

Gazette

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

136:04



MINISTER
CONFESSIONS

THE SEXTANT

STRIPPING
STUDENTS

WHO THE
HELL IS
KATE MAKI

DSU Dalhousie Student Union

Society Audits:

The time has come again for all A and C societies to get audited! What to bring:

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Deposit book

General ledger

Bank statements

Bank reconciliations

Transaction records

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**HEALTH PLAN OPT OUT:
OCTOBER 6TH 2003**

www.dsu.ca

The DSU will be awarding Gold D's and choosing Valedictorians for the Fall Convocations. If you are graduating in October, pick up a form at the council offices or download it from www.dsu.ca. For more information, contact Angela Bowie at dsuvs@dal.ca.

Free DSU Handbook / Dayplanners are available at the SUB Info. Desk

Society Ratification Deadline: October 6th

Society Roundtable will take place on Tuesday, October 7th at 6:00pm in Council Chambers. Please send your President and Treasurer. Contact Kevin Wasko, VP Community Affairs at dsuvpca@dal.ca for more information!

SWAP TALK



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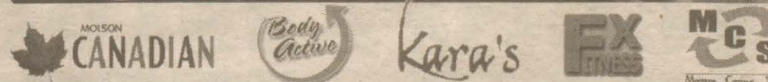


Sunday

Broke-Ass Student Night
\$2 cover with valid Student ID

HARD BODY
Sexy Legs
Contest

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Finals October 5th
\$2,000 Grand Prize



October 12th

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prizes



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Editorial

REPO KEMPT Editor-In-Chief

In the wee hours of the morning, computer problems that pushed production late were further complicated by a total power failure in the Student Union Building. There is nothing quite like stumbling around in complete darkness to find your cell phone so you can use it as a light to guide you outside of the deserted building, only to discover that it is pouring rain and you are wearing only a T-shirt.

Except maybe if you realize that your house keys are on the desk upstairs five seconds after the front door locks behind you. At first, I thought that it was possibly a terrorist attack by highly trained agents from the Saint Mary's University newspaper. Then I thought: SMU Journal...highly trained... something doesn't seem quite right.

It would appear that even God sometimes has hate mail for the Gazette (if you believe in that sort of thing...). I don't really blame him. I finish each issue of the paper, and I am pissed off because I think things about it still suck. I sometimes wish that I were an evil genius so I could build and operate a giant robot, strolling around the city stepping on SUVs and shooting random overweight pinheads who were too slow to run away with my head-mounted euthanasia ray. And then when the cops show up, or better yet, the military, I could unleash a shit load of Tomahawk missiles and lay waste to the downtown core before I retreat to my aquatic lair beneath the harbour to chill with my army of Playmate minions and play Playstation for the rest of the day.

We get a lot of people come by to complain about the paper. Unfortunately, most of it is carried out in an unconstructive manner. Next time, instead of leaving a poorly hand-written note in the mailbox that says, "You're paper is full of dumb stuff and I think there is too many adds" without a name, or sending us an e-mail that reads, "I hate your stupid paper", why not try to change it. Every week we have about 20 hardworking students come by our office to volunteer to put this paper together. We have two computers that work and a paid staff of about eight people that gets paid peanuts to do this *while they go to school*.

If you feel that your society/band/culture/favorite bar/rubberplant is being neglected by your student newspaper, tell us exactly what you think is wrong. We have meetings every Monday at 4:30 in the SUB and our e-mail address is gazette@dal.ca

As Always.
Repo Kempt
Editor-In-Chief

PS. For those of you who complained, the nipple has been surgically removed from the ad to your left. You may thank the kind people behind Adobe Photoshop for their tireless efforts and dedication. Note: Due to time constraints we were not able to remove the nipples from the shirtless male in the Palace ad, or the bare ass of the model below.



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News Briefs

COMPILED BY CHRIS LAROCHE *News Editor*

Campus

Physics Prof launches "Lidar" Laser

Dr. Tom Duck, a physics and atmospheric science professor at Dalhousie, has launched the region's only lidar, a laser-based radar that reads the atmosphere. The lidar was developed and built at the department of physics and atmospheric sciences in the Dunn Building under the supervision of Dr. Duck. The lidar uses laser pulses aimed directly upwards to read molecular structures in the atmosphere. The data it collects is pertinent to studies of climate change, ozone depletion, and atmospheric air quality.

Atlantic Canada

Cape Breton Urged to Get Fit

The Cape Breton Health Authority has unveiled a five-year health plan meant to encourage Cape Bretoners to live healthier, more active lives. This includes encouraging Cape Breton residents to lose weight, cut back on heavy drinking, breastfeed more often, quit or curtail smoking, exercise more and become more generally physically active. The plan was unveiled last Monday by John Malcom, the head of the Cape Breton Health District, who is undertaking his own diet and exercise regime to set an example.

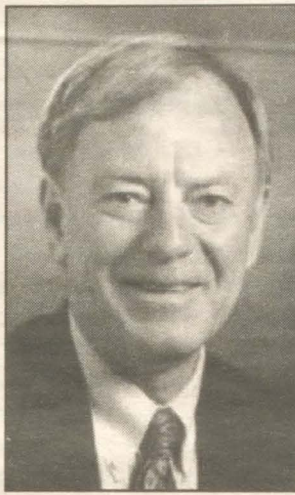
International

3,000 year-old ice shelf halved

The largest ice shelf in the Arctic Ocean has broken into two pieces, North American scientists reported on Monday, Sept. 24. The Ward Hunt Ice Shelf, which has been present for over 3,000 years, cracked and fissured as a result of local warming. The ice shelf was located in the Nunavut Territory and featured a major freshwater lake, which has since drained.

Jamie Muir

NOVA SCOTIA'S EDUCATION MINISTER, JENN MORRISON *Staff Contributor*



Students looking for relief from soaring tuition fees will not see them frozen by the Hamm minority government. But, according to Education Minister Jamie Muir, they can seek some comfort in the form of increased government funding for universities and an improved student loan and debt relief program.

April. "Because the universities will have predictable sources of funding, then it should mitigate increases in tuition fees. We think that's going to help. Is it going to eliminate increases or decrease fees? That's something the universities are going to have to deal with," he said.

As is typical of federalism in Canada, Mr. Muir pointed out that the federal government must take part of the blame for the tuition situation. The federal government funds post-secondary education on a per capita basis for Nova Scotians. "We have about 5,000 Nova Scotians who go out of the province into education someplace else. But we've got about 10,500 who come in... So we educate in Nova Scotia more than 5,000 students which somebody else gets funding for... We are educating students from other provinces and they're getting paid for it," he said. A possible solution would be for the federal government to have the funding follow the student, so the province would receive funds based on the number of students studying there.

A cornerstone of the government's post-secondary education plan, and a featured element of their election campaign, "Blueprint," is the student debt reduction program. In addition to regular debt reduction, which ranges from 15 per cent to 45 per cent depending on the year of study, the employment bonus has been increased to 50 percent for students who work in Nova Scotia full-time for 50 weeks in the three years after graduation, and the loan repayment bonus has doubled to 20 per cent for students who make 12 loan payments within three years of graduation. These adjustments mean a student who completes a four-year program in four years could have his debt reduced by 51 per cent. However, these changes are not retroactive, and they only apply to Nova Scotia Student Loans.

Mr. Muir was quick to point out that students should not abuse their loans. He admitted that more people should be able to access student assistance, but he also said it is a good idea to be "putting some money in the bank and helping yourself rather than borrowing it." He offered advice for anyone that does feel a loan is absolutely necessary: "Make sure you need it, use it wisely, don't take more than you need."

Yet he pointed out that university is "not all it's cracked up to be" for some, and it is certainly not the only option at the post-secondary level, especially when the government is investing in community colleges and there is a skilled worker shortage. But despite the letters he receives from students complaining of atrocious levels of debt, he noted that students keep studying at Nova Scotia's universities. "If you take the Nova Scotia universities, they're fairly well-ranked, so they're attractive for people to come. The high tuition, by the way, doesn't seem to stop people from coming," he said.

If anyone is prepared to tackle the university-funding debacle in Nova Scotia, it should be Mr. Muir. Although he was previously Health Minister and then Justice Minister, he has an extensive background in education. He received arts and education degrees from Dalhousie, and masters and doctorate degrees in education from the University of Virginia. Mr. Muir has taught at the University of Prince Edward Island, Memorial University of Newfoundland, public schools in Truro, and at St. Francis Xavier University. He has also worked as a Frontier College instructor, a research associate at the Atlantic Institute of Education, a school inspector for the province, and a principal of the Nova Scotia Teachers' College. Some of the connections forged before he was elected may be beneficial in his new portfolio. "I'm a little bit further ahead than I was in the other ministries, at least in terms of knowledge of the field, and I also still know a number of the people that are still there... And, quite frankly, the issues haven't changed that much in the period of time since I was involved," he said.

Mr. Muir lamented the fact that previous provincial governments cut funding for universities, but he stressed that it is growing again, albeit slowly. There is \$207 million (\$201 million base plus \$6 million additional funds) in available provincial operating funds for universities in 2003-2004, and in the 2004-2005 budget year, base funding will rise to \$207 million, plus any feasible increases on top of that. "We're not back quite to where we were in 1993 [when funding was \$212 million], but we've come a long way... It's not where we'd like to have it, but we have to make the contribution. You have to balance your priorities, and of course our commitment has been to fiscal responsibility—and for good reason. That's a priority for everybody, so you have to do what you can do," he said.

Mr. Muir ruled out a legislated tuition freeze, and said "tuition fees are set by the universities, they aren't set by the government. As the universities need, they have to get revenue from someplace." However, during this academic year, the government plans to implement multi-year funding agreements with the universities and to announce final details around budget time, likely in

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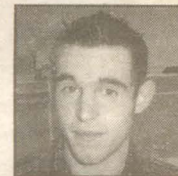
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In a Gazette exclusive, our news editor recently sat down with the Honorable Barry Barnett. On the agenda: the creation of North America's first African-Government Affairs portfolio.

Barry Barnett

INTERVIEW/NEW PORTFOLIO, CHRIS LAROCHE News Editor



Hammonds Plains-Upper Sackville MLA Barry Barnett is the new minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs, a government portfolio that aims to give black communities a voice in the provincial government.

The African Nova Scotian Affairs portfolio was created this year as promised by Premier John Hamm in his 2003 re-election platform. The portfolio itself is the first of its kind in North America and deals with bringing African Nova Scotian community affairs to the legislative body in province house.

"The biggest role of this office will be the role of the champion, to bring [black issues] to cabinet so that the black communities in Nova Scotia have an ear and a voice," says Barnett.

Because the portfolio is so new and has only been in place for two weeks, Barnett's work is still in a very preliminary stage. "We have no template to follow," says Barnett. "[The portfolio] is the first I know of anywhere, so it's not like we have another model we can emulate. What we've been doing is going out and meeting with community groups and individuals to try and get some advice and input from them on how they see this office."

Community groups Barnett has met with aren't limited to the metro area, however, and include the Black Educators Association, economic development groups in Guysborough, Kalso-Mulgrave, Saint Mary's-Port Hawkesbury and community leaders from Upper Big Trackedie, Lincolnville and Sunnyville.

