

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

Gazette



The Nova Scotia government will cut tuition,
but not for everyone — out-of-province students are...

Left hanging



Photo: Rafal Andronowski

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fight over representation**
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ventures out of Weldon
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NEWS

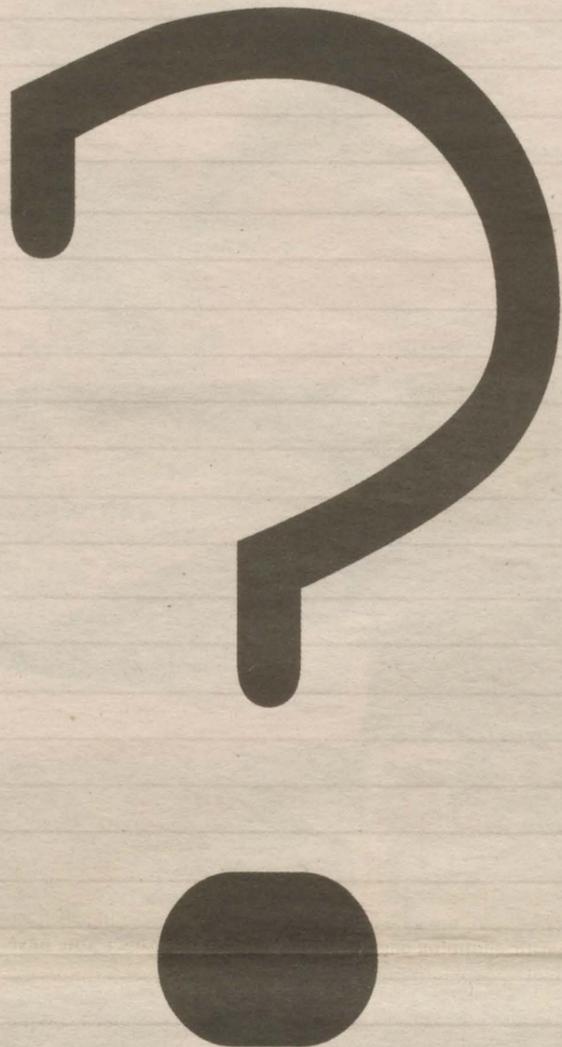
OPINIONS

ARTS

SPORTS



WEEKLY DISPATCH



Want to know what is happening on campus?

MY.DSU.CA

The improved online events calendar developed by Dalhousie students from the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) for the Dalhousie Community.

The next meeting of the DSU Council is November 8th at 6:45. Council meetings are held in Council Chambers on the second floor of the Student Union Building. All are welcome.



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SAT, NOV 11, \$12adv / \$15door
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Gazette

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Gazette

GAZETTE STAFF

Editor-in-Chief
Rafal Andronowski
editor@dalgazette.ca

Copy Editor
Jess McDiarmid
copy@dalgazette.ca

News Editors
Reid Southwick
Dawn MacPhee
news@dalgazette.ca

Opinions Editor
Li Dong
opinions@dalgazette.ca

Arts & Culture Editors
Saman Jafarian
Laura Tretheway
arts@dalgazette.ca

Sports Editors
Joey Ryba
Colleen Cosgrove
sports@dalgazette.ca

Photo Editor
John Packman
photo@dalgazette.ca

Office Manager
Barry Knight
office@dalgazette.ca

Sextant Editor
JF Nowlan
sextant@dal.ca

THE FINE PRINT

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

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

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

Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, Top 10 listing, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of *The Gazette* or its staff. Views expressed in the Streeeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not *The Gazette's* writers or staff. All quotes attributed to Joey Ryba in the Streeeter feature of this paper are written, in good humour, by staff, and do not necessarily represent the views of Joey Ryba. This publication is intended for readers 18 years of age or older. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

All students of Dalhousie University, as well as any interested parties on or off-campus, are invited to contribute to any section of the newspaper. Please contact the appropriate editor for submission guidelines, or drop by for our weekly volunteer meetings every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in room 312 of the Dal SUB. *The Gazette* reserves the right to edit and reprint all submissions, and will not publish material deemed by its editorial board to be discriminatory, racist, sexist, homophobic or libellous. Opinions expressed in submitted letters are solely those of the authors. Editorials in *The Gazette* are signed and represent the opinions of the writer(s), not necessarily those of *The Gazette* staff, Editorial Board, publisher, or Dalhousie University.

CONTACTING US

6136 University Avenue
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 4J2

info@dalgazette.ca
www.dalgazette.ca

General Inquiries
(902) 494 - 2507

Advertising Inquiries
(902) 494 - 6532
advertising@dalgazette.ca

CONTRIBUTORS FOR THIS ISSUE

All contributions in this issue of *The Gazette* were made by the staff listed above and the following contributors: **Katie May, Jen Bond, Angelica Blenich, Anneke Foster, Aaron Gillis, Neal Cody, Kate Robertson, Stephen Goldbloom, Laura Berton, Andrew Bernardo, Christina Stefanski, Karyn Haag, Anna Fong, Hugh Wallace, Catherine Holloway and Philip Carpenter.**

Contributor meetings take place every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in Room 312 of the Dalhousie SUB starting the first week of the academic year. We need writers, photographers, illustrators, readers and ideas. If you can contribute any of these, please drop us a line or come by the office.

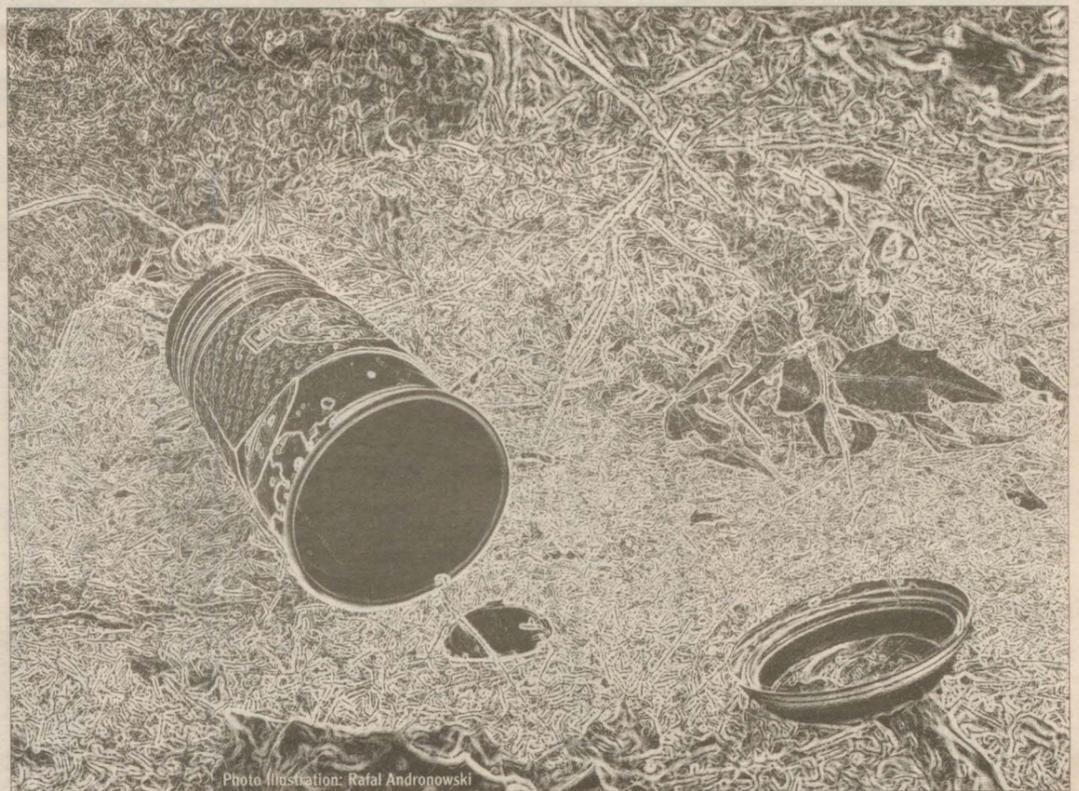


Photo illustration: Rafal Andronowski

Let's clean up our act

RAFAL ANDRONOWSKI
Editor-in-Chief

It was a warm, sunny day in mid-October. The cloudless blue sky beckoned with an invitation to lounge in the sunshine.

Wandering around campus, I shuffled through a colourful carpet of leaves. My shoes kicked up rustling leaves in every shade of yellow, orange, red, brown. I also saw a rainbow of other colours — the shiny silver of a beer can, the glowing white of a plastic shopping bag, the dull brown of the ubiquitous coffee cup.

As a resident of the so-called student ghetto for the past two years, I am quite used to seeing empty beer cans, pizza boxes and discarded newspapers lying by the curb and rolling in the gutters.

But I always thought the university campus was — pun intended — littered with garbage cans and recycling boxes ready to accept our waste. And along side these are the university-provided cigarette butt urns scattered on the peripheral of Dalhousie's property.

So I went to search for these seemingly elusive bins.

I found no less than five of the

large, mottled-brown garbage bins within three or four minutes of setting out. I also spotted two silver recycling containers and a number of butt urns.

All of these containers are easily visible and, in my mind at least, conveniently placed. The garbage and litter floating around campus is not due to a lack of suitable receptacles.

"I don't understand it," says Mike Murphy, manager of environmental services at Dal, whose department is responsible for maintaining 79 acres across three campuses. "You have a piece of garbage, just put it in the proper can."

Along with cutting grass, raking leaves and generally maintaining Dal property, environmental services personnel spend 120 hours per week picking up garbage. And on Saturday morning, a crew of as many as eight students walks the campuses and surrounding area, picking up garbage.

Murphy laments having to put his staff on litter duty when they could be doing something else, such as fixing up the grounds, which is given a lower priority until garbage is removed.

"We want to clean up the neighbourhood, too," says Murphy. "If a

piece of garbage looks like it could be blown over from university property, we pick it up."

By far the most common item picked up by the clean-up crews, says Murphy, is coffee cups, with cigarette butts coming in a close second.

I'm not much of a coffee drinker, or smoker, but with the proliferation of suitable garbage cans on campus, I find it hard to understand why someone would toss their waste on the ground.

There really aren't many places on campus without a garbage can several paces distant.

What it all comes back to, says Murphy, is respect, or rather, lack thereof — for the university, the people that work here, the people that keep it clean and the residents that live nearby.

And I agree. Walking a few more steps with an empty cup is not going to kill you. Butting out that cigarette in the urn is much less damaging to your health than smoking it is.

Cleaning up after yourself costs you nothing and takes next to no extra effort. But it would make our campus more pleasant, and allow those 120 hours per week to go toward something useful.

Corrections - sometimes the delete button has a mind of its own

- In issue 139-08, *The Gazette* review of the Cliks stated that the band "sound like what might happen if Chrissie Hynde and the Murmurs' Leisha Hailey fell in love, got Bowie to help out with insemination and gave birth to an indie rock child." This comment should have been attributed to Sarah Liss of *Now* magazine. She wrote it. *The Gazette* apologizes and hopes *Now* magazine won't indie bitch slap us with its paisley glove.

Gazette

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Province cuts cheques for its own, leaves others in cold

REID SOUTHWICK
News Editor

Tuition fees for Nova Scotian students enrolled in the province's universities will be slashed by more than \$400 in January 2007, the Tories announced on Oct. 27, leaving over half of the Dalhousie student body out of the deal.

The education payout comes from the province's share of a \$1.5-billion package it received from the federal Infrastructure Trust Fund, a commitment to post-secondary education funding established in the 2005 Liberal-NDP budget. The federal government cut each province a cheque based on its share of the national population, which leaves Nova Scotia with three per cent of the spoils — \$28.8 million over two years.

Education Minister Karen Casey said during a press conference at Province House that her government will spend \$10.3 million on reducing tuition for Nova Scotia students enrolled in the province's universities during the winter semester next year. This means roughly two thirds of students in the province will receive a fee reduction of about \$440.

Casey said the government has earmarked another \$8.8 million for tuition cuts that it will introduce in September 2007. She said the amount for each student will depend on enrolment figures, though out-of-province students won't be considered for that money either.

But nearly 52 per cent of Dal students aren't from Nova Scotia. Dal spokesperson Charles Crosby said shortly after the press conference that while the university welcomes the funding announcement, it's concerned for the students who have been left out.

"We are a national university and we'd like everybody to be treated in the same way," said Crosby. "But as it stands, our students are being treated with a sense of inequality."

Sarah McNiece, an Ottawa native studying political science and international development studies at Dal, said she's annoyed that the province won't be sending her a cheque.

"I feel it's a little discriminatory for the province to say that, 'We'll be giving back this money, even though we have the highest rate in Canada, to people just from Nova Scotia,'" she said. "Financially, it's



Education Minister Karen Casey said the government believes Nova Scotia students who chose to study in their home province should be the beneficiaries of the federal education money, since it was allocated on a per capita, and not a per student, basis. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

a really big issue because it's really expensive here."

Crosby said the university will have to consider the disadvantage faced by out-of-province students when it drafts the 2007/2008 operating budget. Although the final decision will be left to senior administration officials, Crosby suggested the university could consider introducing one-time bursaries and scholarships for these students.

Dal President Tom Traves, however, dismissed the suggestion.

"We have no resources to do something like that," said Traves.

The university already spends 40 per cent of tuition revenues on scholarships, bursaries and on-campus employment. Traves said Dal won't make any one-time commitments to assist out-of-province students, even though the university has an estimated \$1.5-million

The announcement

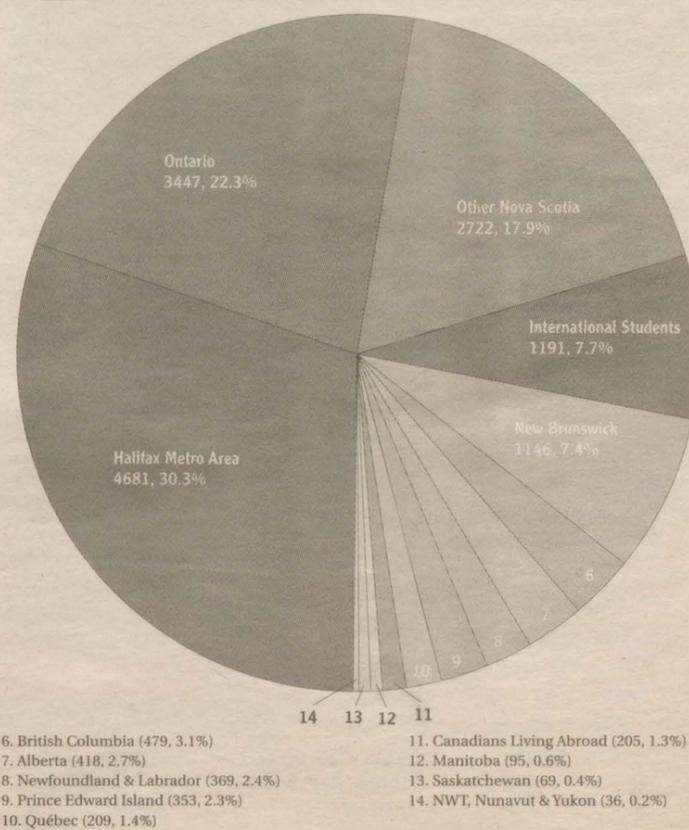
- \$10.3 million for tuition cuts, effective January 2007
- \$8.8 million for tuition cuts, effective September 2007
- \$6.1 million for needs-based grants program
- \$3.6 million for apprenticeship assistance
- Total: \$28.8 million**

surplus due to unexpectedly high enrolment levels.

