the Killam Educational Trust, a director at the CBC, and counsel at the law firm that bears his name, McInnes Cooper.

"I'm familiar with how these things work and I'm fortunate to be able to do this now", says Cooper of his recent appointment.

"I think that Dr. Leavitt's resignation was in her best interest," said Stephanie Duchon, student union representative on the Board, "and I believe the university will do well with the appointment of interim president Dr. George Cooper."

Cooper may not have been the popular choice. Some members of the King's community publically endorsed Robertson, including former president of the King's Student Union, Gabe Hoogers.

"We had our own hopes," says Nick Stark, current KSU president, "but what it comes down to is that Dr. Cooper is going to do a great job. He wasn't our ideal candidate, but that's not to say he not going to do an excel-

lent job. Because I think he probably will."

The university is faced with expensive repairs in the near future, including adding fire escapes to the Pit, the school's makeshift theater space, and the Chapel. The Presidents Lodge, which is currently unlivable, also needs work on its wiring and other issues. On top of those repairs are the ongoing renovations to the campus bar, the Wardroom.

"I don't want to understate our financial position, because there are some problems, for sure," says Stark, "But I think Dr. Leavitt actually overplayed that. I'm pretty optimistic that we'll be able to handle the challenges we have, because compared to some other universities, we're not doing so bad."

Cooper agrees. "We actually came in on budget last year," he says.

"We're in good shape, financially. I mean, we're doing better than some universities, worse than others, but we're roughly where everyone is. We're not in any strange position."

Many agree, with the change in presidents offering the student body a fresh start and new opportunities to work towards something.

Leavitt's predecessor, William Barker, was known for being very approachable. Leavitt, while working for the school's best interest, did not build up the same rapport with the students in her much shorter tenure.

"I think Dr. Leavitt's term will be remembered differently by the different constituents at King's," says Duchon. "I think it was a lesson to the students in recognizing that if we work well with the administration we can make good things happen for the wider community and vice-versa."

Cooper hopes to improve the financial health of the university without removing himself from the community, remaining open minded to talking about issues like tuition hikes and

the budget with the student body.

"I think we just have to manage as best as we can while moving forward. It's not my choice as president, holed up in my ivory tower, to raise or lower tuition," he says.

"That's something we have to compromise on and agree on as a community, finding an amount we can agree on that is manageable for the ones paying while covering the costs of the university."

The president has so far, in his short summer term, met with faculty, friends of the university, administrators, and students.

"I've only been president for about six weeks at this point but I'd say that my first act has been to keep my ears open. So far, I think it would be safe to say that I've been to 65 meetings. Even tonight, I'm meeting with Nick Stark to talk over a beer and a bite downtown."

Part of his role as interim president will be to help lay the groundwork for a fundraising campaign. While Cooper was the chair of the Board, the New Academic Building, fondly referred to as the NAB, was funded and built. And he was on the board during the campaign for the King's library.

"A capital campaign requires a strategic plan. We need to sit down together and decide where we want to be in five, 10, 15 years intellectually. As a community, we need to figure out what we want to be when we grow up," says Cooper.

When asked which president he'll be more like, Leavitt or Barker, Cooper laughed and replied, "Well, let's put it like this. I like beer and I like young people, so it's safe to assume that I'll be in the Wardroom a lot." ☺

**George Cooper is King's College new president.**

••• Photo by Calum Agnew

# Halifax hospitality Helmet fines discouraging bikers

**Daniel Boltinsky**  
News Editor

Halifax Regional Police gave 262 fines for cycling without a helmet last year. Many of those, a police representative says, went to out-of-province residents such as students, who did not know about the rule.

"Nova Scotians know the law is there," says HRP officer Shawn Currie. "It's when we get people from Ontario and other places that they're a little stuck."

The law was instituted in 1997, and requires a cyclist to wear a helmet unless he holds a certificate of exemption from the Registrar of Motor Vehicles. Circumstances that merit the certificate include religious reasons against wearing a helmet, or a head larger than 66 centimetres in circumference. The fine starts at \$141.

Like other laws in the HRM, it only received a publicizing blitz in the months following its enactment. It has not been advertised since then.

"It's not well advertised. It's up to the user [of a bicycle] to get informed about the laws," Currie says.

John Chisholm, president of Halifax Cycles bike store, doesn't think the law is fair.

"You can chain people all you want, but the law scares and shames people from cycling," he says. There is data that supports his claim.

A 2002 study of the helmet laws in Australia and Nova Scotia by Uni-

versity of Toronto professor Mary Chipman found that such legislation causes a significant drop in the number of cyclists on the street and particularly discourages children from biking.

Chisholm says the idea of cycling as being dangerous is holding back cycling. When it comes to accidents, "the danger is the fallacy of overstated vividness," he says.

"Statistically, bicyclists are far down the list of people who should be wearing helmets."

Nevertheless, many other studies praise helmet legislation because it decreases the number of head injuries among cyclists. Numbers based on data from IWK Health Center, Halifax, showed that this statistic dropped by 80 per cent from 1995/96 to 1997, after the helmet mandate was passed.

Currie says that that most infractions probably occur around the Dalhousie and University of King's College campuses, with the Commons skate park possibly holding that title too. Despite this, he says students during the first weeks of university caught without a helmet will probably receive a warning rather than a fine.

Chisholm insists the law "targets the young people disproportionately."

Chipman's 2002 study concludes by saying that helmet legislation does have two sides: it increases helmet use, which prevents head injury, but



also reduces cycling as an activity.

"We need to develop and evaluate a combined approach to achieve the true benefits of safe cycling," she writes.

New innovations may soon make

the problem obsolete. For example, the "invisible helmet", designed by Swedish company Hövding, is basically an airbag worn around the neck, and looks like a scarf. The new technology comes at a hefty price; the

company's website currently sells it for about \$600. ☹

**Helmets are a mandatory accessory in Halifax.** ••• Photo by Chris Parent





# Acadian Bus Lines to shut down

Maritimes left without an inter-city bus service

**Ben Wedge**  
Staff Contributor

Students from the Maritime provinces may face an unwelcome new challenge this fall: getting home.

On Aug. 7, Acadian Bus Lines announced that it would be discontinuing service in November, citing the high cost of servicing rural routes in the Maritimes. For many in the region, the bus is their link to medical exams, holiday trips home, and the only way to live car-free.

For some students, the bus is the only affordable way to visit family and friends. Chad Lefebvre, a fourth-year Saint Mary's University student, visits friends in Sackville at least once per month. He says he can't afford a car, which means his visits could be curtailed.

"It's my only option. There aren't many people travelling that way on a schedule similar to mine. The bus was simple and reliable."