"Nova Scotia is unique to have black communities spread out across the province, something which other provinces don't have," says Barnett. "If you look on a map to see where they're located, you'll find they're all

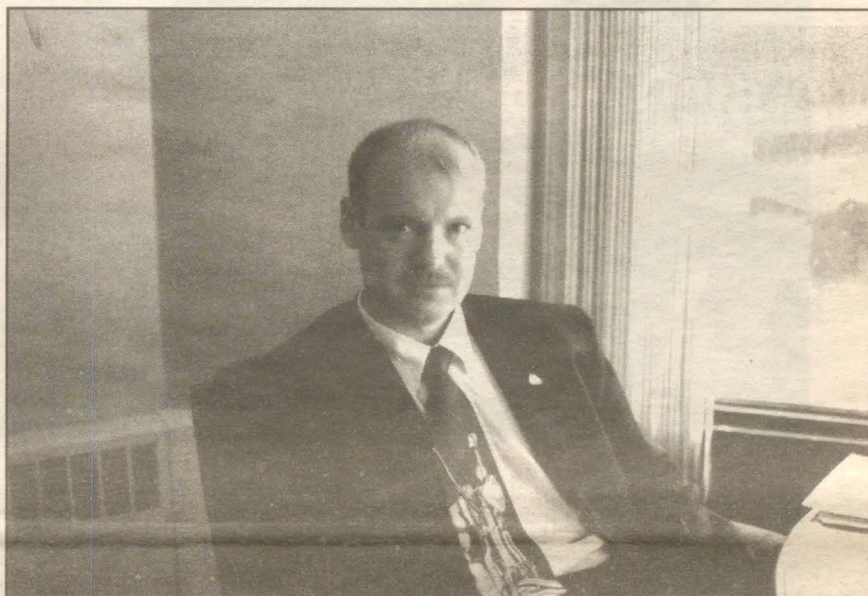
over Nova Scotia."

Barnett was elected for the position of minister of the new portfolio both because he asked for it and because he's dealt extensively with black issues in his home constituency of Hammonds Plains-Upper Sackville. Barnett has come under criticism following the unveiling of the provincial because some feel he hasn't done enough to trump the portfolio's profile.

"I've been doing this job for a few weeks and I've put literally 60, 70, 80 hours a week into it, and I don't think anyone can do better than that," says Barnett. "I'm not worried about building Barry Barnett's image or standing out so much as I am about getting things done. If I can do it quietly, then I'll do it quietly[...]. The overwhelming majority of people who have spoken to me and who have spoken to the media about this office support [the portfolio] and support me, and that's going to make my job a lot easier."

As far as juggling dual roles of Municipal Services and Public Affairs with his duties with African Nova Scotian Affairs, Barnett is confident he can improve both portfolios once the African Nova Scotian Affairs office expands.

"The next step is to hire an interim executive director who will then be charged with developing the office and hiring a permanent executive directory. We've literally been everywhere and I need someone to help me get this office running. We're inventing something here—this is brand new stuff—and we need to take



away some of the daunting workload so we can focus better on the task at hand, and that is solving problems in the black communities of Nova Scotia."

Among those communities is the black student body here at Dalhousie. Although Barnett says it is too early for his portfolio to get into the specifics of post-secondary education issues, the student body is in his mandate. "Most of the themes we've had are centered around access to education, access to housing, government programs, that kind of stuff," says Barnett. "Government can't obviously be everything for everyone, but we at least need to be something for someone. We need to prioritize what Nova Scotians want. That's in essence what we're trying to do. We recognize that there are longstanding deficiencies in service levels in certain communities and we want to find ways to work with those communities to identify solutions, and that's what we're doing."

Gazette

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Did-You-Know Info

TAMMY BERNASKY Staff Contributor

This is my first year here at Dalhousie, and my sixth year of university. Coming from Cape Breton, I haven't traveled too far to get here, so one would think it wouldn't take much getting used to. This couldn't be further from the truth. My experiences here thus far have been incredible. I've met great people and realized that they too were in somewhat the same situation as myself. There are a few things that I have discovered upon my arrival here. These things I intend to share with you because they are items every new student should know, whether you're a Grad student, like myself, or a Frosh.

1. If you live in a residence, there is a bus that runs every half hour from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. It starts at Gerard Hall, goes to O'Brien Hall (which I believe is a courtesy stop only), then Fenwick Place, then the Dentistry Building and Computer Sciences Building if requested. Then it stops at the Grad House (by now it's fifteen minutes later). Next stop is up by Howe Hall & Kings College. Then down by Eliza Ritchie Hall and back around to the rear of Fenwick, and finally back to Gerard Hall and O'Brien Hall. Keep in mind this is a free service provided by Dalhousie, so the bus usually gets pretty full in the morning and you may be asked to show your residence key. Also keep in mind the bus doesn't run from 12 p.m.-12 p.m. or 5-5:30 p.m.



2. The second thing that you should know is that the city buses are pretty convenient. Many run every 15 minutes. Being from the tiny town of Sydney, Cape Breton, I am accustomed to four different routes, tops, and buses that run hourly, and that's it. If you too are from a small town, find yourself a bus map and schedule (I found one in the SUB). They're pretty convenient.
3. For those of you who don't like winter, some of the folks here at the Gazette have informed me that there is a tunnel that connects the Killiam library to the A&A Building (Henry Hicks) and the Life Sciences Building. Go check it out, you'll see.
4. And my final piece of did-you-know info for this week, so as not to bore you, is for all you graduates. You get 10% off at the Grad House when you show your student IDs. I didn't know that!

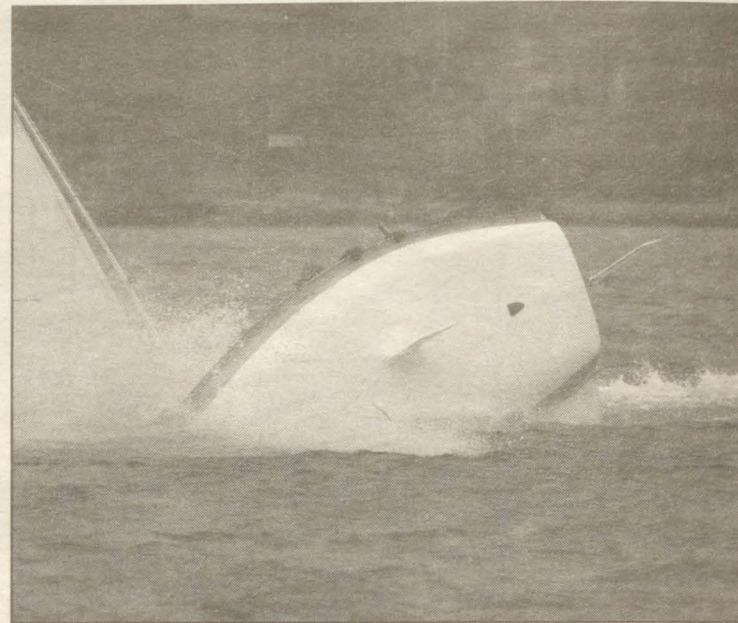
Well that's it for this week. Check back next week for more Did-You-Know Info.

If you want to contribute to Opinions, please email us at : gazette@dal.ca
Or visit us in Room 312 of the SUB

The Dominance of the Sea

QUENTIN CASEY Opinions Editor

The heat of an unusually warm fall day is building as we arrive in the parking lot of Lawrencetown beach. We quickly don our wetsuits, grab our respective surf and boogie boards, and mount the small incline over the dunes. The view at the top is always one to behold: the long stretch of beach, waves crashing, seemingly endless blue skies, and the sense that within moments you will test your strength against a timeless power much greater than you—the ocean.



It was only this summer that I discovered the surfing scene. Although I should clarify that I boogie board due to my lack of balance and fear of a board crashing into my nose (see my brother for details). Nevertheless, in surfing I have found another means to supply my required intake of both adrenaline rush and relaxation. Not surprisingly I have found these elements in an activity involving the sea, for which I have a long-standing and complicated relationship.

I have been sailing since I was 10-years-old and have come to love the many sensations that the sea offers: the wind on your face, the sun glinting across the water, the raw power, and the smell of salt air. In most ways I adore the ocean. In fact, I would never want to live more than a few kilometres from it.

Yet I have always had an underlying fear of the ocean. There is always a sense of flux surrounding the waters of our coast. Change is constantly occurring and arises without notice. Your vision can be completely blurred by a thick rolling fog, the skies can break open with rain, and a dark wind line can leave a small craft flattened. It is this feeling of unpredictability and sudden change that has buried the seed of fear within me.

I think this unstable relationship is a central part of the Maritime experience. The sea is the Maritime constant: it has always been there, and will remain long after we have gone. So much of our history, culture and society has been formed by the sea and our relationship to it. But with all that it has given us, it has shown that it has the power to take all away. Hurricanes such as Isabelle are a constant reminder of this fact. Activities such as surfing and sailing are enjoyable because they contain this sense of unpredictability. Our society rests firmly on the pillars of ease and comfort. We master our environment and alter it to our specifications. It is therefore refreshing to be bitch-slapped by a force larger and more powerful than yourself. When you are pushed under by a huge roller, or sent flying out of your boat in a twenty-five knot gust, you are being told in no uncertain terms: your dominance of the land has no value or meaning here.

Similarly, you gain a sense of joy in that brief moment of a good ride or down-wind plane when you have harnessed the power and have control, if only for a few seconds, over the wave or wind. But, you are literally sucked back into reality as your head sinks beneath a wave and you wonder for a brief second if you will resurface. My father used to say something to the effect of: "each time you think you have mastered the sea, it will throw something new your way to show you that you are mistaken." This is true—the sea makes sure that you never get too comfortable in its presence.

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Stripping Students

JENN MORRISON Staff Contributor

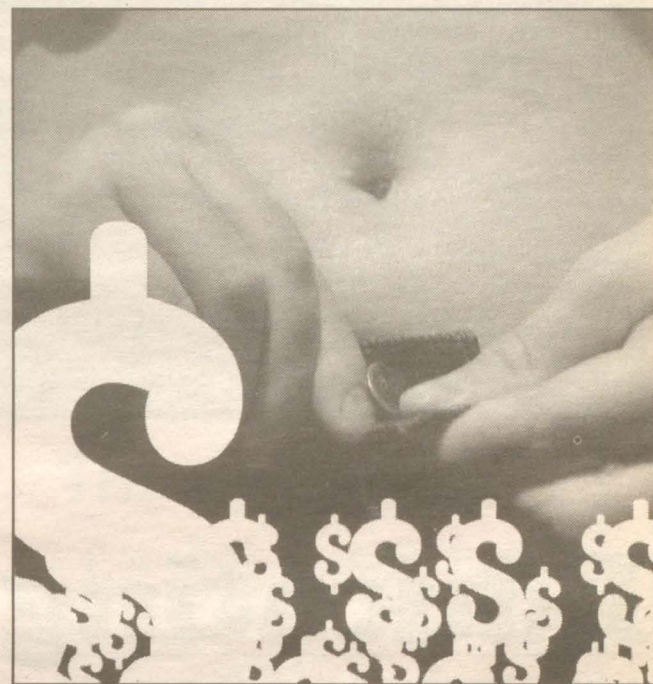
A couple of weeks ago, CNN reported that a nightclub in an Ontario university town was offering free tuition to student strippers. My first reaction was one of dismay—how could someone studying to be a neurosurgeon or an elementary school teacher put aside her morals just to make some extra cash? But then I came out of that old-fashioned spell and realized that for a lot of modern women stripping does not violate any morals—and rightly so. After all, it's a slippery slope from cage-dancing at the Palace (we've all been there) to taking it (nearly) all off for money.

I used to think that the only people who dressed "slutty" were, in fact, sluts, or those in desperate need of a self-esteem booster shot. I was wrong. The female body, with its inherent sex appeal, has always been a powerful tool. If the Bible teaches that the body is a temple, it should not be a crime to show off its architecture. Even Time magazine, in a recent story, quoted a "trend analyst" as saying that strippers have become "hugely important" and are "really setting the trends right now...I think we'll see pole dancing as a sport on TV in five years." Well, fancy that.

