

GAZETTE

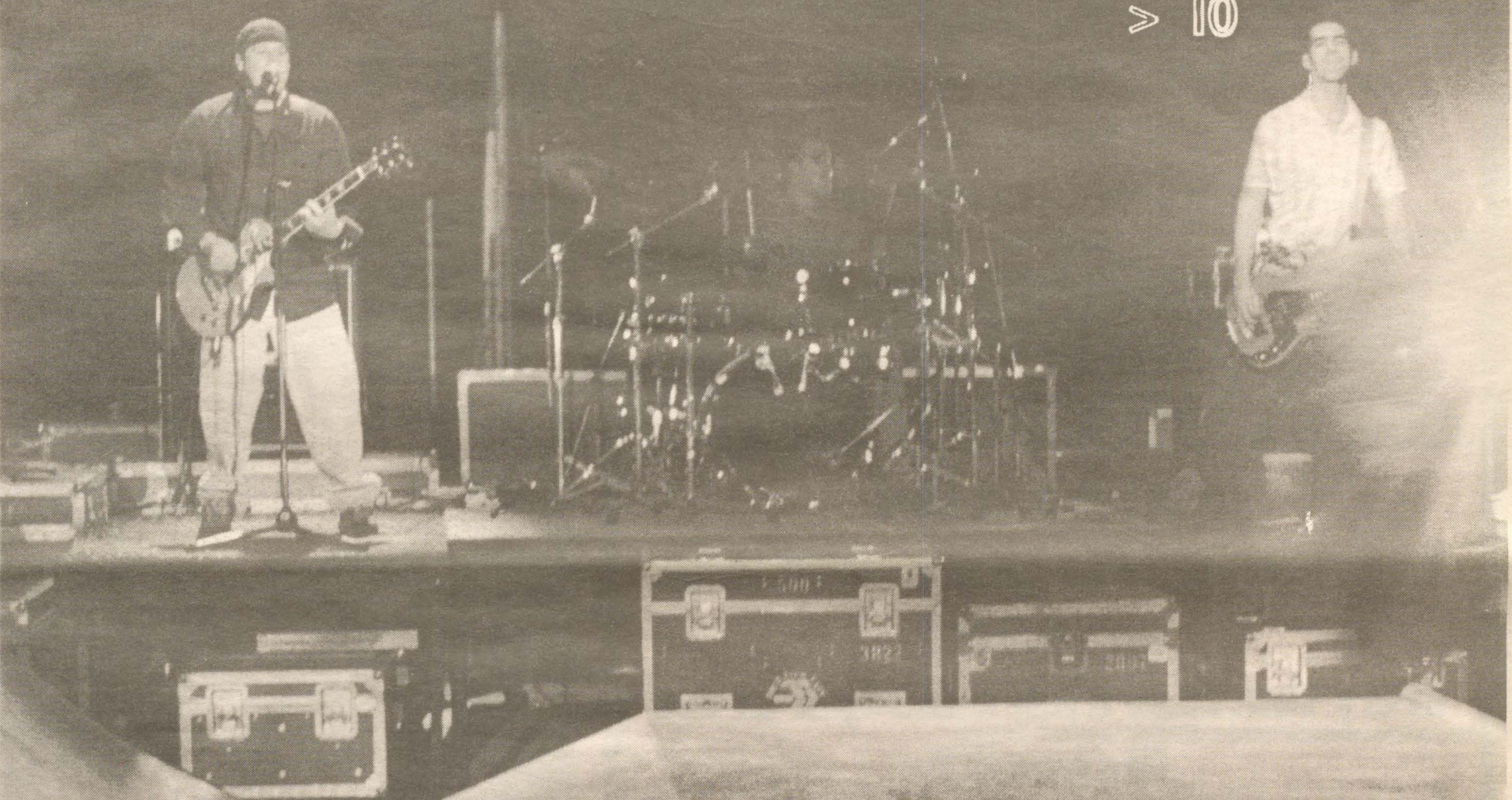
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Dalhousie University Student Newspaper

free

Rockin' out — at the ECMAAs

> 10



Issac Saney talks about Black History Month

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DSU Dalhousie Student Union

The DSU hopes that you are all getting through this crazy time of school work and cold weather.

ENJOY YOUR BREAK!!

**NSSAC CAMPAIGN DAY
is March 5.**

Stay tuned for more info.

COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, March 4 at 1pm in Council Chambers, SUB.

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**Basic Burger, Fries and a small draft
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**Every Thursday from 6-8:30pm at the
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ANGER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Anger Management Program is a four session program for students who wish to moderate their feelings of anger and assert themselves appropriately.

We will meet from 12:30 to 2:00pm on Tuesday February 13, February 27, March 6, and March 13 at the Counseling Centre, 4th floor, SUB.

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Friday March 2

In Theory

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Friday March 9

The Guthries

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St. Patrick's Weekend

March 16 Barnacle

March 17 Kitchen Party

University Life -- Enjoy it at The Grawood!

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Sweat shop show

continued from page 3

Disney, Club Monaco, and Gap during the show.

"One of the reasons why the issue of sweatshops is being brought to the fore more and more is because, as has been documented even within Canada, the gap between the rich and poor is growing," said O'Neill. "In 1980 the income gap between the North and South was 30 to 1. In 1998 the income gap between the North and South was 76 to 1."

The Dalhousie No Sweat campaign hopes to have the university adopt a code of conduct. The code would ensure that the university buys clothing from more responsible manufacturers and suppliers.

Dalhousie university clothing is crested in Canada, but not solely manufactured in Canada.

The University has yet to release a position. The public relations office said that although there was no policy in place, purchases of clothing were made according to standard evaluation criteria aware of the reliability, reputation and environmental impact that they might have.

In March of 2000 a group of University of Toronto students, organized by SAS-C, forced their President to adopt a purchasing code of conduct by occupying his offices for ten days.

O'Neill hopes that other universities and institutions will follow suit, like U of T and over 17 American universities.

"It would be a different matter if we lived in a world whereby we could see that the gap in income and environmental standards was being narrowed...but that's not the case."

This past December, the Hong Kong Christian Industrial Committee (CIC) exposed 12 Chinese factories producing Disney branded toys, clothes and accessories for sale at Christmas. They alleged that workers posted 16 hour days, seven days a week for as little as \$90 a month. According to Oxfam Canada and the No Sweat campaign this situation is common.

O'Neill outlines how easy it would be to improve working conditions in factories abroad and in Canada by taking the example of a \$100 Nike shoe. Using figures from the Maquila Solidarity Network he shows that 12 percent of the final cost is paid to the factory, of which point four percent reaches the workers. In such a case he proposes that wages and costs associated to labour be raised to one percent.

"Then you have the one hundred dollar pair of sneakers being one hundred dollars and sixty cents." He said. "In the mean time the workers are doing a hell of a lot better."

The Dalhousie No Sweat campaign will be meeting for the

first time this Wednesday. Members will discuss ways in which to pressure the university to adopt a policy similar to U of T's at this meeting.

"We don't want to see people starve and die. Lets work together and try and ensure that, especially when the costs are not that great overall, that we're doing the right thing by the people who are making clothes that we wear...It might cost us a little bit more money, but that small incremental difficulty for us can mean big positive change for so many people." said O'Neill. "Lets do it eh?"



National News

from the Canadian University Press newswire
by Wendy Sawatzky

Deported student faces 12 years in prison

QUEBEC (PUIQ/CUP) — A Laval University student deported from Canada has been sentenced to 12 years in prison in Tunisia for his "involvement in a non-authorized organization."

Since coming to Canada in 1994, Haroun M'Barek has sought refugee status and tried to convince Immigration Canada of the dangers awaiting him if he was sent back to Tunisia. However, the Laval University law student was deported on Jan. 6. Two weeks later, M'Barek was sentenced to prison.

In Tunisia, M'Barek was a member of a "non-recognized" Islamic organization called Nhadha. He was also involved in the General Student Union in the early 1990s. Neither organization is popular with the country's Ben Ali government, said an Amnesty International spokesperson.

Although he wouldn't comment on M'Barek's case, a spokesperson for Immigration Canada said people seeking refugee status can make two claims: threats against one's security and humanitarian reasons. M'Barek invoked both.

The Maghreb Human Rights Association plans to file a complaint with the International Observatory of Human Rights against the Canadian government over the deportation. But it's probably already too late for M'Barek, since Tunisia's sovereignty prevents any other country from intervening.

For-profit institute gets right to grant degrees in Alberta

EDMONTON (CUP) — The Alberta government has granted a for-profit institution the right to offer degrees. An order in council passed Jan. 31 allows the US-based DeVry Institute of Technology to grant bachelor degrees in three technology courses.

A representative of Alberta's Ministry of Learning said the benefit of allowing for-profit universities to operate in the province is expanded choices for students. He said the school will not receive public funding, but students wishing to attend it would be eligible for Alberta student loans.

Critics fear the move will create a two-tiered system for post-secondary education, where students pay more for small classes.

DeVry has Canadian campuses in Calgary, Toronto, and Mississauga. It is a for-profit institution traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Tuition rates at DeVry are higher than other Alberta institutions, at an average of \$1,025 a course, or \$3,865 for the first term, \$3,790 for subsequent terms and \$4,125 in the final term for accredited programs.

The Alberta government's decision to allow the DeVry institute to grant degrees follows closely behind an October request by the University of Phoenix, a private American university, to open a Calgary campus. The University of Phoenix currently operates a school in Vancouver with tuition rates from \$8,500 to \$10,500 a year. The government has not yet granted the university operating rights.

Students critical of Saskatchewan graduate tax credit

REGINA (CUP) — Graduates from Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions can claim a \$350 tax credit when they file provincial taxes this year. But not all students agree the \$3 million program is the best way to ease the financial burden facing students.

A student advocate for the University of Regina's students union says the money could have been used better, such as for bursary or grant programs for students. "It's not of much benefit for students during the year when they're hungry and starving and having to pay the bills," he said.

As well, students who leave the province after graduation will not be eligible for the credit, which is designed to provide a modest award to students who stay and work in Saskatchewan.

The majority of Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions will provide the province with a list of their graduates, who will then receive certificates in the mail allowing them to claim the credit on their tax return. Other graduates, including those who graduated out of province but are currently working in Saskatchewan, can apply directly to the province for the certificate.

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Fri, Feb. 16th DJ Andy Haigh

Sat, Feb. 17/24th DJ Michel Deveau

Mon, Feb. 19/26th Improv Knights Comedy Troupe

Tues, Feb. 20/27th Tanqueray Tuesday
Maritime DJ Rotations Tour

Fri, Feb. 23rd Harbor Sharks

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Hours

September to April:

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9:00 am - 8:30 pm


Thursday - Friday

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

May to August:

Monday - Friday

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Feb 7-14

The Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative is offering workshops between Feb.13-22. All workshops are located in the CBC Radio Building, 5600 Sackville st. suite M02. The cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members. For more information contact 420-4572 or e-mail afcoop@supercity.ns.ca

The 3rd Annual People's Theatre Festival will be happening June 1-3, 2001. Call Irondale at 429-1370 or come to the first planned meeting Feb.20 at 7pm in the Irondale office, 2277 Mainland st., room 108.

The Catholic Civil Rights League of Halifax is hosting the first of a series of workshops on the Christian Responsibility in the Public Sphere on Feb.24 at the Catholic Pastoral Centre from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information call Hilary White at 422-2268.

NSCAD Public Lecture Series will present "Jonathan Weinberg's Alphabet" with the artists talk Feb.16 at noon.

14 Women, 2 Guys and a Darkroom, an innovative exhibition of photography by students from NSCAD will be on display at the Cafe Mokka from Feb.14 to Mar.14.

Activists Wanted for the Sierra Club of Canada for evenings 3:30-9:30p.m. 2-5 days a week, 8.33/hr. Call cyndi at 453-4522

Time of My Life will be put on by Dalhousie Theatre students from Feb.14-16 in studio 1, Dalhousie Arts Centre at 8 p.m. The cost is \$5.