"If the government chooses to make one group of students special, I don't see why we would feel some special obligation to make other students special," he said. "It's up to the government to explain why they chose one group of students over another."

Minister Casey said the govern-

Dalhousie University (Excluding King's) Enrolment by Permanent Residence - Summary (Headcounts)



Note:

The "Canadian" breakdown includes Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents. International students are those whose immigration status is International.

Permanent Residence is defined as the province/country of residence at the time of admission to the University. This data is not normally updated, unless a student re-applies to the university and may not be consistent with the definition for qualifying for tuition rebates proposed by the provincial government.

ment believes Nova Scotia students who chose to study in their home province should be the beneficiaries of the federal education money, since it was allocated on a per capita, and not a per student, basis.

"We're proud to be able to take these steps to help make education in Nova Scotia accessible to more students," said Casey.

But the government's announcement has come under fire for not considering the need to attract out-of-province students, given the current decline of high school graduates in Nova Scotia — a major problem affecting Dal.

"The province has to stop looking at students from away as the enemy," said Chris Parsons, a representative of the Canadian Federa-

tion of Students. "Students in Nova Scotia contribute to the economy and the social life and the economic fabric and we have to start looking at students from Ontario, from New Brunswick, from Alberta as future Nova Scotians."

The provincial government should spend some of its \$228-million surplus on cutting tuition for all students studying in the province, said Parsons.

In keeping with Premier Rodney MacDonald's promise to bring Nova Scotia tuition in line with the national average by 2010, Casey said her government will announce its own spending commitments in its budget next spring.

For editorial comment, see pg. 7



Student Employment Centre

2007 Summer Job Opportunities

Parliamentary Guide

Every year Parliamentary Guides welcome hundreds of thousands of visitors from all over Canada and around the world to the Parliamentary Buildings. If you are looking for the perfect opportunity to hone your speaking skills, perfect your official second language and form friendships with people from coast to coast, this job is for you!

Work in France

The Canadian - France Youth Mobility Programs allow Canadians and French Nationals between the ages of 18 and 35 to go to the other country for up to 12 months to work, do an internship/on-the-job training placement, have a summer job or participate in the Working - Holiday Program.

For more information on these and other exciting summer job opportunities, please visit www.dal.ca/sec

Career Panel

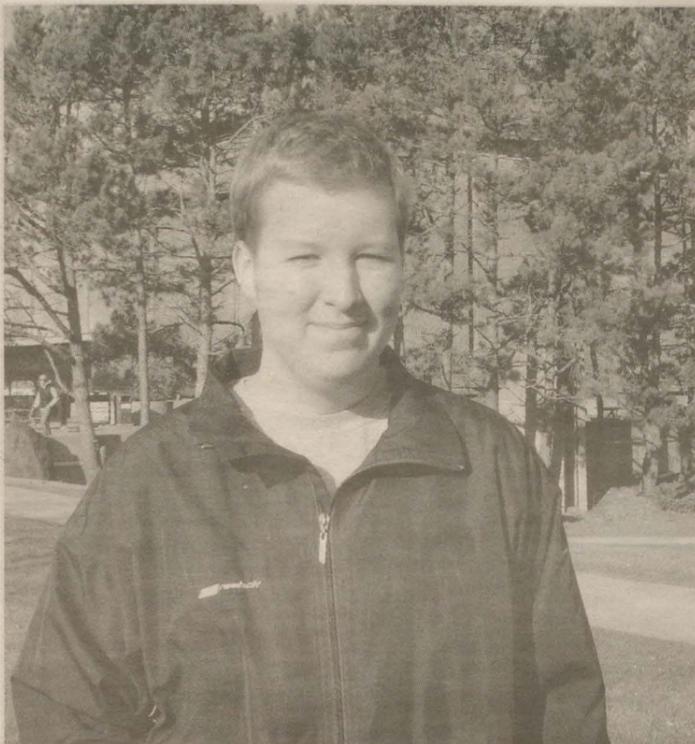
Public Service

Nov 2
2:30 - 4:00
Chemistry Building, Room 223

Workshops

Interview Preparation

Nov 8
4:00 - 5:00
SUB, Room 302



Mike Tipping, chair of the Alliance of N.S. Student Associations, says the lobby group should have two of the three seats in the re-negotiation of the MOU. / Photo: John Packman

ANSSA, CFS scrap over representation in education debate

JEN BOND
Staff Contributor

Nova Scotia's two student lobby groups are at odds over the distribution of student seats at the re-negotiation of the funding agreement between the provincial government and Nova Scotia universities and colleges.

The Memorandum of Understanding, which took effect in September 2005, capped annual tuition fee increases for undergraduate students at 3.9 per cent for three years. But the cap didn't extend to medicine, law and dentistry tuition fees, or international student differential fees.

Student groups were excluded from the original negotiations, but the Department of Education has offered them three seats for the next round of talks set to begin this winter. Provincial officials left Nova Scotia's two student lobby organizations to decide who will take each seat.

Both groups agree that having student representation at the MOU table will ensure that student concerns are addressed during the negotiations. But they differ on how they think the seats should be distributed.

The Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA), the Dalhousie Student Union's group, represents 75 per cent of students in the province, including the majority of international students and all law,

medicine and dentistry students. ANSSA says this demands it receive the lion's share of representation.

ANSSA chair Mike Tipping says his organization should receive two of the three seats. ANSSA has more international students and all professional students, he says, and their tuition fees are going to be key topics of discussion.

"Of course, they should have a significant voice in the process."

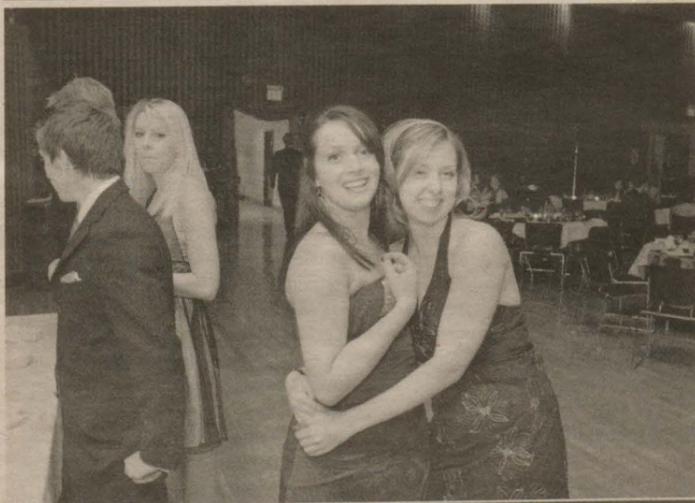
The Canadian Federation of Students' (CFS) Nova Scotia branch, however, wants both lobby groups to have a seat, leaving the third one to a representative from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), which neither organization represents.

"The only way to make sure that they're democratically represented is to have them at the table," says CFS representative Chris Parsons.

Parsons says he asked the Department of Education to offer a seat to the Atlantic School of Theology, the other university in the province not represented by a lobby group, but the ministry denied his request.

Tipping says he doesn't agree with giving NSAC its own seat at the negotiations. "To argue that the Nova Scotia Agricultural College should have the same voice as 40 times as many students, including all of the professional students and most of the international students, is insane," he says.

For editorial comment, see pg. 7



Words: Aaron Gillis / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Society ball racks up bill

The Dalhousie science and arts societies co-hosted a fall gala on Oct. 27 in the Student Union Building's MacInnes Room. The semi-formal event featured a buffet dinner and a dance.

Arts society treasurer Erin Ryan said the event cost roughly \$9,000, including food, hall rental and charges for the band and technicians. Roughly 250 society members attended the event, bringing in about \$5,000 in revenues.

The science and arts societies will foot the outstanding bill.

Unwrapped

Students peel away discomfort to talk safe sex

DAWN MACPHEE
Assistant News Editor

This story is part of a series on student services at Dalhousie

A student-run program at Dalhousie is carving the way toward safer sex practices on and off campus.

"[Students] may look at somebody who's older like their mom or dad coming in to talk to them about sex, which they don't want," says Derek Leduc, co-coordinator of the Peer Health Education Program and fourth-year health promotions student. "At least with me, they know they can talk openly, they're more comfortable with that."

Peer Health educators hold sexual health training workshops for residence assistants (RAs) who deliver the information to students living on their floors. The workshops cover information on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) to make students aware of symptoms, testing and safe-sex practices to help prevent infections and pregnancy. The educators also provide students with condoms and dental dams.

"At frosh week, we distributed condoms and information outside the Grawood and I think the students were very receptive to it," says Leduc. "There were some that weren't really comfortable, but there were a lot who were really happy to see us there and take a free condom."

Peer Health tries to identify "hotspots" on campus where it can reach large amounts of students. Its members hope to be in front of the Grawood again later this year and want to spend an evening at the T-Room on Sexton campus.

The educators also use interactive games and activities to involve students in the learning process. This year, they designed a new spin on the *Jeopardy* game show, called Sex with Trebec, where all of the categories relate to sexual health.

"When they first come in, they're all kind of shy and aren't really too sure how long they're going to stay," says Leduc. "But once you get playing, more and more people keep coming in."

The Peer Health Education Program was launched in 2005 with the goal of helping students achieve optimal health. Sexual health is one of



Peer Health co-coordinator Derek Leduc says students who have un-safe sex or multiple partners should get tested. / Photo: John Packman

several areas the program focuses on, as well as responsible drinking, smoking cessation and nutrition. Four students and a group of volunteers staff the program.

Dal health educator Derrick Enslow oversees the Peer Health program and says its members are always trying to find fun and interesting ways to deliver sexual health information to students.

"We can't go out there and preach abstinence. People are going to be having sex anyway," says Enslow. "It's almost like a sort of harm reduction model where people have sex but do it safely and know all the risks that are involved and so on."

At the beginning of this academic year, Enslow says the Peer Health office gave out between 600 and 700 condoms to residence life managers who divided them up between 90 RAs. And the RAs often return for more to keep their floors stocked up, he says.

RAs are required to give what has been dubbed the "sex talk" at the beginning of each academic year, and some are more comfortable with it than others. Jason Pooley, RA for the

third floor of Fountain House, says it's not his favourite thing to do.

"You get embarrassed about it, and your guard goes down a little bit and your residents see that," says Pooley. "So it makes you a little more vulnerable to them and that's always good in the end." He says talking openly about sexual health helps build a level of trust between him and his residents.

Pooley says the Peer Health training session is well rounded, though the educators could be doing more to inform students about STI clinic locations and opening times.

"It's kind of a maze to actually go down," says Pooley. "I've had students that are freaked out and had to go but they couldn't find it and it was open at a strange time."

But Leduc says the Peer Health program is still in its infancy and its members working on developing new programs and a website.

"It's sort of shocking, some of the things that people believe or are just unaware of," says Leduc. "People should seek out screening if they are practicing any sort of unsafe sex or if they've had multiple partners."



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Gazette

**Volunteer Meetings
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Clear the smog on climate change — environmentalist

KATIE MAY
News Contributor

In his crisp blue suit and gold tie, Jim Hoggan doesn't look like a typical environmentalist.

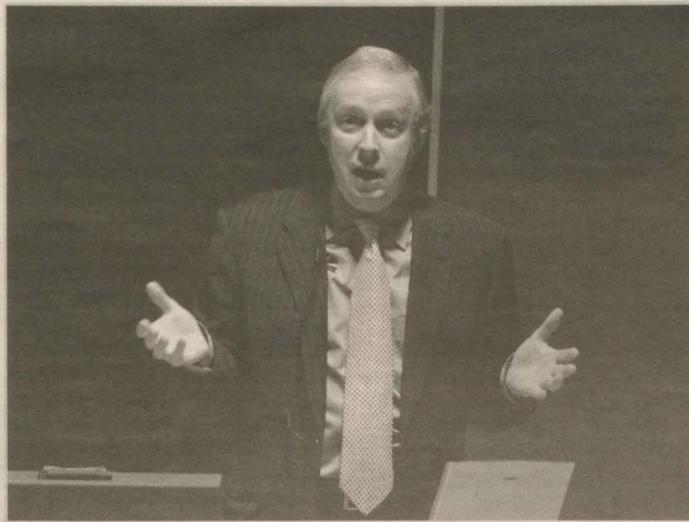
"I don't own Birkenstocks," he said during a speech at the University of King's College on Oct. 26. "I'm not really interested in telling you how to live your life."

Rather, Hoggan said he's interested in making students aware of public relations campaign tricks — creating phony organizations or paying fake scientists to be spokespeople — especially when it comes to global warming.

Hoggan said the fossil fuel industry, like the tobacco industry before it, is paying representatives to mislead people by making pollution seem harmless.

The public relations executive told an audience of roughly 30 people about his environmental project, DeSmogBlog.com. Hoggan launched the website in December 2005 because he was concerned that some of his colleagues were spreading lies about climate change.

"I'm going to talk tonight about public relations at its very worst, and about media manipulation at its best," said Hoggan.



Public relations executive Jim Hoggan blames "gullible media" for spreading wrong information about climate change. / Photo: Hugh Switzer

Most scientists agree that the planet is heating up because humans are pumping more carbon dioxide pollution into the atmosphere, said Hoggan, which will change the world's regular weather patterns.

But Hoggan said he blames "gullible media" for spreading wrong information about climate change. Journalists sometimes try to force balance into their writing by presenting two sides as equal when

one is right and the other is wrong, he said.

"It's a sloppy method of balance," he said. People who work in the communications industry need to be better informed to do their jobs properly, he said.

The DeSmogBlog website lists several skeptics of climate change, including individuals paid by the energy corporation Exxon Mobil, who deny any knowledge of global

warming and claim that fuel emission levels have nothing to do with the world's climate.

Hoggan said these arguments are completely unfounded. His website counters the claims with studies from leading scientists, including reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), an international body that measures scientific, economic and social impacts of global warming.

Hundreds of worldwide experts contribute to IPCC reports that explain the scientific basis for climate change.

Michael Sheehan, a public relations student at Mount Saint Vincent University, said Hoggan's speech reinforced the importance of honest communication.

"One of the big things we're taught is ethics," Sheehan said. "He's in the PR field himself, he's experienced, so it's very valuable."

An environmental public relations worker for Clean Nova Scotia

agreed that people should not be debating the existence of global warming. Gina Patterson said efforts to spin the climate change issue are unethical, but she doesn't think Hoggan's campaign should damage the reputation of PR.

"It does reflect badly on the PR industry, but... it's just made up of human beings who will use the tools they have for good or for bad. So it's just based on the individual. I don't think it's the fault of the industry itself," she said.

Hoggan said global warming affects everyone and he hopes the general population will take an interest in DeSmogBlog.com. He said the debate over climate change isn't just scientific — it's also about human rights.