As I write this, I'm looking at pictures of Britney Spears,

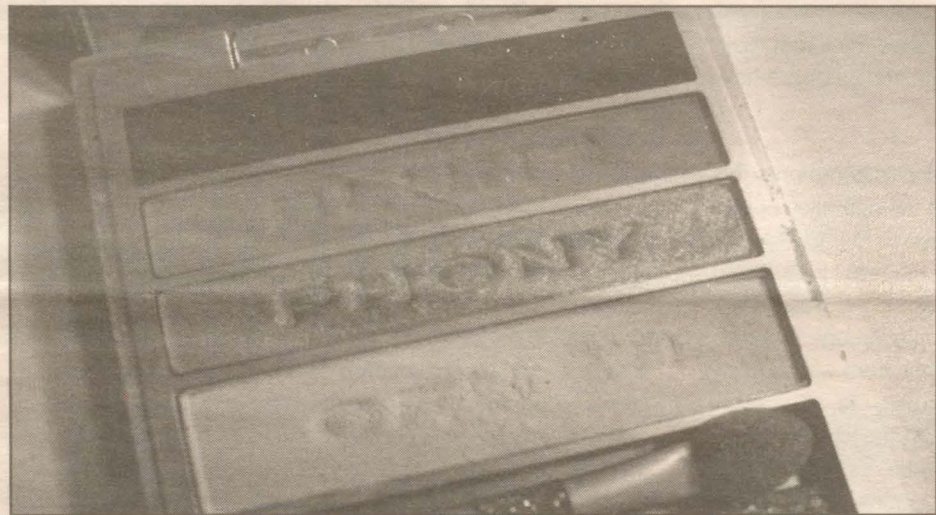
scantily-clad at the NFL Kickoff concert, and half-naked on the cover of Rolling Stone. Of course, it is blatantly obvious that her personal PR involves more skin than substance, but we should not bash Britney and other celebrities, or even sexy half-dressed girls we see on the dance floor downtown—especially when such bashing is largely driven by envy. Females today put a lot of time and effort into their bodies, and I think they deserve to be shown off. Mademoiselle Spears, like so many ladies her age (myself included) spends a heck of a lot of time working out. If I ever got the chance to be on the cover of Rolling Stone, I would much rather be in those little briefs than, say, a parka and ski pants. A woman who puts her body on display is not necessarily starved for attention or trying to make some post-feminist statement, instead she is proud as a peacock of what she has, and she wants to (provocatively) shout it from the rooftops.

That said, there are limits to the show-off show. Stripping for tuition is one thing, but it should not turn into a career as a porn star. The best part of flashing skin is the knowledge that you have the brains to go with it.



Makeup

LINA HUSSEIN Staff Contributor



You know what bugs the hell out of me? It's when people who call themselves makeup artists tell women how not to wear their makeup. You probably know what I'm talking about. I've heard things like "don't match your eye shadow to your outfit," "black eyeliner applied to the inner rim of your eyes is ugly," "colourful eye shadows don't do anything for your face," "shimmer on cheeks and shoulders is useless"...etc. Now isn't makeup considered an art form? After all, it is called makeup artistry, and people who practice it professionally are called makeup artists. So where in the history of art have you heard that a certain artist made rules for all other artists to follow? Art has no rules.

Bobbi Brown (the makeup artist) is an advocate of the "makeup has rules" school of thought. She believes that there are certain things in the makeup market today that should not be used because they don't do anything for the face; for example, things like shimmery makeup, and colourful eye makeup.

There was a time when I was convinced that Bobbi Brown was right when she claimed that colourful eye shadows and black eyeliner were ugly. So I began to wear browns and neutrals and discarded the purples (which everyone told me suited me a lot). I substituted my black eyeliner for brown and my blue for grey. I even began to think that girls who lined their eyes with black and wore blue eye shadow were wrong. Later, though, I read a quote by Kevyn Aucoin, the greatest makeup artist who ever lived, which said: "there are no rules to makeup." That's when I picked up all the colours I loved to wear but had thrown aside and began to use them again. And guess what? I loved it. Makeup turned into fun. There were no more rules to every colour I bought or wore anymore. When I dropped all the rules and paid attention to what I wanted to wear, I felt good. I began playing with colours, mixing, and experimenting. I no longer looked at other girls thinking they were wrong, but instead complimented them on their creativity and imagination.

You're probably wondering by now what the point to all of this is. I guess what I'm trying to say is that every girl and every artist has the right to experiment and try out new techniques and colours to find what suits them in the end. When I paint, I don't think of anything else other than what I want to paint—certainly not another person's rules on how to paint. The same thing should apply to makeup. Makeup is a form of self expression, and shouldn't be held down by rules. Do what you feel like doing, not what someone else wants you to do.

Pollen

A PIECE OF POLLEN A DAY... LYNN CULLEN Staff Contributor



You are a university student. You are overworked, over-tired and malnourished. The weather is going to get cold and you are surrounded by fellow students who are hacking phlegm into your ear and on your paper next to you in class. You can't escape the sickness. It's everywhere.

I have a little secret that I would love to share with each and every one of you. Spread the good news. There is a way to avoid getting sick this season. It's called bee pollen. It's just what it sounds like, nothing fancy, it's just

bee pollen and you eat it. Think I am crazy? I actually thought the same thing when I first heard of such a concept. Since I converted to regular bee pollen intake though, I have been illness-free.

Bee pollen is available in health food stores and they are sprinkled all over Halifax so it shouldn't be too hard for you to gain access to your own package of bee pollen. They are little yellow pieces and all it takes is one teaspoon a day along with a meal and you are set. Who would have think it? They don't taste the greatest, so I suggest you find your own little way to disguise them. Say on a piece of toast with honey? Baked into your pancakes? Blended into a smoothy? Whatever suits you best. Be experimental.

It takes about a month for it to kick in so you had better start soon before the winter begins and cold season begins. I do warn you though, if you are allergic to bees, this is really not a good idea and if you suffer from seasonal allergies, take it slow. I indeed do suffer from seasonal allergies though and just dove right in I was so excited about the concept, and I survived. It's just a friendly side-note. Do what you think is right for you.

So, call me crazy or spend \$10 a month and see how it goes. I can't promise you that this will cure you of all problems, diseases and bodily growths, but it might just help you avoid that nasty cold and flu that is sure to be spread around campus in no time. Good luck, spread the word, and let me know the results.

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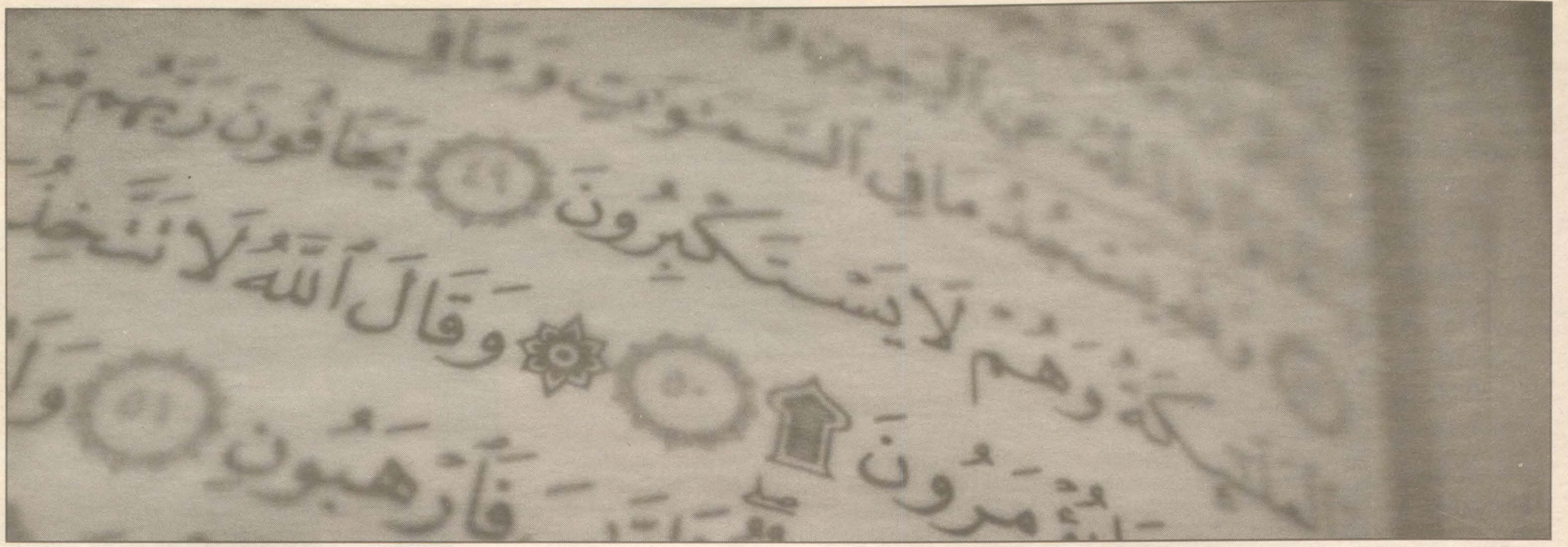
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Educating You About Me

TAMMY M BANFIELD Staff Contributor

The Public Library is an institution committed to the purveyance of knowledge. All of humanity's ideas and thoughts are accepted here. This value was affirmed on Sept. 14 on the lawn of the Spring Garden Public Library where a few Haligonians hosted a Day of Remembrance and Education to inform passers-by about the oft-misunderstood Islamic faith. Under the afternoon sun, their solitary table adorned with posters and pamphlets, basked in questions and queries from fellow citizens. Seeking refuge in the shade, Fatima Cajee and I discussed the goals of the event and the misconceptions that plague Muslim society in Halifax.

The purpose of hosting the event shortly after the anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy was to remember not only those who died in New York, but also in memorial of those harmed by the subsequent actions of 9/11. For Cajee, this means not only the civilian deaths in Afghanistan and various militaries, but also the erosion of civil liberties.

Cajee emphasizes that policies enacted by the Canadian government, such as the secret evidence act, may

be intended to enhance national security, but are detrimental to democratic idea of fair and equal

treatment. She sees this compromise as a slippery slope, and one that most Canadians would not accept if they were personally affected by its impact. Cajee hoped that her attendance at the Day of Remembrance and Education would help bring attention to the Canadians currently being imprisoned for long periods (at times reaching over a year) without access to the charges or evidence supposedly responsible for their detention. Fatima Cajee perceives the threat that secret evidence procedures pose quite imminently: "I have two sons and I fear for them."

Fatima Cajee's primary focus in the Islamic community, however, is educating non-Muslims about the normalcy of their religion and stressing how it is common to many popular religions in Canada. Islam centres on the belief in one God – the revered creator of the universe and controller of destiny. His word was brought to the people through prophet messengers. Islamic faith maintains that there will be a 'day of judgement' for each individual after they die, at which time they will be held accountable for all their living actions. Another pillar in Islamic faith is a supreme respect for Jesus. The Islamic Bible, the Qur'an, tells about the birth of Jesus from his virgin mother Mary (to whom a special chapter in the Qur'an is dedicated), his many performed miracles, and his purpose to reaffirm the people's faith in God. Cajee stresses the simplicity of Islam: "Anyone that follows the word of God is essentially a Muslim."

According to the Qur'an, all humans, men and women, are equal under God. Islam does not condemn women for Eve's violation of the 'forbidden tree', the disrespectful treatment of women is contrary to the teachings of Islam. Women are regarded as individuals with their own ideas, opinions, and rights. They can earn a salary to support themselves, they can own property, and they have freedom of dress and speech.


Cajee claims that Islamic women are misrepresented as oppressed, valueless, and abused, because of society's common tendency to confuse religion with cultural practices. Inhuman treatment of women does exist in various regions of the world, but this violence is attributable to culture and societal practices, not the religion of Islam.