Dalendar submissions
gazette@is2.dal.ca
 or fax 494 8890

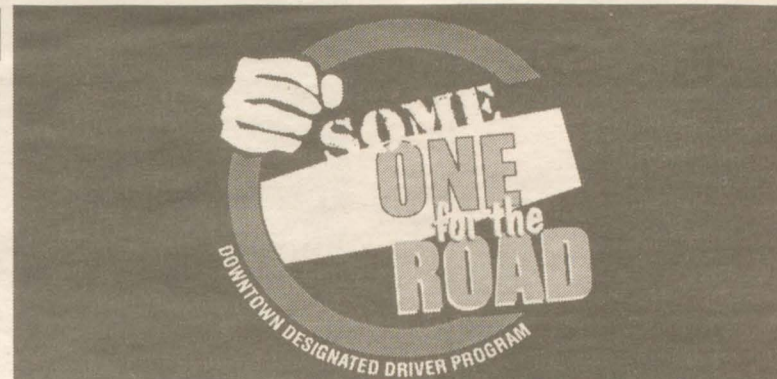
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Thirsty Duck Pub & Eatery, 5472 Spring Garden Rd.
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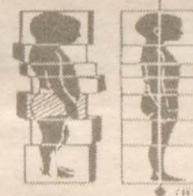
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Dalhousie's Student Employment Centre is your one-stop student employment location. Offering on- and off-campus employment opportunities as well as permanent placements, summer and part-time. SEC services are available to Dalhousie, DalTech and Kings students as well as recent Dalhousie graduates. **Visit us on the 4th floor of the SUB, 9 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, or on our web site www.dal.ca/sec.** The Dalhousie Tutoring Service and Dalhousie Student Volunteer Bureau are also services of the Student Employment Centre and are located next to the Centre in the SUB. Visit your Student Employment Centre today!

NEW SERVICE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS!

The Student Employment Centre, through Dalhousie Career Portfolio Project, is introducing a new service for graduate students. Graduate Student Employment Services (GSES) is being developed to deliver comprehensive career development and employment services to graduate students. **GSES is now in the developmental stage and your input is important as the service evolves in response to student and employer needs. Contact the GSES Coordinator, Quenta Tynes 494-2688, E-mail: quenta.tynes@dal.ca, SUB, 4th floor.**

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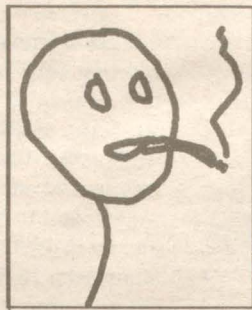
For job details and how to apply, visit our SEC website

DALHOUSIE HOUSING, CONFERENCE AND ANCILLARY SERVICES

Housing, Conference and Ancillary Services has more than **60 jobs** available in three departments. Deadline date to apply: by 1:00 p.m. on March 5, 2001 (Check our website at www.dal.ca/sec for job descriptions and how to apply)

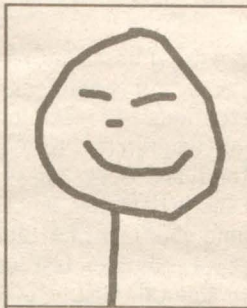
Streeter brings you practical advise needed to survive in your everyday life.

This week Streeter asks: **What's the best way to tame an elephant?**



A path of peanuts to my door.

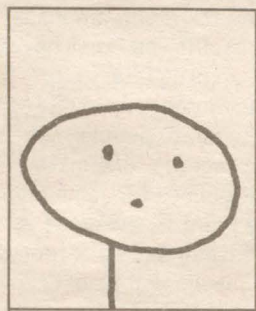
Steve MacQueen
23rd year
Bionic studies



With tender kisses.

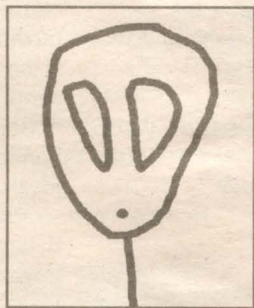
Chris Sullivan
1st year
Oceanography

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



I'm coming off some serious aciitid right now and I don't need that shiit I'm comming off some seriious acid right now and I don't neeeded that shit I'm coming off some....

Kel Varnson
3rd year
Pharmacy



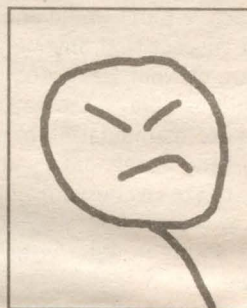
Round here not from. Mars women need, busy tonight?

Frosh?
Foreign affairs



Arms wide open.

Hootie McBootie
1st year
Nursing



Dynamite. Or a small rocket launcher. Ivory's got worth.

Richard Head
5th year
Wildlife
Conservation

Vanessa's Closet

advice from someone completely unqualified by vanessa owen

Dear Vanessa,

I just recently found myself in what could become a sticky situation. You see, my boyfriend and I frequently hang out with another couple. I would say that we all have become pretty good friends. The problem is that I very recently discovered that he has cheated on his fiancée in the recent past. I got this from a pretty reliable source, and from what I've seen of the way he constantly checks out other girls, even in front of his fiancée, I'd have to say I believe it. My problem is, what do I do now? His fiancée is the sweetest, nicest person I know. She's a little young and this is her first love. I don't want to see her hurt. If I tell her, she'll be hurt. If I don't tell her, God knows what could happen. I'm not sure if he's still doing it, but I can't imagine it was just a one-time thing. I just don't know what to do. On one hand, it's not my business because it's not my relationship, but on the other hand, I think of this girl as a friend and it will kill me to hang out with them both and know of the deception. Do you know what I mean? Should I just forget I heard anything? I don't have proof and I do believe in "innocence until proven guilty". Any advice you have would be so appreciated.

Silent Conspirator

Dear S.C.,

If this were a soap opera you'd sleep with him. If this were a tragic drama you'd fall in love with him. If this were a melodrama you'd lash him to the railroad tracks. If life were television you'd concoct some ridiculous scheme to catch him in the act. If this were the movies someone would have been killed by now. If this were a real emergency the tone you have heard would be followed by specific instructions. Fortunately this is real life and you have an option without getting all caught up in her business: tell the cheating bastard exactly what it is that you heard and that if there's any semblance of truth to that vicious rumor you'll rip off his nipples with vice-grips. (Keep a pair handy for that extra, "hit the message home" effect.)

Dear Vanessa,

Help, I am a 24-year-old straight woman. One month ago my best friend informed me that he was gay. Now I find myself extremely attracted to him. I think I am in love with him. We have always spent lots of time together. However, since this revelation I am obsessed with him. What can I do? Please help me!

Confused Kellie

Dear Confused Kellie,

It's the fruit that is forbidden that always appears the sweetest. But if you some how manage to circumvent the security system, break the glass surrounding the forbidden fruit, outrun the chubby rent-a-cops to spirit said fruit back to a safe location where you have a moment to slake your desire for its soft fruit-meat you'll find it's like any other piece of fruit, only with better fashion sense.

Dear Vanessa,

I am having trouble getting a boyfriend. Will you help me find one? I hear that you are quite beautiful and intelligent and interesting. I need your help, PLEASE!

Miserable First Year

Dear M.F.Y,

Ahhh, flattery will get you every where. But I would like further clarification on some of those golden words of honey that poured from your pen. For example exactly which part of me is beautiful? I hear that the third nose hair from the right in my left nostril is simply beyond compare...but one can never truly know. You simply must write back and tell me more wonderful things about myself...IN DETAIL.

As to your question: In Zen Buddhism they have a saying, "When the student is ready, the teacher will arrive." I don't expect you to understand this immediately, but when you come to understand, men will show plenty of interest. Unless you're in women's prison at the time, then it'll mostly be women showing the interest.

Left = OVERS

BY: CHRISTOPHER HEMSWORTH



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Oh Yeah WIN 'EM

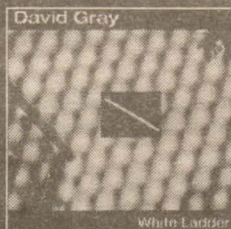
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I am scared of Sharon

My initial reaction to the election of Ariel Sharon as Prime Minister of Israel last week was one of dread. Sharon, the orthodox, right-wing Likud party hawk of Israeli politics is essentially an unconvicted war criminal.

Nicknamed 'The Bulldozer' by his peers, he is infamous for ordering the 1982 massacre of hundreds of Palestinian refugees — mostly women and children in Lebanese camps. He is as guilty as Pinochet — convicted or not.

His first day in office, Sharon declared that he would not negotiate peace while there was ongoing violence. This is ironic, as he is credited with igniting this latest round of violence/intifada that has left a number of both Israeli's and Palestinians dead.

Sharon has said that he wants to scrap Barak's attempted peace agreement, he's attacked Oslo, he wants to keep all Jewish settlements in the West Bank, cancel Palestinian communities in Jerusalem. In fact he would like to take back land returned to Palestinians under previous administrations.

Surrounding Arab states could be drawn into an escalated conflict. With Iraq's aggressiveness and nuclear, chemical and biological capabilities and Israel armed to the teeth (that \$8 million per day from the USA sure helps!) and ready to retaliate in full force, we have the makings of...worst case scenario? Armageddon.

Some political analysts have conjectured that having a stubborn hardliner as Sharon in power will encourage peace by scaring the Palestinians into passivity. True, the Palestinians (and Israelis) will expect less concession from a Sharon government but I don't see them being quiet with less, and somehow that sort of peace does not put me at ease.

Upon contemplation, my fear evolved to a sort of optimism. Surely the backstage powers are not suicidal and stupid enough to allow Sharon to act out in the manner he has projected himself. Perhaps he is allowing himself to be perceived in this manner for a reason. It's doubtful that Sharon is a sheep in wolf's clothing, but my point is that just as it could only have been Nixon who went to China, it can only be Sharon who can negotiate absolute concessions for Israeli's with Palestine. There is no one further to the right to assassinate him for making too many concessions. Whatever Sharon can accomplish will be accepted as permanent in Israel. A left-wing PM of Israel who makes an attempt at peace suffers the constant criticism of the centre and right and risks having concessions revoked and peace processes delayed — as well as assassination by fundamentalists on their own side. Every successful peace negotiation that has been followed through so far has been made, on the Israeli side, by the right wing Likud party.

If the global managers like the CFR are pushing hard for a real resolution in Jerusalem they have a unique opportunity at this time. But if the traditional polar thinking and selfish stubbornness dominate, there will be no ground gained — and they risk the destruction of the holy city and world war. This requires a new way of thinking in the Middle East that involves co-existence, not division; letting go of the past and changing the textbooks of the children on both sides. It may also involve United Nations control of the disputed areas, possibly putting the holy sites under the auspices of the Vatican.

Graham Simms

Jesus Denial ... weak

Mr. Blackie,

I am writing on behalf of the "abrasive," "preposterous," "pretentious and reactionary" people you referred to in your editorial last week. I'm sorry that you see it that way. Quite frankly, I found your lack of attention to what was going on last week quite comical. Clearly, you had no intention of knowing what was happening, since your article was written before many of the events occurred. Further, having "missed all the talks, and intentionally avoided any written material," I'm a little unclear on just how you were justified in writing about Jesus Awareness Week (JAW). As most of those who had anything to do with the week (including those who did not play an active part) would know, and as I suspect that anyone who was aware of what was going on would be able to tell you, there was no "manipulation of people," "pushing beliefs onto people who don't take the Jesus medication," nor was Christianity trying to "assimilate in order to have value."

The week was devoted to getting people to think about the identity of Jesus. Whether they considered Him to be God, or a prophet of

God, or a friend's pet cat, or whether they were simply looking into who He is as a matter of curiosity, was completely irrelevant. The intent, and the way it worked, was that people were asked to think about Him and to make their own decision about who He is. In contrast to your uninformed assumptions, JAW was not "devoted to Christianity," although it was organized by Christians, but it was designed to get people to think. It WAS an "informative medium," and it DID "give back to the campus intellectual community."

As for the suggestion that "anyone should have the right to put off a Jesus denial week," anyone does have a right to do that. Feel free.

Respectfully yours,
Tim Allison

To the editor,

I'm writing in response to Patrick Blackie's editorial "All rejoice for Jesus denial week". This crappy piece of writing is a blatant attempt to upset a few people. I nearly vomited at his lack of empathy and hypocritical

Tom Allison

Playboy article not fully revealing

Dear Editor,

It is with a knot in my stomach that I write this letter, in fact it would be more appropriate to say that I feel sick. My name is Matthew Webb and with a partner I ran a rave promotions company named SPUN productions which produced the *Playboy* rave in '98 at The World Trade and Convention centre in Halifax NS for Bruce and Bruce.

There is a glaring omission in the sweetheart article that

Chris Sullivan has put together for the Feb. 8, 2001 edition of your paper, but it's not his fault. The omission is this: my company, SPUN, produced every aspect of that party. We designed the flyers, had them printed, booked the DJ's and flew them here. We even put some of them up in our houses, and paid for their transportation, food, drugs (YES THAT'S RIGHT DRUGS) and booze. We arranged the sound system, supplied the turntables and mixers. I personally spent an entire day helping to set it up. We spent countless hours promoting, poster, flyer and generally whoring ourselves and ignoring our studies to ensure the party's success. I personally DJ'd for two hours, ran all the security personnel at the same time and put myself personally on the hook for over \$4,000 (Canadian) to my suppliers and family.