"If we act upon it, if we in this most privileged country in the world rise up and assume our responsibilities, we have a chance of saving the earth as a whole and saving millions of lives."

Uni-briefs

DAL BRIEFS

E-mail accounts back on track

Dalhousie Internet and e-mail users experienced delays in service earlier this month.

Nearly 30,000 e-mails were left in limbo on the e-mail server, though all were cleared within 24 hours.

A large volume of incoming mail to the Dalhousie server triggered the delay, said Krista Olmstead, a communications and marketing specialist with University Computing and Information Services (UCIS).

The influx of e-mails occurred during the evening hours. UCIS has increased its level of after-hour monitoring to prevent similar problems in the future, said Olmstead.

Mounties lost 34 straight games after defeating the Montreal Carabins 21-4 on Sept. 14, 2002, and hadn't won a game in the Atlantic conference since Nov. 3, 2001. But the team put an end to its winless drought with a 24-18 victory over the St. Francis Xavier X-Men.

An outbreak of a Norwalk-like virus at Mount Allison and St. FX. in October caused the cancellation of two football games, leading league organizers to include all four Atlantic football teams in this year's playoffs. Mount Allison plays Acadia, and St. FX. faces Saint Mary's on Nov. 4. The AUS Championship game will be played on Nov. 11.

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

College grads earn more, take longer to finish

Information collected by the U.S. Census Bureau shows Americans with college degrees earn about \$23,000 U.S. per year more than those with only a high school diploma.

Americans with graduate degrees earned an average of \$78,100 in 2004, while bachelor degree holders made an average of \$51,550. High school graduates averaged only \$28,650, and high school dropouts earned about \$19,170.

A survey conducted by the College Board, which is best known for managing standardized tests such as the SAT, found that the average net cost for attending an American college this year is \$13,000 for public institutions and \$33,000 for private universities. By the time they graduate, students without financial aid can expect to have paid \$115,000 at a public school or \$200,000 at a private college. Statistics from 30 years ago show that grads paid just \$12,000 for an entire degree.

The College Board report also found that students are taking longer to graduate, which has increased the cost of a college diploma. Public university students take an average of 6.2 years to complete a degree, while private college students take an average of 5.3.

But the College Board says a post-secondary education is still valuable. The unemployment rate for college graduates is just 2.3 per cent, nearly half the national average.

Sources: U.S. News & World Report, BusinessWeek, The Daily News, TSN, The Globe and Mail.

CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS

Army targets student athletes

A military recruitment drive worth \$500,000 is targeting student athletes and the Canadian Inter-university Sport (CIS) organization is supporting the campaign.

CIS, which manages 19 sport championships for roughly 12,000 student athletes, has signed an advertising and recruiting agreement with the Department of National Defence. The three-year deal will allow the military to access student athletes one-on-one, advertise on CIS websites and contribute to television programming.

"We are offering [the military] an opportunity to speak to student athletes about what the Canadian Forces can provide," Peter Metzals, director of marketing for the CIS, told *The Globe and Mail*. Metzals said that while one-on-one contact with athletes was a major selling point for the military, student athletes won't be under any obligation to meet with recruiters.

The CIS agreement took effect in late October and the military's recruitment drive is expected to begin on Nov. 1.

Mounties make playoffs

The Mount Allison Mounties football team will play in the Atlantic University Football Championships for the first time since 1998, due to scheduling conflicts caused by game cancellations earlier this month.

The Mounties have a 2-5 record this season and have drawn attention since they snapped a four-year losing streak earlier in October. The

From The Gazette archives

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

UofO dean tries to kill mother

The University of Ottawa's dean of social sciences, Henry Edwards, was charged with attempting to murder his mother on Oct. 15 and faced life in prison if convicted.

Edwards, 57, administered an overdose of sleeping pills to his 85-year-old mother, later entering a police station to ask officers to check up on her.

Edwards' lawyer said his client's judgment was impaired by a prolonged period of depression, overwork and personal stress, and said Edwards was undergoing voluntary treatment.

The dean's arrest and subsequent resignation weren't the only problems plaguing UofO's social sciences department. Criminology professor Robert Ross was facing 19 charges, ranging from rape to breach of trust, and sociology professor Jean Lapointe was continuing to teach despite admitting to misconduct.

Tigers dominate Maritime runners

The Dal men's and women's cross-country teams were at the top of their leagues this week in 1996. At the final race of the Atlantic season in Fredericton, N.B., Tiger Cindy Foley led the women's team to the Atlantic University Athletic Association (AUAA) championship title with a time of 18:21 over 5 km.

Men's team runner Dan Henigar came from behind to win the 10-km race with a time of 31:53, clinching the men's AUAA championship title. Coach Al Yarr was named Coach of the Year.

Both Dalhousie teams were to compete in the national championships in Montreal on Nov. 9.

20 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

Quebec students on strike

Over 60,000 students from Quebec colleges and universities were on an unlimited strike, protesting the provincial government's plans to lift a tuition freeze.

Meanwhile, student unions from eight universities, which didn't plan to go on strike, organized a day



of action and a march.

Students were also asking Education Minister Claude Ryan to guarantee that CEGEP education would remain free and to revamp the province's loans and bursaries program.

SMU drops SUNS

The Saint Mary's University student council voted to sever its relations with the Students' Union of Nova Scotia following complaints that the organization didn't represent students sufficiently.

The SMU student council said it was hoping SUNS would restructure itself in the near future, adding that the council would then reconsider its membership.

30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

Loan sharking to become illegal

Legislation tabled in the House of Commons would make loan sharking and buying income tax refunds at a heavy discount illegal, the Canadian University Press reported.

Under the proposed Borrowers and Depositors Protection Bill, persons found guilty of breaching the law could be imprisoned for up to five years and would be subject to a minimum \$1,000 fine.

Loan sharking was a \$3-billion industry in 1976, according to the federal Consumer Affairs department. Police investigations showed that interest rates charged by loan sharks could range from 400 to 1,500 per cent.



Gazette

Editorial

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

and to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general.

The views of the Editorial Board are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

Student groups: don't blow it

The provincial government is showing signs that it is finally taking student concerns seriously.

On Oct. 27, the province announced tuition reductions for Nova Scotia students. The previous week, the Department of Education notified provincial student organizations that three seats were allotted for students at the bargaining table where a new funding agreement on post-secondary education (PSE) will be hammered out.

This is in stark contrast to the previous Memorandum of Understanding, currently in effect, which capped tuition at 3.9 per cent each year, but left out medicine, dentistry and law students, as well as international students. No student organizations were notified of those negotiations until after the ink that sealed the deal was dry. Consequently, students' protests fell on deaf ears — or so it seemed.

Breakthroughs in the past several weeks, however, indicate that there is a real opportunity to ensure student voices are heard in the next round of negotiations, which will dictate the future of tuition increases and PSE in this province.

But the two organizations that represent Nova Scotia's students — the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA) and the Nova Scotia branch of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) — must step up.

Students will fill three seats out of a total of nine. With only 33 per cent of the bargaining power, it's vital that student groups present a strong, united voice to get results for their constituents.

So far, that has not happened.

At a meeting several weeks ago, the ministry notified ANSSA and CFS about the seating arrangement. The government left it up to the two groups to decide who sat where, though it recommended that ANSSA take two seats and CFS one.

ANSSA supports the government's proposal. The CFS, however, wants a seat for itself and a seat for ANSSA, with the final seat going to a representative from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), which isn't

represented by either organization.

But the student groups weren't able to reach a consensus at the meeting or in discussions following it.

Then, without further consultation, CFS representative Chris Parsons contacted the government with his recommendation that NSAC be included in negotiations. Parsons also recommended the Atlantic School of Theology (AST) — the other Nova Scotia university not represented by either group — get a seat at the table. He notified ANSSA chair Mike Tipping only after making these recommendations.

Although the government turned down Parson's request for a seat for the AST, it left the bickering over who gets what seat up to the student organizations — for now.

But Tipping says ANSSA and CFS, after failing to reach a consensus, will likely just leave it up to the government to make the call.

Both student organizations have fought to have a voice in negotiations that will determine the future of PSE in this province. But the blatant failure to reach an agreement on this most basic issue is alarming. More alarming still is the conduct of some representatives who have gone behind the backs of other student leaders and contacted the government, an act that fragments and discredits the student voice further. This kind of behaviour is hardly indicative of a student lobby that demands to be taken seriously by those in power.

If students need the government to make a decision for them on who fills what seats, how can they expect to send the message to the ministry that students are capable of representing their own interests?

It is no secret that government and university officials have not been keen to involve students in negotiations. It is absolutely paramount that ANSSA and CFS do not give anyone cause to write off student concerns. To do so, after so much time spent fighting for this chance, would be a grave disservice to students.

[see story pg. 5]

PSE formula still needs attention

Few issues in the Canadian political landscape have been as underappreciated as post-secondary education. Low on the priority lists of all levels of government, PSE has long been a black sheep among Canada's more expensive social programs.

Ignored and under-funded — but still expected to perform — Canada's universities were put out in the cold when Paul Martin and Jean Chrétien introduced sweeping cuts to social programs in the mid-1990's.

More than 10-years later, universities are no closer to finding a way back inside.

But the new PSE funding plan announced by Stephen Harper's Conservative government — designed by Martin's Liberals — marks a significant change in the PSE landscape. By committing money to the provinces specifically for PSE, Ottawa has shown that it is willing to fix funding gaps in Canadian education without handing a bill to the provinces.

The \$440 tuition rebate that all

Nova Scotian students enrolled in the province's universities will enjoy in winter of 2007 marks a step in the right direction. But it fails to address a key problem: federal PSE funding is based on a per-capita formula, rather than a per-student one. This means that Nova Scotia gets PSE money based on the number of people who live in the province, not the number of students it has enrolled.

At Dalhousie, this problem is worsened by the university's ability to attract out of province students. Fifty-two per cent of the Dal's student body comes from outside Nova Scotia — a slim majority that will bring no additional dollars to Dal under the current PSE plan. Given the size of the university's out-of-province demographic, seeking funding that is based on total enrolment rather than provincial population is an option that Dal cannot afford to ignore.

[see story pg. 4]

Gazette: Opinions

Opinions Editor: Li Dong

Contact: opinions@dalgazette.ca

Deconstructing Harold and Kumar

Racial tension mixes with blazing spliffs

LI DONG
Opinions Editor

I recently re-watched the cult classic *Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle*, which, according to the trailers, stars "that Asian guy from American Pie" and "the Indian guy from Van Wilder."

Maybe it's because when I was young the only Disney movie my mom would let me watch was *Aladdin* — because it starred a racial minority — but *White Castle* stuck in my mind long after the closing credits.

As I thought more about the film, I realized that it's about more than two stoners trying to get some burgers (fun fact: the French Canadian title for the film was *Harold et Kumar chassent le burger*). On the exterior, the movie is a satisfying comedy with a linear plot line. At the core of the story, however, is an overarching theme about young racial minorities struggling to find their place in western society.

The movie addresses Harold and Kumar's own confrontations with the stereotypical norms that come with their respective races. Harold complains of the strong influence his family has in deciding his future wife — an extremely nerdy and annoying Asian girl from Princeton. Harold seems to concede to this fate despite his crush on the girl in his apartment building.

Conversely, Kumar resists the urge to go into medicine because he doesn't want to fall into a cliché category of smart Indians who go to medical school. Acknowledging this fear helps him understand that doing what he loves to do supersedes the embarrassment of behaving in a stereotypical manner.



The primary obstacles that stand in the way of Harold and Kumar's goal are iconic representations of less intelligent, xenophobic white men who live in a — hopefully — older world where the coloured duo are seen as outsiders

The primary obstacles that stand in the way of Harold and Kumar's goal are iconic representations of less intelligent, xenophobic white men who live in a — hopefully — older world where the coloured duo are seen as outsiders. The extreme skaters, power-tripping cop and insecure, overgrown frat boys all try steer the duo away from realizing their objective. These characters adhere to a mentality that disrespects, uses and segregates racial minorities. They treat Harold and Kumar as if they were sub-humans who live in a white man's world, and the duo tries to overcome this social barrier.

Finally, there is the image of White Castle. There are numerous fast food restaurants that the two could have chosen. So why this particular chain? I believe it's because the name best reiterates the theme of racial minorities struggling to fit in the western world.

What do you think about when you think of a castle? If you're like

most people, you conjure up images of knights, royalty, tales of King Arthur, etc. — all figures that stem from traditional Western Europe.

People who live in castles are almost always rich, white people with a long bloodline. Harold and Kumar's goal of reaching "White Castle" is actually a mission to incorporate themselves and the colour of their skin into this ancient portrait of western culture.

Their rightful place in the metaphorical "castle" is affirmed at the end of the film by the golden boy of wholesome Western normality; Neal Patrick Harris (AKA: Doogie Howser M.D.) as he offers to pay for their meal.

While *Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle* won't change the world, I think it was an important step in the portrayal of minorities in popular culture. When shows like *CSI*, *Law and Order* and *Lost* stop portraying Asians as one-dimensional specialists, perhaps the world will have Harold and Kumar to thank.

Miracle maker's morality

CATHERINE HOLLOWAY
Staff Contributor

Expert advice is often sought in our complex, technological world. But who are these experts, and why do we trust them?

On Oct. 26, Steven Shapin, a professor of the history of science from Harvard, introduced a five-speaker series called *Trust in Science*, funded by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs in a joint effort from Saint Mary's and the Atlantic School of Theology. The speech, held at the University of King's College, was entitled *Setting the Scene: from Magician to Miracle Maker*. It chronicled the voyage of the science profession over the past millennia.

Shapin outlined three problems in seeking out expert opinion. First, expertise can't be known. It relies on a subjective assessment of an individual's talents. Second, expertise has many different points of view. Scientists are constantly disagreeing; the answers the public searches for aren't black and white. Finally, even though having more knowledge doesn't mean a higher moral standard, people assume experts always do the right thing.

The past century saw a transition from science as a calling to science as a job. Scientists started working for powerful organizations, such as government and industry, and science lost some of its purity — association with power tramples the disassociation that's at the core



If scientists did speak about their moral views in their area of study, they would risk losing access to funding and resources.

of the scientific method.

Scientists had no authority on morality or power when doing government work. And if they did speak about their moral views in their area of study, they would risk losing access to funding and resources.

So the power was split. Politicians retained moral authority and scientists maintained autonomy. The segregation caused confusion for the public. Who should they trust? The people who are "experts" or the people who are supposed to look out for the best interests of the public?

Several solutions have been tried in order to maintain honesty in science. Research boards and watchdogs have been established, but they can never be 100 per cent effective. We would need people

to watch the watchers, and so on, until there would be never-ending circle of policing. If experts have no morality than experts on morality would have to be created. But how do you find moral people?

Society still trusts science. The greatest evidence of this is the shock people feel when they hear about cases of scientific fraud. Even though science may never again be a calling, Shapin suggested several ways scientists can uphold the public trust. Academic science is still an island of disassociation, he said, and governments fund independent science as a matter of responsibility.

Ultimately, scientists must be responsible for their own image. They must take care to ensure morality in their work and show greater disgust when science goes wrong.