Acadian Lines is the larger of two companies that have monopolies on inter-city bus service in the Mari-

times, servicing all but the Halifax-Liverpool-Yarmouth route. Although Acadian receives no subsidy from the three provincial governments, it is required to service small rural towns as part of its monopoly agreement. Currently, several shuttle services are allowed to operate chartered vans transporting up to 15 passengers directly between the major municipalities.

## "IT'S MY ONLY OPTION."

Smaller carriers have been attempting to enter the inter-city market, but New Brunswick's Motor Carrier Act, dating from 1937, prohibits competition in inter-city transport. Both Nova Scotia and PEI have similar rules prohibiting competition.

Last year, P.E.I.'s Advanced Shuttle requested that the New Brunswick Utility Review Board approve their 11 passenger vans to provide regular,

scheduled service between P.E.I. and Saint John, Fredericton, and Moncton. Acadian received intervenor status in the process, and Advance Shuttle's application was eventually denied.

So far Trius Tours of Charlottetown, P.E.I., has been the only company to apply to replace Acadian Lines as the official monopoly. The company currently operates the Halifax-Liverpool-Yarmouth run, as well as a Summerside-Charlottetown commuter service and several transit systems on P.E.I.

David Anderson, owner of Advanced Shuttle, says he had already been preparing a revised application to the New Brunswick Utility Review Board when his first application was denied. He told Saint John's News 88.9 that his company is planning to add stops in Port Elgin, Shediac, and Sackville, which are along the existing Halifax - P.E.I. route. He's hoping to expand his P.E.I. - Halifax service and implement the proposed New Brunswick route. In the same interview he noted that the buses Acadian

Lines used were simply too big to be run profitably in the region.

Some area residents began a discussion of providing a public bus service, similar to what exists in Saskatchewan. The idea was initially considered by Nova Scotia's Minister of Transportation, Maurice Smith, who told *Metro News* that "It's a very, very expensive service," though adding that the government "would look at whatever models are out there." The idea was quickly dropped in favour of an exploration of new private options.

For many, though, the answer can't come soon enough.

"I either won't go home, or hope my dad will be willing to drive two hours each way to pick me up," says Ryan Enserink, a third-year student at SMU.

"My home visits are pretty much limited to holidays now, because that's all I can afford."

Although the Halifax terminal isn't always busy, bus service is vital for many Nova Scotians. ••• Photo by Chris Parent

## news briefs

### Atlantic Fringe Festival

The 22nd annual Atlantic Fringe Festival, which commenced Sept. 2, is set to offer over 50 different acts during its 11 day run.

Shows range from comedies, such as *Fucking Stephen Harper*—journalist Rob Salerno's intimate satire of Canadian politics, to award winning dramas like *Balls*—about testicular cancer.

In addition to first time performances, the festival this year features long running shows like *Shakespeare On Trial*, which took the stage in 2009, and *Confessions of a Mormon Boy*, which premiered almost ten years ago with an off-Broadway run in 2003.

Twelve venues throughout Halifax are hosting the festival, including Sir James Dunn Theatre at the Dalhousie Arts Centre. Ticket prices vary per show, from free admission up to \$10.

### Dal GIS Center wins Special Achievement Award

Dalhousie's Geographical Information Sciences Center (or "GISciences Center") has won an ESRI Inc. Special Achievement Award for its work with GIS technology.

Students at Dal interested in GIS, a system that integrates various types of geographical data such as statistics and cartography, can visit the center located on the second floor of the Killam Library. It is the largest library facility of its kind in the Canada.

The award, according to the website of the event sponsor, is given annually to organizations that "have used GIS to improve our world—and set new precedents throughout the GIS community."

### Operation Fall Back back on campus

Halifax Regional Police launched Operation Fall Back Sept. 2, which targets noise, intoxication, and property damage in areas surrounding the University of King's College and Dalhousie campuses.

The annual campaign, which was initiated in 2004, lasts through September and includes increased high-visibility patrols and enforcement in areas known to produce complaints.

Dal pays the cost of staffing two officers to patrol near the university during designated times of the year, such as back-to-school season, while Halifax Regional Police supply a cruiser.

—Daniel Boltinsky  
News Editor

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# THE ROAD TO OLYMPIC GOLD

## EXAMINING THE ISSUE OF SEXUALITY IN SPORTS

**Rachel Bloom**  
Opinions Contributor

Matthew Mitcham, Australian Olympic diver and London 2012 Olympics participant, is obviously a great athlete. He is also a homosexual male. What effect do these facts have on each other? Probably more than you think.

The relationship between the sports world and the gay athletes who inhabit it remains ambiguous. The majority of the 23 openly gay athletes who participated in this year's summer Olympics were female. In fact, only three male Olympian athletes came out of the closet, a suspiciously low number compared to the total amount of competing athletes (eleven thousand). Could this be due to the old stereotypes—that lesbians are tough, while gay men are not (which might make it easier for a female in sports to come out)?

It's hard to pinpoint an exact analysis of sexuality in sports. But should we, as spectators to their game, care at all? South African archer Karen Kultzer seems to think not.

"I am an archer, middle aged and a lesbian. I am also cranky before my first cup of coffee. None of these aspects define who I am," she told OutSports.com. Kultzer has the right to assert that her sexuality doesn't define her. Whether it affects her game is another question.

Many other Olympic gay athletes spoke out about the impact withholding their sexuality had on their performance. For some athletes, keeping one's sexuality a secret could weigh them down in an unnecessary way.

Jim Buzinski, co-founder of OutSports.com, holds this view. "Sports is still the final closet in society," he told the Associated Press. While in this writer's view, sports is not the \*final\* closet, there does seem to be a particular pressure on sports to present an image of heterosexuality that in this day and age does not make sense.

The sport itself will remain the same, regardless of the sexual preference of the athletes who engage in it.

The support to come out is there: London games organizers were encouraging of LGBTQ volunteers and even sanctioned an official games rainbow pin. With all this official support, why does sexual orientation still seem to be an issue for athletes? There are possible reasons: sponsors are one. The fear of losing commercial endorsements is associated with coming out of the closet. Though sponsors likely wouldn't admit that they would drop an athlete because of their sexual orientation, few athletes want to take that risk.

Being gay is no reason to be ashamed. However, by failing to speak out openly, athletes could be making this implication. Athletes are a different type of celebrity and have a unique public image. But does that mean that the LGBTQ society doesn't need their support?

If uncertainty is the prevailing attitude in a welcoming environment, what will happen when the Games move to Russia, known for its rampant homophobia, in 2014? Debates are currently raging over the abolition of the Pride House in Russia, when it was available in the Vancouver and London Olympics. The International Olympic Committee has chosen not to get involved. A stronger LGBTQ community within the sports world could have prevented this from even being an option.