The icing on the bitter-sweet cake is that SPUN did all of this without asking for a single penny up-front. Why? you ask, would anyone do so much for a smile and a promise payment and profit? Why would any entrepreneur be so naive as to agree to take on so much personally in such an enterprise? Well, I'll tell you why....Because long before I came to Halifax, long before I ever even went to my first rave 'lo those many years ago, I was best friends with Bruce Yip, in junior and senior high school. I'd been his friend for years, and so when he asked me for my help I said "How high?"

So maybe you can imagine my surprise and fury when I was not only defrauded for all my time, money, ideas and

attitude toward these people. I for one think Christians and other religious persons should get at least a week to express their beliefs and understanding of the world. No matter what you think of them you should at least try to keep an open mind instead of regressing into rhetoric yourself. You talk of Christianity assimilating people when these days religious ideals are being replaced by technological ideals which quite frankly I don't think are any better. Technology has become a powerful assimilating force and you have little choice but to listen to it; you are made to feel un-cool if you don't have a cell phone and the latest Gap clothing. Technology has only proven to separate people, not bring them together like many people still believe for some odd reason. My point is, everyone is bombarded every day by corporate ideals and maybe you have been so irreversibly brainwashed into believing them your mind is no longer open to other peoples ideas. So maybe you should use your university education in a more constructive way instead of insulting these people and contradicting yourself.

THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Volume 133, no. 19

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All submissions must be e-mailed, or on a Mac or IBM 3 1/2 inch disk, in a "text" format. The deadline is Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

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Jesus Awareness Week not what you think

Editor,

The idea of a Jesus Denial Week is indeed a novel concept.

The longing for a world without Jesus — or God for that matter — is not new. It has kept the Humanist tradition alive for centuries and still holds many rapt in the idea that they can find the answers to life's deepest questions within themselves. Who among us hasn't been captured by the fleeting desire to find the Divine in our own abilities, our own emotions, our own logic? From this natural human desire springs the musings of *The Gazette* Production Manager, Patrick Blackie in last week's editorial, "All rejoice for Jesus Denial Week" (08/02/01). Blackie makes some valid criticisms of both the Christian faith and the recent *Jesus Awareness Week* at Dalhousie.

Unfortunately, he skates onto thin ice by implying that the only causes worthy of attention at this university are those he agrees with. According to Blackie, while landmines and animal food-production are fair game, religion, faith and theology are not — especially if they are Christian.

The right to think, say, feel whatever we choose is central to Canadian society. Inherent in this principle is the right to criticize the beliefs and actions of others. Had Mr. Blackie offered an argument against the historicity of Christ or the reliability of the Bible, all would be well. It's the idea that certain groups should hold their tongues, be silent, stay behind closed doors, that undermines Blackie's journalistic efforts. The very freedoms which allow him to express himself on a bi-weekly basis are those he attacks by arguing that "... Jesus and preaching belong in the church."

In the small Newfoundland town where both Mr. Blackie and I grew up, the strategy for getting by was to follow the crowd. It would not do to think or speak in ways which failed to conform with the majority. Yours was not to question, but to fit in. Thankfully, age and experience teach that reasonable people *can* disagree. At any university worth attending, there can be no room for constraints on expression or even the suggestion thereof. In order to maintain its utility to society, the university environment must be a free market of ideas. Any attempt to question the rights of others to put forth their views is nothing short of intellectual protectionism. It reeks of a type of authoritarianism against which Humanists have led the charge. If a university campus is not the proper place to have the discussions which occurred during *Jesus Awareness Week*, then where?

On the topic of advertising for *Jesus Awareness Week*, Blackie correctly points out that a certain amount of gimmickery was involved. But the message behind the "Real Jesus" campaign was a serious one. This Man, whoever he truly was, has been co-opted by many over the years and made to symbolize a variety of causes. In the United States, via Charlton Heston, Jesus is the saviour of the right to bear arms. In Canada, he is made to preside over the steady erosion of society's care of the poor. The Real Jesus, if anyone cared to read his words, would never have supported such causes. His life was a mixture of radical compassion and ultimate sacrifice. In order to understand the man, one need only look at his own words. Christ said he was more than a teacher, more than a prophet, more than a nice guy. He said he was the Son of God. Last week at Dalhousie, an attempt was made to

bring this truth to light.

Blackie's assertion that "Christianity needs to assimilate in order to have value" is perhaps the most questionable notion of all. While I'm not big on political correctness, "assimilation" is unquestionably a dirty word. It is illiberal in that it calls on every segment of society to fit in or get out. That's not what Canada is about and it shouldn't be part of campus life at Dalhousie. The proposition that "God means nothing if everyone doesn't believe," is analogous to the idea that the forces of gravity aren't real unless we all agree. God, if he exists at all, does so without our permission or consent. I'll be the first to admit that I can't prove the existence of God using a mathematical theorem. I can only look back on several years of earnestly gathering evidence for and against such things as creation and the crucifixion and offer my conclusions. And they are nothing more than that: *my* conclusions, *my* experience. They demand nothing of those around me, other than respect and space. If this is arrogance, then I'm at a loss as to how to find humility.

Groups like the *Dalhousie Navigators*, *Dalhousie Christian Fellowship* and *Campus Crusade for Christ*, may have funny-sounding names. They may do and say things which others don't take seriously or don't understand. But they are not cults, as Blackie implies. If nothing else, seven years of liberal arts education, including three in law school, have given me a distaste for vigorous proselytizing. On this I think, Blackie and I are in complete agreement. And while I cannot speak for the above-mentioned groups, I am familiar with them all. At one time or another, I have attended their events or come to know their members. Through it all

I can say that any agenda I have followed has been my own. The only rackets I belong to are those I choose and direct of my own free will. Apart from God himself, if a "governing entity" exists within Christianity, it has not been made known to me.

Like most of us, the members of Dal's Christian societies are looking for answers to difficult questions. The kind that arise out of the loss of loved ones, the failure of careers and relationships, and the suffering each of us sees in the world around us. But unlike most of those we pass in the halls, the members of these groups have begun to find some answers. *Jesus Awareness Week* was about sharing

those answers with those around us, not forcing conclusions on anyone. As one of last week's speakers, Dr. John Patrick, said, "God is the ultimate pro-choice god. He respects your wishes and will let you wander into any folly you choose." Let's be clear that his followers, at least here at Dal, are like-minded.

To find oneself in denial is an unhappy event at the best of times. And while I don't agree with the conclusions that brought you into that state, Patrick, I would die to protect your right to stay there. I trust that you will respect my right to Accept.

Andrew House

The importance of Jesus awareness

(DISCLAIMER: This piece states my personal opinion and does not necessarily represent the Dalhousie Chaplaincy, or any of its members).

As I read Patrick Blackie's plea for Christians to keep their beliefs to themselves ("All Rejoice for Jesus Denial Week"), I wondered what kind of world we would live in if the likes of Desmond Tutu, Oscar Romero, and Mahatma Gandhi had kept their respective faith convictions to themselves? For Christians, as well as members of many other faith groups, faith simply cannot remain a private matter without falsifying itself. Faith makes claims to truth — claims which can and must be presented, debated and contested in the public sphere.

The publicizing of such claims, as happened for instance during "Jesus Awareness Week", should not be considered strange in the university context. As an institution committed, at least in principle, to public debate about ideas and their implications, the university should welcome the opportunity to hear a variety of perspectives — especially when those perspectives are presented by their adherents. To discount them apriori, as mere idiosyncracies held by individuals, is not only unwarranted; it suggests its own particular brand of intolerance.

Indeed, the very notion that religion is a private matter irrelevant to the life of the university seems to be a kind of reigning orthodoxy in our genteel, "thou shalt not offend thy neighbour" society. We could profit, I believe, from open debate on this. Does such a notion really contribute to the "human progress" Mr. Blackie wants to preserve? Does it not rather serve to marginalize religiously-based voices of dissent? Does it not silence many of those who challenge the direction of public institutions that seem to reserve highest praise for knowledge that contributes to utility and profitability for their funders, rather than to the common good? Who else will raise such questions, if not members of religious communities?

Had Mr. Blackie actually

attended any of the events, he would have been able to make his contribution to the debate on the idea of tolerance in the university. He would have heard Christians talk about the importance of asking deeper questions about what is being proclaimed in Dal's lecture halls and propagated in its research programmes. He would have heard students discuss questions of economics, including the faith-based Jubilee 2000 programme to forgive Third World debt. He would have seen a debate over who Jesus is between a committed Christian and a committed Muslim, demonstrating that people can publicize their strong convictions, and disagree deeply, without violating norms of respect and civility.

He would not, I wager, have seen much evidence of "pushiness," or found warrant for his tacit accusation of Jesus Awareness Week being cult-like. (A more helpful set of guidelines for distinguishing legitimate faith groups, by the way, is available from the chaplains office). All this is, of course, moot anyway as he wrote his editorial before Jesus Awareness Week was completed.

People are entitled to formulate their own opinions about the claims Christians make about Jesus (or, for that matter, the claims Muslims make about the Prophet, or what Buddhists claim about Gautama, and so forth.) With that I am in full agreement. But surely it is better if people do this having taken the opportunity to hear what the Christian groups had to say about Jesus, and his relevance to our life as members of the Dalhousie community, rather than closing their minds from the outset. The fact that 370 people turned up to the Christian-Muslim debate on Friday night shows that many others would agree.

We have nothing to fear from pursuing truth — except of course that truth could revolutionize our lives if we're open to it.

Dr. Stephen Martin
Christian Reformed Chaplain
Dalhousie University

RANT OR RAVE

Dinosaurs will die

As some of you may be aware Napster has recently survived the ninth legal attack on its existence by large music labels. Ruling from this most recent session threatens a possible shut down of the community. The situation is immoral and quite irrelevant. CD's are expensive, one pays anywhere between \$13.00 and \$30.00 for one CD. Of that cost approximately \$1.00 goes to the artist or band who's music is contained therein. It costs approximately another dollar to pay for recording of the music and the creation of the CD. The remaining \$11-\$28 goes to a) the store at which the disc was purchased b) the distributor (the dude who brings the CD to the store) and c) the record label. Both the consumer and the artist receive a shaft royal in this deal. The consumer pays a stupid amount of money to a series of middlemen and the artist most likely loses customers due to this blood sucking process. In light of the allocation of the cost that the consumer pays for a CD one can see that the record label's fight against Napster is a fight to keep this chain of middle men alive. Not only do these bloated corporations desire to continue making radical profits off music listeners and artists alike but they are also striving to continue to exert a large degree of control over the tastes and interests of the consumer.

Up until the creation of Napster and other file sharing programs one of the only ways for an artist to rise above his local music scene was to get signed by a record company. Once signed the label then promotes, schedules concerts and studio time for the artist. As a part of such contracts the artist is then required to produce a certain number of albums, play a certain number of shows, sign the rights of their music to the record label and is subject to the musical whims of a "producer" who is assigned to the band by the label. Essentially for a fraction of the money that the record label will eventually make off an artist, he (she, them, whatever) gets a shot at stardom and allows the company a large degree of creative control over his product. However, music is not pizza. You can't expect any musician to be able to follow strict deadlines for the creation of music without the quality of the musical content suffering. I think this idea is exemplified in such musical groups such as The Back Street Boys, Nsync and Christiana Aguleria. Over marketed and under talented endeavours contrived and heavily supported by music companies for the sole reason of profit. Large record companies have the money to do this, to push crap down throats of music consumers, especially those of the younger and impressionable consumer. They have the power to stage large concerts, pay for flashy videos clothes, studio time, and music writers ... whatever it takes to market their product. This is immoral.

I think we presently stand on the threshold of a new music scene. Through the communicative power of the Internet anyone can listen to whatever music they desire, whenever they want. The option for musical experimentation is wide open as well in the ideal future. One won't have to dish out 30 bucks for a classical music CD if one wants only to check out the genre, unsure of whether or not such music fits his personal tastes. Artists will also benefit greatly. Anyone making music can instantly make their music available to the entire world over the Internet, no middlemen, no creative restrictions. Some of us (50 million according to Napster) have already crossed the threshold and now wait in fear to see if the large, irrelevant, and expensive record labels will pull us back to their prehistoric period. Lets hope they are unsuccessful and that such large power-holding corporations eventually die out. In the words of Fat Mike: "Extinction never felt so good."

Jeremy Sears

The 2001 ECMAs and just a smidge of consumption

or, how to stumble through an awards show weekend

Wednesday, Feb. 7

And as my eyes decided to focus, it all became clear.