Gazette

Volunteer Meetings

Every Monday at 5:30, Room 312, Dal SUB

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TOP 10

- 1 **SCIENTIST MAGAZINE NAMES DALHOUSIE BEST PLACE TO DO ACADEMIC RESEARCH** Hey *Maclean's*... I have one question for you: *do you like apples?*
- 2 **EXILING SEX OFFENDERS TO SOME PLACE COLD AND BARREN** Canada is the new Siberia.
- 3 **OFFERING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS "DANCE LESSONS" TO TRY TO LURE THEM TO DALHOUSIE** This isn't even a joke.
- 4 **THE ADOLESCENT BRAIN IS DISCOVERED TO HAVE HIGHER TOLERANCE TO ALCOHOL** So for all you punks who brag about never having hangovers... brace yourselves.
- 5 **TWO OF THREE TORONTO MAYORAL CANDIDATES WANT TO DECRIMINALIZE POT** The third was too baked out of his mind to speak.
- 6 **BEN AFFLECK SPEAKS OUT ON THE CLEAN AIR INITIATIVE** He knows our environment will be in trouble because he used that future-seeing machine from *Paycheck*.
- 7 **SEEING A GIANT SHARK DANCING ON THE DANCE FLOOR** Never, never do drugs on Halloween.
- 8 **A CARMEN ELECTRA MASTERCARD?!** Falling in love with Dave Navarro: priceless. Divorcing from Dave Navarro: not priceless.
- 9 **ANGELINA JOLIE WANTS TO HAVE ONE BIG MULTICULTURAL FAMILY** Good luck explaining Santa Claus.
- 10 **GETTING CAUGHT LOOKING ON PEREZHILTON.COM WHILE RESEARCHING FOR THIS STUPID COLUMN AT THE COBURG COFFEE HOUSE:** Again, priceless.

HOT / NOT

- HOT:** *The Prestige* / **NOT:** *Saw III*
- HOT:** The Grawood for lunch / **NOT:** Tim Horton's for breakfast
- HOT:** Tina Fey / **NOT:** Marie Antoinette (the person)
- HOT:** Coming to terms / **NOT:** Midterms
- HOT:** Michael Ignatieff / **NOT:** Justin Trudeau
- HOT:** Searching for "The Hottest Mom in America" / **NOT:** That poor, poor kid
- HOT:** Jay-Z's comeback / **NOT:** Snoop Dogg's return to court
- HOT:** Paris Hilton's PSA / **NOT:** Haley Joel Osment caught DUI
- HOT:** Rocks for jocks / **NOT:** Grillz for kidz
- HOT:** Borat's documentary / **NOT:** The Dixie Chicks' documentary

Suggestions? hotornot@dalgazette.ca

DISCLAIMER

Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, Top 10 listing, and Streeter are solely those of the contributing writers or the individual pictured, and do not necessarily represent the views of *The Gazette* or its staff. The quotes said by Joey Ryba in the Streeter are completely fabricated by the staff and do not necessarily represent views held by Joey Ryba himself, *The Gazette* and or its staff.

Gazette

Are you a writer? Photographer? Illustrator? A reader?

Come to our meetings:
Mondays, 5:30 pm, Dal SUB

STREETER

How do you feel about the \$440 cut in tuition for students who are permanent residents of Nova Scotia?



"I think that it is a great start towards balancing the gap between funding in-province students and the actual student body."

Scott Richey, King's first-year program



"I think it's fitting. We're funded per capita and we have the highest number of universities per capita in the country yet only half of the students who go here are from here. So we have less funding and it's split up more ways."

Sara Squires (as Purple Girl), fourth-year French



"I pay the same amount as a Nova Scotian so why shouldn't I get a tuition cut?"

Mike McLeod, third-year kinesiology



"Sweet, I need it."

Keltie MacDonald, second-year kinesiology



"It doesn't bother me, I don't see a problem. There's quite an economic brain drain out of Nova Scotia and that's a problem for this province."

Todd Robinson, third-year law



"I don't think they're doing the right thing by excluding students. We're all paying the same tuition aren't we?"

Ali Goguen, second-year recreational management



"It should be extended to any student regardless of province of origin because any student who comes to school here would be likely to stay here."

Andrew Scott, fourth-year medicine



"Four hundred bucks? I can finally buy myself a Dutch oven!"

Joey Ryba, first-year one-track-mindedness

Got a question you want to see answered by students? streeter@dalgazette.ca

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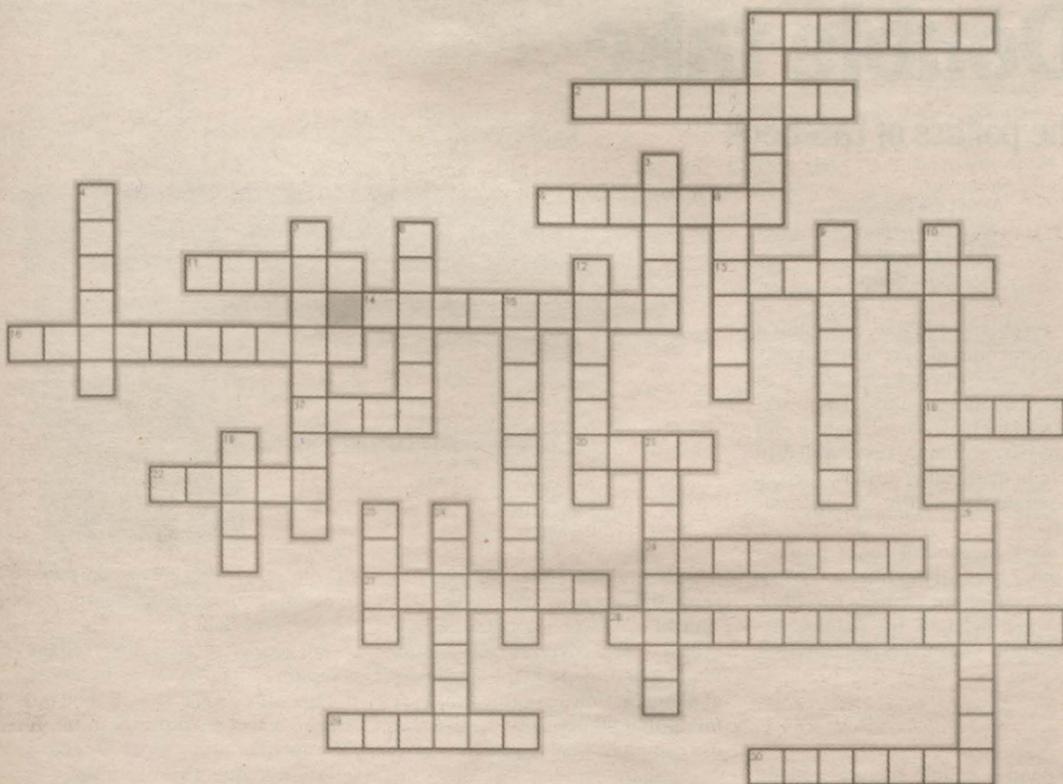
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Dal-ifax Mix and Match

A crossword by Ted Mirsky & Adeline MacNaughton



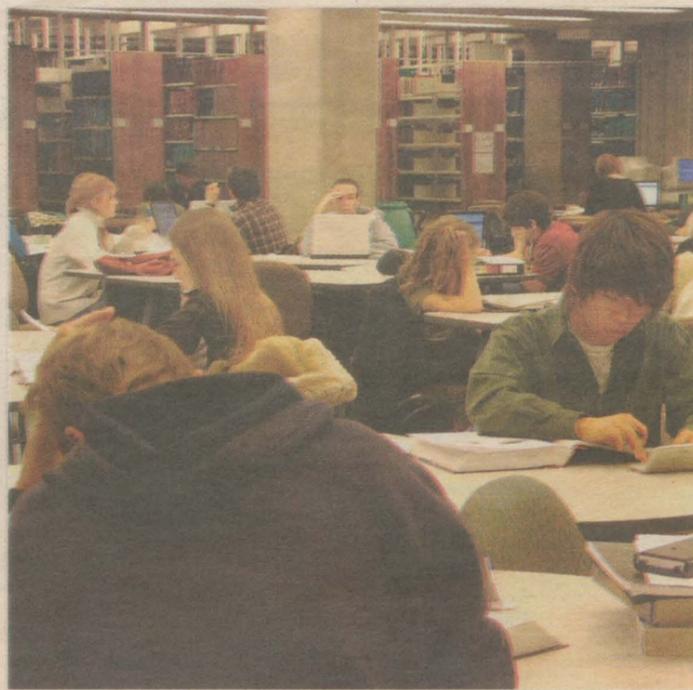
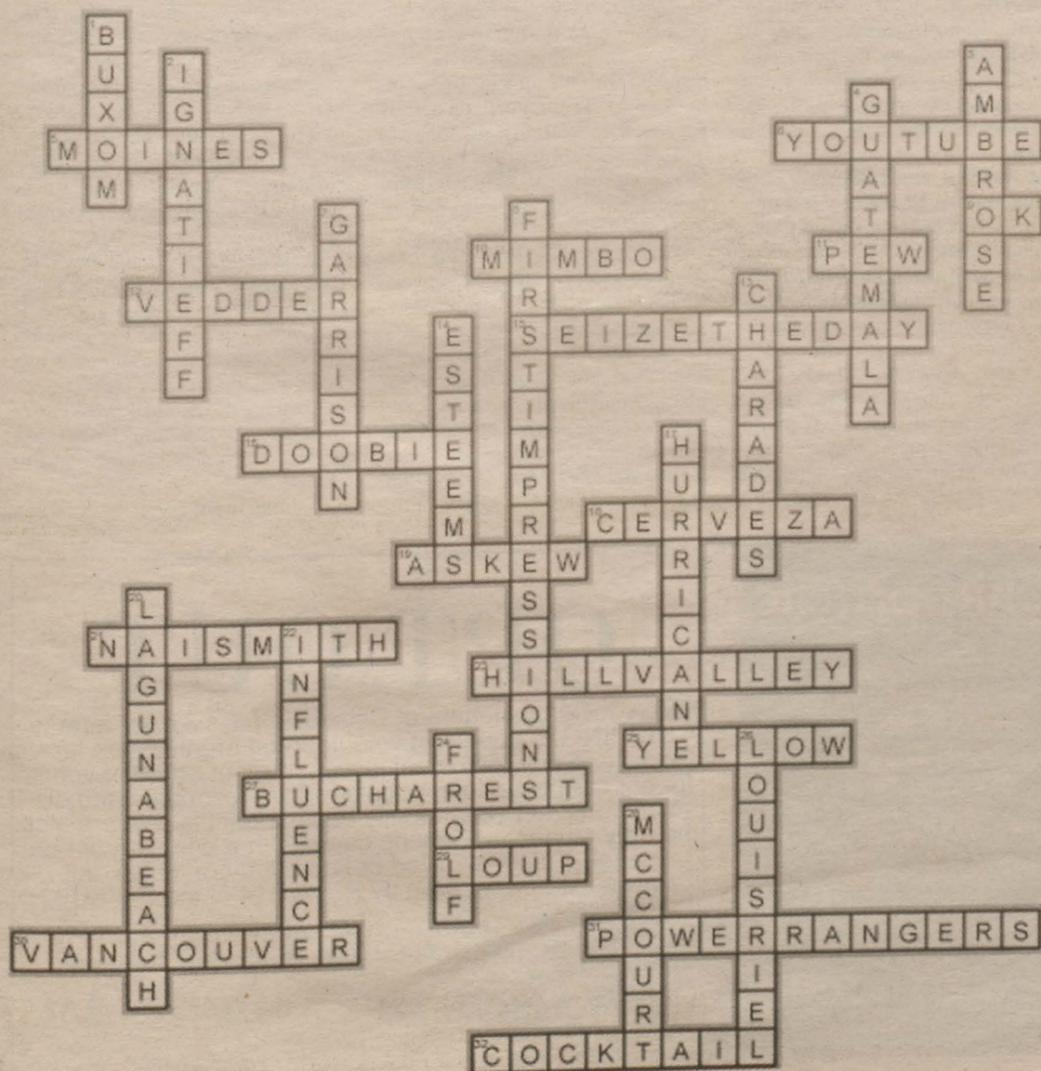
Across

- 1. YYC; _____ International Airport (7)
- 2. Polka Dot Door star (8)
- 5. Contrary to law (7)
- 11. _____ Grigio (5)
- 13. Oprah's husband (8)
- 14. Samuel Clemens's pen name (4,5)
- 16. RIM's breakout device (10)
- 17. Clue murder weapon (4)
- 18. Riviere de _____, QC (4)
- 20. A Million Little Pieces author (4)
- 22. Italian scooter company (5)
- 26. Lots of; many (8)
- 27. Hat or cap in Bordeaux or Paris (7)
- 28. Way to guard against transmission of flu and virus (4,4,5)
- 29. Current Minister of Foreign Affairs (6)
- 30. "Layla" crooner (7)

Down

- 1. Breakfast staple (6)
- 3. '_____ for all Mankind' (5)
- 4. Sheesha smoking device (6)
- 6. Not present (6)
- 7. Baked potato topping option (4,5)
- 8. Hockey team's last line of defence (6)
- 9. Canada's national sport (8)
- 10. Current president of Chile (8)
- 12. Macbeth's killer (7)
- 15. Big Mac is to McDonald's what _____ is to Burger King (3,7)
- 19. Capital of Norway (4)
- 21. Moment of clarity; realization (8)
- 23. Between shoe and foot (4)
- 24. Corporation that feeds penitentiary inmates and [Dal] students alike (7)
- 25. Green bottled import beer (8)

LAST CROSSWORD SOLVED



Students studying in the low-stress Killam environment. / Photo: Joha Packman

Why I study in the Killam

PHILIP CARPENTER
Staff Contributor

Every time I tell a classmate that I'm going to study in the library they ask me where I'm going. I tell them the second or third floor quiet study rooms. At this point, they get a puzzled look that reminds me of a kid catching the Santa Claus at the mall without his beard.

My classmates have little concept of the Killam Library. To them, there is only the one, glass-enclosed fishbowl that is the Sir James Dunn Law Library at the back of the Weldon Law Building. You see, I am a law student and I study in the Killam.

So why do I prefer the Orwellian architecture of the rejected Ministry of Truth over the generic educational institution fishbowl of glass and blue metal rails? The Killam, despite its foreboding lack of windows, has more variety, in both people and study space.

By variety of people, I'm not implying that I study at the Killam to pick up.

While I do enjoy contemplating the possibilities, I am far too shy to approach anyone who so much as smiles at me from across the tables. Weldon may be the better location for this activity anyway.

According to Facebook, there's a crew who hangs out in the medicine, law and dentistry buildings just to pick up boys. My chances might be better if I stayed put in the law library. But I'm in the Killam to study. I'm a law student. I do have

priorities.

There's no real hiding in Weldon, physically or socially. If you're a law student, you will run into someone you know in Weldon, no matter how hard you try to hide. If you equate studying with hiding your nose in your books, it's easier for a law student to do that in the Killam than it is in Weldon, even if you are in plain sight.

I hide from law students when studying because, generally, they freak me out.