Sexuality may not define athletes, as Kultzer asserts. But by keeping quiet and allowing homophobia to continue, athletes may unknowingly be defining sexuality in sports.

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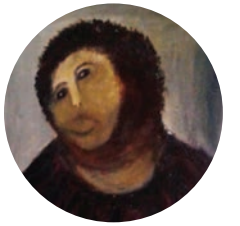




# The <sup>other</sup> Gazette

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Jonathan Rotsztein Other Editor



## ADVICE FOR STUDENTS Bubbles

### The Trailer Park Boys

Whatever happens in life, remember it's always best to be drunk, high and unemployed! But make sure you feed those kitties!

## REACTIONS

### Other things textbook money buys

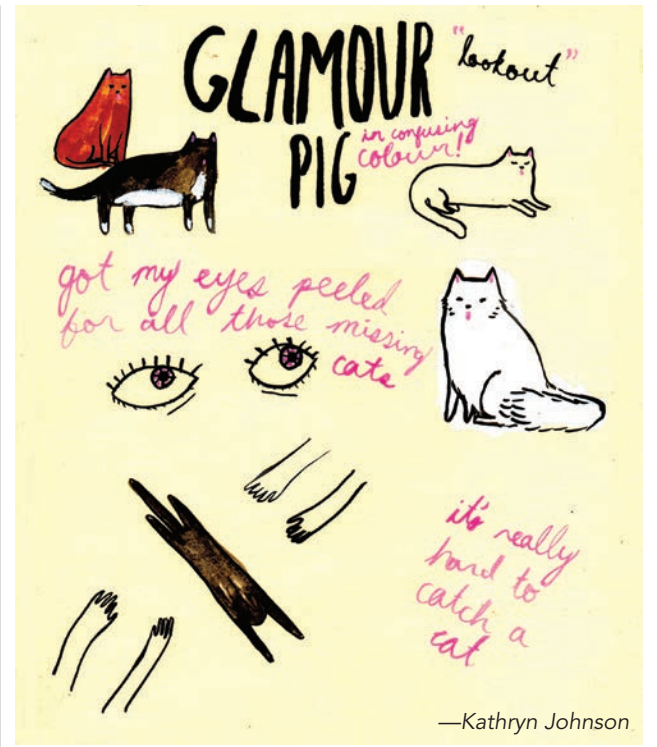
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LUXURY YACHT ///



—Kathryn Johnson

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—Andrea Flockhart

## POETRY

### The Baby Sparrow

A baby sparrow got caught in the rain  
She lies on the pavement – the sidewalk  
The Baby Sparrow

It's humid now, the clouds are feather grey.  
She opens one wing – it makes a sticky sound  
Like a baby swallowing saliva.

She flutters. She accidentally sings.  
A blade of light falls beside her –  
We see that her eyes are auburn  
Her red brown belly expands –  
It's hard to imagine something so solid looking as  
a being that contracts, and as soon as we can't imagine her  
ever moving,  
She inhales.

She exhales and accidentally  
sings again.  
The eye shaped leaves of the box trees  
glisten,  
Catching light on them, rimmed by  
light thin as dust.

A light fft fft is heard in the distance –

—Hannah Rittner



## EAST COAST

### Too many Brooklyns

"I'm heading down to Brooklyn to the cottage." So might be heard, a typical rejoinder if you ask your neighbour what they're up to this weekend. Problem is, you'll have to ask them which one.

Europeans colonizers—like those who settled New Scotland—brought a lot along with them, including the same place names that repeat over and over again. The most successful of these is Richmond, of which there are dozens around the world. Out east, ours is Brooklyn.

There's the one in Hants County, postmarked Newport. Next up is Brooklyn, Queens (not to be confused with New York City). Then there's Brooklyn, down Yarmouth way. And yes there's a Brooklyn, New Brunswick and a Brooklyn, Prince Edward Island too. In fact, including the one in the Big Apple,

there's at least 20 Brooklyns around the world. So see you in Brooklyn—I just hope we end up in the same one.



## POETRY untitled

1  
blueberries.  
two avocados  
ripe when soft  
Pacific tuna, in water.

dirt at your feet but  
nothing grows in  
Chinatown

2  
long after the party,  
a shriveled balloon.

I turn from you, deflated.

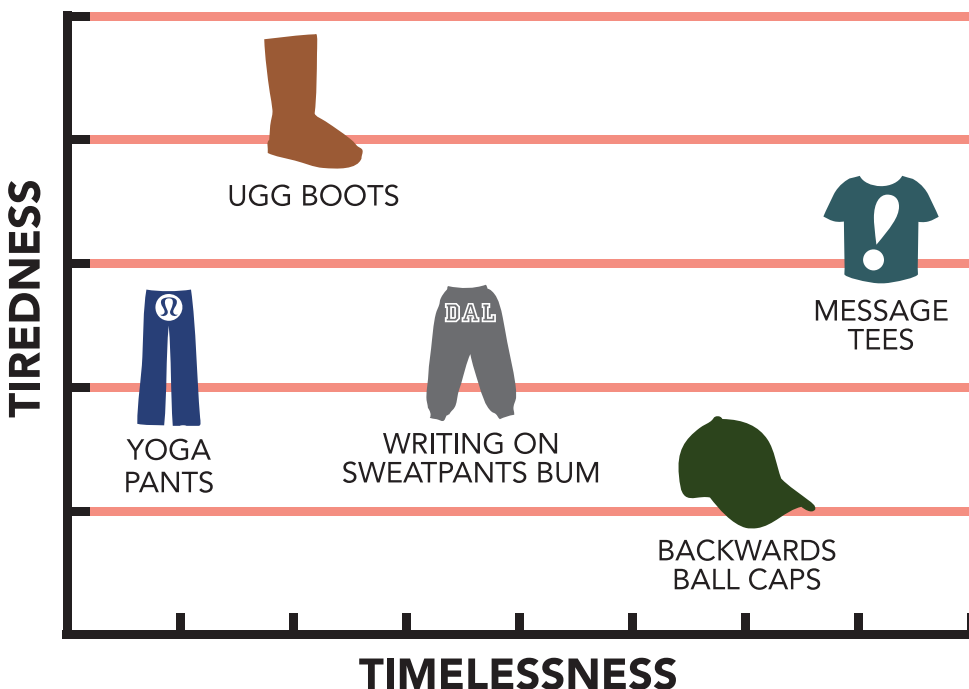
3  
peach juice seeps down  
my hot thigh and  
velour seat like an airplane  
chair like a  
warehouse deal la-z-boy  
like a bad rash.  
queen west dust is no  
antidote  
for this condition.