What did? PEI.

OH. Anywho, it seems as though I've arrived in the land of Confederation. Let's pause to thank all the hard working boys and girls that made it all happen.

Cling, Cling.

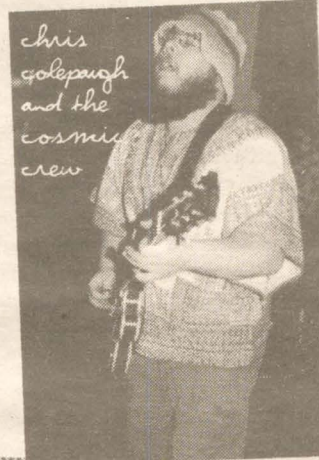
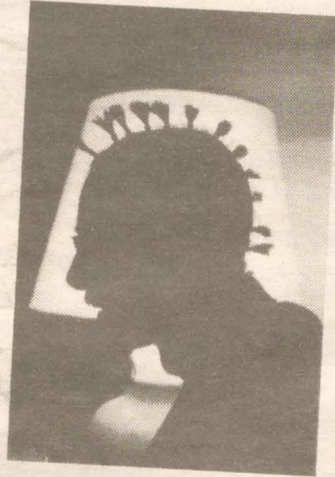
The town/city of Charlottetown is about to be inundated with sound. Sound will be emanating from the bowls of toilets all over town as well as from the beer caps that are twisted from the bottles that they once called home.

There will be the sound of ass kissing schmoozers as well as sound from the lips of the singers making love to their microphones.

It's Wednesday and starting tomorrow, the many sounds of the ECMA Awards Festival here in PEI will intoxicate me like the quart of Vodka that I just shared with Drinking Buddy #1.

My highlight of the night involves a smudge pot and some marshmallows all in the comforts of a living room. The smoke from a fine little corn pipe makes the domesticated horse hoof roast a hell of a lot more amusing.

That's enough Wednesday, thanks as head hits pillow at four a.m.



Friday, Feb. 9

We are drunk, but not ridiculous by any means. It is now 4:00 a.m. and Flush has just started their set. They sound a lot better here and it shows in their performance. They are loud, intense, and definitely present. After several drinks and some serious power chords, the time reveals itself and 5:00 a.m. seems like the ideal time to call it a day.

My brain wakes up about half an hour after it became vertical at 12:30. My belly smiles as the second Western Omelette in two days hits the G spot in my belly.

Two more drinking buddies have arrived in town and it looks like we're headed for another night of debauchery.

Tonight's first venue of choice is The Barn, which actually looks like a barn and is located on the campus. On arrival, we are blessed with some incredible screaming metal band. Fortunately that ends.

My basketball buddy, Kunga 219 is playing upstairs with Gordski (together they are The Goods) providing the beats. However, something goes wrong with the mixer or some shit and they are forced to depend on a mini disc player. The set is excellent, once again affirming the fact that The Goods are indeed a fine hip hop duo.

For all you Goods fans out in the world, there are a few albums due out soon. You can expect a fourth Goods album and a 12" ep containing the "Monkey Motion" melody.

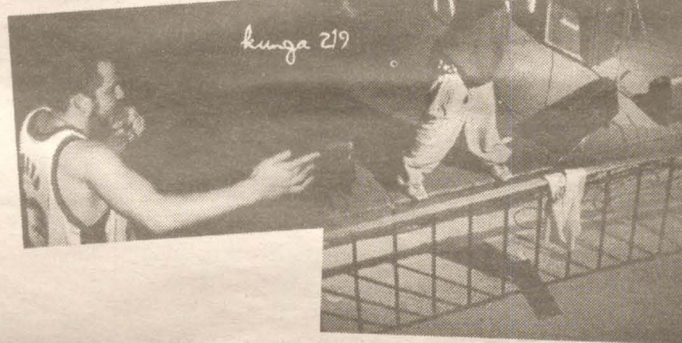
Coming up next, Fermented Reptile who I'd heard much about but hadn't actually heard. He doesn't disappoint, providing the crowd with quality rhymes, sitting on the wall directly across from that much despised 'bitches and gats' fence that seems to be rising higher and higher by the day.

Our one true problem with the bar is that there is a wet/dry thing going on. All us drinkers are told to stay in designated alcohol pens which means that we can't take drinks between the upstairs/downstairs shows and therefore have to buy and stash drinks on separate floors. Damn those under agers.

We now have to travel back into town so that we can all cover separate shows. By now, the time is 11:00 p.m. and I'm on my way to check out The Jive Kings at a church hall.

Once inside, we are confronted with a crowd of all ages, none under 19. There is beer being served and the Kings' are well into their set. I weave my way up front and the wonderful sound of jive/swing fills my head. Swaying to the beer, I mean music, their playing goes on for about an hour. It's now time to head back out to The Barn again. The Aaron MacDonald Band starts at 12:00 P.M. and I'm late.

Somehow, me and Drinking Buddy #1 get a ride back out to the university with two Italians. We catch about twenty minutes of the show which was good but not as great as their show I saw at The Attic. Either way, they're always a crowd mover and tonight was no exception. The time is now 12:30 and The Carson Downey Band is playing at 2:00 a.m. It's Saturday.



Thursday, Feb. 8

Waking up at the bright hour of twelvish, Drinking Buddy #1 and myself rise into the wonderful day that is Charlottetown. The mouth inside my face is beyond clean, and has reached a plateau only created by excellent Russian/Benson relations.

One will truly experience Charlottetown only if they take in the divine fare that Checkers Restaurant has to offer. My stomach has just enveloped a Western Omelette (the first of four) and my feet are once again back on earth. God Bless Ham and Cheese.

Fueled up on coffee and egg, it's time to reap the benefits of being a journalist. We head towards the ECMA haven, also known as The Delta, to get our press passes.

When worn around the neck, these passes can offer the wearer a feeling of self importance that allows them to act the role, avoiding those that may be less important than the ass that needs to be kissed on the corporate big wig. The passes also get you into a lot of different things for free.

The time is now around five o'clock and the time has come to quench the yearning desire that is emanating from my liver. Let us consume further.

Being that tonight is the first real night of the festival, there are many options calling out from around the town.

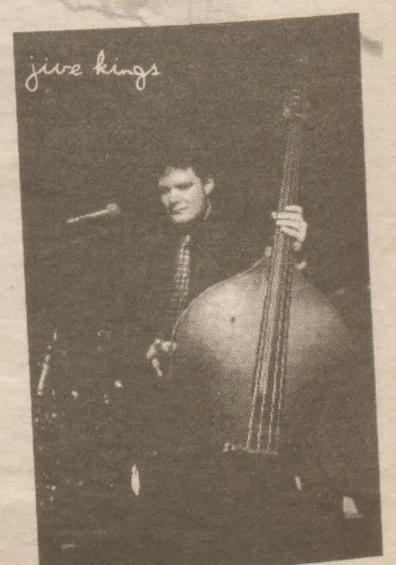
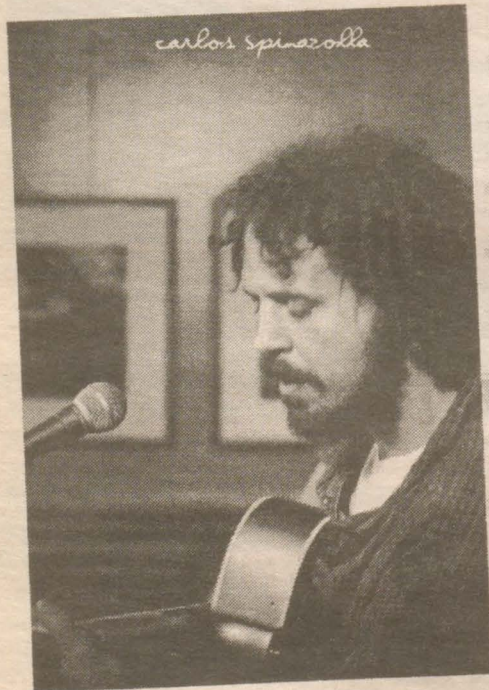
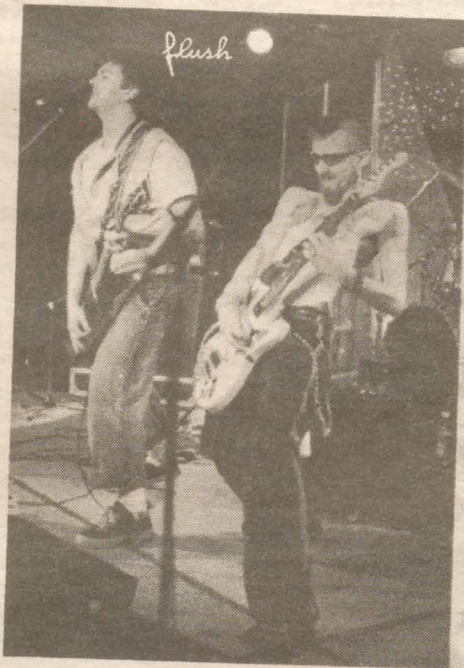
Our ears guide us to a spot called Fishbones. They have giant oyster shells on the walls, reasonably priced refreshments and a crappy sound system.

They have a large line-up of music tonight and we take in a big chunk of it. My favorites include Eyes For Telescopes and Flush. Flush has big sound and a lot of driving energy that will sound a lot better at the 76 Hour Jam. Flush is playing there at four in the morning.

The Jam is in a giant room with a stage at the front and a hell of a lot of space to move around in front of that. Oh yeah, there is also music being played and liquor being sold there at all hours of the day, which means there is no last call for three days. Excellent.

After purchasing some really crappy pizza, we find ourselves headed towards the Jam spot, i.e. Temple Of Perpetual Indulgence Two (ask me about the first one).

When we get inside, there is a fairly cool teenage Brass Band on stage doing a variety of covers, my favorite being the James Bond Theme song. The time is around 3:30 a.m. I guess that makes it Friday.



Sunday Feb. 11

Saturday, Feb 10

For whatever reason, we head back into the pizza joint that had provided us with crap the night before. It tasted a whole lot better tonight. I think it was because of the litre of donair sauce that I put on my slice. The time is now 1:45 a.m. so we head over to the Carson Downey jam.

Once inside the rather large bar, we acquire our drinking equipment and watch Carson and Co. play some excellent blues/rock for about 45 minutes. The scene doesn't hold our interests for too long and we give into tiredness at around 3:00 a.m. Goodnight.

The day of Saturday Feb.10 is pretty much a write-off. I'm tired. My brain hurts and I quickly decide that rest is in order for today. My day is spent eating yet another Western Omelette, viewing a Jive Kings session and watching a very disappointing NBA All Star skills competition. I'm in bed by midnight.



Today is the final day of the ECMAs and what better way to start the end than with a Western Omelette. It will be my final one during the trip.

The real show tonight will be the after party being held at the Delta tonight. Everyone who's anyone will be there and asses will be kissed clear off this potato providing island. It's going to be great. After a preparation of whiskey and cigarettes, we find ourselves in the hotel amongst the well dressed partys who will all be waking up with cloudy heads. There are pretty faces everywhere and an insane amount of leather/pleather (it's so hard to tell these days.) With beer in hand, I find a nice couch to sit on and do a bit of people watching. A guy sits down next to me and introduces himself as Nathan C, the producer for PaPa Grand. We get in a conversation about thongs.

I am then approached by a girl who played the role of Cunt during the recent Vagina Monologues play in Halifax. My night is improving by the minute. Time is flying by and I see that, after numerous drinks and conversations, the clock says it's 2:00 a.m. The party is slowly thinning out and people are heading up into their rooms. Word goes out that there are free drinks upstairs in Room 831, courtesy of Red Licorice so that's where I go.