Religion and culture are often confused when observing the dress of Muslims. Their distinctive fashion is usually representative of geographical culture. Islam requires its worshippers to dress modestly in promotion of intelligence over the physical body. Cajee adheres to this value with pride, "I want to be recognized for who I am and not as a sex object. I am saying, look at my brain, not my body."

The negative views of the Muslim people stem from a lack of knowledge in Fatima Cajee's opinion. She witnesses the media's representation of Muslims with sadness and at times laughter. The reports are often incredibly removed from fact. Cajee views the word-usage of the media as purposely damaging to the image of Muslims and purposely supportive of the fear overshadowing the Muslim community. She notes that if a Muslim commits a news-worthy act of violence, religion is immediately implicated in the story coverage; but if a non-Muslim commits the same act, religion is of zero consequence and is not always covered with equal importance. "You always hear terms like, Islamic-terrorist, or Islamic fundamentalist, but you never hear Jewish-terrorist, or Catholic fundamentalist." She says that the same labels and stereotypes don't seem to apply to non-Muslims in the press.

The Haligonians of our city that also practice Islam are starved for accurate recognition. They battle lack of awareness about their religion everyday from citizens too intimidated or fearful to ask for the truth, and the popular press is not mitigating the damage. Only 18 per cent of Muslims live in Arab countries, those remaining are scattered around the world, incorporated in various societies and cultures. And yet native-born Haligonians feel alienated because their religion is associated with a foreign culture. Cajee is not alone when she dreams that Canadians will, "see us [Muslims] as human beings, see us as part of the mosaic of this country, and the same as everyone else. That would be wonderful". That would be wonderful.

Day of Remembrance and Education was sponsored in part by the Muslim Student Association at Dalhousie University and the Community Interfaith Islamic Community.



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Artist Profile: Kate Maki

LINDSAY DOBBIN Staff Contributor

A black and white photo of an awkward little girl holding a large fish in front of a homey camp called Confusion Unlimited acts as a suiting introduction to Kate Maki's first release, aptly named after the camp. "The camp is where music was placed in my head," explains Maki. "We had dance parties to rock 'n' roll and bonfires in order to sing songs...it's where I developed a love for music."

On the album, Maki takes you on a 10 song journey through heartache, love, longing, and homecoming, leaving a chrome impression in the listener's mind. Recorded in Ottawa with Dave Draves at Little Bullhorn Productions, and featuring the very talented guitarist Jim Bryson, the album takes traditional country and synthesises it with some contagious rock and pop sensibilities.

Maki's album has a very intimate and natural feeling to it because of variables such as personal ease, the agreement between lyrics and music, the production, and the fact that she recorded it with friends such as Bryson. "I met [Bryson] at Songbird and he said that if I ever wanted him to come do something on the record to let him know," Maki says. "He is the most supportive musician, [and] it took him two hours and he nailed [every song]."

This was not the first time Maki went through the recording process. In Sudbury, Ontario, as a child, she would sit for hours recording herself. She excitedly remembers being home at Christmas one year and listening to the tapes. "My mom still had all these old tapes with [my sister and I] singing...I loved having the microphone in my face at such

a young age." The last song on the album, which happens to be a "surprise song," ends with Maki as a child singing a French song (reflective of the little girl on the cover) and then says, "Okay, that's enough for singing. Goodbye!" It is a very suiting ending to the album because it goes back to her roots, and this album is all about context. Maki left her native Sudbury to study neuroscience at Dalhousie University. "I have always had a fascination with the brain, the psyche and behaviour." That fascination is reflected in each of her songs where she deals with and tries to figure out the odd concepts of feelings and emotions.

"I only had thirty two years left before retirement...I just wasn't ready to settle in."

While in Halifax, Maki dabbled in open mics where she became a recognized talent. However, as an open mic artist, she did not play her own material—she was a "closet writer." It wasn't until she moved to Ottawa for her teaching career and played in a band called the John Henry's that she started playing her songs in public. "They were willing to play my songs," she says of the Henry's.

Teaching didn't prove the right fit for Maki, "I was completely

trapped and I just wanted to take off and play shows somewhere else. I got my retirement papers in the mail and it said I only had thirty two years left before retirement...I just wasn't ready to settle in." Therefore, Maki took a year off from teaching to pursue her love for singing, writing and playing music, which brought her back to Halifax.

Most of the songs on the album were written during her teaching stint, "It was a really confusing time...I was teaching grade school, I had some heartache and loss, and I didn't know what was going on anymore." It was a relief for Maki to have music as an outlet during confusing times and, thus, the name of the album, Confusion Unlimited.

During Maki's year off she plans to play all over Canada with upcoming dates on September 26 at Ginger's Tavern, September 27 with Nathan Wiley at The Ship Inn in St. John's, and later dates in October in Ontario. Maki will also be playing at Ladyfest on October 4 at Hell's Kitchen. "I'm doing [the performing and writing] more for me at the moment," Maki says about the upcoming year off (and hopefully years to come). Kate Maki's song writing gives her relief from the confusion of life, and there's no confusion, just relief, when you sit down and listen to the eclectically still product.

Take a look at www.katemaki.com for upcoming dates and information and also visit Sam the Record Man and CD Plus to purchase her CD Confusion Unlimited.

Upcoming Dates in Halifax: Friday, September 26 at Ginger's Tavern and Saturday, October 4 at Hell's Kitchen for Ladyfest.

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BISCUIT GENERAL STORE, JENN MORRISON **Fashion Police**

The evolution of Biscuit General Store has all the elements of a retail fairy tale: an immigrant with a dream works her way up from the bottom of the fashion world, opens her own store with only \$2,000 in the bank, and ends up just seven years later at the helm of a Halifax fashion mecca.

Okay, so Wendy Friedman is an immigrant from the United States, and she was accepted at Parsons and FIT in New York but chose to toil in retail the old-fashioned way. She has steadily built connections in the Canadian fashion industry, but if the shoe fits... (Though it is more likely a mod Fly or Diesel boot than a glass slipper.) "I always had an infatuation with clothes," says Biscuit's Cinderella. "All of my memories are clothing-related. When I think about something that happened when I was a kid, I go, 'I was wearing my butterfly dress that day!' I've always been sort of fixated on clothing. I knew that's what I wanted to do."

A friend warned her that a design degree would put her "in the basement of Ralph Lauren, designing underwear for 10 years," so she dove into the world of independent clothing. After working at numerous stores and for several designers, and trying her hand at buying, producing, and constructing garments, she felt it was time to return to her retail roots. "I knew I wanted to stay in Canada, and I'm American, so opening my own business was one of the only ways I could stay, and, secondly, a lot of people in the fashion industry talk

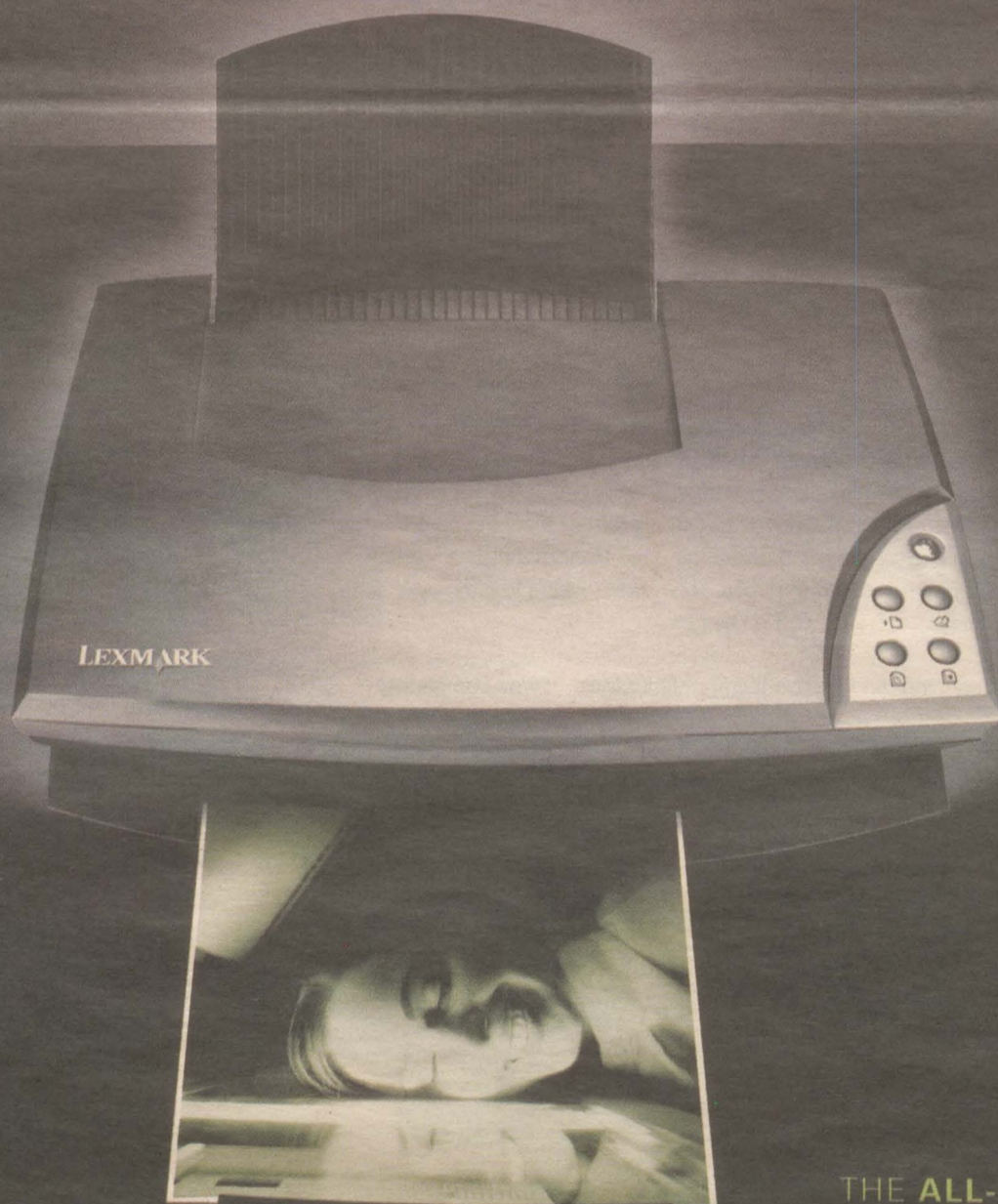
about working your way up from retail, and I had done that. But what I realized was that's what I really love," Friedman says.

And with several waves of her magic wand, Biscuit was born in Park Lane in March of 1996, later moving to Argyle Street in June, 2000, because the boutique's modus operandi conflicted with Park Lane. Friedman and her coworkers were "just wanting to be [themselves] a little more. Park Lane has a lot of rules and regulations and wants you to conform and I've always been a little more eccentric than that. I wanted to be able to play, and be weird, be odd, change things when we want to change things, have that freedom." She also needed more space to expand Biscuit's range by offering quirky gifts—everything from keepsake books to old-school lunchboxes, kitchenware to Cosmopolitan soap, Demeter cologne to retro jewelry.

Friedman's store has attracted a dedicated clientele, who benefit from the Biscuit Fan Club, a customer rewards program. "The majority of our customers are people in their mid-20s to late-30s, who are working people but who are still hip and love fashion, who aren't wearing power suits... We [also] have a lot of younger people who shop here for shoes and gifts." The passion for fashion of Friedman and her dedicated staff is like an electrical current that flows through Biscuit. But while many of the boutique's garments have the "cutting



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edge" aura, the staff eschews outright trendiness. "My rule of thumb is, I don't mind what we like to call an 'homage' to something, you know, a slight tip of the hat to whatever's going on, but I don't like it to become head to toe, overdone. Any shirt that says 'punk' is not, you know what I mean?... We also have a rule of thumb that if something's really trendy, it should be cheap. And if something's really expensive, it should be classic. That's how we do our buying," Friedman says.