—Chloe Ferguson



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Fall Fashion Trends

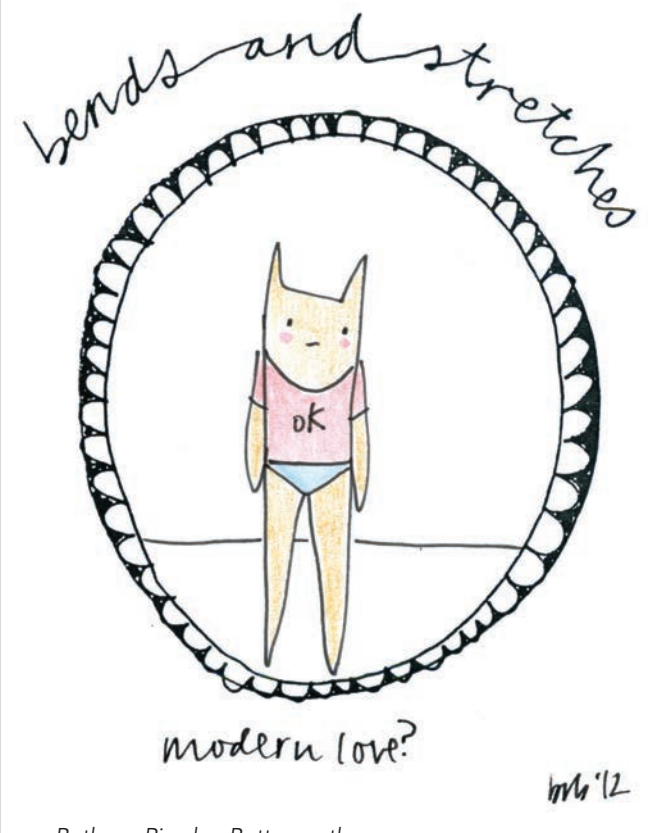


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—Bethany Riordan-Butterworth



# STREETEER

## What do you miss the least about high school?

By Pau Balite



"The people"

**Carolina Chang**  
1st-year arts



"Cliques and gossip"

**Nicole Moore**  
1st-year costume studies



"The lack of student/staff initiative and money in the school"

**Carl Mopoho**  
1st-year commerce



"The school environment"

**Sarath Sasidharan**  
1st-year commerce



"The lack of diversity of people"

**Nik Harris**  
1st-year science



"Not having freedom"

**Victoria Ellis**  
1st-year kinesiology



"The small amount of people"

**Amber Zaza**  
1st-year arts



"Censorship"

**Sarah Smith**  
1st-year science



"The lack of independence"

**Anish Naqvi**  
1st-year science



"The cafeteria"

**Sydney Smith**  
1st-year science

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# YOUR *FABULOUS* YEAR WITHOUT EXERCISE

Five results to anticipate from an exercise-free routine

**Essa Horvath**  
Opinions Contributor

Everyone knows the benefits of leading an active lifestyle. And yet knowing that you should exercise doesn't always translate into actually going out and doing it. So where does this discrepancy lie? How do we turn "I'll do it!" into "I'm doing it!"?

My answer: by focusing on the negatives! (No really, hear me out.)

Habits can make or break us. The point of routines is to do things sub-

consciously, to save effort on the decision-making process. When it comes to fitness, your routine either involves exercise or it doesn't. If it doesn't, you can still be exercising off and on. But this is a slippery slope, because when fitness isn't part of your routine, it's easy to forget about it.

Taking the first step by doing that first workout is hard. The next six can be even harder, but that's what

will ensure your continuing success. Otherwise, you're forming habits that don't include exercise.

So we will focus on the things you are missing out on by not exercising. At the end of this school year, if you don't exercise, you can look forward to:

## Increasing injuries

By missing out on exercise, you're also missing out on its injury-preventing benefits. By allowing your core to become weaker, and your muscles to become sluggish in responding to stimuli, you're left with a much higher risk of developing both chronic issues and acute injuries. For example, lower back pain often stems from weak core and back muscles. And if your muscles aren't trained to respond quickly to changing terrain, you're more likely to twist an ankle when you're staggering onto the street from the sidewalk on your way home from the bar. As the Earl of Derby said in 1873, "Those who do not find time for exercise now will have to find time for illness".

## Being slower

The less you do, the harder exercise becomes. If your only cardiovascular exercise is running for the bus, it will eventually become too much work. Hurrying to class at a brisk walk will leave you with your heart pounding, breath caught, and that pesky perspiration we were just talking about. You'll have to leave your comfy bed earlier in the morning to adjust for your new speed. "Go ahead - save me a seat" will become a common phrase as your entire class rushes from one end of the campus to the other for your next class.

## Depression

You're missing out on a fantastic confidence builder. Exercise releases all kinds of endorphins that could be making you not only happier and more energetic, but also smarter (or at least, more alert with better concentration). You're missing out on socializing in a stress-free environment. When you exercise together, you're not hanging out to talk about your assignment. And you're doing something productive, so you're not hanging out and feeling guilty about said assignment.

## Buying new clothes

Having to buy new clothes, that is. Not because you're expanding your wardrobe to include a cute new dress, but because you no longer fit into the dress you're loving this summer. By December, get ready to do a little shimmy each time to put your jeans on. Suck in your tummy 'till you can hardly breathe, and do up the top button as quickly as possible. Then enjoy the pain of your waistband digging into you all day, and the attractive way your tummy hangs out over the top of the pants. By February, you'll be wearing only sweatpants. Right around March, you'll have no choice but to buy new clothes, a couple of sizes higher than you're currently wearing.

## Being weaker

Soon your backpack will start feeling heavier; weekly groceries will have you using a cart rather than a basket. You'll be doing an attractive-sounding huff-and-puff routine every time you climb the stairs. And don't forget the sweating. As walking up stairs and lifting books becomes your most strenuous exercise, you'll have the same response to these activities as you would have while engaging in actual strenuous exercise—including sweating buckets.

That's one school year. Extrapolate this to your *x* number of years at university.

So here's where you have a choice. Keep exercise out of your routine, and plan shopping trips for bigger clothing. Stock up on Advil and Red Bull.

If that doesn't sound appealing, get out your schedule. Figure out where you're going to consciously make the time for your health, and mark down the first few fitness outings until it becomes a routine. Grab a friend. Join a class. Have fun with it!