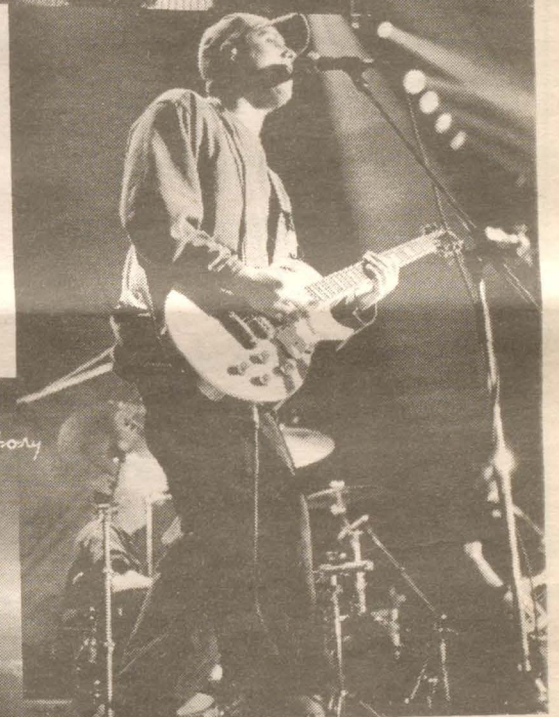
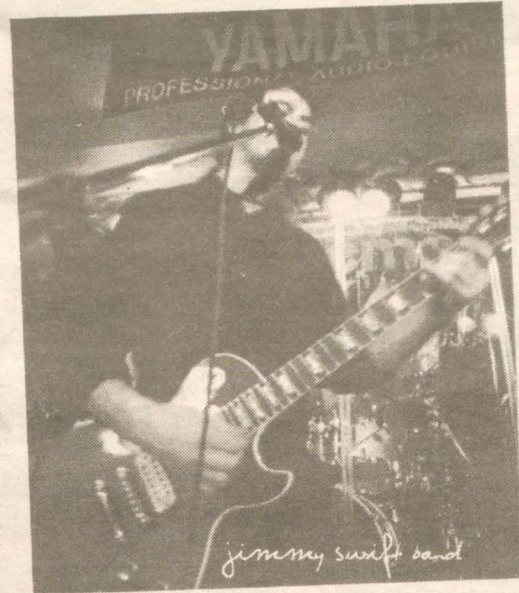
Upon entrance, I'm greeted by a bed covered with liquor samples. Hoorah! I pocket a few for later abuse and head out with a great guy named Donovan. He needs a vodka and orange and I need mix for the rum burning a hole in my pocket. No go. The bars are all closed so I pour the bottle of rum into Donovan's martini that he has and we start sipping on that nastiness.

We head back upstairs and find a solid hall party going on on the sixth floor. There are people everywhere and I befriend a lady with a bottle of Cheeze Whiz. We set up a fine picnic in the middle of the hall and have a meal of cheese product.

There are parties going on everywhere and each room has instruments being played and groups of people singing along. It's incredible. There's almost too much talent in one place and the walls are having a hard time containing it all.

After numerous hours of drinking everything and anything, the time finds itself at 7:00 A.M.. It's time to leave because our ride home is leaving in a few hours and i have to hitch a ride to Fredericton to see my lady friend.

The weekend is now over and my liver is yelling it's disdain at that very fact. Personally, I think that it needs the rest.

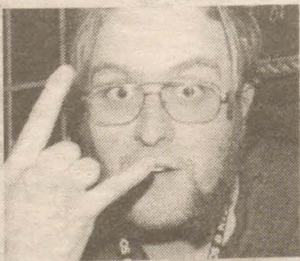


if you're having fun so far, there's more ecma stuff on the next couple of pages →

new ecma



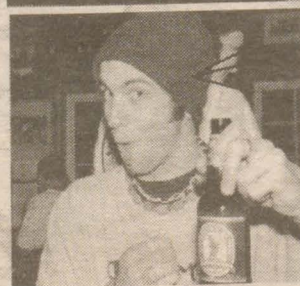
jon (animal) elmer - pix



pat (southern dandy) blackie - pix



thomas (dead poet) edelson - pix



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"Horse high bull strong pig tight ..."

by **thomas cameron edelson**
the gazette

Charlottetown, PEI.

The drinking began early. You could see it in peoples' eyes and smell it on their breath. Even the fresh tracks on Charlottetown's sidewalks, revealed a debauched nature. The East Coast Music Awards have arrived and people are celebrating music, life and liquor.

The afternoon began at the

Olde Dublin Inn where the journalists' reception was being held. This equated to free beers and all the free veggies you could eat. Everyone knows that feeding veggies to journalists is a dangerous concept with unforeseen consequences.

The myriad of bars and bands began to wear thin as Friday met Saturday and it was time for some water to dilute the beer before the next interview with a band from PEI called Eyes For Telescope.

They weren't playing at the ECMA's or in contention for any awards; it was just another few nights of playing music in their hometown bars packed with strangers.

"We're sort of weekend warriors when it comes to touring," said Craig MacPherson, the bassist in Eyes For Telescope.

"Not this weekend, obviously, but we are normally on the road four weekends a month."

It was a tight schedule for everyone. Their manager, Nigel, said there was only enough time to roll a joint before they had to move again to the next venue. The bands at every bar this weekend were allotted only half an hour each to accomplish the highest variety and chaos.

The band consists of five friends who didn't previously know each other before playing together, although they are all from PEI.

Belinda Doyle is the lead singer who occasionally bangs a tambourine. Dan Currie sings and plays guitar along with Pat Deighan who also plays guitar but admits he cannot sing. Craig MacPherson plays bass and is constantly making jokes or mumbling to himself and Mike MacDougall plays the drums. Nigel is their self-confessed "half-assed manger and spiritual advisor." It's a tight group enjoying their present situation.

"PEI is a really cool place, we've got a really cool scene for the size of it, musically speaking," Currie announced in an honest but general way.

They have only been playing together as a band for a little more than a year. Their first album *Please Survive* hasn't sold many copies and probably won't. It's a good album as a premier album from a young Rock/Funk group, but they admit there are so many other bands to hear and the road to musical success is long and complicated.

"It's not financial support, we don't make enough, but it's more than fun, it's definitely serious," explains Currie.

As is the case for most poor student bands, *Please Survive* was printed and produced for the sake of making an album and hopefully some money on the side. It has had some limited success on PEI and the other Atlantic Provinces. The name for their album was Pat Deighan's conception and fits perfectly.

"Basically this name means please survive the winter. The winters here suck and we just want to all get through it, ah, that's about it ... and it pertains to some friends that are running through some hard times, so just generally to everybody. Get your shit together and we'll all survive," said Deighan. It seems like a good idea with the snow

continuing to fall.

Nigel had almost finished his appointed task and the interview was about to finish. The last question asked to the band members was "*The Dalhousie Gazette* rots in as many gutters as it is read so if you have anything to say that you want to rot in a gutter, what is it?"

"I can't do it," said Doyle maintaining her position of saying as little as possible.

"Ice cream audio science pants and I probably stole Mike's butt," said MacPherson

Mike MacDougall acknowledges his bass player "Thanks a lot man." and adding as his own comment, "All I know is I don't know nothin'."

"Eat your vegetables," Currie advised.

Deighan looks to his manager for help. "I'm lost for words, but I'll pass you to Nigel. Nigel give us a good quote."

Caught in concentration Nigel finishes licking the glue on a rolling paper and says "It must be jelly, cause jam don't shake like that."

Eyes for Telescope were the buzz band of the ECMA's and they are playing at the Attic on Feb. 24.

THE PLANET

Entertainment

Thursday, Feb. 15th Tribute 60's & 70's Rock & Roll

Friday, Feb 16th Rose Cousins & Joyce Saunders

Saturday, Feb. 17th Hunoo with Dr. Yellow Fever

Friday, Feb. 23rd, Heavy Meadows

Saturday, Feb. 24th, Grand Theft Bus

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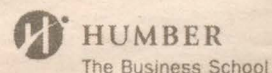
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The Gazette



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PHOTO ID REQUIRED 19+

A drunken dance with East Coast music

by patrick blackie

the gazette

As I entered the magical splendor of Charlottetown PEI for the East Coast Music Awards last weekend, I expected very little to impress me in the musical diversity and quality of the events. I would unquestionably acknowledge that the East Coast is riddled with talent, and a surprising diversity, but I never envisioned walking away from anything at the ECMA's with an actual feeling of legitimate pride in East Coast music.

My ECMA experience consisted of one day of events, almost exactly a 24-hour period, minus sleep and food. I unfortunately missed New Brunswick's **Annick Gagnon's** (cross

between Brittany Spears and Lou Feregno) performance from the glamorous and legitimate venue of the Confederation Court Mall in the middle of 'downtown' Charlottetown, but I sealed the wound with a few Guinness and the saltwater stylings of Nova Scotia's **Barnacle** and **Banshee** in the Olde Dublin Pub. I have never felt any strong attachment to traditional Maritime/Atlantic Canadian music, but it certainly is a great way to start into heavy alcohol consumption.

After gaining a bit of momentum, and still not in awe of the musical depth of the ECMA's, I saddled up and nosied to the UPEI Barn, a student bar/church hall-type set up with shows happening up and downstairs all night. Under the gloss of two beer for the price of one, I caught the powerfully intense and angry sound of **The Burdocks**, a group of adrenaline inspired lads with a pension for loudness who despite not pumping out the Christian rock that I would have preferred, were quite impressive regardless. The Altercase, set up in contrast to the more 'mainstream' showcases of the ECMA's, had gotten off to a good start.

Later on during the Altercases, **The Goods**, or at least some of

them, teamed up with **DJ Gordsky**, who was filling in for **Taichichi**, who was unable to attend. In the upstairs of the church hall, the duo that was supposed to be **RooseveltTharpa** met with more unfortunateness as the mixer broke, leaving **Gordsky** with nothing to do and Noah from the Goods on his own. The performance, however, was solid, as Noah let loose with impunity, ripping off rhymes that delighted the small congregation. As a grand finale, he ripped off a freestyle that impressed everyone, even those with no nose for hip hop, and complimented the cheap beer nicely.

Chris Colepaugh and the Cosmic Crew ripped out soon after, laying down some funky bass and mad percussion to accompany Colepaugh's spot on guitar riffs and solos. This was the part of the evening where things become quite hazy, but the solid and immensely talented CC+CC and the musical time warp they created was not to be forgotten.

This was about the time also that I started to realize that these talented performers were not only the alternative to the ECMA showcases, but that these people were all from the Atlantic region,

and although not all are my cup of tea, they are all talented and tight with serious musical ability. Looking at the Altercase, I began to wonder why these groups were not on the ECMA bill. Why are **Buck 65** and **Flush** playing in a shed while the **Ennis Sisters** and **Damnait Doyle** are headlining?

Further more, who cares? The point is that all the real, gritty talent of the East Coast was still there, just hiding in different places. This was the ECMA's, and awards shows are notoriously slanted towards the less encouraging music, so I sat back and enjoyed the fact that I was amongst the other side; the good side of the ECMA's.

From CC+CC came **Fermented Reptile**, another Nova Scotian hip hop representee who lit up the stage in a big way. I have never seen this guy rip off, and it was quite a sight. Legitimate hip hop with something to say, a treat no matter where you are, and a freestyle that blew the crowd of stumbling drunkards, although most probably didn't know what was so good about it. **Fermented Reptile** is something that we should all be proud to have pumping music into our heads, and we should show it more often.

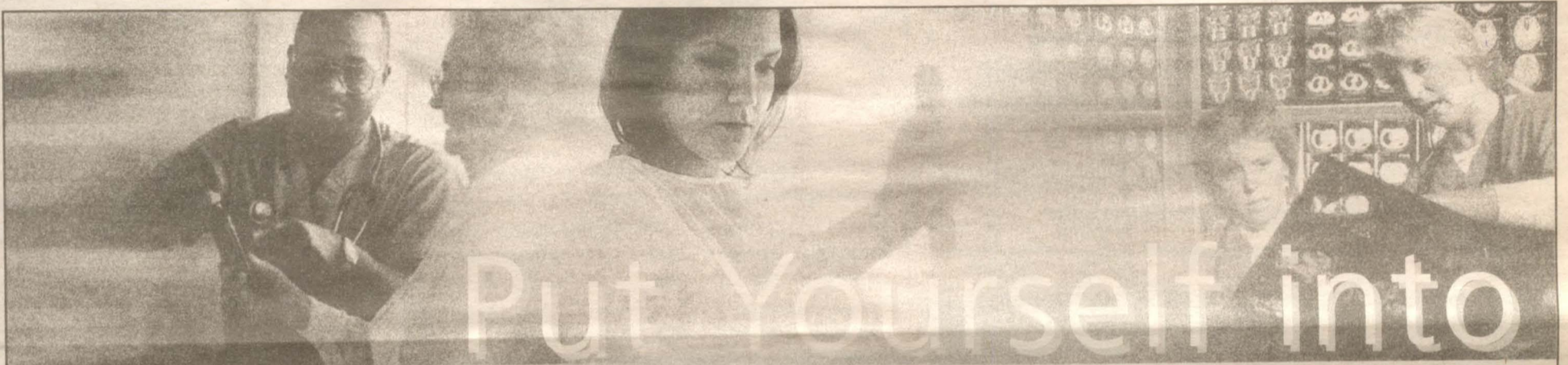
It was a crosstown journey

that followed, to another small venue, for the smooth and creamy acoustic texture of **Carlos Spinazolla**, another music treasure of the region. In the cave-like sureality of Fishbones, Spinazolla hypnotized the crowd with his own blend of jazzy blues.