You put a bunch of type-A overachievers in a stressful situation such as the lead up to exams and they will all in-deed excel — at stressing out.

They won't all excel at their actual finals because that's impossible. No matter how hard they work, there will rarely be more than one A+ because of the mandatory grade curve. But they'll all get A's in stressing out.

The silence that studying in Weldon brings is enough to hear the sound of law students' psyches cracking and the thermostats working. The smell in the air is a combination of caffeine and cortisone that seeps from the pores of law students during the month before exams.

No matter how hard they try, undergrads with their calculus books and the odd med student with their biochemistry cannot compete with law students for exuding stress.

To me, the second floor study room at Killam is a relative oasis of calm compared to Weldon. That is why I study there.

Letters@dalgazette.ca

Weeding out false accusations

Dear Editors,
Dave Ron's letter (title, 139-07) claims that *The Gazette* has never devoted a feature-length article to NSPIRG. Surely Mr. Ron has not forgotten about *The Gazette's* spoof issue last April, where it announced that NSPIRG would be starting its very own marijuana plantation on

campus!

Of course, there are those who will claim this was not an accurate depiction of NSPIRG, and I'm inclined to agree. An on-campus grow-op would do more for the students of this university than NSPIRG ever has.

Susan Denim

Letters@dalgazette.ca submission guidelines

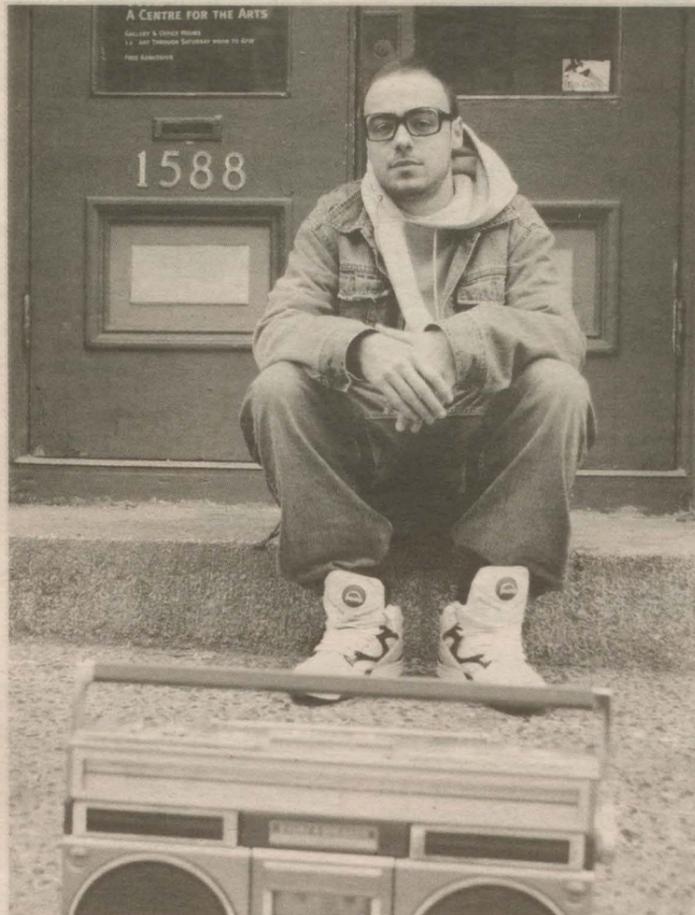
The Gazette is committed to stimulating public debate and providing an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas. All students of Dalhousie University, as well as interested parties on or off campus, are invited to submit letters to the editor.

The Gazette reserves the right to edit all letters for length and clarity. Please keep letters under 250 words. *The Gazette* will only print submissions that its editorial board deems to be in good taste and void of libellous and/or defamatory material. If the editorial board determines that a letter violates this policy, *The Gazette* may invite the author to revise the submission.

Gazette contributors or its staff may be given the opportunity to respond to letters if it is deemed necessary in the interest of fairness. In this event, the author of the letter will be notified.

If readers feel *The Gazette* has published false or misleading material, they are encouraged to notify editors immediately. Necessary corrections will be printed promptly.

Editors' picks of the week



GhettoSocks releases his new album Nov. 8 / Photo: Kelly Clark

Beat evolution

GhettoSocks strikes chords in Halifax

CHRISTINA STEFANSKI
Staff Contributor

GhettoSocks smiles coyly and glances down at his feet. "I have a problem, I won't get rid of them," he says, looking down at his socks. "Even if there are holes in them, I will wear them."

When Darren Pyper first came to Halifax four years ago, his outfit was comprised of a sarong, a Chinese hat, a sweater, beat up shoes and tattered socks. During his visit, someone jokingly called him "GhettoSocks." The name stuck.

GhettoSocks forged a reputation in the city, frequently appearing on CKDU-FM's hip-hop program Maple Mothership and hosting local break dancing battles. His eccentricity was soon revealed, as he often arrived at events eating a banana or holding an umbrella.

In the fall of 2002, GhettoSocks co-founded Public Rap Distribution (PRD), a weekly outdoor freestyle circle for rappers, beat boxers and break dancers. From there, GhettoSocks, along with his hip-hop group Alpha Flight, moved on to host "Droppin' Science," a weekly hip-hop night at the Khyber Arts Centre.

Droppin' Science featured local DJs and rappers and an open mic, which gave aspiring rappers an opportunity to interact with other artists. "We moved indoors, which was a big enough thing for us, especially after PRD," he says.

Today, PRD remains the same, though its participants have changed. "It has passed on to another generation," says GhettoSocks. "Last time I went, I hardly knew any of the people there. I was looking at these people that have been rapping for a year, and in comparison, they are better than I was when I was their age."

Local artists say they appreciate GhettoSocks' contributions to the local hip-hop scene.

"[GhettoSocks holds] the foundation of the whole city stage so others have a platform to be inspired

by," says DJ, producer and recording artist, Jorun Bombay. "He's a foundation layer. That's in most cases more important than being just a rapper in Halifax."

Jesse Dangerously (a.k.a. Jesse MacDonald), local rapper and host of CKDU-FM's hip-hop show The Pavement, agrees. "I think GhettoSocks is a strong and positive contributor to the Halifax hip-hop scene," he says. "As a rapper and as a beat-maker he has sophisticated styles that are accessible to a broad portion of the diverse palette of hip-hop listeners."

Understanding musical production has allowed GhettoSocks' persona to evolve. His two solo albums, *Colors* and *Zoo School*, weren't mastered and he considers all his music projects before Alpha Flight's *Battle Royale* to be demos. "I now respect a lot of things to do with post-production, like mastering," he says.

GhettoSocks follows a specific method to create beats. He picks out unused or peculiar sounds and creates a sample to build on. "Searching for samples is part of my whole creative process," he says. "I search for unique sounds that strike a chord."

When selecting samples for his beats, GhettoSocks incorporates themes and sounds from various genres. He remembers the excitement he felt when he first recognized samples of other genres of music in rap music. "The bass line, for instance, would get me," he says. "I was realizing that all my favourite songs were sampled from source materials."

"There are different influences for me in terms of music," says GhettoSocks. "I'm trying to do my own thing. I listen to all types of music, jazz, South American, Italian funk and soul."

"Music has different flavours and it reminds me of different things," he says. "So it's good to listen to various genres."

GhettoSocks' new album, *Get Some Friends*, release party is Nov. 8 @ the Seahorse Tavern, 10 p.m., \$5.

Double take

The politics of Facebook

ANGELICA BLENICH
Staff Contributor
ANNEKE FOSTER
Arts Contributor

Facebook became a cultural phenomenon almost immediately after Mark Zuckerberg founded it in 2004. Beginning as a social networking tool for high school, college and university students, it expanded to include many other groups, such as corporate and non-profit organizations.

Now, Facebook is one of the most popular sites on the Internet. While the social ramifications of Facebook are often debated, the political aspects of it have been neglected for too long.

Spend a couple minutes talking to a university student and one question will inevitably arise: "Are you on Facebook?"

Facebook offers a wide variety of features that have undoubtedly contributed to its success. One can share photos with friends, notify them of upcoming events and create interest groups. And the service isn't just a hit among university students. It has reached a broader audience as well.

On Aug. 28 this year, political candidates were allowed to join Facebook and existing users were given an option to list themselves as "friends." It was a far cry from Facebook's original purpose, but not surprising in the least. Why wouldn't a politician running for office want to get a piece of the pie — especially one that's eaten by 7.5 million people?

Statistics show that young adults comprise the lowest voter turnout. Many youth say this is because they don't know politicians or feel that politicians are out of touch with issues that concern young people.

What better way for politicians to get in touch than showing that they are able to embrace new things, especially new forms of communication?

Politicians aren't the only ones embracing this new form of communication. A college outside of Philadelphia created a MySpace page after its administration realized students were missing important messages because they no longer paid attention to campus e-mails.

A 2005 report from the Pew Internet and American Life Project called *Teens and Technology* found that teenagers prefer new technology, such as instant messaging and text messaging, to converse with



friends, and use e-mail primarily to communicate with "old people."

But hasn't Facebook been taken a little too seriously? A survey of more than 1,300 students at the University of Illinois at Chicago earlier this year found that 86 per cent of them still use campus e-mail regularly.

Similarly, students at the University of Maryland at College Park say they would rather communicate with professors and campus officials through e-mail. A freshman is quoted in the report saying, "I like to separate my personal life from my school life."

Another freshman says "it would be weird if all your professors had Facebook."

Perhaps this wagon has been jumped on by too many too soon and should instead be left to students, for now.

—Angelica Blenich

Since its inception, Facebook has prided itself as an effective networking tool that connects users of all ages from all parts of the globe.

But on the outskirts of this inviting cyber realm are individuals who challenge Facebook's legitimacy as a copyrighted website, as well as its intellectual patents.

In August 2006, Jeff Magee was on a train from Boston to his home in New Hampshire when he first came up with the idea for *myspoofbook.com*. He intended to parody Facebook by creating a site that was aesthetically similar to Facebook but connected users through disinterests, rather than friends and mutual interests.

Today, Magee's site bears only script — letters exchanged between Heller Ehrman, the law firm representing Facebook, and Magee.

On Sept. 1, Magee received a letter from the Ehrman office, explaining that his site had a "look and feel" too close to that of Facebook. The lawyers told him he had to dismantle the site or face legal action. Since Magee had coded the entire

site himself, Facebook was only able to act on trademark rights, not stolen property claims.

Magee deliberately provoked the company, going so far as to advertise his site on Facebook. But he did so with a specific purpose in mind. He wanted to probe for answers to a question frequently encountered in any artistic medium: who owns the rights to ideas?

Magee believes intellectual patents are absurd and that he shouldn't have been forced to dismantle his website.

In his sarcastic response to Facebook's lawyers, Magee challenged intellectual copyrights and competition among corporations. He mocked the idea that a corporation can claim rights to a "look and feel," debilitating competitors by accusing them of stealing.

Magee argues that words, thoughts and themes can't and shouldn't be protected under patents because of their subjectivity and abundance. Words, ideas and opinions, he says, have no owner, and thus can't be stolen.

Ironically, Facebook's creator, Mark Zuckerberg, faced legal problems himself when he was accused of stealing the concept and codes from a classmate's project, *ConnectU.com*, at Harvard University. Zuckerberg denied the allegations and the claim was eventually dismissed.

Magee has stopped copyrighting his own work in an effort to fight the idea of intellectual patents and is working to legitimize *myspoofbook.com* and re-establish some much-needed competition in cyberspace networking.

His inquiries do raise a valuable point, however, one that Facebook, in all its successful glory, is not willing to address. Competition and even mockery are elements of a healthy market.

Forcing the end of a site is closer to theft than spoofing it, because it robs consumers of their right to choose.

—Anneke Foster

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Q&A with Sam Roberts

SAMAN JAFARIAN
Arts Editor

When an interviewer talks to a musician, he or she normally asks the questions. Sam Roberts, however, reversed the roles immediately, asking about the weather in Halifax. He said he hoped it would be better than the "misery incarnate" in Montreal when he comes to the city.

Roberts will return to the studio to record a new album following the tour that's bringing him to Halifax Nov. 4. But Roberts had much more interesting things to talk about, such as why people in England and Ireland used to die of consumption. There wasn't any gas heating.

Gazette: Canada was recently credited as the foremost musical country in the world. Is this an accurate portrayal?

Roberts: It certainly reflects what's going on right now. Whether we are able to maintain that or not, and not just maintain the quality of the music, but also the attention given to us by the international music community, remains to be seen.

The whole point is not to allow that to penetrate too deeply to the point where it affects the flow of creativity and that everybody is able to maintain their standard and the energy being put into their music. I think that was the source of it was an incredible surge of energy from a lot of different places on the creative front.

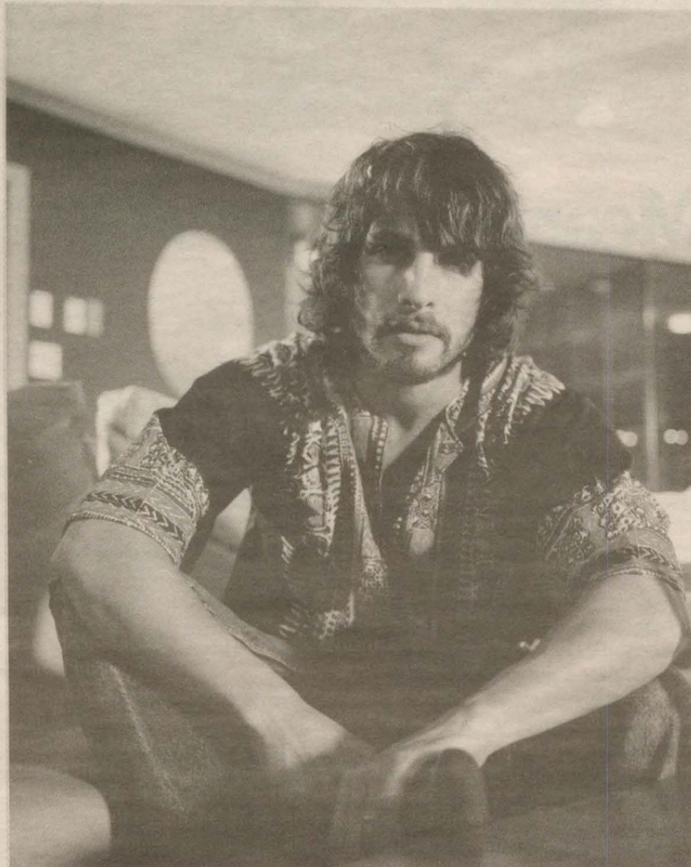
And all of a sudden, you've got a national movement. We don't have many national movements in Canada. But this is one of the few things where there were so many bright lights going on north of the border that it was undeniable that something was happening.

Gazette: What do you think the meaning of "indie" is?

Roberts: I'd love for it to just be the actual definition, which is an independent artist, whose record is being put out on an independent label that's not affiliated with a multinational conglomerate. That usually means that the music itself is their first priority, rather than being a high profile media star. Or selling such a ridiculous amount of records that in order to maintain that amount of sales you have to compromise your integrity as a musician.