*Essa is a personal trainer and group fitness instructor. She owns Sculptura Fitness, a small women's fitness studio in the Hydrostone area.*

A visual summary of your state at the end of the year.  
••• Photo by Adele Van Wyk



# THE TROUBLE WITH RAPE JOKES

## FINDING THE LINE BETWEEN HUMOROUS AND INSULTING



**Kristie Smith**  
Staff Contributor

“Though she was initially upset following the brutal sexual assault last month that left her pregnant, victim Martha Byars told reporters she was relieved Sunday to learn from Rep. Todd Akin (R-MO) that her ability to conceive her unwanted child proves she was not, in fact, legitimately raped.”

The above quote is not a news story or a new concept, but a headline from the popular satirical publication *The Onion*.

Rape jokes happen, and thanks to Republican representative Todd Akin from Missouri, they're cropping up

again in the news. He has since apologized for his ill-received and “mis-spoken” comments about the degrees of rape, which were given in an interview with the *Jaco Report* on Fox.

What he said: “If it’s a legitimate rape, the female body has ways to try to shut the whole thing down.”

That was not taken out of context. There was no strange language or jargon that may have confused the congressmen. He is a man known for harsh opinions that many would oppose, such as saying that “federal guarantees for student loans equivalent to a stage three cancer of socialism.” Usually, people just let him say what he will.

Akin’s recent comments have made

headlines around the world, demanding responses from the Republican Party leader Mitt Romney and current U.S. President Barack Obama.

“Rape is rape. And the idea that we should be parsing and qualifying and slicing what types of rape we are talking about doesn’t make sense to the American people and certainly doesn’t make sense to me,” Obama said in a press conference, when asked about Akin’s comments.

“So what I think these comments do underscore is why we shouldn’t have a bunch of politicians, a majority of whom are men, making health-care decisions on behalf of women.”

The shock has begun to wear down now, but again: this is not a new con-

cept. Rape jokes, whether the jokers believe Akin’s philosophy or not, are daily fodder for some. But the question has come up for others: where is the line between an innocent joke and hurtful words?

There should be no line dividing funny and cruel. The media should not have to censor what people say because at this point, people should know when to keep their opinions to themselves and understand that a joke isn’t always funny to everyone.

To put it bluntly: rape is a terrible, horrible thing that can happen to anyone, regardless of age or gender. It is disgusting. No human being should be able to make another feel so powerless, and to make ignorant

comments or snide jokes at a victim’s expense should not be acceptable in this day and age.

Just because I can speak, does not mean I necessarily have to. While Akin’s constituents care about his stance on abortion, I cannot imagine they wanted his professional medical opinion of the validity of rape.

Really, it’s the age-old adage: if you have nothing nice to say, don’t say anything at all. ☹

Comedians shake their audiences up—whether with laughter or outrage can depend on the subject .

••• Photo by Calum Agnew

## TURKEY’S NOT-SO-FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS

**Sam Vlesing**  
Staff Contributor

Unlike any other of the 29 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member states, the Republic of Turkey shoulders the unfortunate burden of sharing a massive border with Syria, where unpredictable and extremist President Bashar al-Assad reigns supreme.

In addition to its location near large population hubs on the Syrian side, it is largely geographically flat, making it relatively easy for refugees seeking safety from Assad’s tyrannical regimes to penetrate Turkish and therefore also NATO borders. Turkey’s government is a strident critic of President Bashar al-Assad’s regime and tension has risen along the land border between the two neighbors.

Turkey, a very prominent NATO member state, has been able to increase its military budget and assist in increasing NATO militaristic capabilities in a time of economic austerity. Turkey is also situated in one of the most geographically important places on Earth. Bordering both the European and Asian continent, the Anatolian peninsula holds the passage from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean through the Sea of Marmara and the Bosphorus River. Without Turkey as a member of NATO, a large part of the security alliance’s Eastern borders would be essentially indefensible.

Not only is Turkey an economic powerhouse, it also houses the con-

trol centers for the missile defense systems that protect Europe from missiles that may be sent from Iran, Iraq, Syria or any other states from the Middle East and North African region.

Syria’s state of relative volatility poses a threat to NATO member states. Steps need to be taken to ensure the continued safety of these countries.

1) Close the 1000 kilometre border between Turkey and Syria. Yes, there are hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing for their lives into Turkey in hopes of escaping Assad’s autocratic and unpredictable regime. However, the uncountable numbers of refugees make it easy for political threats, such as the Taliban, to infiltrate Turkey undetected. NATO member states have no choice but to take a defensive security stance and shut down at-risk borders.

2) On June 23 of this year Syria shot down a Turkish jet above Turkish airspace. Turkey could invoke Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty and summon the aid of all 28 countries in the alliance if it comes under attack. Such an invocation would mean all NATO countries would be called to defend Turkey, under the principle of collective defense.

The only time in history that the alliance has invoked Article 5 occurred as a result of the September 11 attacks to the US. Although

the downing of the Turkish jet would have warranted an Article 5 intervention in Syria, the alliance has been wary of Assad’s unpredictability and has therefore decided to keep its cool until push truly comes to shove.

The end to the consistent human rights violations occurring everyday in Syria and bring may have to be brought about by an Article 5 resolution.

3) International law is created for states and by states. When states violate these laws and threaten their own populations, as we saw in Libya in 2011 and in Syria today, the international community has an obligation to intervene.

This is where humanity comes into the equation. It could be argued that NATO, which possesses massive military capabilities, has a duty to protect the Syrian population from its unpredictable and violent government. Ultimately, with the capabilities that NATO possesses, there is no real reason why we couldn’t or shouldn’t intervene.

Syria is a threat. Assad’s state has repeatedly menaced and even infringed on the sovereignty of NATO states. Therefore, the alliance as a whole has no other option but to take large counter measures to mitigate the tremendous danger stemming from the Syrian mainland. ☹

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## The secret world of Dal Theatre

### AUDIENCES REQUIRED

**Meagan Deuling**  
Assistant Arts Editor

On the fifth floor of the Rebecca Cohn building, David Nicols' office floor is a cacophony of piled papers. Nicols' eyes shine amongst the chaos as he stops organizing to talk student theatre at Dalhousie.

Despite what the uninitiated may presume, theatre studies is more than learning to act—although that is an option. Students also study costume design, lighting, sound and set construction. As a professor of the history of theatre, Nicols is involved in the academic aspects of theatre study, in which all theatre students are versed.

The practical applications of the various facets of the theatre program are showcased by four productions throughout the school year. Nicols puts his hands on his knees and leans forward as he describes this year's impending productions.

The first, *The Ends of the Earth*, is a "very strange play with a very strange sense of humour about a couple of guys who keep encountering each other wherever they go, and one guy thinks the other guy is spying on him and the other guy is convinced that the other guy is spying on him and he thinks the guy is following him but in fact the guy is following him because

he thinks the other guy is following him..."