The Jimmy Swift Band and **The Aaron MacDonald Band** insighted respective music riots back on UPEI turf, pumping out intense sets of tight music, once more showing that Halifax, and the coast, is more than able to rock with style.

The final act of my one alcohol-fueled escapade at the ECMA's was **the Carson Downey Band**, a blues trio from Halifax, who toasted the crowd with sick guitar licks and genuine blues. No wonder Carson won the Fender guitarist award — the man is a lunatic when it comes to the six-string.

All in all, I was amazed — the talent shown by East Coast artists, in the alternative showcases, was profound. It was a great social scene with solid music to back it up. The goings on in Charlottetown were significant — if you didn't like the crap you saw on CBC, don't despair. The real music is out there, its just a bit harder to find, and copious consumption of spirits often helps, if I learned anything.



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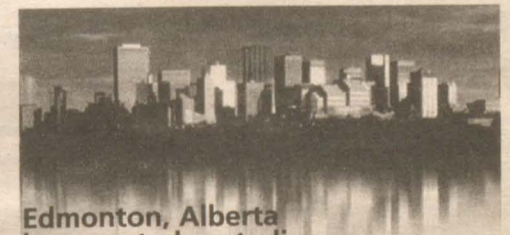
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Thursday Feb. 15 — Blast back to the mid '90's and walk this way! Go to **The Attic** for a **Run DMC** album release party. Run DMC won't be there — it's better than that — **Skratch Bastard** and the **Druncness Monster** are going rip shit up. Just as an aside, Druncness is the DJ for Canadian popstars **Len**. You know them, the sister and brother who "Steal My Sunshine," yeah, anyway....

Friday Feb. 16 — Caitlin put some rude things here, but why not just wonder why the hell you aren't sunbathing in the Dominican or wisking down the ski hills at Whistler.

Saturday Feb. 17 — They won two ECMA's, one during the pre-show and another during the actual award show, and now **The Carson Downey Band** are finally getting the recognition they deserve. They are fun, talented, and funky, so go check them out at **The Attic**. It's a double bonus because **Carlo Spinzzola** is the opening act.

If you're putting something on let us know — it might be cool enough for the cool kids...

Caitlin Kealey

gazette@is2.dal.ca

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...definition n.

by haley stevens
the gazette

This week's word is

TESTUDINAL:
adj. of or like a tortoise or tortoiseshell

Myke Denny
1st year Arts
Sounds like some sort of disease and I don't want it.

Wendy Hughes
1st year Arts
A fascination with one's own genital area.

Chris Turner and Glenn Patriquin
1st year Science
Doing something as a testicle would do it.

P.J. Walcott
3rd year undeclared
Something amphibious or reptile-like, (something like a tortoise).

Weibke Kungul
2nd year Arts
An upside-down test tube.

Martin Weller
1st year Arts
Some sort of medical definition for when a woman gets her tubes tied.

Marc Skerry
2nd year Computer Science
I'd have to say a word you made up.

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Classics, I says...

Each week we ask a different person to share their idea on a classic book, movie, and CD.

by ian macIntyre
the gazette

Movie — Clerks

Clerks, Kevin Smith's 1994 indie masterpiece/ break-through piece of work, definitely rests firmly at the top of my "favourite movies" list. Shot entirely on black and white film in the Kwik-Stop store where Smith himself worked, *Clerks* shows a day in the life of Dante, (played by Brian O'Halloran), an unmotivated convenience store clerk with girl problems, and his acerbic coworker Randal (Jeff Anderson). One also can't forget Jay and Silent Bob (played by Jason Mewes and Smith himself, respectively) who spend the entire film in front of the Kwik-Stop, dispensing threats, narcotics, and advice to anyone who happens by. The movie itself has a very distinctively indie feel, with a non-existent budget (\$10,000, financed mostly by maxed-out credit cards), and with most of the cast being comprised of Smith's friends. However, the real draw of this movie lies in Smith's writing, and his natural ability to tell a story. The dialogue and exchanges between Dante and Randal are both hilarious and insightful (not to mention shockingly vulgar), as they discuss love, sex, and the ethical ramifications of *Return of the Jedi*. Even though most people herald *Chasing Amy* as Kevin Smith's best movie (and it is great), I prefer the simplicity and raw talent that he displays in *Clerks* (I even have my copy autographed by the man himself). If you like this flick, check out *Mallrats*, the afore-mentioned *Chasing Amy*, *Dogma*, or any of the *Clerks* comic books. Which brings me to my next choice...

Book — The Adventures of Barry Ween: Boy Genius, Judd Winick

I know what you're thinking. "Comics aren't real books, they're for kids." Well not this funny-book, folks. *The Adventures of Barry Ween* is written by ex-MTV's *Real World's* Judd Winick. He tells the story of Barry, a foul mouthed ten year old who was born a genius (his first words in the delivery room were "Jesus it's cold out here!") Forced to hide his intelligence while growing up, Barry, along with his friend/side-kick/accomplice Jeremy, must carry out his experiments in secret, with craziness generally ensuing. Though it doesn't sound like the greatest premise, its Winick's incredible sense of humour, observation, and creativity that truly drives this book. The way I always describe the comic is "kinda like the cartoon 'Dexter's Laboratory', if it were actually funny". Winick not only writes but also draws this series, using a cartoony and highly expressive style that fits it perfectly. Throughout the series, Winick takes several cliched situations (the boys meet an alien, travel back in time, etc) and infuses them with new energy, creating refreshingly original and laugh-out-loud hilarious stories. This isn't the only great work that Winick has done in the comics field though. If you're interested, check out his terrific early work *Frumpy the Clown*, or his Pulitzer

continued on next page

Reel Life

Hannibal

by mark evans

the gazette

Hannibal is one of those releases that comes wrapped in a bulletproof jacket. It doesn't matter what shots get taken at it, it will still be able to stand up at the box office and turn a profit. In a way that's a shame because *Hannibal* is a much inferior product than *The Silence of the Lambs*.

continued from previous page

Prize nominated *Pedro and Me*. The latter is a moving, heartfelt account of the life of Pedro Zamora, (Winick's Real World castmate), his tragic battle with the AIDS virus, and his tragic death. I would recommend any of Winick's work, since it's all chock-full of his unique and insightful brand of humour.

CD — *Siamese Dream*, Smashing Pumpkins

For years, the Smashing Pumpkins sophomore disc has remained my favourite CD. *Siamese Dream* is widely considered to represent the height of the Pumpkin's career, musically, and I would have to agree with that. Not only is each song masterfully crafted, but they all combine to make a versatile, intelligent album, which is great to listen to at any time. This is a fairly mellow disc, free from a lot of the gloom and depression that tends to bog down later Pumpkin albums (*Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness*, I'm looking in your direction). It also contains two of my favourite songs ever; "Soma," which has some of the best lyrics Billy Corgan has ever written, and "Disarm," Corgan's amazing and poignant account of his childhood. There's not a whole lot more to say about this CD, other than it is simply the Pumpkins at their lyrical, musical, and creative peak. I highly recommend checking it out.

The first movie was technically about the hunt for a deranged serial killer, but in reality its concern was the relationship between FBI trainee Clarice Starling (Jodie Foster in the first movie, Julianne Moore in the second) and the cannibalistic psychiatrist Hannibal Lecter.

The second movie dispenses with the side plots and puts Dr. Lecter at the fore, as the object of desire for one Mason Verger. Verger was one of Lecter's first victims, but he survived at the price of a horribly disfigured face and confinement to a wheelchair. His insidious plan for revenge is to feed Lecter to a herd of vicious feral pigs. Yeah, you read that right. It's so in the mold of James Bond villainy that he might as well be trying to fry Lecter with a laser beam placed on the moon.

Meanwhile, Agent Starling is in the middle of a huge blow-up over an arrest that went horribly wrong and has her under review. This evolves into a ploy by a slimeball from the Department of Justice (Ray Liotta) to place Clarice's career in jeopardy so Lecter surfaces from hiding in Italy and is drawn back to America and into Verger's hands. The arrest scenario just doesn't fit right either, especially given the fact that there are nearly ten witnesses who can easily clear Clarice's name.

The whole-Verger thing comes off as a string of contrivances to bring the good doctor back to America to pursue Clarice, especially with its lackluster wrap up. Verger himself is such an annoying runt of a psychotic that it's stretching to believe the FBI would do anything with his information beyond humoring him. We're

consistently reminded that Lecter has a certain "respect" for Clarice, so it's not as if it would be breaking consistency for him to come calling on her.

This leads to another problem, the lack of interaction between Clarice and Hannibal. This was done early and done often in *The Silence of the Lambs*, to good effect. Their interaction is still key to the audience's interest in the sequel, but not enough is made of it. When Moore & Hopkins are interacting you see the kind of promise this sequel had. The pair have no real tangible connection until nearly two-thirds into the film and its so utterly chilling when it does occur that one wonders why it wasn't done sooner.

Anthony Hopkins is this movie's greatest asset, reprising the role he will always be remembered for. He doesn't slurp or talk about fava beans, but he's still

unmistakable as Lecter. Any weaknesses of character are always the result of the script rather than his acting. Case in point is part of the sequence in Italy where he is portrayed as more of a slasher — like Jason or Freddy — than the bloodthirsty genius he tends to represent. But for the most part Hopkins is great to watch in this movie, as he truly brings Hannibal Lecter to life.

Julianne Moore has the utterly thankless role of trying to replace Jodie Foster, but she does it surprisingly well, to the point where she comes across just as well as Foster did. The ten-year interim has toughened Clarice up, while still leaving her with her human side, and her accent is, mercifully, less prevalent.

The Silence of the Lambs is built upon its characters and a genuine blanket of suspense that pervades everything, especially the ending. The only suspense during *Hannibal's* ending is how disgusting things can possibly get before the movie ends. There's a difference between disturbing you with ideas and disturbing you by going for the gross-out. And while most films would merely shoot themselves in the foot this way, *Hannibal* essentially tries to gnaw itself off at the knee.

Bottom Line: Like its titular

character, a combination of the refined and the savage, *Hannibal* is a bit of a mixture itself. The movie is in flux between the intense and the inane. When the intensity comes to the fore it almost, but not quite, elevates the movie to the level of its predecessor. But the garish

grotesqueness of some scenes, with their literal and figurative overkill, relegate the film to something one might leave to rot. Lecter himself comments on the restraint he's shown in the past years; director Ridley Scott would have done well to have learned from the good doctor's words.



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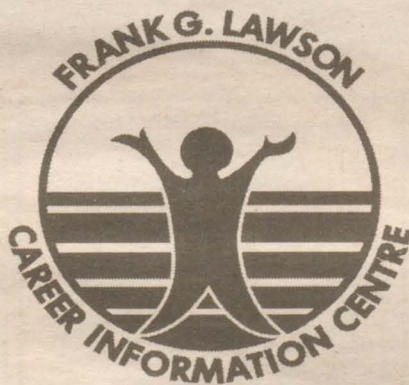


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Underground initiations

by ryan delehanty

the gazette

Well a new week is upon us and I'm still not at liberty to divulge exactly who is reuniting. If you were on the edge of your seat for the past week, I'm sorry, if you could care less or have no idea what I'm talking about, forget I said anything. Now on with the column.

I guess this will be part one of my rock and roll column, where I'll take a look at the godfather of rock, a rather interesting rock group from the sixties and a completely insane Japanese band currently wreaking havoc.

Born in 1911 (or 1912) near Jackson, Mississippi **Robert Johnson** is the man who truly sold his soul for rock n' roll. Now proclaimed the King of the Delta Blues Singers, to this day much of his life remains a mystery. The earliest recorded sightings of him were when he was still a kid, begging the more experienced blues musicians to let him play between their sets. When they would give in to his pleading and let him play a song, he would immediately be laughed off the stage, and slip away in shame. He was then seen again one year later, sharply dressed and full of confidence, with guitar chops good enough to blow away the best of his contemporaries. Pieced together from **Johnson's** songs came the explanation for his newfound talent, and the legend of the crossroads.

Go to the crossroads of Highway 61 and the old Highway 8 at midnight with your guitar, give the guitar to the man you'll meet there. He'll tune the guitar for you and ask you to play something. When he gives you the guitar back you'll have become a brilliant musician. The man is known as **Legba**, otherwise known as the devil, and the payment for this new talent is your soul. **Johnson** recorded twice in his lifetime, once in 1936 and once in 1937, a total of 29 different songs. From this his legend has lived on to this day, he influenced just about every blues musician that followed him, including **Howlin' Wolf** and **Muddy Waters**, and has also been an influence on **Eric Clapton**, **Jimi Hendrix**, **The Rolling Stones** and **Led Zeppelin**. He reportedly died in 1938, after playing a house party in Mississippi and flirting recklessly with the hosts wife, he was slipped a bottle of poisoned whisky, and died several days later in total agony.