But people have taken that definition and made it a lifestyle, it's even a fashion. It goes down to the clothes that you wear, like wearing a badge around. I think that defeats the whole purpose of being independent. It really ought to be an expression of individuality, and a respect for other people's individuality should be central to it as well.

So to just turn it into a fad or style and to be so exclusive about it



Musically, Canada is the place to be says Sam Roberts.

that you're ignoring contributions to music that ought not to be ignored, then it's not independent either.

Gazette: Do artists have to compromise musical ethics when they're affiliated with multinational conglomerates?

Roberts: No, they don't. I mean, Radiohead doesn't do that and God knows they sell a lot of records. I think that's a personal decision and people make the wrong decision. Maybe for them it's the right decision because it helps them buy a fifth car or hire an extra pool boy. Or maybe they just like the attention, or whatever it is, I don't know.

But that's purely a decision made by an artist. And if you want to maintain your integrity as a musician then sometimes you're faced by some very tough decisions, like not doing this thing that you know will clearly lead to selling more records. But at the time you feel like it goes against the grain of who you're trying to be and what you're trying to portray as a musician. So it's very tough sometimes.

Gazette: What do you think of Canadian content laws?

Roberts: I think in a lot of ways, for a lot of bands in Canada anyway, the way the system is set up right now, without them we wouldn't stand a chance. We're so overwhelmed by American media that I think we do have to protect our own in a way.

The whole idea of music being democratic and just letting the best

shine through, regardless of where it comes from, that's great and that's a noble sentiment. But the fact of the matter is that a lot of the best is coming from here right now and it's not getting a fair shake, even with existing Can Con laws.

So to take that away at this point seems like it might jeopardize the one small chance that a band from Halifax or Montreal or Vancouver has of significant enough exposure to start making a life in music for themselves.

Gazette: And what do you think of the increasing popularity in MySpace?

Roberts: [laughs] Weird but effective. I'm not involved in the MySpace culture, in terms of actually using it to keep in touch with people specifically. For me, it's just about making our music available to people all over the world who are into this service.

For me, it's a page that connects us as close to physically as possible to people all over the world. And the results are undeniable. People come from Finland and Albania and listen to our songs and discover the music we're making through it.

On that front, it's great. I don't sit there and spend my days chatting away and emailing back and forth. We just put up information about what the band is doing and music for people to listen to, and that's it. It's a communication device.

Sam Roberts plays Nov. 4 @ the Cunard Events Centre, 961 Marginal Rd. Tickets \$25 in advance at the Dal Box Office, \$30 at the door.

Review

Sing Mother (Twilight Eats You) by Lani Maestro

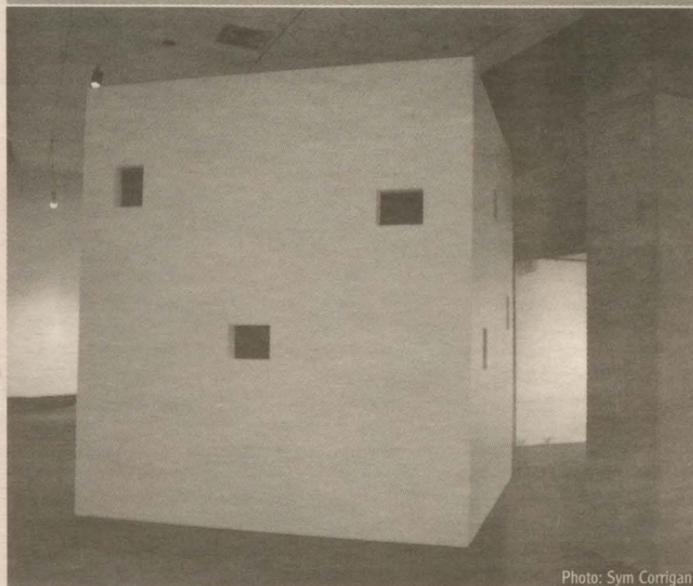


Photo: Sym Corrigan

LAURA TRETHERWEY
Assistant Arts Editor

A giant, white, rectangular block checkered with square windows almost obstructs the entrance to Lani Maestro's exhibit at the Dalhousie Art Gallery. Tiny windows, seemingly inspired by childhood tree houses, invite the viewer to stick a curious head through. Inside, ladders branch up to holes in the ceiling, making this tree house seem quite reversed.

The peepholes in the structure, which is entitled *i want! i want! i want!*, pleasantly bewilder bystanders but refuse to offer an immediate answer to the structure's enigma.

Erin Moure, an accomplished poet and longtime friend of Maestro, offered a group of 15 quizzical onlookers her own poetic explorations of the exhibit on Oct. 24.

Moure recalled how she and Maestro often took breaks from their creative work to stroll the streets of Montreal together. Although the two artists worked in separate mediums, they would contest and trade creative ideas with one another.

In Moure's poetic response to Maestro's exhibit and in the exhibit itself, this symbiotic relationship between the artists still thrives. The

installation is an extensive series of coal-written words, sheathed behind glass and held against the white walls of the gallery.

Sing Mother explores the fluctuating meaning of the word "abandon."

Three panels read "your abandon comes in waves," "your abandon will come" and "your abandon is a raft." With this selection of phrases, Maestro seems to slowly mould ideas of salvation, nature and escape in the onlooker.

In her poetic response, Moure describes this same plodding accumulation of meaning in Maestro's work and compares it to the inhalation and exhalation of breath.

"I 'breathe' her pages in my mouth, in my ears, my eyes," she writes. This fittingly describes the visceral experience of Maestro's phrases, as the word "abandon" gains clarity in intermittent bursts.

Breathing also serves as a metaphor for Moure and Maestro's creative relationship — a balanced synergy of images and words.

As one peruses Maestro's various installations with Moure's poetry in hand, the viewer gains an almost panoramic view over the two artists' work and insight into the tiny, intriguing gaps that first lure one into the gallery.

Local Crop

Kate Robertson / Staff Contributor



The Darcys
You, Me and The Light

The Darcys are named after *Pride and Prejudice's* Mr. Darcy. Like its beloved namesake, the band is trying to compensate for its aloof attitude toward the Halifax music community. Following a rejection from the Halifax Pop Explosion this month, the band is attempting to break out of the King's College pub to create wider awareness.

Its first EP, *You, Me and the Light*, is a solid, earnest, homemade collection of songs, and offers a nice selection of pop-oriented, head-bopping ditties and dark, sentimental tunes.

Tracks like "Woah!" and "Flimsy Stars" are reminiscent of bands

such as My Morning Jacket and Great Lake Swimmers, sharing reverb-heavy, crying-out-against-the-darkness stylistic elements without sounding too cheesy.

"Just How the Century Ends" and "When Texas Was Enough" are stand-out tracks. They're well-constructed pop songs with catchy choruses, demonstrating a quiet-to-loud build up that always gets an audience excited and that the band seems to love.

The Darcys' lyrics tend to overuse the "na-na-na's," "bah-bah-bah's" and "whoa-oa-oa-oa's," and sometimes the guitars almost slide down into the hated netherworld of the hippie jam band. But people — particularly university students — seem to love that stuff.

This band has potential. The members understand how pop music works and write good, appealing songs. They could, however, work on becoming more complex, imaginative and memorable.

With more shows, posters and reviews, the Darcys will have great success in the university circuit and possibly beyond. And then, maybe, we will see the band at next year's Pop Explosion.

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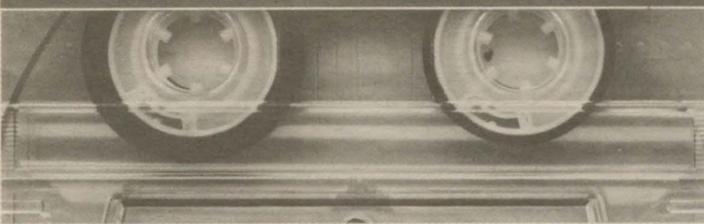
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Burn Baby Burn



SIDE A - 90's POP: Saman Jafarian / Arts Editor

This is effing embarrassing. How did I get stuck with this? I don't even know anymore...

- Backstreet Boys - "Everybody"
- Aqua - "Barbie Girl"
- Spice Girls - "Wannabe"
- N'Sync - "I Want You Back"
- Puff Daddy and Faith Evans - "I'll Be Missing You"
- Britney Spears - "One More Time"
- Ricky Martin - "Livin' La Vida Loca"
- Hanson - "MmmBop"
- Christina Aguilera - "Genie in a Bottle"
- The Moffatts - "I'll Be There For You"

SIDE B - 90's GRUNGE: Jen Bond / Staff Contributor

For the record, Saman volunteered to do 90's pop. I'm just saying, is all...

In other news, *The Globe and Mail* style section has announced that 90's grunge-wear is back! I knew it was only a matter of time.

Finally, my plaid shirts, baby-doll dresses and Doc Marten thigh-high boots can once again see the light of day — or darkness. Grunge loves darkness.

- Nirvana - "Heart Shaped Box"
- Soundgarden - "Black Hole Sun"
- Pearl Jam - "Jeremy"
- Stone Temple Pilots - "Interstate Love Song"
- Hole - "Celebrity Skin"
- Jane's Addiction - "Jane Says"
- Tripping Daisy - "Gotta Girl"
- Silverchair - "Ana's Song"
- Screaming Trees - "Nearly Lost You"
- Mud Honey - "Suck You Dry"

Review

LoudQUIETloud: A Film About Pixies



SAMAN JAFARIAN
Arts Editor

LoudQUIETloud: A Film About Pixies is perhaps the most unexpectedly depressing 85 minutes known to humankind.

Cleverly crafted and co-directed by Steven Cantor and Matthew Galkin, the documentary follows the Pixies as the band prepares for, and performs, its 2004 reunion tour. Within the first five minutes, the film blatantly alludes to the fact that the reunion came at a time when several band members were in dire need of increased income.

The knife quickly digs in a bit further as the film documents just how maladjusted the quartet actually is. No alcohol is allowed backstage due to bassist Kim Deal's status as a recovering alcoholic, band members rarely speak to each other, drug addictions still exist and self-esteem problems are abundant.

Yet some scenes portray a softer side, such as Deal's shock that people are still excited to see them, or the band member's family lives and backstage gatherings — that is, when band members actually

speak to one another.

The documentary, however, unintentionally raises the question of just how much fans want — or should want — to know about stars. In a society with countless tabloids available at any corner store and nightly television shows devoted solely to investigating stars' lives, it's obvious that there's a market for it.

Where the tabloids and television shows fail — if that's what you want to call it — and where *loudQUIETloud* succeeds, is in documenting the actual private lives of its subjects. Tabloids are limited to what part of personal lives are presented to their writers, but a documentary crew follows its subjects around 24 hours a day, creating actual characters, rather than one-dimensional caricatures.

The film is certainly well-created, but whether viewers will enjoy it really depends on whether they're willing to let their idealistic notions of the Pixies die. *LoudQUIETloud* will undoubtedly ruin any warm, fuzzy one may have of anything relating to the band. But some may prefer it that way.



Meandering through MySpace

LAURA TRETWEY
Assistant Arts Editor

The day has finally arrived when it's cooler to not have a MySpace page than to have one.

After the Murdoch-ization of MySpace last year, there's actually a good reason to hate the innocuously named "space for friends."

This worldwide network, however, still connects people to all levels of the creative industry — local, mainstream and otherwise. One of the first things most bands do is create a MySpace page so it's difficult to despise every earnest local band.

If you can treat myspace.com solely as a way to find obscure bands in faraway places then you can also safely ignore the network's sticky politics.

Tracing my own random wanderings through this vast electronic community illustrates how one can use this handy cultural tool.

www.myspace.com/sukilove

Perhaps my first acquaintance with a Flemish band, though not my last. Sukilove plays the central European circuit and has recently completed its third full-length album. It's comforting to know that rock is still alive and well in Antwerp and, in fact, sounds better than any North American prodigy I've heard recently. Underneath Sukilove's friend list is a picture of a docile man holding a toy owl. I decide to click on this picture, which leads to the band Black Cassette.

www.myspace.com/sjoerdmusic

Black Cassette consists of Sjoerd Bruil and Pascal Deweze, both members of Sukilove. This offshoot project takes a slightly more raw approach to rock, sounding like a Black Keys reincarnation. I think I enjoy Black Cassette more than Black Keys, and will now say, "Hmm, sounds like a Black Cassette reincar-

nation." From here, the trail leads to Helder, a Flemish singer-songwriter on Black Cassette's friends list.

www.myspace.com/heldermusic

Helder hails from Ghent, Belgium and is a solo project of Helder Deploige, who self-produced and played every instrument on his last two albums. Despite his indie production style, Helder actually sounds overproduced and sugary. His generic bad-boy look doesn't do him any good either. His friends list includes a band called madensuyu, which also comes from Ghent.

www.myspace.com/madensuyu

Madensuyu is a two-piece band that manages to play lush instrumental pieces with only a guitar and drums. The three songs on its MySpace page show the vast range of this tiny band. This is impressive stuff, as well as a satisfying end to my search.

The Epicurious Student

Wild on the Wooden Monkey

ANDREW BERNARDO
Culinary Connoisseur

My girlfriend is an organic and local food junkie, and I'm quickly becoming one. Produce, meat and fish that are local and organic just taste better.

When I heard about the Wooden Monkey and its philosophy of using only local, and mostly organic, ingredients, I ran to it faster than Ben Johnson ran the 100 m in Seoul in 1988.

The Monkey caters to all lifestyle choices, from vegans to carnivores. Lil MacPherson, the Monkey's creator, works with 30 local businesses and producers to ensure fresh ingredients, embodying the growing culinary ethos of "eat local, think global." The Monkey also offers daily soups made from scratch, which are predominantly dairy-free.

The warm, inviting interior of

the restaurant features eye-catching works of art painted on the walls and a series of other paintings and charcoal sketches by other local artists. And, of course, there are dozens of wooden monkey figurines artfully placed in the most surprising places throughout the establishment.

During my first visit to the Monkey, I had a roasted butternut squash soup with fresh basil that burst with fresh flavours. For the main course, I opted for the fish and roasties — oven-baked potato wedges coated with a delicious blend of spices. The fish, also oven-baked — there isn't a microwave or deep fryer in the kitchen — was easily the best I've had in the city. Cooked just right, the moist haddock melted in my mouth and its flavours were heightened by a homemade tartar sauce.

My girlfriend had vegan nachos for her main course. The large plate was heaping with blue corn chips,

veggies and soy cheese — I had to help her with it because of the sheer size of the portion.

Our dinner finished with the dessert of the day, an almond, dark chocolate, cherry, blueberry and raspberry crisp that was out of this world.

The Monkey also features a variety of preservative-free alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. With Propeller and McAuslan beers on tap and an interesting mix of local and organic wines, everyone is guaranteed to find something to accompany a meal.

The Wooden Monkey is a great place to kick back for a good meal and a beer any day of the week. The knowledgeable, friendly staff will gladly help you make your selection if you can't make up your mind.

The Wooden Monkey is located at 1685 Argyle St. in Halifax.