Nicols' laugh is unrestrained as he admits the story messes with your mind. The play is a low-budget production by esteemed Canadian playwright Morris Panych.

Nicols' descriptive fervour mounts as he describes the three other plays, although he doesn't spoil the stories. The final play, which this year will be *The Triumph of Love*, is an elaborate culmination of the knowledge accumulated throughout the year. Nicols says when the curtains open onto that final production, and the audience sees the set and costumes, "everyone just goes, 'Ohh.' That's the best part of the year."

University theatre is exciting because it doesn't focus on box office sales. "Although it's nice to sell tickets," says Nicols, "it's more about teaching students." This mindset allows more experimentation and variety than private theatre companies, and draws the interest of outside members of the theatre community. According to Nicols, the leeway university productions have should also draw an audience. "You get to see things you wouldn't normally see," he explains.

Nicols says non-theatre students should participate as audience members for other reasons.

"Theatre is risky, anything can happen, it's dangerous and it changes and it transforms, which is a really exciting thing about it," he says.

"And that really intense energy you get, with people on a stage in front of you, actual human beings doing actual stuff, and a relationship can build up on set between the audience and the actors: that's the really powerful thing about theatre and the one thing film can't do."

Besides being an audience member, non-theatre students who harbour thespian dreams can get involved in theatre through the Dal Theatre Society or the King's Theatrical Society at the University of King's College.

"You don't have to be a King's student to join that one. They'll accept anything with a pulse," says Nicols.

Halifax has a strong theatre culture outside of Dal because it would be too boring of a place to live without it, according to Nicols. So, do like the theatre crowd and stave off the potential boredom of Halifax by getting involved, as an audience member or as a performer. ☺

Detailed information on DalTheatre's 2012-13 productions can be found online at:

[Theatre.Dal.Ca/DalTheatre%20Productions/](http://Theatre.Dal.Ca/DalTheatre%20Productions/)



## AFF films for freaks and geeks

### Annual festival offers alternative to Hollywood

**Andrew Mills**  
Arts Editor

Movies are for summer. Everybody knows that. So, in the fall, balls-to-the-walls action blockbusters (the actual phrase two separate friends used to describe *The Avengers* to me) get replaced by melancholic Oscar contenders—with a subsequent drop in ticket sales. Likewise, at the start of another semester, we trade the more immediate visual medium for the sober gravitas of ink and word. However you spell it, you're going to have to pawn your Green Lantern costume to make that initial down payment on an Economics 101 textbook.

But film shouldn't be limited to shitty sequels and Bourning formulas—should it? As far as studios are concerned we vote with our feet, and cultural norms are decided by impulse—like when the loudest mouth in a group of frosh-week buddies dictates the matinee. More likely, student entertainment dollars are spent on cheap drinks at The Dome (Lord, I hope you don't do this) because movies are something you do when you don't want to think, right?

This dooming of the box-office to the lowest common denominator ensures only the most ludicrous,

chartable scripts have a chance of getting studio support (cough Expendables 2). It's no surprise Hollywood has become a breeding ground for the worst kind of imagination-eating sharks (add "3D" to those last three words, and you'd have a surefire hit).

But in Halifax, something happens every September that masses of hungover students seem to ignore. I'm talking about The Atlantic Film Festival. This is where you'll find all the smart, weird and underfunded movies that don't have the backing of a major studio. Without performance at film festivals, some of these gems don't get the audience they deserve.

So grow some cahonas, and take that cute girl/guy in your new international literature course to an intelligent festival movie. Because everyone knows pen and ink aren't the only visual mediums distracting you from your textbook mortgage.

Here's a quick preview of some interesting titles! ☺



#### Beauty is Embarrassing

Saturday Sept. 15 at 12:00 p.m. | Empire Theatres - Park Lane

Follow artist Wayne White as he moves from small-town puppeteer to New York painter.

#### Rebelle

Friday Sept. 14 at 7:05 p.m.  
Empire Theatres - Park Lane  
(5657 Spring Garden Rd)

The brutal and lyrical journey of a girl from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, kidnapped and forced to become a child soldier.

#### Shorts 3

Monday Sept. 17 at 7:05 p.m. at  
Empire Theatres - Park Lane

Shorts include such weirdly awesome titles as *My Baklava*, *Life and Freaky Times of Uncle Luke*, and *The Kook*. How could you resist?



#### Midnight's Children

Saturday Sept. 15 at 7:30 p.m.  
Oxford Theatre  
(6408 Quinpool Rd)

For some international je ne sais quoi, check out this adaptation of Salman Rushdie's massive novel into a brisk film helmed by Indian-born Canadian director Deepa Mehta.

For more listings visit [Atlantic.BSide.com](http://Atlantic.BSide.com)



# TUNES REVIEW: *Coyote*

Zane Woodford  
Arts Contributor

•••••  
Matt Mays' new album *Coyote* is well worth the wait.

With Mays taking on sole production duties for the first time, listeners are treated to his most introspective and experimental record since 2006's *When the Angels Make Contact*.

Crafted over four years and nearly as many continents, the album is diverse, touching on genres from roots rock to reggae, all with Mays' classic Canadiana. The shaggy Dartmouth rocker's signature mix of vintage and modern rock is on full display here, as he combines dark and airy electronic sounds with the familiar twang of lap steel.

"Loveless" sounds like classic Faces, as if Mays went back in time with his Gretsch and kicked Rod Stewart out of the band. After "Loveless" comes "Dull Knife", an ultra-chill reggae-infused jam about searching for answers in the sands of the Indian Ocean.

The album also has its fair share of straight-up rock, like "Drop the Bombs" and the first single, "Take It on Faith"—a song Mays said was

written and recorded within an eight-hour span. "Stoned" is a classic Matt Mays song—a simple chord progression with a steady beat—and is sure to be a staple in his notoriously high-energy live shows. Three psychedelic interludes ("Airstrike," "Rochambo" and "Madre Padre") are the glue holding *Coyote* together: a trippy exploration of Mays' musical influences. "Chase the Light," the album's last track, is a dark, quiet ballad of personal soul-searching. It fades out like a movie set up for a sequel, leaving the listener begging for more Mays.

In an interview with *The Coast*, Mays said he's happy with the record: "I feel like it's done. It's the way I've envisioned it since I first picked up my guitar after my last album."

Mays took the time to do things his way and the result is his best offering to date—the true culmination of his previous work. On the album's first track, the California-dreaming "Indio", Mays sings, "I was born on the day the music died." Evidently, he is its reincarnation. [E](#)

Matt Mays.