Jumping way ahead to 1965 **The 13th Floor Elevators** formed in Austin, Texas. Led by **Roky Erickson** and **Tommy Hall** they were pioneers in psychedelic rock, and to my

knowledge, the first band to use the electric jug. They released their debut album, *The Psychedelic Sounds of the 13th Floor Elevators*, in 1966. The album is fantastic, and you might recognize the song "You're Gonna Miss Me" as the opening song from the movie *High Fidelity*. Following the release of the album the groups' massive consumption of psychedelic drugs began to attract the attention of the police. After laying low for a while they re-emerged in 1968 to release *Easter Everywhere* a more subdued, but equally impressive, album. They released their final album, *Bull of the Woods* in 1969 shortly before the band disintegrated. **Tommy Hall** became a born again Christian, while **Roky Erickson** and lead guitarist **Stacey Sutherland** were incarcerated for possession of marijuana. Tragically, **Sutherland** was shot and killed in a domestic quarrel in 1978, and **Erickson** while up on charges for narcotics possession, announced that he came from Mars, which landed him an indefinite sentence at the Rusk State Mental Institution where he underwent shock treatments and mind-correcting drugs. **Erickson** has since re-emerged in the music world to release some very good albums, in between stays in the mental ward.

Hailing from Tokyo, Japan **Guitar Wolf** plays loud, fast and energetic punk rock. Having already released two albums in Japan, and two more in the United States, **Guitar Wolf** were offered contracts from Matador Records after what was described as a frenzied NYC in-store that had downtown hipsters cowering and hoisting the white flag of surrender. After the band inhaled a few bottles of hooch, guitarist **Seiji** proceeded to stomp across counters and record bins (trailed by an alarmed shopkeep) before launching himself headfirst into the ceiling fan, the kind of shit you only see in cartoons. The mid-air collision laid him out on the concrete like a pancake but **Seiji** popped right back up and only missed a few notes. Now don't think these antics were a one time thing, the band, who claims to have recorded the loudest CD in history, is completely insane, and exactly what rock n' roll should be, loud, over the top, and absolutely terrifying.

Well that's it for another column, I'm really doubting if I should keep this up, so please, send me comments, either positive or negative, so long as they're honest. This week the best, or meanest comment will actually receive a prize, if you're a Sonic Youth fan you'll be thrilled, if not, well maybe I can arrange a different prize, so email undergroundinitiations@hotmail.com with your comments.

Jive Kings swing into a new year with style

by chris sullivan and caitlin kealey

the gazette

Swing music is pretty damn cool. The whole style that encompasses the scene is beautifully classic. Take the movie 'Swingers' for example. Everyone looked supa' fresh in that movie and the music was as lively as any opposite sex rabbits meeting each other for the first time.

Enter stage left: PEI's own Jive Kings. They've just picked up two more East Coast Music Awards and played the award show, receiving one of the loudest and most enthusiastic response from the crowd.

Bob Nicholson is the bass trombone and tuba player for the Jive Kings. The band says he's also, "manager for the time being."

The band consists of eight players and with the exception of one, all hail from PEI. It all started when Nicholson came back to the island after living in Toronto for ten years.

"I started making some phone calls and I knew a bunch of people around town who were good players. We'd been doing some Dixieland and I was just

hustling gigs. I needed some money. We did a few of these Dixieland gigs and decided that maybe we needed a singer and to add a few more guys to the band and try to put a band together to try to play some club dates around Charlottetown. It turned out to be a really good collection of guys."

That collection of guys ended up winning the East Coast Music Award for jazz last year for their first album, *Spoon for a Knife*.

"We're slowly getting known nationally and CBC played our first recording a little bit on a national basis. We won the ECMA award last year for jazz. That started people thinking to take a listen at least."

And guess what? Those listeners include ages ranging from young kids to seniors.

"Things are going really well in PEI as far as a following goes. We've done quite a few shows for all ages events and little kids are going nuts for the band. There are two year olds boogying and you get some seniors out. Seniors grew up to this type of music more than any of us. I think we're a little bit nuts live and Mike our

front man is a real energy kind of guy. Kids like him."

The Jive Kings have no plan. It all started with them playing a few gigs around Charlottetown and then they realized it was worth putting more effort in. How's the effort working for them?

Well three Ecma Awards later, they're feeling pretty good.

"We're getting to the point where we're almost making a living. We want to do it for a while and see what we can get out of it. Musically, it's getting more rewarding all the time, so hopefully the financial end of things will keep up with it. We want to get better known on a national basis so when the big festival and convention gigs aren't happening, we can branch out and play in other markets too," said Nicholson during an interview last month.

Hands down, the Jive Kings are one of the few bands that everyone can get into. That was obvious at the Basilica show they played over the ECMA weekend, your grandmother, sister or father could have been there dancing with you, however potentially embarrassing that may be.



Jive Kings: a three ECMA band.

photo by chris sullivan

CD REVIEWS

Brown Eyed Susans — *Afraid of Heights* (11 records)



In April 1998, Tarleton Gillespie, some dude at the University of California with his own web page said that the Brown Eyed Susans "make embarrassingly schlocky retro Brit-pop," and apparently not much has changed in two years. Kinda like the Wonder Stuff but not nearly as much fun or relevant, this couldn't be anymore boring than a greyhound trip through Saskatchewan in the dead of winter.

A Canadian answer to the question, "What are we gonna do now that the Beatles are gone?" A question nobody needed answered 30 years ago, and shouldn't have been answered today. It is at time Beatles-esque to the point of nausea. This is utterly shameless pop made for your little sister. More noble than N'Sync, I'm not sure that you'd find this to be a descent compromise. — Jason



Hennessy — *Life on a.m. radio* (Independent)

Don't expect anything more from this Ontario group than you would from a cup of hot cocoa served with whipped cream. It's a pleasant treat — short on nutrients, high in sugar and nice to drink on a cold winter's night, but hardly something you'd want to consume year-round.

Hennessy may one day replace "My Brilliant Beast" on the Canadian pop scene, so it may be worth your while to jump on the bandwagon now and grab a good seat up front with the hipsters. Then again, they may replace "The Pursuit of Happiness" and the wagon ride may not be nearly so fun or cool. We really won't know until the record company and their reps get around to "advising" them on how to get that big ol' contract offer. Perhaps I'm too cynical and they'll simply refine and grow and mature into something as good as "Crash Vegas" was. This first album hints at just that kind of potential. — Jason

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The importance of Black History Month

by graham simms
the gazette

Isaac has a Bachelors in Political Science from SMU, an MA in IDS jointly from SMU and Dal and a law degree from Dalhousie. Before getting to his PhD he was offered his present position as Associate Director of the Transition Year Programme where he has taught the Black Studies course called Global Odyssey: The Black Nova Scotian Experience in World Historical Context since 1992. While doing the law degree he was teaching IDS at Dal and at Acadia as well as at the African Nova Scotian Training Centre. He is on the Board of Directors of CKDU, where he has had a show for a number of years and on the Nova Scotia-Cuban Association. He has taught and published extensively on Cuba.

Isaac was born in Ireland, the son of a Trinidad-Tobago doctor and a black Nova Scotian mother. He grew up in Trinidad and Tobago. He writes of the importance of Black History Month, in Nova Scotia and around the world.

Black History Month is essential because it places the focus of society on a much neglected part of world society and Nova Scotian history. Some people have complained that February is the shortest month of the year, but Black History Month was actually chosen by Carter Wilson who is a prominent black educator. It emerged in 1926, and he chose February because the birthdays of Frederick Douglas, probably the greatest orator of the 19th century, a slave who won his freedom, Boutlier and Abraham Lincoln. He figured it was essential since people of African descent in the United States had such low self esteem about themselves as a people ie. their accomplishments. Basically black history begins with slavery and from slavery, it's simply one cataclysm after another, one desolate plain of non-achievement after another. So he figured it was essential for Black History Month to bring focus on the cumulative, for society as a whole, that black people have a history before the slave trade: A profoundly rich history of African civilizations as equal and in some cases surpassing European civilizations that rose and fell. So all of these accomplishments plus the

accomplishment of struggle and building new society within the Americas themselves.

One of the problems obviously is why should black history just be relegated to one month. Because implicit in that notion is that you only have to give focus to it for that one month and that's all we have to do. Dominant Nova Scotian history is pictured as being this onrushing river and black Nova Scotian history is this trivial stream that is completely separate. And that's ridiculous because you really can't understand Nova Scotian history in its totality unless you understand your black Nova Scotian history.

So for example the role of slavery in this province and in Canada. We're all familiar with that 'vignette' shown quite often on TV where it shows Canada as the end point of the famous underground railroad where enslaved Africans are being rescued from the southern united states and brought to the great freedom of Canada. But people don't know that slavery has long historical roots as an institution in Canada. Now it didn't achieve the same kind of scale in terms of the number of Africans enslaved or the extensive and comprehensive level of brutality in terms of economic exploitation that existed in the America's. It didn't achieve these levels because the Canadian economy at the time was based on trade especially the fur trade, it wasn't based on agricultural production so there was no plantations. Canada has such a short growing season so it was not that profitable.

But there were individual instances of tremendous brutality. For example in Nova Scotia most of the slaves were employed domestically or involved in hard labour or construction. What would happen was that whatever they were involved in would come to a halt when the winter came so what the slave owners used to do to cut their costs they would just let the slaves go and when spring came they'd go out and recapture them if they were still alive, if they hadn't starved to death- a way of cutting their costs. The black slave population survived with the assistance of the MicMac community. This is an under-researched area that needs to be explored.

In terms of slavery in Canada,

especially in Nova Scotia under the law slaves were chattel. This is under the British jurisdiction. One of the interesting things is that there was slavery under the French and there was slavery under the English and there were distinctions. Slavery is slavery. But there was much more interaction between the enslaved Africans and the owners under the french. Marriage between blacks and whites took place, masters would attend baptisms. The French never gave slavery that kind of racial twist that eventually developed under Britain, to preserve the status quo.

Under the British, slavery in Canada and especially in Nova Scotia had its justifications and it begins to establish the colour line and notions of where black Nova Scotians fit in, what people call the notion of place.

One of the things that takes place at the beginning of slavery in the Americas is that poor whites and enslaved Africans worked side by side, intermarried, share trials and tribulations and most importantly engaged in organizing joint resistance and rebellions against the white ruling circles in the States. You have this class solidarity that exists between enslaved Africans and poor whites, who saw themselves as having much more similarities — as almost being the same. In order to stop these joint struggles and rebellions this wedge is constructed by the ruling class. I don't want to become over conspiratorial but there's a lot of research [indicating] that it becomes necessary to drive a

The first recorded race riot in North America takes place in Nova Scotia, in Shelburn on July 26 1784. You had unemployed British soldiers who were being undercut by white employers who could employ blacks at cheaper wages. White workers rioted, beating and driving black workers out of Shelburn into the neighboring black community of Birchtown which had been set up on the margins.

One of the things in black history is that a lot of the black communities were deliberately put on the worst land and set far enough away so they couldn't be seen or be pests but close enough so they could come in and do their cheap labour work and leave. Like South Africa there were dusk-to-dawn laws. They could come in do their work at dawn and had to leave by dusk.

The founding of Halifax 1749 there were 100 slaves in town.

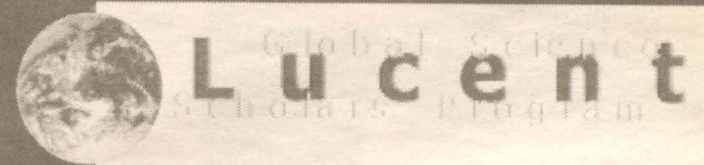
The chief means of labour for economic improvement of infrastructure was black loyalists. Slavery had established the precedent of treating blacks as cheap labour.

wedge between poor whites and Africans. The whole issue that this kind of enmity or friction between black and whites since time immemorial is not followed by history. They created the wedge by creating the ideology that there are inferior and superior races, by giving them [poor whites] priviledges over the blacks. It was a consciously developed strategy...Who's going to protect us from the slave populations? The answer was the poor whites. So they gave the poor whites a stick in the plantation slavery system. They paid the poor whites for policing.