Buying for Biscuit takes up a lot of time, particularly in a country not known for its sartorial eloquence. "There are no trade shows for clothing in Canada. You have to seek things out, so the nice thing now that we have been around a little longer is a lot of times, people call us," she says. Though the Internet is a big help, people power is most important when taking the pulse of the fashion world. Friedman counts on contacts with sales reps and small designers, and she does most of her buying in Toronto (where she is attending Fashion Week this week).

Biscuit's staff does everything themselves, from administration to accounting. This personal touch is especially evident in the clothes. Unlike chain stores, Biscuit carries gems from lesser-known brands that are hand-picked by the staff - from Preloved to Le Petit Bateau and many a treasure in-between. So even without a fairy godmother, one woman's love affair with clothes has translated into business success, and, of course, magical style galore for the ladies 'n' gents of Halifax who frequent Biscuit.

Biscuit is located at 1661 Argyle Street
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Spin Spin Sugar

RYAN POTTER, HEATHER MILNE, ANDREW ERSKINE, DAWN KEEBALS **Music Snobs**



Kraftwerk
Tour de France
Soundtracks
(Astralwerks)

Kraftwerk, one of the world's most influential groups, have resurfaced with their first album of original material in 12 years. The seemingly daunting challenge of maintaining relevance and creativity in a domain they virtually invented over two decades ago is met with surprising vigour. Incorporating more recent elements of electronic music with their trademark "robot-pop" and standard transportation fetishes, "Tour De France Soundtracks" is for the most part fresh. The occasional moment of sonic genius makes this better-than-average album worth investigating.

Ryan Potter

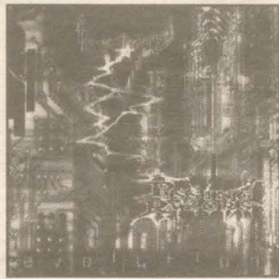


The Carnations
All in Good Time
(Ducttape Records)

When you hear the word carnation, you automatically think about a tacky 80's prom. But in this case, the only connection these carnations have with the 80's is being born in them. In fact, the Carnations are a band, and a fairly good one at that. The Carnations have been together since 1995 when Thomas D'Arcy taught Steve Krecklo to play the bass. They soon added Nathan Rekker to their lineup, and by 1997 they were recording their first album. Since then, they have become known for live shows, including one in Oshawa Ontario where they were banned from a club when Thomas D'Arcy played an encore naked. It's stunts like this that make the band unique, fresh and truly unforgettable. Their music seems somewhat like pop and punk, but leans more towards rock. Their new album has 14 songs that vary in several ways. Short songs that last no more than a minute serve as a segue for the song that follows. The amount of energy that The Carnations put into their music is evident on this album.

Heather Milne

Last week we forgot to add the website address of Christina Martin to her album review. To find out more about this hot new artist check out www.christinamartin.net



Pissing Razors
Evolution
(Spitfire Records)

With a band name like Pissing Razors, one can deduce that they won't be singing any lullabies. Sure enough, there are no easy listening tracks either. Actually, the entire album is unbelievably difficult to listen to. This four piece band is metal at its lowest. What makes this album so incredibly difficult to listen to is its... well, where do I start? How about the complete lack of any originality. "Evolution" is packed with horrible screaming (and I am a fan of a good scream) and painfully typical metal songwriting. The vocalist's singing/screaming sounds more like my roommate after a night of heavy smoking and with lyrics like "breath of doom, obvious horror, taste of blood, in holy fire," it makes it rather difficult to take these guys seriously. An all out onslaught of cheesy squealing guitar solos slap you in the face on tracks like "Hanging on the Cross," and "Two Face Devil" which just adds more support to the fact that "Pissing Razors" blow. What seals them in the coffin of rank ass metal though, is their Spanish version of the title track "Evolution". Hopefully Pissing Razors will eventually evolve into a decent band, so that no other future reporters will suffer through what I just went through, but until then steer far, far away.

Andrew Erskine



A Perfect Circle
The Thirteenth Step
(Virgin Records)

Maynard James Keenan of Tool fame returns with his bitchin' side project. Their debut effort, Mer de Noms, was a near flawless album of anti-Tool sounding melodies and harmonies. The band does its best to avoid trying to duplicate that sound by forging a new path into rock hard rock n' roll and guttural guitar work. With former Smashing Pumpkins guitarist James Iha, Marilyn Manson's Twiggy Ramirez and technician extraordinaire Bill Howerdel behind the scenes pulling the puppet strings, the band expands on its sophomore release. It never does reach the grand heights of their debut but it stands as a beautiful testament to a band that will hopefully continue to evolve and produce great music in the years to come. I'll consider this a warm-up for the big game to come.

Dawn Keebals

Burn Baby Burn



Repo's Mix CD of this Week's Hottest New Singles, put down the J-Lo CD sir/m'am.

50 Cent • "P.I.M.P." (Shady/Polydor)

An Pierle • "Are Friends Electric?" (Universal)

Joe Strummer & The Mescaleros • "Coma Girl" (Epitaph)

Yeah Yeah Yeahs • "Maps"

Elviss • "Comadose" (PP Records)

Ike Reily • "Hip Hop Thighs #17" (Universal)

Poison the Well • "Loved Ones" (Trustkill)

People Under the Stairs • "Yield" (Virgin)

Massive Attack • "Butterfly Caught (RJD2 Remix)" (Virgin)

Electric Six • "Dance Commander" (XL)

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Business of Music

NATALIE PENDERGAST Staff Contributor

"It's a crazy business," To say the least. Jay Cleary was describing, of course, the music biz.

One year ago, the St. Francis Xavier Enterprise Center created a "Business of Music Course" to help teach young musicians how to manage the business side of the industry. The initial strategy of the course, according to Cleary, was to promote M.I.A.N.S. (Music Industry Association of Nova Scotia) and other small, independent local groups. There is an air of unfairness in the current flow of the industry. It seems that many talented young artists are getting cast aside, or are getting tired of failing to get noticed. Cleary says that there is a flaw to most musicians' strategies. That is that all their hard work is helping them to "become a very good musician, but not a very good salesman." Artists could be swimming in talent and skill, but it all goes down the drain unless they either have the money to hire a team (manager, lawyer, booking agent, etc.), or the know how to do the work of one. Cleary says that the goal of the Business of Music is to make artists aware of this.

There is still unfairness: the conundrum of why certain bands out-fame their peers still looms over artists' heads in their risky wait to see if they are "chosen". Cleary gave the ever popular example of David Usher, who has a lot of talent — which is certainly on par with many, far lesser known local artists — but who also has a lot of something else. "Looks," says Cleary, make Usher "more marketable."

These days making the band is about appearance. "Bands work hard to cultivate an image." The Music business is an in-your-face industry that demands triple threats; danc-

ing well, singing well, and looking good. It won't be long until performers will start tasting good too, right through the speakers.

Cleary mentioned a recent conversation with Susan Hunter of Jazzeast, where they decided that there is a difference between "Arts and Entertainment." The biz is tough and doesn't give anyone the benefit of the doubt; so no entertain, no gain. He says that the business of music course is about "empowering people to change this trend so that smaller entrepreneurs can get a piece of the pie."

Even after artists struggle to finally be rewarded with a record deal, the stress doesn't end. "For a young band to get a deal is a scary thing." It is scary because now there are demands not only from the audience, but also from the record label. "Sometimes there is pressure to conform to a certain sound." Cleary says, "Bands that don't keep in the loop of the business side can get screwed." An example of an artist like this is Bruce Springsteen, who is a huge musician, but got taken advantage of (legitimately) by his record company. An example of an artist who was successful both musically and in business is Chuck Berry, who took an accounting course early in his career that armed him with the knowledge of money that every artist needs. "The world is all about money, and in that case it's about individual pursuits," Says Cleary, "Now let's put the tools in the hands of the musicians."

The Business of Music still has room for interested students. For more information, visit www.thebusinessofmusic.com

Backjumping

A REVIEW OF A SHORT FILM, TALIA FANNING Staff Contributor

Okay, the film festival is over, and you probably saw tons of reviews about the films that were playing. Touching, dramatic, deeply evocative and so on. That's why they were at the festival, right? Those words, however, are not the first that will come to mind for the people who saw *Backjumping* — one of nine short films shown in the PS Atlantic Shorts.

Backjumping depicts the degree to which two extreme sport athletes have to go for a thrill. Mark Day and Dax Ravina star in the film as a daring duo tired of mundane extreme sports like snowboarding, biking, extreme bungee jumping and "jam ball." They invent a game destined to be the next big thing: backjumping. Reality TV meets extreme sports as the camera follows the pair.

"A lot can go wrong in *Backjumping*," explains one character — and it does. The two athletes must jump and hang on to their target's backs, earning points for the duration and the ferocity of their mounts. The narration in a scene in which one character is thrown to the ground and beaten explains that while the football helmets they wear provide some protection in this extreme sport, it's not good enough until it's securely duct taped in place.

The nine-minute long film had the audience laughing through-



out, as the two leads backjumped everyone they saw while explaining the different levels of difficulty. Jumping on old people, for example, is less dangerous but it doesn't earn the same number of points as jumping on a hockey player. At the end of the film, the athletes say they expect their sport to go big, but that they do it for sheer love of the challenge.

"I'm a backjumper. It's what I do. It's who I am."

Report Card

The High Dials



Date: Sept. 18th
Venue: The Marquee
Reporter: Sam Worthington

Stage Presence: A
Audience Reaction: B
Sound: A
Effort: A
Get-it-on Ability: B

This was undoubtedly the most fun, though most sparsely attended show I have seen all year. The only mishap was when the Dials bass player raised a Becks and toasted: This one is for you Halifax, only to have it foam up all over himself and his amp. However, this did not prove to be a bad omen, or take anything away from a high-energy rock show with a subtle retro twist (they had a sitar player).

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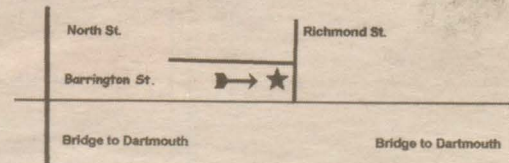
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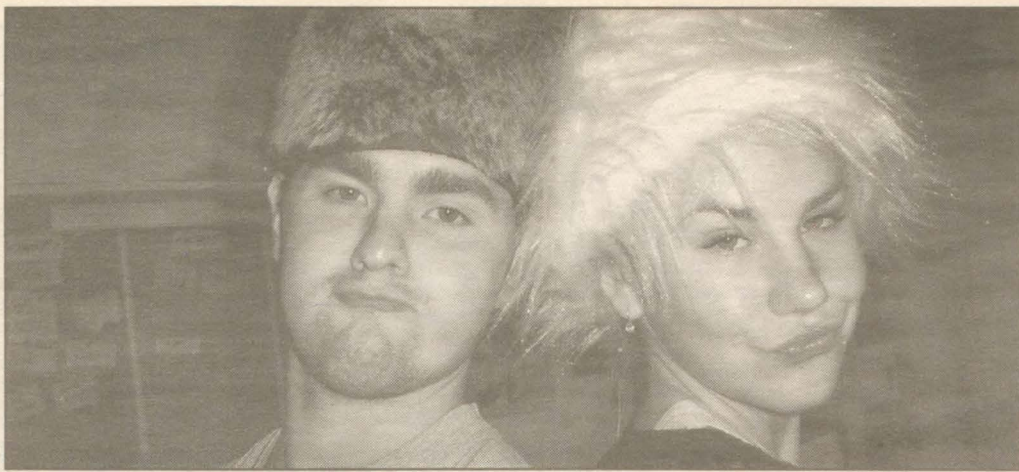
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Advice

BORIS & GORBI Gazette Advice Columnists

My boyfriend is poor. He doesn't have any money and we can never go anywhere. What can I do about my poor boyfriend?