••• Photo supplied



## Stalking Bill Wood

PICNICFACE OFFERS A FEAST THIS FALL

Rosemaryellen Deuling  
Arts Contributor

•••••  
Bill Wood of comedy group Picnicface is a busy man on the opening day of the Atlantic Fringe Festival, but he found time to squeeze in a phone interview to confirm some rumours that have been floating around the end-of-summer streets. Although it's true that the Picnicface TV show was dropped from the Comedy Network, the Halifax comedy ensemble is still alive.

Wood has been staying alive on his own by performing and directing in five shows this Fringe, with a total of 16 performances.

That he has been peddling the streets on these hot Halifax days

selling frozen treats from a tricycle is also a fact.

Picnicface has been around in its entirety since 2007. Wood collaborated by writing Internet skits, performing stand-up sketch shows, TV shows and more recently acting in *Roller Town* (2012), a film that opens in Canada Sept. 1. Although their show was cancelled in the spring, Picnicface recently cleaned up at the Canadian Comedy Awards. They won best TV show, best writing for TV, and best ensemble as well as three awards for *Roller Town*, including funniest film.

"Picnicface will always work together as a group of friends," says Bill Wood, "but as a cohesive ensemble we need a big project to bring us

together." He says the group has been raising awareness to the fact that they are homeless in the TV world, but at the same time they are all busy working on other projects.

One way Bill was raising awareness, or as he puts it, "keeping myself off my couch this summer," was to open up his own frozen-treat tricycle. Called Pedal Peddle Treats, he was roaming the streets selling "all the colours of Freezies, root beer pop-sicles, Fudgsicles and Rockets." Keep your eyes out for Bill on his tricycle this fall. You're sure to get a good laugh—as well as brain freeze. [E](#)

Bill has many admirers.

••• Photo via RollerTownTheMovie.com

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**CONTRIBUTORS' MEETINGS  
MONDAYS, 5:30PM, ROOM 312, The SUB**





## PREVIEW: WOMEN'S SOCCER

**2011 RECORD:** 9-3-1, third place; won  
championship game to UPEI

**2012 HOME OPENER:** Friday, Sept. 7  
vs. St. FX at Wickwire Field, 5 p.m.

Ian Froese  
Sports Editor

.....  
Instead of being looked upon as the rebuilding team they were last fall, the women's soccer team has a new ambience about them now. They are the defending champs, after all.

The confidence boost is a welcome addition, but it means Dal's rivals now have their number. The Tigers won't be able to surprise teams any longer, explains coach Jack Hutchinson.

"I think this season will be more challenging. This year people are saying, 'they're returning everybody,' and I think people will be gunning for us."

Hutchinson is right. Not only does this squad have the experience of a championship under their belt but, save for a few new faces, this is the same successful roster from last year. Seventeen players, including all starters, are returning. Joining the fold are new recruits, Samantha MacDonald and Alberta teammates Ashley Salvador and Elise Bilodeau, each of whom are expected to be active players. Forward Jenna Goobie will be in action as well after sitting out a year following her transfer from a NCAA school.

With virtually the same team arriving as the year before, falling short of another league championship will be seen as a disappointment. The only fifth-year, Rieka Santilli, is undoubtedly one of the strongest midfielders in the AUS. She'll be marked tightly by opponents, but it'll leave space for Bianca Jakisa and Emma Landry to contribute from the wings. Unfortunately for Dal, last year's star rookie Dorian Homerski is expected to be out for the early portion of the season while she nurses a knee injury.

The Tigers were not clear-cut champs last season, finishing third in the regular season and then having to beat two clubs with stronger records than themselves to qualify for the title game. All Dal knows is that, again, it won't be an easy ride.

"Dalhousie has always been one of those AUS teams that people like to beat. There's always been pressure on us," says Hutchinson. "Now you've got it where people want to upset us." ☎

Rieka Santilli and the Tigers are  
poised to repeat as champs.

••• Photo by Rob Grandy

## PREVIEW: MEN'S SOCCER

**2011 RECORD:** 6-5-2, fourth place;  
lost in semifinals to UPEI

**2012 HOME OPENER:** Friday, Sept. 7  
vs. St. FX at Wickwire Field, 7:15 p.m.

**"HOPEFULLY WE'LL BE EQUAL TO  
THE WOMEN'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS."**

Ian Froese  
Sports Editor

.....  
For the last three years, the semifinals has been the hurdle the men's soccer team has been unable to overcome. It is hoped an added scoring punch will make that obstacle a thing of the past.

Although the Tigers have had little to worry about defensively, a difficulty scoring up front has drawn concern; understandably, too, with a dismal 1.15 goals per game average in their last campaign.

Coach Pat Nearing has made his front line a priority because of this. New faces competing for playing time include strikers Steven Wax from Ottawa and former King's star Sam Karklins, who will spend his fifth season of eligibility in black and gold. Midfielders Mohab Hassib and Jack Schembri have graduated from the

National Training Centre's regional program and will look to make their mark at the university level.

Nearing expects those additions, along with experienced attackers in Tyler Lewars, Bezick Evraire and Julian Perrotta, to make his team a force offensively.

"That's really one of those things that we've been working on in training camp. People will see a much more aggressive attack up front; hard-working forwards with a drive to the net," he says.

An already capable defensive core should only get stronger with the return of Kerry Weymann following a season-long injury. The fifth-year veteran will fill the centre-back role and isn't expected to miss a beat. Weymann has even been practicing all summer in Calgary on the same team as fellow Dal defenders Jordan Man-

nix, Nathan Rogers and Mark Hagen.

The goalkeeper's position will see a changeover with Bedford native Jason Ross taking over the reins. His job won't be easy, replacing graduating CIS first-team all-star Ben Ur, but Nearing says he expects the second-year to fill the role admirably.

All these roster changes have been made with a championship berth in mind. Following three seasons of semifinal defeats, the Tigers feel this is their time to challenge for the league title.

"Hopefully we'll be able to equal the women's accomplishments," Nearing says. "We want to be there as well." ☎

Bezick Evraire will be looked upon  
to help lead the Tigers' attack.

••• Photo by Vaughan Merchant, CBU





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# THE SEXTANT

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## Baking in the summer heat

Do Dal's corporate donors share our environmental concern?