Review

Kinetic Studios reinvents dance experience

ANNEKE FOSTER
Arts Contributor

On Saturday night, five dancers took the DANSpace stage to perform various "works in progress" in celebration of the Kinetic Studio's 25th anniversary. The studio is dedicated to making performance arts accessible to the public and to stripping dancing of its pretentious nature.

This is immediately apparent upon walking into the performance space — it had rubber dance mats taped to the floor and curtains dimmed the light from the windows. The stage was created by black back-staging behind and beside the floor.

The director, Sheilagh Hunt, stood shoeless as she introduced the performance.

Gwen Noah began the show with

a powerful piece entitled "Okay." Often standing in one spot and moving only her arms and torso, Noah created a robust, jagged sequence of movements that captured a sense of ferocity.

Dancing to the cello of Norman Adams, a principal cellist with Symphony Nova Scotia, and a drum machine beat, Noah's piece was intense and captivating. It seemed, however, to leave audience members confused.

Susan Cook and Rob Estey-Willick performed an evocative piece called "Dance Soup" to two different songs. The difference between the two dances was striking. The first had playful tones, while the second, a neo-classical piano piece, was more of a lamentation. Their performances also included unconventional dance elements such as

laughter, yoga and headstands.

Jacinte Armstrong and Ali Gratian collaborated on a piece called "Crushed Butterflies," which was humorous, acrobatic and fun. The girls incorporated traditional dance elements, such as pointed toes, and though unfinished, the work was clever and holds great potential.

Some dancers invited feedback from the audience following the performance. This different approach made the performance elegant in its humility.

The dancers are clearly committed to their art — the dancers' pure pleasure in performing was the most commendable element of the show. Kinetic Studios never fails to deliver vibrant, contemporary dancing with captivating charm and freshness.

Sex with Hugh

The subtle — or not so subtle — art of picking up

HUGH WALLACE
Sex Contributor

The first line is always the hardest. As social creatures — and some of us slaves to our sex drives — we've developed numerous ways to initiate social contact.

Some of these are funny and cute, while others are just downright hilarious (in the laughing at you kind of way).

Some of these initiations include subtle touching, winking and the ever-infamous option of pick-up lines.

Picking up is a very subtle art, one that more people should take seriously. I'm absolutely terrible at it. In fact, almost embarrassingly so — especially after a couple of drinks — but I'm slowly learning.

Subtle touching can be appropriate in certain situations, but they are few and far between. The only time touching might be appropriate is on the dance floor, and only after you've already established contact.

As one of my friends said the other day, "When someone gropes your [bottom] on the dance floor, you initially feel repulsed." She continued, explaining that this initial reaction, however small, can progress in one of two ways: either you can

grobe back and enjoy the ride, or, like most, throw up a little bit in your mouth, swallow and walk away.

So subtle touching is risky behaviour. And although it can also be enjoyable, it's only in those cases when the person you're dancing with is enjoying it as well.

Winking is my favourite. There's something so erotic about a wink. It's almost as if someone is singling you out of the crowd and undressing you with a coy eye flicker, or simply saying, "You are cute/sexy/hot/attractive."

Winking is a friendly thing to do in any situation. A wink can say many things about how you feel about a person. But, because it is a transmission of information, it's possible for the meaning to get lost.

So maybe it's best to go with the most direct form of pick-up lines. This leads me into the absurdity of pick-up lines. There are some lines that are hilarious, others are alluring, and some are just plain awful.

While this is all subjective — an alluring line to me may seem absurd to another — I looked to the website linesthataregood.com to find what I think are some good examples.

An absurd line: "I'm easy. Are you?"

A hilarious line: "So, do you like fat [insert gender] with no money?"

And an alluring line: "The only thing your eyes haven't told me is your name."

The only reason I like the last line is because it's cute and not too ridiculous. Most people like compliments, and preferably ones about something other than their rump, breasts, hips, waist, etc.

I like compliments about my eyes. And for pick-up lines, it's best to tailor them to the individual you're trying to pick up.

And so, from my somewhat/not really learned position, I'd say that one should stick to winking, with occasional uses of subtle touching. Or not so subtle, depending on your style and how much you want to face harassment charges.

Just remember to be confident with your choice, not cocky.

There are few things more off-putting than a cocky buffoon. And one of them is a cocky buffoon that uses ignorant pick-up lines because he didn't get the memo about proper usage.

So use them, but sparingly and only when you have exhausted other options, like a simple, "Hi" or "Hello."

Send your sex related questions to Hugh via: sex@dalgazette.ca

Might (on) education

Professor playwright ties art and science

KARYN HAAG
Arts Contributor

John Mighton is a busy man. It's no wonder. He's written six plays, including *The Little Years*, which is currently playing at Neptune Theatre. He's also an author, mathematician, educator, social activist and the founder of the Junior Undiscovered Math Prodigies (JUMP) program.

A self-taught poet and playwright, Mighton's resume includes two Governor General's Awards.

But despite the widespread recognition, Mighton, who's also a professor at the University of Toronto, is humble, and says any human has the potential to become remarkable.

A common theme in his life and work is how the connection between science and creativity makes up people's lives.

"There are more connections between the arts and the sciences than people generally think," he says. "Scientists and mathematicians are often led by a sense of beauty or elegance, and describe their work in artistic terms."

JUMP is one of Mighton's chief passions. Founded in 1998, the program is based in Toronto, but the school system in London, England,

has also embraced it. Mighton says he hopes the program will expand across Canada.

While JUMP focuses on early childhood education, Mighton says people are never too old to learn new things, offering up himself as evidence. He didn't renew his childhood interest in math until he was pushing 30, and went on to get a PhD in math from U of T.

Mighton says teachers readily allow children to fall behind in class by simply believing that such an outcome is natural. "We are an inertial species," he says. "We accept things with very little evidence."

JUMP was designed to counter that idea. He says every child has the ability to excel in mathematics, which will increase children's confidence and allow them to excel in other aspects of their education.

"If math is the subject in which students can succeed most easily, and thereby can develop the cognitive abilities and the confidence they need to succeed in other subjects, than our failure to teach math to the majority of students is all the more deplorable," he says.

Mighton tries to create a richer understanding of the world through his plays and his tutoring. "In the

sciences, factors such as passion, confidence, creativity, diligence, luck and artistic flair are as important as the speed and sharpness of one's mind."

Tanner Harvey, a local director and friend of Mighton's, says he's experienced the things Mighton writes about. "By the time I entered high school, I had no care for the educational system," says Harvey, who's the assistant director of the Neptune production of *The Little Years*. "It never expected anything much from me and nor did I it. Consequently I did not expect much from myself either."

Harvey says Mighton's approach is based on promoting self-respect and belief in students.

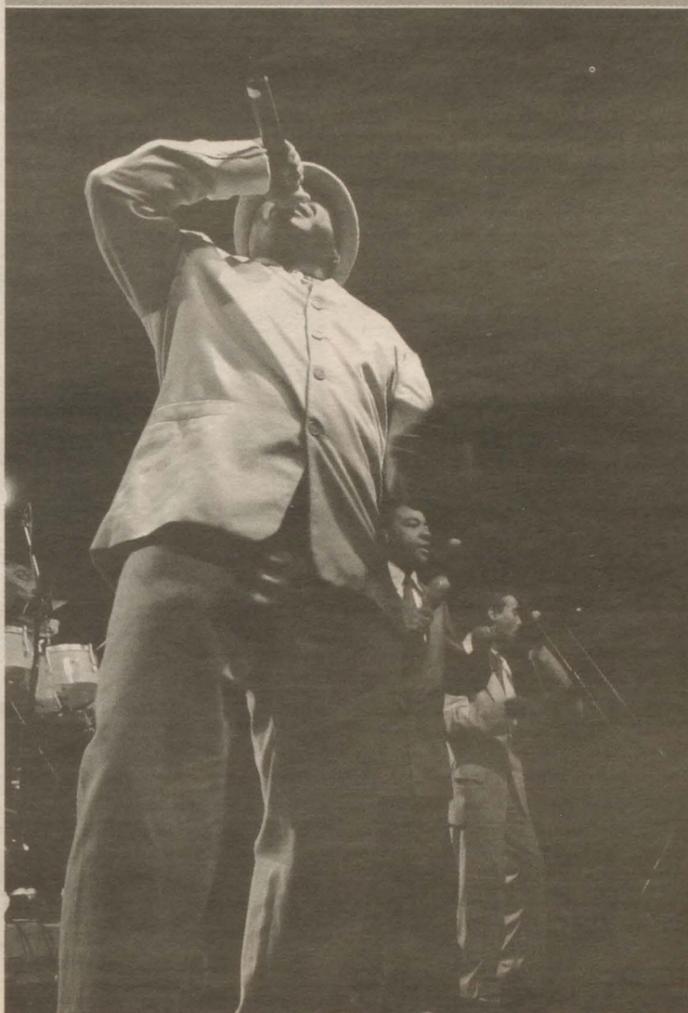
"He really believes that students can excel at mathematics as long as their teachers believe in them. If students have confidence they will succeed," says Harvey.

Mighton says he hopes future education will encompass the idea that children can do anything skillfully, so that future generations will far surpass the realized potential of their predecessors.

"For if we were merely to educate our children, we would be the last generation whose promise was lost."

Report Card

AFRO CUBAN ALL STARS / Cunard Events Centre / Friday, Oct. 27
Reporter: Christina Stefanski



Stage presence: A
Audience reaction: A+
Sound: A
Get-it-on-ability: A+
Dance-ability: A+

This show was possibly the best dance party Halifax has ever experienced.

The Cunard Events Centre was set up in a style that allowed audience members to sit, stand or dance the night away and an ocean view through the venue's windows lent to the show's romantic atmosphere.

The Afro Cuban All Stars shined above the dance floor as the band's energy invigorated the audience. The lighting was spectacular, highlighting the spirit of the group's performance. Band leader Juan de Marcos Gonzalez captivated the crowd with his charm. "I'm going

to play a track that you're going to remember!" he said.

A noteworthy moment in the show was a solo performance by the group's oldest member, who is 83 years old.

He sang while holding a beautiful woman in each arm, his youthful disposition casting a wave of energy over the crowd as husbands pulled their wives onto the dance floor.

The youngest group member played an amazing drum solo for roughly 15 minutes during the finale. The singers and musicians invited the obliging audience to participate and the crowd responded, showing its warm reaction to the Cuban drums.

The Afro Cuban All Stars played more than a memorable show. The band gave the city an experience that will never be forgotten.

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Review

Corvette Crossing

LAURA BERTON
Arts Contributor

Corvette Crossing, the Eastern Front Theatre's 2006/2007 season opener, is a new play from Nova Scotian writer Michael Melski. But this *Corvette* doesn't refer to a car — it's a type of naval ship on which the entire play takes place.

In WWII, these relatively small ships crossed the Atlantic escorting supply boats to England. The men on board were often inexperienced volunteers who didn't expect to be caught in the midst of the war.

The play focuses on the fears and anxieties of five men from different

parts of the country with different backgrounds who must learn to work together on the HMCS Larkspur to save their country.

At first, the various characters seem stereotypical. For example, Lieut. Harold Cooper, played by Kevin Curran, is thrust into his position because of his father's heroism in WWI. By the end of the play, however, Cooper becomes a complex character with a range of emotions.

The set is minimalist, consisting of two long steps at the centre of the stage and a screen that shows footage of the ocean, ships and explosions when relevant to the plot. This is an effective choice and the audience truly gets the

sense of being on board a ship.

Corvette Crossing sympathetically explores WWII by creating a distinct face for the thousands of unknown men and women who served. The play does not glorify war, but rather demonstrates how people react to emergencies. Although sometimes depressing, the play also instills hope and a sense of pride in one's nationality.

Corvette Crossing runs until Nov. 12 at the Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth. A tour of a *Corvette* naval ship before the performance is also available. Go to www.easternfront.ns.ca for more information.

Now or never Volleyballers in final year look for national medal

JOEY RYBA
Sports Editor

The 2006/2007 season marks the last chance to win a Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) medal for fifth-year men's volleyball players Geoff Daniels, Jesse Mighton, Jeff Weiler and Scott Townsend.

Daniels, known as "Mr. D" to his teammates and friends, returned to the Tigers this fall after a year-long hiatus. The Lunenburg, N.S., native worked as a kinesiologist for the past year, but decided to return to Dal to pursue a new career in teaching. The outside hitter says he started to miss playing volleyball last winter.

"Seeing the guys win and have fun just really made me want to come back and make sure I got my last opportunity at it," says Daniels.

Daniels says he worked out a lot last year to stay in shape. He says he's playing at the same level as in the past and is confident in his role on the team.

Mighton says it's outstanding to have Daniels back on the team.

"In terms of blocking and smashing the ball, it's tough to stop him," says Mighton. "And with him being a Tiger before, it's like a come-back story on the lines of the Beatles getting back together. Having him come back, we're a family again."

Townsend and Weiler bring a lot of skill and experience to the Tigers, having played in many tournaments and national championships. Mighton says it's important for the fifth-year players to share their experiences with their younger teammates.

"We're battle-hardened veterans and we've been across the lines and over the trenches," says Mighton. "We've seen what's out there... and we try to bring those experiences to the young crew of new guys to kind of help them out. We try to combine our experiences with their youth and energy to create positive results."

The Atlantic University Sport (AUS) conference is generally less competitive than the other conferences across Canada. The Tigers tend to destroy the competition in



Jesse Mighton is a battle-hardened veteran competing for a CIS medal this season. / Photo: Nick Pearce

the Atlantic region, only to lose at the nationals. The team competes in several tournaments against out-of-conference teams each season to improve its showing at the CIS championship.

Recently, Dal had excellent results at the University of Manitoba with a 3-1 record. The Tigers defeated the home team, the Manitoba Bisons, as well as the University of Winnipeg and Ryerson, but lost to the University of Alberta.

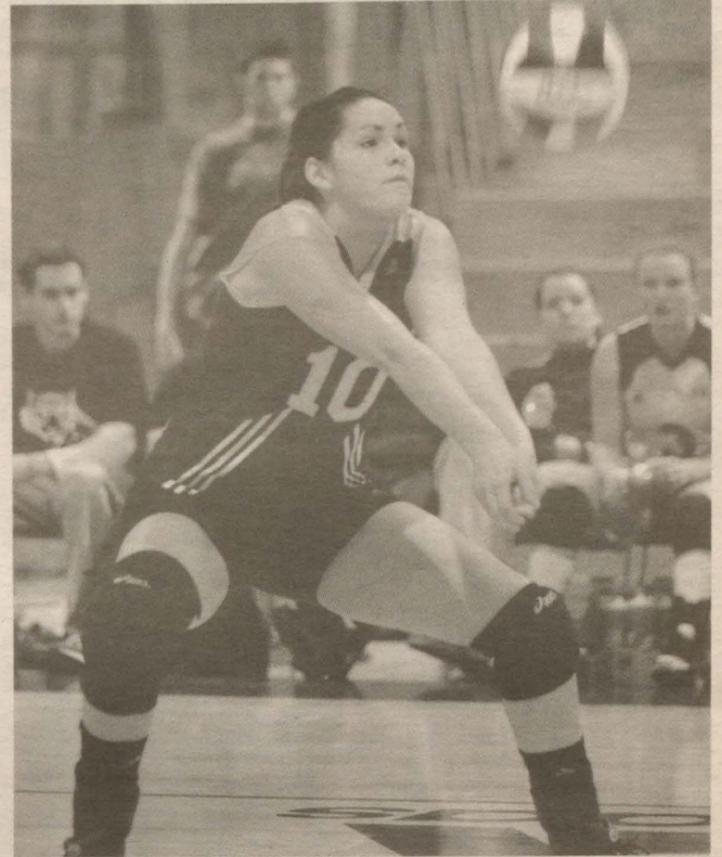
Mighton says the team made some positive strides in the tournament. He says it was especially good to beat Manitoba because the Tigers were winless against the Bisons in

13 attempts. In a thrilling five-set match, the win was a monkey off the back of the vets and gave the team a lot of confidence, he says.