GORBI: Excuse me dear, but what are you doing with a poor man to begin with? What kind of future do you want? Crush him! If you are going to MacDonald's instead of eating caviar, and you are tired seeing him pick his food out of his overgrown beard then, my darling, he is not the comrade for you. Marry for love, not money, but make sure you pick the one you love from those who have money.

BORIS: Perhaps he spends all his money on you, and maybe he just is of a more humble sort. If you want to know the truth, stay out of finances, it is not a woman's job.

My girlfriend always wants to have anal sex. Does that mean she does not like looking at me and thinks I am ugly?

BORIS: Be happy you are getting any.

GORBI: Personally, anal is a bit too Neanderthal for me, however there are girls these days who like it rough. Coming from a woman it could mean either one of two things; you are a little lame so in this way she could read the paper or watch TV while you are making love or you have bad breath. I suggest investing in the Karma Sutra or some Trident.

My dog got aroused when I took off my clothes to go in the shower. Is this normal? It made me nervous.

BORIS: A lot of people get nervous, don't worry, it is okay you just have to get used to it. We are all God's creatures. We are all beautiful.

GORBI: What about going to www.beastiality.com for advice? I heard they give excellent sexual advice.

On the weekend I masturbated for 14 hours and 23 minutes straight. I am ashamed to admit this. Is this normal?

BORIS: Don't be ashamed, what is wrong with masturbation? Nothing! At least it is sex with someone you love. You could never make love that long to a woman; the sink begins to smell if the dishes are left in sink too long.

GORBI: My Darling, of course it is. Did I mention I am single? Would you like my number?

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For more information: Tel: (514) 866-3429
Application deadline: November 21, 2003 (postmarked)

Alcohol

THIS WEEK: BEER, RAFAL ANDRONOWSKI Staff Contributor

For the Gazette's very first alcohol review column, I've decided to review beers for warm weather. We've been getting 20 C plus temperatures lately, and there's nothing better than an ice-cold beer to cool down with.

I had a Labatt Blue lying around, which calls itself a Pilsner, so I decided to compare Canada's most marketed beer with what is arguably the world's best Pilsner: Pilsner Urquell.

Pilsner is a term applied to light, hoppy lagers, of golden colour with a wonderfully flowery bouquet (nose). Pilsners have a medium body and a crisp, dry, slightly bitter finish. They carry a dense, aromatic white head and are typically around 5 per cent alcohol by volume (abv). The very first Pilsner was brewed in 1842 in the Bohemian city of Plzn (pronounced Pil-z-n) in the Czech Republic. This area is known as one of the best hops-growing regions in the world, and if you ever get the chance, I recommend a trip to Plzn, if only for the beer. Anyways, off to the bar.



Beer: Pilsner Urquell
Brewery: Plzensky Prazdroj, Plzn, Ceska Republika
Style: Pilsner
Abv: 4.4 %

Notes: Pours with a great, thick white head over clear, golden yellow. Wonderful, intense floral aroma with hints of wild honey. Maybe a bit of sweet, fresh grass, as if you lay down in an alpine meadow... Mouth-filling medium body. Can't miss the hops—that's what this beer is all about. The hoppiness is nicely balanced with lightly toasted malt. A clean, crisp finish leads to a slight linger of bitterness on the tongue.

Overall: Well balanced, very full of character. The best of the style.
Cost: Liquor Store \$2.25 for a 500ml can



Beer: Labatt Blue
Brewery: Labatt Brewing Co., Vancouver, BC
Style: Pilsner
Abv: 5 %

Notes: This is a rather pale, slightly golden yellow beer under a medium head. Lightly floral aromas but not even close to the complexity and intensity of Pilsner Urquell. I swear I detected hints of bubble gum. This beer feels very light and is very carbonated. Hoppy, floral notes and a slightly bitter finish add up to nothing memorable.

Overall: Although it adheres to the Pilsner formula. This beer is so bland and devoid of character I cannot recommend it to anyone.

Cost: Liquor Store \$9.25 for a 6-pack of 341ml bottles

Beer: Alexander Keith's Celebration Amber Ale
Brewery: Alexander Keith's, Halifax, NS
Style: Amber Ale
Abv: 5 %

Notes: Under a thick, creamy head is medium-golden, amber ale (obviously). The bouquet hints at a caramel sweetness, with light floral and slight hop notes. Not overly complex, but it tells you right off what this beer's about. It's light on the palate, with more sweetish caramel and hints of toasted malt. A light bitterness develops towards a sweetish note on the finish.

Overall: Enough character to qualify it as an interesting beer, and one I will recommend to those who like darker, sweeter beers.

Cost:
Liquor Store
\$1.95 for a 473ml can

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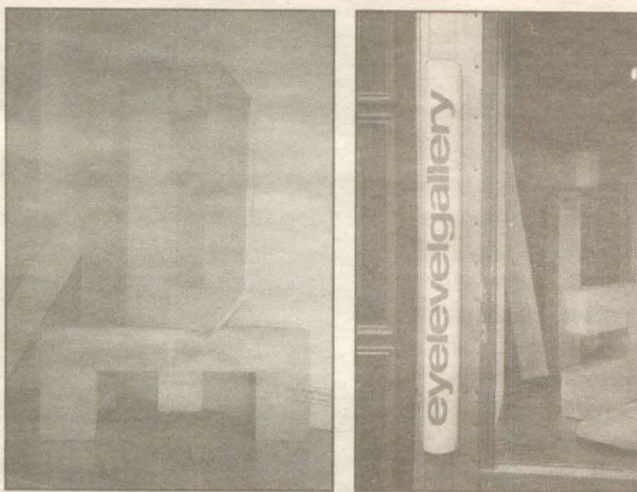
Eyeful at EyeLevel

ANGELA DAY Staff Contributor

If you're walking down Barrington Street this week, you may wonder about the gigantic wooden N, W or T's jumbled together in a storefront window. Step into the foyer and words from unseen speakers, begin to seep into you, "calling, calling." This isn't some sort of creative commercial scheme targeting window shoppers, but a contemporary art exhibit by Linda Rae Dornan of Sackville, Nova Scotia.

In anticipation of the ninth annual Word on the Street in Halifax, Eye Level Gallery is showing a series of exhibits in their window space with the theme "thought bubbles." Funded and run by artists themselves, the gallery offers stimulating and modern fare amongst the heritage buildings of Barrington Street.

The free-admission Word on the Street will be held Sunday, Sept. 28 at Pier 20 to advocate literacy and celebrate the written word. Over 60 exhibitors will be at the waterfront festival, representing everything from small local bookstores to well-known magazines like Canadian Geographic. There will be authors reading,



musicians performing and lots of deals on books and magazines.

Enthusiasm for the art of language has caught on. With a similar premise of celebration, Eye Level Gallery is taking a visual approach and displaying various artists' unique perspectives on words or language, all

free of charge. The first of four consecutive exhibits is Dornan's "Senza Fine," which means "without end" in Italian. Once you pause to hear the slightly frenzied audio accompaniment that wafts "living words" through the foyer, the title seems appropriate. Letters so often hidden amongst words stand alone, life-sized, on either side of the foyer, silently emphasizing their focal point in our language and thus, our culture. At certain times of the day it takes some careful listening to hear the voice recording, but perhaps by just stepping into the periphery of that "confusion of humanness" Dornan's message to "breathe, breathe" is all the more meaningful. A few moments spent absorbing the simultaneously verbal and visual art is both relaxing and rejuvenating.

"Senza Fine" will be running 24/7 until September 28, when Darryl Whetter's interpretation of "thought bubbles" will move into Eye Level's public interface. He will be kicking things off at 7 p.m. with a reading from his recently published collection of short stories, Sharp Tooth in the Fur, which sounds like quite a mouthful.

David Usher

BRINGING HALLUCINATIONS TO THE STAGE, CHRIS MCCLUSKEY Staff Contributor

"After you've been in the studio so long, all you want to do is get out on the road," David Usher told the Gazette from Toronto this past Friday. "We're a band that likes to play." The former Moist front man, renowned for his exhilarating onstage presence, returns to the city this coming Saturday for the first leg of the tour supporting his newest effort, *Hallucinations*.

Released in stores on September 9, this third solo album represents yet another direction for Usher. The metaphorical references to drugs and sex common in much of his earlier work are still present, but as one of Canada's most prolific song writers insists, they are meant to be just that—metaphors. "They're more a reference to the idea of different states of mind," says Usher. "*Hallucinations* is about examining the status quo state of mind versus thinking outside of that."

Notwithstanding these similarities in his work, the follow-up to 1998's *Little Songs* and 2001's *Morning Orbit* comes with a much more straight-forward and precise clarity, both poetically and with regard to its sound. Songs such as "Devil By My Side" are much more comparable to *Little Songs'*

stripped down, acoustic "St. Lawrence River" than the meticulously produced and unclear lyricism of "Black Black Heart." The biggest shortcoming of the new record, one could argue, is that the first single "Time of Our Lives" does not seem to fit in with the overall blend of the disc. However, with as many albums as a solo artist now as he made with Moist, the soothingly tranquil and ambient *Hallucinations* is proof that Usher's days of tormented lyrical ambiguity while singing about kicking in windshields and burning the sky are in the past.

"Some people just want to hear Push all the time," said the 37-year-old. "I am always looking for ways to progress. I am just trying to create music and write songs that interest me. I like to change the process every time."

According to the Usher, the secret to artistic progression has to do with "going against what you do naturally," and, "bringing across definite meaning left for the audience to digest." With respect to the new release, much also had to do with differences in the recording process of *Hallucinations*, which explores sonic influences, as well. "*Little Songs* is an intimate album. Something very simple I made with a lot

of good friends playing in my kitchen. *Morning Orbit* was a computer base, where everything was done on computer first and layers were added. With [*Hallucinations*] we recorded it live in the studio first with my touring band and we went from there," said Usher.

So, what does he say to critics who claim that by making this seemingly "immense" progressive change that he's not staying true to himself, or that David Usher as a solo artist is solely Moist with more ego? "I don't read reviews. I have no control over them," he says, "I do what I want to do instead of being bummed out by doing the same thing all the time. I am liking things now and am focused on the music I want to do. Creating the show, bringing the songs to life on stage. Now it's much different from early on."

This is what Haligonians have to look forward to this Saturday evening as David Usher and his touring band hit up the Marquee Club with the new songs added to his dynamic show. "We're just in the process of putting the set list together now," the amiable performer commented about his upcoming East Coast visit. "We always have fun in Halifax...lots of stories, but none I am going to tell."



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THIS WEEK'S CAREER NEWS

Week of September 29th, 2003

- **DALHOUSIE STUDENT VOLUNTEER FAIR:** Thursday, October 2nd, 2003, 2nd floor, Student Union Building. Volunteering is a valuable asset to your community and a great way to build on your resume. Come join us and learn more about how volunteering can enhance your life. www.dal.ca/volunteer.
- **EMPLOYER RECRUITING:** Student recruitment is now! If you will be graduating in the Spring, now is the time to apply to the numerous employers posting employment opportunities on our site. Top employers such as Bank of Canada, RBC Royal Bank, CA firms, Procter & Gamble, Encana Corporation, Imperial Oil, Shell Canada, Irving Group, Statistics Canada, Syncrude and many more are recruiting Dalhousie students. Deadline dates vary, apply now.
- **EMPLOYER INFORMATION SESSIONS:** - RBC Royal Bank, Oct. 6, 11:30 am, Room 224, SUB, business and arts students welcome to attend. For further information visit our website.
- **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – POST SECONDARY RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN:** A Public Service career gives you an opportunity to work in your field of study and to use your skills and expertise in the service of Canada. www.jobs.gc.ca.