Sebastian Manchester  
Contributor  
MSc Candidate

Let's get over the fact that more than half of the conversations you've had this summer revolve around it and talk about it (the weather). Remember last summer when we had 40 days straight of precipitation? I remember because I had to ride a motorcycle to work every day. It seems inconceivable considering the streak of hot & sunnies we've been having all summer. Not only hot and sunny, but dry. Ponds and rivers have dried up because we've only received a third the amount of precipitation as last summer. It's peculiar weather, but consistent with the strange new patterns climatologists are seeing around the world. The combined drought and heat in the mid-west United States is leading to forecasts of global food shortages in the fall. It's too hot for corn kernels to pollinate, which is unfortunate because most of

the food you buy at the supermarket relies on something that one point in time resembled a cob. Meanwhile in Saudi Arabia, the heat isn't drying things out. It rained in Mecca while the temperature was 42 degrees Celsius, the hottest downpour ever recorded. In July, 97% of Greenland's icy surface melted in just four days. Environmental educator Bill McKibben has brought up these anomalies and others, and points the finger at anthropogenic carbon dioxide in a recent article published in Rolling Stone magazine. Our carbon intensive disposition for the past century has already raised global temperatures 0.8 degrees Celsius. An increase of 2 degrees has been the proposed number that would avoid us from having to deal with a catastrophic reorganization of the way our planet functions. The proposed limit for amount of carbon dioxide that can be added to the earth's atmosphere and avoid still a 2 degree temperature increase is 565 Gigatons. You can choose to believe this number or not, but in case you were wondering

it is a product of one of the most sophisticated climate simulation models, built by leading climatologists for the past two decades. It is hard to appreciate what that number means though (exact or not) without a reference. McKibben provides an appropriate reference: the carbon emissions that would result from burning the world's proven fossil fuel reserves – 2,795 Gigatons. This number is one you should trust. After all, it is the product of trillions of dollars of investment into exploration, a number that is the culmination of decades of work by the some world's best engineers and scientists, the number that informs and directs the global economy. If you haven't done the math yet, you can put down your calculators. 5 is the number. This means, generally, we've accepted a plan to burn through enough hydrocarbons to raise the global temperature beyond the tipping point by a factor of 5. While a reckless blaze straight to a time and place that may or may not resemble Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior may seem

exciting, there are alternative futures where we don't need to worry about gasoline-rich bike bandits. It is institutions like ours, where innovation is held paramount, that could help progress towards a, dare I say it, sustainable future. But Shell just gave Dalhousie Engineering \$500,000, and I'm sure they are thinking about global sustainability over the bottom line, am I right? ☘

## NEWS BRIEFS

Discipline shirts are now available for purchase in the Design Commons for \$10. They feature the DalEng logo and a cog on the side.

The T-Room will be open as a study space during the day this semester, and the old DSU Office (A-102) will soon be open as bookable space. Check here for more details soon.

Stan Selig will be joined on stage at the T-Room by new trivia co-host Matt Morrison (BSc. Pharm '14)



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Round 1 began September 6. Don't forget to pay your fee!



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## SEXTON EVENTS

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

**1 pm** – Fall fest on the quad. Free food, beer garden/tent, and live music from Party Boots at 7 pm.

**9:30pm** – Trivia with Stan & Matt

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

**9 PM** – Live music at the T-Room

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

**9:30pm** – Trivia with Stan & Matt

Share your Sexton Campus event

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**HALIFAX'S BEST TRIVIA!**

The Sextant is published by the Dalhousie Sextant Publishing Society and aims to represent all of the students studying and living on Sexton Campus. If you have any concerns about the paper, please email [sextant@dal.ca](mailto:sextant@dal.ca) and we'll arrange to meet and discuss them.

Editor-In-Chief: Ben Wedge  
Assistant Editor: Richard Wile  
Treasurer: Nikheel Premsagar

## What your parents really meant



Richard Wile  
Assistant Editor  
Civil '14

Well, it's that time of year again, back to the books at Dalhousie. If you're one of the students who packed up your life and hauled it all the way to Halifax, there's no doubt you've heard a million and one things from your parents about how to live healthy and stay alive. If you're a resident of this great city and didn't have to endure this, consider yourself lucky.

Hiding in that long list of "tips" your parents gave you, believe it or not, there are probably some helpful ones. Here's the condensed list of things your parents told you and what they actually meant to survive a year at Dalhousie:

**Eat healthy** – Even though every imaginable form of pizza is on sale almost every week at Sobeys and Superstore, it's probably not the best idea to live off them all year. You'll realize that you took that meal, which

magically appeared at supper time every day, for granted pretty fast. If you're not on a meal-plan, get some healthy, quick-meal recipes from home, for meals that you can whip up after class.

**Get some sleep** – 8:30 classes come quick after a night at the library... who am I kidding, downtown! Getting the right amount of sleep is important so you can be ready for a long day of having professors talk at you. If you're not willing to give up your study time or your bar-star status, a trip to Tim Horton's may help.

**Go to class** – Everyone knows the classrooms are hot and all you want to do is sleep but believe it or not, listening to the Profs and taking notes may help you on your finals! This is easier said than done but we're paying far too much money to regularly skip-out on class, so do yourself, your parents, and/or your student loan a favour and go to class.

**Study** – For some, a one hour review means an A+, but for the less fortunate people there are lots of study spaces around campus to

review your barely legible class notes. The library's quiet areas are a good place to study with friends or take some time to fill in the blanks where you dozed off, or decided to play Angry Birds.

**Wash your clothes** – Saying "Screw it!" and throwing all your lights and darks in the same load may seem like a good idea at the time but if you don't want a wardrobe that's all the same shade take the time to split them up because that's what your mom has been doing behind your back all these years.

**Don't drink away your rent money** – Before you scream "Sociable!" at the T-Room with your buddies, set aside money for each of your monthly expenses, including drinking. So you don't wake up with both a pounding headache and an empty wallet.

**Call home** – After being home for 18+ years, leaving your parents can be worrisome to them, so give them a call every now and then so they know their little kid is doing alright. This is also the perfect time to

tell them maybe you didn't budget yourself so well and may need a hand this month or ask them again how to cook a chicken breast, either way, they will bail you out.

So here is what your parents told you: watch your diet and money, get some sleep, study, drink responsibly, clean your clothes, and CALL HOME! But more importantly, make sure to have another great year at Dalhousie and welcome back! ☘

## COMING SOON

The Sextant is in the final stages of launching an all-new website. It will feature all of the content you're used to, in a beautiful new form. Look for the announcement in the coming days.

Fall Fest and Orientation photos will be on our Flickr, Google+, Facebook, and Twitter feeds. Check them out in the days following the events.

Your stories. The Sextant thrives on your ideas. Send us an email and get your stories published.

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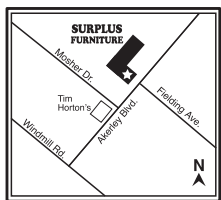
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