Even though the Tigers dominate the AUS, the team can't take any regional teams for granted. Daniels says the Tigers have to stay focused and execute their plays because every game counts. If the Tigers lose to an AUS opponent, it's going to affect the team's ranking.

The Tigers' season is geared toward medalling at CIs. Last year, the team made a huge step forward, winning its first ever match at nationals. Carrying the momentum into this season, Mighton says the Tigers will go into the CIs in 2007 expecting, instead of hoping, to win. The veteran middle says the squad has all the pieces of the puzzle to win.

"We have a high-powered offense," he says. "I think we're in good shape. As long as we perform as a team, I'd say we can contend with anyone in the country."



Maggie Morrison is taking a leadership role in place of graduated veterans. / Photo: Nick Pearce

Young team faces uphill battle

COLLEEN COSGROVE
Assistant Sports Editor

The addition of nine new faces to the 2006/2007 Dalhousie women's volleyball line up marks the start of a renewal year for the Tigers.

With only three of last year's seven starters, the team may seem off to a rocky start, but head coach Kirk Yanofsky says there's many positives in the composition of this year's team.

"I think part of the benefit is that a lot of people aren't familiar with these players," says Yanofsky. "At the same time, I think we had a good level coming into the year and we're making improvements."

The team travelled to Memorial University last weekend to start off the regular season, and was defeated in both games 3-0. The losses come on the coattails of a dismal performance in Montreal's interlock tournament several weeks earlier.

"We weren't at a point where I thought we would be able to compete," says Yanofsky. "I would have liked more consistency throughout and if we would have competed harder and smarter, the results would have been more in our fa-

vour"

Yanofsky says the experience was a good measuring stick for how the team matches up in the AUS. The Tigers saw some high quality volleyball at the Quebec tournament, playing teams such as Montreal and Regina, which went into the season ranked second and fifth in Canada.

Maggie Morrison, assistant captain and second-year middle, says it was good to compete against top ranked teams outside of Atlantic Canada because it showed the newer players what it takes to compete against the best.

"I think the amount we're going to change from each term is going to be drastic," says Morrison. "There will definitely be a positive difference... the volume of our ability to grow, change and get better is much larger because we are a young team."

Because of the loss of so many veteran players, Yanofsky says his training program is more structured and well defined than it has been in the past.

"They need to learn the proper ways to train to become a championship team," says Yanofsky.

TIGERS

AT HOME THIS WEEK

Nov. 1	MBB	Athletes In Action vs. DAL	7:00pm (Exh.)
	MHOC	ACA @ DAL	7:00pm
Nov. 2	WHOC	SMU @ DAL	7:00pm
Nov. 3	WVB	ACA @ DAL (home opener)	6:00pm
Nov. 4	SWIM	Meet @ DAL (home opener)	1pm Warm-Up
Nov. 5	WVB	UdeM @ DAL	2:00pm

ADMISSION IS FREE FOR DAL STUDENTS WITH ID

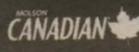


FRIDAY NIGHT FLIGHTS

It's back! At every Friday night basketball or volleyball game, we're running (or flying!) our Friday Night Flights contest. It's a paper airplane fly-fest with the opportunity to win an adidas or Pepsi prize. Each week's winner will be entered into a draw for a flight for two (2) to Toronto courtesy of Travel Cuts.



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Athletes of the week

FEMALE ATHLETE



CAROLINE MCINNES
CROSS-COUNTRY

Caroline McInnes kept the Tigers in the hunt despite a heart-wrenching one-point loss to St. FX. during the AUS Championship in Antigonish, N.S. on Oct 28. The veteran helped rally the Tigers to three top-five finishes and drove a convincing kick at the end of the 5-km course that earned her first place and the AUS individual title. McInnes is a second-year law student from Toronto, Ont.



MALE ATHLETE



RUSSELL CHRISTIE
CROSS-COUNTRY

Russell Christie led the Tigers to four top-10 finishes during the AUS Championship in spite of an upsetting one-point loss to St. FX. The rookie Tiger held down the first-place position throughout the final 6 km of men's competition, eventually claiming the AUS individual title. Christie is a first-year pharmacy student from Petrolia, Ont.



Gazette

Volunteer Meetings
Every Monday at 5:30, Room 312, Dal SUB



The SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

Greetings from The Sextant

Welcome all to another year of Dal Engineering from your friends at *The Sextant*. OK, I should say "friend" since it's just me right now, but I'm hoping to get some help to run this section.

The Sextant is dedicated to everything Sexton campus related, from activities planned by DSEUS, activities at the T-Room and any rants you want to include.

Here's an activity that has seen great success in the past, and is back bigger than ever! Hope to see you there!

MOOSEHEADS HOCKEY GAME
- Tickets go on sale Friday, Nov. 3.

Picture this if you will: 121 engineers, one section, official Dal Eng Towels, bringing their own mascot DalMan and, oh yeah, a hockey game versus the Fog Devils! If you missed the last game, DO NOT MISS THIS ONE. Check out www.dalsexton.ca for information on how to win free tickets and other great prizes!

Remember, if you want to write about anything, send it in to me via e-mail at sextant@dal.ca.

Your Editor and Friend (can you believe they let me be editor??)
JF

Random rants from an unarmed student.

I decided to conjure up a list of things that I like and dislike about this wonderful country of ours called Canada. So, if you will indulge me, I will give you my five things I hate/love about Canada.

FIVE THINGS I HATE ABOUT CANADA.

#5) The exploitation of our natural resources: In case you have been living under a rock that has yet to be excavated in search for oil or some other miracle energy source of the non-renewable type, we are going to run out of these resources. What really gets me is how cheap we sell our water to major corporations so they can treat it and bottle it to ship it and sell it back to us at an outrageous price that we agree to pay.

#4) Le Bloc Quebecois: I'm not a separatist and I would like to see Quebec stay a part of Canada because I believe it brings uniqueness to our country. So I went to voice my opinion to my local Bloc representative but it turns out that a federal party doesn't need to have representation across country, just across the province or region your federal party name is describing. Therefore I propose a new federal party, The Atlantic Circle.

#3) The Queen: Isn't it about time we put someone else on the \$20 bill? I mean, we even had a contest on CBC about the greatest Canadian and Tommy Douglas won; perhaps he should be on the \$20 bill. Medicare is better than a monarch in my mind and we haven't even spoken to the Queen in a long time... the charges of calling overseas are terrifying.

#2) The U.S.: Let me clarify, it's not that I hate the U.S., it's that I hate the influence that the U.S. has over Canada. The softwood lumber dispute where \$8 billion of Canadian money was unfairly taxed under NAFTA in which all courts that govern and regulate NAFTA

said that Canada has a legal right to subsidise its forestry industry. Our Prime Minister struck a deal, \$7 billion out of \$8 billion that was rightfully ours. That extra billion could've done a lot of good to many sectors, including post-secondary education.

#1) Stephen Harper: What kind of loving father would shake his own sons hand after inviting the media for an obvious PR stunt? If you can't do a simple PR stunt correctly, how am I supposed to believe you can govern an entire country correctly? 'Nuf said.

FIVE THINGS I LOVE ABOUT CANADA

#5) Hockey: No matter what life seems to throw at us, we take comfort in the fact that every Saturday night on channel 11, we can all sit around the idiot box and enjoy a few beers and cheer for our favourite team. And contrary to all the DSEUS council, GO HABS GO! GO HABS GO!

#4) The newly created Atlantic Circle Federal Party: Changing the hearts of Canadians one lobster/potato/salmon at a time. If anything, we would be really popular at the Parliament picnic.

#3) Pies: Our most effective forms of protesters are those who pie political leaders if they disagree with his policies. I mean, I would know if I were doing something wrong and I got pied in the face for it, wouldn't you? Not to mention the hilarity of being pied on national television.

#2) The Canadian military: Continuously underfunded and yet we prove continuously how well trained we are in comparisons to the U.S. With Remembrance Day around the corner, it is a good idea to reflect on the men and women who have and continuously protect our way of life.

#1) Belinda Stronach: 'Nuf said.

DSEUS Executive 2006 - 2007

Considering that the Sextant is just getting back up and running, we figured we would take up some space and introduce ourselves. If you've got any questions, comments, complaints or just want to grab a drink, come find one of us.

President - Fall and Winter Terms

Name: Christopher Davis
Discipline: Civil V
Hometown: Dieppe, NB
Favourite Hockey Team: Vancouver Canucks
Favourite Daredevil Sport: Skydiving



VP-Internal - Fall Term

Names: Luke Williams
Discipline: Mechanical III
Hometown: Dartmouth, NS
Favourite Hockey Team: Any Canadian Team other than the Toronto Maple Leafs
Aspiration in life: Do a back flip off a wave in a kayak (surf kayaking)



VP-Finance - Fall Term

Name: Dan Ansley
Discipline: Mining III
Hometown: Whiterock, BC
Favourite Hockey Team: Vancouver Canucks
Top two things you didn't know about me:
*I once consumed two pounds of jubus and threw up in the back seat of my friend's car.
I have a piece of a dead person in my knee due to a soccer injury*



VP-Internal - Winter Term

Names: Thomas McNutt
Discipline: Civil IV
Hometown: Sackville, NS
Favourite Hockey Team: Toronto Maple Leafs
Favourite Bar: Halifax AleHouse



VP-Finance - Winter Term

Name: Mandy Mulford
Discipline: Chemical III
Hometown: Moncton, NB
Favourite Hockey Team: Toronto Maple Leafs
Favourite Movies: All the Rocky movies
Most hard shell tacos eaten in one sitting: 9



VP-Communications

Name: Scott Wetton
Discipline: Industrial III
Hometown: Aurora, ON
Favourite Hockey Team: Toronto Maple Leafs
Owned a boat... and sunk it... twice...



VP-External - Fall Term

Name: Chris Boland
Discipline: Materials IV
Hometown: Halifax, NS
Favourite Hockey Team: Toronto Maple Leafs
Favourite Drink: Rum and coke, hold the coke



VP-Outreach

Name: Sean "The Real Deal" MacNeil
Discipline: Mechanical IV
Hometown: Barrachois Harbor, Cape Breton, NS
Favourite Hockey Team: Toronto Maple Leafs
Wears a kilt... and claims to be a true Scotsman



VP-External - Winter Term

Name: Colin Drake
Discipline: Mining IV
Hometown: Halifax, NS
Favourite Hockey Team: Toronto Maple Leafs
Number of DVD's in Collection: 250+



DSU Representative

Name: Scott Blake
Discipline: Materials III
Hometown: Midland, ON
Favourite Hockey Team: Toronto Maple Leafs
...good girls don't ask... bad girls find out for themselves



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Dalendar & Classifieds

dalendar@dalgazette.ca / classifieds@dalgazette.ca

Dalendar

Send your Dalhousie related events to:
dalendar@dalgazette.ca (FREE)

Thursday, Nov. 2

First Year Advising Meeting

7 p.m. @ Dal SUB, RM 316
Your English society meets to give all types of advice to first years who are thinking of majoring (or not) in English. Fun times, sage advice and delicious pizza.
Free

Trivia with J-Peg

7 p.m. @ The Grawood
The Grawood's weekly trivia night continues.
Free

CKDU FUNDING DRIVE FOLK BENEFIT

9 p.m. @ Ginger's Tavern
Featuring: Dave Carmichael, Old Man Luedecke, Ronnie MacEachern, Ruth Minnikin & Craig Buckley, Bill Plaskett, Gordon Stobbe, and more... This is a fundraiser for the CKDU show *Touchstone* (Saturdays, 10am)
\$5 (or more if you want!)

THE HEAT IS (SUPER) RAD

10 p.m. @ The Attic
Featuring: The Beginners and other special guests. This is a fundraiser for the CKDU shows *The Heat*

(Tuesdays, 1pm) and *This Show is (Super) Rad* (Tuesdays, 3:30pm)
\$5

Jesus, Coffee, Free Trip to Quebec City

7 p.m. @ Room 307, Dal SUB
All three things come together during a coffee house. By the end, you will have met other Dal student, had provoking thoughts about the relevancy of Jesus in today's world, and had a chance to win a free trip to Québec City for a conference!
Free

Friday, Nov. 3

Friday Film Screening

12 p.m. & 5 p.m. @ The Grawood
This weeks film, *Thank You For Smoking*
Free

Tony Lee XXX Hypnotist

9 p.m. @ The Grawood
The triumphant return of the dirty hypnotist.
\$6

Saturday, Nov. 4

BAD-ASS PUNK SHOW

10 p.m. @ The Khyber Club
Featuring: Motel 69 (Fredericton, NB), War Pony, Talk Sick and guests. With a silent auction. Hosted by Candace Mooers. Sponsored by the Khyber Centre for the Arts and

Propellor! This is a fundraiser for the CKDU show *On the Edge of Sanity* (Wednesdays, 3:30pm)
\$5

Sunday, Nov. 5

Vegan potluck and a movie/speaker!

6 p.m. @ NSPIRG office (312, Dal SUB)
The first and third Sunday of every month is a potluck sponsored by NSPIRG. Anyone is welcome to come and bring a vegan dish for 8-10. Donations for the Humaine Society welcome!
Free

Sunday Night Comedy Showcase

8 p.m. @ Ginger's Tavern
Halifax's only weekly sketch comedy and improv show.
\$4

Tuesday, Nov. 14

Israel Week (November 14-17)

3 day event promoting Isreal and Middle East peace issues. Advocacy and education for Isreal on campus. Events will be all over campus.
Free

Classifieds

Send your classifieds to classifieds@dalgazette.ca

BARISTAS WANTED!

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corner of Hollis and Morris and needs a brilliant line-up of new staff. P/T and F/T avail. Must love serving people and making great coffee and food.
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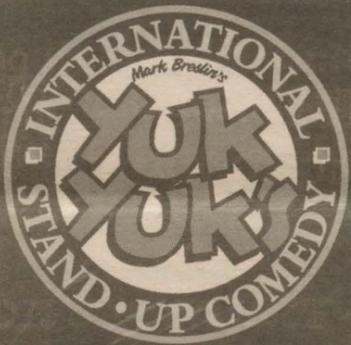
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on
Thursday November 23
11:30-1:00 in McCain 1102

Can't make the meeting? Visit us at www.dal.ca/dijon
Questions? Please contact njwood@dal.ca

Gazette

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Every Monday at 5:30, Room 312, Dal SUB

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