Student Employment Centre, 4th floor, SUB
For job postings and further information go to www.dal.ca/sec

Keith's Fest 1820

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY RAFAL ANDRONOWSKI Staff Contributor

The Beer was plentiful, the music loud, the unmistakable smell of marijuana in the air, and the atmosphere utterly East Coast.

Keith's Fest 1820, held at Exhibition Park this weekend, was a concert that highlighted the best of East Coast music. You had to win a ticket to get in, but 3,000 tickets were distributed throughout the Maritimes over the course of the summer.

"Keith's has this event because every year we really like to recognize East Coast music," says Jamie Humphries, manager of Oland Brewery, which brews Alexander Keith's. "This year we decided we'd hold a large concert, invite some of the best East Coast bands and a lot of our Keith's drinkers for a celebration to thank not only the musicians but also our customers."

The best in this case means bands such as King Konqueror, The Trews, The Joel Plaskett Emergency, The Jimmy Swift Band and the show's high liner, Sloan. Starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, the music carried on well into the night, ending around 4 a.m. Sunday.

Keith's drinkers came from all over the Maritimes and many were bused in from New Brunswick and PEI. "I think this is a fucking wicked East Coast concert," says Mark Biedisconbe of Moncton.

The bands playing the venue agreed.

"I think its fantastic. Its great that they've put it on," says Jack Syperek from The Trews. "I'm really glad they invited us, it's a fantastic crowd."

With such a large crowd, security was a concern—especially when Sloan took the stage. As fireworks exploded overhead and the boys from Halifax cranked out one awesome song after another, metal barriers strained and security personnel rushed in reinforcements to keep the crowd from the stage. This photo-journalist, dodging numerous beer cups, was struck several times by flailing arms and legs while fulfilling his duty to report to the general population. I can only imagine what security personnel go through.

According to Jason Spilner—head of Shadow Security, which handled the event—what appeared to be unbridled chaos was just another day's work.

"No problems. Great crowd...fun, energetic, easy going," Spilner says.

The RCMP was also on site, but reported only a couple of minor problems. Someone tried to steal one of The Trews' guitars, but was stopped in the parking lot.



Sloan on stage at Keith's Fest

The crowd shrank noticeably as Sloan ended and The Jimmy Swift Band took the stage, which is too bad, because they missed what could be the best song of the evening, JSB's opening number. With a trance-like beat and a great light show, these guys really rocked.

"I'm enjoying it very much," said Leak MacDonald from Halifax. "It's great."

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Hot Spots

COMPILED BY MICHAEL GORMAN Assistant Arts Editor

E V E N T S

Thursday September 25th: HISSYFIT 4 @Reflections with: Dead Red Hemingways Hell City Love Blackout77 Facelift Dirtboys Slitch Kansas-Nebraska Act

Friday September 26th: The Sound and the Fury are in full effizect at The Khyber 10pm

Saturday September 27th: Halifax's hardest of hard rockers blow down to the waterfront (Sackville Landing) for Tumbleweed III. 12pm-11pm/free

Sunday September 28th: Get out of bed early and head to the Khyber where local artists will be performing as part of a tribute to the late Johnny Cash. free

W E E K L Y

Monday: The Satisfaction, Head back to Khyber Club, Free

Wednesday: Conception/Retro Night @ The Marquee, \$4
On the Strength Wednesdays, Khyber, Free

Thursday: Living @ The Tribeca, Free
Hang the DJ @ Reflections, Free

Friday: Get freaky and switch places with your mom!!

Saturday: Lying in bed nursing a weeks worth of hangover, Free.

HOT ♥

NOT ✕

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| ☞ Angels Trumpet | ☞ Self-Castration |
| ☞ Adrienne Balboa | ☞ Adrienne Clarkson |
| ☞ CDPlus | ☞ HMV |
| ☞ See Through Shirts | ☞ Velour Track Suits |
| ☞ Showers | ☞ Baths |
| ☞ Big Game Hunt | ☞ Gorilla Cancer |
| ☞ Swimsuits | ☞ Snowsuits |
| ☞ Foam Parties | ☞ Soap Allergies |
| ☞ CBC Radio | ☞ CBC Television |
| ☞ Mozza Sticks | ☞ Grawood Servings |

Cricket



NOT THE CHIRPING KIND EITHER, ADAM SOMERS Sports Editor

Cricket is one of those sports that you hear people from England talking about and you nod your head and pretend to know what they are talking about but really you don't. Cricket is like baseball, and in explaining it I am going to have to use a lot of baseball terms because this is the only way I know how to relate. But then again, I don't see cricket becoming America's new national pastime anytime soon.

Cricket is played by two teams with 11 players each. The games are played in innings, each team bats once per inning and at the end the team with the most runs wins. So in this way it is like baseball, but after this it just all goes crazy.

To play the game you need a ball. Duh. This is hard, cork and string filled with a leather covering, just like some of today's pop stars. It is usually red with white stitching, which is the complete opposite of your standard baseball. Then you have your bat, which is more like a frat paddle than a Louisville slugger, it is flat on one side and rounded on the other and is about 10 cm wide and 100 cm long. You also need two wickets, which are three posts that you stick into the ground (stumps) and then you put two pieces of wood on top of them (bails). Batsmen (batters) wear protective clothing, and all players wear spiked shoes, or cleats. When using a red ball, you must wear white clothing. This makes it look like a bunch of scientists out on the field playing cricket.

Two batsmen start off, one at each wicket. One is the striker (the actual batter) and the other is the non striker (in the on deck circle). On defence you have a bowler (pitcher), a wicket keeper (catcher) and the other players spread out around the field. The wicket keeper is the only one allowed to wear gloves. All the other play-

ers must use their bare hands to catch.

To start, you play in balls; a ball is completed when there has been a strike, or a hit. After six balls it is considered an over (one at bat). If the striker doesn't get out, the bowler switches with another team-mate and the new bowler bowls to the non-striker, who is now the striker. Meanwhile, the old striker who didn't get out stays on the field and is now the non striker while the striker, who was the non-striker, bats until an over or an out and it all switches again. Got it? Me neither, but that's the way it goes.

Bowlers, meanwhile bounce the ball off the field after a running approach—not something I would recommend at fairlanes, but give it a shot if you want to. Good bowlers can bowl the ball at speeds of 130-140 km/hr or roughly the top speed of my 1990 Ford Tempo. Going downhill. Also, spit balls are legal here but no dirt bags...I mean balls, dirtballs.

While playing a ball, the batsman can get out in many different ways. When the batsman is out, he must leave and the next batsman replaces him, while the non-out batsman remains, it is like a game of musical chairs, only with people carrying bats and wearing white clothes. When 10 people have gotten out there are no more new people and the teams switch offence and defence. This is like those games you play where every one gets to bat because otherwise one team would make all the outs and kids would cry.

There are 10 different ways to get out. The five most common ones are:

- Caught (pop out): You hit it, a fielder catches it, plain and simple.
- Bowled (strike out): Bowler bowls, you miss,

ball hits and breaks wicket (knocks off bail).

- Leg before wicket: This is when you are trying to play goaltender, using your body to stop the ball from breaking the wicket, with out trying to swing. Cujo, you ain't.
- Stumped: No, this is not what happened with that pop quiz on the reproductive cycle of the fruit fly you didn't study for, this is when you swing, miss, step out of the crease and the wicket-keeper breaks the wicket before you get back in the crease.
- Run out: This is when you hit it and while scoring runs, a fielder breaks the wicket with the ball, and you aren't in the crease.

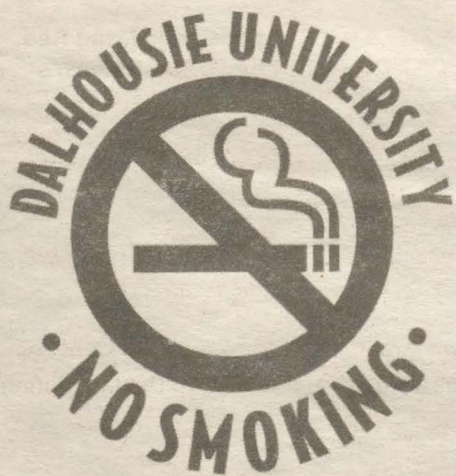
The other outs are more obstruction calls and not often seen in regular play.

You can score runs by hitting the ball and running to the opposite wicket and touching your bat down. But if you hit the ball to the boundary you get four runs, over the boundary, and you get six runs. Move over Barry Bonds with your one run homers. You can also score extra runs in various ways.

There are two umpires and the tie always goes to the batsman. International games are played over 5 days for 2 innings, with 6 hours of play a day. And people complain about baseball games being long. If on the final day the innings are not finished, the game is a draw no matter who was winning, thanks for wasting your work week guys.

Why is it called cricket? Why is football called football when you hardly ever use your foot? If everyone in Canada bought a red Honda Civic, would we be a red carnation? What is the meaning of life?

Stay tuned for more sports you know absolutely nothing about.



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DALHOUSIE
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Sports Profile: Kiera Aitken

LEAVING THE COMPETITION IN HER WAKE, MICHAEL GORMAN, Assistant Arts Editor

Kiera Aitken is a lot like the incredible growing dinosaur every kid has owned at some point during his or her childhood. Like the toy when it first comes out of the package, the slender five-foot-five Aitken is quiet and unassuming when you first meet her. However, much the way the toy grows to huge proportions after adding water, so too does Aitken—in a figurative sense, of course. The third-year computer science student is the team and conference record holder in both the 50 and 100-meter backstroke. She has been a Collegiate Interuniversity Sports finalist in each of her years at Dal, and, this past summer, while competing for her native Bermuda at the swimming world championships in Barcelona, Spain, she added yet another stat to her resume: Olympic qualifier.

After getting involved in swimming at age 6, Aitken began competing when she was 8. As she progressed, it became clear that success was in her future. However, making the Olympics only recently became a goal for her. "I guess it was about two years ago, when I qualified for [the Commonwealth Games] that I started thinking that maybe I could go on and go for the Olympics." Coming from a place as small as Bermuda where there were few people to train with, Aitken says that one of the biggest changes to her swimming since coming to Dal has been a better training environment. "Having the team helps. Having everyone be serious about it and having competitions where I have people to race against regularly is a big help."

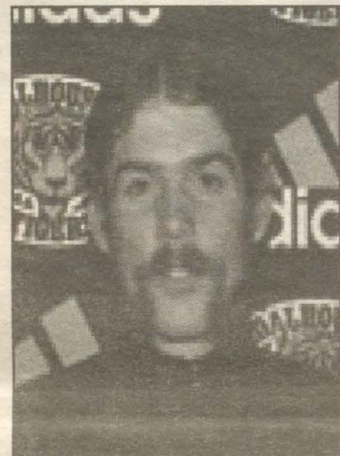
Like most outstanding talents, Aitken is a fierce competitor. Prior to her races she goes through a mental process that involves self-encouragement and motivation to get her ready to race. "I go through what I have to do to finish the race and tell myself that I know I can and it's not a big deal.



I tell myself I'm better than everyone else. I think about them slowing down and me getting faster."