Racism itself is a product of

slavery in the sense that slavery preceded the emergence of racism. Peasants in Europe were not enslaved because they won a series of rights and to have enslaved them would have pushed those rights past back what was granted in the Magna Carta and would have led to massive social upheaval. So they went to Africa because Africans had no status in terms of having any rights that European law would recognise. And this whole racist edifice of ideological and philosophical justification is built up over a period of time and assumed a life of its own.

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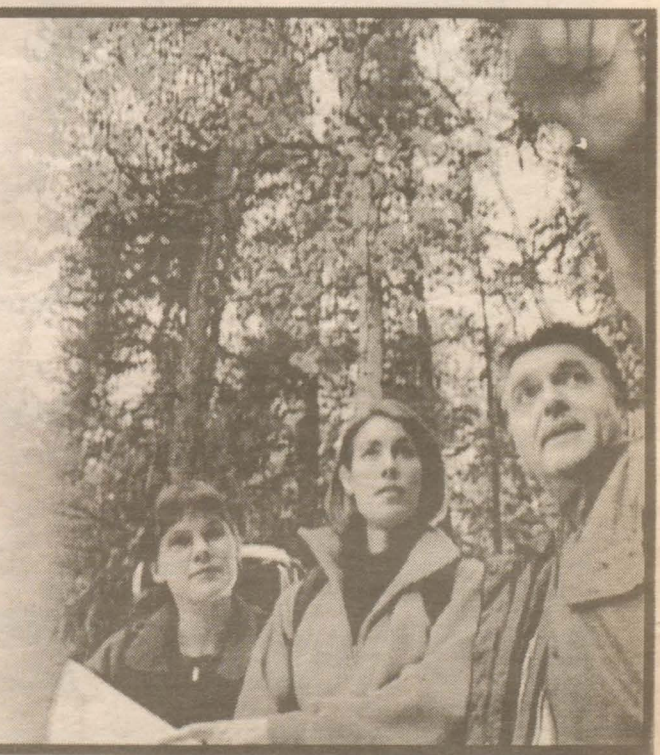


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A look into consumer spending patterns

by erin johnson
the gazette

Last year the Union of Concerned Scientists published the book *The consumer's guide to effective environmental choices: practical advice from the union of concerned scientists*. An email

article has been circulating around Halifax, summarizing some of the conclusions of this study and providing some eye-opening statistics.

The Union of Concerned Scientists, (UCS), is a group of scientists studying a wide range of environmental problems around

the world. One of the major concerns for scientists everywhere is that consumers are unaware of which products cause the most damage to the environment.

"It's fine to be concerned about the environment but in order for anything to be accomplished you have to do something and that starts in everyone's immediate personal life," said Dr. Boris Worm of Dalhousie's biology department.

After extensive analysis of the impacts of household spending on the environment, the UCS published the results of this study to make consumers more aware of the effects that the production and consumption of certain goods has on the environment. Scientists of the UCS grouped 134 consumer-spending choices into 50 categories. They compared the spending patterns in these categories to the levels of global warming, air pollution, water pollution, habitat disruption, toxic gas and toxic water levels in the environment.

Their findings state that the highest levels of degradation are linked to seven main categories: cars, meat, produce & grains, household appliances & lighting, home heating & cooling, home construction, and household

water & sewage.

It comes as no surprise that the UCS found that automobiles are the most environmentally damaging product, but shockingly the number two product is meat.

"Consumption of red meat causes a particularly high degree of damage for the degree of nutrition it delivers," said Dr. Michael Brower, one of the authors of UCS's book.

The authors of *The consumer's guide* stress that people should not worry so much about modest use of things such as paper napkins or plastic bags. Instead consumers should start becoming more aware of major purchases such as automobiles and buy fuel efficient or clean-burning vehicles. The guide also suggests that people should buy fewer products such as red meat and more organic foods, which have less impact on the environment.

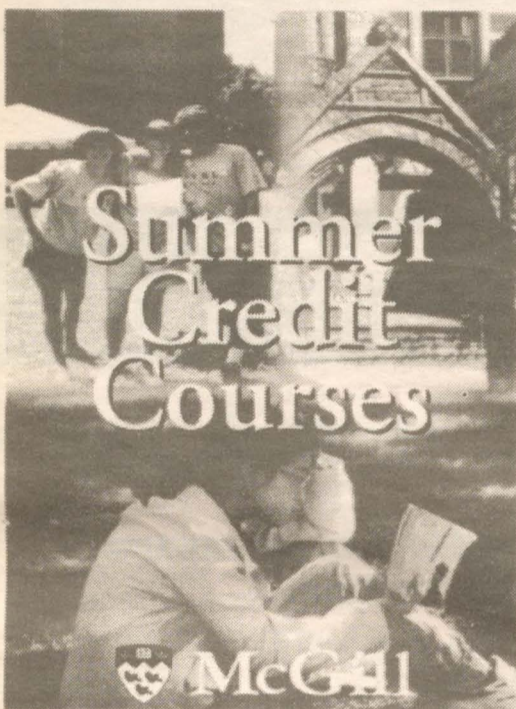
An environmentally conscious scientist himself, Dr. Worm praises the UCS by saying that this study is "one of the first to provide statistics and scientific guidance about how to go about helping the environment."

But he says that the study could have been more in depth in certain aspects.

"One thing the article didn't

touch on was that flying is environmentally damaging. People aren't aware of the fact that many short trips in an airplane are more damaging than more infrequent, long trips."

The ultimate message scientists around the globe are trying to get across is that consumers have choices and they should make informed decisions and realize how these decisions affect the environment.



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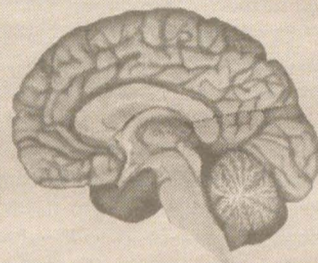
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Dal men beat Axemen and Huskies in hockey

by jennifer mccauley

the gazette

The men's varsity hockey team finished up their regular season this past weekend, with

a game against the Acadia Axemen on Friday, and a game against the St. Mary's Huskies on Saturday. They won both games, and clinched home-ice advantage for the playoffs at the end of this

month.

Pat Berrigan, Marty Johnston and Craig Whynot are part of a team that could be described as a cohesive unit. They back each other up on the ice, they have fun together off the ice, and there is a deep current of trust and loyalty on the team.

"We handle ourselves as a group," said Johnston. "No matter what happens we stick together. We play for the front of the jersey, not the back."

This belief shows in their attitude on the ice. This year, they had 12 or 13 guys new to the team, a fact that put the veterans in a select position. Each guy brought a different level of experience to the ice, including their new head coach, Fabian Joseph. Joseph was assistant coach with the 2000 Memorial Cup Halifax Mooseheads, and a player on the 1992 and 1994 Canadian Olympic teams.

"One of the (first) things you look at is the chemistry of the team," said Joseph, "and this team was very encouraging."

Whynot, a fifth-year player and commerce major, has seen a lot of changes on the team, and sees this season as a chance to evaluate how much the team means to the program.

"The best thing about this team is that it's such a tight, close-knit group," says Whynot. "We were struggling [last season] and then Fabian came in with leadership and brought us together, and we've been battling together. I think that's the key to our success right now."

Berrigan, the hometown favourite, and a first-year player, is learning how to balance a successful hockey season with a successful school experience.

"The beginning of this year was tough," said Berrigan. "I wasn't sure I wanted to be here, because of the whole school



photo by brian mrcoll

Dal puts the stick to the Axemen.

thing. I'm adjusted to it now. I got good marks last term, and hopefully I'll get better marks this term."

The men's team gets a break of about a week before starting to

play the quarter-final series, and they'll take the time to rest up and think about the other aspects of their lives, in hopes that they'll make it to the CIAU finals in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, this March.

Behind the lines

Grin and bear it

by josh smith

Grizzlies organization needs to quit whining and play some basketball

Rumblings this week out of the Pacific Northwest are making the NBA's Vancouver Grizzlies look like the site of Barry Manilow's latest tour stop. In just the last few days, it seems the entire Grizzlies organization has publicly mentioned their desire to bolt. From obstinate owner Michael Heisley to turbulent talent Shareef Abdur-Rahim, everyone and their dog has asked out of the Midwest Division loss factory. The result? A Grizzlies lineup wishing they were playing 36 holes at Pebble Beach instead of becoming weekly Laker feed.

OK, so they are mired in yet another horrific season. Big deal. So are the New Jersey Nets, Chicago Bulls, L.A. Clippers, and a plethora of other less-fortunate teams around the Association, and you don't see them sounding the alarms. Heisley has threatened to move the team, and there are a host of cities drooling over the possibility of an NBA franchise. But that's irrelevant. What matters is that the Vancouver Grizzlies have some great young talent, and so far this season, have been the victims of some terrible luck. Just ask head coach Sidney Lowe, who spends his long post-game nights trying to convince Heisley that his team is much better than they've played. The problem is that they're playing with zero confidence, and waving the white flag even before finding out who their opponent is on the schedule.

What nobody seems to realize is that on paper, they actually have a solid team. Point guard Mike Bibby is a solid leader, and is playing surprisingly well, all things considered. With more playing time, and a little seasoning, the second overall selection in last year's draft, Stromile Swift, could be a phenomenal force all over the court. Then there's Abdur-Rahim, who's been in V-town since the Grizzlies' birth in 1995. He is the club's anchor and, until recently, one of its biggest ambassadors.

Despite all the positives, the situation is a ticking time-bomb, thanks mainly to Heisley's threats of relocation, and Abdur-Rahim's trade demands. The owner's shape-up-or-ship-out attitude is all well and good in principle. However, his time frame, like so many of the team's shots this year, is way off the mark. Give these guys two or three years, and if they haven't already jumped ship, they should be a competitive club. What they really need to do is what they are getting paid to do. In the players' case, just play the game of basketball. Forget about the distractions. Play to win. The team's management and coaching staff should be trying to build a solid foundation through trades and give the lineup some much needed depth. Instead of putting the burden on the players and blaming Lowe for the lack of success, it should be owner Heisley and General Manager Dick Versace's responsibility to take the steps necessary to improve.

A few words for Mr. Heisley: Why can't you concentrate on winning where you are now? You'll be making money again once the team starts winning, so figure out a way to win instead of looking for quality real estate in Louisville. Fill the roster, and you fill the seats. It's a no-brainer. There's no reason to evacuate Vancouver (unless of course that earthquake warning in the National Enquirer is true). Just give Shareef what he wants, and get something of value in return. Draft picks. Future considerations. Anything.

Here's the bottom line. Get the team concentrated on playing basketball again. Once they shut up and regain focus, you'll be able to show yourself at a Grizzlies game without the embarrassment of owning a sinking ship. Your team, and your adopted city, will be entirely grateful.

Hey, you! Got something to say? E-mail any opinions, comments or suggestions to Josh Smith, at misterknowitall@thegame.com. Speak your mind, and your thoughts and ideas could be credited in an upcoming column.

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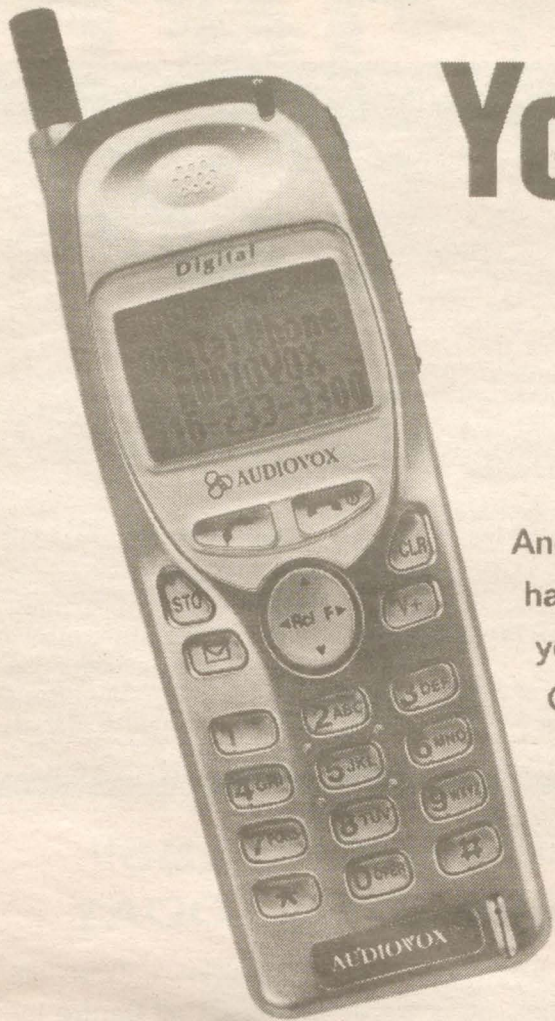
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