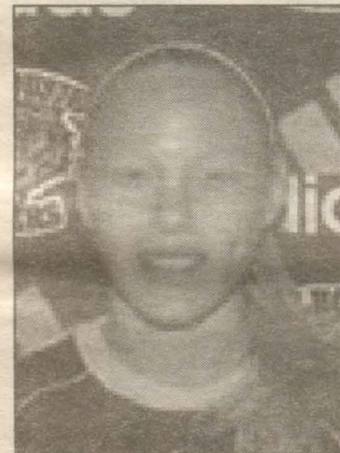
Athletes Of The Week

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 14, 2003



Matt Sheffield, Cross Country

Matt Sheffield of the men's cross-country team has been named Dalhousie's Male Athlete of the Week for the week ending September 21, 2003. Matt led the Tigers to a convincing seven point win at UNB on the weekend in a meet that featured every cross country school in the AUS and also some US content. After a cautious start, Matt simply flew through the final half of the race to finish second overall (only national team member Eric Gillis of St. F.X. finished ahead). Matt is in his third year in Dalhousie's international development studies program and hails from Eyre's Corners, ON.



#17 Chrissie Henderson, Women's Soccer Forward

Chrissie Henderson of the women's soccer team has been named Dalhousie's Female Athlete of the Week for the week ending September 21, 2003. Chrissie, a third year Nursing student from Milton, ON, scored the game's winning goal and set up another in Saturday's 4-0 win over Memorial. On Sunday, when the Tigers faced Memorial for the second game of the weekend, Chrissie scored two goals, and for the second game in a row, the game goal, as Dal defeated the Seahawks 5-1. For her efforts she was named Player of the Game on Sunday. Chrissie has raised the level of her play since fellow striker Katie Hollinshead injured her knee, and she was a dominant force for the Tigers all weekend.

With an event as big as the Olympics looming, it would be easy to think past the university season, but Aitken is staying focused. Her chief goal for the season is to win a medal at the CIS championships in March. Before that, she is looking to the Canadian National Championships in November. She says she will worry about the Olympics after the school season, a testament to her dedication to her team. Talking about her influences, this also becomes clear. "Coming to Dal, to the team, and having the support of the whole team has been a big influence on me."

Head swimming Coach David Fry agrees with the idea that the team atmosphere has been good for Aitken. "When she came she was very shy, but the team helped her come out of her shell socially, and now she is much more outgoing. Her confidence in herself has grown in the last three years by huge amounts." While he admits that she still needs work on her overall fitness level before Athens, he is quick to point out that this is a minor obstacle. "[Her] natural blazing speed is something that's hard to train. When you have that, everything else is relatively easy to work on."

Catch Olympian Kiera Aitken and the rest of the swimming Tigers as their season opens next month. Contact Dalplex for meet schedules.

Caption Contest



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Buy a 16" pizza
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get 9" garlic fingers
for \$1.00
16" pepperoni pizza for \$8.25
or 2 for \$14.99
2 med. pizzas
w/3 toppings
\$12.99
3 small donairs
for \$6.50 plus tax

Yup, we're re-running this one.

This week's winner of the caption contest was Marc Dionne. Come on by the Gazette office to claim your prize. Take a shot at next week's contest and maybe you will win. Entries must be received by Monday via e-mail to alsomers@dal.ca

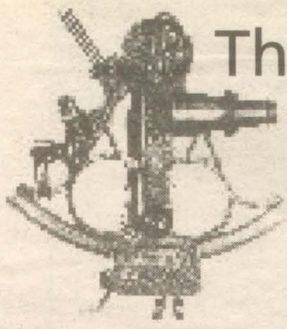
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SEXTANT

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Dalhousie's Official Engineering Student Newspaper

My Rant

By: Chris Fedora

I hate Beniffer. I hate that I even feel the need to mention my disdain for that whole situation. \$ Survivor is on for another season, who's gonna win this time, if you think you know, you need a life. \$ If the top eleven from Canadian Idol are the cream of the crop, from across our great nation, I'm scared for us. \$ What's the deal with eggs, can anyone make up their mind if they're good for us or not? \$ My cat is not fat; she just has a small head and a glandular problem. \$ Just because you've been in university for 7 years doesn't mean you like it. \$ They should remove those size stickers from the leg of jeans after you buy them at the store, no one ever remembers to take them off when they get home....right? \$ That's all for now

Lighting Charcoal

Our subject today is lighting charcoal grills. One of our favourite charcoal grill lighters is a guy named George Goble(really!!), a computer person in the Purdue University engineering department.

Each year, Goble and a bunch of other engineers hold a picnic in West Lafayette, Indiana, at which they cook hamburgers on a big grill. Being engineers, they began looking for practical ways to speed up the charcoal-lighting process. "We started by blowing the charcoal with a hair dryer," Goble told me in a telephone interview. "Then we figured out that it would light faster if we used a vacuum cleaner."

If you know anything about (1) engineers and (2) guys in general, you know what happened: The purpose of the charcoal-lighting shifted from cooking hamburgers to seeing how fast they could light the charcoal.

From the vacuum cleaner, they escalated to using a propane torch, then>> an acetylene torch. Then Goble started using compressed pure oxygen, which caused the charcoal to burn much faster, because as you recall from chemistry class, fire is essentially the rapid combination of oxygen with a reducing agent (the charcoal). We discovered that along time ago, somewhere in the valley between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers (or something along those lines). By this point, Goble was getting pretty good times. But in the world of competitive charcoal-lighting, "pretty good" does not cut the mustard.

Thus, Goble hit upon the idea of using -get ready - liquid oxygen. This is the form of oxygen used in rocket engines; it's 295 degrees below zero and 600 times as dense as regular oxygen. In terms of releasing energy, pouring liquid oxygen

on charcoal is the equivalent of throwing a live squirrel into a room containing 50 million Labrador retrievers.

On Goble's World Wide Web page (the address is <http://ghg.ecn.purdue.edu/>), you can see actual photographs and a video of Goble using a bucket attached to a 10-foot-long wooden handle to dump 3 gallons of liquid oxygen (not sold in stores) onto a grill containing 60 pounds of charcoal and a lit cigarette for ignition.

What follows is the most impressive charcoal-lighting I have ever seen, featuring a large fireball that according to Goble, reached 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The charcoal was ready for cooking in -this has to be a world record- 3 seconds.

There's also a photo of what happened when Goble used the same technique on a flimsy \$2.88 discount-store grill. All that's left is a circle of charcoal with a few shreds of metal in it. "Basically, the grill vaporized," said Goble. "We were thinking of returning it to the store for a refund."

Looking at Goble's video and photos, I became, as an American, all choked up with gratitude at the fact that I do not live anywhere near the engineers' picnic site. But also, I was proud of my country for producing guys who can be ready to barbecue in less time than it takes for guys in less-advanced nations, such as France, to spit.

Will the 3-second barrier ever be broken? Will engineers come up with a new, more powerful charcoal-lighting technology? It's something for all of us to ponder this summer as we sit outside, chewing our hamburgers, every now and then glancing in the direction of West Lafayette, Indiana, look in' for a mushroom cloud.

Useful English system conversions

- Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter
Eskimo Pi
- 2000 pounds of Chinese soup
Won ton
- 1 millionth of a mouthwash
1 microscope
- Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement
1 bananosecond
- Weight an evangelist carries with God
1 billigram
- Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour
Knot-furlong
- 365.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer because it's less filling
1 lite year
- 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone
1 Rod Serling
- Half of a large intestine
1 semicolon
- 1000 aches
1 megahurtz
- Basic unit of laryngitis
1 hoarsepower
- Shortest distance between two jokes
A straight line (think about it for a moment)
- 453.6 graham crackers
1 pound cake
- 1 million-million microphones
1 megaphone
- 1 million bicycles
2 megacycles
- 365.25 days
1 unicycle
- 2000 mockingbirds
two kilomockingbirds (work on it....)
- 10 cards
1 decacards
- 1 kilogram of falling figs
1 Fig Newton
- 1000 grams of wet socks
1 literhosen
- 1 millionth of a fish
1 microfiche
- 1 trillion pins
1 terrapin
- 10 rations
1 decoration
- 100 rations
1 C-ration
- 2 monograms
1 diagram
- 8 nickels
2 paradigms
- 2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital
1 I.V. League

Contest Winner

This Week's Winner



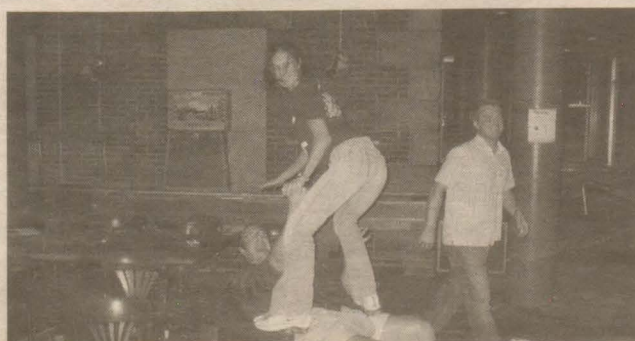
Mmmmmm, precious venus...

It was his duty to please that booty. For his dedication to the pornstastic posterior, this lucky guy wins a prize, which can be picked up Thursday night at the T-Room. Just look for any of our fabulous staff.

T-ROOM Corner

Well, as you can see from the pictures below, last Friday's Trivia Night was a success. There were an estimated 80 people in attendance, and almost everyone got drunk. Plenty of prizes went around and then went down the hatch, and everyone had a great time. Keep your eyes peeled for the next Trivia Night announcement.

Thursday 25th - Open Mic



2003 back-to-class sale



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RAM: 256MB DDR RAM
Hard Drive: 30GB
Display: 14.1" TFT active matrix display

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- Wireless 10/100 Ethernet/Modem
- 3 Year Warranty
- Windows XP Pro / Office XP Pro (only until the end of September)



TOSHIBA

Toshiba Satellite A10 Pentium



Processor: Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 2GHz
RAM: 512MB DDR RAM
Hard Drive: 40GB
Display: 15" TFT active matrix display

\$1799



Other features:

- DVD/CDRW Multifunction Drive
- Wireless Ethernet
- 1 Year Warranty
- Windows XP Home Edition / Office XP Pro (only until the end of September)



Apple iMac



Processor: G4 PowerPC® 800MHz
RAM: 256MB DDR RAM
Hard Drive: 60GB
Display: 15" TFT active matrix display

\$1584*

Other features:

- DVD/CDRW Multifunction Drive
- 10/100 Ethernet
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- 1 Year Warranty

*Please note that Office X is not included in this special iMac price and quantities are limited.

Pick up your system before the end of September and get a free copy of Microsoft Office!

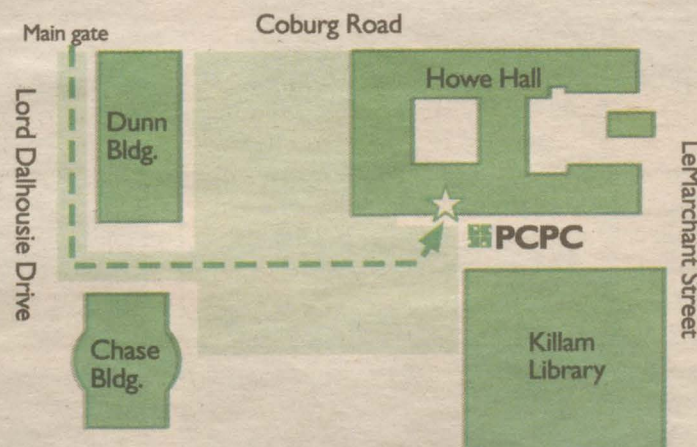


Microsoft Office is Dal's standard productivity tool, and now all Dalhousie students and departments* get a free copy of Microsoft Office with a purchase of any CPU in our back-to-class lineup until the end of September.**

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*This MS Office offer only available to students and depts. of Dalhousie and King's College.

**Does not apply to Apple iMac G4 800MHz.



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Please note PCPC will be closed for inventory Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 29th and 30th.